

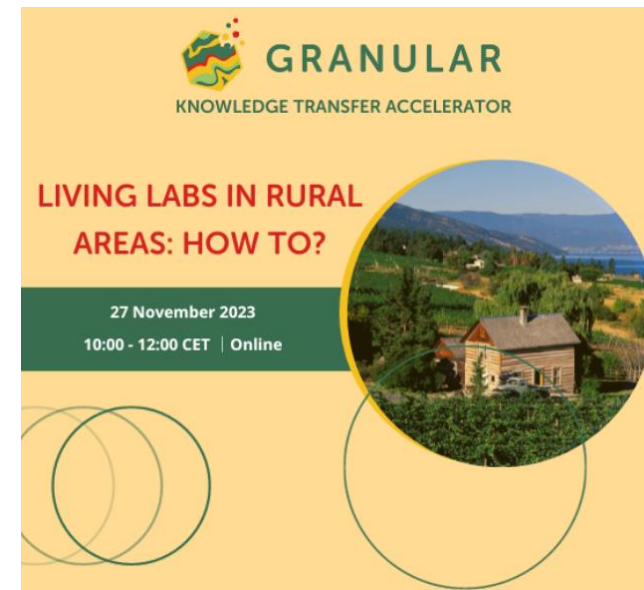


Multi Actor Platforms for Rural Development

Monitoring, evaluating and thinking about the sustainability of multi-actor platforms

27th of November 2023

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The Netherlands



@rural-interfaces



SHERPA in a nutshell

To gather relevant knowledge and opinions that contribute to recommendations for future **policies and research relevant to EU rural areas**

Multi Actor Platforms
Science Society Policy interfaces

*Rural dialogue between research,
policy, civil society, citizens, business*

Co-creation of knowledge
Co-learning

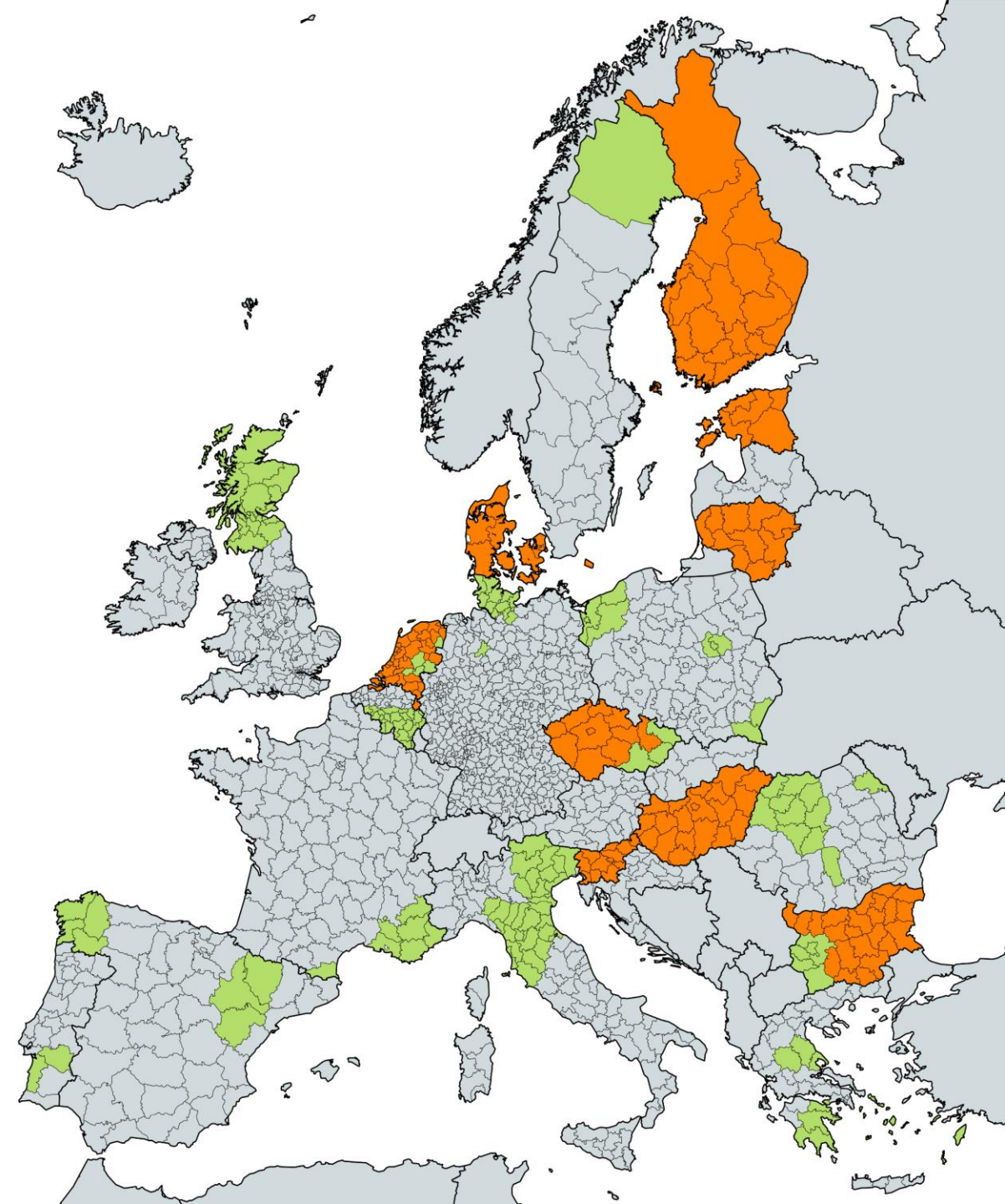
Capitalise on
research
findings

Empowering
key actors in
public policy



Sherpa Multi Actor Platforms

- **41 regional and national MAPs** (i.e. Science-Society-Policy interfaces) with a **facilitator** and **monitor**
- Actors from **science, society and policy** actively engaged in a variety of topics
- Created a shared knowledge base relevant to EU rural policy by taking stock of results of past and ongoing projects → the **SHERPA Repository**





M&E for learning

How to effectively **design, support and run** Multi Actor Platforms to engage science, society and policy actors in a meaningful way in policy and research agenda on rural development?

Cluster meetings => Support and exchange and Listen.

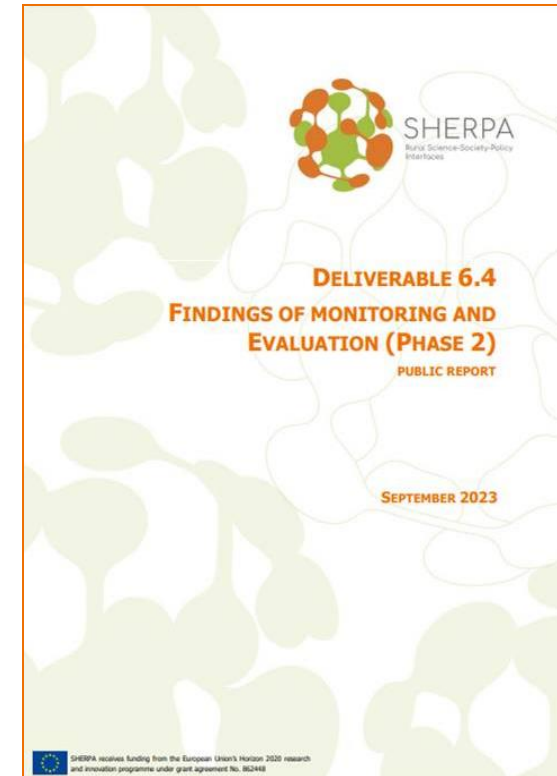
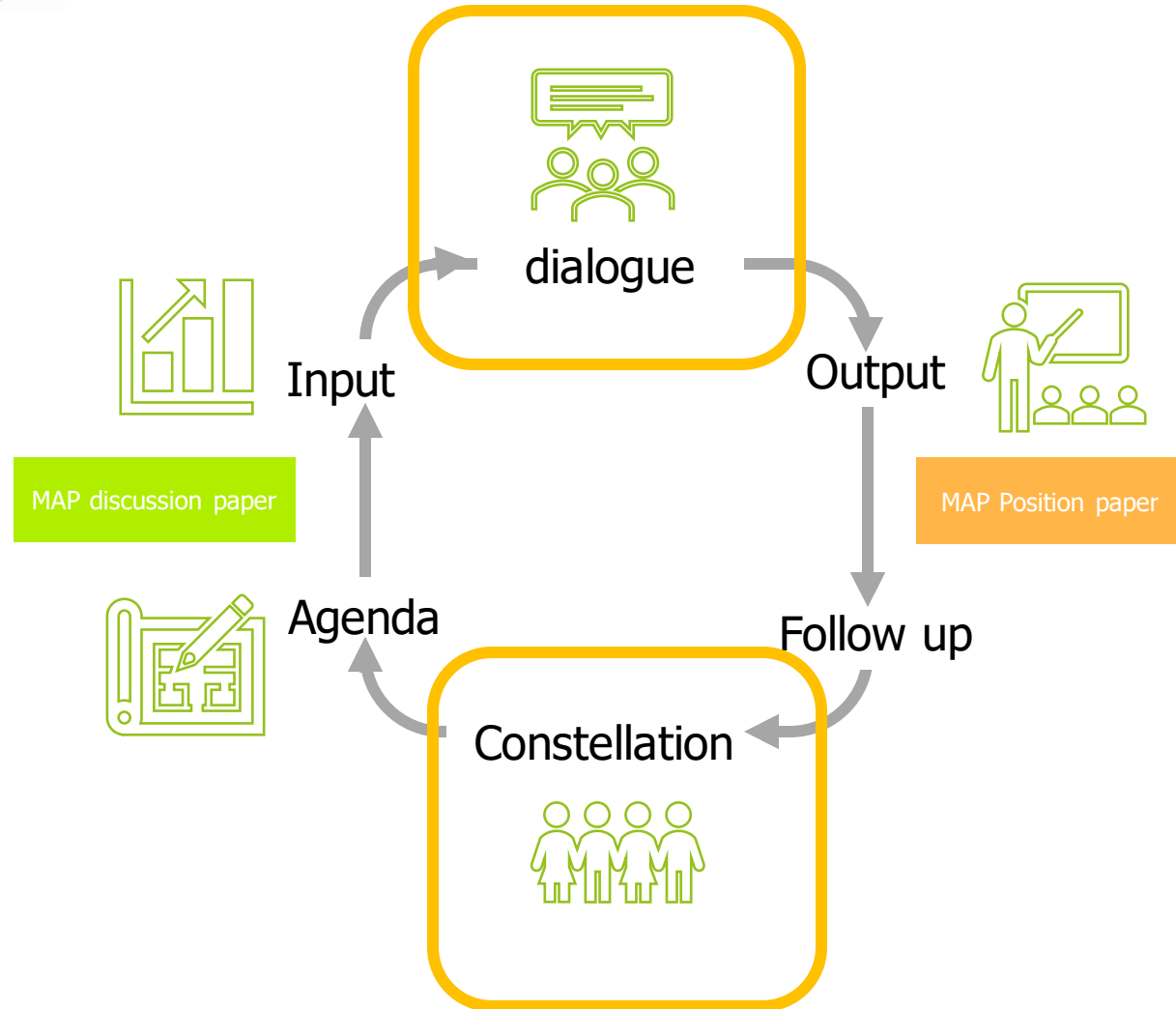
M&E tools => Document the process 3 MAP cycles

M&E Calls => Listen and reflect on experiences

M&E workshops => Analyse and deepen lessons learned



Overview of the SHERPA dynamics





HOW? Balanced science society policy interface

- Identifying, understanding, translating, explaining
- Define objectives in interaction, let this guide the design
- Specify invitation based on benefits and roles
- Balance is numerical nor fixed
- Diverse representation, balance values evidence decision
- Explaining how policy works and how its relevant

Requirements

Flexibility
Trust
Human Capital

"A regional approach was considered crucial for correct rural policy making, research and stakeholder involvement in the issue of climate change"

Monitor to MAP Alqueva Portugal



Constellation



HOW? Science Society Policy dialogue

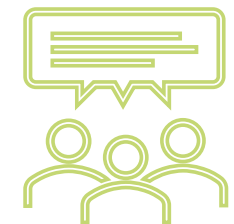
- Create safe spaces and a common goal and build trust
- The constellation, agenda and evidence basis determine.
- Facilitation crucial: design and methods and soft skills.
- Dialogue has value in itself: empowerment and capacity.
- Recognise the power of inviting to engage.

Requirements

Flexibility
Capacity
Dedication

"A main contribution of SHERPA is in fostering the dialogue between the actors, exchanging the perspectives. The platform provided space for valuable detailed dialogue and to develop a trust based approach"

MAP team, Schleswig Holstein MAP, Germany



Dialogue

Creating non-politicised spaces for dialogue and learning, bringing actors together

Connecting actors and building networks and trust, important social capital for the future



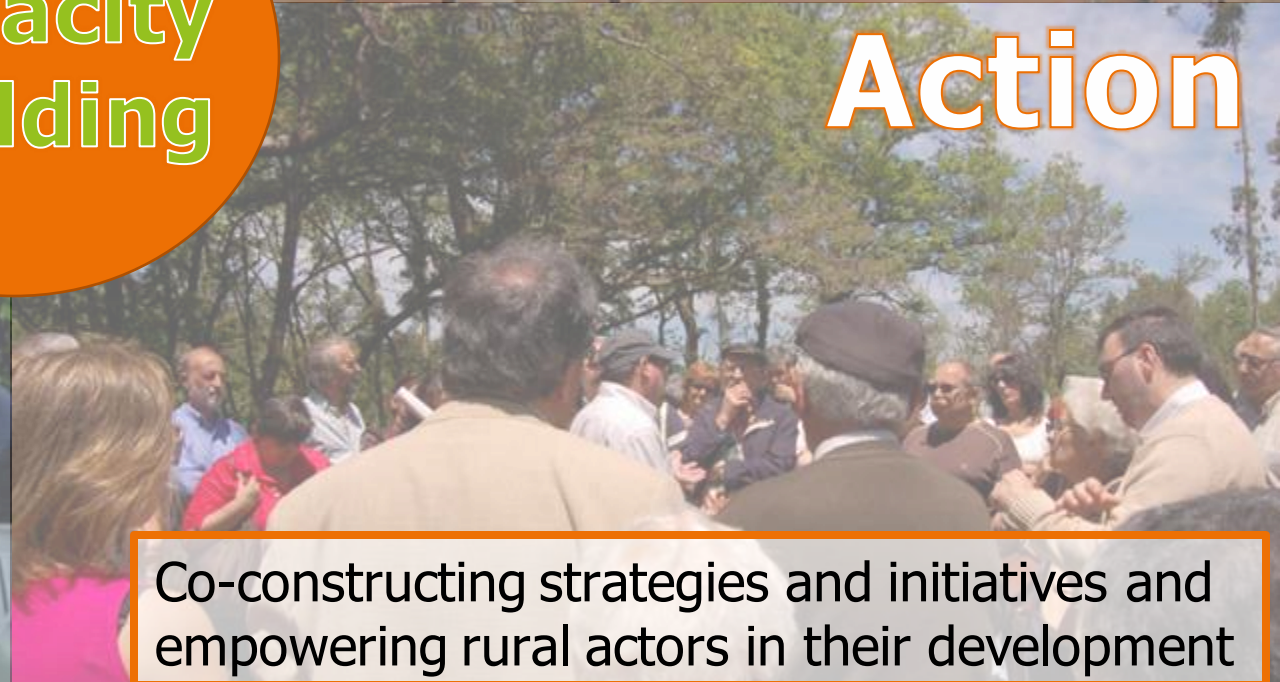
Rural dialogue

Connectivity

Policy

Capacity building

Action



Strengthening the content of policy and emancipation of rural areas

Co-constructing strategies and initiatives and empowering rural actors in their development



Methodologies to make MAPs more effective and efficient

- Key role: qualified and dedicated **facilitator** and **monitor**
- Clear common **objective** and **room** for experimentation
- **Monitoring** for learning, attentive observation
- Dynamic Learning **Agenda** and **spaces** for learning
- **Understand** the benefits for different actor groups and how added value is created → carefully **design** the process
- Timely attention for **longevity**, and **capacity building** → embedding in **existing structures**

Rural Science-Society-Policy Interfaces



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