

SHERPA - Rural Science-Society-Policy Interfaces



IMAJINE

Overview

- Integrative Mechanisms for Addressing Spatial Justice and Territorial Inequalities in Europe
- H2020 research project, January 2017 – June 2022
- Coordinator: Aberystwyth University, UK. 15 partners.
- www.imajine-project.eu @IMAJINE_h2020

Michael Woods

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SHERPA Annual Conference



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What we have done?

IMAJINE research activities relating to demographic change and migration in rural areas:

- Analysis of migration flows in EU in relation to territorial inequalities
- Interviews with migrants & settled residents in 12 regions in 6 countries
- Interviews with national and regional policy stakeholders
- Systematic reviews of multi-level policy & inequalities in e.g. public health
- Analysis of data on territorial inequalities at regional & sub-regional scales
- Online survey of 17,500 people in 7 countries covering migration history & perceptions of inequalities, services, spatial justice etc
- Regional participatory scenario building workshops



What did we learn?

Key lessons relating to demographic change and migration in rural areas:

- Rural-urban income disparities in EU are decreasing, but remain important at local scale – linked to demography and migration
- Migrants play regional & urban-rural inequalities for relative social mobility, but can displace lower income residents
- Migration contributes to redressing territorial inequalities through remittances etc, but at cost of exporting young people
- Stakeholders often understand cohesion & justice as equal access to services – rural areas disadvantaged by peripheral location and demographic character
- *Results from survey and scenario-building to come*