

SHERPA - Rural Science-Society-Policy Interfaces



Emilia-Romagna MAP

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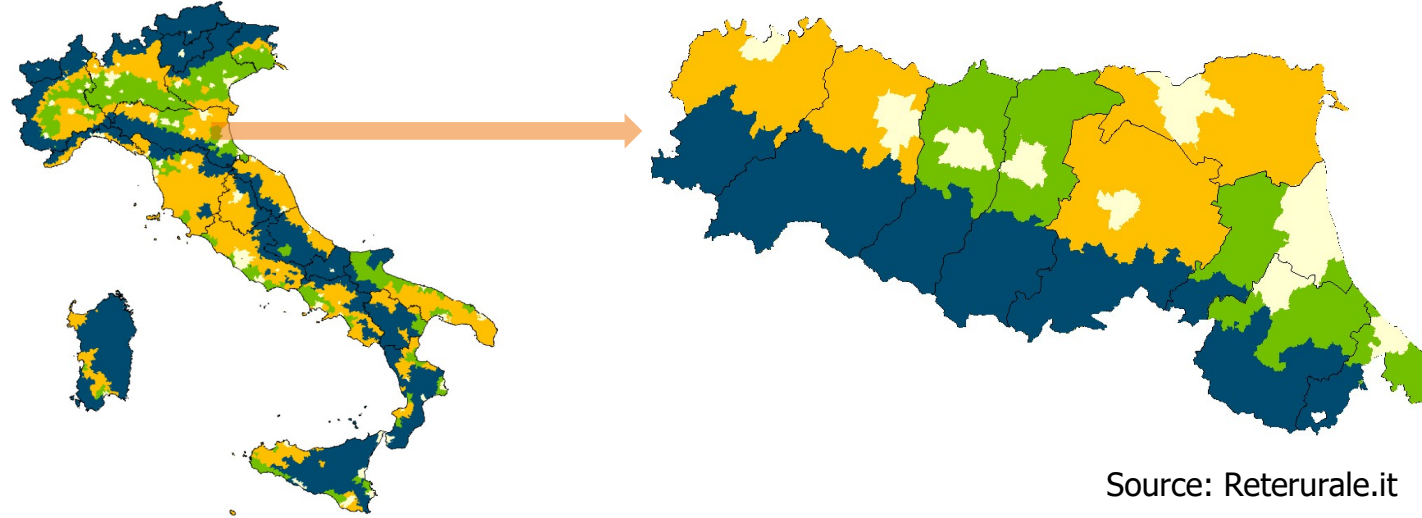
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Overview of Emilia-Romagna MAP



Source: Reterurale.it

- Regional scale (NUTS 2)
- The MAP covers 3 typologies of rural areas (plain/intensive, intermediate, mountainous/abandoned)
- **Newly established MAP** based on a pre-existing network of collaborations of the University of Bologna
- **Flexible composition depending on the topic** → 12 core actors: 3 from policy; 3 from science & consultancy; 6 from society
- So far, the MAP has worked on:
 - Pilot on biodiversity conservation and landscape features
 - Long-term vision for rural areas



Balancing Science- Society-Policy actors ('balancing power'): What we did?

Guiding question: **How to select the "right" stakeholders in a way that a small group of experts can represent different perspectives?**

- MAP composition:
 - Including stakeholders with cross-sectoral expertise that could provide inputs that are not excessively biased
 - Balancing the representation among the 3 societal groups
- Processing the information:
 - The consensus meeting played an important role for balancing the different opinions
 - All opinions have been processed and included in the Position paper, highlighting whether some positions were considered biased and not agreed by all MAP's members



Challenges

- All those mentioned in the previous slide!
- Emilia-Romagna is a complex and multifaceted region:
 - Different types of rural areas (plain/intensive, hilly, mountainous/abandoned)
 - Long tradition of stakeholders' engagement in policy formulation
- These are strengths but also cause limitations in ability to prioritize
- Hence the learning question: **how to identify the main priorities in very complex rural context, when a variety of heterogeneous perspectives and contexts needs to be taken into account?**

THANK YOU

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