



# **Engaging stakeholders in multi-actor platforms in SHERPA**

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# Multi actor platforms in SHERPA

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

## Multi Actor Platforms

*Dialogue between  
Research, Policy, Civil Society*

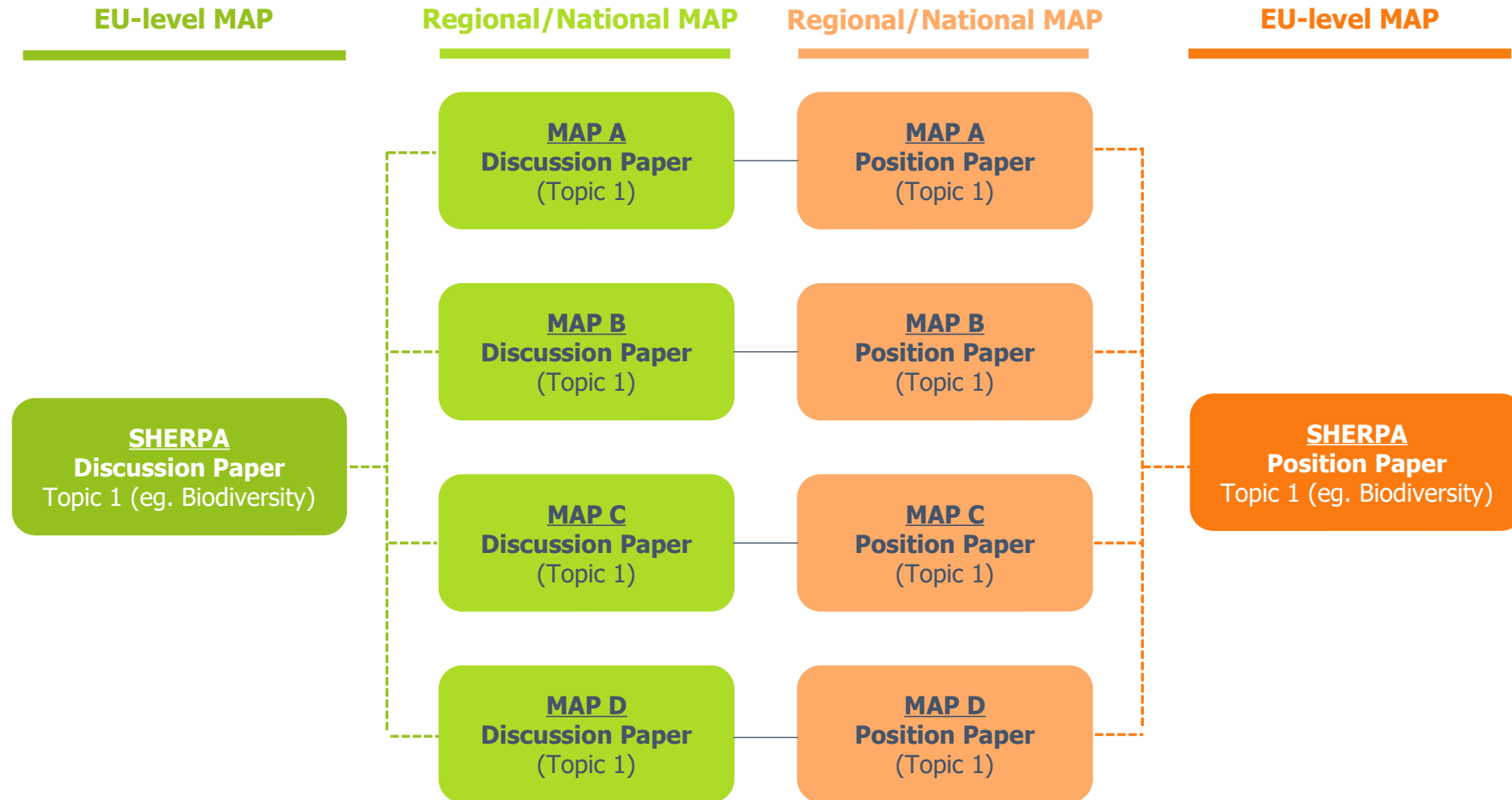
Co-creation of knowledge  
Co-learning

Effective use of  
knowledge from  
research

Empowering  
key actors in  
public policy  
development






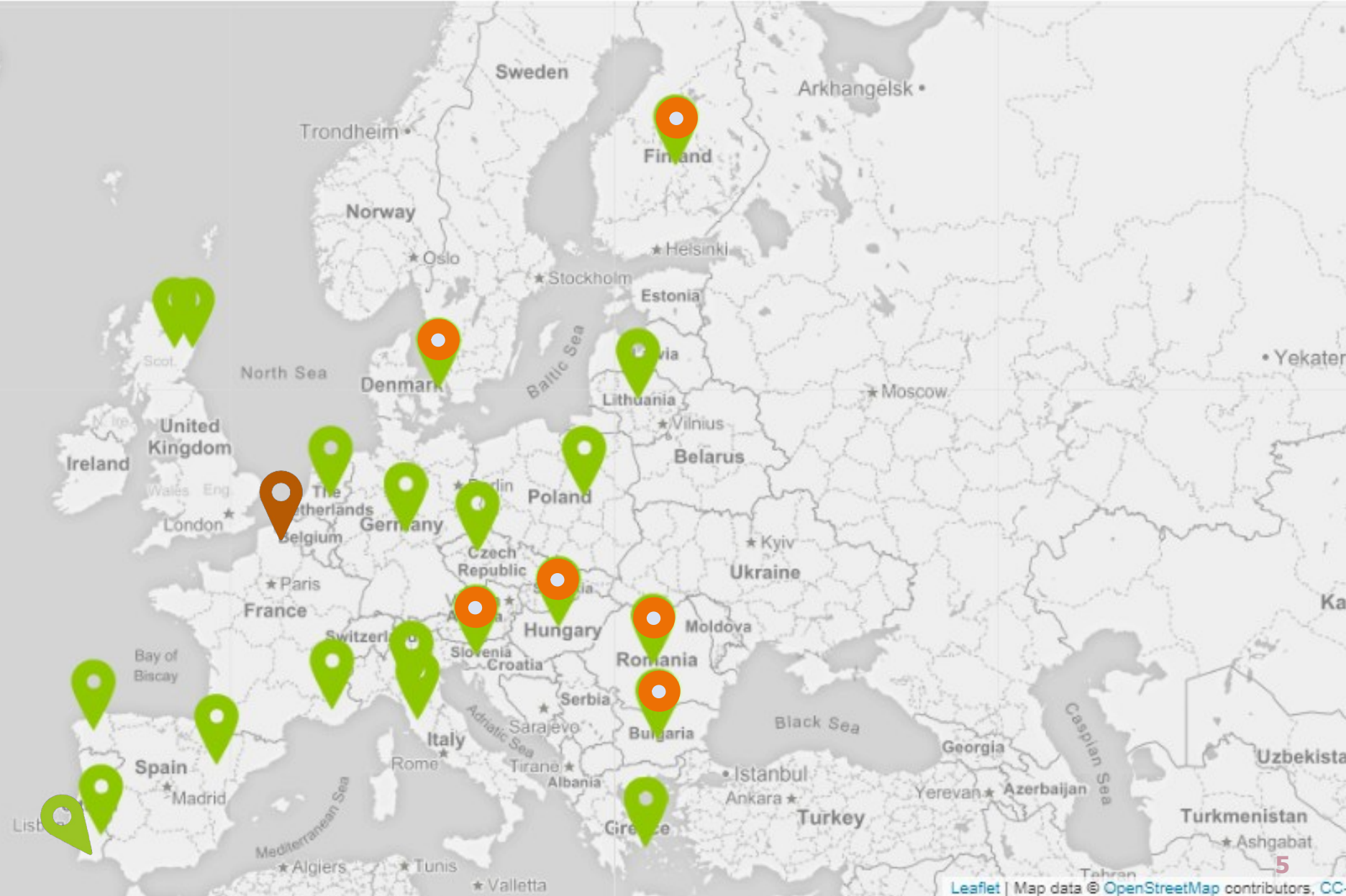
# How we work



SHERPA Position Papers: <https://rural-interfaces.eu/resources-and-tools/rural-policy-papers/>

# Overview of 22 Multi-Actor Platforms

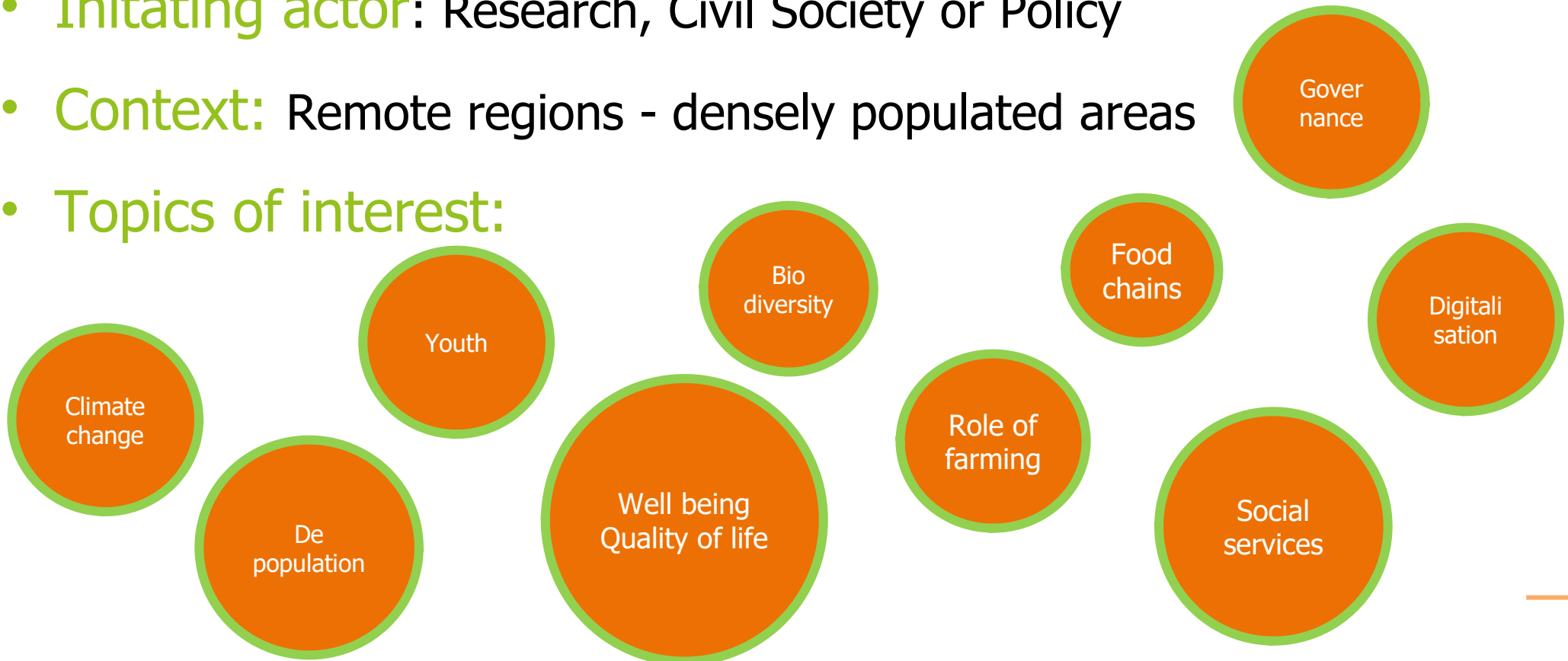
-  = regional MAP
-  = national MAP
-  = EU MAP





# Diversity in characteristics of the MAPs

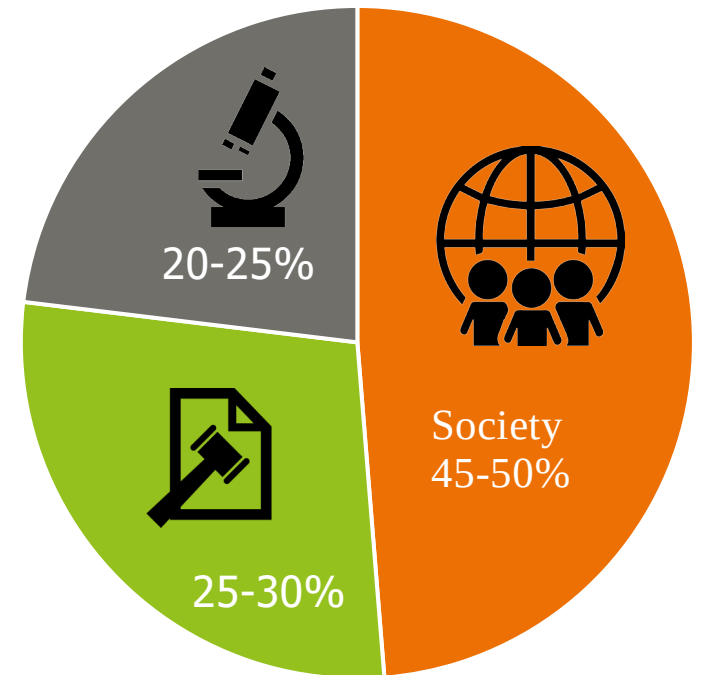
- **Origin:** Newly established, Building on existing, Existing platforms
- **Initiating actor:** Research, Civil Society or Policy
- **Context:** Remote regions - densely populated areas
- **Topics of interest:**





# Stakeholder engagement in numbers

- 22 Multi Actor Platforms in 17 Member states plus UK and EU
- Over 250 stakeholders participated
  - ~ 70 Policy actors
  - ~ 130 Civil society actors
  - ~ 60 Research actors
- Over 1000 survey respondents
- Engagement in over 70 multi actor meetings





# Monitoring 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?



Develop a strategy for self sustainability

- **Monitor + tool** => monitor, support and document the process
- **Cluster meetings** => Support and exchange
- **M&E workshops** => Analyse and deepen lessons learned



# Learning in progress

- **Bottom up – top down:** Exploring ways to match local level issues and interests with EU level policy processes
- **Capitalise on research projects:** Translating research findings to enrich the MAP discussions
- **Guidance and diversity:** Combining central guidance with context specific requirements
- **Methodological support:** Experiencing what works in practice – COVID challenges

We are learning our way forward





## Challenges in engaging stakeholders

- Appropriate **representation** of the rural area
- Engaging **civil society** and the **hard to reach**
- Balancing **power** between policy research civil society
- Building **consensus** and grasping **diversity**
- Linking to appropriate **levels of policy**
- Engaging actors in **COVID** times

**THANK YOU**

**Rural Science-Society-Policy  
Interfaces**



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