



SHERPA

Rural Science-Society-Policy
Interfaces

PRACTICE ABSTRACT

Dealing with consensus and diversity



Nordregio

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MAP Denmark is a newly established platform that was set up in close cooperation with and anchored within the Rural Joint Council of Denmark. The platform is to reflect a broad, diverse, and nuanced representation of the rural areas of Denmark. Diversity is important for many different factors in particular different stakes, geographical coverage, gender, age, area of expertise, and government level in rural areas.

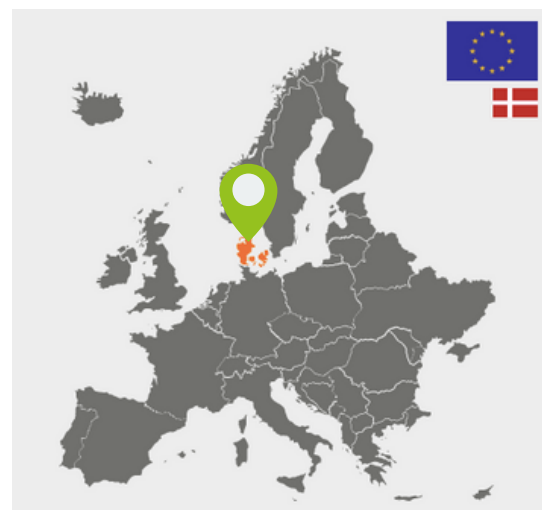
Ensuring such diversity in the MAP is important to create nuanced conversations and discussions, secure input from different perspectives, and thereby create valuable exchanges between rural stakeholders. Based on the experiences from MAP Denmark, we find that diversity is a very important component of a meaningful multi-stakeholder interaction, ensuring diversity is a continuous process.

It is highly recommend for anyone interested or involved in multi-actor processes to continue to reflect on the composition of the group throughout the span of the project or initiative. Ask yourself critically whether important perspectives are missing, and if new members (people, organisations, businesses or other representatives) should be invited to participate or external experts should be asked to contribute to a certain topic. Furthermore, make diversity a transparent and inclusive process by involving the MAP members continuously in the dialogues and asking if perspectives are missing to ensure a broad and balanced representation.

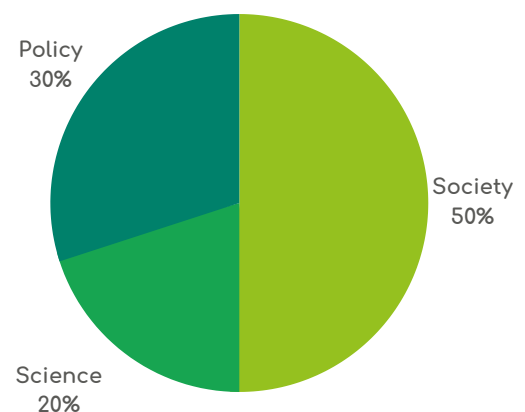
Under the second thematic cycle in the SHERPA project, four new MAP members were asked to join to secure a broader diversity by covering perspectives as youth, geographical coverage, and environment and nature.



MAP Denmark	
Location	Denmark
MAP contacts	Facilitator: Karen Refsgaard Monitor: Louise Ormstrup Vestergård
More info	https://rural-interfaces.eu/maps/denmark/



MAP membership:





ABOUT THE MAP

The Multi-Actor Platform Denmark is coordinated by Nordregio, the research centre in regional development and planning established by the Nordic Council of Ministers. The Danish platform operates at the national level and is a newly established platform anchored within the Rural Joint Council of Denmark. The members of the MAP represent different policy levels, civil society organisations, farmer organisations, businesses, and research institutes which are all based in rural areas or involved in rural development across Denmark or in certain local contexts. The MAP aims to formulate clear feedback and positions on the themes discussed within the MAP, improving the EU understanding of the situation in the Danish rural areas as well as the needs for policy regulation, support, and research at EU and national levels.



OBJECTIVES

The activities of MAP Denmark are designed to achieve the following specific objectives:

- Establish a dynamic group of MAP members and guests, to discuss openly, challenges in the rural areas, needs and opportunities through cooperation.
- Discuss and formulate strong position papers on central policy issues in the EU in order to use the 'motorway to EU' to strengthen the political framework for development of the rural areas.



MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

The main results from MAP Denmark so far are:

- [MAP Position Paper](#) on 'A long-term vision for rural areas'
- [MAP Discussion Paper](#) on 'A long-term vision for rural areas'
- A survey distributed to MAP members and their networks, which received 160 responses.
- 4 online focus groups with 3-5 MAP members per group. The online format with smaller groups instead of one large physical meeting was used due to the lockdown measures under the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2 MAP meetings held at the Rural Joint Council of Denmark. The first meeting on 'A long-term vision for rural areas' and the second meeting on '*Change in production and diversification of the rural economy*'.



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