

# SHERPA

Rural Science-Society-Policy  
Interfaces

PRACTICE ABSTRACT

## Capitalising on research findings



**Authors:** Barbara Wieliczko & Paweł Chmieliński, European Rural Development Network (ERDN)

**Reviewer:** Jorieke Potters, Wageningen University & Research

**Editor:** Roxana Vilcu, AEIDL



SHERPA has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme under Grant Agreement No. 862448. The content of the document does not reflect the official opinion of the European Union. Responsibility for the information and views expressed therein lies entirely with the author(s).

With a growing complexity of socio-economic and environmental systems, the need for informed decision-making is rising. The most recent research findings offer the most objective and carefully conducted analyses of the problems facing different communities and areas. Therefore, the research findings should be a baseline for the Multi-Actor Platform (MAP) dialogue and for policy-making.

The experience of MAP Zielone Sąsiedztwo brings useful insights on how to create an environment enabling capitalising on research findings. To facilitate the discussions, we used the discussion paper prepared by the project team. The MAP experiences show that the key aspect of such an enabling environment is effective communication among different stakeholder groups. All the stakeholders must be willing to engage in a debate and open to listen to others and capable of presenting their opinions and knowledge in a clear way. Therefore, research findings must be presented in a way that can be understood by all the stakeholders. Yet, to achieve the common understanding it is necessary that policy-makers and other stakeholders have the capacity to understand the research methods and risks of bias.

Key for capitalising on research findings is building a common trust and communication among stakeholders. This requires systematically in research and in familiarising stakeholders with the research findings and their significance. A constant engagement in dialogue is vital for improving both public understanding and policy-making.

## MAP Zielone Sąsiedztwo

### Location

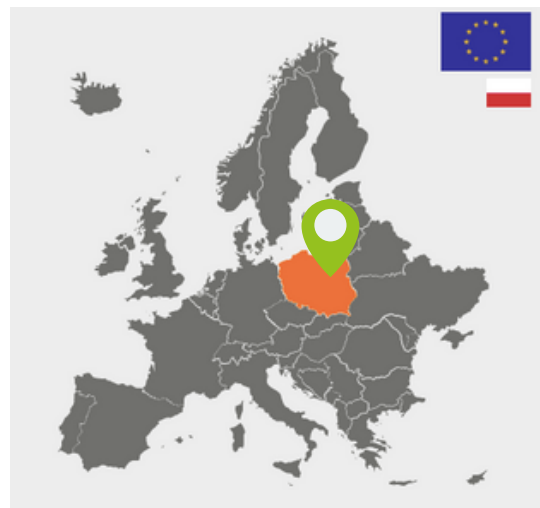
Mazowieckie, Poland

### MAP contacts

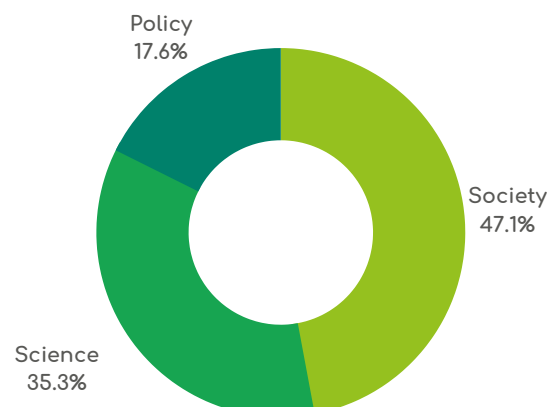
Facilitator: Paweł Chmieleński  
Monitor: Barbara Wieliczko

### More info

<https://rural-interfaces.eu/maps/poland-zielone-sasiedztwo/>



## MAP membership:





## ABOUT THE MAP

The Polish MAP Zielone Sąsiedztwo (Green Neighborhood) is based on the already existing Local Action Group operating under the same name, Zielone Sąsiedztwo, in the rural areas close to Warsaw, the capital of Poland. The MAP members are representatives of society, business, policy-making and science. MAP operations focus on rural issues related to the Mazowieckie region in Poland. The organisation responsible for the MAP's operations is the European Rural Development Network (ERDN).

Mazowieckie region is the largest region in Poland, located in the centre of the country. It is characterised by a high diversity in the level of socio-economic development expressed by GDP per capita. The most peripheral parts of the region are the least developed ones and they suffer from population decline and problems of a shrinking access to basic services. The agricultural sector is a significant part of rural economy in the region. In the southern part, there is a significant concentration of the Polish apple producers.



## OBJECTIVES

The MAP Zielone Sąsiedztwo focuses its discussions on the topics related to the rural areas' well-being. It covers future challenges, needs of the inhabitants and newcomers, specific needs of different age groups, business community, including agriculture and policies that can support rural communities and environment in the region.

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

- Identification of problems related to rural development.
- Analysis of necessary policy tools to support rural landscapes and biodiversity.
- Enumeration of policy instruments needed to create resilient and vibrant rural areas.



## MAIN ACHIEVEMENTS

In the first MAP cycle, the MAP Zielone Sąsiedztwo focused on the long-term vision of rural areas in Mazowieckie region. Based on surveys and meetings conducted with the MAP members the vision for rural areas in the perspective of the year 2040 was described. The vision underlines different needs and development potential of specific parts of rural areas in the region.

Desirable future of rural areas in Mazowieckie for 2040 underlines the need to achieve “*vibrant rural communities*”. The vision relates to all aspects of sustainable development. In the case of economic aspects, the job prospects and business opportunities were indicated. Rural areas should offer good prospects for their inhabitants and should be an attractive places for investment for all types of business activity. This should also translate into dissent incomes gained by professionally active population. To achieve this, a number of different challenges must successfully be overcome through public policies.

The results of the discussions conducted in the first cycle are summarised in the [MAP Discussion Paper](#) and the [MAP Position Paper](#) on A Vision for Rural Areas.



# SHERPA

Rural Science-Society-Policy  
Interfaces



CIHEAM  
MONTPELLIER



AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS  
ΓΕΩΠΟΝΙΚΟ ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΑΘΗΝΩΝ



Nordregio



WAGENINGEN  
UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH



UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA



POLITÉCNICA

UNIVERSIDAD  
POLITÉCNICA  
DE MADRID



The James  
Hutton  
Institute



THÜNEN



Institute for  
European  
Environmental  
Policy



Univerza v Ljubljani



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM  
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA



UNIVERSIDADE  
DE SANTIAGO  
DE COMPOSTELA



CONSULAI  
inovação · credibilidade · rigor



ALDA  
European Association  
for Local Democracy



[www.rural-interfaces.eu](http://www.rural-interfaces.eu)

