

SHERPA - Rural Science-Society-Policy Interfaces



MAP Alqueva

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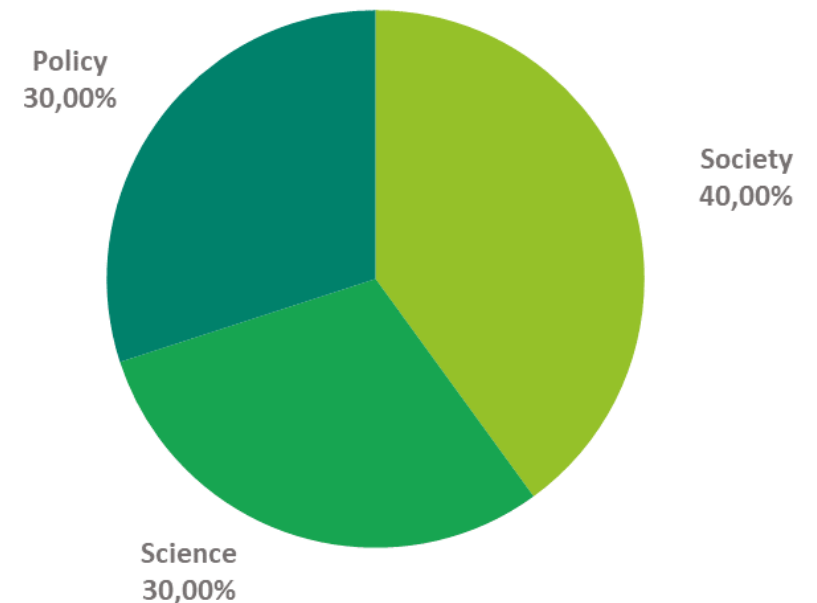
MAP intro

A MAP focused on a region that is experiencing a strong agricultural intensification as a result of a large public investment in irrigation

About the MAP Alqueva

- It was one of the **pilot MAPs of SHERPA** (Initial discussion: "Biodiversity and Landscape Elements"), and its constitution was "marked" by the initial theme
- Includes the **most relevant** stakeholders in the region
- There is **genuine interest** from members to contribute to the discussion
- There has been **active participation** from "Policy" and "Society" entities. From "Science", it has been **more difficult** to have participation from key "figures" in academia

MAP membership:





MAP experiences and insights

Discussions about pertinent issues, adjusted to the territory and with impact on policy preparation

- The discussion of this MAP was accompanied by GPP, which is the coordinating entity of PEPAC in Portugal, and some of the proposed **eco-schemes and Agri-Environmental Measures**
- It allowed to discuss, and to value, simple practices that greatly improve the **ecosystem services** of the most intensive models
- The **agro-forestry system** (montado) typical of the Alentejo region (Southern Portugal) was highlighted as part of a complex of different production models

- In addition to the theme "Biodiversity and Landscape Elements", the last cycle focused on "**CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**"
- It was possible to promote a **face-to-face meeting** in the last cycle, which was determinant to enrich the discussion



What can be done better?

- Further **dissemination** of the project, and its reflections and recommendations, to local/national authorities (other than those in SHERPA)
- Existence of “experience” **sharing between MAPs** from different countries, who are discussing the same issues
- To have **longer discussion cycles** (e.g. 18 months), where there may be some intermediate document, but which allows more time for in-depth discussion
- MAP members feel that their involvement has **consequences** or impact at national and/or European level
- Possibility of providing **monetary compensation** to the participants, so that they will be more accountable

THANK YOU

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