

SHERPA - Rural Science-Society-Policy Interfaces



Rural Scotland MAP

David Miller and Multi-Actor Platforms Teams

1 February 2022

SHERPA Annual Conference



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@ruralinterfaces

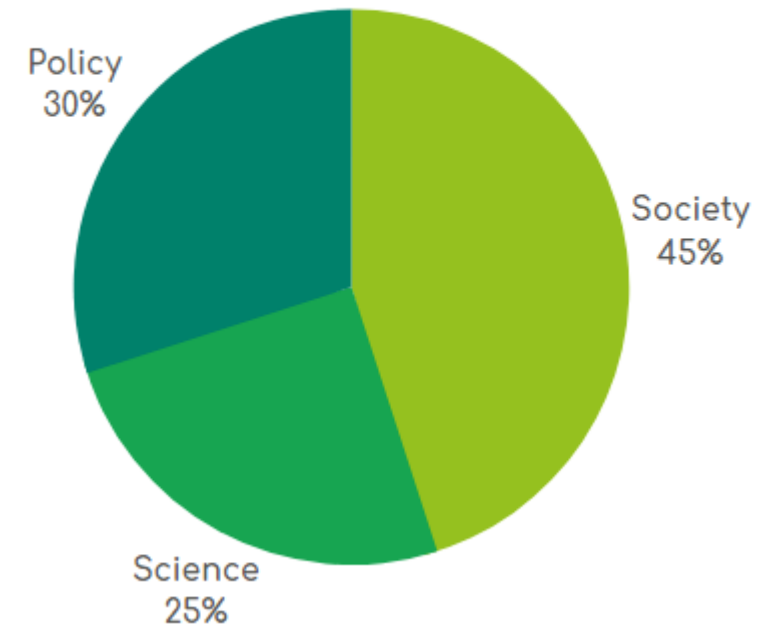


Rural Scotland MAP (UK)

Overview

- Rural Scotland – rural areas, Scotland-wide
- Dee Catchment – focus on water catchment in north-east Scotland
- Composition of the MAPs: Civil society: 45%; policy 30%; science 25%
- Long-term Vision for Rural Areas Topic - **Climate change and environmental sustainability**

MAP membership





Experiences and Insights - Roles of Science-Society-Policy Interfaces

- Filter **scientific knowledge** base, to share research relevant to topic
- **Practice knowledge**, from skills and experience used and learnt 'on-the-ground' (by society, policy and science)
- **Co-construction of** new ideas for policies, measures, approaches (Discussion and Position Papers)
- Developing **social and human capital** (knowledge, networks)

Example role of UK MAPs:

- **Forum to share knowledge, identify barriers to uptake (social, economic, physical)**

Example role of UK MAPs:

- **Mechanisms to exchange evidence, and share understanding of issue widely experienced but often not seen; 'join up' policy measures**

Example role of UK MAPs:

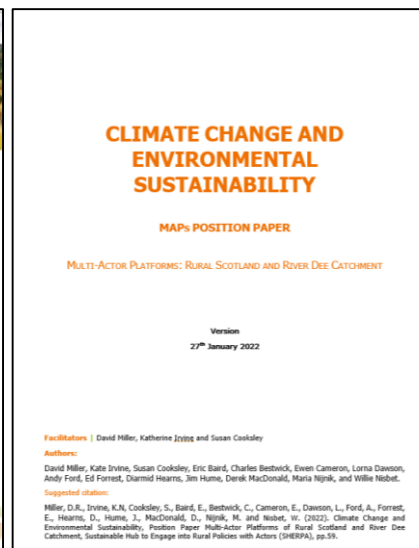
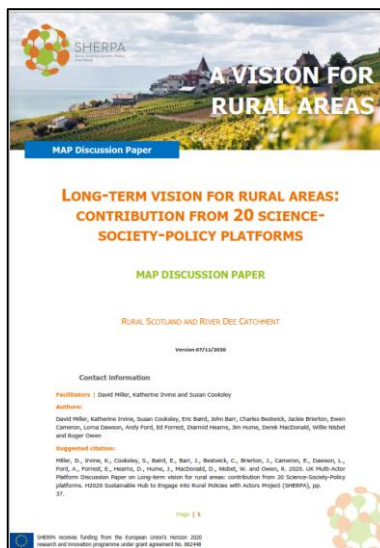
- **Provide one in a portfolio of means of members engaging with policy at multiple levels (local to international)**



Experiences and Insights - Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability (Topic 2021/22)

Example Functions:

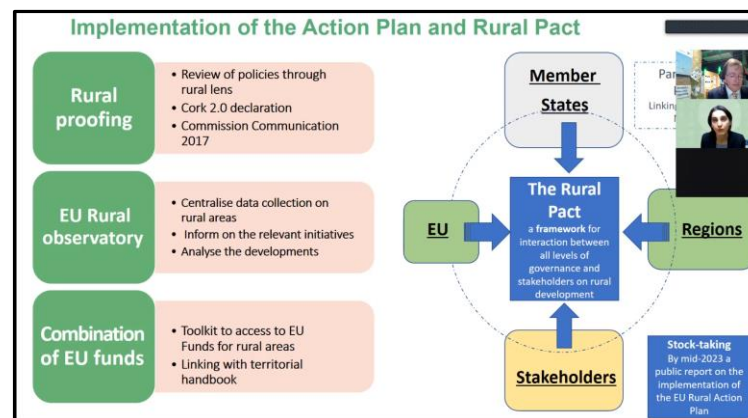
- **Co-author** Discussion and Position Papers
- **Formulate** inputs to wider level communications
- **COP26 – Create impact** - General public, Civil Society, Research and Policy
- **Strategic thinking** - 'Team Scotland' as hosts!



SHERPA Findings to European Rural Parliament



Online Panel Session



Public Engagement





Example Insights on Topic

Issue: Resilience of rural areas during and after extreme events

- Physical harm
- Stress, mental health and wellbeing
- Limitations of digital solutions and sharing data
 - No electricity – no access to internet
 - No mobile signal – no means of reporting outage or receiving updates
- Physical barriers to accessing support, or assistance being provided

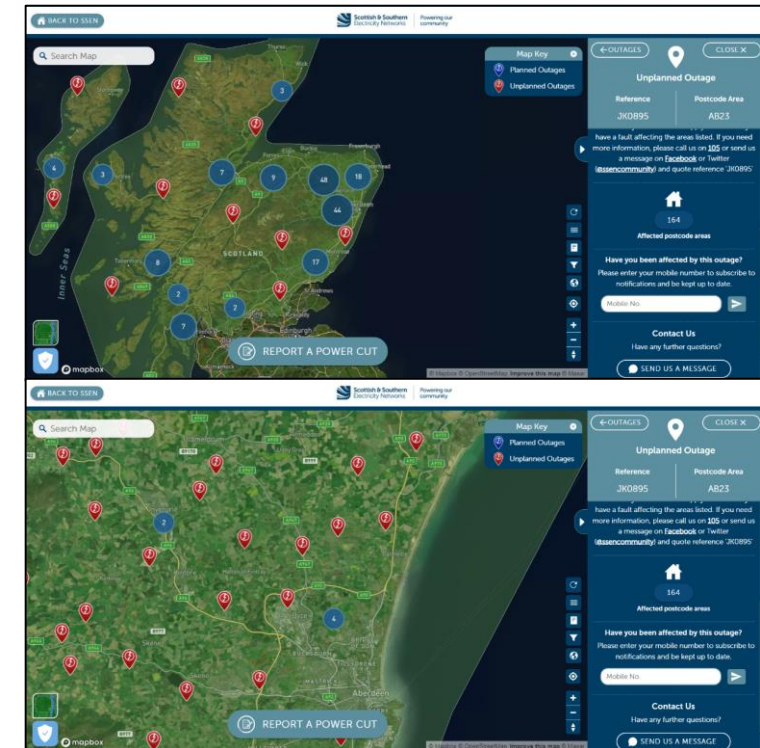
Reliance on neighbours, social networks, community groups, churches, ...

Science-Society-Policy Interface:

- **Critical friends to policy and business on barriers to impact, and weaknesses in approach**



Source: Mark Wilkinson, James Hutton Institute, 29th January 2016)



Source: Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (29th January 2022)



Opportunities Informing Topic in 2022/23

- **Build** on legacy initiatives of **COP26**
- **Contribute** to initiatives for **CBD COP15**
- **Engage** with new governance structures in Scotland (Regional Land Use Partnerships), through MAP members (e.g. knowledge on natural capital)
- Inform debates about just transitions of land use change within forums for policy and practice (e.g. MAP members in two National Parks, Biosphere, local authorities)
- **Share science and practice evidence** to inform discussion of Scottish Government policy commitment to a new National Park

Update to the
Climate Change Plan
2018 - 2032

Securing a Green Recovery
on a Path to Net Zero

Scotland's Third
Land Use Strategy
2021-2026



Getting
our land

Laid before the Scottish Parliament
under Section 57 of the Climate Change
Act 2009

March 2021
SG/2021/81

Just
Transition

Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot



Improving Approach for Topic 2022/23

- **Economically deprived rural areas** – To increase inputs from experiences of previous transitions (e.g. closing coal production, decline in fishing)
- **Younger people** – Reached out to Youth Parliament and Young Scot
- **Broaden community** – e.g. Improve connections between MAPs in projects MOVNG, DESIRA, SHERPA
- **SHERPA level activities** – Project input to EU Rural Pact

Join the Rural Pact community!





Acknowledgments

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Lorna Dawson
MAP member

David Miller
MAP Facilitator



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