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SHERPA- Rural interfaces

Newsletter 18 - December 2022



SHERPA Annual & Final Conferences in 2023

We are getting excited to host more than 100 participants for our next Annual Conference in Montpellier (France) on 31 Jan - 1 Feb 2023. Registrations are now closed, but do not worry if could not make it: our final conference will happen in June 2023- STAY TUNED!

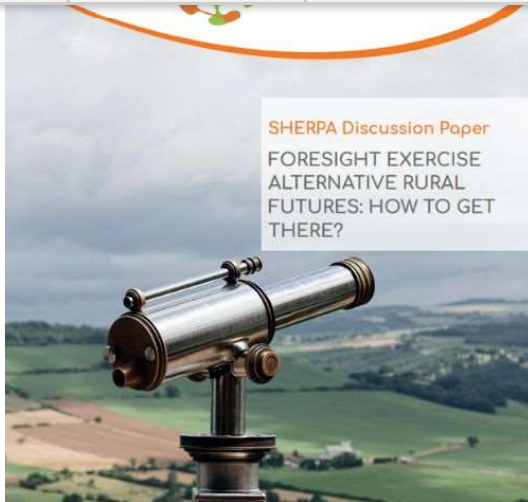
SHERPA NEWS

SHERPA tool to characterise rural diversity

The SHERPA tool examines the characteristics of rural areas across Europe. To do this, it gathers data from different European databases and sources (i.e. Eurostat, Joint Research Council) and provides an immediate assessment of the selected territories by scoring their characteristics in terms of specific indicators.

[Check it out!](#)





The SHERPA Discussion Paper on "Foresight Exercise for Alternative Rural Futures: How to get there?" has been published. The Discussion Paper provides a methodology to help rural actors to run a foresight exercise in their rural areas through a five-step approach.

[Check it out!](#)

Effective mechanisms to address new governance challenges in EU rural areas

On 8th November, the EU-funded projects SHERPA & POLIRURAL held a webinar on how to tackle governance challenges in EU's rural areas, organized as a side event of the EU Week of Cities and Regions. Speakers from different European rural areas shared their experiences on tools and methods to strengthen rural governance.

[Read more](#)



SHERPA



POLIRURAL

MAPS IN FOCUS



How to retain a fair share of the value generated by agriculture in rural areas?

In Romania, most farmers are small in size and they have little bargaining power with the multinational giants that supply them with raw materials or take over their agricultural products. As result, most of the value generated by the food supply chain does not go to farmers but rather to big companies. In Romania, 3 multi-actor platforms point out what are the needs and gaps to tackle this issue.

[Read more](#)

say rural actors

In 2022, a severe drought hit several regions of Europe. A persistent lack of precipitation, combined with temperatures above the average, led to one of the driest summers ever experienced in Europe. The Emilia-Romagna MAP, in Northern Italy, shares its own experience and underlines their needs in terms of policies and research.

[Read more](#)

EU MAP discusses social dimension and digitalisation in rural areas

On 24 November, the SHERPA EU Multi-Actor Platform (MAP) held its 10th meeting in Brussels. During the meeting, it discussed the needs, challenges and opportunities related to the social aspect and digitalisation in rural areas, emerged from the SHERPA MAPs across rural Europe. Discover what have been the key messages of the discussion.

[Read more](#)

EUROPEAN NEWS

CAP Strategic Plans...mission completed!

The European Commission has approved the latest CAP Strategic Plan! If you wish to know more about the 28 CAP Strategic Plans, have a look at our Timeline for EU programming or read the factsheet of the European Commission, that summarises "at a glance" how these resources will be used in the EU countries.

[Read more](#)



Need to know on rural trends and data in Europe

The European Rural Observatory has been launched! It is a flagship initiative of the European Union, foreseen in the European Commission's Long-Term Vision for Rural Areas and developed by the Joint Research Center in coordination with the European Commission's DG AGRI and DG REGIO.

[Read more](#)

COP27: Stepping up action on food and land use for rural areas

For the first time in the Conference of Parties (COP)'s history, agriculture was on the official agenda of this international event. During the COP, several representatives and policymakers acknowledged that the agri-food sector is not only suffering from climate change but also contributing to it, and it is part of the solution.

[Read more](#)



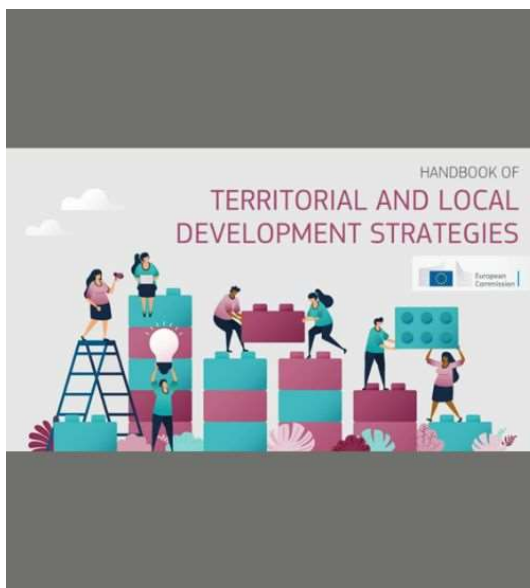
Remote territories shall be considered by EU policies

The EU Committee of the Regions adopted the opinion of Marie-Antoinette Maupertuis, President of the Corsica Regional Assembly on "Enhancing Cohesion Policy support for regions with geographic and demographic handicaps (Article 174 of the TFEU)". Through this option, the EU Committee of the Regions reaffirms its attention to remote rural areas, such as mountains, sparsely populated areas, islands and cross-border regions.

[Read more](#)



What is a smart mountain? How to make territories attractive, resilient, and future-oriented? This was the focus of debates at the XII European Mountain Convention in Camigliatello Silano, Italy (October 2022), organised by Euromontana and CIA. The outputs of this event, summarised in the Sila Declaration, insists on the role of policies and research and innovation to support the development and future of unique and remote territories, such as mountains.

[Read more](#)

Handbook of territorial and local development strategies

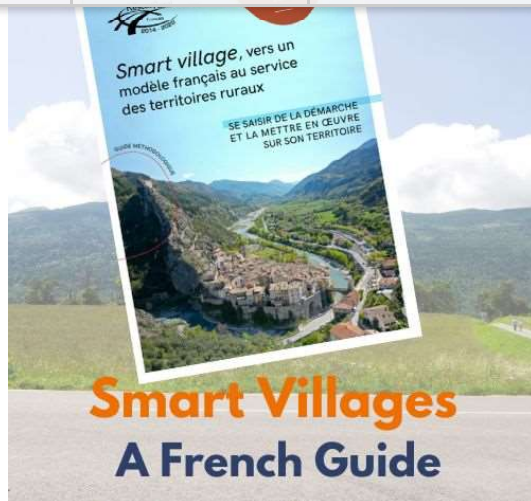
The Joint Research Centre launched the Handbook of Territorial and Local Development Strategies in non-urban areas. The Handbook offers methodological support or managing authorities, local authorities, Local Action Groups and any other organisations involved in the design, implementation and monitoring of development strategies in the framework of the EU's cohesion policy.

[Read more](#)

Czech Republic announces its own Rural Pact

Approximately one year later the launch of the EU Rural Pact, Czech Republic announces its own Rural Pact: a strategy that will pool together citizens, local governments and stakeholders to enhance the development of rural areas in the country. The announcement was made in Lednice on 27 October 2022.

[Read more](#)



In France, a guide on “Smart village, towards a French model for rural territories” has been published!

The guide provides elected officials in rural areas with a methodology and concrete examples to put into practice the Smart Villages approach.

[Read more](#)

OTHER PROJECTS



CODECS: a new project on rural digitalisation

CODECS (Maximising the CO-benefits of agricultural Digitalisation through conducive digital ECoSystems) is a brand-new Horizon Europe project, coordinated by the University of Pisa, who also coordinates DESIRA.

[Read more](#)


MOVING: "Women move Europe's mountains" booklet

For the International Mountain Day, MOVING publishes a collection of 13 inspiring testimonials from mountain women, who live and work for the development of mountainous areas in Europe.

[Read more](#)

17 Jan. 2023
Sofia, Bulgaria

EU CAP Network brokerage event: Get involved in Horizon Europe advisory networks

24 Jan. 2023
Spain

EU CAP Network focus group: recovery of abandoned agricultural lands

31 Jan.-1 Feb. 2023
Montpellier, France

SHERPA Conference 2023 | Co-creating rural futures

21 Feb. 2023
Brussels, Belgium

Ageing rural Europe: Opportunities for local economies

2 May 2023
Sweden

Swedish Rural week

20 Jun. 2023
Brussels, Belgium

EU Sustainable Energy Week

Jun. 2023 (TBC)
Brussels, Belgium

SHERPA Final Conference

26 Jun. 2023
Groningen, The Netherlands

3rd EU conference on rural geographies in transition

28 Jun. 2023
Romania

Smart Village Forum

3-7 Jul. 2023
Rennes, France

EU Society for Rural Sociology Congress: Crises and the futures of rural areas



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