



SHERPA  
Rural Science-Society-Policy  
Interfaces

# Co-creating Rural Futures

31 January - 1 February  
Montpellier, France



OLIVIER CHARTIER

Ecorys

#SHERPAconference





## Taking stock of SHERPA's work in 2022

**Olivier Chartier**

31 January 2023

SHERPA Annual Conference



SHERPA receives funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 862448.



**@ruralinterfaces**





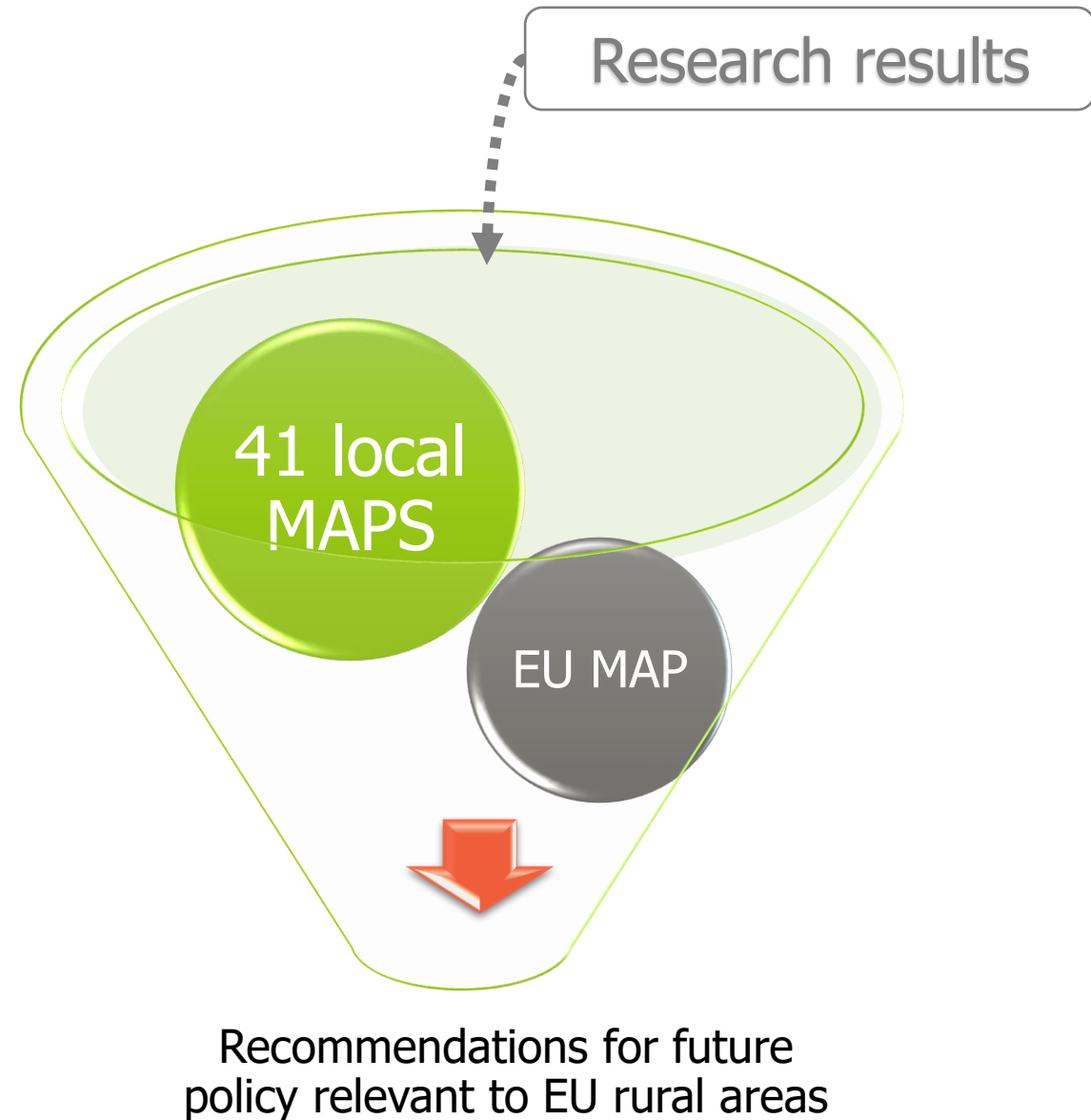
## Why SHERPA ?

1. Need to better use research knowledge
2. Need to empower key actors in the development of public policy

### Since October 2019

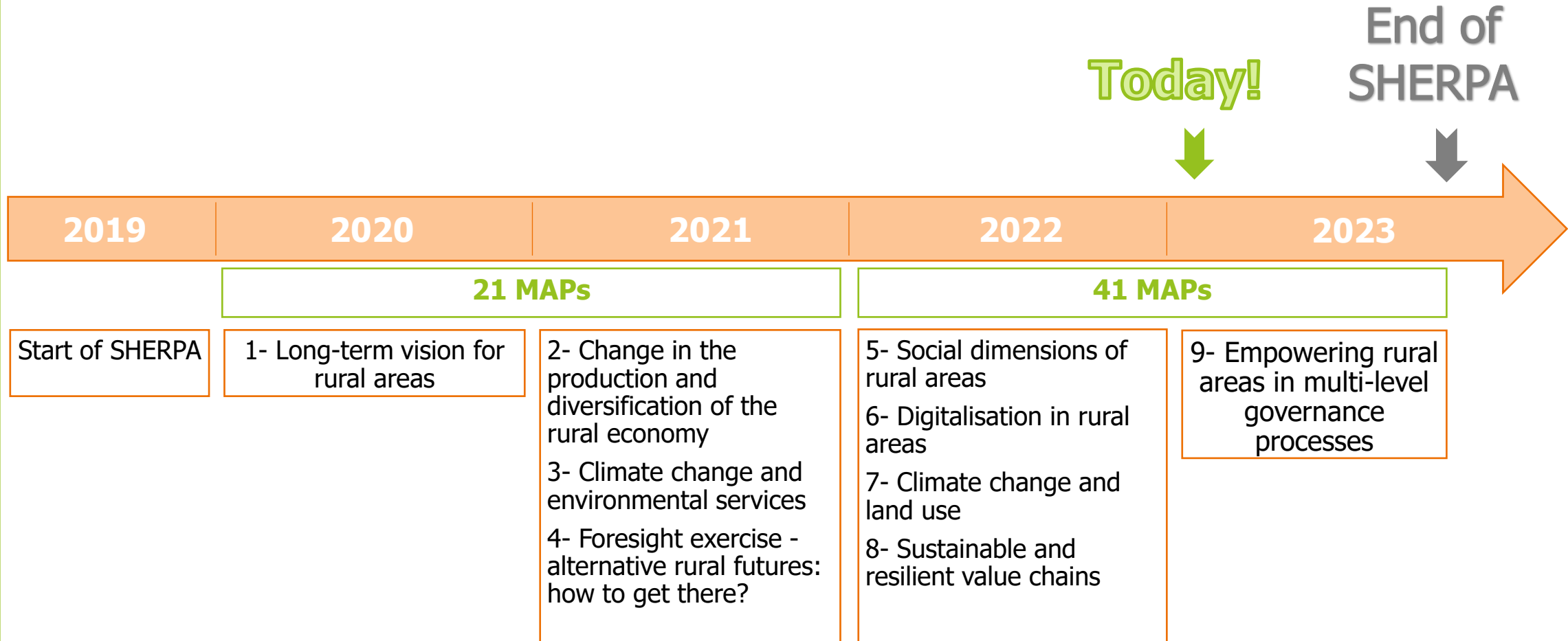
More 630 Science-Society-Policy actors from 17 countries engaged in 125 meetings for:

- ✓ Sharing their views on the Long Term Vision for Rural Areas
- ✓ Suggesting policy recommendations on 7 thematic areas



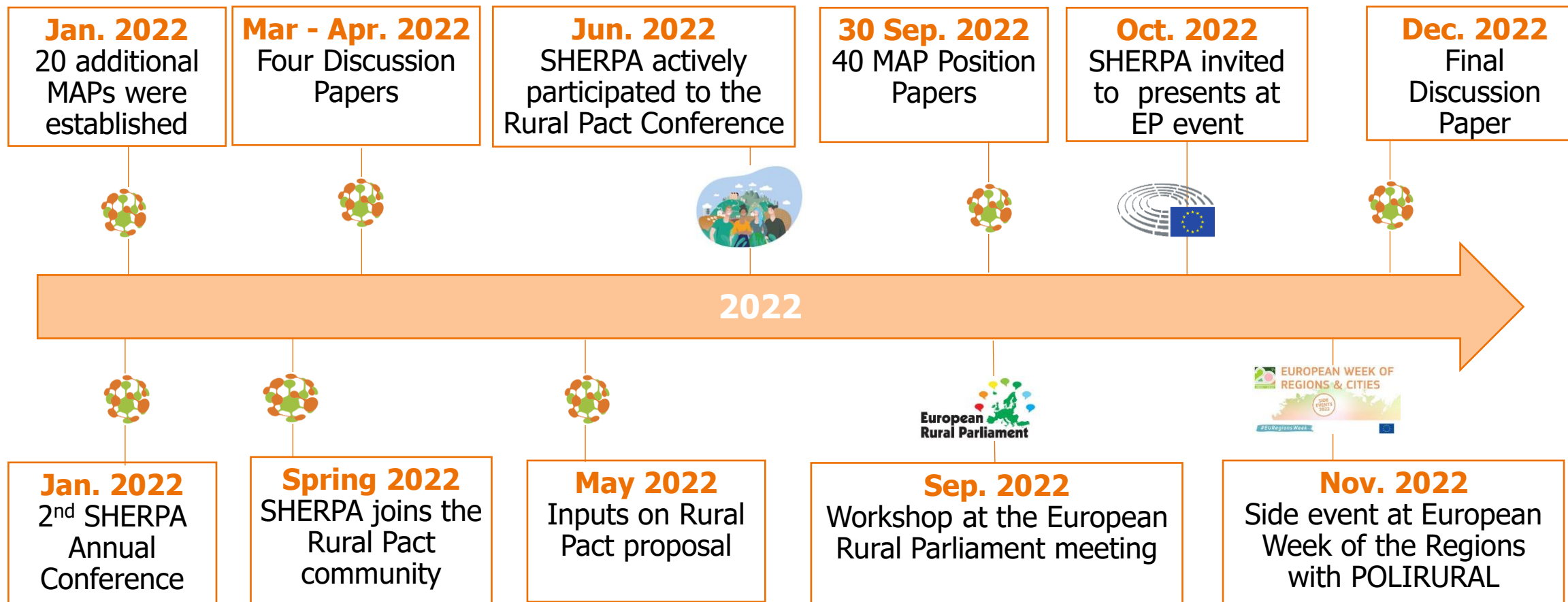


# Nine thematic areas





# Some achievements in 2022





# 41 SHERPA MAPs

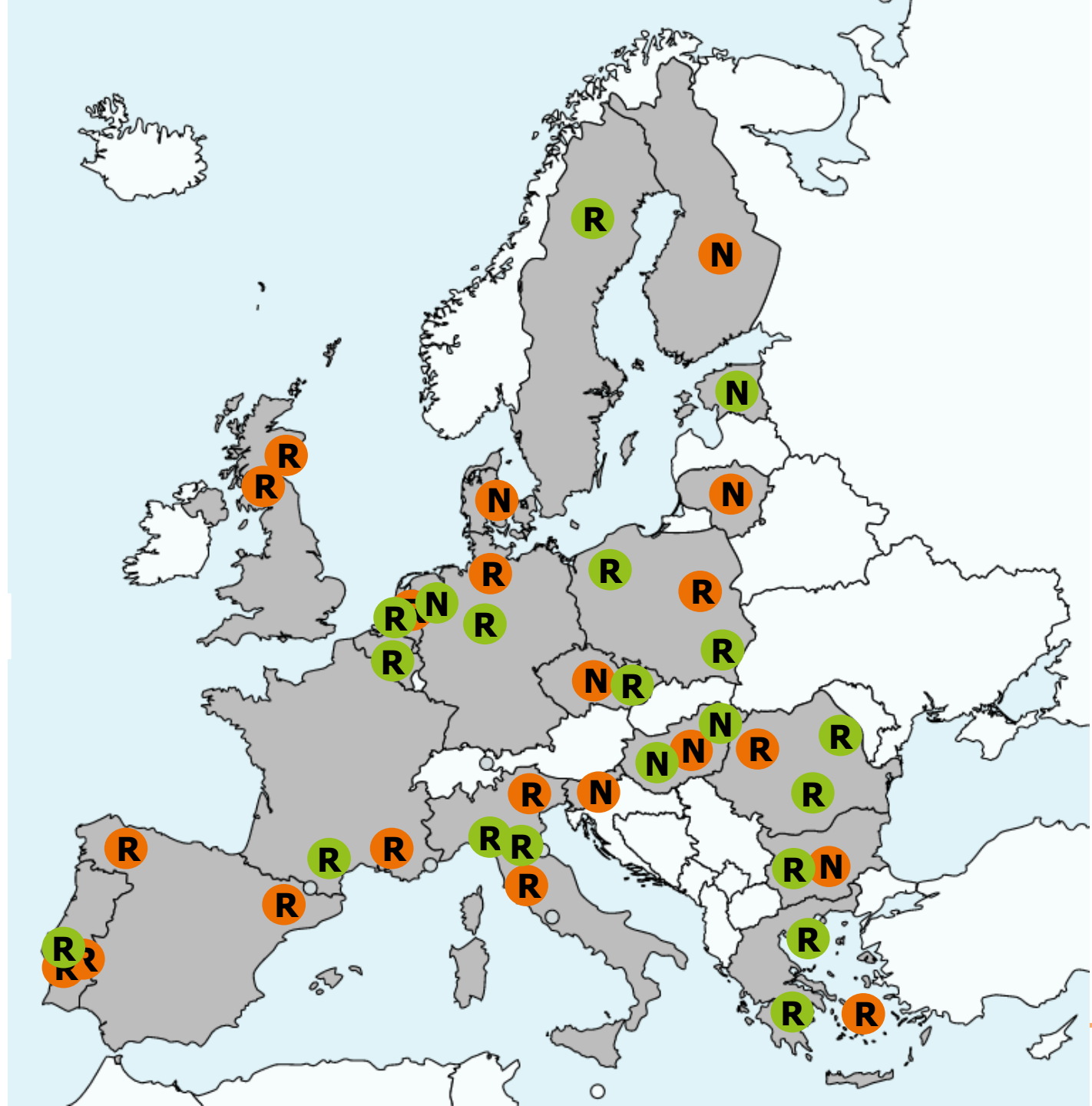
- In addition to the 21 already established MAPs, 20 additional (national and regional) SHERPA MAPs were established in 2022



MAPs established before 2022



New MAPs





## Four topics in 2022

Digitalisation in  
rural areas (4 MAPs)

Social dimensions  
of rural areas (9 MAPs)

Sustainable and  
resilient value  
chains (15 MAPs)

Climate change  
and land use (13 MAPs)

41 local  
MAPs

EU MAP

### How do we prepare our Discussion Papers?

- ✓ Co-construction with MAPs
- ✓ Editorial team (lead author)
- ✓ SHERPA repository

Policy Recommendations



# Focus on SHERPA repository

- An online repository of information and ready-to-use knowledge related to rural areas, made available from past and ongoing EU-funded research projects.
- The repository enables access to a wealth of knowledge particularly focusing on the results of rural-related research.
- Information can be filtered by topics, research and funding program, key words, time period, and participant organisations.





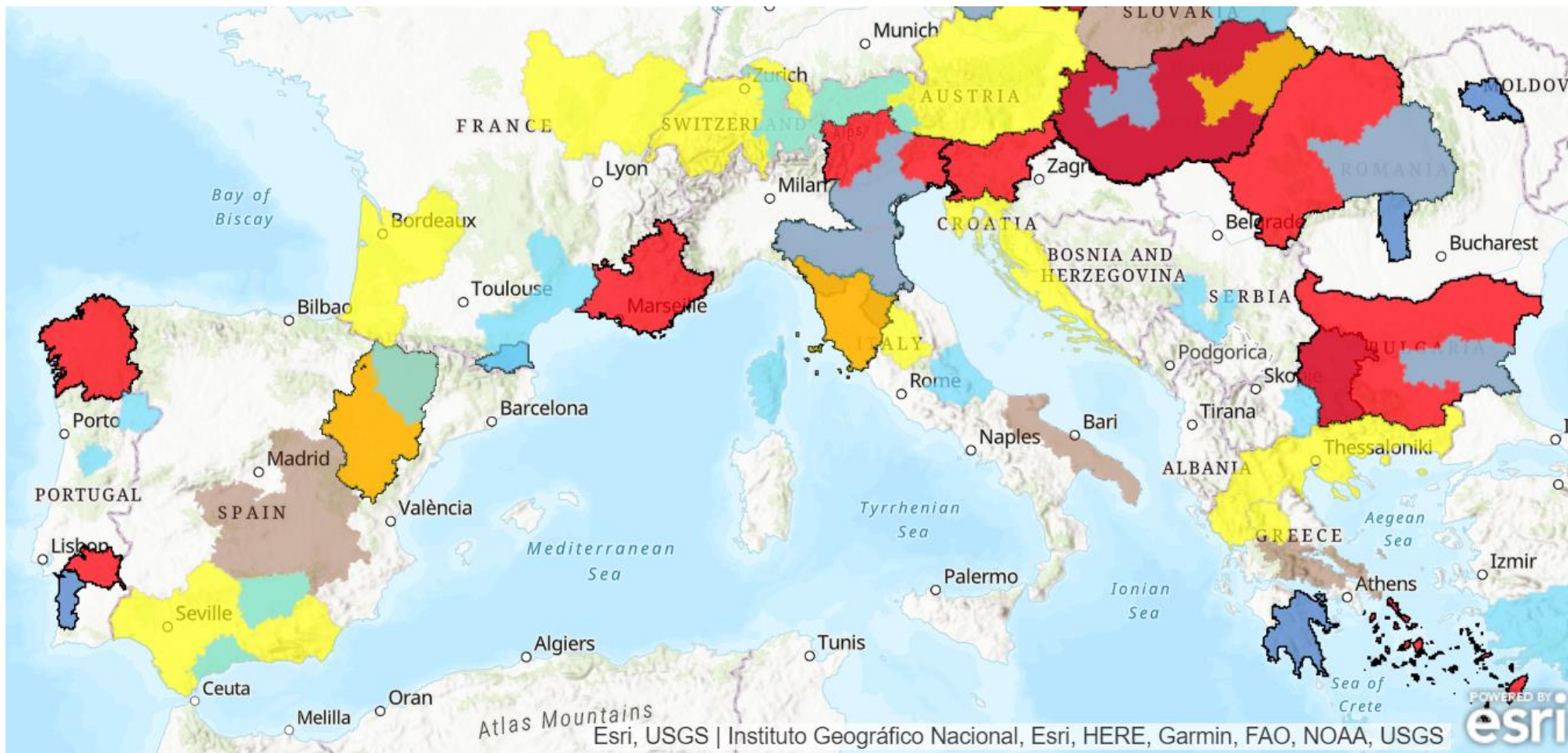


# How does the SHERPA repository work?

- **9 rural topics** → The 9 topics for the future of rural areas that SHERPA MAPs worked on.
- **Projects** → Ongoing or ended projects in and for rural areas
- **Project results** → Key findings from selected projects with strategic interest and relevance to the rural topics covered in the repository
- **Tailored result delivery** → Easy and intuitive filters to customise your searches in the repository
- **Intuitive navigation** → Information is made available in just a few clicks via easy to navigate interfaces
- **Visualisation** → Interactive cartographic map available in the landing page of the repository providing information about Multi-Actor groups working on rural topics



# Cartographic map on Multi-Actor groups in EU projects







# The SHERPA online repository in numbers

## 794 projects across 9 main topics

1. Long-term Vision for Rural Areas (244)
2. Biodiversity (98)
3. Climate change and environmental services (48)
4. Change in production and diversification of the rural economy (78)
5. Social dimensions of rural areas (56)
6. Digitalisation in rural areas (57)
7. Climate change and land use (79)
8. Towards sustainable and resilient value chains (105)
9. Empowering rural areas in multi-level governance processes (29)





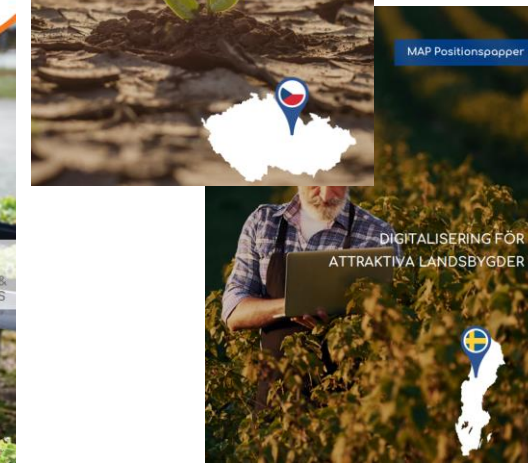
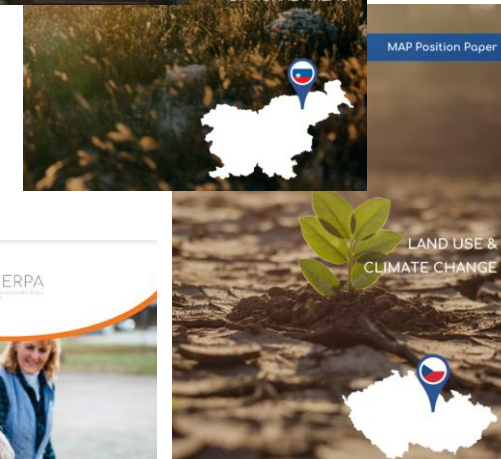
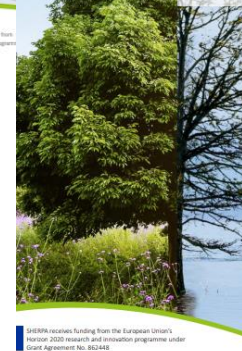
# SHERPA policy recommendations

4 thematic areas:

- Social dimensions of rural areas
- Digitalisation in rural areas
- Climate change and land use
- Sustainable and resilient value chains

The SHERPA Discussion Papers & MAP Position Papers have been published on [our website](#)

The draft SHERPA Position Papers have been shared in advance of this Conference, and will be finalised & published in the following weeks.







# Example of recommendations

## Social dimension in rural areas

- Support the creation of friendly public spaces, organise events, creating space for grassroots, community-based activities;
- Establish a cross-sectoral rural authority at national level for an effective integration of agricultural policy and financial resources with other ministries
- Earmark funds for addressing social dimension in rural areas

## Digitalisation in rural areas

- Promote and ensure the deployment of adequate resources for the continuous generation and update of basic digital competences in rural areas, paying specific attention to the digital inclusion of low-skilled and vulnerable groups.
- Create digital strategies adapted to the local needs by using a co-designing approach including rural stakeholders



# Example of recommendations

## Climate change & land use

- Develop and implement **strategy for communication and societal engagement** of changes in climate, and tangible links to actions of business and citizens
- **Understand rural vulnerability** to climate crises, identifying how to enhance adaptive capacity and transformability of rural communities
- Support equitable **access to knowledge and skills** by communities for development of local energy systems

## Sustainable and resilient value chains

- **Foster training** and peer-to-peer knowledge transfer
- Support the **creation of local infrastructure** of collaborative value chain initiatives



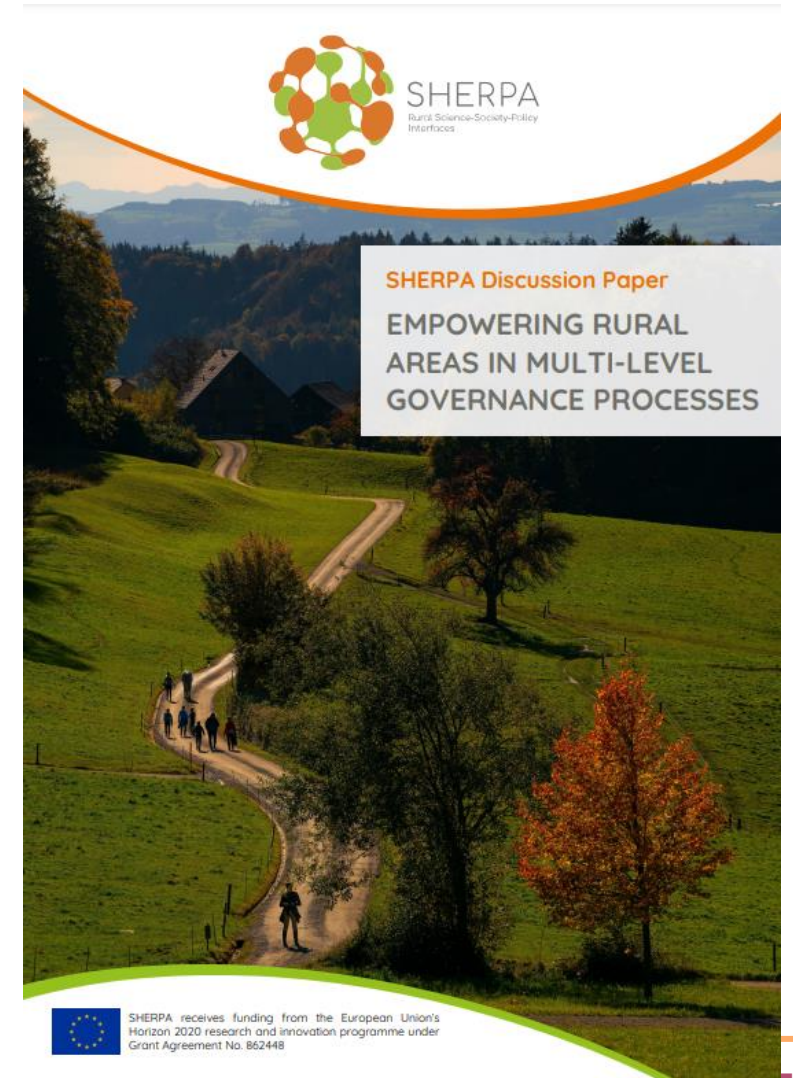
# SHERPA in 2023

**Last topic:** empowering rural areas in multi-level governance processes.

- Gather evidence across Europe regarding governance and stakeholder engagement in rural policymaking processes
- Develop recommendations on future governance-related measures and research needed to improve the development and implementation of rural policies

**Final conference:** 1 and 2 June 2023 in t Brussels

- Discussion on last SHERPA Position Paper on Governance
- Synthesis of all SHERPA papers: our final policy recommendations (e.g. new ideas for LTVR Action Plan)
- The future of Science-Society-Policy interface



## Rural Science-Society-Policy Interfaces



# #Sherpaconference

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