SHERPA - Rural Science-Society-Policy Interfaces

SHERPA
Project Presentation

Michael Kull & Elin Slätmo (Nordregio) & Elodie Salle (Ecorys)

10 September 2020

DESIRA Rural Digitalisation Forum

@ruralinterfaces

What is SHERPA?

SHERPA – **Sustainable Hub to Engage into Rural Policies with Actors** – is a four-year project (2019-2023) with 17 partners, funded by the Horizon 2020 programme and coordinated by Ecorys.

The project's objective is to contribute to the **formulation of recommendations for future policies** relevant to EU rural areas.

Its approach is through a **science-society-policy interface** which provides a hub for knowledge and policy.

4 Guiding principles

| Flexible programming | Impartiality & transparency | Diversity of EU rural territories & multi-level interactions | Co-construction |

SHERPA objectives

Map the main drivers of future trends and dynamics of EU rural areas.

Establish Multi-Actor Platforms (MAPs) as effective and sustainable Science-Society-Policy interfaces.

Create a shared knowledge base relevant to EU rural policy by taking stock of results of past and ongoing research projects.

Engage in dialogue between citizens, researchers and policy makers from EU territories.

Formulate recommendations for the development of modern rural policies at European, national and regional levels.
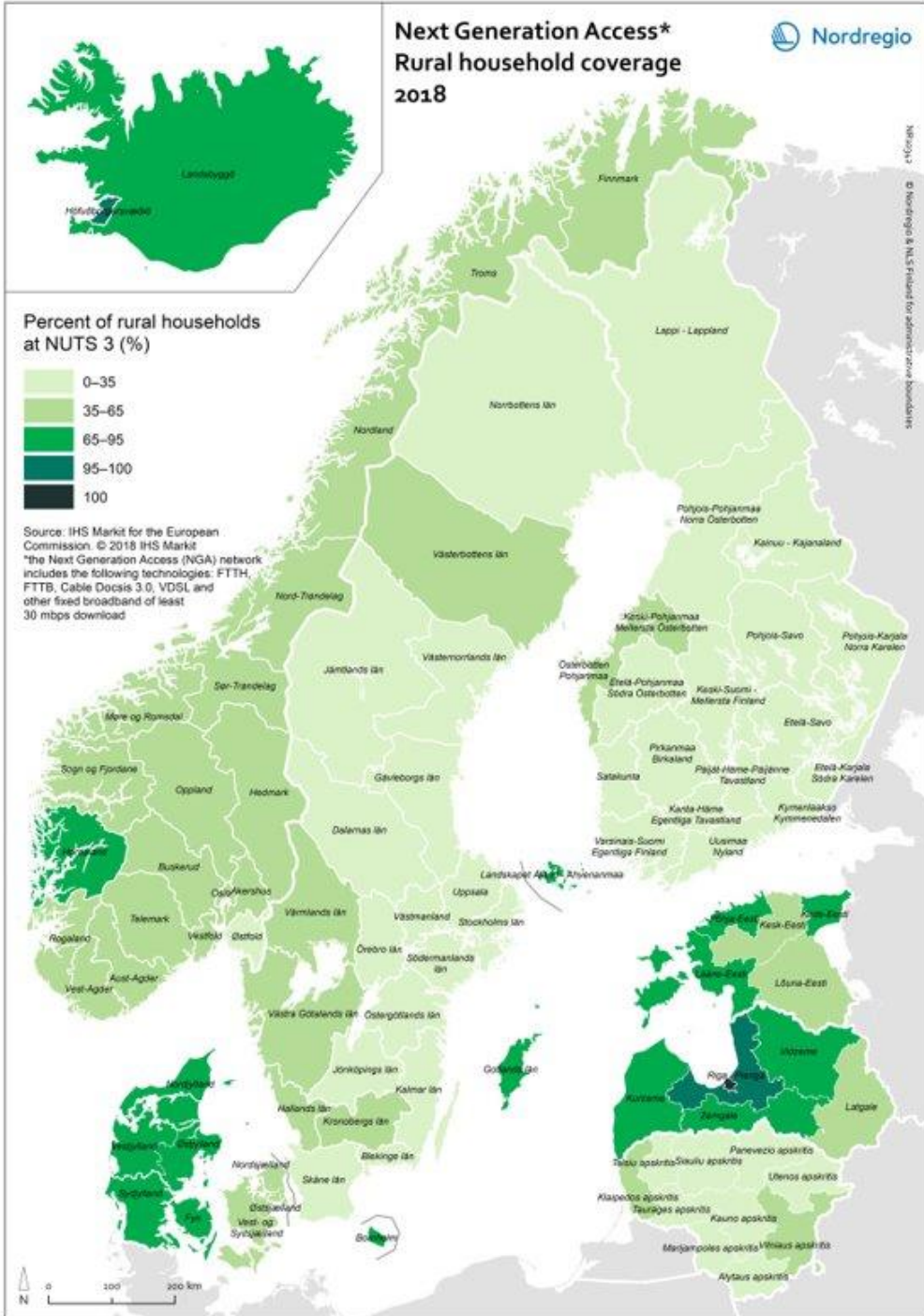
A VISION AND STRATEGY FOR RURAL EUROPE

CHALLENGE ➡
OPPORTUNITY ➡

Next Generation Access*
Rural household coverage
2018

Nordregio

Percent of rural households
at NUTS 3 (%)

- 0–35
- 35–65
- 65–95
- 95–100
- 100

Source: IHS Markit for the European
Commission. © 2018 IHS Markit
*the Next Generation Access (NGA) network
includes the following technologies: FTTH,
FTTB, Cable Docsis 3.0, VDSL and
other fixed broadband of least
30 mbps download

DESK STUDIES - Challenges

Italy (Emilia Romagna): Digital divide, smart working, broadband, digitalisation of agriculture

Scotland: Principal concerns of rural businesses = poor digital connectivity. Broadband internet from home significantly poorer in some areas.

Denmark: National fund for digitisation since 2016 BUT access to broadband still an issue in some regions

Finland: Among the poorest coverage / access to a broadband connection of at least 100 Mbps in the Nordic countries
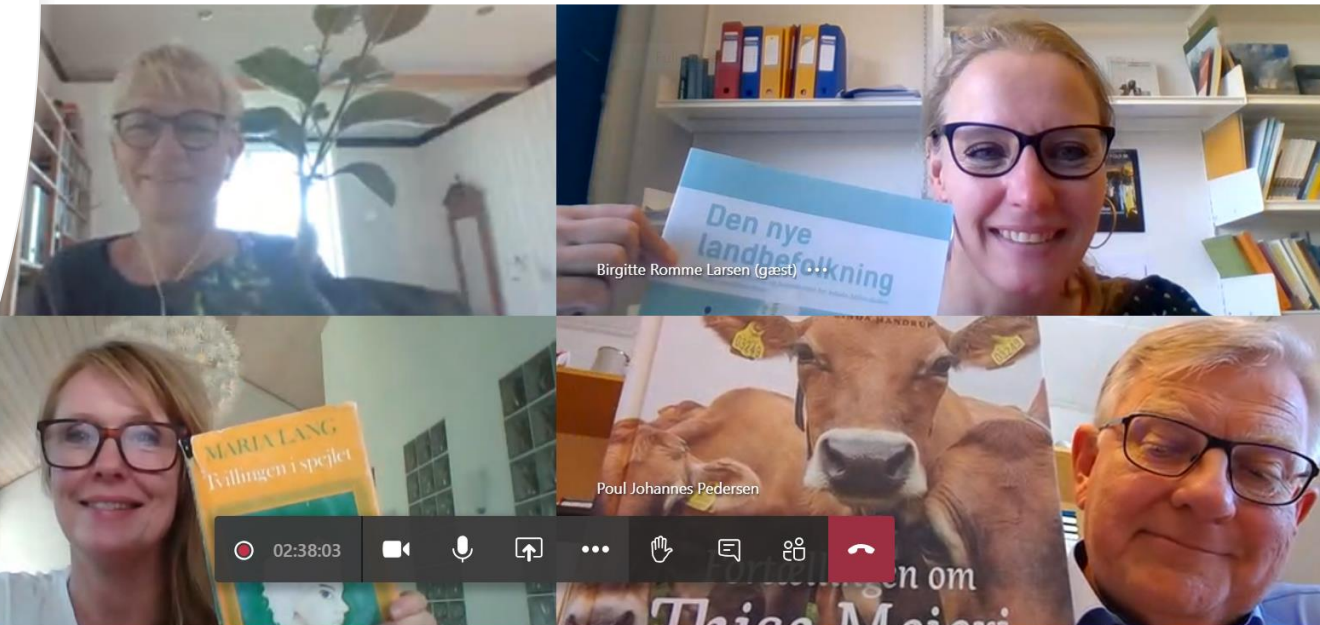
DISCUSSION MAP MEMBERS - OPPORTUNITIES

France = Digitization entails both opportunities and risks

Finland = Digital leap is propelled by Covid crisis = higher demand on digital infrastructure after crisis (e.g. working from home)

Spain (Aragon) = digitisation = best tool to close rural-urban gap

Scotland = Internet of Things' & AI lead to new tools for managing natural heritage, primary production (agriculture, forestry & aquaculture) & social care

6

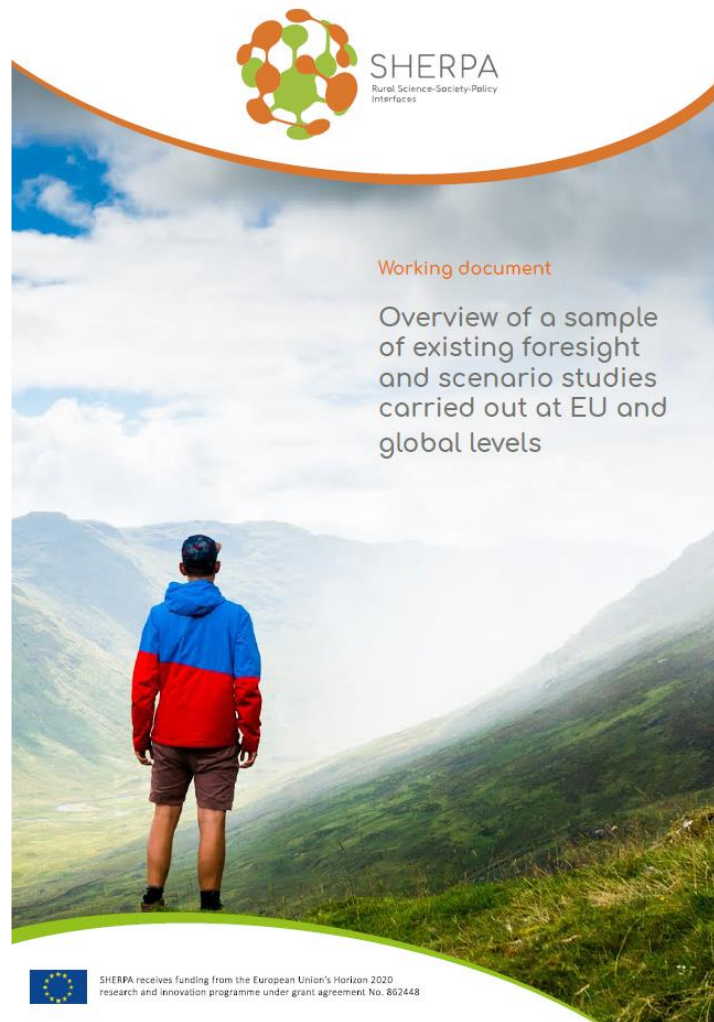# Digitalisation: Key element for rural desirable futures

- HUNGARY: High-tech agriculture due to development of digital technologies, will convince young people to remain in rural areas.

- ITALY (Tuscany): Rural areas will seize the opportunity of digitalization: wide array of tools for residents' and businesses' needs, following the framework of 'Smart Villages'.

- FINLAND: *"Rural areas more connected to the knowledge economy, more innovative, <u>digitalised</u> and based on a fossil-free economy".*
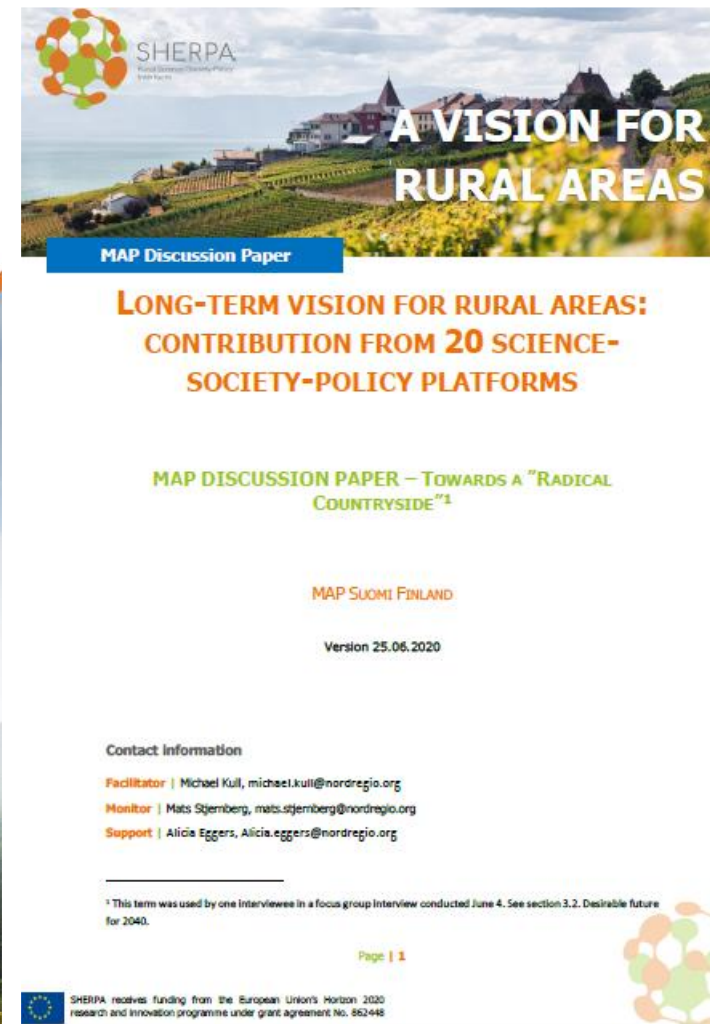
Digitalisation in SHERPA

SHERPA Discussion Paper

LONG-TERM VISION FOR RURAL AREAS

Contribution from 20 science-society-policy platforms

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

Working document

Overview of a sample of existing foresight and scenario studies carried out at EU and global levels

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

A VISION FOR RURAL AREAS

MAP Discussion Paper

LONG-TERM VISION FOR RURAL AREAS: CONTRIBUTION FROM 20 SCIENCE-SOCIETY-POLICY PLATFORMS

MAP DISCUSSION PAPER – TOWARDS A "RADICAL COUNTRYSIDE"[1]

MAP SUOMI FINLAND

Version 25.06.2020

Contact Information

Facilitator | Michael Kull, michael.kull@nordregio.org
Monitor | Mats Stjernberg, mats.stjernberg@nordregio.org
Support | Alicia Eggers, Alicia.eggers@nordregio.org

[1] This term was used by one interviewee in a focus group interview conducted June 4. See section 3.2. Desirable future for 2040.

Page | 1

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

Available soon on website

https://rural-interfaces.eu/2020/07/27/how-will-rural-areas-be-in-the-future/

https://rural-interfaces.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/SHERPA_Discussion-Paper_Long-term-vision-rural-areas.pdf

Rural Science-Society-Policy Interfaces

Thank you

Rural Science-Society-Policy Interfaces

Get informed through the SHERPA Newsletter

Subscribe

Follow us:

www.rural-interfaces.eu

@ruralinterfaces

@ruralinterfaces