

MOVING Project, an Amazing Four-Year Journey

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MOVING event: "The new legal framework for EU Quality Products: opportunities and challenges for Mountain and GI products" Brussels, 10th April 2024







Our point of departure: (Un)valued Mountains



Mountains are the **ecological backbone** of Europe:

- 30% of the EU territory
- Concentrates most of Europe's biodiversity hotspots
- Provide essential ecosystem services
- Function as water reservoirs for the continent







And essential in socioeconomic terms:

- Local economy based on natural resources (agriculture, forests, food processing and tourism)
- 18% of EU farm households
- Private and public goods provision (food, water, energy, landscapes, biodiversity, culture, traditions)



Our point of departure: (Un)valued Mountains





Diversity of contexts and development levels

- Limited data at local level
 - Value of local knowledge, perceptions and expectations
 - Moving beyond a one-size-fits-all approach
- Tailoring solutions for specific contexts
- Harnessing the unique aspects of mountain areas in policy-making

MOUNTAIN VALORISATION THROUGH INTERCONNECTEDNESS AND GREEN GROWTH **Our 23 Mountain Regions**

Our 4-year journey

MOVING Community of Practice

MOUNTAIN VALORISATION THROUGH INTERCONNECTEDNESS AND GREEN GROWTH

Theoretical and Conceptual Approach (CAF)

VCs
Identification
(Inventory)

Participatory Analysis of Land Use System Vulnerability

Value Chain Analysis, Cross-comparison and Benchmarking

Participatory Multilevel Foresight

Value Chains Diversity

Value Chains Analysis

Value Chains Potential

Future Perspectives

Policy Analysis and Roadmap

Obj. 1: Stakeholder engagement (WP1) Creating Science-Society-Policy interfaces



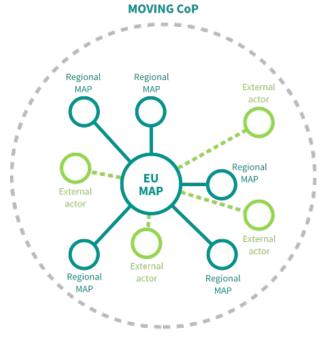
- A multi-actor approach project understood as:
 - The co-creation and sharing of knowledge among different types of actors with complementary expertise.
 - Collaborative processes involving a diversity of actors in order to address complex problems together.
- MOVING Community of Practice: European-wide Science-Society-Policy interface built upon:
 - 23 regional MAPs established in the 23 Mountain Regions
 - 1 European-level Multi-Actor Platform (EU MAP)

Approx 1000 stakeholders involved

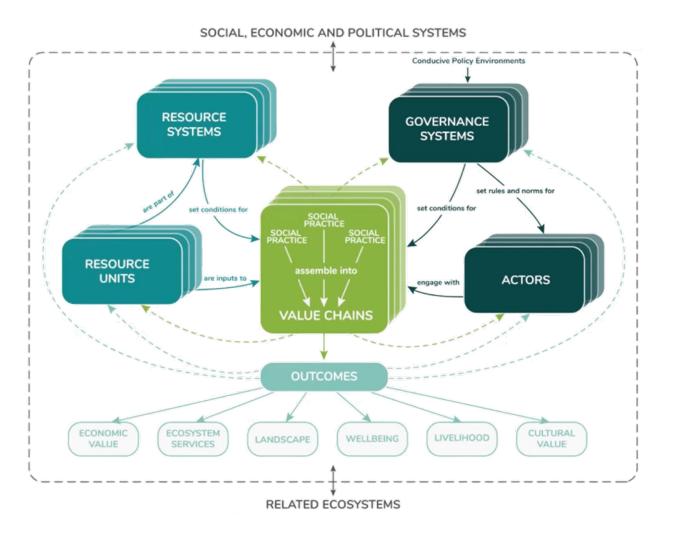
Youngster participation

81 active members

> 500 youngster



Obj. 2: Developing a Conceptual and Analytical Framework (WP2)

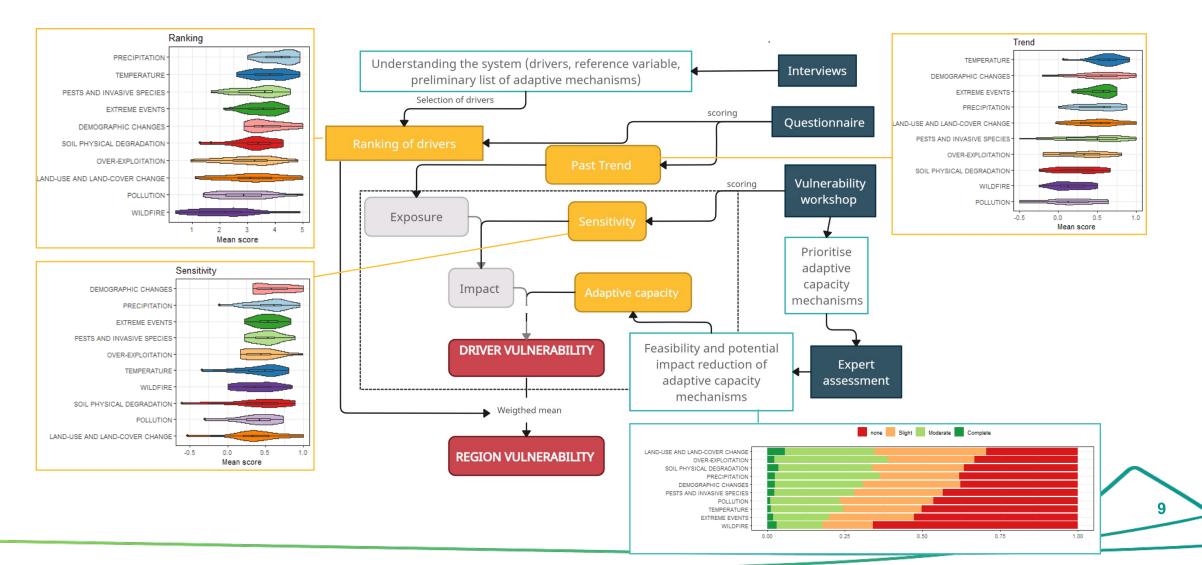




MOVING conceptual and analytical framework revised and reformulated

Obj. 3: Visual tools to analyse the vulnerability of land use and production systems (WP3)





Objective 4: Value Chain Analysis



VCs contribute to sustainability and resilience

Higher contribution through VCs assemblage

Higher value when VCs are 'controlled' by local actors (not always bring value to the territory) **Upgrading strategies** in the VCs identified.

Role of **knowledge-based** approach and **social learning**

VCs add a high societal value to the mountains

VCs connect mountain areas with lowlands... and the world.

(challenges)

factors

Obj. 5: Participatory benchmarking and clusters of mountain VCs (WP5)



Demographic & **S**ocial aspects

- Demographic changes
- Labour availability
- **Employment**
- Wellbeing
- Social inclusion
- Women role
- Youngster role
- New entrants



Innovation and Infrastructure

- Market
- Value added
- Infrastructures (communication. processing)
- Digitalisation
- **Business** model production
- **Business** model processing
- Green energy
- Entrepreneurship



Territoriality, **Cooperation &** Governance

- Territorial integration
- Telecoupling /Assemblage
- Size of the VC
- Overlap with other VC
- Link to tourism
- Fragility of the VC
- Institutional development
- Dependence on subsidies/policies



Nature and **Ecosystem Services**

- Landscapes
- Limits to growth
- High Nature Value Farming
- Climate change threats and adaptation strategies
- **Environmental Protection Figures**
- Regenerative/orga nic production

Value and Quality **Products**

- PDO or similar
- (lost) Cultural heritage
- Food quality
- Traditional production
- Local Knowledge
- **Specific** breeding/variety
- Unformality
- Consumer preferences
- Organic



Obj. 6: Foresight Analysis (WP6)



22 local foresight analyses:

- 4 foresight scenarios in each of the 22 regions
- Participatory approach to imagining the future up to 2050 and envisioning strategies

5 cluster scenario analysisPan European scenario analysis



Obj. 7: Policy Analysis (WP7)



Draft Policy Roadmap based on ten building blocks

Analysis of Strategic Policy Options

Policy Toolkit



Cluster V Main Results (WP5)



Cluster V

Value and Quality Products

- PDO or similar
- (lost) Cultural heritage
- Food quality
- Traditional production
- Local Knowledge
- Specific breeding/variety
- Unformality
- Consumer preferences





Eastern Alps (09), Maciço Noroeste (13), Slovak Carpathian Mountains (16), Betic Systems (17), Sierra Morena (18), Spanish Pyrenees (19) and Swiss Jura (21) regions.

Challenges Cluster V Value and Quality Products



- Communication:
 - **→** Consumers:
 - → Valorisation of public goods & quality schemes
 - → Management choices & impacts
 - → Translation into fair prices
 - → **Producers:** benefits of participation in quality systems
- Unfair competition due to similar non-certified products
- Bureaucratic burden and costs of certification for producers
- Governance and power distribution along the VC (bargaining power vs inclusion, power unbalances, weak structure of producers...)
- Intensification pressure



Solutions Cluster V

- Involvement of local authorities, advisors, researchers and civil society
- Continuous, participatory and dynamic development of quality scheme standards
- Combination of quality schemes
- Interaction with other territorial regulatory tools
- Reduction of bureaucratic burden & costs for small-scale producers
- Innovative methodologies (collective, participatory or group certification)
- Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS)
- Communication campaigns: values of quality production





Policy Recommendations Cluster V



- Develop supportive legal frameworks for local producers
- Implement multi-fund approaches and between funds for financing local strategies



- Define strictly the area of production within the mountain areas
- Create synergies between different territorial labels
- Test a combination of quality schemes (e.g., PDO/PGI + organic + mountain product) and territorial regulatory tools (e.g., Natural protected areas regulation) with a light bureaucratic burden for small-scale producers.
- Provide support (institutional and technical) and funds for continuous, participatory and dynamic development of quality scheme standards
- Revise the rules to fund promotion campaigns of quality products (e.g., Regulation 1144/2014/EU) to allow local small-scale campaigns

MOVING Legacy



Territorial mountain diversity as a crucial asset of Europe



Listening and amplifying the voices of over 1000 mountain stakeholders

Local knowledge validate scientific results

Combining short and long-term perspectives

Going beyond 'case-by-case' approach without losing the uniqueness

MOVING Legacy



Need for granular data



Need of multi-level support

UNLOCKING THE POWER OF MOUNTAIN VCS

From areas with natural constraints to unique traits that create opportunities

From policy attention as 'compensation' for a presumed handicap to mixed policy efforts to recognise contribution





Thank you!













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