



Sustainable Futures for Europe's Heritage in Cultural Landscapes:

Tools for understanding, managing, and protecting landscape functions and values

Insight on

Responding to landscape change: Stakeholder participation and social capital

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- Landscape increasingly used in **policy and land use planning**;
- *Rising importance of local participation* in all landscape issues (protection, management, and planning);
- Necessary to define groups that **“have a stake”** in landscape.

Questions:

I. Which processes of landscape change stakeholders perceive important, (positive - negative)?

II. How does trust and cooperation influence landscape stewardship?

III. What knowledge needed for landscape stewardship and potential conflicts between different forms of knowledge?

Understanding and unraveling with the use of “social capital”.

Social capital introduced for: (a) **social trust** (between individuals), (b) **institutional trust**, (c) **compliance with social norms** and (d) **participation in social networks**. Also type of connections in trust networks: connectedness within, between, and beyond communities (bonding, bridging, and linking types of social capital).

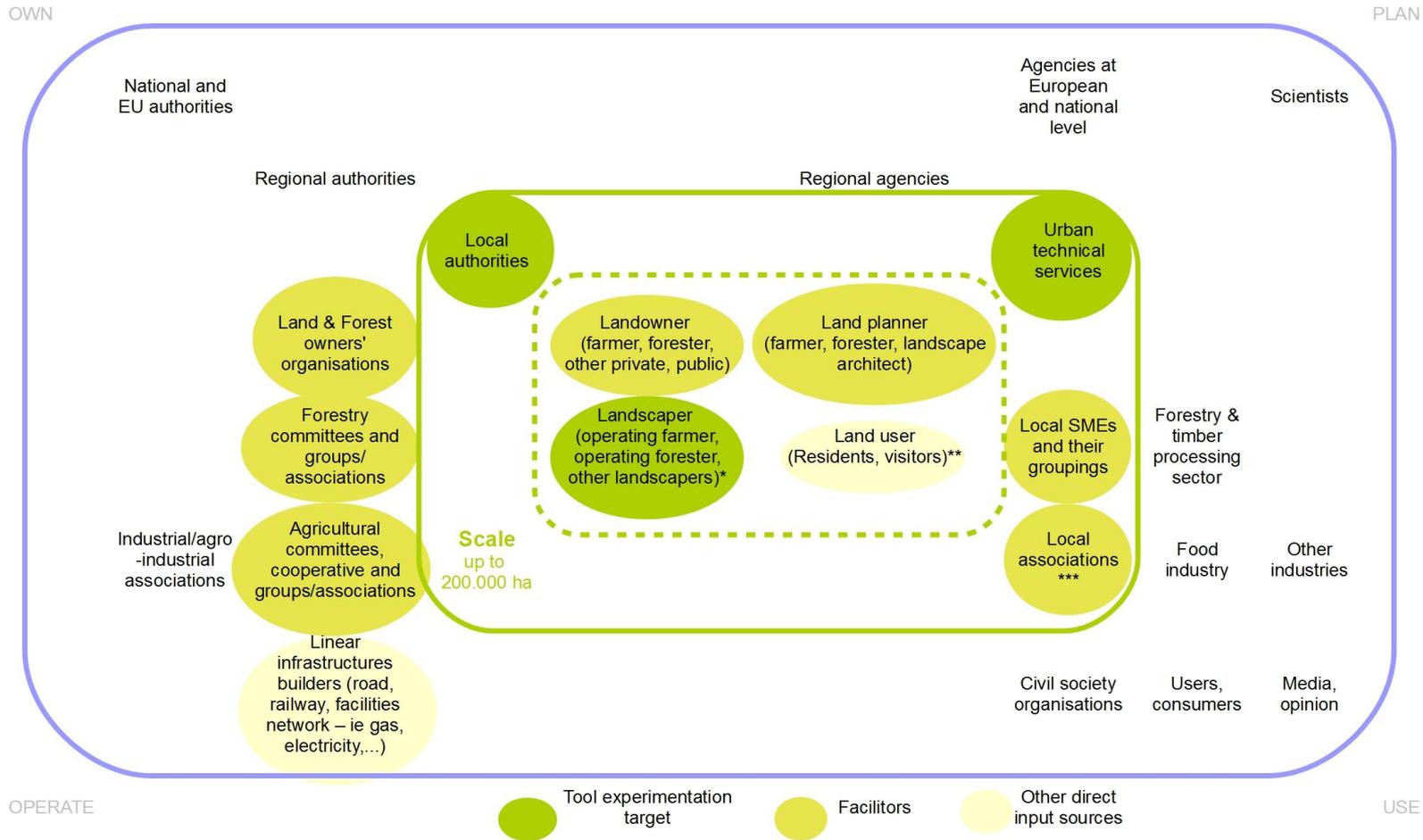
For landscape research, social capital useful in **understanding formation and dynamics of landscape conceptualizations, values and governance options** for different stakeholders groups. In particular, contrast between “locals” and “experts” knowledge and ideas.

Insights from **five landscapes**: Gera and Plomari, Lesvos Island, GR; Modbury, South West Devon, UK; Grand Parc Miribel Jonage, Rhône-Alpes area, FR; Alatskivi and Peipsiääre, Vooremaa and Kodavere, EST; Colmenar Viejo, Madrid Region, ESP, from 22 to 163 km² and 1500 to 40000 inhabitants. **Deliberative approach** (context-dependent), 3 workshops:

- 1) Introductory -- scoping to reveal landscape issues important for local stakeholders, and discuss Good Landscape Practices
- 2) Approaches or ideas for management and governance introduced, discussed and debated.
- 3) Continuation of these themes, in some areas decisions were made.

Another purpose of workshops: witness interactions between stakeholders and social capital (what is landscape “change”, if it is good or bad and managing it).

Stakeholders map



*Main services provided : food, fibre, biomasse/fuel production, medical support

**Other services expected : recreation, cultural needs

***Include representative for environmental services : water regulation, carbon storage, pollination

- abandonment / preservation of traditional management and cultural practices,
- abandonment and overgrowth of agricultural lands (viewed negatively),
- cultural landscapes versus (new) infrastructure (threat),
- integration of intensive agriculture into cultural landscapes,
- role of heritage in cultural landscapes (many layers),
- Traditional Knowledge transfer of great importance, replaced by formal - “expert” knowledge,
- Tension between “newcomers” and “old residents”,
- Lack of trust to institutions and cooperation.

- **How many did not come with a real “stake” at the issue discussed?**
- ***Combination strong bonding and weak bridging social capital*** often prevents engagement with collective initiatives: *how can we strengthen forms of bridging social capital, networking and trust?*
- ***Institutional social capital weak with widespread distrust.***
- **Conflicts of interests** between various local groups and actors arise: what is the “proper” way of combining them?
- **Local cultural ideas and knowledge matter** for landscape stewardship. Important lesson: *respecting and highlighting local practices and knowledge - combining them meaningfully with “expert”, scientific knowledge will work better.*