



Sustainable Futures for Europe's Heritage in Cultural Landscapes:

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

Insight on

Priority questions for the science, policy and practice of cultural landscapes in Europe

Mónica Hernández-Morcillo



This project has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement no 603447

FP7, Collaborative Project
1 December 2013 – 30 November 2016

Motivation

Effective responses to safeguard cultural landscape values in Europe needs collaborative action among the stakeholders involved. Despite considerable progress made by the European Landscape Convention to link landscape science, practice and policy, a joint research-action agenda is still missing.

Objective

We respond to this challenge by identifying common priority questions for the sustainable management of cultural landscapes in Europe.

Two steps methodology:

First phase: the most relevant **research questions** from the research community in the field of cultural landscapes in Europe were **identified, categorized and refined** by the research team. The final questionnaire had **65 questions** distributed in **8 categories** of knowledge.

Second phase: we invited directly **509** European governmental organizations, NGOs, companies, landowners, universities and research institutes. **The questions were prioritized** by three stakeholders groups: **scientists, policy-makers and practitioners**. The **importance ranks and the similarity of the responses** between groups were calculated and analyzed.

Participation to the survey

170 respondents (62% scientists, 27% policy-makers and 11% practitioners).

Most important questions

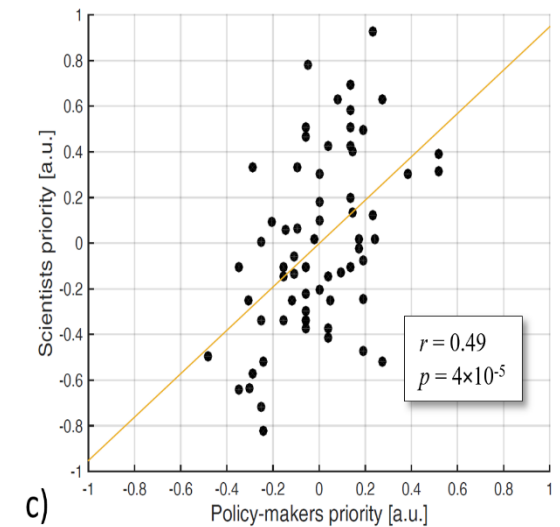
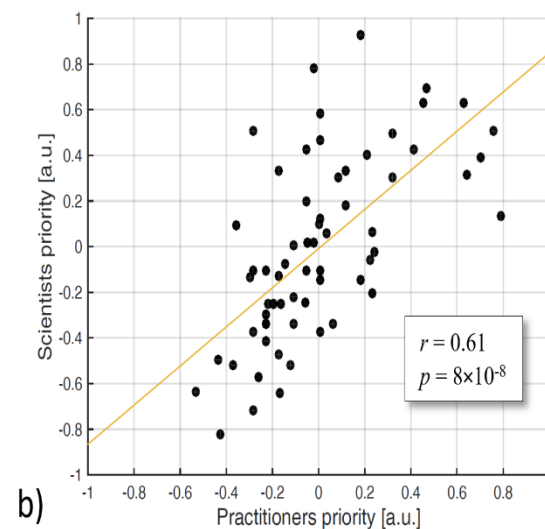
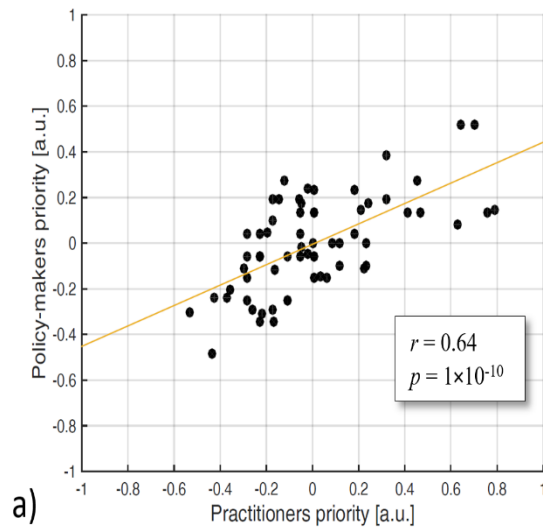
1_Co-creation of knowledge: How to secure sustainable cultural landscapes where it is not economically profitable?

2_Landscape change: How are cultural landscapes impacted by the globalization and competition for land?

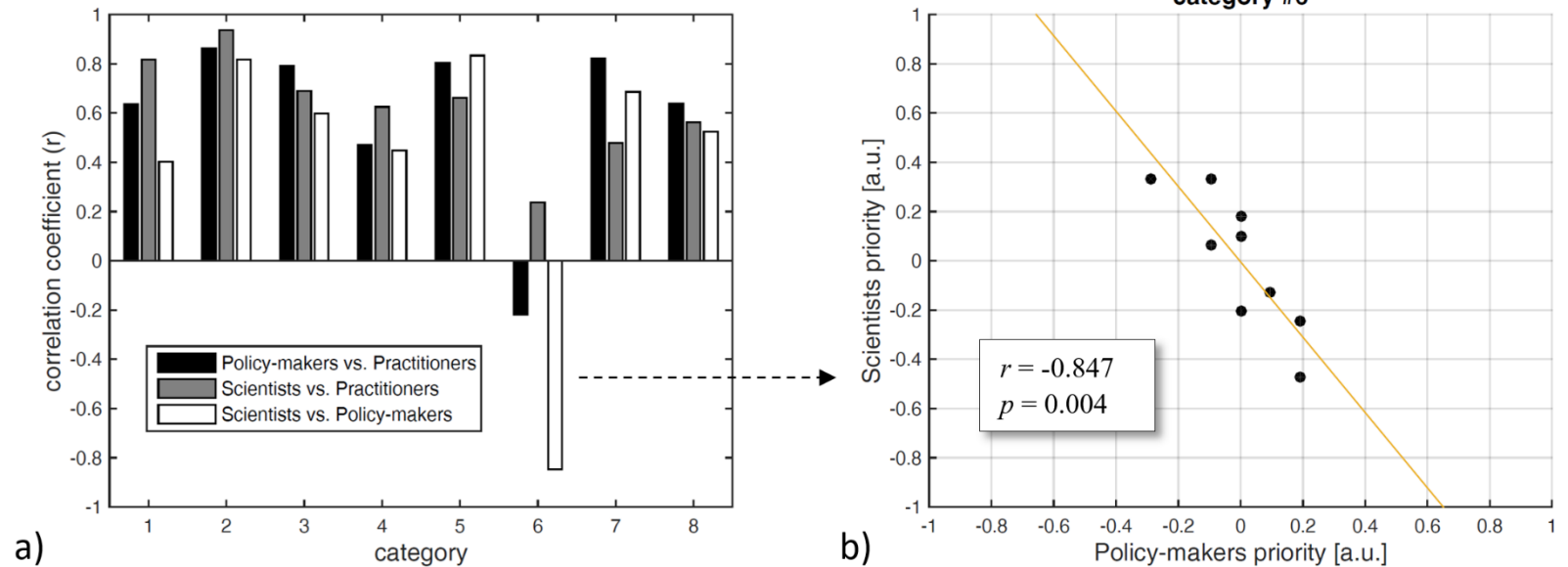
3_Landscape stewardship: How to maintain different landscape values through integrated landscape management?

Level of agreement

Alignment among the three groups was generally high, being higher between practitioners-scientists and practitioners-policy-makers than between scientists and policy-makers.



Correlation of each pairwise stakeholders group across categories



- **Scientists, policy-makers and practitioners' priorities** about cultural landscapes in Europe are **positively correlated**. This could indicate that already existing landscape joint initiatives such as the ELC, IALE, UNISCAPE or PECSRL could have had a cohesive effect.
- Areas of disagreement (landscape services) could indicate topics where **communication channels between landscape researchers and policy-makers need to be reinforced**.
- **Co-creation of knowledge and enhancing collaborations** in cultural landscape management is a common **priority for all the stakeholders** involved.
- **Research programmes and funding mechanisms** that stimulate co-creation of knowledge **between scientists and practitioners could be received positively** in both communities improving practical relevance of landscape research, as well as the scientific evidence base of landscape practices.

Thank you