



Understanding Mediterranean Landscapes, 22-25 Oct. 2014, Antalya

**Mediterranean landscapes between
production, consumption and
protection goals:
new paradigms for management and
new challenges for research**

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the landscape I come from



a complex mosaic



multiple activities



a multiple society

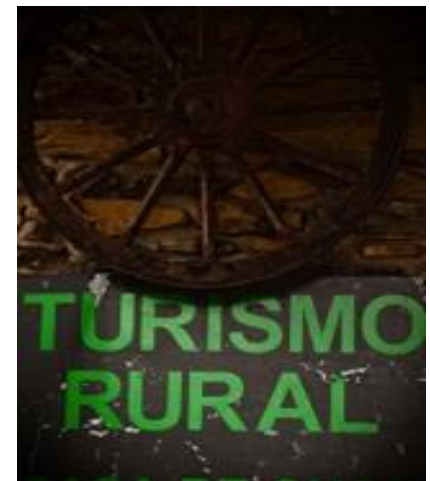


Differentiation of space trajectories

*Domon 2011, Holmes 2006 and 2012;
Marsden 2013; Marsden and Somino 2008; Wilson 2007*

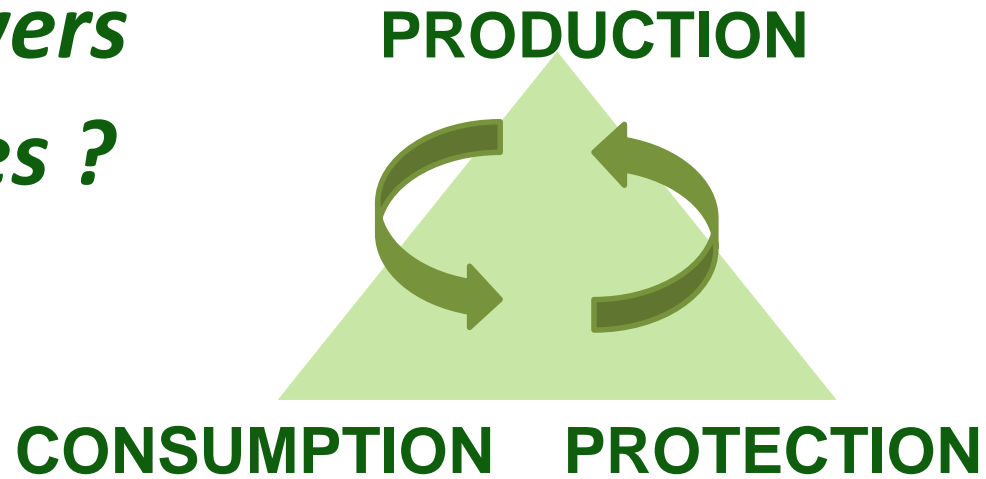
Transition theory suggest that there is a spatial, temporal and structural co-existence of several **processes of transition** from productivism to post-productivism, and further to bio-economic productivism, going on in rural areas in Europe, resulting in an increasing diversification of rural space

 **changing drivers of landscape**



Changing modes of rural occupance: an on-going dynamic process

*which are the new drivers
of rural landscapes ?*



➡ relative weigh of production, consumption and protection are being altered, and often re-arranged again >> contradictions and complex dynamics

↓
new management models

increased spatial differentiation, across scales resulting from reshaped balances:

new modes of rural occupance
(Holmes 2006)

PRODUCTION

specialised
productivist
agriculture

productivist
agriculture

marginalized
agriculture

peri-metropolitan

pluri-active

??

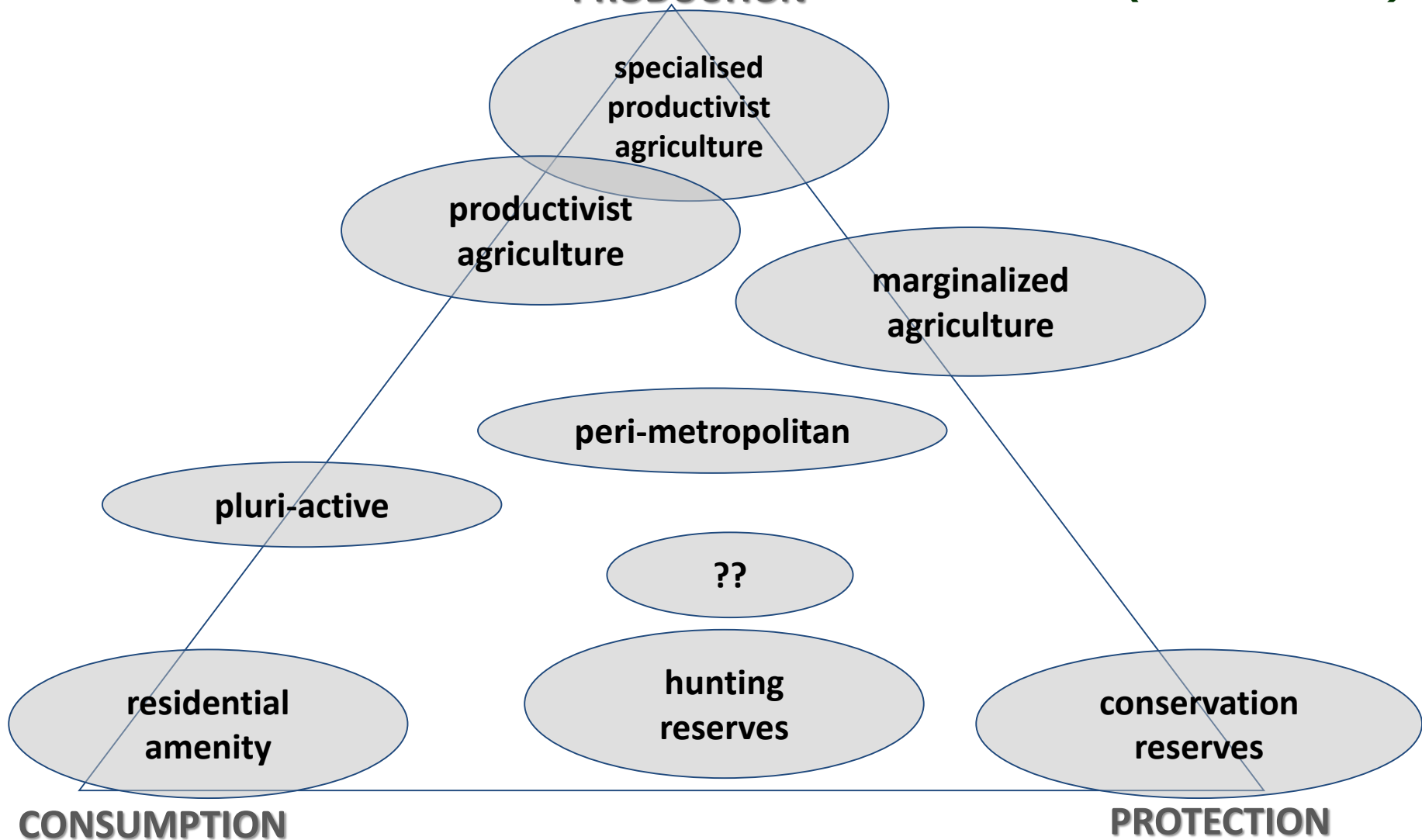
hunting
reserves

residential
amenity

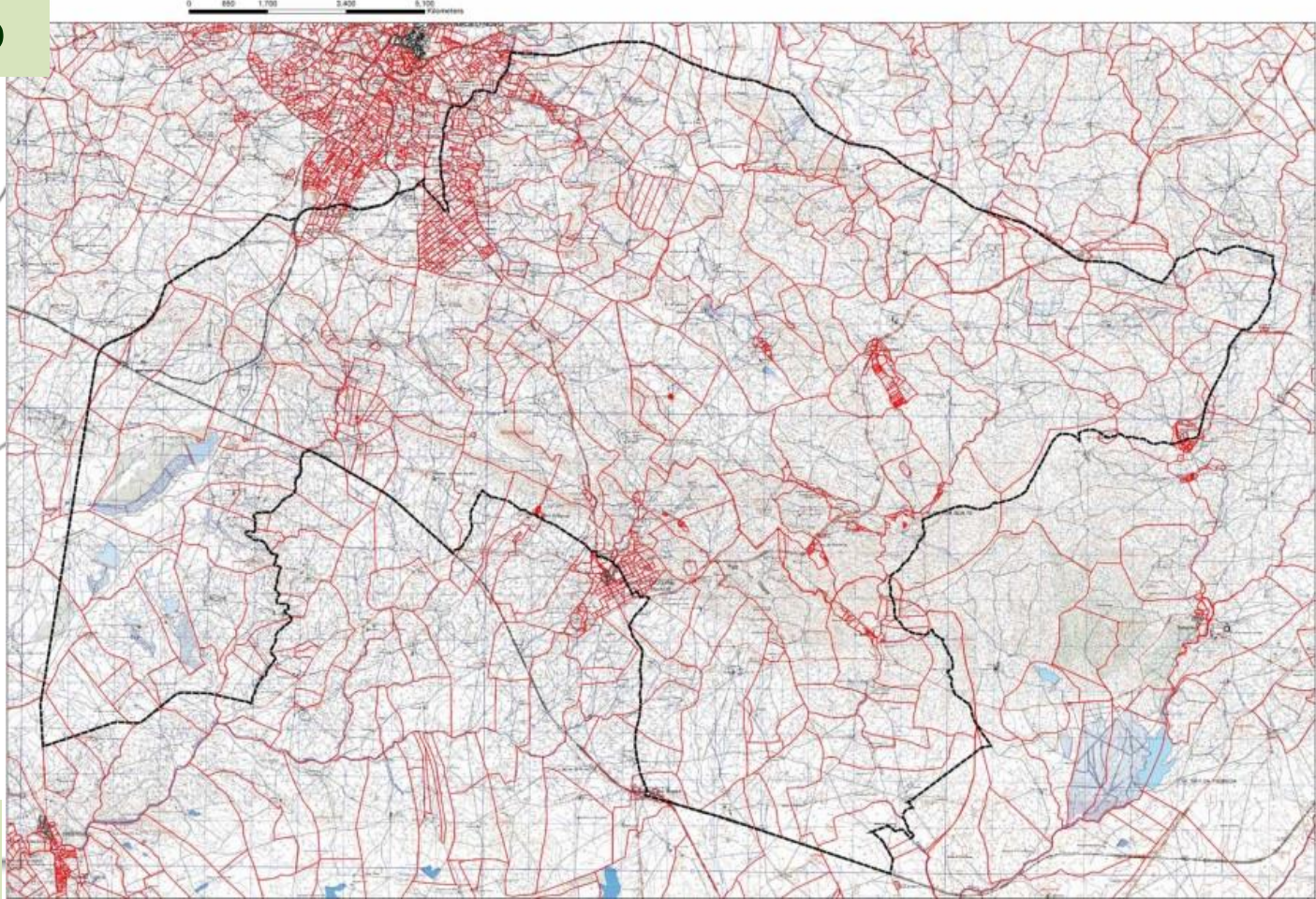
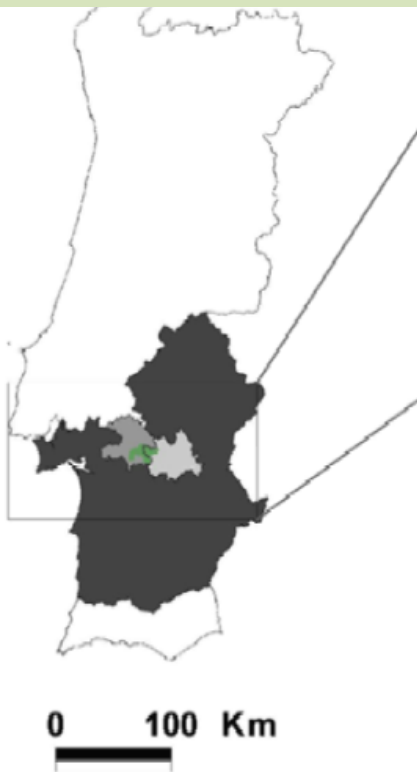
conservation
reserves

CONSUMPTION

PROTECTION



Montemor-o-Novo



1200 sq.km

100 km east of Lisbon

Natura 2000 site

a particular landscape



Mediterranean complexity:

two complementary and distinct landscape patterns
two HNV-High Nature Value Farming Systems

Farmland with high proportion
of semi-natural vegetation

- Large scale
- Silvo-pastoral, Montado
- Extensive grazing

Type I



Farmland with a mosaic of
low intensity agriculture
and natural and
structural elements

- Small scale
- Policultural

Type II



The Montado: increasingly a highly valued landscape,

- » hotspot of biodiversity
- » support of multiple goods and services



but threatened: an extensive and non specialised production »» hardly competitive in global markets



**a complex landscape pattern where boundaries are fuzzy
and change is hard to detect**



**due to increased grazing pressure: tree density is decreasing
»»shrinking Montado area (5000 ha/year at regional level)**



D >50% Dense Montado



C 20 – 50% Open Montado



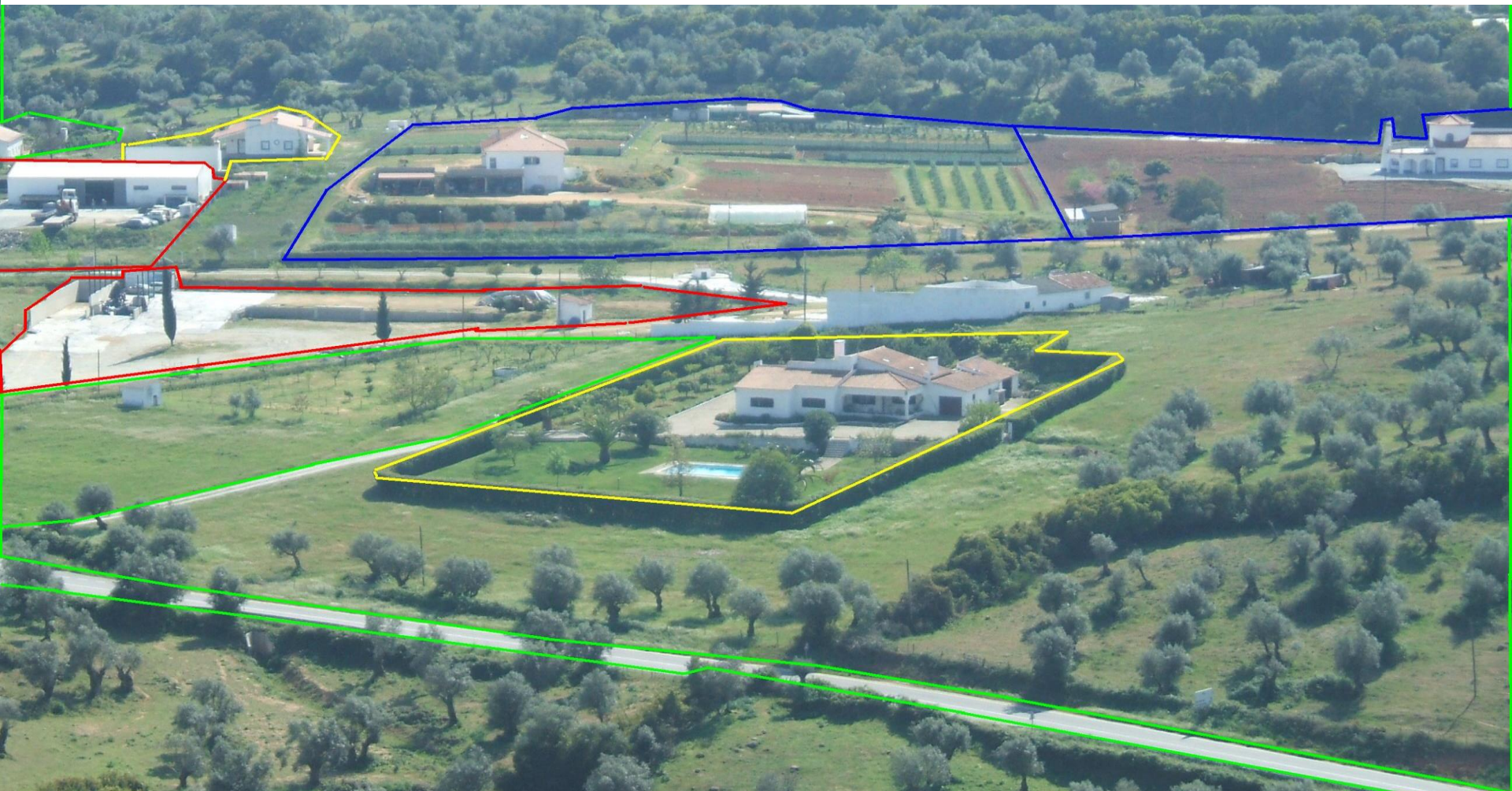
B 10 – 20% Clear Montado



A < 10% Open Pastures



**Small scale mosaic »» urbanization pressure +
decaying value as production units**

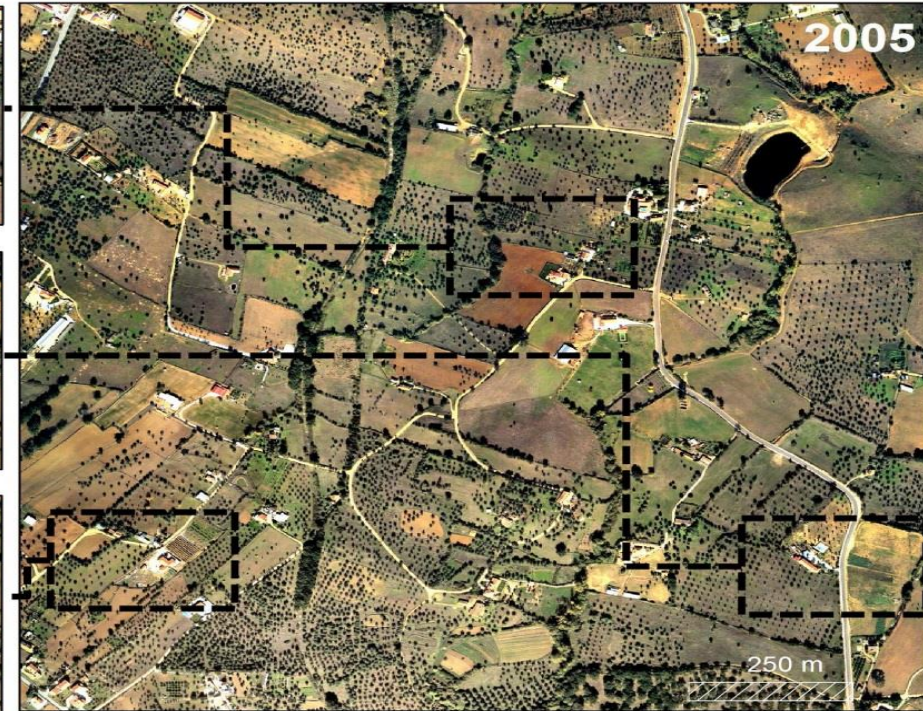
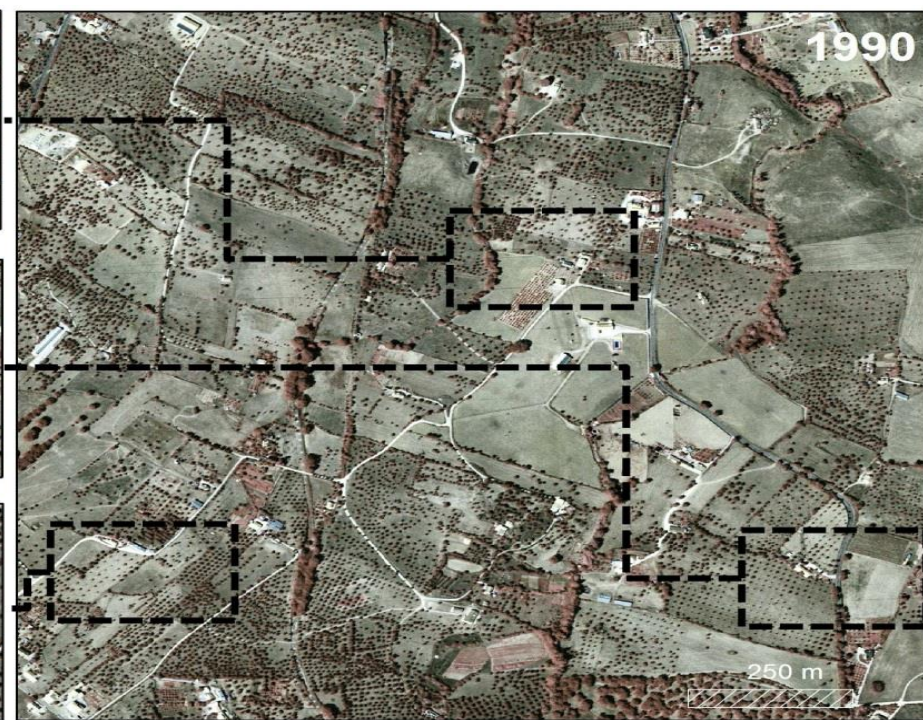


**new functions in old patterns,
or changing patterns ? >> a mismatch**

**Landscape
pattern
is kept**

**larger buildings
BUT
the same
elements and
composition**

**a renewed
landscape
character ?**



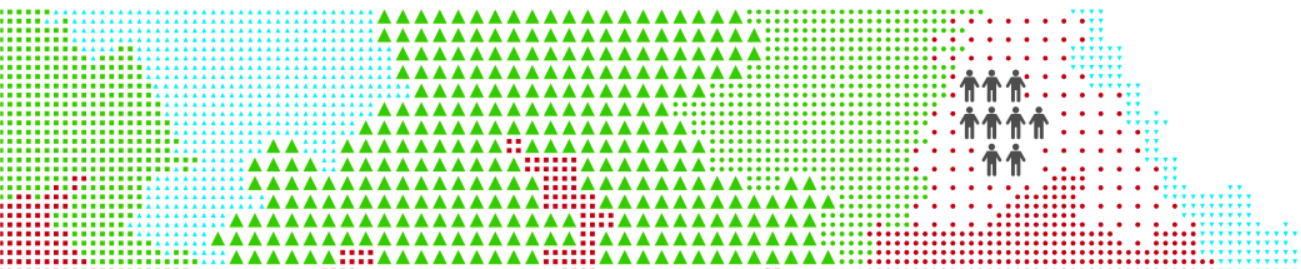
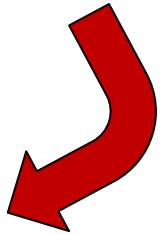
can we understand the landscape changes of today ?



behind the pattern, unfolding the processes

- * re-defining relations space-people-activities
- * grasping new demands and occupances
- * understanding the role of new actors

**understanding complex decision processes
at different governance scales**



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Contributions from social theory

Transition theory: the multi-level perspective

(Elzen et al 2004; Geels 2004; Geels and Shot 2007; Grin, Rotmans and Schot 2010)

Society

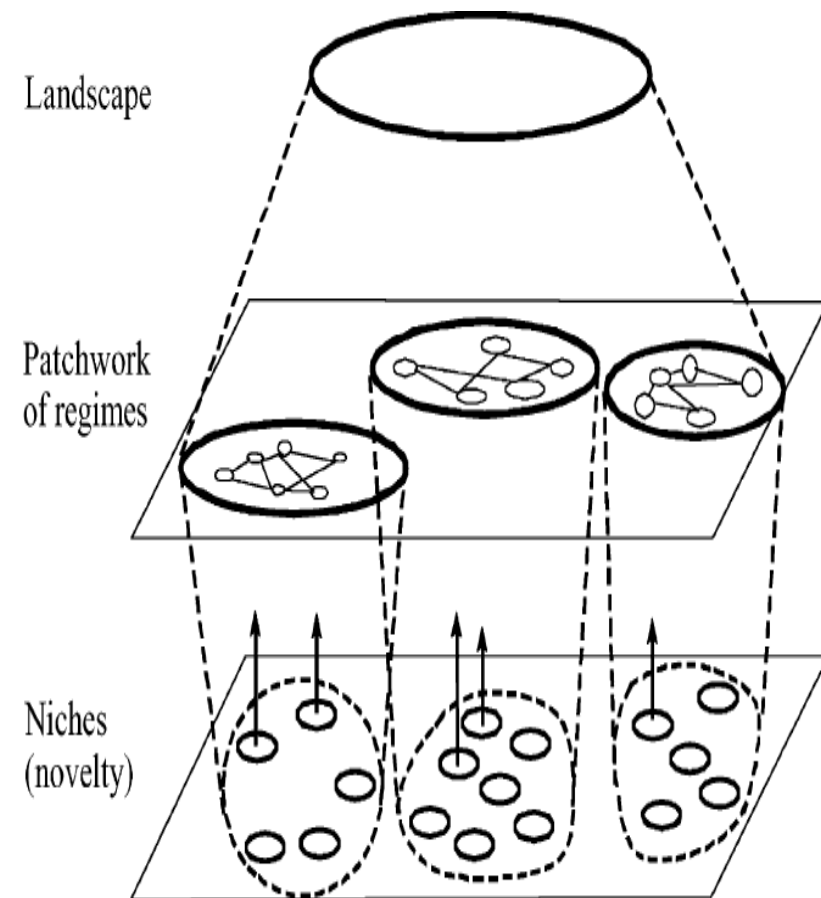
Broad background structures,
external context, society

Regime

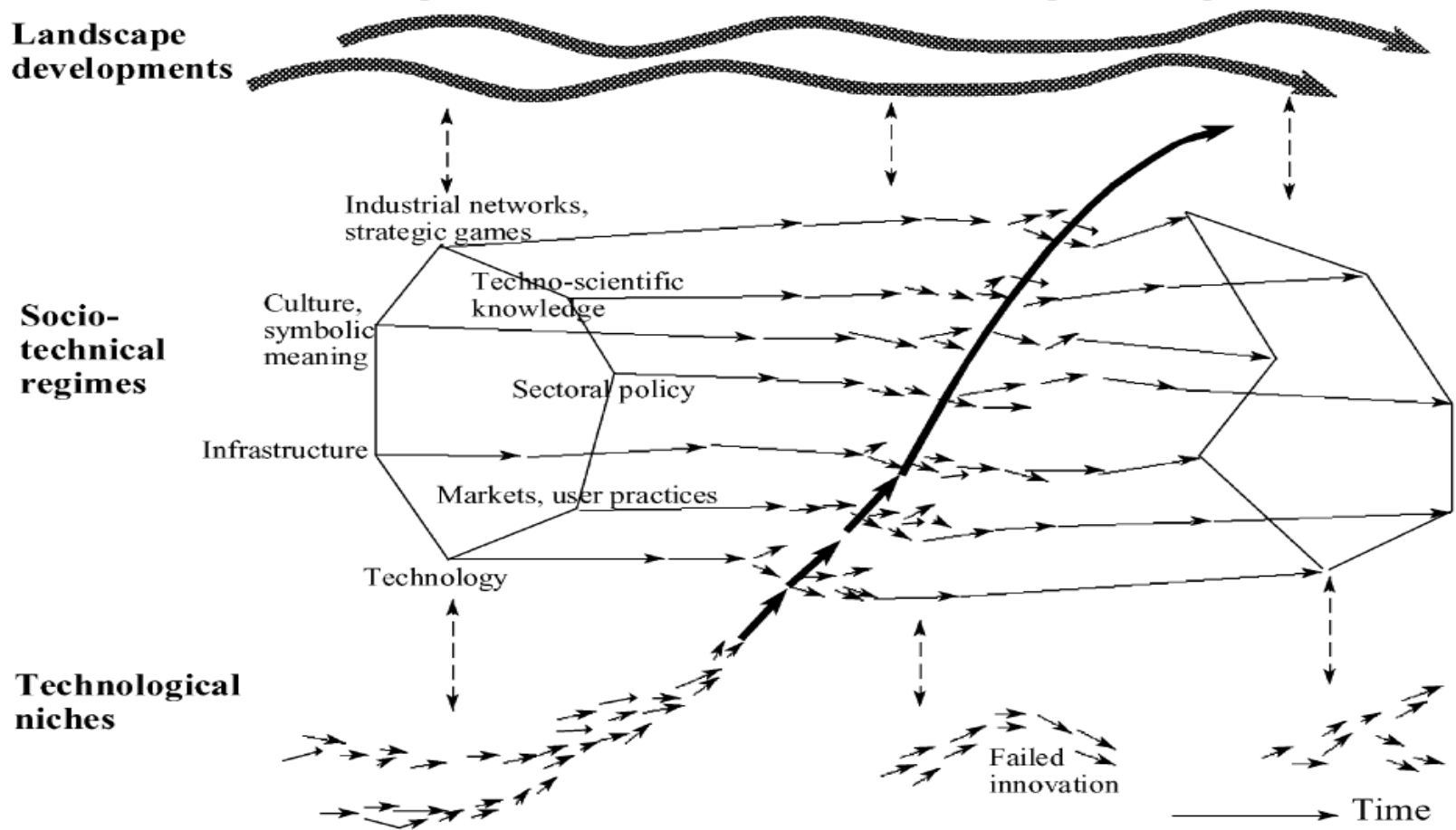
Regulations, markets, sector
infrastructures, policies
different regimes may be involved

Niche

Entrepreneurs and innovators
Actively construct niche



Transition theory: the multi-level perspective

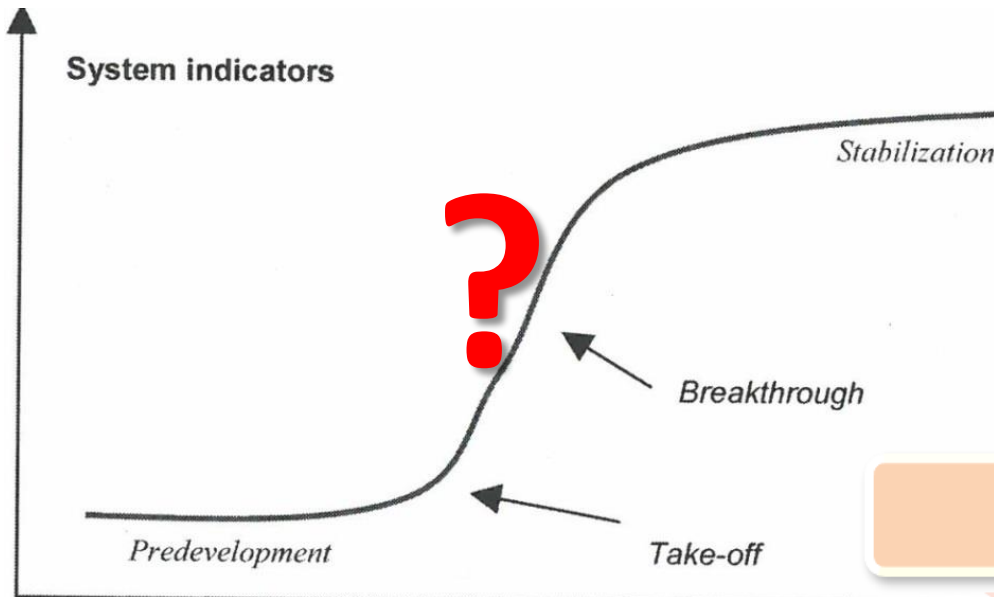


Society press the regime: opens a window of opportunity

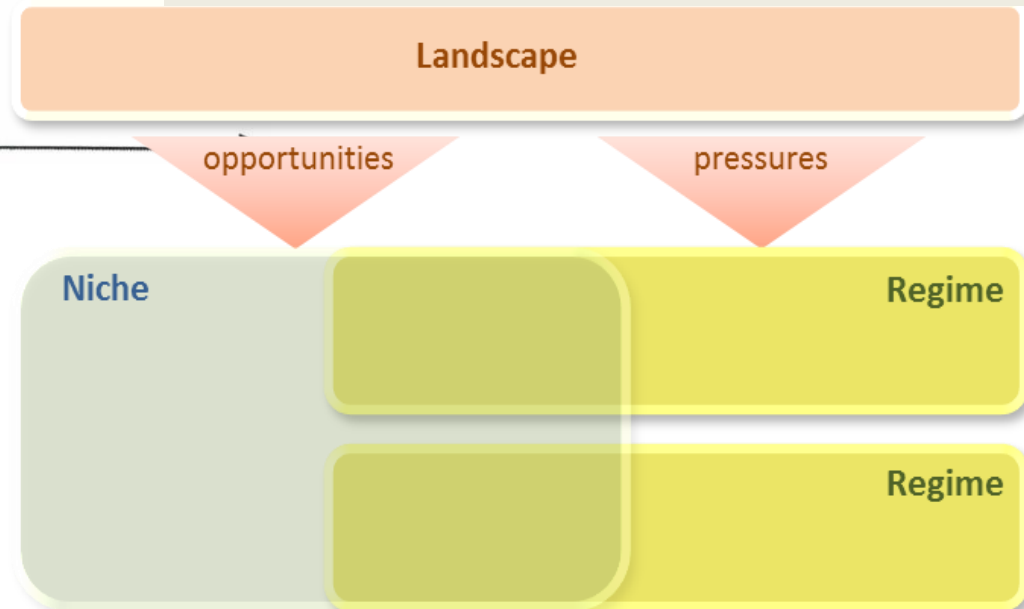
Regime fails to offer solution >> niches emerge

**Anchoring of niche in regime > adaptative management,
new possibilities created for paradigm shift**

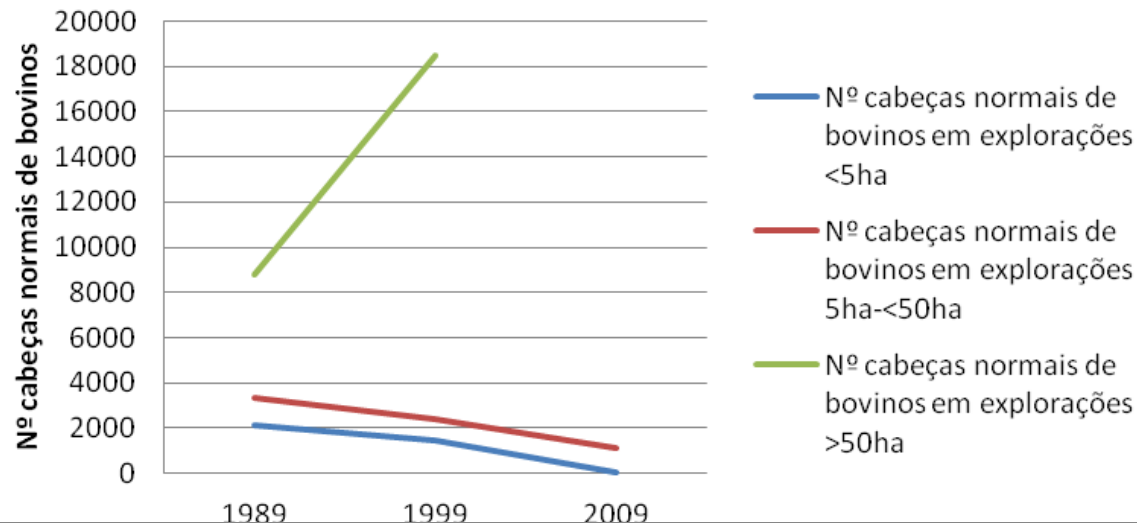
How can the role of the different levels be grasped ?



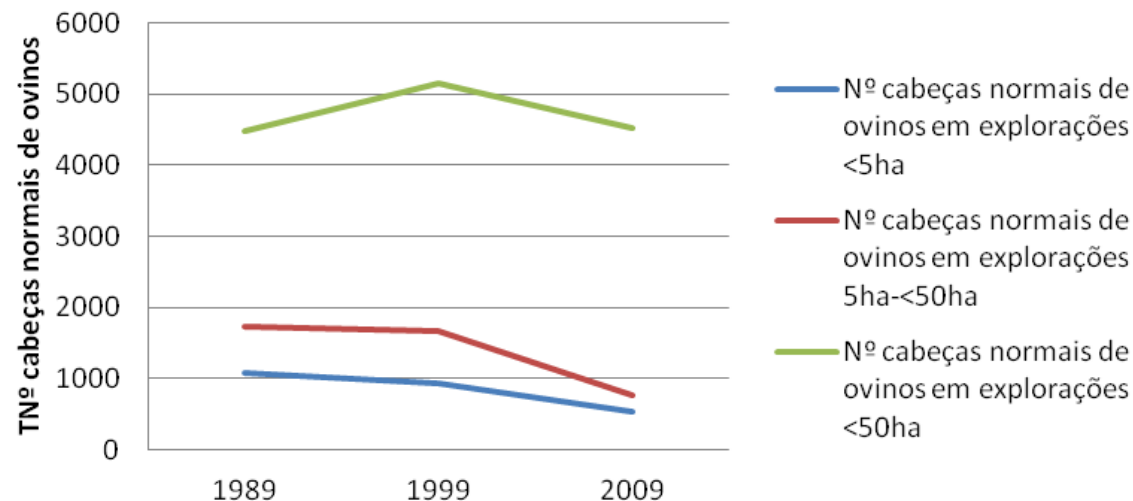
- Identifying actors at all levels + hybrid actors
- Structured interviews + indicators
- Assessing opportunities and constrains registered by niche
- Measuring changes in regime



number of cattle heads 1989-2009, Montemor-o-Novo



number of sheep heads 1989-2009, Montemor-o-Novo



MONTADO

CAP
productivist
orientation
» » livestock
coupled payments

livestock production
in Montado in highly
intensified

Changes:
*** livestock density**
*** livestock**
composition

can farmers change the management paradigm ?



assessing constraints and opportunities
interacting with other users

they may be aware of new societal demands
they discuss multifunctional management models

BUT

they feel conflicts between different policies
and tensions between management models
pressure for mainstream production and security of income
(CAP payments) + farmers self-concept

»» innovation in management goals is hard to follow

WHY the preservation of Montado is not the priority ?

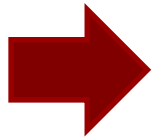
>> the productivist ideal is linked to:

- the social position within the agricultural community**
- weakness of an integrative rural institutional framework**
- low culture of innovation**

>> the multifunctional ideal is linked to:

- * role as keeper of family heritage**
- * knowledge of biophysical constraints**
- * opening to new societal demands**

**one or the other can be strengthened
depending on societal goals
and orientations of the regime
» » supporting innovation**



What happens with innovative niches ?

- Only those with strong and grounded coordination survive
- Interaction among niche actors increases awareness and knowledge on multifunctionality, technical but also for entrepreneurship

BUT

- The agriculture regime is not adapting – it opens up for the creation of small sub-regimes, but it does not change itself
- For a multifunctional agriculture to develop, different regimes are involved »» and regimes only interact to a very small extent
- * The more adaptive regimes, as conservation, are the weak partner
- * Different regimes agenda is often conflicting
 - »» opportunities but also tensions at the niche level

MOSAIC: amenity consumption as a driver of management

Land managers: many different profiles:
mixed new comers +
locals + returnees (local family roots)

Reasons for coming:

Tranquility + landscape + healthy food and life

Reasons for staying:

Social network + agriculture + landscape

Multiple interactions with multiple goals:

with neighbors + older local farmers

with friends + with groups in the local town

with urban consumers + with urban citizens

and limited conflicts

»» a new community in the same space

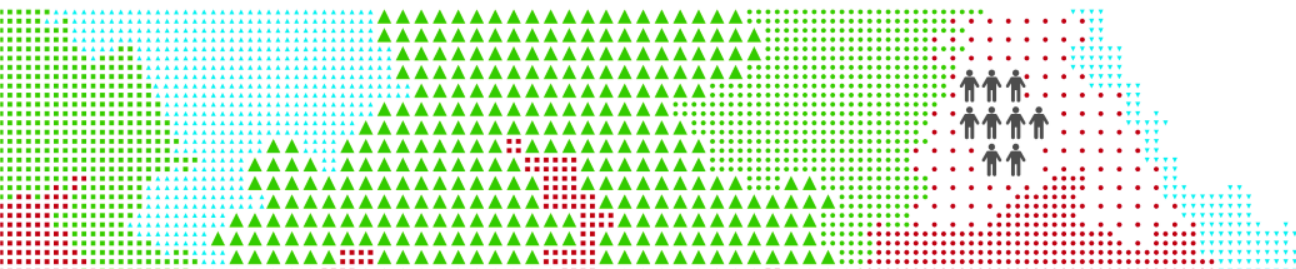


What is changing ?

- *New houses, new infrastructures
- *Innovation in production goals and system components:
organic, permaculture, specialised niches,...
- *Short supply chains, local or with distant connections
 a place based process
in the same structure, new contours
a new and much more diverse agriculture
- maintaining traditional land use systems
(olive grove, pastures, vegetable gardens, linear elements,..)
and thus also the landscape

...but still an unseen process and unseen farmers

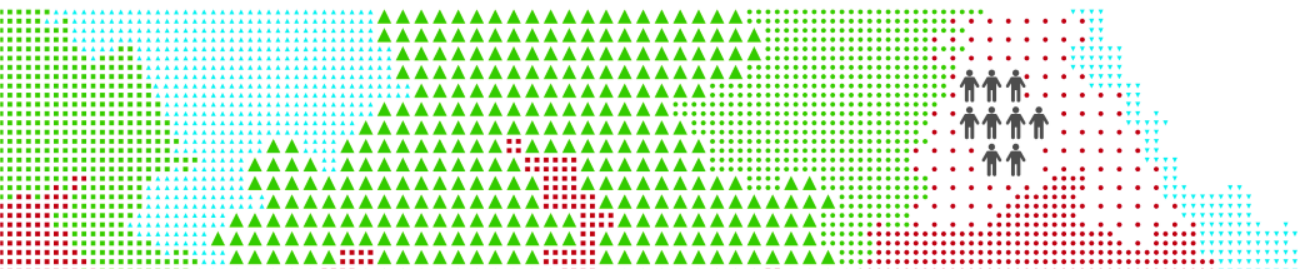
- * **No interaction** between the concerned regimes (agriculture/agri-food, real-estate, conservation,...)
- * Real-estate regime: **determinant role**, but no connection to farming
- * Agricultural regime: pressures from society are deviated
policies remain strongly focused on commercial
production >> *supported by equally focused analytical models*
- * No normative institutional anchoring:
no formal or informal rules about what is desirable



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opportunities which are being lost

- ***Maintaining farm systems which support multiple services***
- ***Re-coupling farming in the local landscape and rural life***
- ***Attracting external investment and entrepreneurship***
- ***Re-inventing place-based stewardship***
- ***Enhancing societal acceptance of farming activities***
- ***and getting the landscape approach in the agenda***



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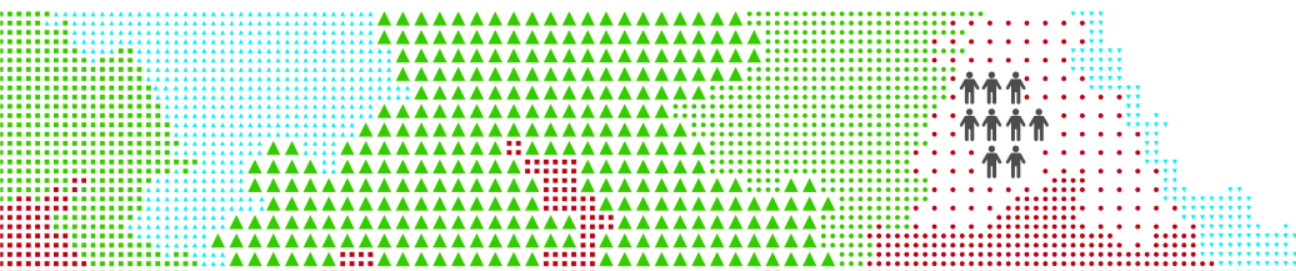


Challenges for research, starting with the landscape

Play with the actors:

land managers but also landscape amenity users
the mindset of farmers +
the mindset of many other regime actors
changing discourses *versus* changing practices
co-production of knowledge
for a change in management paradigms

Unfold resources: richness of landscape
+ heterodoxy of Mediterranean agriculture



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Thanks !



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