

# Governance role shifts in the context of rural population decline

Experimental forms of participation of local governments and citizens in socio-spatial planning issues



## Growth versus decline

- **Paradigm of growth:** a part of our socialization process and the dominant basis for rational planning of the physical environment, the economy and civil society



- **Decline:** raising awareness of the need in the public spheres of adoption of new mind-sets and adaptation of existing formal and informal structures by considering population decline as providing innovative chances instead of being a threat

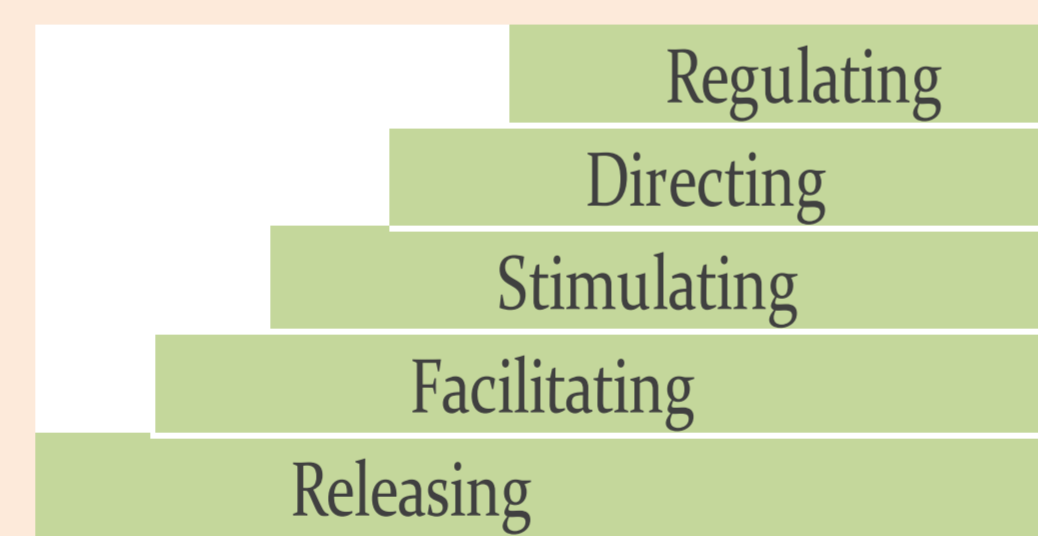
## Maintaining or enhancing rural quality of life

Acceptance of decline and urgency of changing relations between local governments and citizens: starting point for experimentation with socio-spatial planning issues

## Experimental governance forms with active citizen and governmental engagement

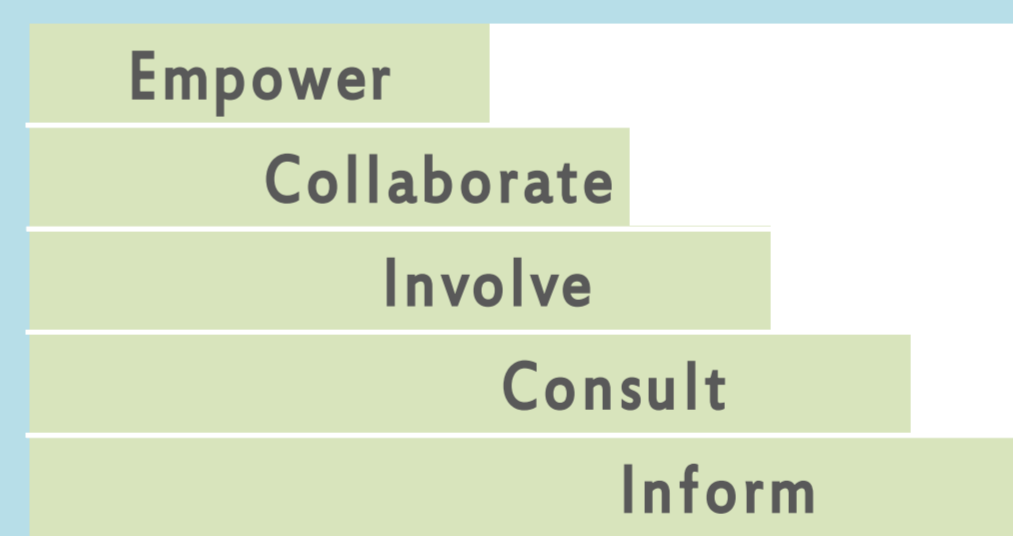
Collaborations with housing corporations, health care institutions, schools, churches, elderly homes and banks

### Government Participation Ladder



New discourses of leading citizens initiatives with government participation (ROB, 2012)

### Public Participation Spectrum



This ladder is based on the IAP2's Public Participation Spectrum (2014)

