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Università di Padova



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INTEGRATING GREEN CARE INITIATIVES INTO TRADITIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM: A LITERATURE REVIEW FOCUSED ON GOVERNANCE DIMENSIONS

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Outline

- Research background and rationale
- Methodology applied
- Preliminary research results
- Conclusion and next steps



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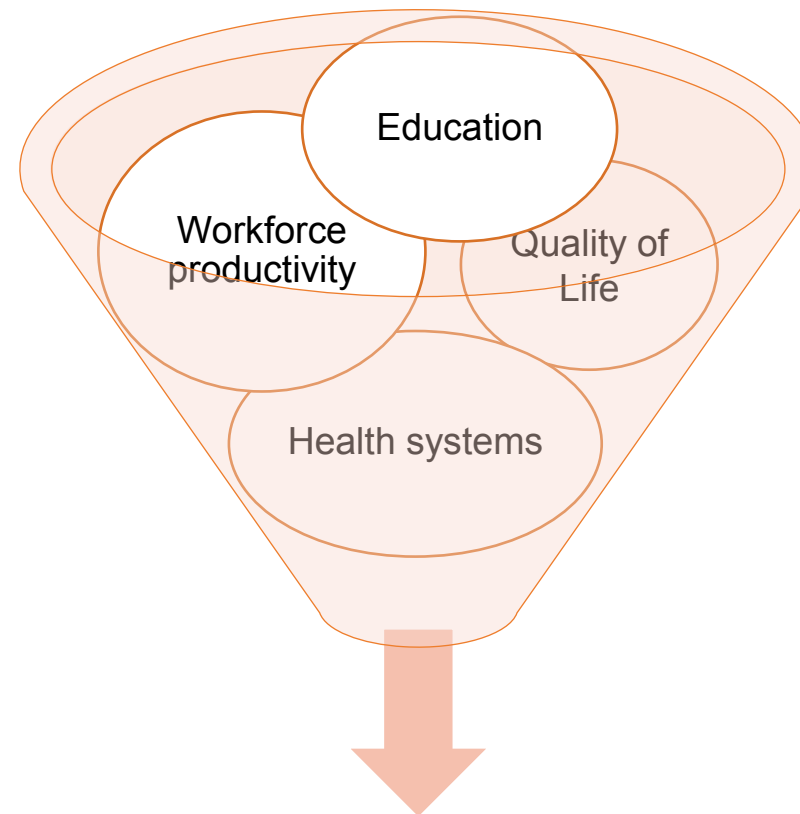
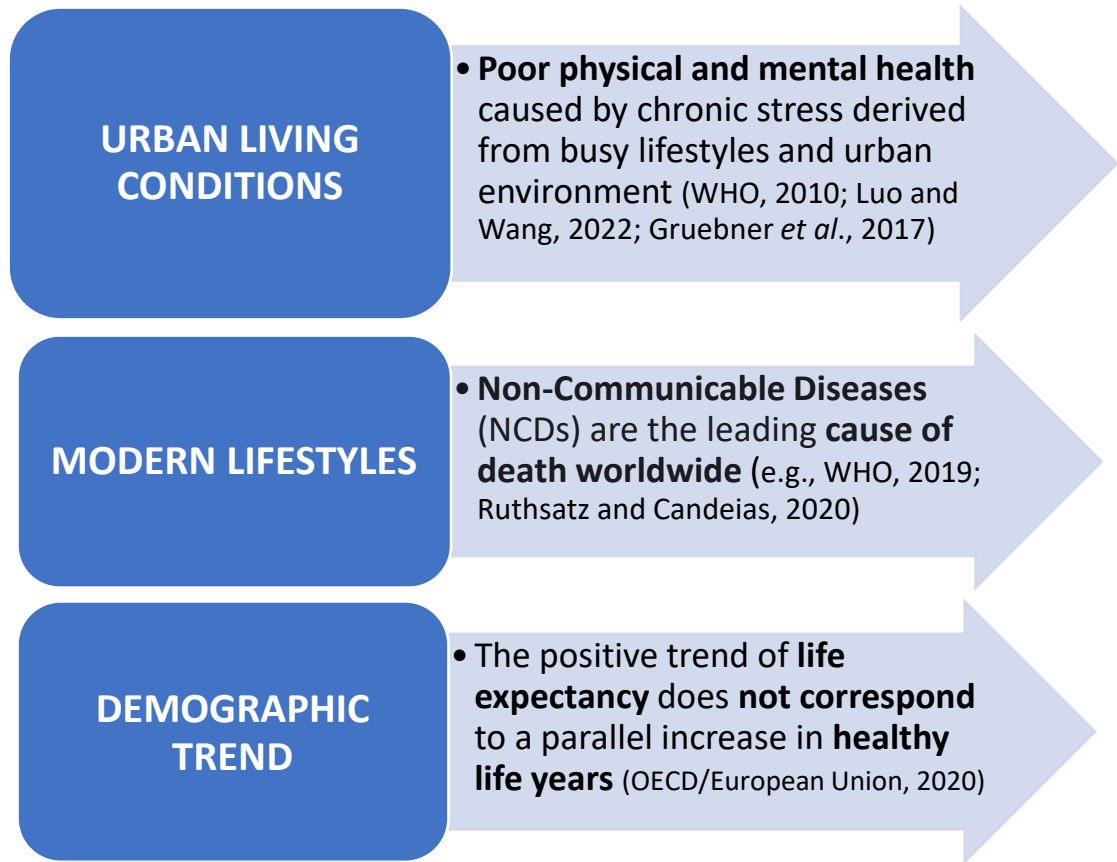
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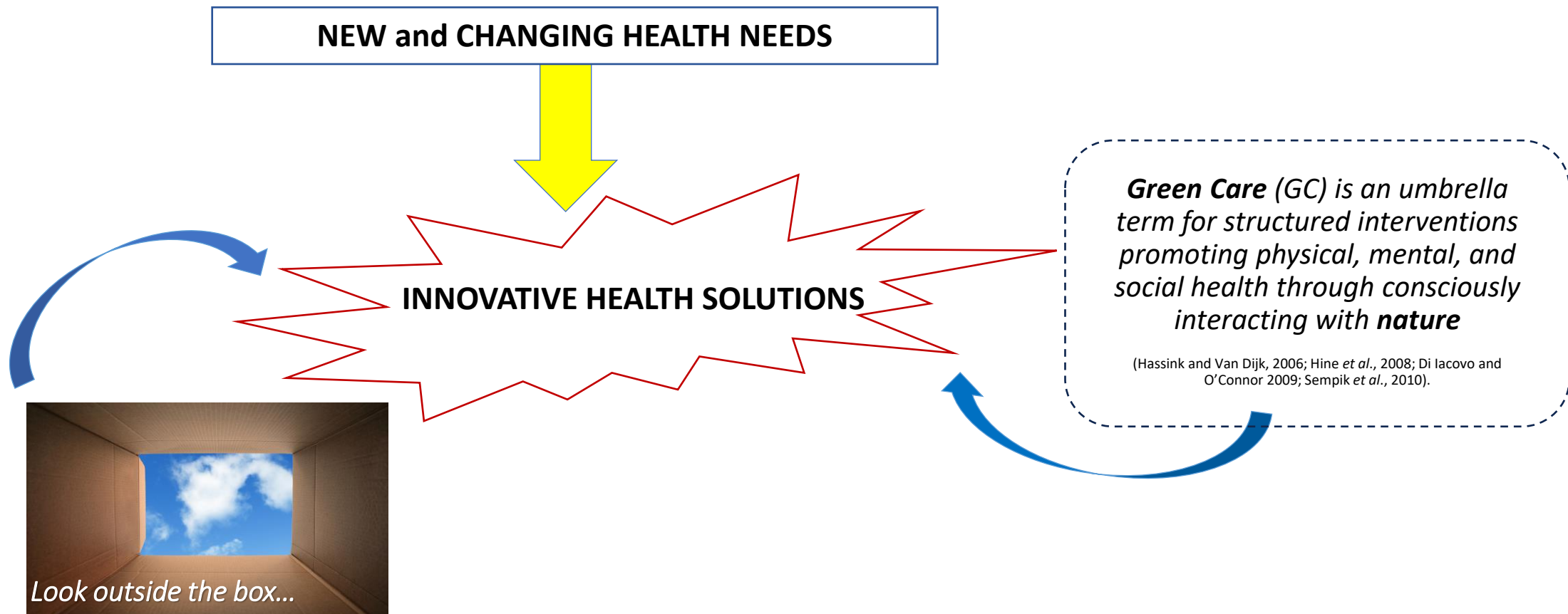
A. Rigo – 3rd World Conference on Forests for Public Health, October 5th, 2023

Research background



SOCIOECONOMIC COSTS and UNMET HEALTH NEEDS

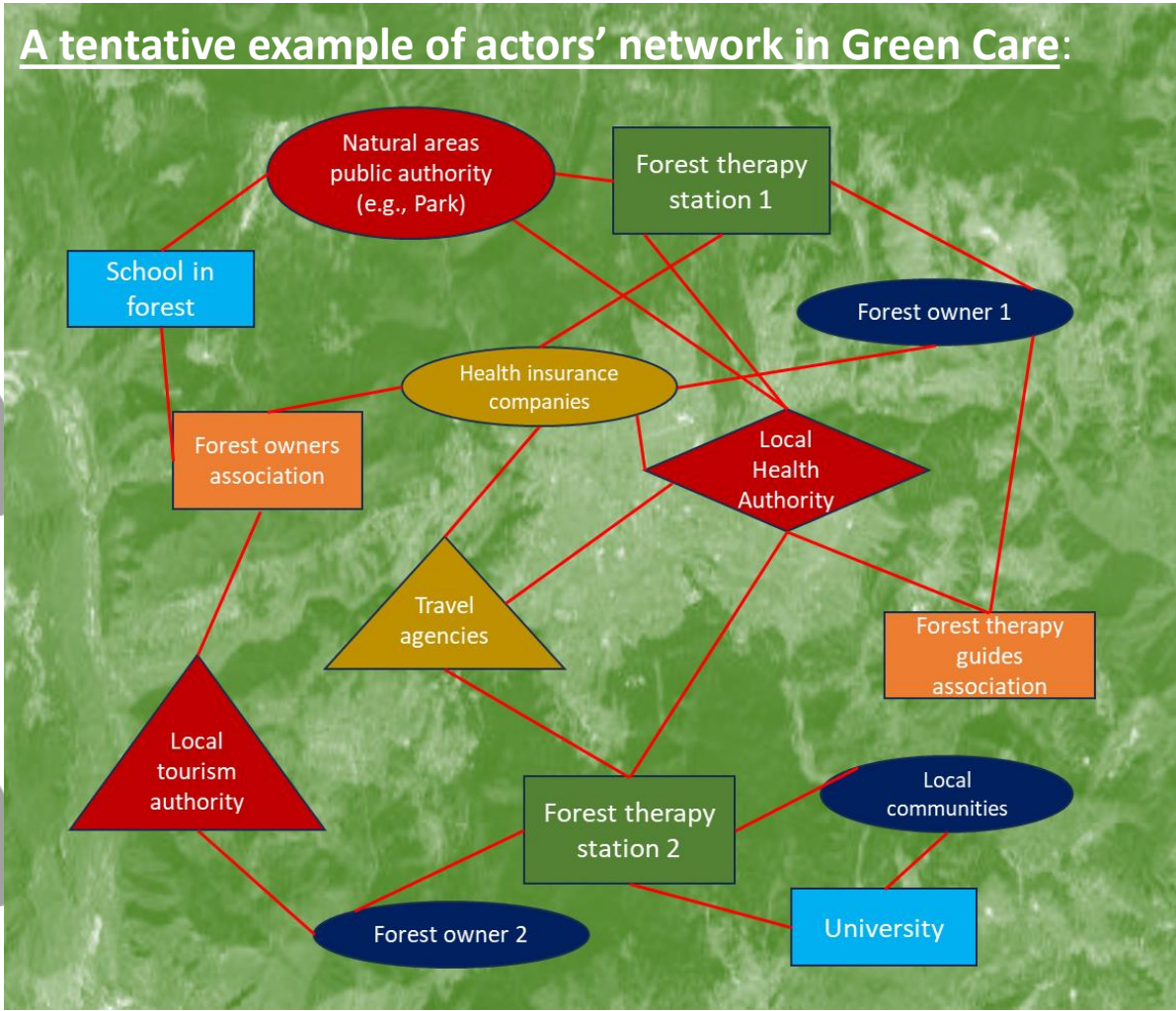
Research background



Research background



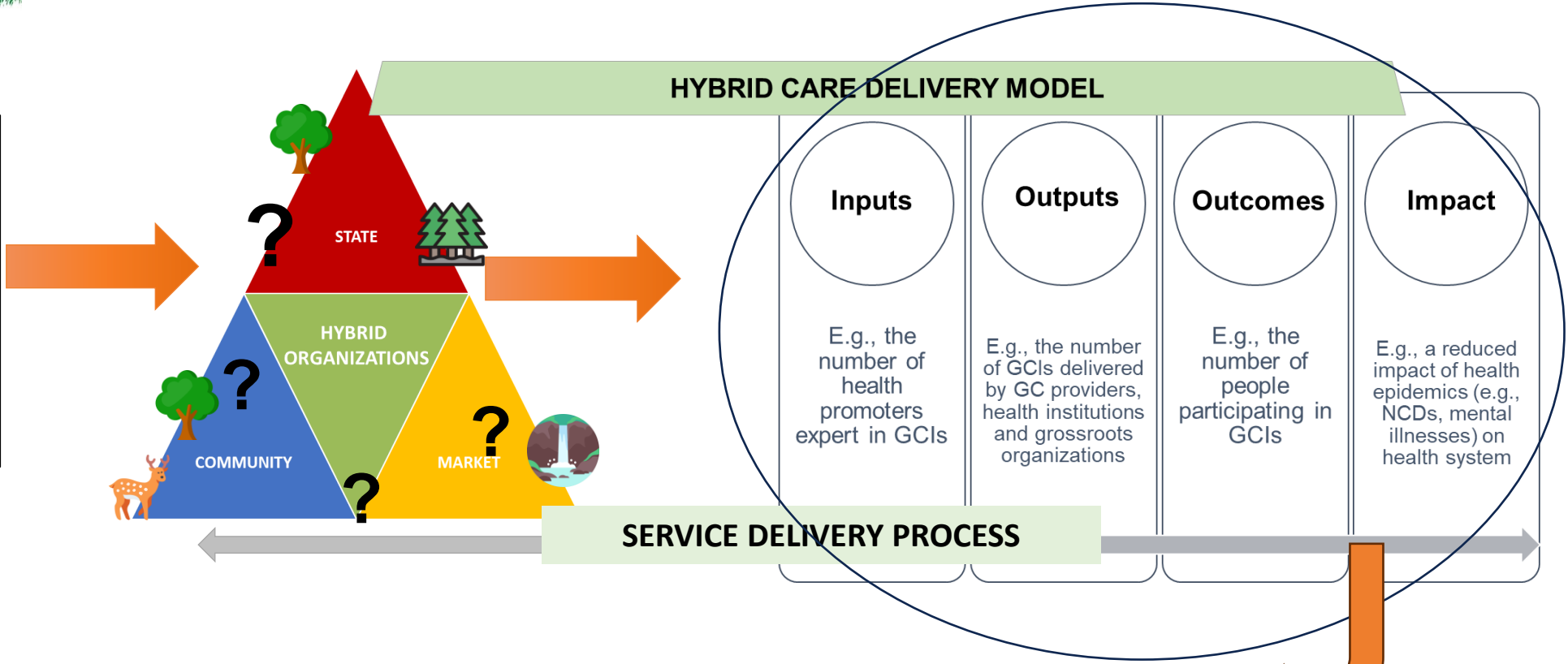
Green Care Initiatives (GCIs) result from **collaboration and institutional settings** between **actors** involved in the **health/social/educational sectors, and environmental/nature management at different levels** (Sempik, 2010; Haubenhofer *et al.*, 2010; Doimo *et al.*, 2021)



To be further developed...

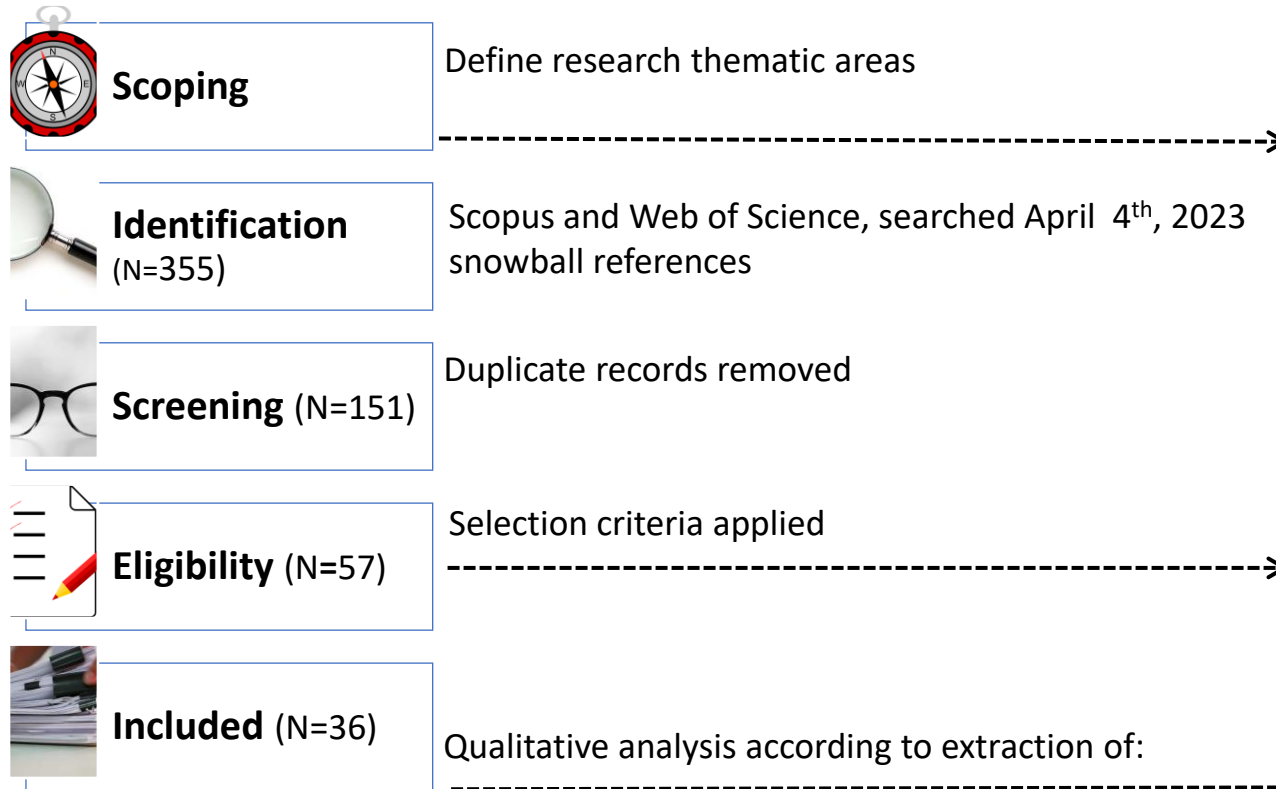
Research rationale

GAP:
 there is limited knowledge about methodological approaches to integrating Green Care Initiatives into health systems, specifically under which **governance conditions**



RESEARCH AIM: to develop and propose a governance analytical framework to guide the integration of GCIs into the traditional healthcare system based on key governance dimensions that emerge from the literature.

Research methodology



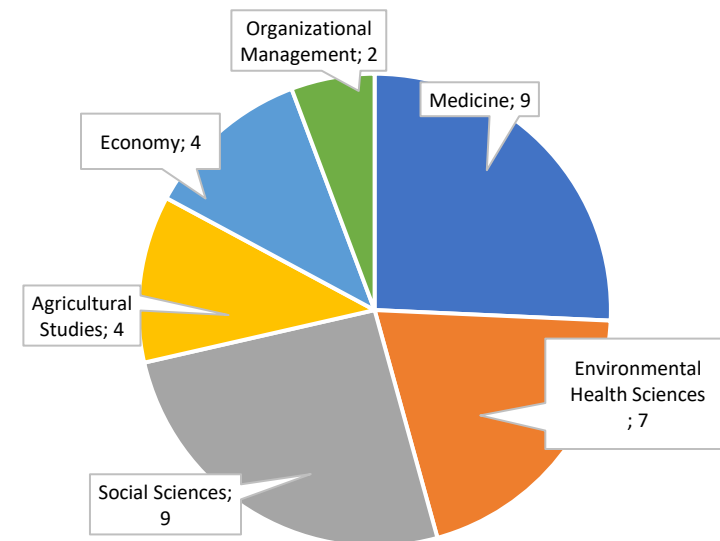
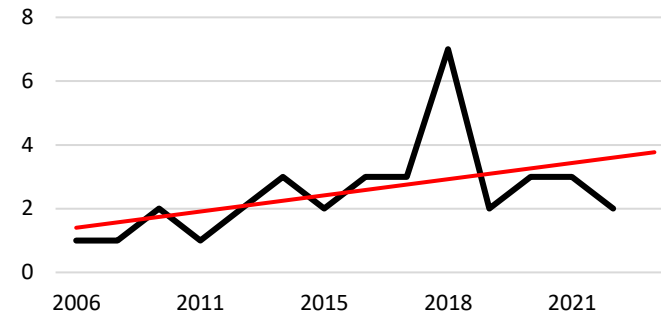
Thematic area	Boolean term	Keywords
Green Care		"green care" OR "nature care" OR "nature therap*" OR "green therap*" OR "wilderness therap*" OR "nature-based care" OR "nature-based therapy" OR "ecotherapy" OR "forest care" OR "forest-based therapy" OR "woodland therapy" OR "green exercise" OR "green gym" OR "green recreation" OR "restorative activit*" OR "outdoor therap*" OR "healing landscape*" OR "rehab* garden" OR "nature-based rehabilitation" OR "nature based rehabilitation" OR "therap* garden*" OR "healing garden*" OR "therapeutic horticulture" OR "social horticulture" OR "gardening" OR "horticultur* therap*" OR "care farm*" OR "social farm*" OR "animal-assisted therap*" OR "animal-assisted activit*"
Healthcare	AND	"healthcare" OR "health-care" OR "health care" OR "health system"
Governance	AND	"govern*" OR "governance framework" OR "governance dimension*" OR "multi-level" OR "trans-sectoral*" OR "cross-sectoral*" OR "network*" OR "alliance*" OR "arrangement*" OR "collaboration*" OR "instit*" OR "collab*" OR "agreement*" OR "synerg*"

(i) Mentioning of GCI and (ii) direct or indirect reference to the concept of governance (e.g., organizational structure, types of arrangements, partnerships) and (iii) engagement of the healthcare providers and actors from other sectors

- bibliographic characteristics (e.g., title, authors, year of publication, publication type, subject area)
- pieces of evidence related to governance → categorization process

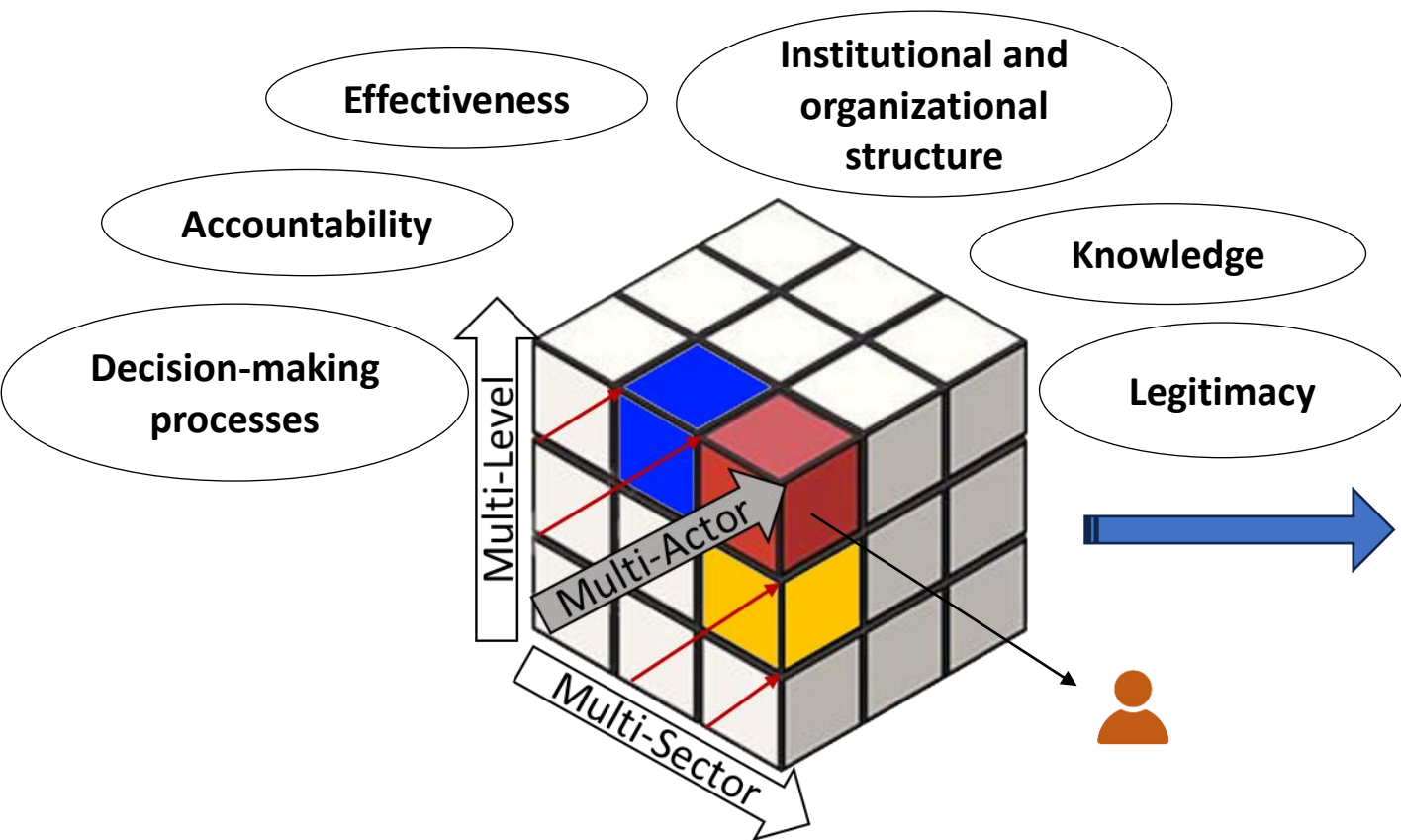
Results

- A final set of **36 documents** was selected: 31 scientific articles, 2 book chapters, 2 conference papers, and 1 scientific report
- The selected articles are relatively recent, the **publication trend** peaked in 2018
- More than half of the GC activities described is represented by the terms “**Social Farming**” and “**Care Farming**” (52.7%)
- The transdisciplinary nature of the research topic is evidenced by the diversity in **subject areas**



Results

→ A tentative conceptual framework of the governance dimensions in GCIs



	Governance key dimensions	Sub-dimensions	Components	Indicators
1.	Institutional and organizational structure of GCIs	Organizational adequacy in the implementation of GCIs	Organizational and administrative structure of individual actors	<i>To be developed in the 2nd year of research</i>
			Governance relations of GCI-specific initiative	
			Safety and Liability issues	
	Service delivery	Outsourcing model		
2.	Knowledge	Information sharing	Methods of research (e.g., community-based research vs. evidence-based research)	
			Strategies to cultivate awareness of GCIs	
			Structuring the Process of Change	
		Models for Building Frameworks	Discourses	
3.	Legitimacy	Institutional and Innovative Legitimacy	Conditions fostering Alignment	
			Legislative acts	
			Strategies to gain Legitimacy	
			Driving Logics	
4.	Decision-making processes in GCIs	Formal or informal partnerships	Levels of joint efforts (network, PP partnership)	
			Rules of the games of the partnership	Key actors
				Institutional Levels
5.	Accountability in GCIs	Market Development	Key actors' characteristics	
			Actors' roles: providers, buyers, final users, ...	
			Funding streams	
		Enabling and challenging factors	Hindrances to market development	
			Enablers to market development	
6.	Effectiveness of GCIs	Delivery of results	Perceived outputs	
			Perceived outcomes	
			Beneficiaries' satisfaction	Short-term benefits generated

Conclusion and next steps

✓ Identified from the literature: key governance dimensions and sub-dimensions

What emerged:

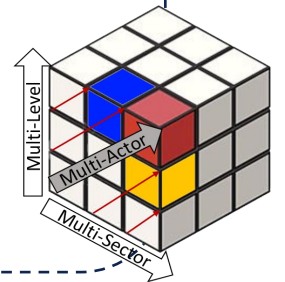
- it is very difficult to find governance-related information at the initiative level
- not enough is known about the networks of actors involved

What is needed:

- primary qualitative data on the: actors, organizational structures, target beneficiaries and site characteristics

Next steps:

Case study analysis: Questionnaires implemented with currently active GCIs (Italy, other countries?), SWOT analysis



Building individual and community RESilience thrOUgh NATurE-based therapies



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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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