



“Expertising Governance for Transfrontier Conurbations”

The “EGTC” project – URBACT II 2007/2013

More than 60 cross-border conurbations have been identified in Europe. They represent almost 25 million people. Astride two or even three borders, they are places where “European citizenship” is lived day-by-day by the inhabitants. It is fundamental for them to define “governance models” enabling to bring together all relevant stakeholders, public and private, from each side of the border, and to implement common work programmes.

Three challenges

FOR A SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF CROSS-BORDER CONURBATIONS

80% of population in Europe lives in urban areas. Although cross-border urban areas represent a large part of urban areas, their specificities are not sufficiently taken into account in national and European policies. The first objective of the EGTC URBACT project is to promote the development of cross-border urban development strategy.

The cross-border conurbations are laboratories of territorial cohesion...

FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF CROSS-BORDER AND MULTI-LEVEL DIALOGUE AND EXCHANGES

The sustainable development of cross-border conurbations requires dialogue and coordination between all levels from both sides of the border: from local to national and European ones.

... Their development requires innovative and experimental tools to promote a cross-border public debate and sharing of experiences...

CROSS-BORDER CONURBATIONS: A MELTING-POT FOR EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

The project will pay a particular attention to the involvement of the inhabitants in the development of the strategy.

... The stake is to show to citizens how Europe may be close to their concern and improve their everyday life.

Three main objectives

The EGTC project aims to:

- > support cross-border conurbations to define their governance models,
- > identify best practices,
- > exchange experiences at European level.

The recently created innovative instrument, the European grouping of territorial cooperation (EGTC) provides new opportunities to cross-border agglomerations.



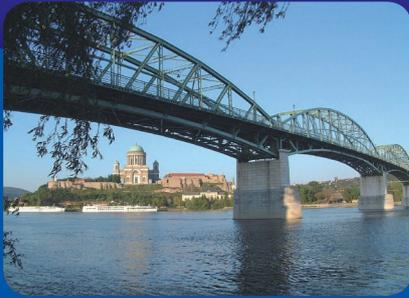
Expected results

The project aims to define: common methodology to establish governance systems for cross-border conurbations; case studies; European recommendations (developed by a “European Support Group” composed by the relevant European, national and regional public authorities); Local Action Plans on governance*; baseline study; etc.

* For each conurbation involved in the project.

Partners

- **Lille Metropole Urban Community**, FR (for the Eurometropole Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai, France/Belgium)
- **City of Slubice**, PL (for the Frankfurt (Oder)/Slubice conurbation, Germany/Poland)
- **City of Chaves**, PT (for the Eurocidade Chaves-Verin, Portugal/Spain)
- **City of Esztergom**, HU (for the Ister-Granum EGTC, Hungary/Slovakia)
- **Urban Community of Strasbourg**, FR (for the Eurodistrict Strasbourg-Ortenau, France/Germany)
- **Canton of Basel-Stadt**, CH (for the Trinational Eurodistrict Basel, Switzerland/Germany/France)



MOT Lead Partner



MOT is an association which facilitates the implementation of local cross-border projects. Its network ranges from local authorities, cross-border bodies, states and federations to large enterprises. The MOT activities concern operational assistance, network, training and support in defining overall strategies and European programmes. Because of the disparities of all types that characterise cross-border territories, they have a greater need for multi-level governance. MOT is being representative of local authorities and stakeholders involved in cross-border cooperation and aims to be an interface between the local, the national and the European levels.

Calendar

- Launch conference**, 19th of November 2008, Strasbourg (France)
- Thematic seminar on **"Management of governance for cross-border conurbations in Europe"**, March 2009, Chaves (Portugal)
- Thematic seminar on **"The governance structure, an interface with external actors"**, October 2009, Lille (France)
- Final conference**, May 2010, Esztergom (Hungary)



<http://urbact.eu/egtc>

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