

Methodological framework

Articulate the cohesion policy, the governance systems and the cross-border territorial projects



The current situation on cross-border cooperation is dominated by the development of the 2014-2020 Cohesion Policy framework as well as the definition of a French policy on its borders. In this context, the Transfrontier Operational Mission (MOT) has received a grant from the technical assistance programme EUROP'ACT in order to draft a methodological guide whose aim is to improve the coordination between the cohesion policy, the governance systems and the cross-border territorial projects.

The conclusions of this work will contribute to the improvement of the French cross-border cooperation framework, and will be addressed to government agencies, bodies of programmes, sub-national authorities, and generally to all players involved in cross-border cooperation.

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MOT Project	
Phase 1 : Proposition of methodological resources	August 2011 – February 2012
Phase 2 : Test of the methodological framework on the French-Italian border	February – May 2012
Phase 3 : Development of the methodological guide	May – September 2012

	European and French context
June 2010	Report of the Parliamentary mission for cross-border cooperation Blanc – Keller – Sanchez Schmid
September 2010 – January 2011	Inter-ministerial and inter-service meetings
November 2010	Fifth Report on Economic, Social and Territorial Cohesion
December 2010	MOT Study “Towards a better organisation of cross-border governance in France”, commissioned by the DATAR
October 2011	Proposals for Regulations on the 2014-2020 Cohesion Policy
February 2012	Publication of the Communication on the Common Strategic Framework (CSF)
End of 2012	Agreement on the new multi-year budgetary framework Adoption of the new regulation package
2013	Completion of the Partnership Agreements and of the Operational Programmes
2014	Coming into force of the new regulations and beginning of the programmes



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Presentation of the project

METHODOLOGICAL FRAMEWORK

- ≡ Volume 1
Diagnosis of the current monitoring, facilitation and implementation systems on cross-border cooperation at all levels.
- ≡ Volume 2
Recommendations for a better coordination of the Operational Programmes with the cross-border territorial dynamics and projects and the national and European strategic frameworks.

FINAL RESTITUTION SEMINAR

- ≡ About 150 participants
- ≡ Date : 24 October 2012
- Sequencing: overview and small thematic workshops aimed at discussing the methodological guide.

INTERVIEWS WITH :

- ≡ DG REGIO ;
- ≡ Concerned ministries ;
- ≡ DATAR ;
- ≡ SGAR ;
- ≡ Conseils Régionaux ;
- ≡ Conseil Généraux ;
- ≡ Cities and larger urban authorities ;
- ≡ Sub-national authorities of the neighbouring countries ;
- ≡ Cooperation structures ;
- ≡ Socioeconomic players ;
- ≡ Joint Common Secretariats ;
- ≡ Project lead partners.

The methodological framework will contribute to:

- ≡ Better articulate the future French Partnership Contract and the cross-border cooperation programmes with cross-border territorial dynamics and projects;
- ≡ Promote the collaborative development, by France and the neighbouring countries, of the cross-border aspects of their respective Partnership Contracts;
- ≡ Coordinate cross-border cooperation programmes with other territorial cooperation programmes and, by and large, other cohesion programmes and territorial policies;
- ≡ Articulate the monitoring systems on French cross-border policies with those established under the cohesion policy;
- ≡ Increase the importance of the territorial approach in the development of the French Partnership Contract and of the cross-border cooperation programmes, in order to stimulate and better meet the needs of the territories.

This project aims to:

- ≡ Offer an overview of the monitoring systems on cross-border cooperation at all levels and their impact on the development, implementation and sustainability of cooperation projects;
- ≡ Identify and analyse the weaknesses and bottlenecks of the system as a whole;
- ≡ Highlight the factors of improvement of this system;
- ≡ Prepare recommendations meant to streamline and improve the operational framework.

This study notably comprises:

- ≡ A literature review of documents concerning the Operational Programmes, cooperation structures, cross-border projects, etc.;
- ≡ An analysis of a sample of projects;
- ≡ Interviews with the players involved in cross-border cooperation on all French borders;
- ≡ A targeted consultation the MOT network;
- ≡ The organisation and participation in a meeting between the French and Italian national and sub-national administrations in charge of Cohesion Policy and cross-border cooperation.

