

An observation ...

THE POTENTIAL FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IS LITTLE EXPLOITED

In 2014-2015, the Mission Opérationnelle Transfrontalière (MOT) conducted a study on economic development in cross-border territories, focusing mainly on the borders that France shares with its neighbours.

The MOT's point of departure was the observation that the potential for economic development in cross-border territories is not sufficiently exploited. In addition, notwithstanding the free movement of capital, goods, services and people within the European Union, European governments adjust their tax and economic development policies without necessarily coordinating with each other. As a result, border territories are on the frontline of any ensuing discrepancies or synergies. Further, the question of cross-border employment is crucial for France, where 40% of European Union cross-border workers, i.e. around 380,000 workers in 2013, reside.

A practical guide...

... TO BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

... TO PROMOTING PROJECTS

The MOT has drafted this practical guide based on extensive research. The first part focuses on the partnerships to promote economic development and the second part on the development of cross-border economic projects.

1. BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS

The first part examines the issues from the perspective of institutions and of territorial economic development strategy. Its purpose is to provide methodological, perceptive and analytical tools to help public and semi-public-sector players to better structure their cooperation initiatives for cross-border economic development.

2. PROMOTING PROJECTS

The second part to promoting projects allows helping intermediate structures to better support developers of economic development projects with a cross-border dimension.

The guide also aims at:

- fostering and strengthening dialogue and partnerships between cooperation practitioners in cross-border territories.
- building on best practices for public action and for supporting project stakeholders in cross-border economic development

Cross-border economic development has many facets: corporate partnerships, exports or provision of services on the other side of the border, bi-location, subcontracting relationships, inter-clustering, etc. Unlike economic development at the international