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ASSESSING THE VALUE ADDED OF CROSS-BORDER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Borders are vectors of wealth that are worth exploiting. Confirming this premise for a given territory makes it possible to develop public cross-border policies.



Indicators such as the following may be used to determine the value added and impact of the cross-border dimension in economic development: the number of jobs created on each side of the border, the number of border jobs, the number of jobs indirectly generated by cross-border employment (“presential” economy)¹, GDP growth, establishment of companies, setting-up of branches, subcontracting relationships, etc.

EXAMPLE:

In 2013, the **OECD published a report entitled “Regions and Innovation: Collaborating across Borders”**. This report analyses why and when it is relevant to collaborate across borders in the area of innovation. It also analyses cross-border governance models for innovation and public policies to increase cross-border innovation. Lastly, the report examines six case studies on high-performing cross-border innovation systems.

<http://www.oecd.org/fr/innovation/regions-and-innovation-collaborating-across-borders.htm>



Studies of this kind help to elaborate **arguments for cross-border integration** of economic development, in order to raise awareness among decision-makers (elected representatives, senior government officials, etc.), and also citizens and businesses on the value added of cross-border economic development, and even convince them to work toward this integration.

EXAMPLE:

The Aquitaine-Euskadi Euroregion promotes the view that cross-border partnerships strengthen the ability of territories on each side of the border to export and be more competitive internationally.

For a more detailed analysis of the different arguments, please see the “Introduction”.

¹ See “Introduction” page 6