

Building a strategic vision for cross-border economic development

Drawing up a sound and effective partnership makes it possible to develop a joint strategy to promote the economic development of a cross-border territory.

The aim is to unite the players around a common vision of the territory, based on shared objectives, and to move from an individual project to a work programme. However, before that is possible, the different players must define a cross-border dimension for their own economic development strategies. A genuinely cross-border strategy can only be developed once this is done.

As a general rule, a cross-border economic development strategy should be in line with an overall vision of spatial policy and planning for the cross-border territory. It should also combine top-down and bottom-up approaches. Regional partners, who often initiate cross-border strategies, do not necessarily have a comprehensive vision of the potential. It is therefore important to draw on local players' in-depth knowledge of the field and take into account their needs and wishes.

