

Congress on smart cooperation

Cities and regions cooperating across borders: an opportunity to overcome crisis

Feed back from workshops and sessions

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Jean PEYRONY
Director General of MOT

	Free movement of people	Free movement of goods/capitals	Freedom of services
Smart Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -student mobility -cooperation between universities -joint smart specialization -... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -CB and transnational clusters -development of CB/transnational trading links -... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -development of services within CB metropolitan regions -Shared use of ICT -...
Sustainable Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -CB public transport -coherent planning and management of infrastructure -... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Inter-operable sustainable transport modes -... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -CB waste water treatment, energy networks -Joint management of natural ressource -...
Inclusive Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -CB EURES -Mutual recognition of diplomas -CB hospital -... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -CB venture capital funds -... 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -CB health and social services -joint education and training -...

Macro regions: new tool (open, not fully defined)

What ? identify common issues and solutions on a territory,
with European interest.

How?

- organise cooperation, mobilising local, regional actors
- align policies and funding
- 3 NOs, but need of coordination and network
- role of EC, but on the request of the Council (Baltic, Danube, considered as top down macro regions)

Principles: cross sectoral; subsidiarity, multi level governance,
decentralization; EU integration; confidence
...territorial cohesion.

Challenges:

- Everybody wants to be involved
- States involved are not always MS.

What place in 2014/2020 ?

- CSF: All OPs should prioritize operations deriving from macro regions
- Other macro regions on the table: Adriatic Ionian, Alpine, North Sea, Mediterranean (too diverse ?), South West, as 1st step of Atlantic: bottom up

Added value of CBC

Good practice: Eurocity Chaves Verin: laboratory of 2nd generation cooperation : single market; common use of public resource: health, education, culture

- Eurocitizenship: involvement of citizens in a common project
- Sustainable development, common heritage
- Joint economic development: entrepreneurship, optimize public resource.

Weaknesses:

- risk of imbalance between MS on a border
- ...

In the future:

- Simplification, better management: for programmes but also projects (often too quickly built); confidence
- ETC in strategic documents; synergies between ETC and regional OPs
- Increase role of regions in the field of CBC
- Longest border in EU: decentralised management: global grants, sub-programmes; vs risk of re-centralisation

EGTC: good tool , but provide enough resource.

More resource for ETC, but also increase co-financing rate up to 85 % ; increase private funding.

- Long term territorial strategies should be developed across borders with the support of the EU funded programmes. Currents programme's coordination and integrated macro-regional strategies, as pioneered in the Baltic sea and the Danube regions should be extended to other areas, such as the Mediterranean or the Atlantic
- As indicated by UfM, EU support should focus on more capacity building for local and regional authorities, more citizens participation and decentralised cooperation; greater involvement of private participation; an integrated approach on urban policies, paying attention to climate change and energy efficiency, mitigation of settlements and natural disaster risks; support of cities association and interplay between urban rural and urban territorial.

- Where implemented, external cooperation raises high interest, as shown by more than 3000 project proposals within the different Call for Proposals of ENPI CBC Programmes, 40 Large Scale Projects submitted for the Commission's approval and over 500 projects awarded so far. Therefore, Cross-Border Cooperation programmes along the external borders of the EU have to be continued and improved for the period 2014-2020
- For **better efficiency in cooperating** among local authorities, especially in Mediterranean area, it is recommended to focus on demand driven cooperation projects and public/private partnerships: Relevant efficient strategies should be focused on cooperate for: **(i) Transform States's legal and regulatory framework** to improve decentralization, municipal autonomy and to increase its financial and personnel means; **(ii) Build and implement participated holistic city development strategies** (CDS) based in transforming projects to reach a city desirable vision and **(iii) Build and implement planning of sectorial strategic challenges**

- The next Territorial Cooperation programmes, such as MED should accept to include the rule of 10% of expenditure outside the European Union without restrictions, even if incurred by partners from MS. Current restrictions are preventing fruitful cooperation.
- **Regional Cooperation of outermost regions**, such as Caribberan should build a new European policy of wider neighbourhood, by Implementing the effective measures for greater synergies between the European Development Fund and the European Regional Development Fund or even ENPI in areas such as Canarias, Açores and Madeira.
- The main challenge is to keep interest in external cooperation taking into account the several funds involved (ENPI-CBC, IPA CBC, ERDF and EDF) which have to work in cooperation to create synergies but also to ensure cross-fertilization of management good practices. Next generation of programmes has to be built upon the good experiences and the lessons learned on the obstacles so far.

- The challenges of globalisation, the current financial and economic crisis, and the urban age, can be countered successfully only by allowing smart growth.
- European Territorial Cooperation (ETC) therefore is a mandatory requirement. That's why we need an economically strong and politically united Europe. That's why we need more Europe and not less Europe.
- The current conditions require a strategic approach for the new programming period, aimed to overcome the economic situation and to contribute to the creation of growth and jobs, along with the other Cohesion Policy goals.

- The ETC needs a larger budget, but also a more integrated and strategic approach; it must be part of all strategic documents.
- Cooperation requires multilevel governance: a more territorialized approach and a strengthened partnership with cities and regions representing the level of proximity of daily life, also in the context of cross-border and macro-regions.

- Multilevel governance : enhancement of roles, capacities and accountability
- Polycentric spatial planning aiming for equity, integration of territories, taking into account the urban-rural sprawl.
- Energy Strategy: locally managed and based on renewables.
- Informed mobility adapted to diverse flows and territories
- New approach to integrated sea policies based on untapped potential of façades and straits (specially Atlantic and Channel Areas) and of harbor development.
- Social dimension: society aware and actively involved in participatory Sustainable Living.
- Knowledge economy and “intelligent territories”.

- Territories should be provided with a all-inclusive conceptual framework: eg macro-regions, Atlantic Area Strategy
- Rising human ecological footprint to be tackled. Results should also look for competitiveness.
- Go 1 step further from research to action: capitalization.
- One urgent deadline for the Atlantic Area: 2012 Atlantic Forum
- **Sustainable growth in two words:**
- Strategic benchmarking analysis of carbon-footprint causes, effects and alternatives as a starting point
- Rooted in local knowledge and real partnership; territorial cooperation is the unavoidable tool.

- Develop evidence base within cross-border regions, so as to monitor their development, with the support of Operational Programs and EU/Member States statistical offices.
- Support development of cross-border projects and territories through integrated territorial approaches in cross-border programs (ITI, local development...) and involving citizens, civil society, economic partners, etc.
- Give a sound basis for governance of cross-border projects and territories, with appropriate legal tools such as EGTCs, etc.
- Develop capitalization and transfer of thematic and territorial cross-border good practices with the support of EU network programs (Urbact, Interact, ESPON, Interreg C...).

Entry point for programming:

Concentration on Europe 2020 objectives



ETC within strategic documents (CSF, PAs): all OPs, and national/regional programs, may contribute to ETC; **ETC OPs=catalyst**

- **Coordinate of PAs across each border**, so as to develop synergies between national policies, above OPs
- **Coordinate regional/local strategies/plans** across borders; **ETC OPs with other OPs and programs**
- **Support territorial approaches**, eg CB ITIs born by EGTCs
- **Develop support for CBC at different levels**: Euro-institutes on borders; national tools (Budapest platform: FR, HU, NL, PT,...); EU tools (Interact,...)

Integrated, territorial approach in the Atlantic region: polycentric development.

Atlantic strategy: should not be limited to maritime affairs: macro regional strategy to be envisaged.

Governance should include of all levels of government, including local, on an equal footing

Atlantic strategy : to be mainstreamed in Partnership

Agreements, various OPs, structural/sectoral policies.

Action plan: consistency between integrated approaches proposed by CSF and on-going initiatives like RESOE macro-region.

Atlantic forum = consultation mechanism: to be kept, and integrate local authorities. Role of networks.

A more urban approach: Urban dimension as an engine for growth.

Transport: not only connection to EU centre, but also between regions and cities, and within cities; attention to port cities: AA gateway of Western Europe

Eco-system: AA to be considered as a whole: biodiversity, fragile environments (rivers, estuaries,...); cities and climate change

Knowledge economy: smart specialization in marine field
Economy of proximity; social and cultural dimension (identity, heritage):
attractivity

Participation of citizens: Local Action Groups

External dimension: relations with other MRS and neighbours (outermost regions).

CECICN, with AEBR and EU stakeholders willing so, wishes to follow up the contribution of ETC to EU 2020, Single Market and Cohesion.

- **at EU level: with DGs concerned within the EC: Urban, Territorial cohesion Inter-service groups?**
- **as partner of CoR (EGTC platform,..); as partner of EP**
- **with MS: Territorial and Urban Agenda processes**
- **within the strategic follow up of Cohesion Policy.**