



EUROPEAN TERRITORIAL CO-OPERATION 2007-2013: strategic issues

1. Budget
2. Cross-border
3. Trans-national

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The new Objective 3: European Territorial Co-operation

An objective per se

Considerably increased funding proposed by
the Commission

2.5% in the current period → 3.9% of total
Structural Funds

€5.8 billion → €14.2 billion

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ERDF-funding

| | 2000-2006 | 2007-2013 (Commission) | 2007-2013 (Council agreement) |
|---|------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Cross-border co-operation programmes | € 4 bn (69%) | €6.8 bn (47.73%) | € 5.6 bn |
| Transnational co-operation programmes | € 1.4 bn (24%) | € 6.8 bn (47.73%) | € 1.4 bn |
| Interregional co-operation and network programmes | € 400 mio (6%) | € 650 mio (4.54%) | € 292 mio |
| TOTAL | € 5.8 bn (100%) | € 14.25 bn (100%) | € 7.3 bn (+ Peace) |

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Cross-border co-operation Geographical scope and eligible areas

Similar to present cross-border areas:

- Geographic eligibility defined at NUTS III level
- 20 % may be used in adjacent NUTS III region

Novelties:

- Definition of maritime borders eligible for cross-border co-operation (up to 150 km)

Maritime border regions further apart are encouraged to co-operate under the priority for bilateral co-operation in Transnational programmes

- Themes for maritime CBC will be also available for bilateral transnational co-operation (but ensure coherence)

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Crossborder cooperation 2007-2013
Eligible regions according to art. 7-1 of Structural Funds Regulation

- Proposed eligible NUTS2 regions
- Other NUTS2 regions
- Other states

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Cross-border co-operation Programmes areas

Programme for each border or group of borders (with exceptions)

- Small programmes to be merged in order to diminish bureaucracy and administrative burden,
- with sub-programmes or specific priorities where necessary

Trilateral/quadrilateral programmes and merging small cross-border programmes

- o larger cooperation areas might bring in new innovative projects
- o Some of the earlier Member States may also wish to try new models. One programme for "la Grande Région" for example
- o projects may still be bilateral

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Cross-border programmes co-operation topics

- Entrepreneurship and SMEs, universities, tourism and cross-border trade
- Protection and joint management of the environment
- links between rural and urban areas
- Better access to transport and to
- Information and communication networks
- and to water, waste management and energy systems and facilities
- Joint use of health, culture, tourism and education infrastructures
- Labour markets, local employment, social inclusion
- Judicial and administrative cooperation

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Cross-border Cooperation Significant priorities

More strategic projects (even if local and particularly in maritime cooperation):

- Idea of focussing on a small number of priority themes (more focussed calls and commissioned projects)
- Idea of ensuring a significant long term impact; optimisation of current actions and networks, capitalisation of past experiences.
- Idea of tailoring programmes to the large diversity of border regions:
 1. Low border permeability: create or improve communication infrastructures and connection links
 2. Economic disparities: promote catching-up activities (ex: integrating labour market, business, knowledge transfer)
 3. Well functioning cross-border structures: bring added value to cross-border activities (ex: RDT, culture)

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Transnational cooperation: a new idea: Strategic projects

- Ensure a genuine trans-national character
- Contribute to structuring European territory with long term projects ensuring a significant territorial impact (ex: material inter-connection)
- or Stimulating networking at macro-regional level (immaterial inter-connection)
- Having a narrower thematic focus
- Involve the national policy level (coordination)
- No longer studies and plans except if preparing concrete projects
- Create coherence and links with objectives 1 and 2 (ex: natural risk prevention) and other strands of the territorial cooperation objective (ex: maritime cross-border).



Definition of programme areas: 4 criteria, finally:13 spaces

1. Geographical coherence (+ not increasing overlapping) and Space identity
2. Functionality: Major needs/thematic typology / strategic projects
3. Programming continuity
4. Political criteria

CADSES: divided,
ARCHIMEDE and WESTERN MEDIT: merged
ATLANTIC: maritime regions only.



Geographic flexibility

include areas external to the Space up to 20% of the budget

- Flexibility for space continuity:
add an area concerned with the project(s)

- Flexibility for trans-spaces co-operation
(ex: Interreg III B Umbrella Project shared by several programmes on maritime safety)
to be developed?



Transnational cooperation 4 priority themes

1. Creation of scientific and technological networks (+education + SMEs)
2. Environment, water management, natural heritage, natural risk prevention
3. Improving accessibility: transport and ICT
4. Sustainable urban development

NB: importance of integrated maritime co-operation



CONCLUSION

Agenda

Issues for further reflections:

- specific thematic focus for each transnational space?
- trans-spaces transnational projects (thematic or integrated)?
- synergy between instruments? how? ex: between cross-border and transnational
- links with ESPON: prospective studies, spatial planning experimental/pilot projects