

15 December 2011

October 6th 2011, the European Commission published the regulation proposals for the cohesion policy 2014 – 2020 :

- ≡ An **overarching regulation**
- ≡ Three **specific regulations** for the **ERDF**, the **ESF** and the **Cohesion Fund**
- ≡ Two regulations dealing with the **European territorial cooperation (ETC)** goal and the **European grouping of territorial cooperation (EGTC)**
- ≡ Two regulations on the **European Globalisation Fund (EGF)** and the **Programme for Social Change and Innovation**
- ≡ A communication on the **European Union Solidarity Fund (EUSF)**

Following consultation of its members, **the MOT publishes its position paper on these regulation proposals**, aiming at a better consideration of the cross-border areas. Here are some extracts:

- The MOT is pleased with the “**provisions that make it compulsory to take the territorial cooperation objective into consideration in the partnership contracts (PC).**” This change is consistent with the coordination of the PCs across borders, which is supported by France.
- The MOT backs “**the importance given to compliance with the principle of multi level governance** which entails [...] that each Member State set up a partnership with the representatives of the regional, local and urban authorities and other competent public authorities.”
- The MOT backs “the introduction of provisions for **linking the territorial and thematic aspects of the cohesion policy**”. Nevertheless, “one of the key proposals of the new regulations is the choice of a **limited number of thematic objectives** that can be funded by the operational programmes. [...] The MOT considers that, in the cross-border context, this provision must be interpreted with great precaution in order to avoid interfering with the newly reinforced territorial cohesion and local development objectives.”
- The MOT stresses “**the importance of coordination between cross-border cooperation programmes and with other cooperation or regional programmes**”. “In practice, in the previous periods, the lack of coordination between the neighbouring programmes has prevented the necessary synergies being brought into play.”
- The MOT backs **the reinforcement of the role of the EGTCs**. “These provisions are an important step forward, because they will enable better linkage of European programmes with cross-border territory projects and cooperation strategies.”
- Lastly, the MOT stresses “**the importance of networking between cooperation programmes and projects**. In the previous periods, the lack of networking between the programmes and the projects has prevented comparison of the results obtained and capitalization of good practices. For example, the MOT would like to see the production of guides to good

Website page of the regulation proposals (European Commission):

http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/what/future/proposals_2014_2020_en.cfm#1

To download the MOT position paper (in French):

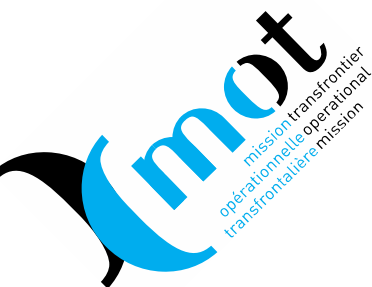
www.espaces-transfrontaliers.eu/position_MOT_2014_2020_dec2011.pdf

MOT website:

<http://www.espaces-transfrontaliers.eu>

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practices and the dissemination of know-how within cross-border cooperation and beyond.

*** The “European territorial cooperation” objective has three strands:**

- cross-border cooperation, which concerns neighbourhood relations between territories on either side of land borders (or of maritime borders for coastal areas separated by less than 150 kilometres),
- transnational cooperation, contributing to integrated territorial development on the scale of transnational spaces defined by the European Union (for example the Alpine space),
- inter-regional cooperation on the development of networks for experience-sharing and transfer of good practices.