THE TRANSFRONTIER OPERATIONAL MISSION (MOT)

TECHNICAL ENGINEERING AT THE SERVICE OF (CROSS-) BORDER TERRITORIES

The MOT provides assistance to territorial authorities, government departments and other practitioners involved in cross-border cooperation through studies and expert missions. These take the form of territorial analyses, cross-border strategies, legal and thematic studies, assistance with project management, etc. A few examples:

**TERRITORIAL STUDIES**
- Analysis of the contributions of cross-border cooperation
- Strategic plan for the development of the French-Belgian Ardennes cross-border territory
  Study for the Communauté d'agglomération Ardennes Métropole, 2019.
- Inventory of cross-border investment and economic development projects
  Study for the European Investment Bank (EIB), 2019.
- Elaboration of Cross-border cooperation schemes, networking
  Support(1) for the Schemes of the Pays Basque Communauté Agglomération, of the Nice Côte d'Azur Metropolis, of the Strasbourg Eurométropolis, and of the Lille European Metropolis, 2016-2019.
- Employment in West Flanders in a cross-border metropolis
  Study for the European Metropolis of Lille, 2018.
- Cross-border employment in the Euroregion Nouvelle Aquitaine-Euskadi-Navarre
  Study for the NAEN Euroregion, 2017.

**LEGAL STUDIES**
- Pyrenean refuges: making cross-border cooperation sustainable
- Creation of a cross-border health trail in the Hautes Vallées
  Legal assistance for the Besançon Hospital Center, ASLTO3 and the Piedmont Region, 2018-2020.
- Implementation of a transport EGTC for the Mediterranean islands (Corsica/Sardinia)
- Setting-up of the EGTC of the Bouches de Bonifacio International Marine Park
- Analysis of the legal obstacles to cross-border cooperation
  Study for the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg within the framework of its presidency of the EU Council, 2015.
- Analysis of the obstacles and solutions to French-Belgian cross-border cooperation
  Updating of the work of the French-Belgian parliamentary working group for the Nord-Pas de Calais Region prefecture, 2015.

**THE “BONS-À-TIRER” (BAT) SERVICE**

This service, which is reserved for members(2), provides them with a day’s assistance a year from the MOT’s technical team.

The assistance relates to technical and legal issues, the organisation of a cross-border event, a contribution at a conference, etc.

The technical notes produced in this context are made available to members in the Members’ Area of the website.


---

(1) In partnership with AUDAP (Urban planning agency Atlantic and Pyrenees), ADEUS (Urban planning and development Agency of the Strasbourg Conurbation) and ADULM (Urban planning and development Agency of Lille Metropolis).

(2) Members that are legal entities on France’s borders.
EXPERTISE AT EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

The MOT carries out projects on France’s and European borders in order to provide technical assistance to cross-border players involved in cooperation. These projects result in the production of methodological tools for their use. The MOT also provides expert assistance internationally. A few examples:

PROJECTS AT FRANCE’S BORDERS

“Cross-border economic development”\(^{(1)}\)
2014-2015

The objectives were:
—
to provide players with greater knowledge of the issues regarding economic development in cross-border territories;
—
to facilitate cross-border economic development by identifying obstacles and disseminating good practices;
—
to help framework conditions in this area to evolve.

The project led to the production of a thematic publication and a practical guide.


“Operational arrangements for cross-border projects on France’s borders”\(^{(1)}\)
2013

Five seminars were organised to inform local players about the legal tools available on France’s borders and encourage the sharing of good practices. A legal guide was published in six languages.

“Articulating cohesion policy, governance structures and cross-border territorial approaches”\(^{(1)}\)
2011-2012

An assessment of governance on each of France’s borders and a methodological guide were produced to improve the coordination between cohesion policy, government structures and cross-border territorial approaches.

PROJECTS AT EUROPEAN LEVEL

“Exertising Governance for Transfrontier Conurbations”\(^{(2)}\)
2009-2010

The MOT was lead partner in this project focusing on the governance of cross-border conurbations. The partners\(^{(3)}\) worked on the promotion of innovative governance tools in order to implement their cross-border conurbation projects. The sharing of good practices enabled each of them to draw up a “Local Action Plan” to improve the local system of governance. Common recommendations at national and European level were formulated.

EXPERT ASSISTANCE AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL

The expertise of the MOT\(^{(4)}\) is promoted internationally, following the assignments carried out in support of cross-border cooperation in Africa:

• study on cross-border conurbations facing climate change in West Africa, for the Sahel and West Africa Club of the OECD, 2018-2019;
• development of tools for the implementation of the ECOWAS Regional Support Programme for Cross-Border Cooperation, in support of GIZ\(^{(5)}\), 2018
• assistance to the AIMF\(^{(6)}\) for the development of cross-border cooperation in Central Africa, carrying out an assessment of cross-border cooperation, 2016.

\(^{(1)}\) Within the framework of a European project co-financed by the Europ’Act programme.
\(^{(2)}\) Within the framework of a European project co-financed by the Urbact programme.
\(^{(4)}\) Labelled by the French government in its “Diplomacy and Territories” white paper.
\(^{(5)}\) German Corporation for International Cooperation.
\(^{(6)}\) International Association of Francophone Mayors.