



Between January 2014 and June 2015, the MOT is leading a project on the economic development of cross-border territories (especially between France and the neighbouring countries), motivated by several observations:

- ≡ The cooperation potential regarding the economic development is not employed enough (for example, SMEs have a lack of cross-border openness).
- ≡ The different national public policies on this matter evolve without being coordinated along the borders.
- ≡ The preparation and the launch of the 2014-2020 programmes make necessary the elaboration of new instruments for programme managers and project leaders, especially on themes that are rising in importance (economic development, innovation, SMEs employment and training, financial engineering, tools for integrated territorial development, etc.).

Main goals of the project:

- ≡ Provide a better stakes knowledge concerning the economic development of cross-border territories and the links between the economic and employment issues and the players of cross-border cooperation.
- ≡ Facilitate the economic development of cross-border territories by contributing to the elimination of obstacles, as well as contributing to the research and the dissemination of tools and good practices.
- ≡ Encourage and reinforce exchanges and partnerships between the players of cooperation on cross-border territories concerning the economic development and employment.
- ≡ Contribute to the evolution of framework conditions for cross-border territories regarding the economic development and employment.

Main goals of the project:

- = Local authorities, government agencies and services, businesses, chambers of commerce, employers' organisations, development agencies, public employment services, Caisse des Dépôts, Bpifrance, authorities of European programmes, European institutions and networks.

Deliverables:

All deliverables (written in French and in English) will be available on the MOT website:

1. [Proceedings of the opening conference](#)
2. [Diagnosis of the integrated economic development of cross-border territories](#)
3. [Good practices sheets](#)
4. [Handbook for boosting local partnerships for economic development](#)

This document will contain information on the ways to trigger the engagement of the different players involved (from the national to the local level) and to reinforce partnerships along the economic development topic (linked to employment) on a cross-border territory.

5. [Handbook for facilitating the emergence of projects \(project incubators\)](#)

This document will propose instruments that European programmes will be able to use in order to facilitate the emergence of economic development and employment projects (handbooks, facilitation and guidance, networking events, workshops, etc.).

6. [Recommendations](#)

These recommendations will mainly focus on the evolution of framework conditions, on governance, and on the strategic directions concerning cross-border economic development.



PROJECT PHASES

Phase 1: DIAGNOSIS

(January – August 2014)

The first phase aims at drafting an overview of the economic development in a cross-border context, and therefore at providing cross-border cooperation players with a better knowledge of the issues on this matter. The obstacles to economic development will be identified, and the needs for cooperation in the cross-border economic development and employment will be tackled. Finally, during this phase the MOT will compare the main characteristics of France neighbouring countries' economic development framework conditions to public actions in this field.

The diagnosis phase will begin with a **conference** that aims at starting the debate and triggering the different partners' engagement. The diagnosis will consist of a **document review** (strategic papers, studies, strategies of European programmes, project information, etc.), **interviews** with the different types of economic development players, and a selection and an analysis of **good practices**.

Phase 2: JOINT ELABORATION OF INSTRUMENTS

(September 2014 – January 2015)

The objective of this phase is to produce the methodological tools meant for the authorities, managers, and partners of the European programmes (see target audience). The goal is to improve the creation of partnerships and the way programmes take cross-border economic development into account.

In order to guarantee the relevance of the handbooks produced by the MOT, **two working groups**, composed of players on either side of the border, will be organised to provide the needed information.

The two themes of the working groups will be:

1. **Optimisation of the local cross-border partnerships in the field of economic development**
2. **Assistance for the emergence of projects in the field of cross-border economic development**

Phase 3: FINALISATION AND DISSEMINATION OF THE INSTRUMENTS

(February – June 2015)

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