

4th meeting of the strategic cross-border committee on observation

Le 14 April 2015

Mission Opérationnelle Transfrontalière, Paris

Key points and decisions taken



Liste des participants

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Introduction: Presentation of the cross-border territories statistical observation process

A study conducted by the MOT and the FNAU in 2010-2012 at the request of the DATAR (now the CGET) identified the difficulties of observing cross-border spaces. Following the study and a seminar on observation in Nancy in December 2012, an approach intended to give preference to a progressive and pragmatic process of improvement and enrichment of the data and indicators baseline (which will eventually provide more precise knowledge of cross-border problems) was initiated. This included the setting-up of a cross-border strategic committee (CSC) and a technical working group (TWG)¹, the first meetings of which took place in 2014.

The committee and the working group have since been at work: an Internet platform has been established on line (Ariane² group) for sharing information; a website has been put on line presenting the approach, the partners and the work done on cross-border observation and employment; studies have been initiated

¹ This observation and sharing approach on the question of cross-border territories led in 2013 to the setting-up of a two-level organisation: a political level (the cross-border strategic committee) and a technical level (the technical working group).

² To register with the Ariane group: ariane.datar.gouv.fr

(concerning the typology of cross-border spaces); an inventory of the availability of data on border workers has been compiled (a map of the availability of administrative and statistical sources has been produced).

1. Workshop on cross-border obstacles on 19 May 2015 in Luxembourg City Update on the complete seminar programme and objectives

1.1 Seminar overview

The seminar, which will be conducted in English, will examine the obstacles to cross-border cooperation. A first 90-minute session covering the MOT survey on the obstacles to cooperation will be followed by a second session on cross-border observation. Three workshops will take place in the afternoon. In short, the morning sessions will focus on the problems, the afternoon workshops on the solutions. This seminar is part of the preparation process for the NTCCP³ meeting on 9 September, the meeting of Directors-General on 20 October, and the meeting of spatial planning ministers on 26-27 November.

1.2 Update on the MOT survey for the Luxembourg presidency

The MOT will present the results of its European survey on the identification of cross-border obstacles. The problems will be grouped by legal category. Various participants are going to contribute in turn to the round table. This event is intended to examine the prospects of a new European legal instrument for clearing cross-border obstacles (link with the survey to be launched by DG REGIO next July and the consultation in September). The MOT proposes to set up a platform, to be developed in 2015 and put on line in 2016. Work will have to be posted on the platform. The Luxembourg seminar is a founding element, and must initiate an inter-state and European process on this issue.

1.3 Presentation of the session on observation

An initial summary will review the inter-state origin of the approach (presentation of the CSC). The session will have to describe the linkage between public policies and observation. More detailed examples must illustrate to what extent an observation case can move the lines (for example, obtain healthcare anywhere in a cross-border territory). In practice, observation influences the positioning of policies in the territories, but some areas are still neglected (housing, property, and others).

1.4 Production of a map of Europe illustrating the availability of data on cross-border worker flows

The discourse must take the form of a wake-up call on the current situation. There are no Europe-wide data since 2007. 800 000 border workers were recorded in Europe in 2009, but it is difficult to estimate their number in 2015.

³ Network of Territorial Cohesion Contact Points

This map must also include a definition of the border worker. It will, moreover, be an opportunity to differentiate between the availability of administrative data and the availability of statistical data. The map will have to convey the message that the lack of data on cross-border worker flows is incompatible with the European objective of social and territorial cohesion.

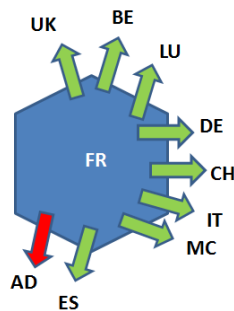
Map presented of the 19 May 2015 in Luxembourg



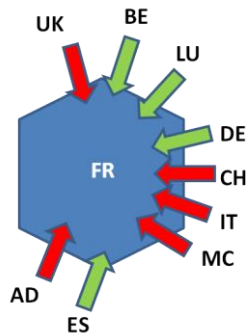
Example : Availability of data on outgoing cross-border flows on French borders

Flow direction	Data information
France ► Belgium France ► Luxembourg France ► Switzerland France ► Germany	Origin: commune (LAU 2) Destination: commune (LAU 2) Type of data : statistical data Date: 2011 Source: INSEE
France ► Royaume-Uni France ► Italy France ► Monaco France ► Spain	Origin: commune (LAU 2) Destination: Country Type of data : statistical data Date: 2011 Source: INSEE
France ► Switzerland	Origin: département (NUTS 3) Destination: canton (NUTS 3) Type of data : statistical data Date: 2014 Source: Swiss Federal Statistical Office(OFS)
France ► Monaco	Origin: commune (LAU 2) Destination: Country Type of data : statistical data Date: 2011 Source: IMSEE, CCSS
France ► Andorra	Missing data

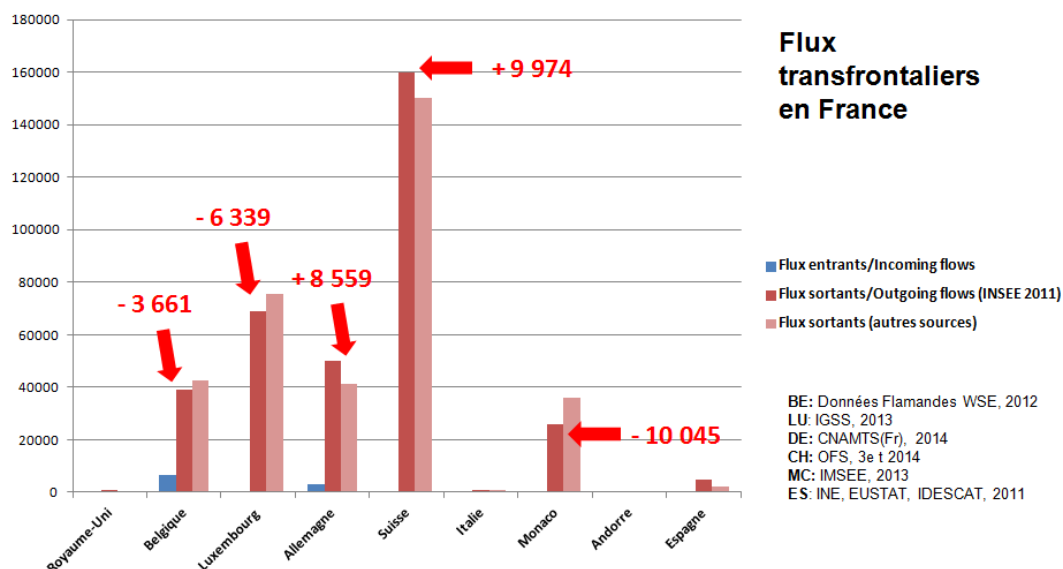
Outgoing flows from France



Incoming flows in France

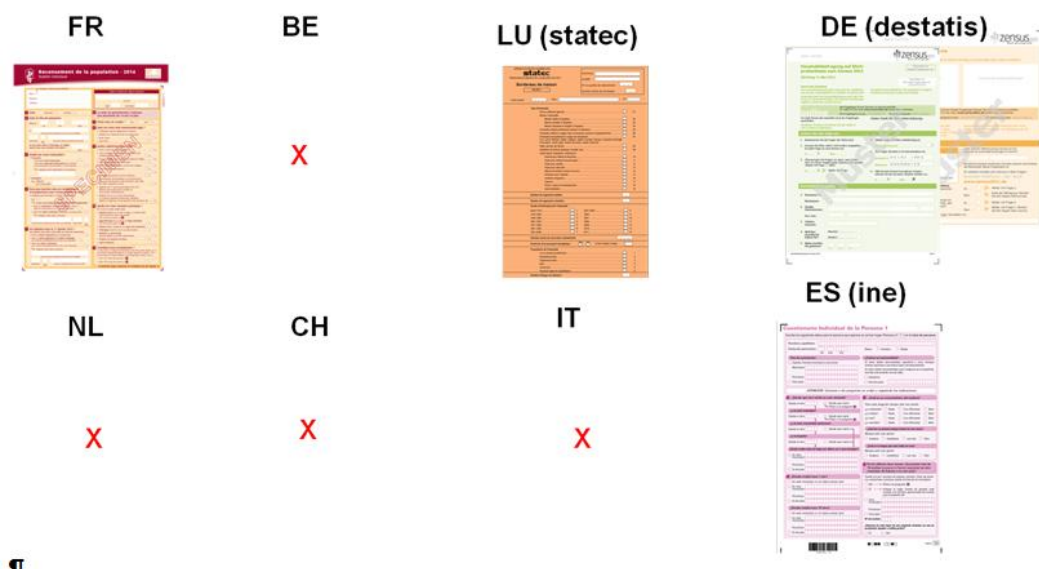


Available data on cross-border flows on French borders



Differences between French statistical data (INSEE) and data from statistical or administrative sources of neighbouring countries are identified in the above graph. In some cases the data differ for a given flow direction.

2.1.2 Census form and census method description for each country concerned: typology and possibility of entering information on border worker flows



Synthesis table on the possibility to get data on cross-border flows of commuters

	France	Belgium	Netherlands	Luxembourg	Germany	Switzerland	Italy	Spain
Statistical data	Yes, INSEE	No, the census is canceled	Yes	Yes but not exploited	No, the census is canceled	Yes, OFS	Yes, ISTAT (2001)	Yes but not exploited
Administrative data	Yes, CNAMTS	Yes, INAMI	Yes but not exploited	Yes, IGSS	Yes but exploited in each case (Land by land)	Yes, OFS	Yes (social insurance) but not exploited	Yes (social insurance) but not exploited

Collecting and comparing the census forms made it possible to establish a typology of countries according to the possibilities of utilizing data on border workers.

Some countries have statistical data on border workers and use them (France, Switzerland, Netherlands); other countries have the possibility of processing statistical data on border workers but do not do so (Spain); some countries have stopped the statistical census and use administrative data to analyse border worker flows (Belgium, Germany); one country has chosen to use only administrative data, although it also has statistical data (Luxembourg); some countries, finally, have administrative data but do not use them (France, Netherlands, Italy, Spain).

2.1.3 List of documents on cross-border observation and on cross-border employment

Publications ou sites internet dédiés à l'observation transfrontalière en France et dans les pays voisins (au 31.03.15)	
Preamble	
Ce document recense les observatoires transfrontaliers en ligne et les publications contenant des données statistiques transfrontalières plurithématiques (notamment des atlas transfrontaliers) au niveau national et régional pour la France et ses pays voisins. Les sources des documents sont principalement des instituts statistiques régionaux et nationaux, ainsi que des observatoires transfrontaliers.	
Pour les observatoires et les documents recensés, les thématiques transfrontalières sont listées. Dans certains cas, un tableau précise le nom de l'indicateur, la maille, le millésime, la source et le type de donnée (tableau statistique ou carte).	
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Présence d'une dimension transfrontalière dans les publications sur le thème de l'emploi (au 31.03.15)	
Preamble	
Ce document recense les publications contenant des données statistiques sur le thème de l'emploi au niveau européen, et au niveau national et régional pour la France et ses pays voisins. Les sources des documents sont principalement des instituts statistiques régionaux et nationaux, et dans certains cas les observatoires transfrontaliers généraux ou des observatoires thématiques sur le thème de l'emploi.	
Pour chacun des documents recensés, la présence de données transfrontalières est précisée. Pour les documents disposant d'indicateurs transfrontaliers, un tableau précise le nom de l'indicateur, la maille, le millésime, la source et le type de donnée (tableau statistique ou carte).	
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The TWG members contributed to the compilation of two lists of publications (and websites) on cross-border observation and on cross-border employment. These

lists are on-line on the Cross-border strategic committee on observation web platform.

2.2 Update on the web platform of the cross-border strategic committee on observation

CSC webpages have been posted on-line on the MOT website: www.espaces-transfrontaliers.org/en/european-activities/platform-of-the-cross-border-strategic-committee-on-observation/.

The pages, viewable in French or in English, are divided into several parts: presentation of the process; working groups and news; partners; publications on cross-border observation; publications on flows of cross-border workers. The aim is to post future work of the CSC/TWG on these pages.

3. After the Luxembourg presidency: prospects for coordination of spatial planning administrations in Europe on cross-border issues

3.1 Towards a permanent process

In order to render permanent the mechanism which is currently based on voluntary participation, a work programme should be defined. European programmes (INTERREG A or B on the borders, ESPON at European level) could contribute to its funding.

The mechanism must also fit within the scope of the political agenda of the Luxembourg presidency, one of the priorities of which is cross-border issues. The identification of the inadequacies and issues of coordination of cross-border observation at European level must be also be communicated to the relevant ministers in the various states concerned, so that a position can be taken at the meeting of ministers in November 2015. To accomplish this, it is necessary to identify the relay capabilities of the CSC members within their respective administrations.

The intention is also to raise the awareness of European authorities and inform them about the deficiency in cross-border statistics. The new OPs must fund observation projects linked with their priorities. EUROSTAT could develop the production of cross-border data with the data producers at European and national levels.

3.2 DG REGIO survey on the obstacles to cross-border cooperation

A survey is going to be initiated in July 2015. It would be desirable for CSC/TWG to take part in it.

3.3 Work topics to be investigated by the CSC

The next work topics should be defined.

The idea of continuing work on the topic of cross-border flows is confirmed.

Possible topics:

- follow-up on employment

Other possible areas:

- Housing, property, land

- Health

- Services to the population

- Trade, purchasing

- Culture

It is also desirable to link the topic of local flows with the idea of European citizenship.

In general, it is desirable to analyse the disparities that generate border flows.

Next CSC meeting

The next meeting of the CSC will take place on 3 July 2015 at the Mission Opérationnelle Transfrontalière in Paris.