TransParcnet Meeting 2025

June 10, 2025



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- 2. The natural spaces at french borders and their crossborder cooperation
- 3. Examples of cross-border tourism cooperation projects involving protected areas
- 4. The Cross Border Deal

Part 1

Mission Opérationne le Transfrontalière (MOT)



The Mission Opérationnelle Transfrontalière (MOT) is an association under the law of 1901, created in 1997 at the initiative of the French government.

A triple mission:

- 1. Technical engineering for cross-border territories
- 2. A networking platform and resource center
- 3. Taking account of cross-border issues at local, national and European level

A center for engineering and producing high-level cross-border territorial expertise **unique in Europe**, and a **10-strong technical team** at the service of its customers. members.

The MOT network

AT LOCAL LEVEL: A network of over 90 members



NATIONAL LEVEL: 5 institutional partners







agence nationale de la cohésion des territoires









at european level: partnership

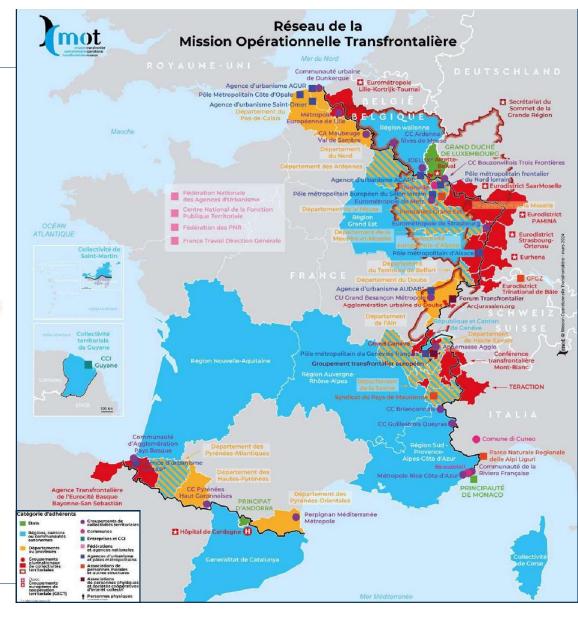








This positioning enables structured dialogue between European institutions, national authorities and local players.



Examples of projects carried out



AT LOCAL LEVEL

- Support for the creation of the Cerdagne cross-border hospital (FR/ES)
- Support for the creation of the Saar Moselle Eurodistrict EGTC (FR/DE)
- Arc Jurassien cross-border strategy (FR/CH)
- Lille metropolitan area cross-border cooperation schemes,
 Strasbourg, Nice and the Pays Basque conurbation





- Analysis of obstacles to cooperation between France and Belgium
- MOT network opinion on the 3DS bill
- Analysis of the impact of the Covid crisis on France's borders
- Support for the Franco-German Cross-Border Cooperation Committee

AT EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL LEVEL



- Management of cross-border pilot projects for the European Commission (Resilient Borders, Cross border energy) communities)
- Cross-border strategic committee on statistical observation
- Organization of the Borders Forum 2024 (3^(rd)) edition)



MOT General Assemblies: a time for sharing and networking across borders

25thMOT General Meeting in Morteau (2021)





28thMOT General Meeting in Metz (2023)



Assemblée générale de la MOT

- July 1 and 2, 2025
- Aussois (Savoie)
- Focus on mountain issues



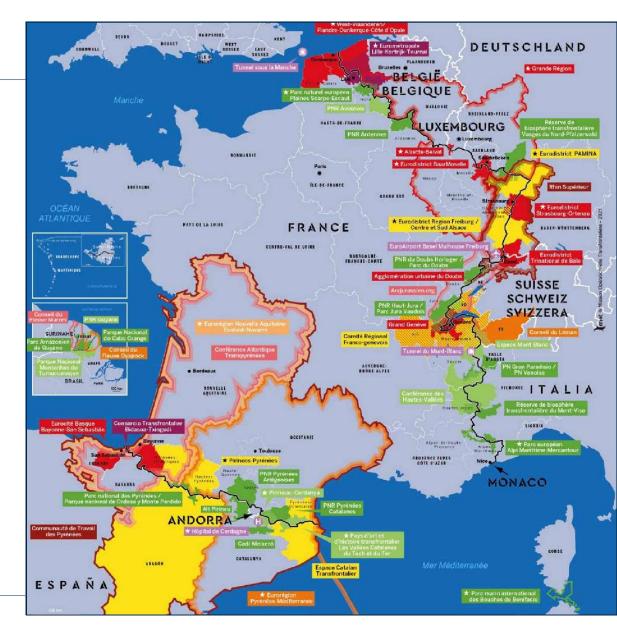


Part 2

Cross-border natural spaces on the French border

territories

- * For the most part, rural or peri-urban areas have been severely affected by transitions in the economy. (demographic, energy, digital...)
- The outlying areas of major metropolises located on the other side of the border (Luxembourg, Saarbrücken, Basel, Geneva)
- Border FR metropolises (Lille, Strasbourg, Bayonne, Nice)
- ***** Borders that are sometimes EU, sometimes extra-European
 - DROM-COM (French overseas departments and regions and local authorities)
 - o United Kingdom now
- **♣** Natural border areas





A diversity of cross-border natural spaces



Cross-border cooperation working group on protected nature areas (Fédé PNR / OFB)



- March 18 and 19, 2025
- In Paris and far away
- About fifteen participants
- Working group led by the Fédération nationale des Parcs Naturels Régionaux and the Office Français de la Biodiversité (French Biodiversity Office)
- Involvement of MOT to facilitate exchanges and share knowledge



Challenges, obstacles and funding for cross-border cooperation on protected natural areas on the French border

Cross-border natural spaces: what cooperation?

How can cross-border issues be taken into account in cooperation between natural areas located at the border?



Shared challenges on both sides of the border

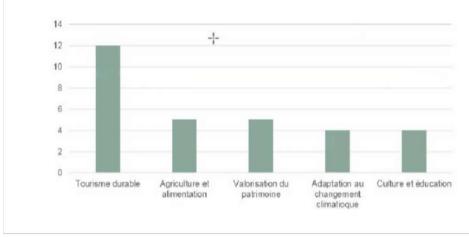
- Preserving natural environments
- Adapting to global warming
- Tourism diversification and transition
- · Combating overtourism



Cross-border cooperation: what added value?

- Deal more effectively with common issues that don't stop at the border (tourist flows, mobile pollution, cross-border webs, management of cross-border flora and fauna, etc.).
- Bringing about a change of perspective on practices through cross-border exchanges
- Learn from best practices on both sides of the border
- Pool resources (human, financial, etc.)

THÉMATIQUES DES COOPÉRATIONS TRANSFRONTALIÈRES:



Extract from the Fédération des parcs naturels régionaux survey on cooperation between protected natural areas



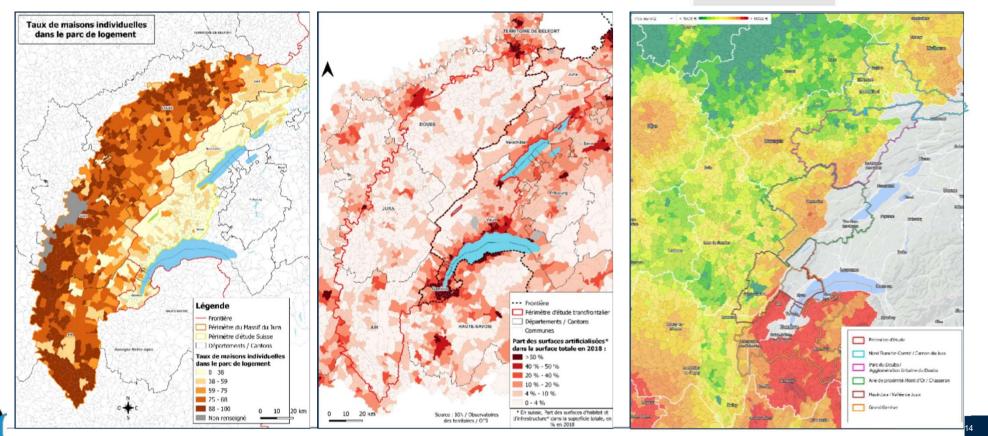


Example of cross-border issues for protected natural areas: "Vision 360° du Massif du Jura".

diagnosis

Identification of 4 dynamics influencing the massif's trajectory: an unsustainable territorial syste m

Pression sur le foncier et l'offre de logements

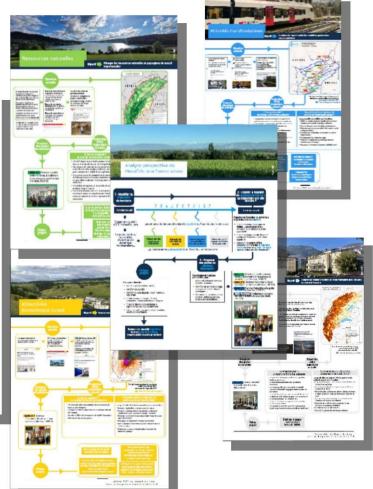


Presentation of the methodology and results of the "Vision 360° du Massif du Jura" study

Summary available i n









Cross-border natural spaces: what cooperation?

What is the added value of cross-border cooperation?

How can cross-border cooperation help protected natural areas?



Cross-border **territorial observation** projects to establish a cross-border diagnosis of the territory





Cross-border strategy projects to jointly plan the development of protected natural border areas

Example: PTIC PNR Jura with the Swiss



Operational shared management projects (fauna, flora, sectors, etc.)

 Example: LIFE Vosges du Nord project restores ecological continuity between Germany and France



• Development of the Ardennes common tourism brand



Networking projects

Example: Alparc network



Training projects and upgrading players' skills

Erasmus project on adapted water management in agricultural landscapes for farmers





What obstacles do French border natural protected areas face in their cross-border cooperation?



Access to financing and familiarization with the workings of European funding.



Willingness to cooperate: not always easy to mobilize teams from both parks equally, sometimes one is more willing to cooperate than the other.



Human obstacle: convince teams, mobilize internal human resources



The challenge of sustaining relationships: setting up joint projects requires good acculturation and inter-knowledge, which takes time to build.



Identify the right players on both sides of the border, especially when skills are asymmetrical





What European funding can be mobilized to finance cross-border cooperation actions by protected areas?





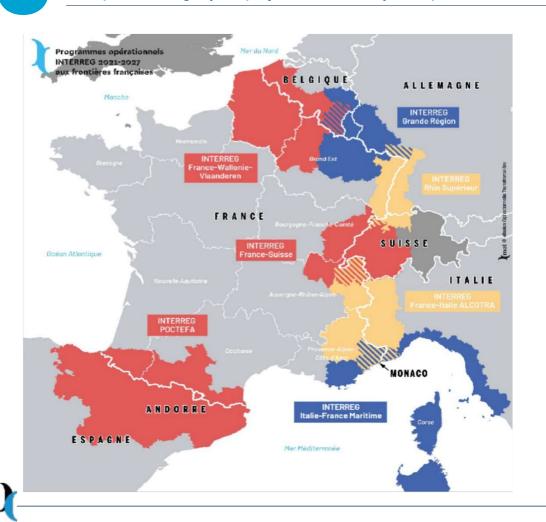








Go operational: get your projects financed by Europe

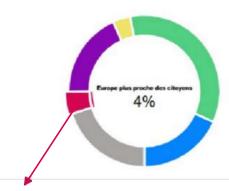


France-Wallonie-Flandres 2	286.8 M€
Grande Région	181,9 M €
Upper Rhine	125,1 M €
France - Switzerland	69,7 M€
France - Italy (ALCOTRA)	182,3 M€
France - Italy Maritime	154,6 M€
France Spain Andorra (POCTEFA)	243 M€

1.2 billion ERDF€ available to French cross-border operators and territories

FOCUS on PO5: A Europe closer to its citizens

Répartition des objectifs stratégiques dans les programmes interreg



Policy Objective 5: A Europe closer to its citizens, supporting locally-driven development strategies and sustainable urban development across the European Union.

- Possibility for programs to set up functional zones, local, structured cross-border areas financing INTERREG projects on their own scale
- Not all programs have chosen to establish functional zones, and for those that have, their management and operation vary (project co-financing rates, typology, timetable, etc.).



FOCUS on PO5: A Europe closer to its citizens







Go operational: get your projects financed by Europe

Cooperation beyond ERDF and I

A common cohesion fund+ agriculture after 2027?

Pac post-2027 : le rapprochement avec les fonds de la Cohésion se confirme

13.03.2025 - 17:49 - AG - Europe

La Commission européenne est en pleine réflexion sur le prochain cadre financier pluriannuel de l'UE 2028-2034 et envisage de proposer la fusion de certains fonds (en particulier ceux de la politique de cohésion et du développement rural) au sein de plans nationaux. Le premier pilier pourrait faire l'objet « d'un traitement spécifique ». Le think tank Iddri craint toutefois, dans une analyse publiée le 12 mars, qu'au final « le budget et la structure de la Pac restent inchangés », freinant les réformes nécessaires.



@ European unio



Le projet de la Commission de fusionner la PAC et le Fonds de cohésion ne fait pas l'unanimité

Les eurodéputés de la commission AGRI et le Comité des régions se sont opposés au projet de budget pluriannuel de l'UE, publié hier,...

Il v a 1 mois

Cooperation approaches to be exploited in LEADER?



PROJETS : PRIX ELAND DE LA COOPÉRATION LEADER 2024

Prix du jury : 3ème place – Boergondische Buren

Projet n'25

INTRODUCTION

« Boergondische Buren », un projet LEADER transnational, célèbre le patrimoine bourguignon commun, les racines agricoles des agriculteurs transfrontaliers et les produits locaux. L'initiative, portée par la demande des agriculteurs et des entrepreneurs locaux, visait à renforcer les liens transfrontaliers, à créer de nouvelles opportunités de vente et à promouveir la collaboration.

311 Supporting Cross-border Economic France
Development of Agri-food
Businesses and Chains

362 Connect Farmers' Markets along the Italy, Slovenia Border



e stratégie de ans les zones

La première région transnationale LEADER en Europe

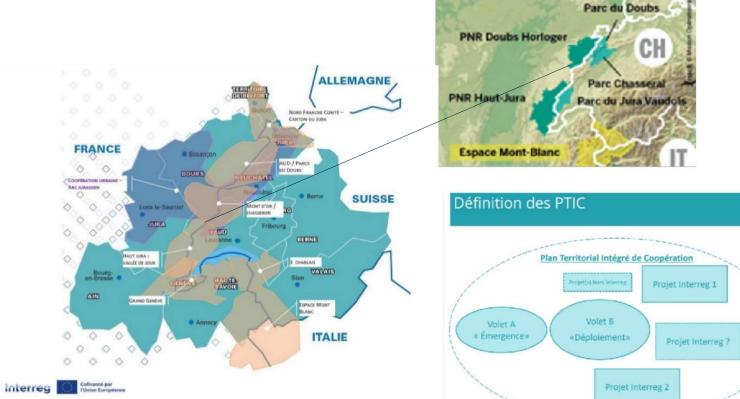
La région de Franconie mosellane de la Rhénanie-Palatinat et sa région voisine luxembourgeoise, le Miselerland, ont élaboré la première stratégie de développement transfrontalier dans le cadre du programme européen LEADER. LEADER encourage les projets et initiatives innovants dans les zones rurales.

Découvrez notre région, notre concept, nos activités et nos projets

Examples of projects on the French border

Project example: the Integrated Territorial Cooperation Plan of the Doubs Horloger Regional Natural Park (FR) and the Natural Park (FR)

() interreg () felicular recording



The PTIC aims to put in place a development strategy by strengthening existing collaborations and identifying future projects that will enable the two parks to achieve their shared objectives.

Issues

- Attractiveness tourism collaboration
- Preservation resources
 - nd energy transition
- Preserving
 - tural heritage in a context of climate change

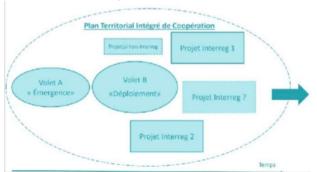
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Better governance: funding projects to remove obstacles

Example: the Integrated Territorial Cooperation Plans of the France-Switzerland program

An Integrated Territorial Cooperation Plan (ITCP) is based on an integrated a bottom-up development strategy that includes the following elements:

- A territorial diagnosis shared by all players (local authorities, companies, associations, etc.) involving Franco-Swiss territories. The development of the territorial diagnosis should be based on consultation time.
- 2. **An action plan** that implements the strategy and establishes a list of planned projects (2 projects to be financed within the framework of the specific objectives of the Interreg France-Switzerland program, and the possibility of integrating non-Interreg projects).
- 3. As a cross-functional element, the action plan must also include a **governance** and management of the plan.



Les PTIC sont soutenus par des contributions forfaitaires (Options de Coûts Simplifiés [OCS]).

ocs	Coût total estimé (50% en France et 50 % en Suisse)	Soutien FEDER en France	Soutien NPR de la confédération et des cantons
Émergence PTIC	150k € / CHF	60k €	75 k CHF
Déploiement PTIC	400k € / CHF (3 ans) 133k € / CHF (1 ans)	160k € (3ans) 53k € (1ans)	Maximum 160k CHF (3ans)* Maximum 53k CHF (1ans)



Cross-border natural spaces: what cooperation?

Example project: Ardennes responsible tourism





Development of a common tourism brand: the Ardennes brand



INTERREG project: Ardennes responsible tourism for all

Objective: to promote more inclusive tourism, in particular by including local residents in tourism planning to avoid conflicts between local and tourist uses.

- Creation of a MOOC dedicated to outdoor leisure activities and soft routes
- Diagnosis of local needs
- Tools for tourism professionals: self-evaluation kit, advice sheets, etc.

Cross-border natural spaces: what cooperation?

Euromed Program: Multiprogram tourism



The **Sustainable Tourism Mission** of the Interreg Euro-MED Programme focuses on fostering a circular tourism considering the sustainability of ecosystem services using innovation technologies, and promoting the preservation of natural resources and cultural heritage.

Two governance projects work jointly to develop solutions and promote cooperation in the Euro-MED and beyond, to increase the coordination level and institutional capacity to make the tourism greener, smarter and more resilient.

2 Tourism governance projects

- Community4tourism
- Dlalogue4tourism



The two Governance Projects will act and work in strong collaboration for the common Mission performing the following activities:

- Transfer and advocate the results of the thematic community projects among policy level stakeholders in the Euro-MED area and beyond.
- Encourage engagement within the sustainable tourism community with the creation of thematic working groups and Mediterranean Clusters.
- Increase the expansion of the Network of Sustainable Tourism Observatories of the Mediterranean (NSTO) that was launched during the previous period of the Programme.
- Launch a Mediterranean Strategy on Sustainable Tourism built on a participatory approach involving the Mediterranean Clusters, the thematic projects and the Associated partners of the governance projects.
- Actively contribute to the Interreg Euro-MED Academy.
- Organize Annual Fora, MED Sustainable Tourism Conventions and further events and initiatives such as study visits for policy and decision makers.
- Set up Sustainable Tourism Policy Labs
- Launch a Cross Network Alliance for Tourism

Home - Interreg Euro-MED : Sustainable Tourism

Part 3

Cross-border deal presentation

The Borders Forum: An important event for all those involved in the



French and

European

- An ambition: to provide a forum for debate and a political sounding board for highlighting areas that concern 40% of Europe and more than 2 million European cross-border workers, 1 in 4 of whom live in France (i.e. 500,000 cross-border commuters).
- A wealth of cross-border news: the 2024 European elections, conflicts on Europe's borders and in the Middle East, global sovereignty issues, the Hungarian Presidency of the EU, temporary border closures, etc.
- A Franco-European partnership: co-organized with the European Commission, the French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, and the European ESPON program.

















The workshops were divided into three groups

CtlhTOéYmENNaEtTiqÉ LEGAPPARTENANCE

- Workshop 1: "Cross-border citizen participation: illusion or evidence?
- Workshop 2: "Culture as a vector of cross-border citizenship".
- Workshop 10: "Eastern borders: between war and enlargement".

THE PUBLIC SERVICES THAT CONNECT US

- Workshop 4: "Cross-border public transport: a co-development challenge
- Workshop 7: "Europe and cross-border healthcare, cooperation and governance".
- Workshop 8: "Public services for cross-border citizens?"

SHARING OUR RESOURCES

- Workshop 9: "Cross-border financial solidarity: Global workshop".
- Workshop 3: "Managing urbanization across borders".
- Workshop 5: "Transboundary water: a source of cooperation?
- Workshop 6: "Ecological planning on a cross-border catchment area scale".

SHARING OUR RESOURCES



Workshop 5: "Transboundary water: a source of cooperation?

- Strengthen cross-border management of water resources, in particular within existing cross-border structures such as EGTCs.
- Promote coordinated action by flexible governance bodies and joint groups
- Increasing and sustaining the availability of European funds
- Encourage States to adapt national management plans implementing the Water Framework Directive to transboundary contexts.
- Making the European Blue Deal a strategic priority

Workshop 6: "Ecological planning on a regional scale

Who is the Cross-border deal for?

- European decision-makers on issues concerning European action, notably the European Parliament, the European Commission and the European Committee of the Regions, the voice of the regions and territories within the EU.
- National decision-makers, to ensure that cross-border issues are better taken into account in national policies and to adapt public action to the specific characteristics of these territories; national parliamentarians, in particular elected representatives from border constituencies; ministers, in view of the need for interministerial coordination on cross-border issues;
- Local and regional elected representatives in border areas, so that
 they can politically support the needs specific to their territory, and
 encourage the emergence of cross-border projects through local
 cooperation with their neighbors. Improving day-to-day life in crossborder catchment areas can only be achieved with the support of local
 decision-makers who are willing to develop common visions, ambitions
 and actions.



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