



The EGTC INTERREG “Greater Region Programme”

Wallonie-Bruxelles International

Fanny BROUSSAN, 14/09/2010



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The Greater Region



Facts and figures:

- 4 sides, including 1 EU Member State
- **65,000 km²** surface area
- **11.3 million** inhabitants (2008)
- Situated **between major metropolitan regions** (Paris-Lille and Brussels on one side, Rhine-Ruhr, Rhine-Main and Rhine-Neckar on the other)
- **196,000** Cross-Border commuters



✓ 1960's: start of an institutionalised cross-border cooperation between France and Germany

- 1971: + Luxembourg
 - 1993: + Belgian partners and Rhineland-Palatinate
- The Greater Region was born!

✓ 2000-2006: 3 INTERREG programmes (EU cohesion policy)

✓ 2007: merger of the 3 previous programmes into one single programme:

INTERREG IV A Grande Région / Grossregion

- Operational programme accepted by EC 12/12/07
- Kick-off meeting: 17/12/07



The 11 partners of the programme:



- The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg



- The Walloon Region
- The French Community of Belgium
- The German speaking Community of Belgium



- The German federal state of Saarland
- The German federal state of Rhineland-Palatinate



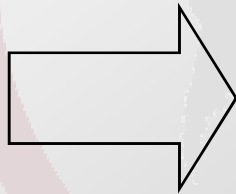
- The Prefecture of the Lorraine Region
- The Regional Council of Lorraine
- The General Council of Meurthe-et-Moselle
- The General Council of Moselle
- The General Council of Meuse



Foundations

Establish a unique, operational cross-border programme in line with the requirements of the European Commission and the Executive decisions

Establish a programme for the support of regional projects, as well as projects spanning the Greater Region

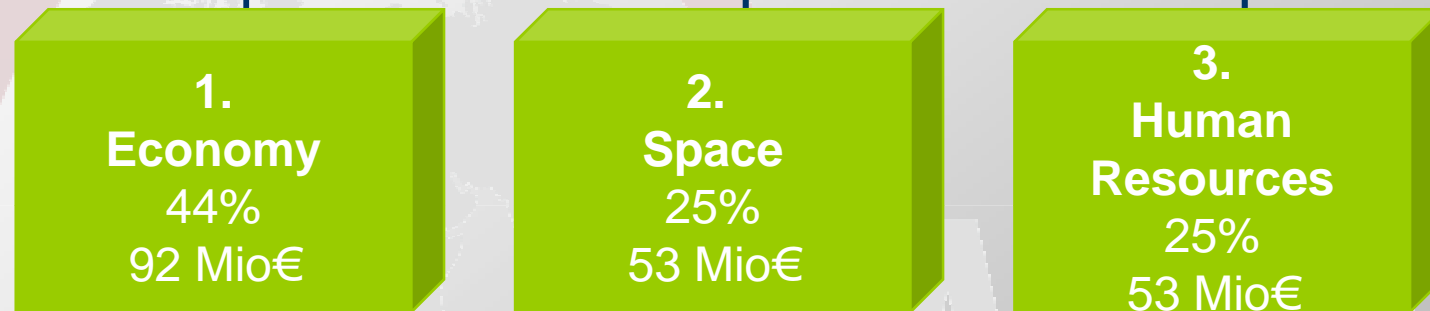


Total budget:	212 M.€
ERDF budget:	106 M.€ (50%)

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Operational Programme



competitiveness,
innovation, jobs

quality of life,
attractiveness,
environmental
protection

acquisition and
dissemination of
knowledge, natural
resources, social
cohesion



The management and control bodies of the programme

- The Partner Authorities
 - **The Managing Authority**
 - The Joint Technical Secretariat (STC)
 - The Regional Info Points
 - The Certifying Authority
 - The Audit Authority
- monitoring committee
→ steering committee

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Managing Authority: decision taken at the 9th Greater Region Summit (2006) to entrust it to a **EGTC**

→ unique in Europe

-2007 – March 2010: Managing Authority entrusted to the Walloon Region (WBI)

- April 2010: transfer to the EGTC

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The EGTC creation process:

- 2008-2009: a string of technical meetings to draw up the statutes and the convention
- 2009: submission of the official requests by the partners

For the Walloon Region & the French Community → government:
MP:

- approved the convention and the statutes
- confirmed its decision to participate in the EGTC
- designated WBI as the authority in charge of its management

- Study of the requests by the French Ministry for the Interior + Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs (in view of foreign members) → 3 month deadline



- Request from the Ministry for Foreign and European Affairs to the Member States via embassies to confirm their desire to join
- 29 March 2010: signing of the decree officially creating the EGTC by the Prefect of the Lorraine Region on 1st of April 2010
- 10 April 2010: publication in the Official Journal of the European Union
- 27 May 2010: Constitutive General Meeting



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Mission: serve as the Managing Authority of the INTERREG programme

Article 60 of Regulation 1083/2006 and article 16 of Regulation 1080/2006 :

«responsible for managing and implementing the operational programme in accordance with the principle of sound financial management”

- guarantee for the respect of the financial rules of the European Commission and of the budget commitments
- organisation of controls and assessments
- setting up of procedures to ensure that all documents regarding expenditure and audits are held
- signing the ERDF convention with each project leader
- implementation of a system to gather and manage financial data
- validation of the application of payment for the Certifying Authority
- etc.



Members: the 11 partner authorities of the programme

Registered office: Metz (FR) → French law

Working language: FR and DE

Budget: 600.000€ (2 FTE – full time equivalent)

Duration: from the 1st of April 2010 to the official closing date of the programme set by the European Commission

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Personnel:

President
Prefect of the Lorraine
Region

Director
Responsible for the
Managing Authority
and the personnel

Policy officer

Policy officer



Workings:

GENERAL MEETING

- with voting rights: 1 representative of each member
- in an advisory capacity, the other members of the Programme's Monitoring Committee.

Rotating presidency of the General Meeting (every 6 months)

Meets at least 1x/year

Unanimous decision on:

- Validation of the programme and the programme's Technical Assistance budget
- Evaluation of the workings of the EGTC (membership, exclusion of members, liquidation of the EGTC)



STEERING COMMITTEE:

1 representative of each member

Rotating presidency of the General Meeting (every 6 months)
Meets at least 2x/year

Unanimous decisions on:

The EGTC personnel

Preparation and implementation of the decisions of the General Meeting

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Consequences of the creation of the EGTC INTERREG « Greater Region Programme »

- Modification of the Operational Programme and Management and Control System
- Endorsements to the ERDF conventions
- Endorsement to the convention between the Managing Authority and the Certifying Authority

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Added value of the EGTC

-A programme is carried by a non-national structure → greater neutrality

- European visibility

- could help contributing by carrying measures like micro projects funds

→ Different types of EGTC: adapts to any form of cooperation!

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Thank you for your attention!

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