



# BOOSTING GROWTH AND COHESION IN EU BORDER REGIONS

#EUBorderRegions

# Data needs for Boosting EU Growth and Cohesion in EU Border Regions



COM(2017)534  
SWD(2017)307

Regional and  
Urban Policy

Transborder Statistics  
and Spatial Cohesion  
Rzeszów  
18-19/4/2018



## *A policy background*

25 Years of INTERREG

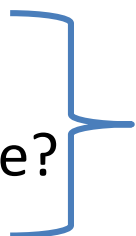


Many achievements for Cross-Border Cooperation, via funding



But...

What else can be done?



### 2015 – Cross-Border Review

Consultation + Study (and inventory) + Stakeholders workshops

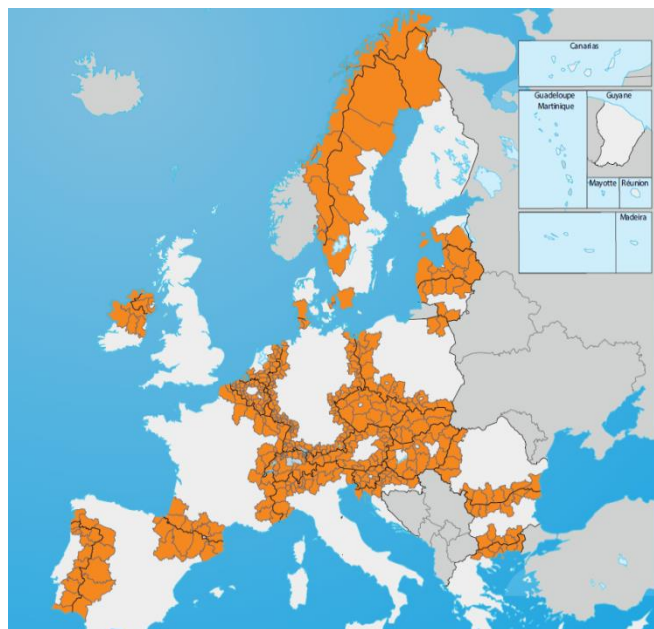


Need to promote Cross-Border Cooperation beyond funding





## Why this Communication ?

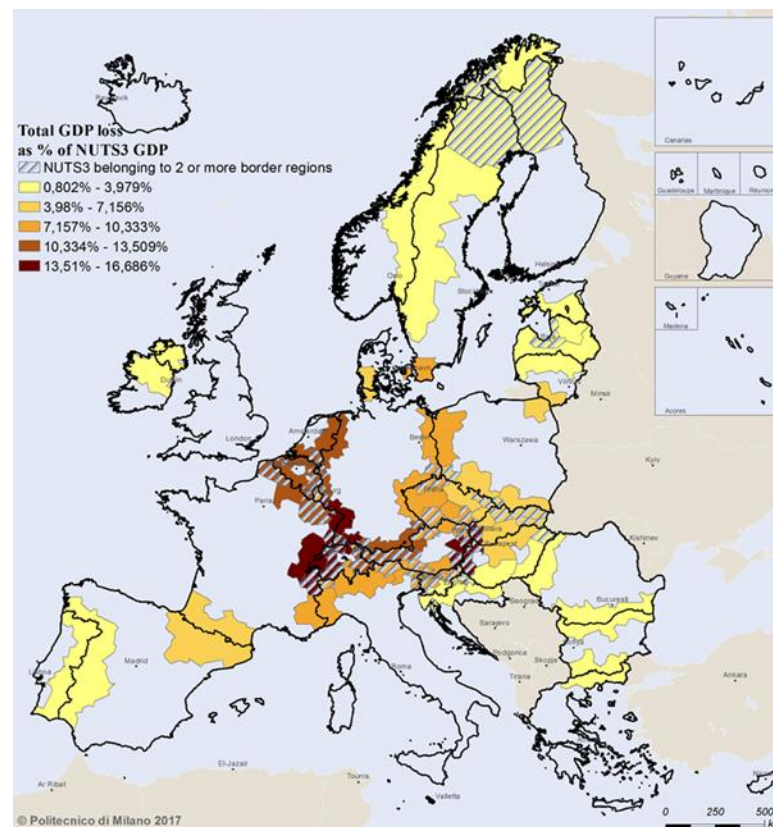


- ❑ Importance of border regions: 40% EU territory; 30% EU population (150 million), 30% EU GDP
- ❑ **BUT** less economically developed, lower access to public services
- ❑ Navigating different legal and administrative systems is still complex, long and costly



# "Border Effect" – Unused potential

- Border obstacles lead to lost potential GDP;
- Removing 1/5 of all obstacles could lead to +2% GDP in border regions;
- Corresponding to 1 million new jobs
- Problems are more deeply felt where there is a greater level of interaction







## COM = 10 actions for EC and MS



1 – Cooperation = ePlatform for stakeholders + Pilot Projects

2 – Legislative Process = Territorial Impact Assessment + Support MS



3 – eGovernment = Promote existing solutions (with CNECT)

4 – Information Services = Single Digital Gateway + SOLVIT (with GROW)



5 - Employment = Public Employment Services + EURES (with EMPL)

6 – Multilingualism = ERASMUS+ (with EAC)



7 – Accessibility = Missing rail links + CB public transport (with MOVE)

8 – Health = Mapping health CB cooperation + conference (with SANTE)



9 – Legal + € framework = ECBC legal act + Interreg post 2020

10 – Evidence = Pilot project on data + Research on CBC (with EUROSTAT)





## **Action 10**

### **Building evidence of CB interaction to inform decision-making**

*"Limited availability of statistical and geospatial data  
on CB flows reduces the scope for genuine cross-  
border policy development and decision-making"*

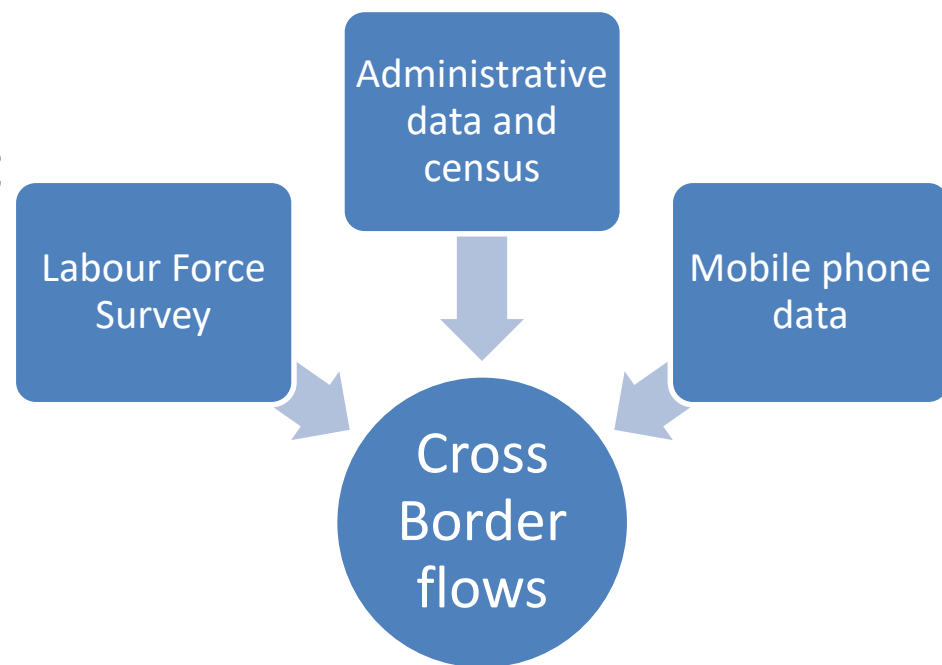
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## Data needs – Perspectives

### Pilot project on cross-border data collection (CBDC):

- Collaborative project of several statistical institutes: BE; FR; DE; IT; SI; PL; DK; NL
- To develop methodology to produce CB data in a cost-effective way making optimal use of existing data and expertise



Pilot results 2018

Assess how to  
pursue outcomes



# **Data needs – Perspectives**

## **Cooperation with ESPON to promote territorial research linked to border regions**

Ongoing / upcoming Research by ESPON:

- Cross Border Public Services ;
- Interregional relations in Europe;
- Territorial Impact Assessment for Cross Border Cooperation





## Data gathering – Perspectives and tendencies

- Grid based data (1km<sup>2</sup>) offer opportunities to focus on areas close to the border
- Mobility: Cross Border accessibility
  - Rail: comparing cross-border and domestic connections (REGIO)
  - Road: assessing network efficiency (JRC)
  - Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/1926 on the provision of EU-wide multimodal travel information services: offers interesting opportunities to enhance accessibility analysis



## **Facilitating exchanges amongst Cross-Border stakeholders**

- A online professionals platform has just been launched (Jan/2018) to facilitate exchanges amongst stakeholders
- [ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/border-regions](https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/border-regions)
- Not a communication tool from EC, but a sharing tool amongst stakeholders
- Post: News / library items / events
- Look for best practices



# Engaging the research community

The field of cross-border cooperation has many interesting research line topics:

CB mobility of people:  
Where? How?

Institutional changes – Need for or  
consequence of enhanced CBC?

Border Effect = Opportunity costs of border  
How to estimate?  
Going beyond gravitational models?

of goods and services:  
Why? How?

Beyond success  
conditions? CBC?



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**Thank you,**

**Find us at the platform:**  
**[ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/border-regions](https://ec.europa.eu/futurium/en/border-regions)**

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