



**European Committee
of the Regions**

EGTC monitoring report 2017

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Table of contents

List of tables, maps and figures	i
List of abbreviations	ii
List of EGTC acronyms and abbreviations	iii
List of Countries	vii
Executive Summary	1
1 Introduction	5
2 Comparative analysis of national provisions	7
2.1 Development of national legislation to implement the EGTC regulation	7
2.2 Member State activities to improve coordination and transparency in EGTC activities.....	10
3 Overview of the state of play of EGTCs	13
3.1 Factsheets for EGTCs founded up to 2016	15
3.1.1 Eurométropole Lille-Kotrijk-Tournai	15
3.1.2 Ister-Granum European Grouping of Territorial Co-operation Ltd*	17
3.1.3 Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial Galicia – Norte de Portugal	18
3.1.4 EGTC Amphictyony of Twinned Cities and Areas of the Mediterranean	19
3.1.5 Ung-Tisza-Túr-Sajó (Hernád-Bódva-Szinva) Limited Liability EGTC*	20
3.1.7 Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial Duero-Douro	21
3.1.8 Groupement Européen de Coopération Territoriale West Vlaanderen/Flandre-Dunkerque-Côte d'Opale	22
3.1.9 EGTC ArchiMed.....	24
3.1.10 GECT Pyrénées-Méditerranée	25
3.1.11 GECT Eurodistrict Strasbourg-Ortenau	26
3.1.12 Agrupamento Europeu de Cooperação Territorial ZASNET, AECT	28
3.1.13 Agrupació Europea de Cooperació Territorial Hospital de Cerdanya	29
3.1.14 GECT INTERREG "Programme Grande Région"*	30
3.1.15 Eurodistrict Saarmoselle.....	31
3.1.16 ABAÚJ - ABAÚJBAN European Grouping of Territorial Co-operation Ltd*	32
3.1.17 Pons Danubii EGTC	33
3.1.18 Bánát - Triplex Confinium Limited Liability EGTC.....	34

3.1.19	Arrabona Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Együtműködési Közhasznú Csoportosulás	35
3.1.20	"Linieland van Waas en Hulst" Europese Groepering voor Territoriale Samenwerking	36
3.1.21	GECT Euregio Tirolo - Alto Adige – Trentino	37
3.1.22	Territorio dei comuni: Comune di Gorizia (I), Mestna Občina Nova Gorica (Slo) e Občina Šempeter-Vrtojba (Slo)	39
3.1.23	GECT Pirineus – Cerdanya	41
3.1.24	Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial "Espacio Portalet"	42
3.1.25	Rába-Duna-Vág European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation with Limited Liability.....	43
3.1.26	GECT Eurorégion Nouvelle Aquitaine-Euskadi-Navarre	45
3.1.27	Európa-kapu Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Együtműködési Csoportosulás.....	46
3.1.28	BODROGKÖZI Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Együtműködési Közhasznú Csoportosulás*	47
3.1.29	Novohrad-Nógrád European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation with Limited Liability*	48
3.1.30	Pannon European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Ltd.	49
3.1.31	EGTC EFXINI POLI - Network of European Cities for Sustainable Development	50
3.1.32	European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation European Urban Knowledge Network Limited	52
3.1.33	GECT "Euregio Senza Confini r.l."	53
3.1.34	European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation TRITIA limited ...	55
3.1.35	Sajó - Rima / Slaná - Rimava European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation with Limited Liability	56
3.1.36	European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Via Carpatia Limited.....	57
3.1.37	Parc européen / Parco europeo Alpi Marittime – Mercantour	58
3.1.38	Gruppo Europeo di Cooperazione Territoriale (G.E.C.T) Parco Marino Internazionale delle Bocche di Bonifacio (P.M.I.B.B)	59
3.1.39	GECT "Secrétariat du Sommet de la Grande Région"	60
3.1.40	EGTC TATRY Ltd.....	61
3.1.41	European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Spoločný región limited	63
3.1.42	Torysa European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation	64
3.1.43	Svinka European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation	65
3.1.44	GECT Alzette Belval.....	66
3.1.45	Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial Ciudades de la Cerámica, AECT limitada	67

3.1.46	European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Eurocity of Chaves-Verín.....	69
3.1.47	European Common Future Building European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation with Limited Liability	71
3.1.48	Central European Transport Corridor Limited Liability European Grouping of Territorial Co-operation.....	72
3.1.49	Huesca Pirineos – Hautes Pyrénées	73
3.1.50	Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial Faja Pirítica Ibérica	74
3.1.51	European Border Cities European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Limited Liability	75
3.1.52	ESPON EGTC – European Node for Territorial Evidence.....	76
3.1.53	GECT Pays d'Art et d'Histoire Transfrontalier Les Vallées Catalanes du Tech et du Ter	78
3.1.54	Interregional Alliance for the Rhine-Alpine Corridor EGTC	79
3.1.55	MASH European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation*	80
3.1.56	Mura Region European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation	81
3.1.57	Tisza European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Limited Liability.....	83
3.1.58	GECT-Autorité de gestion programme INTERREG V A Grande Région.....	84
3.1.59	European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation NOVUM Limited.....	85
3.1.60	Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial León-Bragança .	87
3.1.61	PONTIBUS European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Limited Liability	88
3.1.62	Eucor The European Campus EGTC	89
3.1.63	European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation "European Mycological Institute"	90
3.1.64	Eisenbahnneubaustrecke Dresden Prag EVTZ.....	91
3.1.65	Groupement Européen de Coopération Territoriale Eurodistrict PAMINA.....	92
3.2	Factsheets for EGTCs founded during 2017	94
3.2.1	Ipoly-völgye European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation with Limited Liability	95
3.2.2	DIETA MED EGTC*	97
3.2.3	European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation HELICAS	98
3.2.4	MURABA European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Limited.....	101
3.3	Summarising quantitative overview of EGTCs.....	103
4	The Groupings in a nutshell – Implementing actions of European Territorial Cooperation	105
4.1	Evolution of geography and partnership.....	105

4.2	EGTC staff, budget and projects.....	108
4.3	Thematic focus of EGTC activities.....	112
4.3.1	Europe 2020 flagship initiatives	112
4.3.2	Activities in CoR Commission policy areas	115
4.4	Profile, achievements and obstacles of EGTCs in ETC	117
4.4.1	Role of EGTCs in ETC in 2017 and beyond.....	117
4.4.2	Obstacles to EGTC involvement in ETC	121
4.5	Use of new instruments and smart specialisation strategies	123
5	EGTCs being set up and closed in 2017.....	127
5.1	EGTCs being set up.....	127
5.2	Obstacles causing delays	130
5.3	Overview of EGTCs closed in 2017	131
6	Tentative insights on an evaluation of the current EGTC regulation..	135
6.1	Effectiveness of the EGTC regulation	136
6.2	Efficiency of the EGTC regulation	139
6.3	Relevance of the EGTC regulation	141
6.4	European added value	143
6.5	Simplification achieved and potential for further simplification	145
7	Conclusions	147
8	Bibliography.....	149
	Annex 1 – Legislation update	151
	Annex 2 – Overview of key characteristics of EGTCs	159
	Annex 3 – Policy areas of EGTCs.....	173
	Annex 4 – Contact details of EGTCs.....	179

List of tables, maps and figures

Table 1:	Updated national/regional provision – state and intentions (08 February 2018).....	8
Table 2:	Type and geography of existing and new EGTCs.....	107
Table 3:	Type of EGTC partnerships.....	108
Table 4:	Use of EU funds other than ERDF (2017).....	111
Table 5:	Europe 2020 flagship initiatives.....	112
Table 6:	EGTC EPM Europe 2020 flagship initiatives.....	113
Table 7:	Europe 2020 contributions of EGTCs.....	114
Table 8:	EGTCs in ETC in 2017.....	118
Table 9:	Obstacles to EGTC in involvement ETC.....	122
Table 10:	Use of new instruments 2016 and 2017.....	124
Table 11:	Intentions for future use of new instruments.....	124
Table 12:	Overview of EGTCs under constitution according to status.....	127
Table 13:	Prospective EGTCs not pursued further.....	131
Table 14:	Overview of effectiveness indicators.....	136
Table 15:	Overview of efficiency indicators.....	140
Table 16:	Overview of relevance and sustainability indicators.....	141
Table 17:	Overview of indicators related to European added value.....	144
Table 18:	Overview of indicators related to simplification achievements and needs.....	145
Figure 1:	Number of EGTCs foundations according to year of foundation	106
Figure 2:	Average number of FTE per EGTC* between 2011 and 2017....	109
Figure 3:	Average budget per EGTC* in Euros between 2011 and 2017...	110
Figure 4:	Fields of activity grouped according to CoR Commissions in 2017.....	116
Figure 5:	Dissolution process of EGTCs in Slovakia under article 14 of the EGTC regulation.....	133
Map 1:	Territorial dimension of EGTCs as of December 2017.....	14
Map 2:	Territorial dimension and location of EGTCs founded during 2017.....	94
Map 3:	Geographical distribution of EGTCs under constitution, February 2018.....	130

List of abbreviations

Abbreviation	Full term
AEBR	Association of European Border Regions
CBC	Cross-border cooperation
CEF	Connecting Europe Facility
CIVEX	Commission of Citizenship, Governance, Institutional and External Affairs of the Committee of the Regions
CLLD	Community-led Local Development
CoR	European Committee of the Regions
COTER	Commission of Territorial Cohesion Policy of the European Committee of the Regions
CPMR	Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions
EAFRD	European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
ECON	Commission for Economic Policy of the European Committee of the Regions
ECOS	Commission of Economic and Social Policy of the European Committee of the Regions
EGTC	European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation
ENVE	Commission of Environment, Climate Change and Energy of the European Committee of the Regions
ERDF	European Regional Development Fund
ESF	European Social Fund
ESIF	European Structural and Investment Funds
ETC	European Territorial Cooperation
EU	European Union
Europe 2020	Europe 2020 Strategy
EUSAIR	European Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region
EUSALP	European Strategy for the Alpine Region
EUSBSR	European Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region
EUSDR	European Strategy for the Danube Region
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
ITI	Integrated Territorial Investment
JAP	Joint Action Plan
LRA	Local and Regional authorities
MA	Managing Authority
MS	Member State
MOT	Mission Opérationnelle Transfrontalière
NAT	Commission for Natural Resources of the European Committee of the Regions
POCTEFA	Interreg Programme VA Spain-France-Andorra
POCTEP	Interreg Programme VA Spain-Portugal
SEDEC	Commission for Social Policy, Education, Employment, Research and Culture of the European Committee of the Regions
SME	Small and medium-sized enterprises
SPF	Small Project Fund
RIS3	Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation

List of EGTC acronyms and abbreviations

Note to the reader: For improved legibility, the EGTCs are referred to by their official acronyms as detailed in the EGTC register of the CoR¹. If there is no official acronym, either the English name (if listed in the register) or the name in the local language of the seat country is used. In all cases, the language abbreviation of 'EGTC' is translated into English to avoid confusion. The following list gives an overview of the abbreviations with their register number in the CoR register.

No	Acronym/ Abbreviation	Full name (in English or local language of the seat country)
1	Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai	Eurométropole Lille-Kotrijk-Tournai
2	Ister-Granum	Ister-Granum European Grouping of Territorial Co-operation Ltd
3	GNP	Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial Galicia – Norte de Portugal
4	Amphictyony	EGTC Amphictyony of Twinned Cities and Areas of the Mediterranean
5	UTTS	Ung-Tisza-Túr-Sajó (Hernád-Bódva-Szinva) Limited Liability EGTC
6	Karst-Bodva	Limited liability European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Karst-Bodva
7	Duero-Douro	Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial Duero-Douro
8	Flandre-Dunkerque- Côte d'Opale	Groupement Européen de Coopération Territoriale West Vlaanderen/Flandre- Dunkerque-Côte d'Opale
9	ArchiMed	GECT ArchiMed
10	Pyrénées-Méditerranée	GECT Pyrénées-Méditerranée
11	Eurodistrict Strasbourg- Ortenau	GECT Eurodistrict Strasbourg-Ortenau
12	ZASNET	Agrupamento Europeu de Cooperação Territorial ZASNET, AECT
13	HC	Agrupació Europea de Cooperació Territorial Hospital de Cerdanya
14	Grande Région	GECT INTERREG "Programme Grande Région"
15	SaarMoselle	Eurodistrict Saarmoselle
16	ABAÚJ - ABAÚJBAN	ABAÚJ - ABAÚJBAN European Grouping of Territorial Co-operation Ltd

¹ <https://portal.cor.europa.eu/egtc/CoRAactivities/Pages/welcome.aspx>

17	Pons Danubii	Pons Danubii EGTC
18	BTC EGTC	Bánát - Triplex Confinium Limited Liability EGTC ²
19	Arrabona	Arrabona Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Együttműködési Közhasznú Csoportosulás
20	Linieland van Waas en Hulst	"Linieland van Waas en Hulst" Europese Groepering voor Territoriale Samenwerking
21	Euregio Tirolo - Alto Adige - Trentino	GECT Euregio Tirolo - Alto Adige - Trentino
22	GO	Territorio dei comuni: Comune di Gorizia (I), Mestna Občina Nova Gorica (Slo) e Občina Šempeter-Vrtojba (Slo)
23	Pirineus - Cerdanya	GECT Pirineus – Cerdanya
24	Espacio Portalet	Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial "Espacio Portalet"
25	RDV	Rába-Duna-Vág European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation with Limited Liability
26	Eurorégion Nouvelle Aquitaine-Euskadi-Navarre	GECT Eurorégion Nouvelle Aquitaine-Euskadi-Navarre
27	Poarta Europa GECT	Gruparea Europeană de Cooperare Teritorială Poarta Europa cu Răspundere Limitata (Poarta Europa GECT)
28	BODROGKÖZI	BODROGKÖZI Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Együttműködési Közhasznú Csoportosulás
29	Novohrad-Nógrád	Novohrad-Nógrád European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation with Limited Liability
30	Pannon	Pannon European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Ltd.
31	Efxini Poli – SolidarCity Network	EGTC EFXINI POLI - Network of European Cities for Sustainable Development
32	EUKN	European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation European Urban Knowledge Network Limited
33	Euregio Senza Confini	GECT "Euregio Senza Confini r.l."
34	TRITIA	European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation TRITIA limited
35	Sajó-Rima / Slaná-Rimava	Sajó - Rima / Slaná - Rimava European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation with Limited Liability
36	Via Carpatia	European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation

² The abbreviation has been changed by adding "EGTC" by request of EGTC.

		Via Carpatia Limited
37	Parc européen Alpi Marittime – Mercantour	Parc européen / Parco europeo Alpi Marittime - Mercantour
38	P.M.I.B.B.	Gruppo Europeo di Cooperazione Territoriale (G.E.C.T) Parco Marino Internazionale delle Bocche di Bonifacio (P.M.I.B.B)
39	Secrétariat du Sommet de la Grande Région	GECT "Secrétariat du Sommet de la Grande Région"
40	TATRY	EGTC TATRY Ltd.
41	Spoločný región	European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Spoločný región limited
42	Torysa	Torysa European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation
43	Svinka	Svinka European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation
44	Alzette Belval	GECT Alzette Belval
45	AEuCC	Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial Ciudades de la Cerámica, AECT limitada
46	Eurocity of Chaves- Verín	European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Eurocity of Chaves-Verín
47	European Common Future Building	European Common Future Building European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation with Limited Liability
48	CETC-EGTC	Central European Transport Corridor Limited Liability European Grouping of Territorial Co- operation
49	HP-HP	Huesca Pirineos – Hautes Pyrénées
50	AECT-FPI	Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial Faja Pirítica Ibérica
51	European Border Cities	European Border Cities European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Limited Liability
52	ESPON	ESPON EGTC – European Node for Territorial Evidence
53	PAHT	GECT Pays d'Art et d'Histoire Transfrontalier Les Vallées Catalanes du Tech et du Ter
54	Interregional Alliance for the Rhine-Alpine Corridor	Interregional Alliance for the Rhine-Alpine Corridor EGTC
55	MASH	MASH European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation
56	Mura Region	Mura Region European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Limited Liability
57	Tisza	Tisza European Grouping of Territorial

		Cooperation Limited Liability
58	INTERREG Grande Région	GECT-Autorité de gestion programme INTERREG V A Grande Région
59	NOVUM	European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation NOVUM Limited
60	León-Bragança	Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial León-Bragança
61	PONTIBUS	PONTIBUS European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Limited Liability
62	EUCOR The European Campus	Eucor The European Campus
63	EMI	European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation "European Mycological Institute"
64	PROUD	Eisenbahnneubaustrecke Dresden Prag EVTZ
65	Eurodistrict PAMINA	Groupement Européen de Coopération Territoriale Eurodistrict PAMINA
66	Ipoly-völgye	Ipoly-valley European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation with Limited Liability
67	DIETAMED	DIETA MED EGTC
68	HELICAS	European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation HELICAS
69	MURABA	MURABA European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Limited

List of Countries

Abbreviation	Full term
AT	Austria
AL	Albania
BE	Belgium
BG	Bulgaria
CY	Cyprus
CZ	Czech Republic
DE	Germany
DK	Denmark
EE	Estonia
EL	Greece
ES	Spain
FI	Finland
FR	France
HR	Croatia
HU	Hungary
IE	Ireland
IT	Italy
LV	Latvia
LT	Lithuania
LU	Luxemburg
MT	Malta
NL	Netherlands
PL	Poland
PS	Palestine
PT	Portugal
RO	Romania
SE	Sweden
SI	Slovenia
SK	Slovakia
UA	Ukraine
UK	United Kingdom

Executive Summary

This European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC) monitoring report is part of regular European Committee of the Regions (CoR) monitoring on the annual progress and development of the EGTC instrument. This 2017 report gives an overview of the state of play at the end of the year and development during 2017.

A review of national legislation to implement the EGTC regulation in national law shows that all Member States (MS) have adopted the European Union (EU) Regulation, but only a few have incorporated the amendment of EGTC regulation in 2013. The last national updates were implemented in 2017; others are under elaboration or are planned. MS in which authorities participate in several EGTCs or where EGTCs have their seats are especially active contributors to facilitating exchange and knowledge creation among stakeholders. The means of providing information and support vary greatly. The range and intensity of communication and knowledge exchange about the EGTC instrument has increased in several MS. Among these, Hungary has the most systematic and regular approach.

A description of individual EGTCs is included in the annual EGTC monitoring report 2017. One EGTC was dissolved and four were founded during 2017 so there were 68 EGTC at the end of the year. A factsheet describes each EGTC. Those included in previous monitoring reports are detailed briefly with a focus on their tasks and links to European Territorial Cooperation (ETC). For some EGTCs, no activities could be identified, implying that they may not actually be working. The EGTCs founded during 2017 are described in more lengthy factsheets that include a summary of their governance structures and other principal characteristics.

The geographic location, players involved, topics covered and tasks have increased considerably in recent years. However, EGTCs remain fairly concentrated in specific European border areas, with a few MS not involved in any. The number of EGTCs that include members from non-EU MS is still low but has been rising, especially in the past two years.

The membership of some EGTCs has changed since the last monitoring report, with a few losing members and more gaining members. Members of EGTCs founded in 2017 range from local and regional authorities to scientific institutions and universities. Some have a cross-thematic focus on territorial development, others have more specific tasks.

Compared with previous years, EGTCs have increased their staff and budgets. Funding for the majority of EGTCs depends on membership fees, which are augmented by national and international resources. ETC has become a more important funding source though EGTCs also benefit from, for example, other European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF), Horizon 2020, Connecting Europe Facility (CEF), Erasmus and Europe for Citizens.

EGTCs have been involved in diverse activities. By definition, EGTCs that implement European projects and/or programmes can contribute to Europe 2020 objectives and its flagship initiatives. Direct links to these initiatives have become more frequent although they are still rare. Apart from general contributions to Europe 2020 objectives, many EGTCs support sustainable and inclusive growth. CoR Commission activities most frequently cited by EGTCs are tourism, culture and sports, and environment. Apart from environmental actions, this distribution is similar to past years.

ETC provides the most widely used European funding for EGTCs, through projects from a variety of programmes. Nevertheless, only a few EGTCs are more directly involved in implementing programmes and parts of programmes. In 2017, 33 EGTCs said they had implemented ETC projects, and in many cases, more than one. The number of ETC projects implemented by EGTCs in 2017 increased considerably. Apart from being a partner or lead partner in an ETC project, EGTCs also contribute indirectly to ETC implementation through other actions, such as capacity building, support for programmes or membership in Monitoring Committees. Even more EGTCs intend to become involved in ETC by the end of the 2014-2020 programming period. Some obstacles remain, mostly related to differences between MS.

EGTCs also make use of the new instruments available under ESIF. In 2017, more EGTCs used one or more of these instruments than was expected in the 2016 monitoring report. A few EGTCs were involved in implementing Research and Innovation Strategies for Smart Specialisation (RIS3) in 2017.

Application of the EGTC instrument is very dynamic. Every year there are new EGTCs. At the end of 2017, 23 EGTCs were in the phase of foundation. Several are awaiting approval, with two already established in early 2018. The majority are under preparation, though the state of preparation varies widely. Others are just an idea under discussion among the stakeholders. Prospective EGTC members can be found all across the EU and once established, they will contribute to even further widening the fields of action and regions involved in EGTCs. Some EGTCs previously identified as 'under foundation' have not pursued their constitution further. This is partly due to obstacles in developing statutes and conventions, the complexity of setting up an EGTC or difficulties

when seeking support from national authorities. Other reasons for stopping or delaying EGTC constitution are external, including administrative reforms or changing political representatives. One EGTC was dissolved after a lengthy procedure.

The EGTC monitoring report 2017 concludes with tentative insights into an evaluation of the EGTC instrument, i.e. the EGTC regulation in force since 22 June 2014. The improved regulation brings indirect amendments to the daily work of EGTCs. To evaluate the full dimension of the amended EGTC regulation requires a separate study based on the data collected for this monitoring report.

1 Introduction

EGTC monitoring reports are part of regular CoR monitoring on the annual progress and development of the EGTC instrument. The 2017 monitoring report gives an overview of the current state of play, focusing on the activities and development of the current 68 EGTCs.

The 2017 EGTC monitoring report begins with an analysis of national legislation implementing the amended EGTC Regulation (EU) No 1302/2013 to provide an update on the legal basis for EGTCs (Chapter 2).

An overview of EGTC activities and development during 2017 follows in Chapter 3. Factsheets display the information using colour codes. EGTCs created before 2017 and still in place are described in one-page factsheets (Section 3.1). EGTCs founded during 2017 are described in more elaborated factsheets (Section 3.2). This is the first time that information on three of the four most recent EGTCs is provided. Information per EGTC is complemented by a quantitative overview of their characteristics (Section 3.3).

There is a more in-depth analysis of activities across all EGTCs in Chapter 4 which highlights the main policy fields, their involvement in Cohesion Policy, as well as achievements and obstacles. This cross-analysis may inspire future EGTCs with the wide potential for this instrument.

A special chapter is devoted to EGTCs being set up where they are awaiting approval, in preparation, or just an idea (Chapter 5). This chapter looks at the progress made by these EGTCs toward finalising their foundation, as well as reviewing the potential for new foundation processes. For the first time, this is complemented by an overview of the EGTC that closed in 2017.

EGTC monitoring reports are usually accompanied by a specific topic, which is relevant for the EGTCs' work. The specific topic of the 2017 report gives tentative insights into the current EGTC regulation in Chapter 6. This is set in the context of the upcoming European Commission report on the application of the EGTC regulation to 1 August 2018. Chapter 7 concludes with general findings on the evolution of the EGTC instrument and its implementation in 2017.

2 Comparative analysis of national provisions

All MS have adopted EGTC Regulation (EC) No 1082/2006 as outlined in Annex 1 which lists the corresponding provisions and authorities and indicates updates of national / regional provisions. In principle, all MS have fulfilled their obligation to adopt the EGTC Regulation. This chapter scrutinises the further development of national provisions especially related to the amended EGTC Regulation (Section 2.1) and efforts made by MS to support implementation of the EGTC instrument (Section 2.2).

2.1 Development of national legislation to implement the EGTC regulation

By December 2017, 23 of 54 approval authorities³ had adopted the amended EGTC Regulation (EU) 1302/2013, as shown in Table 1. Annex 1 provides a more detailed overview with information on the date of adoption and the competent authorities. It shows which MS have adopted the amended EGTC regulation (EU) 1302/2013 since the last monitoring report.

Provisions from the amended EGTC regulation were already adopted in 2015, mainly by MS and regions with several EGTCs, e.g. Spain, Portugal, the Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia and Baden-Württemberg in Germany (see Table 1). But also most Austrian states adopted new provisions after the amendment in 2013. In 2017, new provisions were adopted in Upper Austria, Bavaria and Greece. However, the extent of these amendments differs between the three authorities. The Greek provisions cover details of task descriptions, the approval procedure and provisions for EGTC staff, whereas the Bavarian provision only specifies that a member can limit its liability if at least one other member also limits its liability.

Only five MS have not yet adopted new provisions but these are under way, or planned. Among these are MS with several EGTCs, such as Cyprus, but also MS with no initiatives to establish an EGTC and who are therefore postponing the time-consuming revision process, such as Estonia. Other MS, such as the Irish authorities, first want to assess the need for new provisions before they decide how to proceed.

³ This includes the 28 MS and regional approval authorities where competence is delegated to the regional level (i.e. Austria, Belgium and Germany).

About 20 MS and regions do not intend to draft and adopt new provisions at all. Among these are MS with several EGTCs like Italy, Belgium and Luxembourg, and authorities with only a few EGTCs, such as most German states ('Länder').

18 authorities had not indicated whether new provisions are underway or such intentions exist (highlighted in orange) so the numbers partly refer to the 2016 Monitoring Report. Some MS that have not replied to a request for information, such as Lithuania, Latvia and Malta, have only very limited or no experience with the EGTC instrument. It is unlikely that they plan to adopt new provisions. Hence, inactivity by national authorities indicates either that they see no need for new provisions (many German states), because they consider existing provisions to be sufficient or that there is no interest in the EGTC instrument. It may also reflect a lack of awareness of the instrument's existence.

**Table 1: Updated national/regional provision – state and intentions
(08 February 2018)**

Member State	New provisions adopted	New provisions drafted, but not adopted	Provisions not yet drafted but planned	No intention to draft and adopt new provisions
AT - Burgenland	x			
AT - Carinthia	x			
AT - Lower Austria	x			
AT - Salzburg	x			
AT - Styria			x (for 2017)	
AT - Tyrol	x			
AT - Upper Austria	x			
AT - Vienna	x			
AT - Vorarlberg	x			
BE - Brussels Capital				x
BE - Flanders Region				x
BE - German-Speaking Community				x
BE - Walloon Region				
BG	x			
CY		x (in the process of drafting)		
CZ	x			
DE - Baden-Württemberg	x			
DE - Bavaria	x			
DE - Berlin				x
DE - Brandenburg				x
DE - Bremen				x

DE - Hamburg		x
DE - Hesse		x
DE - Mecklenburg Western Pomerania		x
DE - Lower Saxony		x
DE - North-Rhine Westphalia		x
DE - Rhineland- Palatinate		x
DE - Saarland		x
DE - Saxony		x
DE - Saxony-Anhalt		x
DE - Schleswig- Holstein		x
DE - Thuringia		x
DK	x	
EE		x (for 2018)
EL	x	
ES	x	
FI	x	
FR		
HR	x	
HU	x	
IE		x (need assessment)
IT		x
LT		
LU		x
LV		
MT		
NL		x
PL	x	
PT	x	
RO	x	
SE		x
SI	x	
SK	x	
UK		x
<i>Update outstanding</i>		

Source: Spatial Foresight, based on information from responsible authorities.

2.2 Member State activities to improve coordination and transparency in EGTC activities

The European Parliament, the Council and the Commission agreed that they would undertake efforts inside European institutions and MS to support the use of the EGTC instrument. This inter-institutional statement is part of the annex to the amended EGTC Regulation (EU) No 1302/2013. It aims for coordination to raise awareness and improve visibility of the EGTC instrument. Furthermore, the European institutions ask MS to undertake their own coordination and communication to ensure smooth authorisation procedures for new EGTCs.

Joint statement of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission relating to awareness raising and Article 4 and 4a of the EGTC Regulation*

The European Parliament, the Council and the Commission agree to undertake better coordinated efforts for awareness raising among and inside the institutions and Member States in order to improve the visibility of the possibilities to use EGTCs as an optional instrument available for territorial cooperation in all EU policy areas.

In this context, the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission invite Member States in particular to undertake appropriate actions of coordination and communication among national authorities and between authorities of different Member States in order to ensure clear, efficient and transparent procedures of authorisation of new EGTCs within the time limits fixed.

* EGTC Regulation (EU) No 1302/2013, Annex, 17 December 2013

MS use various means to promote the EGTC instrument as a tool for territorial cooperation and to foster communication and coordination among and between authorities.

Many approval authorities provide information online. However, this information differs both quantitatively and qualitatively. It ranges from basic information about what an EGTC is and contact details, to guidance documents and even entire books. This includes not only European documents but guidance developed by the MS (e.g. two books published by the Greek approval authority; about 600 pages). In addition, several authorities offer to consult with interested players upon request, both orally and in writing.

To be updated on recent developments, to learn and informally exchange experience with colleagues from other authorities and countries, representatives participate in events organised by institutions and ministries in their own and other countries. Approval authorities increasingly report that they participate in events at different levels, from regional (e.g. a specific EGTC being set up) to national and European level (e.g. the CoR EGTC platform). Involvement seems to be broadening and is no longer only focused on national exchange.

In many MS, activities are only undertaken upon request, or if a demand is identified. The responsible Federal Ministry in Germany, for example, regularly informs Länder approval authorities about new developments and asks whether the state representatives see a need for new meetings. Other authorities emphasise that they offer advice and expertise for interested players upon request (e.g. Carinthia (AT), Romania, Saarland (DE), Salzburg (AT)).

Some authorities, especially in Eastern Europe, became more active in 2017. In Romania, the EGTC instrument was presented as an option at an event under the Danube transnational cooperation programme. In addition, advisory meetings for players interested in the EGTC instrument are foreseen. In Bulgaria, new internal rules were adopted to keep better track of EGTCs with Bulgarian members, no matter if they have their seat in Bulgaria or in another country. Spanish authorities are currently implementing electronic procedures for the approval process through digital platforms and e-signatures. This way, communication will be more transparent and time-efficient. In Slovakia, EGTCs are now directly involved in the policy process. Members have been invited to discussions on the future of EU Cohesion Policy post-2020 and have contributed to ad-hoc activities on related strategic and legislative issues. At the international conference in November 2017 in Novi Sad, Serbian authorities have started actively looking into a possibility of having Serbian LRAs as members of EGTCs.

Still, only a few MS have organised events with a specific focus on the EGTC instrument. In past years, countries like Slovakia, Italy, Greece and Germany held seminars, conferences, forums, information days or training sessions at irregular intervals or as a specific occasion. These events aim at different target groups, including existing EGTCs, authorities setting up EGTCs and interested players. By far the most active authority is the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Hungary. It is the only national authority responsible for EGTC that organises regular annual events. Among these are (i) an annual EGTC Forum with EGTCs and different ministries and organisations to inform each other and promote networking activities and (ii) an annual Meeting of the European EGTC Approval Authorities⁴ to which approval authorities from all MS are invited to exchange experience and improve communication. In addition, each year the Hungarian approval authority organises three to four workshops together with existing EGTCs.

⁴ As of 2018, this will be organised in cooperation with DG REGIO and the Hungarian government.

3 Overview of the state of play of EGTCs

This chapter summarises the information for each EGTC, focusing on its tasks and relations with ETC. It differentiates between EGTCs monitored in previous EGTC monitoring reports⁵ and newly founded EGTCs. EGTCs in previous monitoring exercises are presented with shorter factsheets providing only updated data and a description of tasks (Section 3.1). EGTCs founded in 2017 are described in more extensive factsheets that include characteristics of their structures (Section 3.2). Map 1 gives an overview of the location of all 68 EGTCs at the end of 2017.

For this report, all EGTCs were contacted with a questionnaire to gather information in a structured way. As far as possible, this information was reviewed for consistency and edited to improve legibility of the factsheets. Differences in details in the factsheets result from information from the EGTCs.

For a few EGTCs, there is no update on their activities because they did not answer repeated requests, were not willing to provide information or are no longer performing any activities. Information for the following EGTCs is not updated in this report:

EGTC Number	Name	Reason
2	Ister-Granum EGTC	The EGTC did not reply.
5	UTTS EGTC	The EGTC does not seem to be active.
6	Karst-Bodva EGTC	The EGTC is closed.
29	Novohrad-Nógrád EGTC	The EGTC does not seem to be active.
55	Mash EGTC	The EGTC does not seem to be active. Further steps are under investigation.
67	DIETA MED EGTC	The EGTC did not reply.

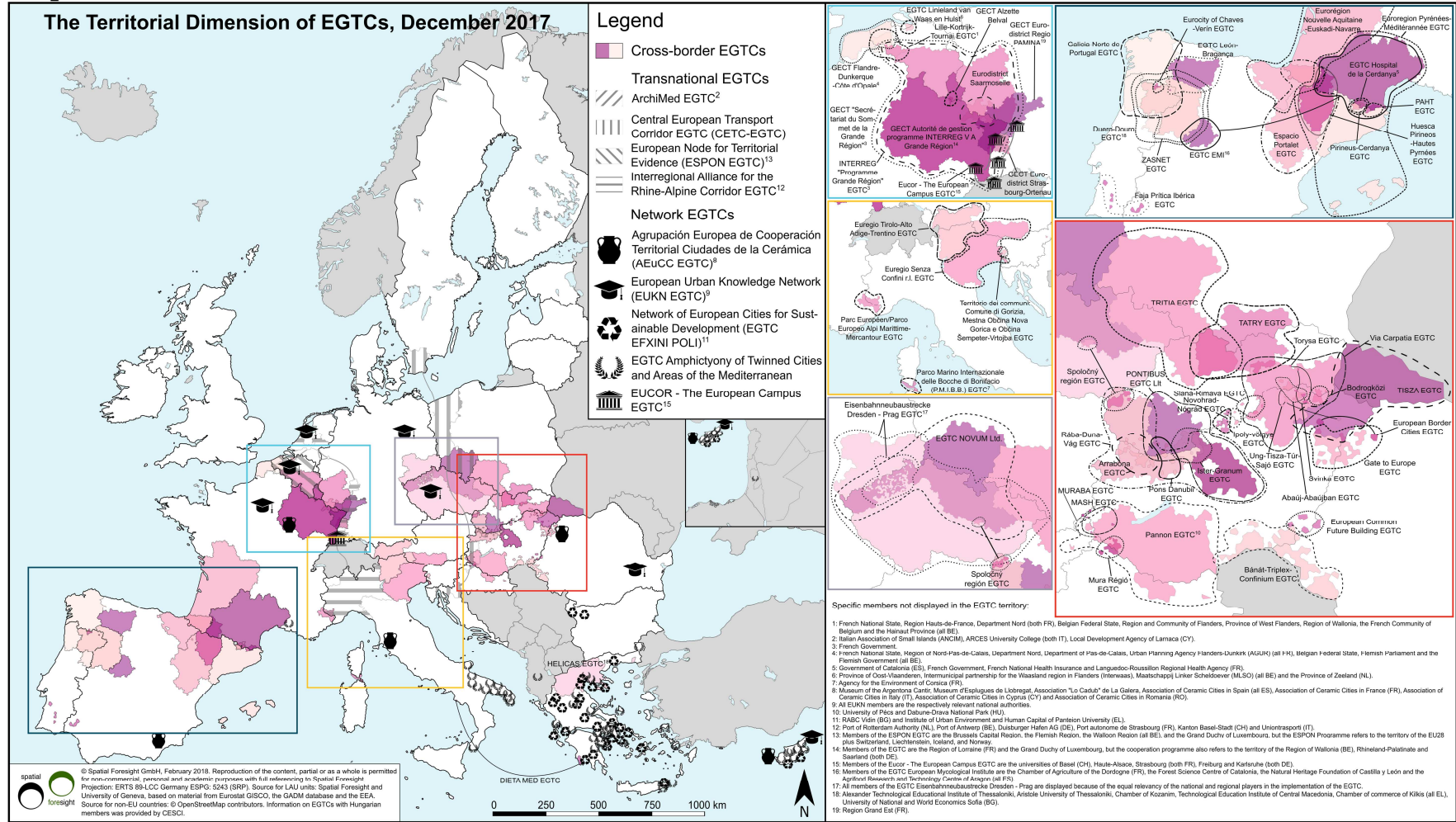
Very limited or no activities reported by some EGTCs for 2017 suggest that not all EGTCs are still active. For some EGTCs founded several years ago, this might indicate that the initial ambitions have not been achieved and they may no longer possess an effective governance structure. For a few EGTCs there is evidence that they are "not fulfilling their mission set by their funding documents"⁶. This applies to the EGTCs UTTS, Novohrad-Nógrád and Mash and to some degree to the EGTC Svinka.⁷ Based on a lack of fulfilling its mission, the EGTC Karst-Bodva was dissolved in 2017 (see Section 5.3).

⁵ Committee of the Regions, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011

⁶ Hesz et al., 2016, p. 42

⁷ Ibid and research of the current EGTC monitoring report.

Map 1: Territorial dimension of EGTCs as of December 2017



Source: Spatial Foresight, based on data collected from EGTCs,



- Specific members not displayed in the EGTC territory:
- 1: French National State, Region Hauts-de-France, Department Nord (both FR), Belgian Federal State, Region and Community of Flanders, Province of West Flanders, Region of Wallonia, the French Community of Belgium and the Hainaut Province (all BE).
 - 2: Italian Association of Small Islands (ANCI), ARCES University College (both IT), Local Development Agency of Larnaca (CY).
 - 3: French Government.
 - 4: French National State, Region of Nord-Pas-de-Calais, Department Nord, Department of Pas-de-Calais, Urban Planning Agency Flanders-Dunkerque (AGUR) (all FR), Belgian Federal State, Flemish Parliament and the Flemish Government (all BE).
 - 5: Government of Catalonia (ES), French Government, French National Health Insurance and Languedoc-Roussillon Regional Health Agency (FR).
 - 6: Province of Ost-Vlaanderen, Intermunicipal partnership for the Waasland region in Flanders (Interwaas), Mestdappij Linker Schelderoever (M.LSO) (all BE) and the Province of Zeeland (NL).
 - 7: Agency for the Environment of Corsica (FR).
 - 8: Museum of the Argentine Center, Museum d'Épigraphie de Liebhaf, Association "La Casbah" de la Gâlerie, Association of Ceramic Cities in Spain (all ES), Association of Ceramic Cities in France (FR), Association of Ceramic Cities in Italy (IT), Association of Ceramic Cities in Cyprus (CY) and Association of Ceramic Cities in Romania (RO).
 - 9: All EURN members are the respectively relevant national authorities.
 - 10: University of Pecs and Debrecen-Oraos National Park (HU).
 - 11: RABC Vidin (BG) and Institute of Urban Environment and Human Capital of Pantleon University (EL).
 - 12: Port of Rotterdam Authority (NL), Port of Antwerp (BE), Duisburger Hafen AG (DE), Port autonome de Strasbourg (FR), Kanton Basel-Stadt (CH) and Unterensprung (IT).
 - 13: Members of the ESPON EGTC are the Brussels Capital Region, the Flemish Region, the Walloon Region (all BE), and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, but the ESPON Programme refers to the territory of the EU28 plus Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Iceland, and Norway.
 - 14: Members of the EGTC are the Region of Lorraine (FR) and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, but the cooperation programme also refers to the territory of the Region of Wallonia (BE), Rhineland-Palatinate and Saarland (both DE).
 - 15: Members of the Eucor - The European Campus EGTC are the universities of Basel (CH), Haute-Alsace, Strasbourg (both FR), Freiburg and Karlsruhe (both DE).
 - 16: Members of the EGTC European Mycological Institute are the Chamber of Agriculture of the Dordogne (FR), the Forest Science Centre of Catalonia, the Natural Heritage Foundation of Castilla y León and the Applied Research and Technology Centre of Angers (all FR).
 - 17: All members of the EGTC Eisenbahnbaustrecke Dresden - Prag are displayed because of the equal relevancy of the national and regional players in the implementation of the EGTC.
 - 18: Alexander Technological Educational Institute of Thessaloniki, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Chamber of Kozanin, Technological Education Institute of Central Macedonia, Chamber of commerce of Kikiris (all EL).
 - 19: University of National and World Economics Sofia (BG).
 - 20: Region Grand Est (FR).

3.1 Factsheets for EGTCs founded up to 2016

All 64 EGTCs (excluding the one dissolved) in the 2016 EGTC monitoring report are described in the following sub-sections with updated information. Where information could not be updated, this is highlighted in the factsheet. The section numbers are aligned to the CoR EGTC register numbers. Therefore, the sub-section referring to the dissolved EGTC Karst-Bodva is unused.


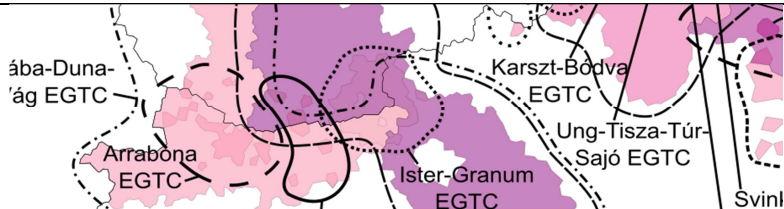
Some EGTCs did not fill in the questionnaire completely. For the respective fields the year given in brackets indicates the year of the information.

3.1.1 Eurométropole Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>Eurométropole Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai / Eurometropool Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai (Eurométropole Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai / Eurometropool Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>France and Belgium</p>
<p>Changes in convention/statutes</p>	<p>Simplification with 2 years for the presidency instead of 1 year for each "region"; problem about "quorum"</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>For 2016-2020 the EGTC is involved in Interreg projects carried out by partners; employment without borders and Grenzeloos competent. It also develops projects related to sustainable development. This includes a digital eurometropolitan hub, cross-border block release training, promotion of language learning, job-training correlation across borders through involvement in interregional projects "EMPLOYMENT-TRAINING" and with the Benelux union, cross-border mobility, coordinating Blue Space in the territory, promotion of alternative energy.</p> <p>Languages are taught through an experimental Interreg microproject called TALATA (talent pour les langues / talent voor talen) set up by the action group in 2017. This Interreg V microproject will make it possible to twin 12 primary and secondary schools (6 in Flanders, 3 in Wallonia and 3 in the European metropolis of Lille) around a pedagogical and linguistic project in 2018. The discussion topic will be sustainable development.</p> <p>The EGTC has three axes that structure its interventions in the territory:</p> <p>AXIS 1: Economic restructuring through a network of digital actors.</p> <p>AXIS 2: Training and employment.</p> <p>AXIS 3: Embedding sustainable development.</p> <p>The Eurometropolis wishes to become an experimental centre where new</p>


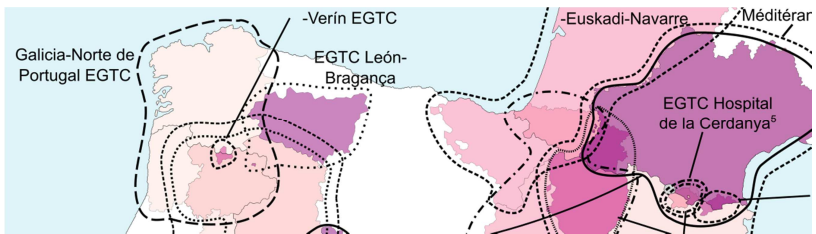
	<p>methods are tested to eliminate barriers to cross-border cooperation. For this reason, the EGTC worked to establish its strategy within the region to inform EU institutions of the day-to-day problems encountered by people living in the Eurometropolis.</p> <p>The Eurometropolis does not intend to involve private stakeholders directly in the process. However, within the scope of amending the articles of association, the EGTC has officially recognised the existence of civil society. Civil society is an integral part of the activities since it is directly involved in the EGTC action groups.</p>
Challenges or issues	<p>It is important to reinforce the recognition of the EGTC instrument at EU level to ensure that EGTCs are considered as transnational partnerships when submitting for calls for proposals and to enable the EGTCs (as a convener) to be able to submit micro-projects.</p> <p>The Eurometropolis EGTC wishes to become more heavily involved in the European construction. The EGTC feels that cross-border cooperation is what holds Europe together. It therefore wants more dialogue with the European institutions and to become involved in the development of future policy regarding European territorial cooperation.</p>
Budget	€ 1,600,000
EU co-funding	EU share of Interreg projects
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	<p>The EGTC was involved in 2 ETC projects during 2017:</p> <p>1) GRENZELOSS COMPETENT (Interreg): total budget: € 4,008,131, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 34,384, share cofunded by the EU: 50%;</p> <p>2) TALATA (Interreg), amount co-funded by the EU: €30,000.</p>
Staff (in FTE)	8

3.1.2 Ister-Granum European Grouping of Territorial Co-operation Ltd*



 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>HU: Ister-Granum Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Együttműködési Csoportosulás SK: Európske zoskupenie územnej spolupráce s ručením obmedzeným Ister-Granu EN: Ister-Granum European Grouping of Territorial Co-operation Ltd (Ister-Granum EGTC)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Hungary and Slovakia</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The primary task is to implement territorial cooperation programmes and projects co-financed by the EU. Further tasks are under the EGTC objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) implementation of other specific actions, programmes and projects with or without financial contribution from the EU; b) continuation of business activities; c) raising awareness of competitive advantages at local, national and cross-border level of territorial cooperation to strengthen economic and social cohesion; d) ensuring the human and financial resources necessary to achieve the objectives and implement the tasks; e) influencing decisions concerning regional policy within the EU institutional framework; f) acting as contact with international organisations. <p>Ister-Granum EGTC is involved in and is implementing new instruments, i.e. for culture – CLLD of city of Esztergom, for cross-border logistics – Ister-Granum Entrepreneur and Logistics Zone ITI and for local products – JAP Ister-Granum Local product. The EGTC will be a partner in cross-border projects, coordinator of cross-border strategies and will manage regional projects mainly for cross-border industrial zones, local products, tourism, infrastructure development and culture.</p>
<p>Challenges or issues</p>	<p>The only obstacles for the EGTC related to implementing ETC projects are difficulties in obtaining loans to pre-finance the projects.</p> <p>Due to the financial crisis, the city of Esztergom went bankrupt and because of the financial difficulties some members left the partnership. For these reasons, in 2011 a new management structure started to rebuild the cooperation based on new financial solutions and with a new impetus.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>€ 125,000 of which 15% are members' own resources, 57% various project funds and 18% EGTC operation support from the HU national budget. Annual budget approved every year by the council.</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>4, a director, two Hungarian and one Slovak employees. Staff is employed under Hungarian law.</p>

*All efforts to contact the official representatives of this EGTC failed. The information in the table is from the EGTC Monitoring Report 2016.


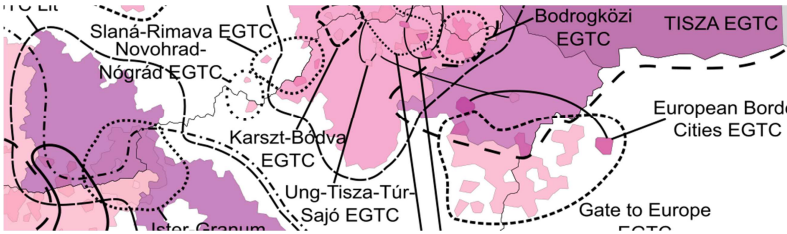
3.1.3 Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial Galicia – Norte de Portugal

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial Galicia – Norte de Portugal (GNP AECT)
Countries involved	Spain and Portugal
Tasks	<p>The EGTC works with municipalities to develop innovative ways for joint management of public services. During 2017 (together with many other partners) it started an ESPON project, "Cross-border Public Services (ESPON CPS)" implemented under the 'targeted analyses' priority. The EGTC acts as stakeholder in this project. The key objective is to support better delivery and to improve awareness of the added value of cross-border public services.</p>
Budget	Approx € 450,000
EU co-funding	About 70 % of the budget
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	<p>The grouping is currently involved in two EU funded projects, both included in the 2017 activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial Galicia-Norte de Portugal (GNP_AECT) (Programme POCTEP – Interreg VA Spain Portugal), total budget: € 2,770,570. The EGTC is project leader although there are 7 other partners. The project runs from 2017 to 2019; 2) Cross-Border Public Services (Programme ESPON), under the priority 'targeted analyses'. The EGTC is one of 11 stakeholders in the project.
Staff (in FTE)	6 employees (3 Spanish and 3 Portuguese) of which 4 are directly employed. The other two, the Director and the Deputy Director, are delegated.

3.1.4 EGTC Amphictyony of Twinned Cities and Areas of the Mediterranean


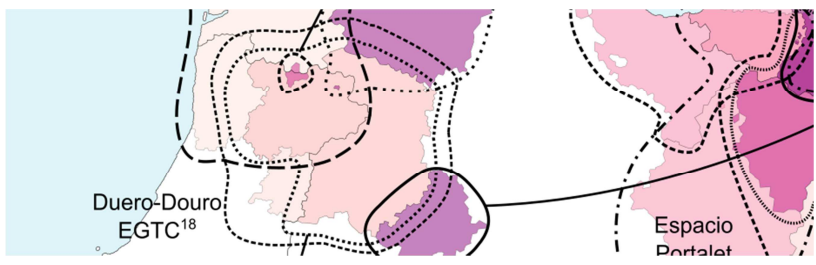
 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	 <p>EGTC Amphictyony of Twinned Cities and Areas of the Mediterranean</p>
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>EGTC Amphictyony of Twinned Cities and Areas of the Mediterranean (Amphictyony/AMΦΙΚΤΥΟΝΙΑ/Anfizionia)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Greece, Cyprus, Italy, France, Palestine, Albania</p>
<p>Modification of membership</p>	<p>Albania has joined as a new member.</p>
<p>Changes in convention/statutes</p>	<p>In March of 2017 the statutes were amended after the adoption of a new law by the Greek Parliament for EGTCs. The changes didn't affect the duration of EGTC Amphictyony.</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The EGTC organises seminars for decision makers and the staff of municipalities who are members of the EGTC Amphictyony. The grouping also organises meetings for decision makers concerning Cohesion Policy and EU citizenship and participates in new programmes. The EGTC would like to deepen the participation of citizens in non-material and material development, in social cohesion and for the European Identity. It is also preparing proposals for European Cultural Heritage, for pollution and for local democracy.</p> <p>The aim of the EGTC's institutional participation in the Adriatic Ionian Macro Region remains. The EGTC held meetings for the "White Paper". The grouping intends to incorporate members from Israel, Lebanon, Syria and North Africa.</p>
<p>Challenges or issues</p>	<p>The majority of obstacles have been overcome by national legislation. Another obstacle is the re-emergence of nationalist and racist voices.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>€ 200,000</p>
<p>EU co-funding</p>	<p>10 to 15 % of the budget</p>
<p>EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017</p>	<p>3 EU-funded projects were implemented by the EGTC in 2017.</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>2 full time staff and 4 part time employees.</p>

3.1.5 Ung-Tisza-Túr-Sajó (Hernád-Bódva-Szinva) Limited Liability EGTC*


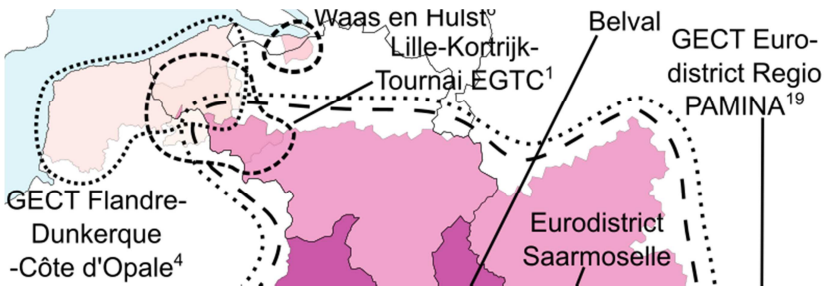
 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	Ung-Tisza-Túr-Sajó (Hernád-Bódva-Szinva) Limited Liability EGTC (UTTS)
Countries involved	Hungary and Slovakia
Tasks	To implement projects that contribute to the objectives of the grouping. The EGTC designed several projects that are waiting for resources from the central government.
Budget	There is no initial budget; the director paid for registration (translation costs, travel costs, legal fees...)
Staff (in FTE)	None

* All efforts to contact the official representatives of this EGTC failed in the last four years. The information in the table is from the EGTC Monitoring Report 2013.

3.1.6 Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial Duero-Douro



 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial Duero-Douro (Duero-Douro)
Countries involved	Spain and Portugal
Tasks	<p>The Duero-Douro EGTC is a Cohesion Policy tool. It brings together 200 municipalities from the two countries, allowing their administrations to work together towards cohesion.</p> <p>The main obstacle for most ETC programmes is that EGTCs are not considered as a partnership institution incorporating two countries. As a result, EGTCs cannot act as sole beneficiary in most of the programmes, although they legally represent two different countries.</p> <p>In the remaining funding period, the EGTC plans to develop the e-Douro Export Project, financed under Interreg VA 2014-2020. The grouping will be the sole beneficiary of the grant.</p>
Challenges or issues	<p>The EGTC faces challenges every day when it tries to implement projects in two countries with laws and administrative procedures that do not recognise operations on the other side of the border. The national administration agencies are not totally adapted to European regulations, programmes and recommendations, and it is difficult to implement projects in two countries when they cannot recognise each other's authorities and documents.</p>
Budget	€ 1,137,010 from the members (€ 1,000 per member) and public subsidies
Staff (in FTE)	An average of 22 employees from both Spain and Portugal

3.1.7 Groupement Européen de Coopération Territoriale West Vlaanderen/Flandre-Dunkerque-Côte d'Opale


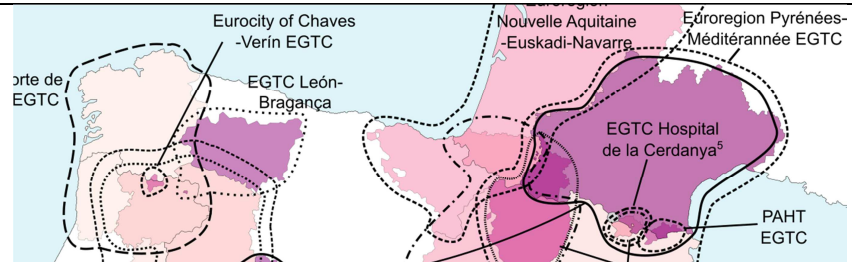
 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>Groupement Européen de Coopération Territoriale West Vlaanderen / Flandre-Dunkerque-Côte d'Opale</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Belgium and France</p>
<p>Modification of membership</p>	<p>Pays des Moulins de Flandre left the EGTC in 2017 because it was dissolved. 24 March 2017 the Assembly decided on the retirement of Pays des Moulins de Flandre and the accession of Communauté de Communes des Hauts de Flandre, which replaces Pays des Moulins de Flandre from 1 January 2018.</p>
<p>Changes in convention/statutes</p>	<p>The retirement of the Pays des Moulins de Flandre and the accession of Communauté de Communes des Hauts de Flandre required a modification of the convention and the statutes of the EGTC as of 24 March 2017. This modification does not affect the duration of the EGTC.</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The EGTC provides added value through its structure and organisation. All public authorities on both sides of the border are members of the EGTC. Furthermore, a French and Flemish social-economic society takes part in the EGTC's organisation. The composition of the partnership allows a cross-border multi-level governance structure in the area. This enables a practical, bottom-up approach to problems, difficulties, opportunities and challenges that require the additional competence, mediation, assistance and support of the members. At the same time, the multi-level governance structure allows a top-down information flow that helps members with their daily work.</p> <p>The EGTC does not implement any ETC programmes because most of its members already do so. In 2015, the EGTC adopted a multi-annual action programme based on economic development, sustainability and social and cultural cohesion and in line with the Interreg V France-Wallonie-Vlaanderen programme. The four thematic working groups of the EGTC establish an action plan every year to execute the multi-annual action programme adopted by the EGTC Assembly. Most EGTC activities are in line with the major axes and objectives of this Interreg programme. Several activities have been translated into Interreg V projects (see below). The EGTC also facilitates new networks between its stakeholders to develop new Interreg V projects in the area. Topics dealt with in 2017 were economic development, water and flood management, spatial planning, public services and citizen participation.</p> <p>The EGTC is a partner in 4 Interreg V projects and an observer partner in 3 more. Through these projects under Interreg V France-Wallonie-Vlaanderen</p>

	programme, joint management of public services is encouraged, i.e. in water management, spatial planning, employment, public transport and others. By implementing or supporting multiple Interreg V projects, the EGTC is contributing to Europe 2020. The EGTC did not contribute to flagship initiatives.
Budget	€ 296,730.64, mainly from financial contributions of members, with parity between French and Belgian members (each 50%).
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	<p>1) Mageteaux: flood and water management in the cross-border coastal region: total budget: € 2,235,000 (55% co-funded by EU), budget implemented by the EGTC: € 59,000;</p> <p>2) Partons 2.0: more efficient organisation of public social services in the cross-border rural region through participation of citizens and increased cross-border access to public services: total budget: € 2,248,000 (55% co-funded by EU), budget implemented by the EGTC: € 31,000;</p> <p>3) Grenzeloos Competent/Compétences sans frontières: improve matching cross-border labour market supply and demand through cross-border job promotion, training programmes and coaching employers, total budget: € 4,000,000 (50% co-funded by EU), budget implemented by the EGTC: € 54,000;</p> <p>4) An EU funded project (Interreg V France-Wallonie-Flanders) approved at the end of 2017 and starting on 1 Jan 2018 (duration: 4 years). This project aims to strengthen rural cross-border mobility with improved access to mobility services through services adapted to local needs with special attention to people who do not use their own car (youth, elderly people, disabled people, people in poverty and early adopters). The project will implement a network of hubs. Total budget: € 3,656,000, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 66,625, 50% co-funded by EU or € 1,88,000.</p>
Staff (in FTE)	3



3.1.8 EGTC ArchiMed

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	GECT ArchiMed
Countries involved	Italy, Spain, Cyprus and Greece
Modification of membership	The municipalities of Catania, Taormina and Orroli joined.
Tasks	<p>The ArchiMed EGTC can create added value in this homogeneous development area by solving problems through unitary and integrated solutions. Being a homogeneous development area in the Mediterranean is very important for attracting and spreading projects and when communicating diverse initiatives.</p> <p>The EGTC wants to expand integrated development and growth both for the EGTC as a distinct institution and for the area. It aims to develop and implement a Single Programming Document.</p> <p>The grouping already develops joint strategies for cultural heritage and tourism and jointly manages economic planning. It does not contribute directly to a Mediterranean macro-region, but to recognition of a Macro Area of Homogeneous Development.</p> <p>The EGTC wants to incorporate non-EU members in the future.</p>
Challenges or issues	<p>To integrate all Mediterranean islands in the EGTC including those not part of EU MS. Different MS interpretations of the legal nature of the EGTC and its national implementation.</p> <p>One of the biggest obstacles lies in co-financing sectoral calls for proposals in which not all the EGTC members are beneficiaries and therefore financial coverage cannot burden the general budget.</p>
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	There are currently 2 Interreg projects (Italy - France) being implemented in cooperation with the EGTC: Prismi & ISO
Staff (in FTE)	No staff were reported.

3.1.9 GECT Pyrénées-Méditerranée


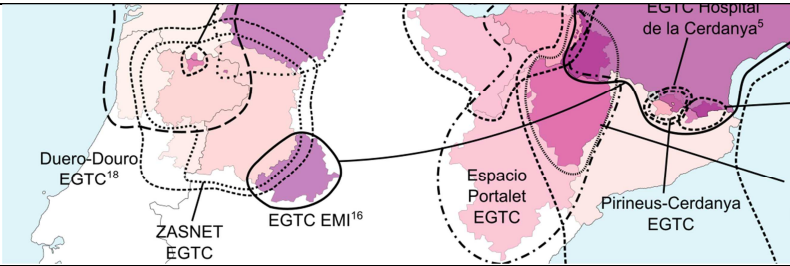
 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	GECT Pyrénées-Méditerranée - AECT Pirineos Mediterráneo - AECT Pirineus Mediterrània (EPM)
Countries involved	Spain and France
Changes in convention/statutes	On 23 rd June 2017, the general assembly adopted a new convention due to the merger between Languedoc-Roussillon and Midi-Pyrénées regions and moved the headquarters to Perpignan (France).
Tasks	<p>The EGTC project 2018-2020 is connected to Cohesion Policy by improving cooperation for the main EU priorities. The grouping reorganised its structure during 2017 to increase efficiency and to respond to EU challenges. It is developing a new roadmap for 2018-2020 based on Europe 2020 to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - strengthen cooperation in the WEST MED, to become a competitive cooperation hub; - increase SME competitiveness through cooperation and projects covering water, E-tourism, e-health, biomedical, blue economy and cultural integration; - increase cooperation between R&D centres and clusters. <p>The EGTC implements Cohesion Policy strategy for the 7 EU flagship initiatives it is involved in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Smart growth related to increased SME competitiveness through cooperation and projects covering water, e-tourism, e-health, biomedical, blue economy; - Innovation Union to increase cooperation between R&D centres and clusters; - Youth on the move, promoting youth mobility and integration; - Sustainable growth by developing partnerships and networking for the blue economy (harbours, research centres, marine protected areas). <p>The grouping is working on establishing a WEST MED macro-region together with the CPMR (Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions).</p>
Challenges or issues	The EGTC needs to strengthen networking activities. It has difficulties to find cross-border cooperation programmes that include the Balearic islands' specificity.
Budget (2016)	Around € 800,000 – € 1,000,000 contributed by membership fees from the four regions and also through EU funds.
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) LINKS UP (SUDOE) - Leader: innovation in SME financial support; 2) KISS ME (Interreg Europe) - Partner: Euroregions network to share innovation strategies and implement joint actions for SME competitiveness; 3) SPUR (Europe créative) - Partner: innovative cooperation in artist residences and rehabilitation of industrial facilities into cultural spaces; 4) SPIN (Erasmus+) - Leader: youth and citizens integration through sport; 5) E-Health Eurocampus (Erasmus+) - Leader: research and university cooperation network for health and informatics
Staff (in FTE)	8 employees in Perpignan (France)

3.1.10 GECT Eurodistrict Strasbourg-Ortenau


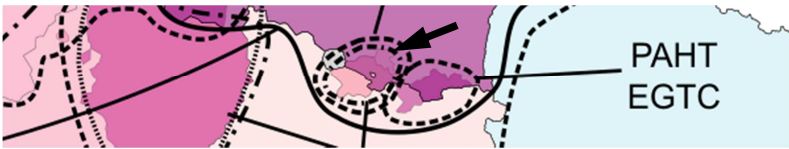
 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	 <p>tariat du Sommet de la Grande Région¹³</p> <p>GECT Autorité de gestion programme INTERREG V A Grande Région¹⁴</p> <p>INTERREG "Programme Grande Région" EGTC³</p> <p>Eucor - The European Campus EGTC¹⁵</p> <p>GECT Eurodistrict Strasbourg-Ortenau</p>
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>GECT Eurodistrict Strasbourg-Ortenau - EVTZ Eurodistrikt Strasbourg-Ortenau</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Germany and France</p>
<p>Modification of membership</p>	<p>The EGTC accepted 5 new municipalities as members from 1 January 2017.</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The EGTC is a group of cities working on cross-border projects and activities. It can be a project partner with its own funds, or project promoter with EU funds (for example Interreg). It implements Cohesion Policy and can fulfil all ETC programme implementation roles: project manager, project partner, provider of co-financing, etc. It can facilitate civil society groups to generate cross-border projects that can receive EU funding. With the Interreg Programme, the EGTC will set up the 3rd generation of Interreg financial support for "micro-projects" 2014-2020 with assistance for project preparation, administrative support, etc. The EGTC was active in 2017 in many ETC topics: economy, employment, education, bilingualism, social policy, environment, civil society, culture, sport, citizen participation, etc.</p> <p>The EGTC has implemented Europe 2020 through numerous actions: employment, climate change and energy (cross-border bus Erstein-Lahr), education (bilingualism fund), poverty and social exclusion (young refugees fund), public health (cross-border projects to reduce drug use risk), etc. The EGTC promotes development of joint strategies for economic growth, social cohesion and sustainability. The strategy is decided by the EGTC Council, which has 25 French and 25 German elected representatives. It also fosters the joint management of public services, i.e. through a working group on prevention and security, with public services and authorities from France and Germany.</p>
<p>Challenges or issues</p>	<p>Differences in national and regional competences may slow the functioning of projects where they are handled differently across the MS (i.e. health, employment and social inclusion). An example is health insurance in general or certificates issued at sports events. One obstacle is the heavy administration of EU-funded projects. The EGTC needs its own competence like the proposition in Elysee Treaty and more flexibility as an administration (recruitment etc.) There is too much unnecessary bureaucracy at the moment.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>€ 850,000 provided by a membership fee per member proportional to the population (about € 1 per inhabitant).</p>

<p>EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017</p>	<p>1) Eurodistrict Strasbourg-Ortenau: un marché de l'emploi à 360°-ein auf 360° offener Arbeitsmarkt: project budget € 2,147,99.20, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 187,026.30, co-funded by the EU: € 1,073,599.60;</p> <p>2) „Société civile – Animation de la société civile au sein de territoires des Eurodistricts“: project budget: € 852,176.45, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 409,279.38, co-funded by the EU: € 476,11453;</p> <p>3) MARGE: Inscrire les quartiers marginalisés dans l'espace du Rhin supérieur: project budget: € 1,206,781, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 15,000, co-funded by the EU: € 536,289;</p> <p>4) « Le Passe-Partout - Der Weltenbummler Les enfants découvrent le Rhin supérieur à l'aide d'un jeu éducatif en ligne »: project budget: € 351,537.85, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 28,888.97, co-funded by the EU: € 208,882.70.</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>~6.5</p>


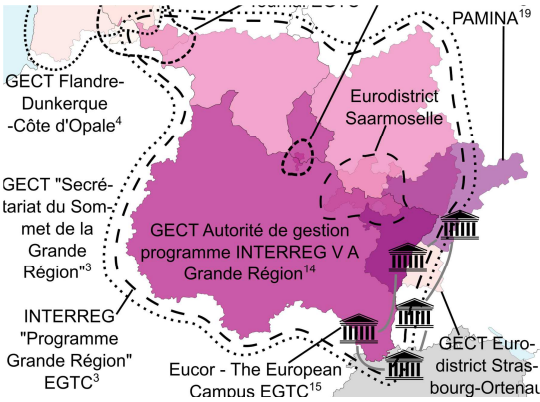
3.1.11 Agrupamento Europeu de Cooperação Territorial ZASNET, AECT

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	Agrupamento Europeu de Cooperação Territorial ZASNET, AECT (ZASNET)
Countries involved	Portugal and Spain
Modification of membership	Câmara Municipal de Bragança joined the EGTC in November 2017.
Tasks	<p>ZASNET EGTC manages the cross-border Meseta Ibérica biosphere reserve and was declared by UNESCO in June 2015 as an instrument for nature preservation and sustainable development. It is setting up a development project "Cultural Heritage, native products, nature and tourism as the economic base of the development of the cross-border biosphere reserve Meseta Ibérica". The EGTC submits applications to Interreg VA and VB programmes.</p> <p>In the remainder of the 2014-2020 period and related to Europe 2020, the EGTC plans to implement the Strategic Plan for Territorial Cooperation and Development, ZASNET 2020. This targets sustainable growth through cross-border cooperation and risk prevention as well as better management of natural resources. Its mandate is to preserve and protect the environment, conserve, promote and develop the natural and cultural heritage and support job creation to avoid migration.</p> <p>Through the cross-border Biosphere Reserve Meseta Ibérica, in 2017 ZASNET has worked to foster territorial cohesion between the territories and for the sustainable development of the territory.</p> <p>The EGTC also plans to manage public services jointly through the reserve and involve local public and private actors in the activities and actions it develops. It is a member of RIET (Iberian Network of Transborder Entities Portugal - Spain), which is a member of supra-regional committees.</p>
Challenges or issues	Requests for information were issued to several national authorities to clarify the legal environment and applicable laws (especially for EGTC staff).
Budget	€ 140,000, consisting of i) the annual obligatory membership fee of € 20,000 that covers operational / management costs, ii) EU-Funds (ERDF, ESF and other Cohesion funds), iii) other grants and subsidies and iv) any other income in conformity with the statutes
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	<p>1) Cultural Heritage, native products, nature and tourism as the economic base of the development of the cross-border biosphere reserve Meseta Ibérica: project budget: € 1,924,454.50;</p> <p>2) Destiny Frontera (RIET): project budget: € 150,969.29.</p>
Staff (in FTE)	1 Director, 1 Environmental engineer and the Technical Commission – 6 members from their respective administrations, deciding on daily activities and priorities.

3.1.12 Agrupació Europea de Cooperació Territorial Hospital de Cerdanya



 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	Agrupació Europea de Cooperació Territorial Hospital de Cerdanya / Groupement Européen de Coopération Territoriale Hôpital de Cerdagne (AECT-HC / GECT-HC)
Countries involved	Spain and France
Tasks	<p>The immediate added value of this hospital is that it provides access to specialised healthcare for 14,500 French people on the Cerdan plateau. Previously, they had no access to the existing Spanish hospital and had to travel 105 km to Perpignan to access specialised care. The hospital is the biggest company in the area. Whenever allowed it favours small local suppliers, who have increased their turnover since the beginning of operations in 2014. This applies particularly to catering, laundry and maintenance. The cross-border hospital fosters improvements in research and innovation, employment, mobility and social inclusion.</p> <p>The cross-border hospital has contributed to employment by retaining and attracting young professionals, particularly in nursing and healthcare, in line with Europe 2020 objectives.</p> <p>The EGTC provides joint management of the public healthcare service through the French and Spanish (Catalan) healthcare authorities.</p> <p>The EGTC fosters joint strategies for economic growth, social cohesion and sustainability by participating in a cross-border paediatric healthcare facility, which has been under construction since summer 2016. Plans for a geriatric facility are also under way.</p>
Challenges or issues	<p>The business plan for 2018-2022, to be approved by the board of directors at its first meeting in 2018, contemplates several strategic partnerships with bigger healthcare organisations (mainly hospitals) to secure or improve services such as paediatric care, geriatric care, haemodialysis or radiology. Other partnerships are also being considered, for example sports medicine.</p>
Budget	€ 20,000,000
EU co-funded	None
Staff (in FTE)	195 (through 231 people). Indirectly employed: 38.2 FTE (70 people).

3.1.13 GECT INTERREG "Programme Grande Région"*


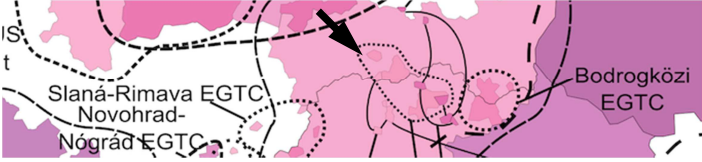
 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>GECT INTERREG "Programme Grande Région" - EVTZ INTERREG "Programm Großregion" (Grande Région / Großregion)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>France, Germany, Luxembourg and Belgium</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The EGTC's remaining task is to assist in the closure of the Interreg IVA programme Grande Région. The EGTC will be closed after the operational programme is officially terminated by the European Commission.</p>
<p>Budget (2015)</p>	<p>€ 519,227 for the entire programming period, of which 50% is covered by ERDF. The EGTC is financed through the Technical Assistance of the programme.</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>1 staff member in charge of the programme closure on behalf of the EGTC.</p>

* The EGTC will be closed in 2021 when the corresponding Operational Programme will be closed by the European Commission. Until then it performs only very limited administrative tasks linked to the 2007-2013 Interreg Programme "Grande Région".

3.1.14 Eurodistrict Saarmoselle


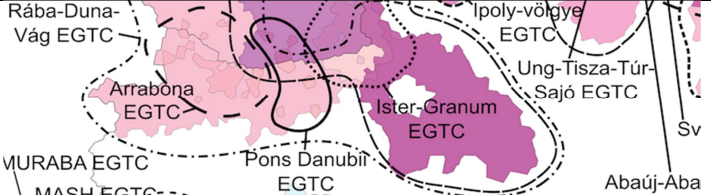
 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	Eurodistrikt Saarmoselle - Eurodistrict Saarmoselle (SaarMoselle)
Countries involved	France and Germany
Changes in convention/statutes	After some local authority members of the EGTC merged, articles of association regulating for instance members' financial contribution or the composition of the assembly had to be modified. The changes do not affect the duration of the EGTC.
Tasks	<p>The EGTC develops joint strategies for economic growth to enhance common territorial marketing and for collaboration of economic development promoters. It also develops joint strategies for social cohesion in the health sector and for learning neighbour languages. For the joint management of public services, the EGTC tries to develop cross-border day-care facilities for toddlers. For the remainder of 2014-2020, the EGTC plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - projects developing cross-border planning; - a tourism project to improve industrial culture sites and to market their added-value and products for tourism; - several projects to increase border permeability and studies relating to a new tram-train line connecting Saarbrücken (Germany) with Forbach (France). <p>It has become increasingly difficult for EGTCs with communal partners to get EU funding because of increasing competition. Targets and objectives set in the programmes have recently become more distant from citizen needs. The main priority is on large-scale projects to foster innovation and economic development. People-to-people projects barely stand a chance of attracting funding in some Interreg Programmes.</p>
Budget	€ 1,100,000
EU co-funded	None in 2017
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	<p>3 projects under Interreg VA Grande Région:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Centre d'aide à la mobilité transfrontalière (Increasing youth employability): project budget € 2,732,675.18, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 150,000, co-funded by the EU: 60%; 2) Des clefs pour l'avenir des jeunes dans la GR: langues, interculturalité, information et orientation professionnelle via l'éducation (Increasing youth employability): project budget € 7,280,064.27, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 90,000, co-funded by the EU: 60%; 3) Ticketing Sarre-Moselle (cross-border-ticketing-system for buses): project budget € 3,135,000, implemented by the EGTC € 144,050, co-funded by the EU: 60%.
Staff (in FTE)	6.3 FTE employed indirectly

3.1.15 ABAÚJ - ABAÚJBAN European Grouping of Territorial Co-operation Ltd*


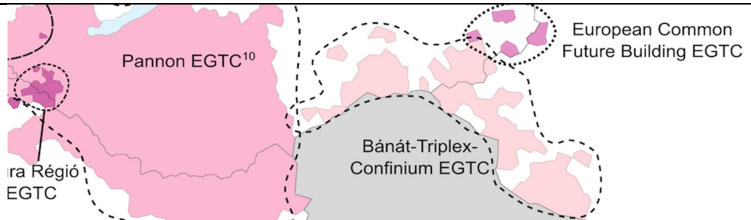
 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>HU: ABAÚJ - ABAÚJBAN Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Együtműködési Közhasznú Csoportosulás SK: Európske zoskupenie územnej spolupráce ABOV v ABOVE s ručením obmedzeným EN: ABAÚJ - ABAÚJBAN European Grouping of Territorial Co-operation Ltd (ABAÚJ - ABAÚJBAN EGTC)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Hungary and Slovakia</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The EGTC represents an added value to Cohesion Policy objectives as it defines development targets and objectives in the region. In this context it provides knowledge of local specificities and trends including, for example, employment development.</p> <p>In relation to ETC, the EGTC has drawn up a development plan for the target area. The plan deals with several economic sectors and includes regional growth objectives through fostering economic development and social cohesion. The plan is not yet implemented but is seen as an added value to the broader region (macro-regional strategy).</p> <p>During the current programming period, the EGTC's main task is to provide as much funding as possible to its members' development ideas. There are no obstacles for the EGTC to access and to implement ETC projects and programmes.</p>
<p>Challenges or issues</p>	<p>In the development plan, the EGTC draws up a new institutional network. Implementation of this modern, dynamic structure would be a challenge.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>HUF 2 million (approximately € 6,444)</p>
<p>EU co-funded</p>	<p>None, also not through EUSDR</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>Not relevant as the EGTC works with a separate work organisation.</p>

* The EGTC has the same director as EGTC BODROGKÖZI EGTC Ltd., which explains the similar 'Tasks'.



3.1.16 Pons Danubii EGTC

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	Pons Danubii EGTC
Countries involved	Slovakia and Hungary
Tasks	<p>The EGTC implements territorial cooperation projects, with or without a financial contribution from the EU, for: entrepreneurship, tourism, environment, and accessibility. Specific support aims to create interconnections between urban and rural areas. Within the ETC framework, the EGTC organises workshops in Slovakia and Hungary every third month, where stakeholders discuss current problems and grant opportunities.</p> <p>During the remainder of 2014-2020, the EGTC would like to implement projects impacting tourism, transport and urban development in its towns. The EGTC implements two Slovakian-Hungarian cross-border projects. One of them, the INSIGHTS project under the Danube Transnational Operational Programme started in January 2017. The project aims to develop strategies and documents supporting integrated, sustainable, green and healthy tourism in the Danube region, contributing to the macro-regional strategy.</p> <p>The EGTC aims to develop joint strategies for economic growth, social cohesion and sustainability. It has determined common development strategies and priorities with its member towns and will be supported by CESCO (consultancy) in developing the strategy.</p> <p>The grouping also manages cross-border services. Under the Interreg VA Slovakia-Hungary Cooperation Programme Priority Axis 2 a cross-border bike sharing system has been approved by the programme authorities. The system will include 130 classic bikes and pedelecs in 9 municipalities and will be realised during 2018.</p> <p>Despite the involvement in Interreg, pre-financing of Interreg projects represents great obstacles and difficulties for project partners in Slovakia, including the Pons Danubii EGTC.</p>
Budget	About € 300,000. Annual membership fees of municipalities, based on €0.5 per inhabitant per member, are about € 60,000.
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Sustainable heritage management of Waterway REGions (SWARE) (Interreg Europe Programme): project budget: € 1,365,338, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 153,732 (of which 85% is co-funded by the EU); 2) INSIGHTS (Danube Transnational Programme): project budget € 2,161,654.30, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 27,822.50, of which € 448,649.12 is co-funded by the EU.
Staff (in FTE)	5 FTE: 1 director, 1 financial and stakeholder manager, 3 thematic managers who are also in charge of administrative tasks.



3.1.17 Bánát - Triplex Confinium Limited Liability EGTC

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	Banat-Triplex Confinium European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Limited (BTC EGTC)
Countries involved	Hungary, Romania, and Serbia (as observer member)
Tasks	<p>BTC EGTC would like to achieve more balanced and sustainable territorial development between the member governments and improve employment, innovation, climate change and renewable energy. The grouping continued to cooperate actively in ETC programmes, mainly in Interreg VA Hungary-Serbia, Interreg VA Romania-Hungary and by writing proposals for the Danube Transnational Programme and the Europe for Citizens programme during 2017.</p> <p>Until 2020, the cross-border activities will focus on water management, agricultural innovation, tourism development, energetic cooperation and development of a cultural institute. A special activity aims to create an incubator house for Serbian SMEs, thus helping and preparing them for entering the EU. The new info-communication network in the Hungarian-Romanian Banat region is another special activity.</p> <p>In relation to Europe 2020 the EGTC prepared projects and developed strategies for economic growth, social cohesion and sustainability in recent years. These can be found in the joint regional strategy of BTC EGTC.</p> <p>The Serbian observer members could become full members of BTC EGTC after Serbian implementation of the Madrid Framework Convention. In November 2017 an international conference was held in Novi Sad on this (see also section 2.2 above). If Serbia does not implement the third step of the Madrid framework convention, the Hungarian government will urge for a bilateral cooperation agreement to help enforce it.</p>
Challenges or issues	BTC EGTC needs new partners from other MS. It is often difficult to cooperate with other nationalities in the field of their national legislation.
Budget	€ 80,000
EU co-funded	80 % of the budget
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	In 2017 BTC EGTC implemented and managed a Europe for Citizens town twinning project, with a budget of € 24,000. The grouping is also involved in other ETC projects, namely the Interreg VA Hungary-Serbia Programme and the Interreg VA Romania-Hungary.
Staff (in FTE)	3 persons directly employed



3.1.18 Arrabona Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Együttműködési Közhasznú Csoportosulás

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	Arrabona Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Együttműködési Közhasznú Csoportosulás (Arrabona EGTC Ltd.)
Countries involved	Hungary and Slovakia
Modification of membership	The EGTC now has 26 members from Hungary and 5 from Slovakia.
Tasks	<p>Actions in 2017 such as cultural programmes and improvement in employment, resulted in high community added value. In early 2018 implementation of two EU-funded programmes started. One focuses on cultural events and cooperation, the other on business development and increasing employment.</p> <p>For the remainder of 2014-2020, the EGTC plans to implement two projects and will collect new ideas for the remaining budget. It is generally looking for more cooperation across the entire EU. The EGTC is pushing to improve the quality of employment and the reduction of hazardous elements in the environment. For this, it is developing joint strategies for economic growth, social cohesion and sustainability that are included in some of the project plans.</p> <p>The grouping contributes to two Macro-regional Strategies, EUSDR and EUSBSR. To improve these regions, the EGTC works on decreasing unemployment and planning new projects. The EGTC also cooperates with non-EU partners in Ukraine and Serbia, which should produce a successful partnership and good project ideas.</p> <p>There are no serious obstacles related to ETC programme access. The programmes have improved a lot in the past couple of years.</p>
Challenges or issues	For the further development, new partnerships could be established with countries from western MS.
Budget EU co-funded	Receipts were about € 253,000 and expenditure about € 195,000. None in 2017
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	Two EU-funded projects started at the end of 2017 in cooperation with the EGTC, BuildCoGreen (business development and increasing employment) and Cultacross (cultural events and cooperation).
Staff (in FTE)	10 FTE: 1 director, 1 vice-director, 7 project managers and 1 project assistant full-time. All are from Hungary or Slovakia.

3.1.19 "Linieland van Waas en Hulst" Europese Groepering voor Territoriale Samenwerking


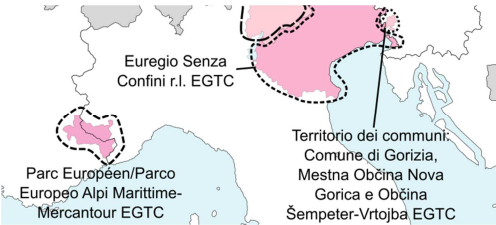
 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	"Linieland van Waas en Hulst" Europese Groepering voor Territoriale Samenwerking (EGTC Linieland van Waas en Hulst)
Countries involved	Belgium and the Netherlands
Tasks	<p>The added value of the EGTC is in rolling out and implementing cross-border projects through co-financing by different European Structural and Investment Funds (Interreg Vlaanderen-Nederland, LEADER, PDPO). The EGTC currently implements three EU projects as lead and co-partner.</p> <p>For the remainder of the 2014-2020 period, the EGTC plans to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) lead development of the project 'Grenspark Groot-Saeftinghe' (nature, biodiversity, agriculture, tourism); 2) represent members in global projects such as Havenland (Port of Antwerp) and Geopark Schelde Delta; and 3) lead improvement of the transnational labour market and economic development by organising the annual job fair and the Bedrijvenavond (an event where local entrepreneurs can visit other companies in the region). <p>The EGTC also implements a non-EU funded project 'Voorzieningenconvenant'.</p> <p>Developing joint strategies of economic growth, social cohesion and sustainability is part of the EGTC's agenda: EGTC Linieland works around the four themes of port & economy, mobility, nature, as well as recreation, cultural history, habitation and liveability. The EGTC also fulfils the role of a cross-border organisation, managing public services as a service provider for the EGTC members and as project secretariat.</p>
Challenges or issues	The EGTC faces issues in the long term. Additionally, there is no transnational statute for EGTC staff. Furthermore, there is no advantage from being an EGTC when participating in European programmes.
Budget	€ 284,500.33
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Lead partner Grenspark Groot Saeftinghe Interreg Vlaanderen-Nederland: project budget € 2,790,111.72, € 306 980 implemented by the EGTC (of which 50% co-funded by EU); 2) Co-partner Grensinvoorziening Interreg Vlaanderen-Nederland: project budget € 2,519,275 (of which 50% co-funded by EU), budget implemented by the EGTC: € 36,200; 3) Lead partner Agrarische Eigenheid Waas Toeristisch Potentieel LEADER: project budget € 150,800 (of which 65% co-funded by EAFRD), EGTC budget € 12,230.
Staff (in FTE)	3.5 and complemented by the cooperation of many people so it is difficult to quantify exactly.

3.1.20 GECT Euregio Tirolo - Alto Adige – Trentino

	
Name (Acronym)	EVTZ Europaregion Tirol-Südtirol-Trentino / GECT Euregio Tirolo - Alto Adige - Trentino
Countries involved	Italy and Austria
Tasks	<p>The EGTC carries out cross-border projects in several fields covered by the ETC regulation especially research, youth, education, culture, economic and social affairs, environment and mobility.</p> <p>The EGTC has a yearly work programme with 20-25 projects financed and managed by the EGTC itself. It is a coordinating point for more than 30 projects of its members. Main topics in 2016 were the Euregio Science Fund, Euregio Mobility Fund for university students and teachers, Euregio Music Camp, Euregio Summer Camp and Euregio Sport Camp as summer weeks for adolescents in Euregio, the follow-up of the Euregio Academy that was held during the European Forum Alpbach, a congress centre co-financed by the EGTC that was inaugurated by the President of the EC Jean-Claude Juncker in August 2016, an online calendar for cultural highlights in the whole Euregio, several thematic conferences covering labour and education, retirement homes, architecture and the task force profugees and last but not least several measures on "sustainable mobility" in the Alps, e.g. the first Mobility day on 2 December 2017.</p> <p>In the Interreg IT-AT programme the EGTC is participating as associated, project or lead partner. A first project with the EGTC as lead partner is "ALBINA", developing a system for a unique daily avalanche report in the European Region Tyrol-South Tyrol-Trentino. The EGTC is an associated partner of the Interreg project Start.eu, a new platform for start-up companies. Since 2017 the EGTC is also lead partner of two other Interreg IT-AT projects, "EuregioFamilyPass" and "Fit4 Co", both evaluated positively by Interreg IT-AT Administration Office at the end of the year.</p> <p>The EGTC is helping establish the CLLD process in Tyrol-South Tyrol-Trentino under the Interreg IT-AT Programme. The EGTC is organising conferences and meetings among local political leaders and administrative experts (economic and social affairs, labour, spatial planning, refugees, sport etc.) to exchange best practices.</p> <p>The EGTC has established the Euregio Science Fund to finance exclusively cross-border research projects. This funds the exchange of students and teachers at three universities. A first common service to citizens Tyrol-South Tyrol-Trentino will be a daily avalanche bulletin, which is very important for the mountainous region.</p>


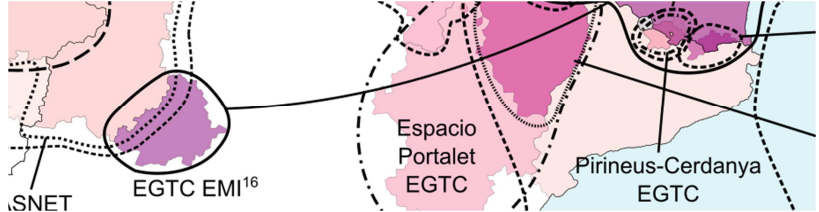
	Regarding the EGTC's involvement in the macro-region, it coordinates the Action Group 4 "Mobility" within the EUSALP macro-regional strategy.
Challenges or issues	Not in terms of partners, but in terms of structures, management processes and finance. One challenge is the EGTC's own convention/statutes, which do not allow EGTC personnel under Austrian law.
Budget	€ 4,300,000
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Albina (Interreg IT-AT) lead partner; 2) EuregioFamilyPass (Interreg IT-AT); 3) Fit4Co (Interreg IT-AT); 4) EUSALP Action group lead 4 "Mobility" (Interreg Alpine Space) includes € 100,000 through the Interreg ALPINE SPACE programme that was requested directly by the State of Tyrol as managing partner of the EGTC in this project.
Staff	The EGTC has no personnel of its own. The staff consists of 9 persons, or 8.5 FTE. Members contribute 2 people each and personnel costs for 4 employees are reimbursed by the EGTC to the Autonomous Province of Bozen-Bolzano South Tyrol.

3.1.21 Territorio dei comuni: Comune di Gorizia (I), Mestna Občina Nova Gorica (Slo) e Občina Šempeter-Vrtojba (Slo)


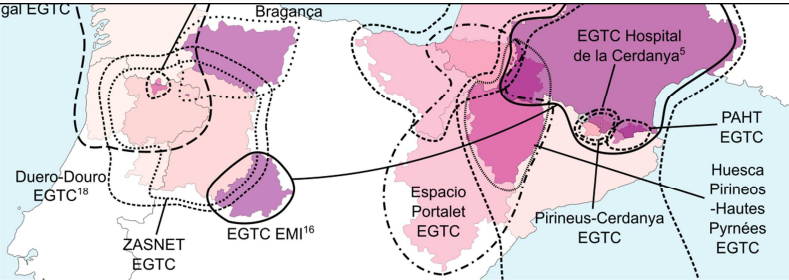
 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>Territorio dei comuni: Comune di Gorizia (I), Mestna Občina Nova Gorica (Slo) e Občina Šempeter-Vrtojba (Slo) - Območje občin: Comune di Gorizia (I), Mestna občina Nova Gorica (Slo) in Občina Šempeter-Vrtojba (Slo) (GECT GO / EZTS GO)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Italy and Slovenia</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The EGTC is a cooperative structure of three cities Gorizia, Nova Gorica and Sempeter-Vrtojba to deliver joint services or joint management of natural and cultural resources. The EGTC is the only tool able to 1) implement an integrated strategic approach for urban development, 2) represent the needs of the three municipalities through a representative assembly, which eliminates the threat of domination by any of the three cities 3) capitalise on past cooperation experiences, 4) preserve cooperation continuity and 5) act in the whole cross-border area without border limitations encountered by each municipality. Through territorial analysis and discussions, three pillars have been identified relating to Cohesion Policy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) capitalisation of two European programming periods of the Interreg Italy-Slovenia programme, to maximise the effectiveness and efficiency of public investments; 2) revitalisation of the "border economy" with an innovative approach to strengthen the area; 3) growth of joint local services to citizens in the three municipalities, enhancing the excellence of the territory. <p>Thanks to the 2014-2020 regulatory framework, the EGTC was designated as an intermediate body and sole beneficiary for an ITI financed by the CBC Italy-Slovenia programme.</p> <p>On 3 May 2017, the EGTC GO and the Managing Authority of the CP Italy-Slovenia signed a contract for implementation of the ITI pilot projects. Within the contract, a Management and Control system anticipates new procedures to manage the ITI operation. There is also a unique structure to carry out an ITI operation through the "Sole Beneficiary" model.</p> <p>During the remaining programming period, the EGTC will implement the project "CYCLEWALK" funded by the Interreg Europe Programme and linked with the ITI pilot project Isonzo – Soča. The project will provide an</p>

	<p>opportunity for the local and regional administrations to compare and share approaches and ensure more informed decision making on walking and cycling infrastructure, to increase active and low carbon mobility.</p> <p>The strategic plan, set up by the EGTC contributes to the Danube macro-region with the pillars "Mobility rail road air" Action (4) - "To ensure sustainable metropolitan transport systems and mobility" and Action (5) - "To improve the regional/ local cross-border infrastructure and the access to rural areas" are elements of the EGTC strategic plan. The EGTC also contributes to the Adriatic-Ionian macro-region through the ITI pilot project "Isonzo Soca" and to the EUSALP Strategy through the alignment of projects towards the strategic objectives.</p>
Challenges or issues	<p>Directive 2014/24/EU has been adopted in Italian legislative decree 50/2016 with a slightly different text for the national rules to be applied in public procurement. The Slovenian law on procurement ZJN-3, on the contrary, has adopted the EU Directive without modification. Due to the different adoptions of the same directive, EGTC GO is facing difficulties in applying Article 43 of the EU Directive.</p> <p>EGTC GO needs further development and support to complete its strategy for transport and logistics. The main obstacle is a lack of joint programming in the cross-border area. Although the railway line Trieste - Udine (IT) is included in the TEN-T comprehensive network, the line Jesenice - Sezana (SI) has been left out by Slovenian authorities. The connection between the two railway junctions is only in the Italian planning documents. Accordingly, the Italian government has financed the construction on the Italian side whereas the Slovenian government did not.</p>
Budget	€ 907,651.00
EU co-funded	€ 635,503.35
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	<p>In 2017 two pilot projects of the ITI operation financed by Interreg OP IT-SI started:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) HEALTH - Cross border health service network, total budget € 5,000,000; 2) Cross border natural park Isonzo-Soca, total budget € 4,250,000; 3) CycleWalk (Interreg Europe): total budget € 293,207, amount co-funded by the EU € 249,225.95.
Staff (in FTE)	<p>The EGTC GO has 1 Director appointed directly by the Assembly and 6 employees as permanent staff (5 full-time and 1 part-time). 3 of the 7 are not employed directly by the EGTC GO but were transferred from the three municipalities on the basis of an agreement signed by the three mayors.</p>


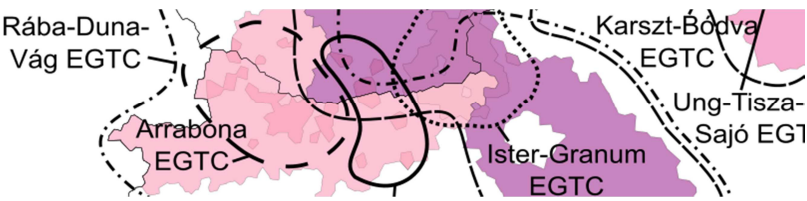
3.1.22 GECT Pirineus – Cerdanya

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	GECT Pirineus – Cerdanya - AECT Pirineus – Cerdanya
Countries involved	France and Spain
Tasks	<p>The added value for Cohesion Policy of this EGTC is in promoting cross-border projects. For now, however, the EGTC structure is too small for cross-border development of the territory. The working practices on both sides of the border differ and the problems of rural territories as well as their financial difficulties leave little time and means for thorough cross-border cooperation, despite the legal structure of the EGTC that is dedicated to this. The EGTC is currently a cross-border but very local structure (two intercommunalities combined) in a sparsely populated and very rural area. As a result, the EGTC intends to intervene more on a case-by-case basis than to plan a roadmap. It remains a tool to facilitate cross-border projects, but at the moment is not an active structure with missions to implement projects with dedicated staff.</p> <p>In technical and political meetings between the EGTC and the Deputation of Girona a project to eradicate an invasive species in Cerdanya responsible for health problems was reviewed (within the French and Spanish territory): <i>Heracleum mantegazzianum</i> / giant hogweed (phototoxic). Currently different partnerships, including the managing director of Deputation of Girona are studying a project within a part of the eastern Pyrenees (Catalonia and French Cerdanya) to manage invasive species to conserve native floral diversity. The objective is to apply for funding from the LIFE programme in 2018.</p> <p>Linked to public services, the two founding members of the EGTC cooperate in the cross-border programme managing access to healthcare around the cross-border hospital Cerdagne, which is connected to other healthcare centres in the French part of the EGTC.</p>
Challenges or issues	Project leaders need experience as project managers in European programmes such as Interreg POCTEFA, SUDOE, LIFE, Europe 2020, etc.
Budget	€ 34,000 (provisional budget for 2017)
EU co-funded	None in 2017
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	A LIFE project is under preparation but no EU-funded projects were implemented in 2017.
Staff (in FTE)	The EGTC does not employ staff directly but works with employees of both inter-municipalities on the different projects.

3.1.23 Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial "Espacio Portalet"


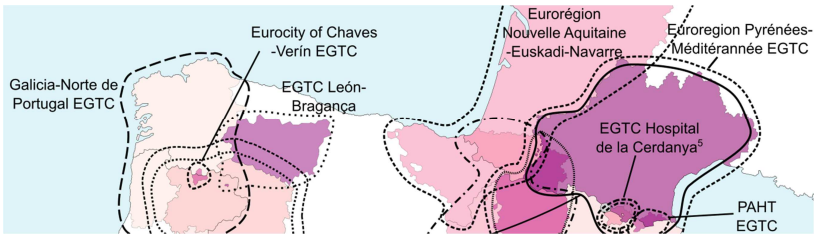
 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial "Espacio Portalet" (EGTC Espacio Portalet / EGTC Espace Pourtalet)
Countries involved	Spain and France
Tasks	<p>This EGTC promotes public-private collaboration for tourism through a strategy of sustainable development and improved quality of life with increased security against natural risks on the cross-border road that passes through El Portalet. In the framework of ETC, the EGTC acts as a link between public and private actors on both sides, fostering the promotion of local and regional projects and cooperation for culture, tourism, infrastructure security and economic development. In the remaining programming period, the EGTC will implement the INTURPYR and SECURUS projects within the Interreg VA POCTEFA programme. INTURPYR, which is led by the EGTC, is a project to create a unique tourist destination in the central Pyrenees based on sustainable development, innovation and public private development. SECURUS, in which the EGTC is a partner, is a project to improve the management of natural risks based on innovation and cooperation between actors on both sides. The EGTC will also work on the implementation and management of cultural, asset and economic development involving public and private actors from both sides. For public services, the EGTC coordinates the different administrations, but to date does not carry out joint work. For now, the EGTC does not develop joint strategies but its projects and specific actions are in line with economic development, social cohesion and sustainability. The EGTC continued maintaining a residence for artists from both sides of the border in its second year. The grouping also set up a residence for translators in 2017.</p>
Challenges or issues	<p>Limited recognition of the EGTC as official representative of two countries in European sector programmes. More concrete problems linked to the functioning of the EGTC are the different regulations, different procedures of public institutions and the language barriers for some actors.</p>
Budget	€ 906,686.65 (with a proportional allocation from members and EU-funding)
EU co-funded	€ 472,022.46 in 2017
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	<p>Interreg VA POCTEFA projects in 2017:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) INTURPYR/EFA 026/15: project budget € 2,941,307, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 70,000, co-funded by the EU: 65%; 2) SECURUS/EFA 039/15: project budget € 4,220,626.80; budget implemented by the EGTC: € 50,000, amount co-funded by the EU:65%.
Staff (in FTE)	EGTC Director, tourism expert and head of the cross-border tourism office and employees from the two members (Gobierno de Aragón and Conseil départemental des Pyrénées –Atlantiques).

3.1.24 Rába-Duna-Vág European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation with Limited Liability


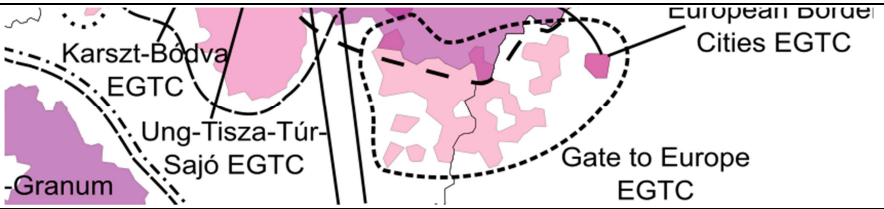
 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>HU: Rába-Duna-Vág Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Társulás (RDV ETT) SK: Európske zoskupenie územnej spolupráce Raba-Dunaj-Váh s ručením obmedzeným (EZÚS RDV) EN: Rába-Duna-Vág European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation with Limited Liability (RDV EGTC)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Hungary and Slovakia</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The EGTC was established to support national and regional cooperation in regional development, mainly through cross-border projects and programmes. It motivates and supports cooperation among people involved in regional development on both sides of the border and with this added value it supports harmonious development of the Slovak and Hungarian border region at the same time. The EGTC will manage the small project funds (SKHU/1701/4.1./002, SKHU/1701/4.1./004) in 2018/2019 (total budget PT1: € 1,899,494.00, total budget PT4: € 5,670,53641).</p> <p>For the remaining programming period, the EGTC plans to</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) strengthen cooperation with entrepreneurs to create new working places in the border area; 2) strengthen cooperation with municipalities and their representatives to create common and harmonised development plans; 3) motivate cooperation between people interested in regional development; 4) promote the EU, its policies and possible sources of funding for regional development activities; 5) support cross-border cooperation of these subjects; 6) support new local, regional and cross-border infrastructure; 7) conduct training for partners to support professionalism and information in the elaboration and implementation of development strategies, etc. <p>The EGTC implements Europe 2020 objectives by supporting smart, sustainable and inclusive growth to overcome structural weaknesses in the local economy, to improve its competitiveness and productivity and to underpin a sustainable social market economy. The grouping elaborated and implemented projects supporting new jobs.</p> <p>Implementing ETC projects is hindered by the difficulties of obtaining pre-financing for projects.</p>
<p>Challenges or issues</p>	<p>EGTC is always looking to increase the number of partners in different fields to widen its scope and to increase the efficiency of its work for regional development in the cross-border area.</p>

Budget	About € 42,000 (from membership fees, Hungarian oprating aid & revenues from activities)
EU co-funded	None in 2017
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	<p>The grouping will lead 3 EU-funded projects:</p> <p>1) SILVER ECONOMY (Interreg VA Slovakia-Hungary - Reg. No.: SKHU/1601/4.1./164): project budget: € 334,236.80, budget implemented by EGTC € 145,513.77, co-funded by the EU: € 7,275.70;</p> <p>2) CIRCULAR ECONOMY (Interreg VA Slovakia-Hungary - Reg. No.: SKHU/1601/4.1./290): project budget: € 471,250.00, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 136,714.50, co-funded by the EU: € 6,83.73.;</p> <p>3) HERBALAND (Interreg VA Slovakia-Hungary - Reg. No.: SKHU/1601/4.1./150): project budget: € 352,005.00, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 42,598, co-funded by the EU: € 2,129.90</p>
Staff (in FTE)	6

3.1.25 GECT Eurorégion Nouvelle Aquitaine-Euskadi-Navarre



	
Name (Acronym)	GECT Eurorégion Nouvelle Aquitaine-Euskadi-Navarre
Countries involved	France and Spain
Tasks	<p>The EGTC develops a territorial strategy aligned with Europe 2020 objectives: creating regional key sectors after cross-checking the regional S3 of Euskadi and Aquitaine. Furthermore, the grouping organises project-calls to finance value chains in key sectors and helps stakeholders to reply to European calls for projects (e.g. Interreg A, B, C).</p> <p>In the remaining 2014-2020 programming period, the EGTC intends to implement more Interreg B projects under the Atlantic Space Programme on marine energy and ocean biotechnology.</p> <p>The Euroregional Strategic Plan for the 2014-2020 programming period is in line with Europe 2020.</p> <p>For the joint management of public services, the EGTC develops a cross-border transport information system and a multimodal mobility planner (based on open data and open source systems).</p> <p>The EGTC was co-organiser of a workshop in April 2017 under the umbrella of DG Mare on Blue Growth in the framework of the Atlantic Action Plan Support.</p>
Budget	€ 1,650,000 financed equally by the Autonomous Community of Euskadi, Navarre and the Regional Council of Aquitaine, € 550,000 each partner.
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	There are currently three Interreg projects implemented by the EGTC: Transfermuga 2 (transport-sustainable mobility), Empleo (cross-border employment) and Eskola Futura (multilingualism: students training to become teachers in bilingual schools).
Staff (in FTE, 2016)	1 Director, 1 Administration and Finance Coordinator, 3 staff members responsible for projects and cooperation

3.1.26 Európa-kapu Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Együttműködési Csoportosulás

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>Európa-kapu Korlátolt Felelősségű - Európai Területi Együttműködési Csoportosulás (Európa-kapu ETT) - Gruparea Europeană de Cooperare Teritorială Poarta Europa cu Răspundere Limitată (Poarta Europa GECT)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Hungary and Romania</p>
<p>Changes in Convention/Statutes</p>	<p>No major changes. One new annex was approved by the general assembly in September 2017, describing the operational rules and tasks of the new office in Săcueni, Romania. These changes did not affect the duration of the EGTC.</p>
<p>Tasks*</p>	<p>The EGTC's activities and initiatives are in line with Europe 2020 because it is working on new jobs and economic and social development. In 2016, the EGTC developed a document entitled "Integrated development of the Poarta Europa GECT EGTC", which is an assessment on the real development needs of the area.</p> <p>The Interreg VA Romania-Hungary programme was launched during the final days of 2016. The EGTC is now working on preparing a project for natural heritage and is waiting for the start of IP8. Through this, the EGTC wants to create new jobs, promote joint local products and brands and organise joint cultural events and festivals.</p> <p>In May 2016 the General Assembly of the EGTC voted on opening a branch office in Romania. The EGTC is now preparing documents for the Romanian Ministry of Development.</p> <p>The EGTC developed a project "Together without borders", but it was rejected. The aim was to establish an abattoir and a fruit-processing factory to sustain agriculture and farms, create new jobs and to produce natural, healthy products locally.</p> <p>The integrated development strategy for the EGTC was elaborated by CESCO (consultancy). The strategy was drawn up using innovative tools; priorities were defined in connection with local needs and is based on information from the local level.</p>
<p>Challenges or issues*</p>	<p>A challenge is pre-financing and the problem of getting a bank loan. The EGTC could not receive loans from banks because it does not own its buildings.</p>
<p>Budget*</p>	<p>HUF 12.5 million (approximately € 40,000).</p>
<p>EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2016*</p>	<p>The EGTC was partner with a Romanian association in an Erasmus+ project, experience exchange for youth and culinary habits. The EGTC did not receive funds but participant travel, accommodation and meals were reimbursed by the project.</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)*</p>	<p>1 Director</p>


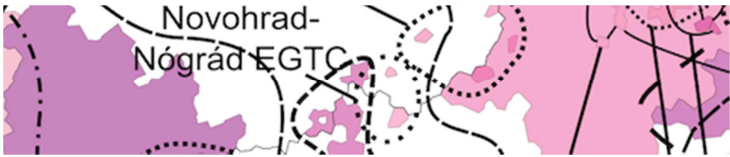
* Please note: the EGTC did not completely fill in the questionnaire for 2017. Most information comes from the EGTC monitoring report 2016.

3.1.27 BODROGKÖZI Korlátolt Felelőségű Európai Területi Együttműködési Közhasznú Csoportosulás*

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	BODROGKÖZI Korlátolt Felelőségű Európai Területi Együttműködési Közhasznú Csoportosulás (BODROGKÖZI EGTC Ltd)
Countries involved	Hungary and Slovakia
Tasks	<p>The EGTC represents added value to Cohesion Policy objectives as it defines development targets and objectives in the region. In this context, it provides knowledge of local specificities and trends including, for example, employment.</p> <p>In relation to ETC, the EGTC has drawn up a development plan for the area. This deals with several economic sectors and includes regional growth objectives through fostering economic development and social cohesion. However, the plan is not yet implemented but is seen as providing added value to the broader region (macro-regional strategy).</p> <p>During the current programming period, the EGTC's main task is to provide as much funding as possible for members' development ideas. There are no obstacles for the EGTC to access and implement ETC projects and programmes.</p>
Challenges or issues	In the development plan, the EGTC draws up a new institutional network. Implementation of this modern, dynamic structure would be a challenge.
Budget	HUF 2.5 million (approximately € 8,055).
EU co-funded	None
Staff (in FTE)	Not relevant as the statutes of the EGTC specify that administrative tasks are carried out by a contracted non-profit organisation. This includes the preparation and implementing decisions.


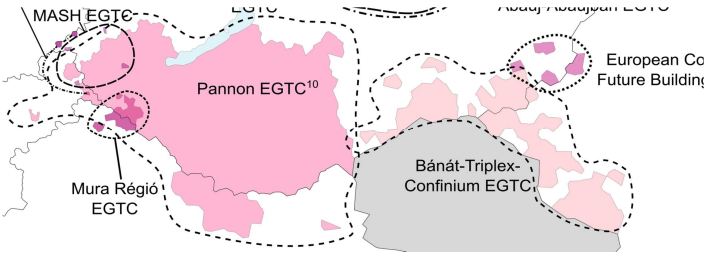
*The EGTC has the same director as EGTC ABAÚJ - ABAÚJBAN EGTC, which explains the similar 'Tasks'.

3.1.28 Novohrad-Nógrád European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation with Limited Liability*



 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>Novohrad-Nógrád Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Együttműködési Csoportosulás (Novohrad-Nógrád ETT) - Európske zoskupenie územnej spolupráce Novohrad-Nógrád s ručením obmedzeným (EZÚS Novohrad-Nógrád) - Novohrad-Nógrád European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation with Limited Liability (Novohrad-Nógrád EGTC)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Hungary and Slovakia</p>
<p>Tasks (2015)</p>	<p>The EGTC's target is to promote cooperation beyond borders, reinforcing economic and social cohesion. This should be achieved through decreasing unemployment with comprehensive plans that focus on sustainable development.</p> <p>The EGTC takes care of short-term tasks for infrastructure and business development, training, education and research, tourism, and protection of the environment.</p>
<p>Challenges or issues (2015)</p>	<p>The EGTC operates in a very disadvantaged region. It is challenging to make local people aware of the potential of an EGTC.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>No support from the Hungarian national budget for 2016.</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>There are currently no staff. A search for a new director is underway.</p>

*All efforts to contact representatives of this EGTC failed again during this year. The information in the table was kindly provided by Dr. Patricia Abaffy from the Department for Cross-border Development and Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary in the framework of the EGTC monitoring report 2016 and based on information the EGTC provided for the EGTC monitoring report 2015.

3.1.29 Pannon European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Ltd.



 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>Pannon Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Társulás (Pannon ETT) - Panonsko Europsko Združenje za Teritorialno Sodelovanje z Omejeno Odgovornostjo - (Pannon Panonsko ETZ) - Pannon European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Ltd. (Pannon EGTC)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Hungary, Slovenia and Croatia</p>
<p>Modification of membership</p>	<p>4 members were excluded, 1 member quit and Moravske Toplice (SI) joined. Other new members will join in February 2018: Koprivnica-Krizevci County, Medimurje County, Osijek-Baranja County, Prelog, Grubisno Polje and Barcs.</p>
<p>Changes Convention/Statutes</p>	<p>In 2017, the headquarters of the EGTC changed. In addition, a new auditor was elected and a televoting system introduced for the presidency. Together with the membership changes, this implied changes in the convention.</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The main task of the EGTC is to implement EU co-funded programmes and projects of territorial cooperation. Currently, further tasks and projects are being specified based on the programme document for 2014-2020.</p> <p>The EGTC managed a public bus service between Pécs and Osijek in 2017.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>€ 73,500</p>
<p>EU co-funded</p>	<p>€ 21,600</p>
<p>EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017</p>	<p>1 Interreg project during 2017: 1) SHARE (Interreg Europe) Sustainable approach to cultural Heritage for the urban Areas Requalification in Europe: project budget: € 1,409,083, budget implemented by the EGTC € 121,642.00, co-funded by the EU: 85%.</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>3</p>

3.1.30 EGTC EFXINI POLI - Network of European Cities for Sustainable Development


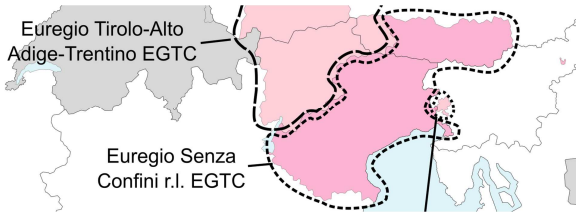
 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	 <p>Network of European Cities for Sustainable Development (EGTC EFXINI POLI)¹¹</p>
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>EGTC EFXINI POLI - Network of European Cities for Sustainable Development (EGTC Efxini Poli - SolidarCity Network)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Greece, Cyprus and Bulgaria</p>
<p>Modification of membership</p>	<p>10 new members: Region of South Aegean, Municipality of Almiros, Municipality of Metamorfofi, Municipality of Sparti, Municipality of Siteia, Municipality of Pidna Kolindros, Municipality of Aspropirgos, Municipality of Anatoliki Mani, Anaptixiakos sindesmos Lavreotikis, Pan-Hellenic Association of General Secretaries of Local Government "Klisthenis"; 2 members left the EGTC: Municipality of Athens, Region of Attika</p>
<p>Changes in convention/statutes</p>	<p>Statute changes in the summer of 2017 only concern the change in membership. The changes did not affect the duration of the EGTC.</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The EGTC creates bonds among its members in the three neighbouring countries. Sharing information and disseminating good practices among the members advances Cohesion Policy. The involvement of EGTC members in EU funded projects as final beneficiaries supports their cooperation with other EU entities and especially local and regional authorities with similar concerns and problems. Identification of commonly accepted solutions is a vehicle to implement Cohesion Policy in EGTC EFXINI POLI territory.</p> <p>The grouping was actively involved in four ETC projects under the Interreg Med Programme covering energy efficient buildings, sustainable tourism and enhancing olive oil producer competitiveness, where the EGTC is lead partner of the ARISTOIL project. This project has been expanded to almost all olive oil producing municipalities in EFXINI POLI's network. It has become very popular, with ever more producers applying to join the project's pilot activities. More than 50 info days were organised in the municipalities to inform local stakeholders of the project and more than 400 olive oil producers from Greece were involved in the pilot phase. In addition, the organisation participates in the DESIGNSCAPES project funded under HORIZON 2020, which aims to introduce design thinking in urban innovation. EGTC EFXINI POLI plays various roles in these projects, however, its competitive advantage is its ability to multiply project effects and disseminate project results to its entire network. The grouping is central to ETC project implementation. As part of these projects, regional events will be organised in Greece. Several communication activities will also increase student awareness of energy saving. Under the DESIGNSCAPES project, three calls will be launched at European level, asking for urban innovation project ideas. The EGTC will collect as many applications as possible from Greece and will promote the project through all its channels of communication and stakeholders. The EGTC will also apply under the new call of ENI CBC MED to capitalise on the project to enhance</p>

	<p>olive oil sector competitiveness in the Mediterranean.</p> <p>The EGTC contributes to Europe 2020 through implementation of ETC projects. Two projects aim to eliminate CO2 emissions from public school buildings. These take into account the Sustainable Energy Action Plans of the pilot municipalities and aim to update these plans and contribute achieving their targets. Similarly, project CONSUMELESS aims to develop a sustainable model of tourism, which will result in less CO2 emissions.</p>
<p>Challenges or issues</p>	<p>The EGTC EFXINI POLI would like to attract more members from Cyprus and Bulgaria.</p> <p>The grouping has easy access to European projects because of its extensive experience in project management and the technical capacity of its staff. However, the organisation continuously faces obstacles in implementing ETC projects due to cash flow shortage. Most ETC projects need pre-financing of activities, which usually results in difficulties in the projects' initial phase. Cash flow shortage also impedes active participation in capacity building events organised in the EU whenever these are not eligible under projects being implemented. In addition, the possibility for the EGTC to participate in cross-border ETC projects should be clarified, since the EGTC is not always based in the eligible geographical area of the cross-border programme.</p> <p>For implementation of ETC programmes, no opportunities have come along so far. However, EGTC EFXINI POLI has been certified for its project management capacity.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>€ 500,000</p>
<p>EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017</p>	<p>1) ARISTOIL (Interreg Med) - "Reinforcement of Mediterranean olive oil sector competitiveness through development and application of innovative production and quality control methodologies related to olive oil health protecting properties": total budget: € 2,008,200, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 250,000, share co-funded by the EU: 85%;</p> <p>2) EDUFOOTPRINT (Interreg Med) - Schools with Low Carbon Footprint in the Mediterranean Cities - total budget: € 1,200,684.75, budget implemented by the EGTC: €150,838.00, share co-funded by the EU 85%;</p> <p>3) TEESCHOOLS (Interreg Med) - Transferring Energy Efficiency in the Mediterranean Schools: total budget: € 2,840,000, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 270,000, share co-funded by the EU: 85%;</p> <p>4) CONSUMELESS (Interreg Med) - Consume Less in Mediterranean Tourist Communities: total budget: € 2,635,000.00, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 272,000, share co-funded by the EU: 85%;</p> <p>5) DESIGNSCAPES (H2020) - Design Enabled Innovation in Urban Environment - total budget: € 3,974,936.25.00, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 116,250.00, share co-funded by the EU: 100%.</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>5 permanent employees from the previous organisation: 1 accountant; 2 project managers; 1 administrator; 1 Managing Director</p>

3.1.31 European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation European Urban Knowledge Network Limited

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	 <p>European Urban Knowledge Network (EUKN EGTC)⁹</p>
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation European Urban Knowledge Network Limited (EUKN EGTC)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Cyprus, Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, the Netherlands and Romania</p>
<p>Modification of membership</p>	<p>Hungary and Poland have left the network.</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>Through the exchange of knowledge on economic, social and urban issues between different European countries, the EUKN aims to integrate different regions and promote inter-territorial cooperation and exchange to minimise disparities. As an intergovernmental network, EUKN EGTC cooperates with all ETC programmes, especially URBACT and ESPON. The EGTC and these two ETC programmes are closely involved in the Urban Agenda for EU Partnerships. EUKN provides knowledge support to the Urban Agenda for the EU and is part of the technical secretariat for the Urban Agenda for the EU, funded by DG REGIO.</p> <p>The EGTC supports MS to reach their Europe 2020 objectives on urban matters. By providing knowledge support, the network also contributes to flagship initiatives, mostly indirectly. The EGTC is a strategic knowledge partner for its members, who are national ministries managing or coordinating national urban policy. This involves support for strategic issues related to economic growth, social cohesion and sustainability. Recent EUKN Policy Labs dealt with topics such as retail policies to revitalise city centres (Cyprus), national urban policy (Spain), inclusion in neighbourhoods (France, Germany), urban mobility (Czech Republic) and prevention of radicalisation (Belgium, France, Netherlands).</p> <p>The EGTC is currently exploring possibilities for cooperating with national ministries responsible for urban development in Georgia.</p>
<p>Challenges or issues</p>	<p>Legal procedures for changes in membership and consequently changes in the convention and statutes are too complex and time-consuming. The 2013 EGTC Regulation simplification was not radical enough.</p> <p>Since 1 October 2017, the EGTC has employed its own staff. At national level there were some issues. For example, one of the largest insurance companies refused professional travel insurance because the EGTC was unknown. Opening a new bank account was difficult, also because EGTCs were unknown. This is clearly a matter of implementation of European regulations at national level.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>€ 550,000, based on two forms of funding: membership fees proportional to the MS population to cover all member activities, and funding for additional activities, e.g. strategic research (for both members and non-members).</p>
<p>EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017</p>	<p>EUKN EGTC is part of the Technical Secretariat of the Urban Agenda for the EU, which is funded by DG REGIO. The EUKN share in the Secretariat of the Urban Agenda for the EU in 2017 (subcontract provided by the main contractor): € 78,000.</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>Since 1 October 2017, the EUKN EGTC employs 3 FTE directly.</p>

3.1.32 GECT "Euregio Senza Confini r.l."



 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>GECT "Euregio Senza Confini r.l. – Euregio Ohne Grenzen mbH" (Euregio "Senza Confini")</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Italy and Austria</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The EGTC Euregio Senza Confini was founded to encourage, facilitate and promote cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation between its members to strengthen economic and social cohesion. The EGTC objectives focus on: 1) energy, environmental resources and waste management; 2) transport, infrastructure and logistics; 3) culture, sports, education and high level training; 4) social-health; 5) civil protection; 6) science, research, innovation and technology; 7) agriculture; 8) tourism; 9) productive activities; 10) communication infrastructure; 11) work, vocational training and trade.</p> <p>The use of EGTCs to deliver EU policies beyond ETC programmes, should also be encouraged. Whether for transport, environmental improvement, health, research collaboration, education and culture or others, an EGTC may add to the value of EU policies by offering a more structured and adaptable means of implementation.</p> <p>Project implementation contributes with actions towards thematic objective 6 "Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency" as well as thematic objective 11 "Improving the efficiency of public administration". Under the second public call of Programme Interreg V IT-AT 2014-2020 the following projects have been approved: SCET-NET (coordination of the legal and legislative framework for training); SMARTLOGI (cooperation on sustainable multimodal freight transport options); EMOTIONWay (access and visibility of sites of natural and cultural interest); EUMINT (cooperation to tackle social, economic, political and cultural challenges); Fit4Co (strengthening of "regional thinking" and "regional mainstream"). At transnational level the EGTC takes part in the Alpine Convention, holding the presidency of the "Sustainable Tourism" and "Mountain Forests" Working Groups in 2017-2018.</p> <p>EGTC Euregio Senza Confini also participates as observer to the Steering Committee of Interreg V IT-AT CBC Programme. The EGTC will act as a beneficiary partner in new cross-border and transnational Programmes. The grouping aims at strengthening institutional cooperation with other EGTCs to give added value to cooperation itself.</p>
<p>Challenges or issues</p>	<p>The EGTC instrument is still not well known and some programmes consider it as a national rather than as a cross-border institution, thus limiting composition of the partnership.</p>

Budget	Provisional budget for 2018: € 590,000 (value of production).
EU co-funded	None in 2017
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	<p>5 new projects co-financed under the second call of the Programme Interreg V Italy-Austria 2014-2020:</p> <p>1) EMOTIONWay: project budget: € 998,749.99; budget implemented by the EGTC: € 102,052.95, co-funded by the EU: € 86,745.00;</p> <p>2) SCET-NET: project budget: € 986,925.30; budget implemented by the EGTC € 315.750.00; co-funded by the EU: € 268,387.6;</p> <p>3) SMARTLOGI: project budget € 954,671.45; budget implemented by the EGTC: € 138,500.00, co-funded by the EU: € 117,725.00;</p> <p>4) EUMINT: project budget € 998,519.43; budget implemented by the EGTC: € 38,415.00, co-funded by the EU: € 32,652.75</p> <p>5) Fit4Co: project budget: € 769.840.75, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 401.900.00, co-funded by the EU: € 341.615.00.</p>
Staff (in FTE)	The EGTC does not yet employ its own staff but works with three employees from the three members, plus the director. In 2017, the EGTC employed 5 external collaborators (equalling 3 FTE).


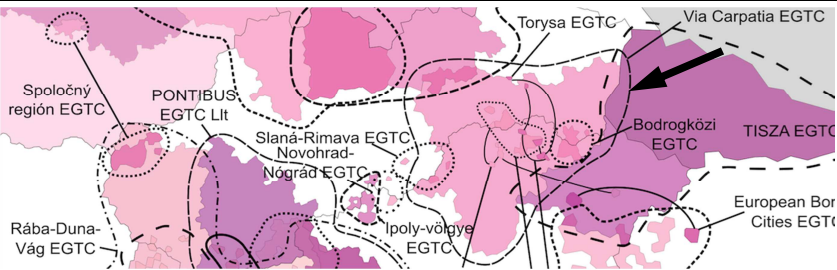
3.1.33 European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation TRITIA limited

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>Europejskie Ugrupowanie Współpracy Terytorialnej TRITIA z ograniczoną odpowiedzialnością (EUWT TRITIA z o.o.) - Evropské seskupení pro územní spolupráci TRITIA s omezenou odpovědností (ESÚS TRITIA s o.o.) - Európske zoskupenie územnej spolupráce TRITIA s ručením obmedzeným – (EZÚS TRITIA s.r.o.) - European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation TRITIA limited</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Czech Republic, Slovakia and Poland</p>
<p>Modification of membership</p>	<p>Opole voivodeship will leave the EGTC on 1 January 2018.</p>
<p>Changes in convention/statutes</p>	<p>The statutes will change on 1 January 2018 because one member will leave.</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The EGTC conducts projects to implement Cohesion Policy. It has a voting right in the Monitoring Committee of the Interreg VA PL–SK 2014-2020 programme. The grouping is also a beneficiary of different ETC programmes. It currently implements projects from: Interreg Central Europe, Interreg VA PL –SK, Interreg VA PL – SK micro project fund. The EGTC prepares documentation and proposals for a new people-to-people scheme for the cross-border TRITIA territory.</p> <p>For 2018 the grouping will prepare projects for the Interreg Central Europe programme on cultural heritage; for the Interreg VA CZ-PL programme on education and cooperation of communities and a project on education for the Interreg VA PL-SK programme.</p> <p>For joint development strategies, the EGTC has analysed cooperation in EGTC TRITIA regions for 2014-2020.</p>
<p>Challenges or issues</p>	<p>There are administrative difficulties.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>€ 25,000</p>
<p>EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017</p>	<p>The EGTC implemented 4 EU-funded projects during 2017:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) AIR TRITIA (Interreg Central Europe): project budget: 2,576,623, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 60,021, co-funded by the EU 85%: € 2,190,129.65; 2) TRANS TRITIA (Interreg Central Europe): budget: € 1,348,090, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 0, co-funded by the EU 85%: € 1,145,876.50; 3) Wspólna digitalizacja 3D obiektów historycznych obszaru transgranicznego SK-PL (Interreg V-A PL -SK): leader partner, project budget: € 717,767.30, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 86,482.20, co-funded by the EU 85%: € 610,102.21; 4) "Mówimy po słowacku! Hovoríme poľsky", INT/EB/BES/3/I/B/0023 (Interreg V-A PL -SK): lead partner, project budget: € 47,465, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 47,465, co-funded by the EU 85%: € 40,345.
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>4 positions: director, financial manager, 2 project managers. 4-5 part time equivalents, all positions employed directly.</p>

3.1.34 Sajó - Rima / Slaná - Rimava European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation with Limited Liability

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>Sajó-Rima Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Társulás (Sajó-Rima ETT), Európske zoskupenie územnej spolupráce Slaná - Rimava (EZÚS Slaná-Rimava) Slaná - Rimava European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation with Limited Liability (Sajó-Rima / Slaná-Rimava EGTC)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Hungary and Slovakia</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The EGTC plans to submit an application to the Small Project Fund in the priority axis "Nature and Culture" covering cultural cooperation between institutions and cooperation in sports. The EGTC also plans to be involved in ETC programmes and projects in the remaining 2014-2020 programming period, especially in cultural cooperation and strengthening cooperation between local institutions.</p> <p>In the EGTC strategy, economic growth, social cohesion and sustainability are important. In terms of economic growth, public road development is important increasing cohesion in the area. Furthermore, the EGTC supports cooperation for renewing the energy potential on both sides of the border, mutual intentions of catching up, brownfield development opportunities, good practices in venture development and partnership building and artisan shows.</p> <p>For social cohesion, the EGTC fosters harmonised social, health and education capacities, good practices in social use of local government wealth (public works) and opportunities to increase local employment through cities that can be regarded as employment centres. The EGTC plays a major role in the towns of Putnok, Ózd, Tornalja and Rimaszombat.</p>
<p>Challenges or issues</p>	<p>In the EGTC further development is needed to reach sufficient budget, financial resources for pre-financing projects, know-how and information.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>During 2017 the EGTC did not get financial support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The membership fee is € 1,000 peryear from each town.</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>Currently the EGTC does not employ any staff. One administrator is employed indirectly to work on administrative tasks on behalf of the EGTC.</p>


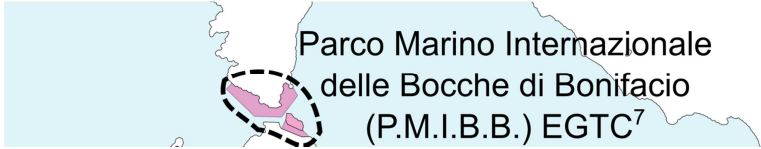
3.1.35 European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Via Carpatia Limited

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Via Carpatia Limited - Európske zoskupenie územnej spolupráce Via Carpatia s ručením obmedzeným - Via Carpatia Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Együttműködési - Csoportosulás (Via Carpatia EGTC)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Hungary and Slovakia</p>
<p>Changes in convention/statutes</p>	<p>The EGTC statutes were amended in August 2017 for changes in legislation and regarding the operation of the EGTC.</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The EGTC was established to facilitate and support cross-border, transnational and regional cooperation. Its goal is to enhance economic and social coherence, especially through cross-border cooperation projects and programmes. These projects look to improve cross-border inter-institutional cooperation and to enhance tourism development.</p> <p>The EGTC will implement the Small Project Fund (SPF) of the Interreg VA SK-HU Cooperation Programme. At the same time, the EGTC submitted five project proposals under EU programmes such as Interreg VA SK-HU, ENI CBC HU-SK-RO-UA Programme, Danube Transnational Programme and Interreg Europe. Decisions on these proposals are pending. Two projects are being prepared for Interreg Central Europe. In addition to these proposals, the EGTC plans to implement projects under national operational programmes.</p> <p>In 2017, the EGTC contributed to a Flagship initiative, an agenda for new skills and jobs, creating 5 jobs in 2017.</p> <p>Among the EGTC objectives are projects to develop strategies and initiatives leading to management of the EU-funded cross-border cooperation programme for joint projects and development strategies.</p>
<p>Challenges or issues</p>	<p>To be successful in these areas is the main challenge. The EGTC plans to strengthen cooperation with municipalities, educational institutions, regions, etc., to achieve the objectives more effectively.</p> <p>The main obstacle is project pre-financing. Banks and other institutions do not want to provide funding because the EGTC does not have enough assets.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>€ 50,000 (membership contributions)</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>1 Slovak director, 6 full-time project managers, 2 part-time project managers.</p>


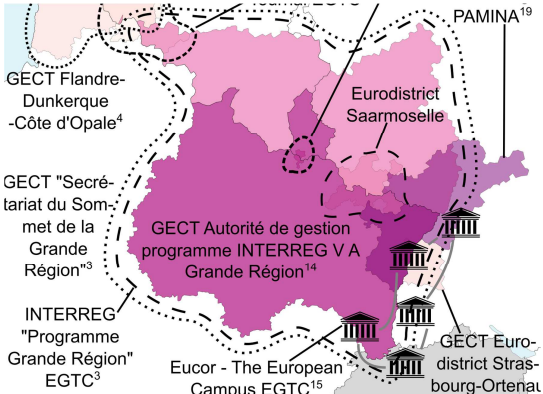
3.1.36 Parc européen / Parco europeo Alpi Marittime – Mercantour

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	 <p>Parc Européen/Parco Europeo Alpi Marittime- Mercantour EGTC</p>  <p>Territorio dei comuni: Comune di Gorizia, Mestna Občina Nova Gorica e Občina Šempeter-Vrtojba EGTC</p>
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>Parc européen / Parco europeo Alpi Marittime - Mercantour</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>France and Italy</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The objective of the EGTC is to facilitate and promote cooperation among its members in the protection, promotion, awareness and management of the natural, cultural and landscape heritage. Through its actions, the EGTC promotes coordination of cohesion policies in the Southern Alps. The EGTC is a candidate to partner a future ALCOTRA programme.</p> <p>In the remaining programming period, the EGTC will participate in the elaboration of a territorial scope project (PITER) in the ALCOTRA cooperation programme.</p> <p>For the development of joint strategies, the EGTCs' main purpose is to intervene in joint sustainable management of natural areas of exceptional character. It will also contribute to the Alpine macro-regional strategy as part of the PITER application.</p>
<p>Challenges or issues</p>	<p>There have been issues since the EGTC started. It is currently still in its full development phase. Another issue arises from the fact that the EGTC is regarded as having to apply the law of the state where it has its headquarters (impacting controls and the financing rate, for example).</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>Approximately € 270,000</p>
<p>EU co-funded</p>	<p>None in 2017</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>The EGTC has no direct employees, but an unpaid director and deputy director, delegated by its two founding members. For administrative support and project setup / follow-up, the EGTC relies on 2 indirect FTEs, from its two founding members. The first direct employee will be hired in 2018.</p>


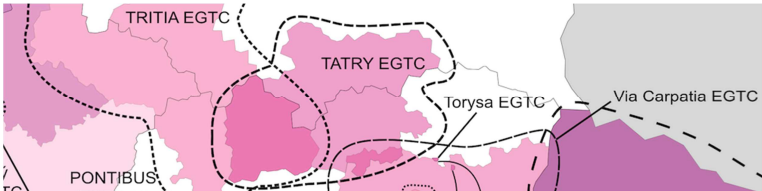
3.1.37 Gruppo Europeo di Cooperazione Territoriale (G.E.C.T) Parco Marino Internazionale delle Bocche di Bonifacio (P.M.I.B.B)

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	 <p>Parco Marino Internazionale delle Bocche di Bonifacio (P.M.I.B.B.) EGTC⁷</p>
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>Gruppo Europeo di Cooperazione Territoriale (G.E.C.T) Parco Marino Internazionale delle Bocche di Bonifacio (P.M.I.B.B) - Groupement Européen de Coopération Territoriale (G.E.C.T) Parc Marin International des Bouches de Bonifacio (P.M.I.B.B.)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Italy and France</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>This EGTC is the formal framework of the Bonifacio Strait International Marine Park. The EGTC enables protection, management and joint promotion of natural and cultural resources of Bonifacio Strait to implement a joint policy of sustainable development.</p> <p>The EGTC Assembly has not been established yet. This means there is no director, president or budget. In 2011, the Environment Office of Corsica (OEC) created the "preparatory mission of the EGTC-PMIBB", with two individuals on permanent contracts. This is still functioning and enables the Environment Office of Corsica and the National Park of La Maddalena Archipelago to work together (participating in European programmes, studies, etc.) even if the EGTC does not function properly yet.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>There was no budget for 2017.</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>As explained above, the operational structure does not function yet, but in 2011 the OEC created the "preparatory mission of the EGTC-PMIBB", with two people, that works with the PNALM team for the EGTC (participation in European programmes, studies, etc.).</p>

3.1.38 GECT "Secrétariat du Sommet de la Grande Région"


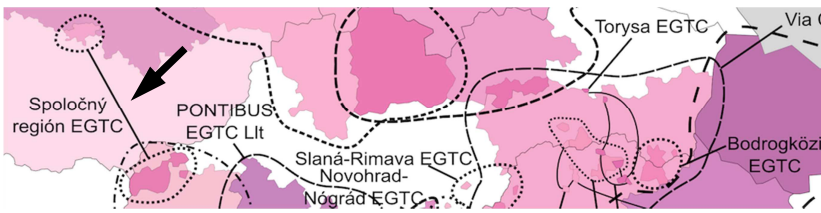
	
Name (Acronym)	GECT "Secrétariat du Sommet de la Grande Région" - EVTZ "Gipfelsekretariat der Großregion"
Countries involved	Germany, Belgium, France and Luxembourg
Tasks	<p>The EGTC is the administrative support organ for institutional cooperation between its members. It follows and supports the activities of the summit and the working groups. The EGTC ensures continuity between each political presidency and is in charge of communication about the summit. Its concrete tasks are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - coordinate and support the work of the Summit and its working groups; - promote networking among cooperation actors; - provide information about the Greater Region; - network with neighbours and across Europe. <p>The EGTC does not lead or participate in European funding programmes. It has no operational budget.</p> <p>For the development of joint strategies, the working groups and working communities respond to a political mandate developed for two years in the political "common declaration".</p> <p>The Greater Region is a space for cross-border cooperation to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - overcome borders and ensure that citizens live together in harmony; - cooperate in meeting common challenges in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - mobility and regional development; - education and lifelong learning; - economy and competitiveness; - society and security; - tourism and culture; - environment and sustainability. <p>The objectives of Europe 2020 are part of the strategy of cooperation.</p>
Budget	No budget was reported for 2017.
Staff (in FTE)	An executive director, a project officer, an interpreter/translator and a secretary. The EGTC has a rotating directorate, which follows the political presidency of the Greater Region.

3.1.39 EGTC TATRY Ltd.



 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>EUWT TATRY z ograniczoną odpowiedzialnością (EUWT TATRY z o.o.) - EZÚS TATRY s ručením obmedzeným (EZÚS TATRY s r.o.) – EGTC TATRY Ltd.</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Poland and Slovakia</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The EGTC allows cross-border partnerships to be implemented at a higher formal, organisational and institutional level. It is the natural continuation of experiences and common actions of Poles and Slovaks from around the Tatra Mountains, which were the basis for the Euroregion TATRY. The creation of EGTC TATRY has led to significant innovation for territorial cooperation. The EGTC can act as sole beneficiary of ETC projects, as it has already done for a micro-project. As sole beneficiary, the EGTC can facilitate the preparation and implementation of projects and simplify the coordination, management and accounting of common cross-border projects for local governments on the Polish-Slovak border. Actual performance will become evident in the coming two to three years.</p> <p>The EGTC is a tool for local authorities in the Polish-Slovak border area for more effective and efficient implementation of projects in the Interreg VA PL-SK 2014-2020 programme. The local governments from Poland and Slovakia can absorb EU funds to a greater extent than in the past. It is an effective instrument that allows them to overcome the barriers and difficulties encountered by common Polish-Slovak projects due to, inter alia, different legal, formal or administrative systems and uneven access to EU funds. The EGTC offers opportunities to create sound relations and cooperation between Polish and Slovak authorities in Małopolska, Prešov and Žilina Regions through a governance structure involving national governments from both countries, based on principles of partnership and subsidiarity.</p> <p>For the remaining funding period, the EGTC plans to 1) use opportunities under the Interreg VA Poland-Slovakia 2014-2020 Programme: as sole beneficiary and partner in projects and micro-projects, and supporting local governments in preparing and implementing cross-border projects, 2) implement the flagship project "Cycling route around the Tatra Mountains – stage II", 3) carry out priorities of the EGTC TATRY strategy, 4) prepare, carry out and coordinate cooperation projects in partnership with other EGTCs, 5) increase participation in other ETC programmes and 6) prepare for the new programming period to potentially participate in managing a cooperation programme, or part of one.</p> <p>The EGTC addresses priorities and targets established in Europe 2020 through projects that have been prepared and implemented. The development of cycling tourism around the Tatra Mountains will increase efficiency in the use of resources and the attractiveness of natural and cultural heritage in the Polish-Slovak border region. Local communities gain an attractive tourist</p>

	<p>product and can develop new leisure time services. It will stimulate local communities to take up and pursue economic activities linked to cycling tourism. This will be positive for the economic and social development of the border region. This flagship project also promotes greener modes of travel. Implementation of the micro-project "Cross-border specialist and vocational training in EGTC TATRY" will improve job opportunities in the area. The professional skills of participants in cross-border training and courses will increase, including the use of modern IT tools on the job.</p> <p>In its daily operations, the EGTC works towards the EGTC TATRY STRATEGY FOR 2014-2020 by implementing projects in: 1) joint cultural and natural heritage, 2) cross border education, 3) cross border partnerships and 4) freedom of movement and accessibility in the area around the Tatras.</p> <p>The EGTC has noticed that the experts evaluating and scoring proposals often do not understand that an individual EGTC complies with the 4 criteria in cross-border partnerships such as: joint preparation of the project, joint realisation, joint financing, joint staff, and should therefore obtain the highest assessment in the quality of cross-border partnerships.</p>
Challenges or issues	<p>The EGTC's tasks focus primarily on preparing and implementing territorial cooperation projects co-financed by the EU. Furthermore, the grouping may participate in managing and implementing programmes or programme parts financed by the EU, especially Polish-Slovak cross-border micro and networking projects. The EGTC does not need to change tasks, but it must do as much as possible to increase participation in ETC programmes and be able to participate in the management of at least a part of cooperation programmes after 2020.</p>
Budget	€ 150,000
EU co-funded	€ 128,000
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	<p>During 2017, the EGTC implemented 3 EU-funded projects:</p> <p>1) Cycling route around the Tatra Mountains – stage II (lead partner of the flagship project in the Interreg VA Poland-Slovakia 2014-2020 Programme in the partnership with 9 Polish and Slovak local governments): project budget: € 5,892,204.48, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 208,074.75, co-funded by the EU (ERDF): € 4,885,76293;</p> <p>2) Cross-border specialist and vocational training in EGTC TATRY (sole beneficiary of the micro-project for education Interreg VA Poland-Slovakia 2014-2020 Programme): project budget: € 117,600.30, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 117,600.30, co-funded by the EU (ERDF): € 99,960.25;</p> <p>3) Protection of peatlands (manager in cross-border project in Interreg VA Poland-Slovakia 2014-2020 Programme), project budget: € 1,245,529.48, budget implemented by Gmina Czarny Dunajec (lead partner, PL) and Oravské múzeum Pavla Országha Hviezdoslava Dolný Kubín (SK).</p>
Staff (in FTE)	3 FTE = 4 people: director, 2 project managers and promotion specialist, all staff are hired directly.


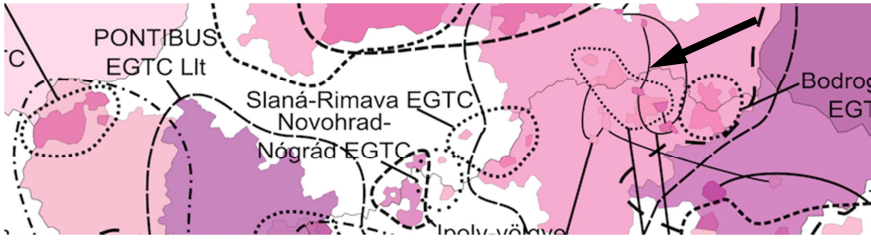
3.1.40 European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Spoločný región limited

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>Európske zoskupenie územnej spolupráce Spoločný región s ručením obmedzeným - Evropské seskupení pro územní spolupráci Společný region s omezenou odpovědností - European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Spoločný región limited</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Slovakia and the Czech Republic</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The added value of the EGTC in implementing Cohesion Policy is the deepening of institutional cooperation in Slovakia and the Czech Republic. During 2017, the EGTC was not involved in preparing, nor directly in implementing the cross-border cooperation programme Slovak Republic – Czech Republic 2014-2020 in Slovakia, where it is based, nor in the Czech Republic, where the managing authority did not allow it to participate. It was involved in the Slovak Republic Ministry of Transport Construction and Regional Development call supporting the creation of policy documents and developing thematic routes for the Slovak area. The project was completed in 2017.</p> <p>The managing authority did not consider the EGTC as a partner which has not changed since establishment of the EGTC in 2012. In 2016, the EGTC could apply under the 2014-2020 cross-border cooperation programme, which was not the case in the previous period.</p> <p>Additionally, EGTC Spoločný region has drafted basic common strategic documents, which are updated and expanded.</p>
<p>Challenges or issues</p>	<p>Access to ETC funds was expected to be easier through the EGTC but one tourism project has already been rejected for reasons of legitimacy. The EGTC is facing the challenge of becoming a legitimate and accepted player in the future programme. The EGTC became eligible as an applicant, but has not been involved in preparing programming documents in Slovakia or in the Czech Republic. The grouping cannot be directly involved in implementing cross-border programmes, since the management authorities do not consider the EGTC as a partner.</p>
<p>Budget (2016)</p>	<p>In 2016 the EGTC received support of € 14,200 for the project Concept for Thematic Routes from the Slovak Republic Ministry of Transport Construction and Regional Development. Other membership fees have not been levied. No updated budget was reported for 2017.</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>0</p>



3.1.41 Torysa European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	Torysa Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Együttműködési Csoportosulás (Torysa ETT) - Európskeho zoskupenia územnej spolupráce Torysa (Torysa EZÚS) - Torysa European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (Torysa EGTC)
Countries involved	Hungary and Slovakia
Tasks	<p>The EGTC is working on implementing a technology called TCG, a waste recycling technology unique in the EU.</p> <p>So far, the EGTC has not implemented any ETC projects, as there were only engineering works in progress during 2016 and 2017. In the remaining period, the EGTC plans to implement energy and climate change projects, with technology used to produce synthetic gas from waste with zero emissions. The power plant would process 500 tons of waste per day. The EGTC will help countries to implement these power plants to stimulate economic growth and reduce waste problems. The EGTC works with the Hungarian firms MOL and NHKV.</p>
Challenges or issues	There are difficulties providing continuous liquidity for the projects. In addition, ETC authorisation procedures are lengthy.
Budget	The EGTC members, the director and the partners provide the EGTC with funding.
Staff (in FTE)	Director and 20-25 freelance workers (15-20 from Hungary, 3 from Slovakia and 2 from Romania).



3.1.42 Svinka European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	Svinka Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Együttműködési Csoportosulás (Svinka ETT) - Europskeho Zoskupenia Uzemnej Spoluprace Svinka (Svinka EZÚS) - Svinka European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (Svinka EGTC)
Countries involved	Hungary and Slovakia
Tasks (2015)	<p>The EGTC develops the area through ecological and sustainable projects. However, the EGTC mentioned that it should not yet be involved in ETC.</p> <p>Implementation of ERDF and ESF projects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Cooperation and know-how transfer between economic and environmental stakeholders, 2) Infrastructure support, 3) Enhanced cooperation between research institutes, 4) Environmental protection, 5) Development and implementation of projects preventing natural and technological risks.
Budget	None - the EGTC is passive.
Staff (in FTE)	Director and 20-25 freelance workers (15-20 from Hungary, 3 from Slovakia and 2 from Romania).

3.1.43 GECT Alzette Belval


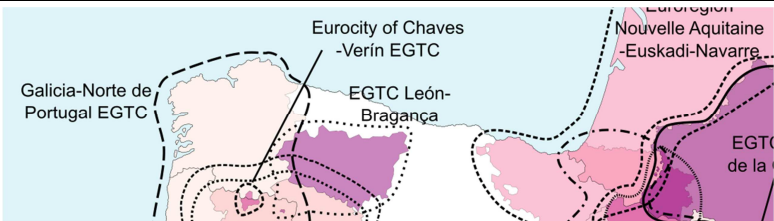
 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	GECT Alzette Belval
Countries involved	France and Luxemburg
Tasks	<p>The EGTC was created to ensure common and complementary development, to develop a cross-border urban agglomeration, to improve the quality of life for inhabitants and to support the development and implementation of cross-border projects. The EGTC also invests in cross-border education projects for FR/LU schools and youth. It is also working for the development of urban and soft mobility. Since July 2016, the EGTC has been leading an Interreg VA Greater Region project "Alzette Belval, vivons ensemble!" (Alzette Belval living together!), to develop the "feeling of belonging" in the same cross-border city. It helps actors in the area (administrations, associations, schools, inhabitants, etc.) with cross-border projects for sport, tourism, culture, agriculture, education, schools and pupil exchanges. In the remaining programming period, the EGTC plans to follow the current Interreg project and other projects, especially for mobility. The EGTC also supports local actors who want to develop Interreg projects. The grouping adopted in 2017 its new territorial development strategy "Alzette Belval, working together to make the cross-border agglomeration 2017-2020". The document has a bottom-up approach and was prepared with and for local stakeholders and those working with the EGTC. For the joint management of public services, the EGTC works with managers of public services (mobility especially) to contribute to common development. For example, the EGTC tries to find an agreement to coordinate bus timetables and the joint development of bike paths on both sides of the border.</p>
Challenges or issues	<p>The main obstacles are rooted in differences between FR/LU laws e.g. when organising cross-border races. For example, in athletics competitions in France, runners who are not members of an official French athletic (with a French athletics license) club must supply a medical certificate to the organisers. Even though the French Athletics Federation (FFA) and the Luxembourg Athletics Federation are both members of the International Association of Athletics Federation, the FFA only recognises French athletics licenses.</p>
Budget	€ 249,148.96
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	<p>The EGTC is lead partner of one Interreg project "Alzette Belval vivons ensemble!", total budget: € 192,056.45, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 76,822.58, co-funded by the EU: € 115,233.87.</p> <p>Due to its expertise and location, the EGTC has been contacted to be methodological partner of various Interreg V Greater Region projects: AROMA, GROUNDS, EDUCO, SDT-GR (spatial planning) etc. Since 2016, it is also a methodological partner in an Interreg project about the quality of water in the local river (A(l)qua, "Alzette, Objectif qualité"). No budget was indicated.</p>
Staff (in FTE)	1 Director (80% FTE), 1 policy officer (100% FTE), 1 bookkeeper (30% FTE), all hired directly by the EGTC.

3.1.44 Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial Ciudades de la Cerámica, AECT limitada

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	 <p>Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial Ciudades de la Cerámica (AEuCC EGTC)^f</p>
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial Ciudades de la Cerámica, AECT limitada (AEuCC, AECT limitada)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Spain, Italy, France and Romania (observer cities from Austria and Poland)</p>
<p>Modification of membership</p>	<p>There were no changes yet, but some are in preparation. New members are asking to be admitted: German Association of Cities of Ceramics (AgCC), Polish Association of Cities of Ceramics (AplCC), Czech Republic Association of Cities of Ceramics (AczCC), Portuguese Association of Cities of Ceramics (AptCC).</p>
<p>Changes in convention/statutes</p>	<p>The new version of the statutes was approved by the assembly in 2017, and in a few months, after some final bureaucratic activities from the Portuguese partner, it will be submitted to new member governments, the Spanish government and the EU. The changes did not affect the duration of the EGTC.</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The EGTC is a rare example of institutionalised interregional cooperation (rather than cross-border or transnational). It is deeply involved in a specific sector (artistic and craft ceramics where it is highly specialised and has network relations. Its characteristics permit strong cohesion results (mainly in jobs and growth) and to reach out to many stakeholders. The EGTC is seen as a good example of how EGTCs could be developed and be effective for a wider area (interregional – EU level) in a very specialised sector.</p> <p>Given the interregional approach, the EGTC could play an important role in ETC: The EGTC could theoretically enlarge to 27 or more members. At present, the interregional characteristics of EGTC are not recognised nor supported with concrete opportunities. An Interreg Europe project (the only possible Interreg programme for the geographic characteristics) was presented but rejected (because EGTCs are not recognised as a "development tool" and the EGTC did not manage any "policy").</p> <p>AEuCC prepared projects under different EU programmes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Interreg EUROPE: rejected in 2016, amended and represented (different lead partner: Regione Umbria) in 2017; b) ERASMUS+: rejected in 2016, amended and represented (different lead partner: TUCEP) in 2017, won and started in October 2017; c) CREATIVE EUROPE: rejected in 2017, in preparation in 2018; d) Interreg ENI CBC MED: currently in preparation (different lead partner); e) Interreg Italy-Croatia: currently in preparation (different lead partner). f) Interreg IT-FR-Maritime, COSME and Citizen: could be presented by the deadline. <p>Every project (even non-ETC) contains many benefits related to Cohesion</p>


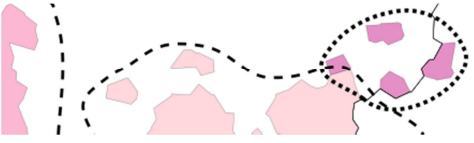
	<p>Policy.</p> <p>Europe 2020 (together with Cohesion Policy and ETC) is embedded in the EGTC statutes, even if no approved project has yet enabled concrete implementation. The openness of the EGTC to new members itself represents a strong message to Europe in times of crisis (not only in economic terms).</p> <p>For joint strategies, the EGTC's role is described in Article 5 of its statutes (specific target and functions). Territorial cooperation is a specific target, based on the ceramic sector, with the aim of enhancing economic and social development and cohesion. The functions of AEuCC, linked to the specific target and in relation to Article 7.4 of the EGTC regulation, are: joint projects and actions of territorial cooperation, promotion and protection of cultural heritage, tourism and cultural development of its regions and cities, improvement of ceramic craft, promotion of vocational training and competitiveness, organisation of international events, even in an area larger than the EU, improvement of energy efficiency, pollution reduction, waste disposal, quality of life, analysis, research and study on employment, innovation, new technologies, internationalisation, clusters, etc.</p> <p>New national associations of ceramics cities are widening the territorial scope. Overall, the EGTC increases the sense of belonging to a specific and distinctive European identity founded on shared cultural and historical values and on cooperation between cities with an ancient ceramic tradition.</p>
Challenges or issues	At this moment, it only needs an initial grant to enhance its structure to a minimum level.
Budget	€ 50,000 (foreseen for 2018)
EU co-funded	35 %
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	CERASMUS (Erasmus+), total budget € 299,500, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 42,000, co-funded by the EU: 100%.
Staff (in FTE)	Direct = 0, Indirect = 1 (50% of Italian coordinator, 30% of Spanish coordinator, 10% of French and Romanian coordinators). AEuCC could manage direct employees by winning at least one European project. (4 are in preparation).

3.1.45 European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Eurocity of Chaves-Verín



 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial Eurocidade Chaves-Verín (Eurocidade Chaves-Verín, AECT) - Agrupamento Europeu de Cooperação Territorial Eurocidade Chaves-Verín (Eurocidade Chaves-Verín, AECT) - European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Eurocity of Chaves-Verín (Eurocity of Chaves-Verín, EGTC)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Spain, Portugal</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The added-value of the EGTC is in implementing cross-border and inter-regional actions in various fields. For the implementation of ETC projects in 2017, a project of the CBC programme was approved for the Eurocity of Chaves-Verín. This project will consolidate the EGTC leadership as an agent promoting proximity cooperation in the area (cross-border urban agglomeration), emphasising: common actions of citizen participation, culture, sports, education and social action; implementation of a common network of tourist offices and promotion of a common tourist destination; implementation of a pilot for cross-border passenger transport; support for the internationalisation of local businesses; and common management of municipal equipment.</p> <p>In the remaining programming period the EGTC plans to: 1) develop actions to increase citizen participation in the decision-making of the EGTC; 2) develop actions for active aging; 3) jointly organise cultural and sports events; 4) increase ICT in common public services; 5) create a cross-border public transport service; 6) manage natural areas commonly; 7) conserve the natural historical heritage; 8) consolidate and promote the cross-border tourist destination "Chaves-Verín" and the network of tourist information points; 9) promote connectivity and virtual tourism; 10) consolidate the spa cluster; 11) support the modernisation and internationalisation of SMEs in the Eurocity; 12) implement a cross-border co-working entrepreneurship office and support the creation of start-ups; 14) implement a cross-border system for collecting municipal solid waste; 15) create a network of Atlantic area Eurocities.</p> <p>The EGTC contributes to the European 2020 Strategy, especially: 1) improving the tourism and spa cluster, consolidating the tourist destination "Chaves-Verín", capable of competing globally; 2) modernising the cross-border labour market, through specialised training and supporting cross-border labour mobility through the Citizens Information Service; and 3) improving the efficiency of public administration, with the common and innovative management of equipment in the two cross-border municipalities. As strategic axes towards economic growth, social cohesion and sustainability, the following common joint strategic objectives are defined in the strategic plan of the EGTC:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. An Intelligent Eurocity <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1. Support to key sectors of the local economy in research, development and innovation (R & D & I) 1.2. Investment in ICT 2. A Sustainable Eurocity

	<p>2.1. Promoting sustainable, intelligent and inclusive urban development</p> <p>2.2. Conservation of the cultural and natural heritage of the Eurocity</p> <p>2.3. Promoting transport and sustainable mobility in the Eurocity</p> <p>3. A Competitive Eurocity</p> <p>3.1. Improving the competitiveness of SMEs</p> <p>3.2. Promoting training and job mobility in the Eurocity</p> <p>4. An Inclusive Eurocity</p> <p>4.1. Improve access to public services</p> <p>4.2. Strengthening the institutional capacity of the Eurocity</p> <p>The EGTC jointly manages several public services. Firstly, the EGTC offers a euro citizenship card, allowing residents of both cities access with the same conditions and fees to public facilities in the two cities (libraries, sports and cultural facilities, etc.). At the cultural level, the EGTC publishes a cultural agenda on a monthly basis. The tourism information points of the two municipalities work together, with several tourism products created and promoted jointly. In terms of youth, the Eurocity has a rehearsal room and a youth information office. The Eurocity also has its own facilities, and as well as providing the services mentioned above, it has an information service for citizens on cross-border issues (labour mobility, etc.), in addition to providing this space for events, networking, cultural exhibitions, etc.</p>
Challenges or issues	<p>The two states, regions and members need to be more involved. The EGTC needs greater financial capacity and participation in the fields of the members' competences relevant for the border in civil protection, transport, economic development, tourism, environment, logistics, employment, etc.. It is a cross-border urban agglomeration with influence beyond its territory. To fulfil its objectives, it should incorporate neighbouring municipalities to cover the NUTS III of each country.</p> <p>The EGTC has difficulties in hiring and benefitting from human resources from the country it is not based in. A different tax identification number is needed for each country, which requires separate financial management for each country.</p> <p>The grouping is not called on to draw up cross-border cooperation programmes, limiting participation to the public participation stage. EGTCs in general are not taken into account by states, for implementing territorial policies, nor for resolving border issues. The lack of pre-financing in territorial cooperation programmes is aimed at providing cash flow to EGTC, which obliges the EGTC to convince its members of its importance and the need for them to advance the EU co-funding of European projects.</p>
Budget	€ 240,000
EU co-funded	€ 135,000
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	<p>The EGTC is currently involved in 2 EU-funded projects:</p> <p>1) 0212_EUROCIDADE_2020_1_E (Interreg ES-PT), The Eurocity of Chaves-Verín as a tool to bring Europe 2020 closer to citizens, project budget: € 1,775,405.17, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 897,333.22, co-funded by the EU: € 673,000.00 (75%);</p> <p>2) 0058_DESTINO_FRONTERA_6_E (Interreg ES-PT), Strategy of tourist development of the Iberian border, project budget: € 1,515,440.35, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 117,800.04, co-funded by the EGTC: € 133,250.03 (75%).</p>
Staff (in FTE)	Staff hired directly in FTE: 0, employed indirectly in FTE: 2


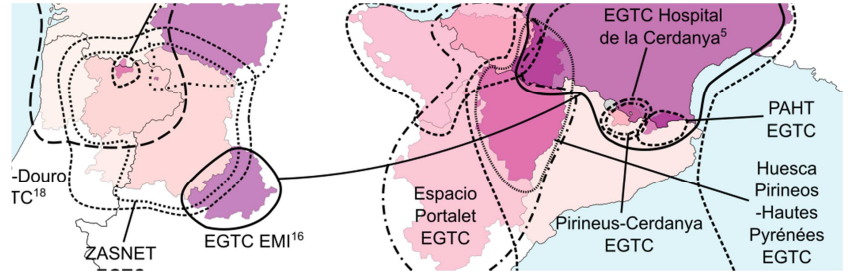
3.1.46 European Common Future Building European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation with Limited Liability

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	 <p>European Common Future Building EGTC</p>
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>Európai Közös Jövő Építő Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Együttműködési Csoportosulás (Európai Közös Jövő Építő ETT) - Gruparea Europeană de Cooperare Teritorială pentru Construcția unui Viitor European Comuncu Răspundere limitată (GECT Construcția unui Viitor European Comun) - European Common Future Building European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation with Limited Liability (European Common Future Building EGTC)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Hungary and Romania</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>Being a cross-border organisation, cross-border communication is continuous, personal consultations between Romanian and Hungarian members take place on a weekly basis. The EGTC has the following planned objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) preparing joint regional development plans, project development and project implementation, b) establishing and operating joint institutions for project cooperation and maintenance, c) cooperation for tourism development: joint product development, developing tourism infrastructure, joint marketing, d) joint tourism management, e) joint cooperation in disaster management in parallel with volunteering.
<p>Budget</p>	<p>About € 20,000</p>
<p>EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017</p>	<p>The EGTC was involved in one project whereas operational funding was financed by the Hungarian Government and not by the EU.</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>The EGTC has 2 part time employees, 1 director and 1 financial manager.</p>


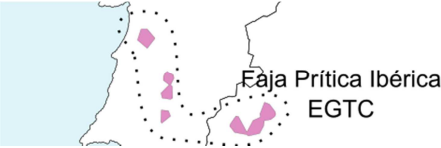
3.1.47 Central European Transport Corridor Limited Liability European Grouping of Territorial Co-operation

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	 <p>Central European Transport Corridor EGTC (CETC-EGTC)</p>
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>Central European Transport Corridor Limited Liability European Grouping of Territorial Co-operation (CETC-EGTC Ltd.)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Sweden, Poland, Hungary and Croatia. Associated members with observer status from Poland.</p>
<p>Modification of membership</p>	<p>A Polish member (Lower Silesian Voivodeship) became a regular member.</p>
<p>Changes in convention/statutes</p>	<p>The statutes and the convention were amended on 21 February 2017 in connection with the change of the status of the Lower Silesian Voivodeship. The change did not affect the duration of the EGTC.</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>As indicated in 2016, the grouping is involved (as an associated partner) in implementing three transport projects funded under ETC. Two of these – TENTacle and NSB CoRe – were marked as central to implementing the EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region. The TalkNET project is a basis for developing cooperation with stakeholders in the southern part of the corridor. As part of cooperation with other projects, including TENTacle, NSB CoRe, EMMA, TalkNET and the Baltic Sea – Black Sea, joint recommendations to revise the TEN-T network in 2023 will be prepared.</p> <p>The EGTC is also involved in preparing two new projects planned for implementation under the Interreg CENTRAL EUROPE Cooperation Programme.</p> <p>In the Action Plan, adopted in 2016, EGTC partners plan to prepare a development strategy, with a focus on innovation and a joint R&D strategy and/or programme. The EGTC supports macro-regional projects and initiatives.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>€ 43,204</p>
<p>EU co-funded</p>	<p>None in 2017</p>
<p>EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017</p>	<p>In 2017, the EGTC was an associated partner in 3 EU-funded projects:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) TENTacle (Interreg BSR Programme), project budget: € 3,500,000, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 0, co-funded by the EU: € 0; 2) NSB Core (Interreg BSR Programme), project budget: € 3,300,000, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 0, co-funded by the EU: € 0; 3) TalkNET (Interreg Central Europe Programme), project budget: € 2,500,000, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 0, co-funded by the EU: € 0.
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>4 persons employed indirectly.</p>


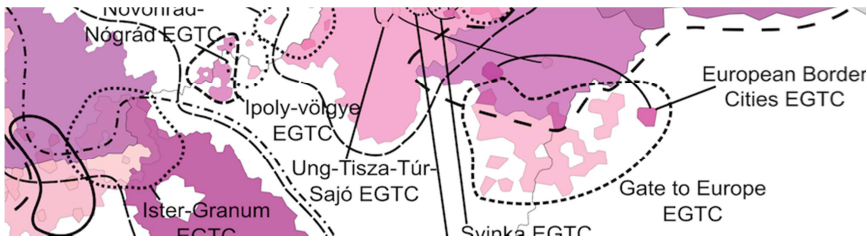
3.1.48 Huesca Pirineos – Hautes Pyrénées

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	Huesca Pirineos – Hautes Pyrénées (HP-HP)
Countries involved	Spain and France
Tasks	<p>The EGTC contributes to the development of cross-border cooperation policy. It also contributes to promoting a dynamic economic system in the border area based on trading services and goods where relations were almost non-existent. Currently, the EGTC implements an Interreg POCTEFA project for agri-food products, gastronomy and tourism. One of the main obstacles is that there is no advantage to EGTC submitting a project (e.g. a stable cooperation agency whose members continue to cooperate on a permanent basis). Setting up an EGTC and ensuring its operation is a major challenge for members, which is not reflected in the project selection.</p> <p>The economy in mountain areas depends increasingly on tourism. This includes direct services (accommodation, catering, guides, etc.) as well as traditional sectors. Without customers who value the products then livestock raising for cheese, meat, etc. would not be possible. The same holds for construction, crafts, or private and public services. The EGTC, by focusing on new tourism diversification strategies, integrated with traditional activities (agri-food products) and new activities (gastronomy), is improving economic development capacity and conveying a message of environmental respect.</p> <p>The EGTC contributes to Europe 2020 through the development of local strategies. The EGTC does not contribute directly to a macro-regional strategy. However, the grouping is engaged in exchanges with other EGTCs in the area and with public administrations involved in objectives for the central Pyrenees. These include a vision for economic development that converts the border into a local market, because of its proximity.</p>
Budget	The budget for 2018 is € 588,580, from implementing the project POCTEFA EFA 08/15 under the Pyrenees-Fait in Pyrénées (INSPYR).
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	1) INSPYR (Interreg POCTEFA), project budget: € 1,385,300, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 976,500, co-funded by the EU (ERDF): 65%.
Staff (in FTE)	1



3.1.49 Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial Faja Pirítica Ibérica

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	 <p>Faja Pirítica Ibérica EGTC</p>
Name (Acronym)	Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial Faja Pirítica Ibérica (AECT-FPI)
Countries involved	Spain and Portugal
Tasks	<p>The EGTC's purpose is cooperation the fields of cultural heritage, tourism and local development. Valorisation of the mining heritage is crucial, as it is part of the identity of the two areas.</p> <p>The EGTC has approved draft strategic and action plans which should serve as a roadmap. The EGTC envisages implementing Europe 2020 in the future. This was included in the action plan; however, since it is not yet approved, there is no action towards Europe 2020 yet.</p> <p>The EGTC will identify potential obstacles when becomes more involved. While the action plan is not yet approved, no impact could be evaluated.</p> <p>The grouping is not yet involved in ETC. It intends to cooperate with mining companies that could be new members.</p>
Budget	€ 0
Staff	The EGTC has no staff.

3.1.50 European Border Cities European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Limited Liability



 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	European Border Cities European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Limited Liability (European Border Cities EGTC)
Countries involved	Hungary and Romania
Tasks	<p>The EGTC's aim is to strengthen economic and social cohesion between its members in the framework of cross-border cooperation.</p> <p>Furthermore, the grouping aims to elaborate and implement common regional development programmes, plans and cross-border projects, as well as the development of tourism, its infrastructure and common marketing in the area.</p> <p>The EGTC wants to apply under the Hungary-Romania cross-border cooperation programme and the Hungary-Slovakia-Romania-Ukraine cross-border cooperation programme in the remaining 2014-2020 programming period as well. The EGTC is also investigating project proposals for other EU programmes (e.g.: Europe for citizens; ERASMUS+ etc.).</p> <p>In 2017, the grouping submitted a project to a Hungarian Fund (Gábor Bethlen Alapkezelő) to implement a cultural programme for children. The decision is pending. An Interreg RO-HU project is under preparation related to air pollution, culture and town twinning.</p> <p>In the remaining programming period, the EGTC plans projects involving culture, town twinnings and economic development.</p>
Budget	The Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade awarded a grant of HUF 5,300,000 (approximately € 17,061) to start the technical programme. As previously, membership fees were added to the budget for 2017.
Staff (in FTE)	5

3.1.51 ESPON EGTC – European Node for Territorial Evidence

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	ESPON EGTC – European Node for Territorial Evidence (ESPON EGTC)
Countries involved	Belgium and Luxembourg
Tasks	<p>The purpose of the ESPON EGTC is to act as single beneficiary to implement and deliver content envisaged by the ESPON 2020 cooperation programme. This programme is designed to reinforce the effectiveness of Cohesion Policy and other sectorial policies and programmes under ESI funds as well as national and regional territorial development policies, through the production, dissemination and promotion of territorial evidence. ESPON EGTC is the Single Beneficiary for implementing the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme in the framework of Cohesion Policy and is one of the interregional territorial cooperation programmes. It covers all 28 EU Members States, as well as the 4 Partner States of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland. The purpose is to contribute to a Cohesion Policy that has the maximum effect in supporting Europe 2020. This includes strengthening the capacity of the EU economy to grow, innovate and generate employment, and deliver positive and lasting impact in promoting territorial cohesion and harmonious development across EU regions and MS. Support for national and regional authorities in contributing to Europe 2020 and to territorial cohesion is an inherent part of the Programme.</p> <p>During 2017 ESPON EGTC launched research activities covering a wide range of topics such as financial instruments, green infrastructure, circular economy, youth unemployment, geographical specificities and territorial reference framework.</p> <p>There were also targeted analyses in response to stakeholder demands including regional strategy, territorial cooperation areas, metropolitan areas, protected areas, migration flows, macro-regional spatial planning, cross-border public services, digital health, cultural heritage, territorial impact assessment for cross-border cooperation, maritime spatial planning and land-sea interactions, big data for integrated territorial policy development, as well as urban-rural connectivity in non-metropolitan regions.</p> <p>In addition, activities initiated in 2016 delivered data, territorial evidence, analyses and trends that have been used at all levels to improve policy making in Europe.</p> <p>In 2018 ESPON EGTC will launch a project entitled ‘Territorial Evidence Support for ETC programmes’. The project will be implemented by a transnational service provider selected following competitive tendering in the last quarter of 2017. Following detailed discussions with Interact, this project will focus on 12 ETC programmes that responded to the 2016 survey to determine the demand for customised territorial evidence support from</p>

	<p>ESPON. ETC programmes provide a framework for implementing joint actions and policy exchanges between national, regional and local actors from different member and partner states, and their regions, and are therefore a very important stakeholder target group for ESPON territorial evidence. The primary objective of this project is to make the ESPON territorial evidence knowledge base accessible and useful for programme managers, joint technical secretariats and policymakers involved in the implementation of ETC programmes. In pursuit of this objective, the project shall aim at developing an improved set of territorial indicators for ETC programmes to support, inter alia, investment priority setting, strategic programming, monitoring and evaluation. This shall be supported by extensive ETC stakeholder consultation and enhancing the usability, functionality and relevance of ESPON evidence by integrating territorial indicators into the Interact KEEP database (www.keep.eu), which provides a centralised source of aggregated data for all ETC programmes. ESPON EGTC will work with Interact to implement this project. The EGTC has received much interest from ETC programmes for this project as they move towards mid-term evaluations. Accordingly, success could lead to rolling out the project beyond the initial 12 programmes.</p> <p>The EGTC is developing a project "European and Macro-regional Territorial Monitoring Tool" aimed at providing support to EU macro-regions and VASAB. It should develop one module covering the entire EU plus Switzerland, Iceland, Lichtenstein and Norway for monitoring, interpreting and communicating territorial development trends and forecasts for policy objectives like Cohesion Policy or the Territorial Agenda. In addition, and more specifically for EU macro-regions, it will also develop four modules covering implementing macro-regional strategies (EUSBSR, EUSDR, EUSAIR and EUSALP) as well as the VASAB Long-Term Perspective. The main outcome will be a web tool, which provides territorial evidence to stakeholders and policymakers in Europe as well as the Baltic Sea, Danube, Alpine and Adriatic-Ionian macro-regions on key development trends and the progress and implementation of policy objectives as defined in the macro-regional strategies.</p> <p>ESPON EGTC is also implementing a targeted analysis to develop common spatial perspectives for the Alpine area (Alps2050). The main outcome will be a territorial vision and common spatial perspectives for the Alpine area, to indicate how developments in selected thematic fields can influence sustainable territorial development and enhance territorial resilience, including ecosystem functioning and biological diversity until 2050. It will also identify broader impacts of developments in thematic fields for different types of territories in the Alpine area (e.g. rural areas, urban areas).</p>
Budget	€ 10,961,350.98 for 2017
EU co-funded	€ 39,276,145 for the entire financial period
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	In the framework of the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme, the ESPON EGTC in the period 2015-2022 implements the ESPON Single Operation. ESPON Single Operation , total budget: € 48,032,234 for the entire financial programming period, total budget implemented since the start of the Single Operation and until June 2017: € 4,041,023.36.
Staff (in FTE)	20 FTE in 2017, all hired directly.


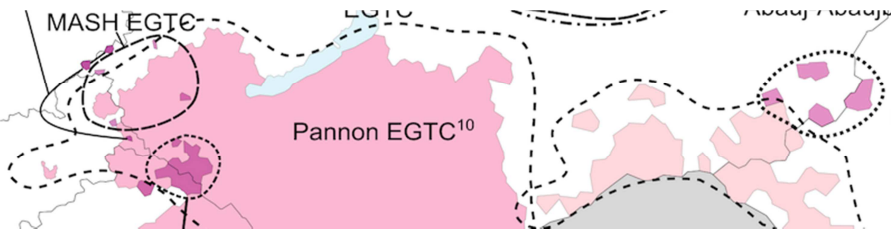
3.1.52 GECT Pays d'Art et d'Histoire Transfrontalier Les Vallées Catalanes du Tech et du Ter

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>GECT Pays d'Art et d'Histoire Transfrontalier Les Vallées Catalanes du Tech et du Ter - AECT País d'Art i d'Història Transfronterer Les Valls Catalanes del Tec i del Ter - AECT País de Arte e Historia Transfronterizo Los Valles Catalanes del Tec y del Ter (GECT PAHT)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>France and Spain</p>
<p>Modification of membership</p>	<p>In 2020, the EGTC intends to integrate 7 new members, the Spanish municipalities of Albanya, Maçanet de Cabrenys, Agullana, La Vajol, La Junquera, Montagut i Oix, Darnius.</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The grouping develops joint strategies by creating jobs, supporting qualifications, including professional ones, development of tourism as an economic sector, maintenance of the population and especially families on both sides of the border.</p> <p>In 2018, the grouping will be involved in implementing LEADER projects as well as ITI and ERDF.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>n.a.</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>In 2017 the EGTC directly hired 5 FTE and indirectly (e.g. delegated) 0.5.</p>

3.1.53 Interregional Alliance for the Rhine-Alpine Corridor EGTC


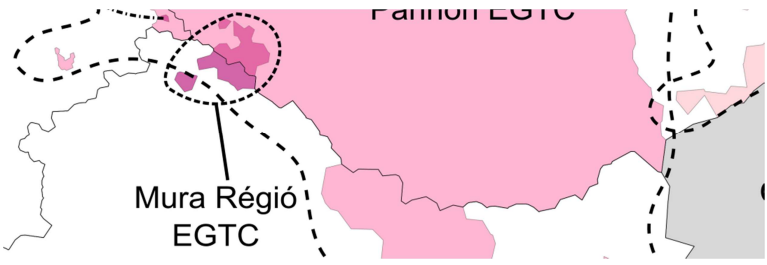
 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	 <p>Interregional Alliance for the Rhine-Alpine Corridor EGTC</p>
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>Interregional Alliance for the Rhine-Alpine Corridor EGTC</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Belgium, France and Switzerland</p>
<p>Modification of membership</p>	<p>One new member: city of Venlo (NL) joined the grouping.</p>
<p>Changes in convention/statutes</p>	<p>The convention/statutes were changed for the new member in 2017.</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The EGTC facilitates and promotes territorial cooperation among its members and jointly strengthens and coordinates territorial and integrated development of the multimodal Rhine-Alpine Corridor from the regional and local perspective. In this framework, the EGTC has developed a "Joint Strategy" for the Rhine-Alpine Corridor.</p> <p>Private entities can only be incorporated in the Advisory Board.</p> <p>The grouping implements the CEF funded project "Raise-it" as lead partner. In the remaining funding period, the EGTC plans to apply for one Interreg and one LIFE funded project. In future, the EGTC would like to integrate more members from Switzerland.</p> <p>There is an obstacle in accessing ETC projects/programmes, specifically as the eligibility of the EGTC is questioned by EU Agencies.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>No updated information</p>
<p>EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017</p>	<p>The EGTC implemented one EU-funded project: RAIS-IT (CEF).</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>The grouping employs only external consultants/freelance for office support.</p>

3.1.54 MASH European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation*

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	MASH Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Terület Társulás - MASH European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation - MASH EZTS Evropskega Združenja za teritorialno sodelovanje (MASH ETT)
Countries involved	Hungary and Slovenia
Tasks	<p>The EGTC was created to provide a platform for mayors to work together on common cross-border projects and programmes. The EGTC was involved in the development of joint strategies.</p> <p>The EGTC has prepared and plans to prepare more projects under the Slovenia-Hungary Interreg VA programme, especially under TO 11.</p>
Budget	n.a.
Staff (in FTE)	1 director


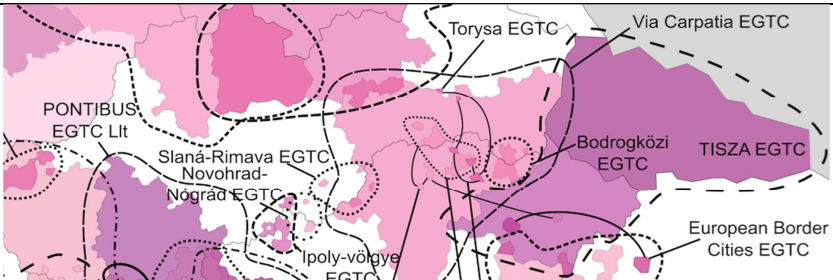
*All efforts to contact the official representatives of this EGTC failed during this year. The information provided was taken from the EGTC monitoring report 2016. Due to the small size of the EGTC, the EGTC is not active. Further steps are currently under investigation".

3.1.55 Mura Region European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation


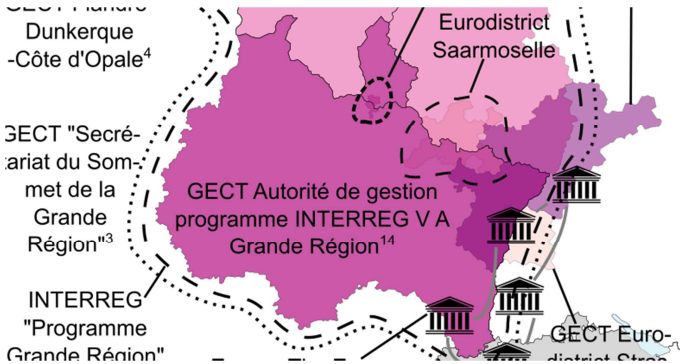
 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>Mura Régió Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Együttműködési Csoportosulás (Mura Régió ETT) - Regija Mura Europska grupacija za teritorijalnu suradnju s ograničenom odgovornošću (Regija Mura EGTS) - Mura Region European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Limited Liability (Mura Region EGTC)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Hungary and Croatia</p>
<p>Modification of membership</p>	<p>New members in Hungary: Letenye Községi Önkormányzat, Bázakerettye Községi Önkormányzat; New members in Croatia: Općina Orehovica, Općina Legrad, Općina Sveta Marij.</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The EGTC structure helps developing the economy and employment in peripheral areas across borders. The EGTC was founded and operates in line with Europe 2020.</p> <p>The EGTC submitted applications for priorities of the HU-HR Interreg programme in 2017. It was involved in promotion of the HU-HR "B" Light Call for Proposals among SMEs. It is also involved in preparing the upcoming programming cycle starting from 2021, especially the design and construction of the Mura Bridge between Molnári and Kotoriba. During 2017, the EGTC submitted a project proposal to the HU-HR Interreg call for people-to-people public services development. It also promoted environmentally friendly tourism developments to exploit the opportunities of the river Mura. Also, for renewable energy, the EGTC generated cross-border business relationships for SMEs.</p>
<p>Challenges or issues</p>	<p>The EGTC needs further development of its management and is always actively seeking new partners.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>Ft 73,537,586 (approximately € 23,696.57)</p>

<p>EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017</p>	<p>1) Two Rivers, One Goal: Sustainable water tourism along Mura and Drava Rivers, HUHR/1601/2.1.2/0004 (Interreg VA Hungary-Croatia Cooperation Programme 2014-2020), project budget: € 842,285.50;</p> <p>2) EGTCs Strategies for the Support of Rural Start-Ups (Interreg Europe), project budget: € 1,190,000, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 157,000;</p> <p>3) Let's learn together! - European joint expertise conference (Hercule III Programme 2014-2020), project budget: € 50,282;</p> <p>4) Support of Rural SMEs for joint development in the Danube Region (Interreg Danube Transnational programme), no budget indicated.</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>One director, one assistant.</p>


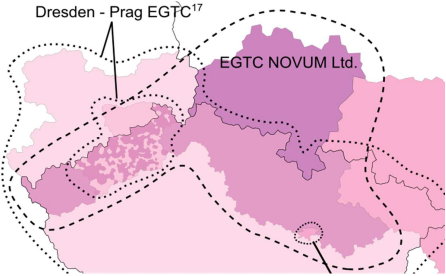
3.1.56 Tisza European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Limited Liability

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>Tisza Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Társulás (Tisza ETT) - Європейське об'єднання територіального співробітництва з обмеженою відповідальністю ТИСА (ЄОТС ТИСА) - Tisza European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Limited Liability (Tisza EGTC)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Hungary and Ukraine</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The purpose of the EGTC is to create solid and stable cooperation and social cohesion across the EU external border area and to develop the infrastructure and economy of the area. It adapts EU best practices in different fields and supports the Euro-Atlantic integration of Ukraine. The EGTC represents added value by implementing Cohesion Policy through the development of border crossing points and by connecting infrastructure at the EU external border.</p> <p>The EGTC submitted two project applications in 2017 and is currently waiting for the results.</p> <p>In 2016, the EGTC developed the Integrated Territorial Cohesion Strategy for the Tisza EGTC. In 2017, the grouping presented the strategy at two forums in Uzghorod and Kisvárdán. Through the strategy, the EGTC contributes to the EUSDR.</p> <p>In the remaining funding period, the EGTC intends to generate project proposals and to coordinate funding sources for different organisations and its own projects in infrastructure, tourism, health and education, as well as to support mobility across the external border area.</p>
<p>Challenges or issues</p>	<p>In the Ukraine there is still no approval authority in place that could formally adopt the EGTC Act.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>€ 40,000</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>2</p>

3.1.57 GECT-Autorité de gestion programme INTERREG V A Grande Région


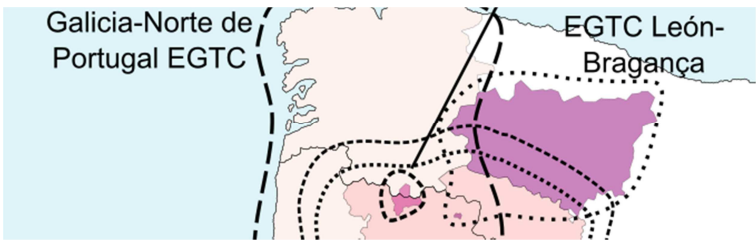
 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	GECT-Autorité de gestion programme INTERREG V A Grande Région (GECT-INTERREG Grande Région)
Countries involved	Luxembourg and France
Tasks	<p>The EGTC was founded to execute the tasks of the Managing Authority for the Interreg Programme VA Grande Région / Großregion. The EGTC is a centralised management structure for the Interreg programme, which can employ staff and work for the benefit of the whole programme area. The EGTC thereby implements the tasks of the Managing Authority according to Article 125 of Regulation 1303/2013 and Article 23 of Regulation 1299 /2013.</p> <p>The Interreg Programme VA Grande Région / Großregion contributes to Europe 2020 through projects selected by the programme steering committee. The Managing Authority ensures during the project analysis that each project contributes to the strategy. The programme strategy is defined in the cooperation programme and contributes to economic growth, social cohesion and sustainability in all involved regions of the respective MS.</p>
Budget	€ 8,905,451 (2016-2023)
EU co-funded	€ 5,343,271 (2016-2023)
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	The EGTC implements 1 Operational Programme: Interreg Programme VA Grande Région / Großregion: total budget: € 233,004,409, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 8,905,451, co-funded by the EU: € 5,343,271.
Staff (in FTE)	Staff employed: 12 FTE

3.1.58 European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation NOVUM Limited


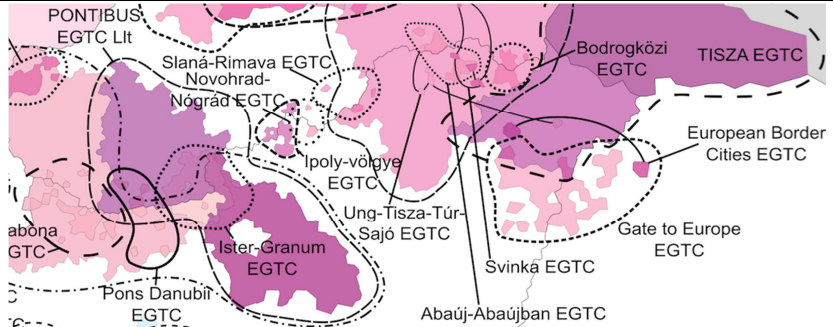
 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>Europejskie Ugrupowanie Współpracy Terytorialnej Novum z Ograniczoną Odpowiedzialnością (EUWT NOVUM z o.o.) - Evropské seskupení pro územní spolupráci NOVUM, s ručením omezeným (ESUS NOVUM s.r.o.) - European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation NOVUM Limited (EGTC NOVUM Ltd.)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Czech Republic and Poland</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The EGTC carries out the following tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Developing cooperation, extending the capacity and joint use of human resources and infrastructure, primarily in tourism, culture, education and health care, and also for technology research and development; 2) Supporting the joint protection of natural and cultural resources and their joint management, and preventing natural and technological risks; 3) Reducing isolation through improved access to transport, information and communication services and networks, as well as cross-border systems and facilities for water and energy supply and waste management; 4) Supporting entrepreneurship, primarily the development of SMEs, tourism, culture and cross-border trade; 5) Supporting research, technological development and innovation; 6) Supporting effective and coherent cross-border cooperation, including legal and administrative cooperation; 7) Promoting the integration of cross-border job markets; 8) Promoting local employment initiatives, gender equality and equal opportunities, training and social integration; 9) Supporting relations between urban and rural areas; 10) Ensuring cooperation, dialogue and enhanced political and social debate; 11) Facilitating the creation, application and implementation of projects within the framework of a development strategy prepared jointly. <p>The EGTC is now involved in several EU-funded projects, such as “Droga S3/D11 nasz wspólny priorytet” under the Interreg Czech Republic-Poland Programme and another project approval received in November 2017. The different projects are related to cooperation between emergency services in Poland and the Czech Republic, a cooperation platform for teachers from secondary schools and the preparation of training for environmental protection and spatial planning.</p> <p>Contributing to Europe 2020, the grouping implements the project</p>

	<p>BOOSTEE-CE. Central Europe has a high potential for deploying local and regional energy systems based on renewable energy generation and energy conservation, but it is important to trigger bottom up initiatives improving energy efficiency. Attention is being paid to the improvement of energy efficiency in existing buildings, as they account for significant electricity consumption that is growing at around 4% p.a. A major challenge for public authorities is to reduce the energy consumption without significant construction works.</p> <p>In the remaining programming period the grouping plans to be involved in further projects co-funded by the Interreg VA CZ-PL programme. The EGTC is also project partner in three projects which were sent for approval to the Interreg Europe programme: 1) optimising policies to attain the full benefits of energy performance certification in buildings, 2) EGTC strategies to support rural start-ups and 3) Disaster Reconstruction Unified Platform Assistance for Life.</p> <p>The grouping also prepared a project for the Visegrád Fund with partners from Ukraine during 2017.</p>
Budget	€ 120,000 as annual contributions from the members.
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	<p>The EGTC implemented 2 EU-funded projects in 2017:</p> <p>1) “Droga S3/D11 nasz wspólny priorytet”, Interreg Czech Republic-Poland, project budget: € 8,692.16, co-funded by the EU: € 7,388.35;</p> <p>2) BOOSTEE-CE - Boosting energy efficiency in Central European cities through smart energy management" (Interreg Central Europe) budget implemented by the EGTC: € 126,103, co-funded by the EU: € 107,187.</p>
Staff (in FTE)	3 full time and 2 part time positions.

3.1.59 Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial León-Bragança

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial León-Bragança - Agrupamento Europeu de Cooperação Territorial León-Bragança (AECT León-Bragança)
Countries involved	Spain and Portugal
Tasks	<p>The purpose of the EGTC is to promote economic and social cohesion in both territories. The added value for Cohesion Policy is encouraging more inhabitants and promoting the territory. The EGTC attracts new people into its rural areas and promotes economic and social cohesion.</p> <p>The EGTC León-Bragança started in December 2015. Only some promotional activities in both territories and some cooperation activities have been implemented so far. Activities in 2017 included numerous cultural exchanges in sport, music, exhibitions etc., which were financed from the EGTC's own budget.</p> <p>The EGCT will carry out activities in the remaining funding period to attract more inhabitants to the area. It is currently preparing a strategic plan for the territory. It is looking to involve other members such as small businesses, local groupings and associations.</p>
Challenges or issues	The grouping has drafted the strategic plan, which will guide its objectives. However, it has not been able to define its needs precisely.
Budget	€ 60,000
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	The EGTC currently is involved in three EU-funded projects: 1) PLAN ESTRATÉGICO AECT LEÓN-BRAGANÇA (Interreg POCTEP), project budget: € 250,000, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 62,500, co-funded by the EU: € 187,500; 2) Cultural guide (Erasmus+): project budget € 286,387; 3) EGCTUP (Interreg Europe), project budget: € 1,190,000, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 37,500, co-funded by the EU: 75%.
Staff (in FTE)	Two delegated positions are a civil servant of Diputación de León and a civil servant of Camara municipal de Bragança.


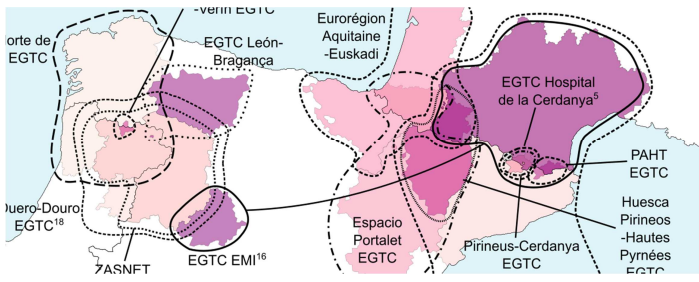
3.1.60 PONTIBUS European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Limited Liability

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>PONTIBUS Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Társulás– (PONTIBUS ETT) - Euórske zoskupenie územnej spolupráce PONTIBUS s ručením obmedzeným – (EZÚS PONTIBUS s ručením obmedzeným) PONTIBUS European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Limited Liability (PONTIBUS EGTC Limited Liability)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Hungary and Slovakia</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>In 2017 the EGTC continued to act as mediator and facilitator in the preparation of a bridge over the river Ipel' between the municipalities of Chľaba and Ipolydamásd, on the border of the two counties. At the end of 2017 projects were submitted under the Interreg CBC programme VA SK-HU, for which decisions are pending. One project targets increased employment and cross-border mobility for social services.</p> <p>In the programming period 2014-2020 the grouping will seek opportunities and will actively participate in implementing EU programmes and national programmes in the priority areas of cooperation in its statutes.</p> <p>The EGTC is planning to develop a joint medium-term strategy at the beginning of 2018. The EGTC is very keen to contribute to implementing the EU Strategy for the Danube Region, in common and compatible priority areas of the grouping, namely: mobility, energy, environment, climate risks, and the socio-economic area.</p>
<p>Challenges or issues</p>	<p>The main problem in implementing projects / programmes for the EGTC is the lack of financial resources to reimburse for projects over a longer period. The problem appears to be related to qualified human resources, which cannot be financed by the EGTC, since it only manages annual membership fees and subsidies granted by the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade.</p> <p>The EGTC is fully operational with the current members, although creating cooperative relations and partnerships is very important for its work.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>€ 30,900 (€ 6,000 membership fees and € 13,300 + €1,600 grants from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade Hungary)</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>The EGTC had no full-time employees. Three people were working for the EGTC on an agreement as well as one non-profit company executing the economic agenda also on an agreement on the establishment terms.</p>


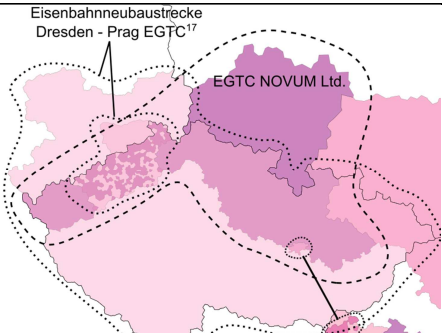
3.1.61 Eucor The European Campus EGTC

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	 <p>EUCOR - The European Campus EGTC</p>
Name (Acronym)	EUCOR The European Campus
Countries involved	France, Germany, Switzerland
Tasks	<p>In 2017 two applications were submitted to the EU. In one application the EGTC would act as junior partner in a project to be financed by the Erasmus+ strategic partnership programme. The application for "European Cross Border Skills" was accepted in August 2017. Partners come from other cross-border regions like the Alps, the Pyrenees and the Greater Region. The aim of the project is to establish a certificate for cross-border skills. In September 2017, the EGTC applied for co-funding under the Horizon 2020 programme "Marie Skłodowska Curie Actions". The aim of this project is to establish a European Graduate School in Quantum Sciences. The EGTC enabled member universities to apply for a truly European and cross-border school with shared doctoral students, shared infrastructure, and a joint recruiting strategy. Evaluation of the application is expected for February 2018. If the application is accepted by the EC, the EGTC will develop joint management services for this school, providing a public service. The universities in the EGTC have defined a framework for a strategic plan of development. This includes the definition of strategic research areas for joint research and education projects, Quantum Sciences and Technologies, Sustainability, Cultural Sciences and Precision Medicine. The EGTC has to decide whether it will apply for another project within the Interreg Upper Rhine programme. One option could be a joint application for a project covering knowledge and technology transfer.</p> <p>Thanks to President Emmanuel Macron's speech at the Sorbonne University in September 2017, the EGTC hopes to become one of the 20 "World Class European Universities" to be created by 2024. The call for prototypes is expected in 2018. As a "European university", the annual budget would rise and tasks would probably include missions covered by member universities today (i.e. financing student mobility, joint diplomas).</p>
Challenges or issues	<p>Assigning personnel to the central EGTC body has been critical because this could be considered as an obligation, which in some legislation means taxes must be paid. The French national legislation has found a legal way to avoid these taxes. The same situation has been identified in Germany. EGTC often have few personnel and rely on assignment from their members, which should be simple and without additional costs.</p>
Budget	€ 500,000
EU co-funded	None in 2017
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	<p>In 2017, EGTC was implementing 2 EU-funded projects (1 without budget):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> "European Cross Border Skills" (Erasmus+ strategic partnerships project), total budget: around € 300,000, budget implemented by the EGTC: around € 30,000; "Eucor - The European Campus: cross border structures" (Interreg VA Upper Rhine Programme): the coordination office of Eucor is implementing an Interreg project but the EGTC is not implementing any budget (member universities are project partners since the EGTC had not been created when applying for the Interreg funding).
Staff (in FTE)	None, since the staff are entirely delegated by one member university and the costs reimbursed by the EGTC.



3.1.62 European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation "European Mycological Institute"

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation "European Mycological Institute" - Agrupación Europea de Cooperación Territorial "Instituto Micológico Europeo" - (EMI EGTC)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>Spain and France</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>The purpose of the EGTC is to carry out and manage, from a sustainable development perspective, projects and cooperation actions for the management and valorisation of mycological resources, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • research, innovation and development in sector management; • evaluation and sector information; • training; • social awareness; • regulations: development and promotion; • provision of services. <p>The valorisation of mycological resources is an example of added value in rural areas. The EGTC is currently defining its strategic plan. It is fully aligned with Europe 2020. The grouping has aligned its interventions with the European Strategy of Bioeconomy. The EGTC plans to involve other private entities as members as well as associated partners from Canada and China.</p> <p>EGTC-EMI partners contributed to project applications, specifically: MYCOPOLIS, CERTITRUF, PYRIFUNGI, BULLETLIA, MYCOLIFE, RESPYRENTOUR and MYCONOVA. These relate to the management and valuation of mycological resources in EMI partner territories.</p> <p>In the remaining programming period, the EGTC wants to focus on: a) governance, territorial model and sectorial structure, b) sustainable use and mycosilva management adapted to climate change, c) myco-tourism promotion, d) agri-food promotion and improvement of marketing, e) improvement of the truffle industry, f) training and specialisation, g) communication and social awareness and h) R&D and innovation.</p>
<p>Challenges or issues</p>	<p>The EGTC will need further development (in terms of partners and tasks) to achieve its objectives.</p>
<p>Budget</p>	<p>€ 40,000</p>
<p>Staff (in FTE)</p>	<p>None at the moment.</p>

3.1.63 Eisenbahnneubaustrecke Dresden Prag EVTZ

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	Eisenbahnneubaustrecke Dresden Prag EVTZ / Nové železniční spojení Drážďany - Praha ESÚS (PROUD EGTC)
Countries involved	Germany and the Czech Republic
Tasks	<p>The purpose of the EGTC is to develop and coordinate planning activities, communicate with national authorities, the EC and the public from the very beginning and in a transparent way. It should also obtain funding for the project. The EGTC is an indirect partner in a well-run cross-border project of the Interreg VA programme. By developing rail transport and removing bottlenecks between Germany and the Czech Republic along the Orient/East-Med TEN-T Core Network Corridor, the project should benefit economic and territorial development in the wider transnational area.</p> <p>Submission of a project application to the Central Europe Programme was planned but the application was postponed to the beginning of 2018.</p> <p>The EGTC contributes to the broader Saxony region including the Ore Mountains and North Bohemia and the Ústí nad Labem Region in developing rail transport and removing the cross-border bottleneck between Germany and the Czech Republic in the Orient/East-Med CNC. The project should also bring significant effects to the whole northern part of TEN-T Orient-East Med CNC.</p> <p>Indirectly through sustainable rail infrastructure actions the EGTC develops joint strategies of economic growth, social cohesion and sustainability.</p>
Challenges or issues	<p>The EGTC will play an important role in pre-planning for the infrastructure project, which will start in 2018 on the German side. One challenge is to act as moderator and coordinator between the ministries and planners as well as a bridge between infrastructure managers and local inhabitants.</p> <p>There are internal problems for a partnership with EGTCs in acquiring ESI-Funds. Challenges were encountered in providing a guarantee in general (before signing the application) as well as with the transfer of available and planned budget from EGTC-members to the EGTC bank account after approval of the project application.</p>
Budget	€ 8,000 per year and additional project contributions of the members.
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	The EGTC is an indirect member in the Interreg VA project "Saxon-Czech Cross-border cooperation for the development of rail transport". Project budget of Saxony and the Czech Republic (as project partners & EGTC members): about € 957,000. 85% co-funded by the EU.
Staff (in FTE)	So far, no staff has been hired by the EGTC. Staff employed by the EGTC come from members of the EGTC.

3.1.64 Groupement Européen de Coopération Territoriale Eurodistrict PAMINA

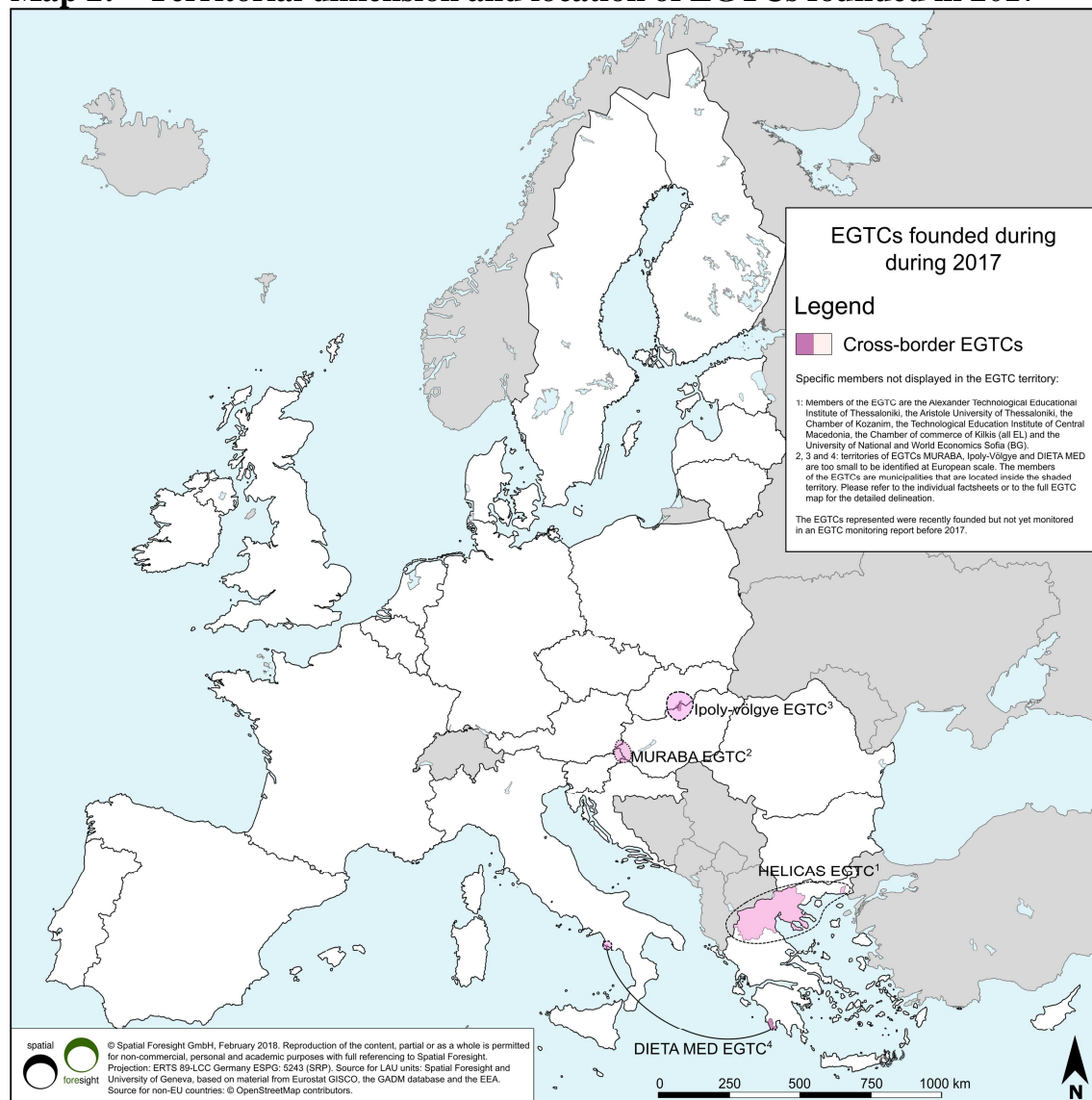
 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
<p>Name (Acronym)</p>	<p>Europäischer Verbund für Territoriale Zusammenarbeit Eurodistrict PAMINA // Groupement Européen de Coopération Territoriale Eurodistrict PAMINA (EVTZ Eurodistrict PAMINA - GECT Eurodistrict PAMINA)</p>
<p>Countries involved</p>	<p>France and Germany</p>
<p>Tasks</p>	<p>Cross-border cooperation, the main objective and purpose of the Eurodistrict PAMINA, enables and encourages people to exercise their right of freedom of movement beyond national borders. European and national legislation often disregard negative effects that new laws might have in border regions. The EGTC aims to attenuate these negative effects and enable people to directly experience the benefits of the EU.</p> <p>The EGTC is currently lead-partner for two Interreg VA projects, one for bilingualism (online-game “The Globetrotter”) and one for the labour market (“Alliance for skilled personnel PAMINA”). It is also a co-financing partner of an Interreg VA project for cross-border civil society in the Upper Rhine (see report 2016). Moreover, the EGTC acts as intermediate platform and local support within the call for micro-projects of the Interreg VA Upper Rhine programme. The EGTC is also an associated partner of two other Interreg VA projects: one concerning air quality in the Upper Rhine and another for civil protection (acquisition of an amphibious vehicle and training for civil protection volunteers from Germany and France). The EGTC is still an associated partner of the Interreg VA project "Success without borders" (promoting cross-border apprenticeships in the Upper Rhine).</p> <p>The EGTC is currently preparing two new ETC projects: a short-term initiative for better cross-border cooperation in the health sector (declaration of interest for an Interreg VA project) and a mid/long-term initiative for a cross-border railroad link across the Rhine. Furthermore, the Eurodistrict PAMINA is still an observer member of the Interreg VA Upper Rhine programme. The EGTC also wants to play a role as active local stakeholder in the definition of post 2020 ETC policies and programmes. For this, the EGTC uses networks (AEBR, MOT, EGTC platform) and has good relationships with representatives of European institutions (CoR, EC/DG REGIO, European Parliament).</p> <p>As European programmes in general must contribute to Europe 2020 the EGTC projects have to make their contribution as well. In a general sense, all</p>

	cross-border activities of the Eurodistrict PAMINA serve integration objectives and aim at improving living and working conditions at the local cross-border level.
Challenges or issues	<p>The admission of new members within the area (under preparation) will strengthen local anchoring of the EGTC and thus intensify local and regional cross-border networking and cooperation.</p> <p>Additional obstacles are linked to the administrative burden of ETC projects, even if their budget is comparatively low. True simplification is still needed. The impact of modified funding procedures for micro-projects involves positive (direct link between beneficiaries and the program authority) and negative aspects (time consuming data entry, less local decision making).</p>
Budget	Budget 2017: € 585,938.25 (without ERDF from the 3 Interreg VA projects)
EU-funded projects and programmes being implemented in 2017	<p>The EGTC currently is involved in 3 Interreg VA projects (2 as lead-partner, 1 as co-financing partner):</p> <p>1) "Der Weltenbummler" / "Le Passe-Partout": project budget: € 347,000, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 57,700, co-funded by the EU: € 208,000;</p> <p>2) "Fachkräfteallianz PAMINA" / "Bassin d'emploi PAMINA": project budget: € 266,000, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 189,400, co-funded by the EU: € 133,000;</p> <p>3) "Zivilgesellschaft am Oberrhein" / "Société civil dans le Rhin supérieur", total budget: € 852,000, budget implemented by the EGTC: € 72,200, co-funded by the EU: € 476,000 (as co-financing partner).</p>
Staff (in FTE)	So far, one person is hired directly by the EGTC (0.6 FTE within the Interreg VA project "Fachkräfteallianz PAMINA), six other employees are delegated by member organisations (including the Director), two of these work only close to full-time (0.9 FTE each).

3.2 Factsheets for EGTCs founded during 2017


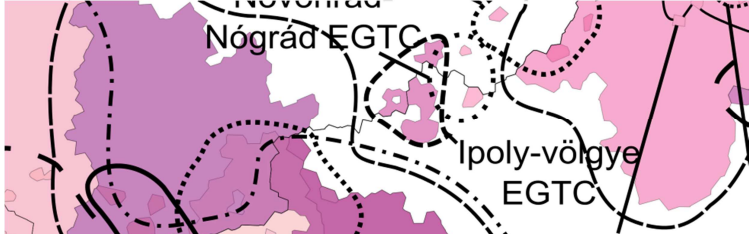
This section describes the EGTCs founded during 2017, so they are not included in any previous monitoring report. The following map gives an overview of their location.

Map 2: Territorial dimension and location of EGTCs founded in 2017



Source: Spatial Foresight, based on data collected from EGTCs.

3.2.1 Ipoly-völgye European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation with Limited Liability

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	Ipoly-völgye Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Társulás (Ipoly-völgye ETT)
Countries involved	Hungary and Slovakia
Summary	<p>The EGTCs tasks are determined in the convention adopted by the members. These include facilitating and promoting territorial cooperation to strengthen EU economic and social cohesion as well as the internal market.</p> <p>Individual tasks shall be determined by members according to their competence. Members of the EGTC can perform individual territorial cooperation actions with or without financial contribution from the EU. The EGTCs tasks may be implementing cooperation programmes, or parts thereof, or implementing operations supported by the EU through the ERDF, the ESF and/or the Cohesion Fund.</p>
History and current status	Conventions between municipalities along the border and jointly implemented cross-border tenders were the basis for further deepening cooperation.
Seat	Ludányhalászi, HU
Members	28
Key indicators	The EGTC uses its territory as a key indicator. No concrete value was reported.
Enlargement intents	There are no enlargement intentions.
Duration	There was no duration reported.
Objectives	As outlined above (Summary).
Tasks	<p>The EGTCs tasks are to fulfil the objectives described in the convention in line with Cohesion Policy. Emphasis is placed on regional cooperation. Therefore, the EGTC is currently in the process of preparing a joint strategy paper. In line with Europe 2020, the EGTC submitted an action plan to the Interreg SK-HU Programme to improve cross-border mobility and to construct cross-border roads, bridges and infrastructure for ferries.</p>


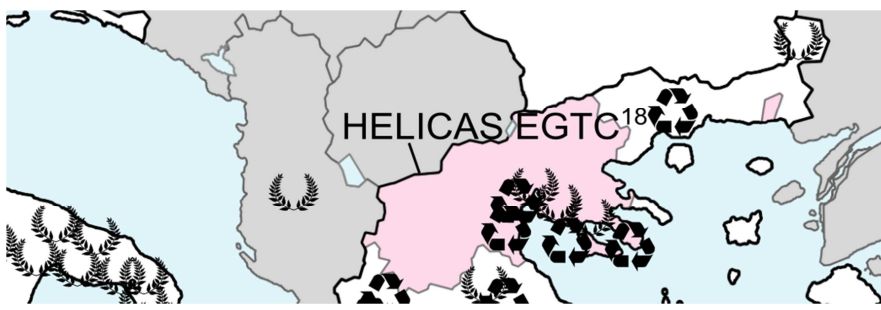
Challenges or issues	The EGTC is currently implementing the goals set in the founding documents.
Budget	€ 15,400
Staff (in FTE)	1
Law applicable	Equality of citizens (equality of rights, legality and equality before the law), gender equality, equal opportunities, non-discrimination.
Governance, organs and competencies	General Assembly, Board of Directors, Director, Supervisory Committee, Secretariat and working teams.
Function of EGTC according to Art. 7 of the EGTC Regulation	An EGTC may carry out specific actions of territorial cooperation between its members in pursuit of the objective referred to in Article 1(2), with or without financial support from the EU. Primarily, the tasks of an EGTC may concern implementing cooperation programmes, or parts thereof, or implementing operations supported by the Union through the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and/or the Cohesion Fund.
Public participation processes of the EGTC	Participation is planned through print and electronic media as well as participation in events.
Mechanisms of political accountability	Reported as not relevant
Languages	Hungarian
Main obstacles encountered	The EGTC mentioned that it had difficulties in preparing the founding documents.

3.2.2 DIETA MED EGTC*

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	 <p>DIETA MED EGTC</p>
Name (Acronym)	DIETA MED EGTC
Countries involved	Italy and Greece
Seat	C/o Centro Studi Internazionale Dieta Mediterranea ‘A. Vassallo’ – Palazzo Capano, Pollica 84068, Italy
Members	Comune di Pollica, Municipal Department of Koroni of the City of Pylou-Nestoros
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Promoting territorial cooperation by developing exchanges between iconic communities associated with the ‘Mediterranean diet’; 2) helping to implement the objectives set out under Decision 5.COM.6.41 of the 5th Session of Unesco’s Intergovernmental Committee, which declared the ‘Mediterranean diet’ to be an example of ‘intangible cultural heritage of humanity’; 3) sourcing documentation and information, and protecting and preserving the Mediterranean diet; 4) promotion, education, training and knowledge sharing; 5) promoting planning strategies; training aimed at employment in the area of competence; 6) knowledge, sustainable management and planning of environmental resources, landscapes and cultural values relating to the Mediterranean diet.

* Despite all efforts, it was not possible to reach the EGTC. The above information was taken from information provided pursuant to Article 5(2) – Establishment of a European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (EGTC) OJ C 337, 07.10.2017, p. 5-6.

3.2.3 European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation HELICAS

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation HELICAS non-profit civil partnership (HELICAS EGTC)
Countries involved	Greece and Bulgaria
Summary	The main task is to strengthen cooperation under the quadruple helix.
History and current status	Legal entities from Northern Greece and Bulgaria in the quadruple helix (local authorities, universities, chambers and civil society institutions), created H.E.L.I.C.A.S EGTC. In detail, 10 Municipalities, 2 Regional Unions of Municipalities, 4 Universities and 2 Chambers of Commerce and Industry decided to collaborate within the quadruple helix framework.
Seat	Thessaloniki-Thermi, EL
Members	The EGTC has 18 members: Municipality of Thessaloniki, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, National and World Economy University of Sofia, Municipality of Alexandropolis, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Kozani, Regional Union of Municipalities of Central Macedonia, etc.
Key indicators	Municipal members of the EGTC cover 818,779 inhabitants and an area of 4,725 km ² . The other members (Universities and Chambers) cover 1,350,703 inhabitants.
Enlargement intents	Enlargement is anticipated towards Cyprus, Bulgaria, FYROM & Albania.
Duration	No duration restriction was reported.
Objectives	The statutory objectives are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Cooperating for the prevention and control of natural disasters. · Cooperating for the protection of the cross-border natural environment. · Contributing towards the sustainable management of common natural resources and ecosystems. · Promoting ICT use in the cross-border region, searching for technical innovation, supporting research, etc. · Planning local cross-border policies for the mobility of human resources. · Enhancing economic cooperation by encouraging and supporting synergies between enterprises, agencies that support entrepreneurship, etc.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Establishing a cross-border tourism product on the basis of natural and man-made comparative advantages. · Planning and implementing initiatives, policies, actions and tools for supporting youth, women and vulnerable social groups. · Planning and implementing initiatives to enhance and promote primary health care, particularly in remote areas. · Encouraging joint initiatives of civil society organisations and developing networks for cooperation between similar agencies. · Developing initiatives to enhance mobility in the fields of culture and sports. · Exchanging experience and know-how in the management of crucial issues for maintaining social cohesion. · Planning and developing policies to enhance the skills of service employees. · Monitoring and identifying good practices in other cross-border regions and partnerships within the community and adjusting creatively to local conditions.
Tasks	<p>The EGTC represents added value as it enables stronger cooperation among the four parts of quadruple helix.</p> <p>In the remaining programming period, the EGTC plans to develop co-financed initiatives on: a) city diplomacy, b) circular economy, c) participatory governance, d) smart city strategies, e) urban resilience, f) social economy, g) sustainable mobility, h) start-up, entrepreneurship and innovation, i) place marketing / city branding.</p> <p>So far, the EGTC did not develop any joint strategies for economic growth, social cohesion or sustainability, however, it plans to do so. Two members of the board of directors are currently private legal entities representing the civil society sector. The main priority is for additional partners from FYROM and Albania.</p>
Challenges or issues	<p>Better information on eligibility of participating legal bodies from third countries is required, for the EU, national legislations and the relevant procedures. In addition, there were administrative issues regarding HELICAS EGTC registration because of new Greek national legislation.</p>
Budget	<p>For the time being the overall budget is € 34,000.</p>
Staff (in FTE)	<p>The EGTC employs one director (indirectly).</p>
Law applicable	<p>Law 4483/2017 Articles 108-114 (Greece)</p>
Governance, organs and their main competencies	<p>EGTC bodies are: the assembly, board of directors, chairperson, executive committee, audit committee and the director.</p> <p>The general meeting of the members of HELICAS EGTC is the supreme body that elects the board of directors and the audit committee. It approves the management and financial report of the board of directors, the annual budget, admission and expulsion of members, and the granting of observer status. It defines the general policy of HELICAS EGTC and decides on any issue referred to it. The board of directors shall decide on all affairs of the grouping, except those for which the general meeting is responsible. The board of directors can set up working committees to assist in its work,</p>

	<p>consisting of its members or members of the general meeting or third parties who have proven experience or specialised knowledge in relation to issues that concern the EGTC. Employees of the members of HELICAS EGTC can participate in these committees. The chairperson of the board represents the grouping before any court, any national or community authority, any international body or organisation, and any natural person or legal entity. The chairperson takes any necessary action on behalf of the EGTC, binding it vis-à-vis third parties. The chairperson signs all documents and payment orders. The chairperson may issue a decision assigning part of his or her competencies to vice-chairpersons and may also assign the right to sign certain categories of documents to the Director; the transfer of financial competencies to another member of the board or to the director, such as making cash withdrawals and deposits, signing payment orders and signing cheques, can only take place by way of a notarial act. The executive committee is responsible for managing the current affairs of HELICAS EGTC. The executive committee is obligated to inform the board of the actions it has taken within the framework of the competencies transferred to it, during the board meeting immediately subsequent to the time these actions were carried out. The task of the audit committee, which elects its chairperson at a meeting of its members following their election, is to audit the management of finances at the end of the fiscal year for the approval of the report and before the approval of the new financial budget by the general meeting.</p>
<p>Function of EGTC according to Art. 7 of the EGTC Regulation</p>	<p>The EGTC did not indicate any function in relation to the EGTC regulation because it is newly established.</p>
<p>Public participation processes of the EGTC</p>	<p>No public participation processes were reported.</p>
<p>Mechanisms of political accountability</p>	<p>There is no specific mechanism, only the relevant statutory provisions.</p>
<p>Languages</p>	<p>Languages are the official languages of the members of the EGTC.</p>

3.2.4 MURABA European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Limited

 <p>European Committee of the Regions</p>	
Name (Acronym)	MURABA Korlátolt Felelősségű Európai Területi Társulás (HUN) / MURABA, European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation Limited (EN) (MURABA ETT (HUN) / MURABA EGTC (EN))
Countries involved	Hungary and Slovenia
Summary	<p>The tasks of the EGTC are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implement labour market development and cooperation, broaden employment opportunities and encourage collaboration between public and private spheres with a view to creating jobs, especially by facilitating the employment of persons who live in the regions concerned and have a good knowledge of the national minority languages; 2. Retain young people, including young members of national minorities, in the area by working out and disseminating alternative employment opportunities, as well as implementing related education and practical training; improve employment and living conditions of women and disadvantaged groups, including national minorities, through their involvement in entrepreneurial initiatives; 3. Foster business development and stimulate entrepreneurship, especially among national-minority, small and medium-sized enterprises; attract investors; initiate, prepare and implement joint economic development projects and programmes; 4. Implement infrastructure and transportation developments to improve access to areas inhabited by national minorities, and support similar initiatives; 5. Involve such legal persons, employed by founding Members, who will assist the cultural, touristic and economic development of Hungarian-Slovenian national minorities and develop other institutional relations for culture, recreation and sports. Promote and support Hungarian-Slovenian bilingual education and training; 7. Conservation and sustainable use of the rich environmental and natural conditions through projects and programmes; 8. Initiate technology development for energy efficiency and renewable energy; 9. Support initiatives to improve the supply and quality of drinking water and wastewater treatment.
History and current status	There was no precedent structure to the EGTC. The foundation of the EGTC was under way for 1.5 years and finalised in August 2017.
Seat	Szentgotthárd, HU
Members	The EGTC has four members: Municipality of Szentgotthárd, Municipality of Lendava, National Slovene Self-Government, Mura Region Hungarian National Self-Government Community.

Key indicators	Number of inhabitants: 25,506, area: 23,343 ha, municipalities: 38.
Enlargement intents	There are no intentions to enlarge the EGTC.
Duration	No duration restriction was reported.
Objectives	<p>The objectives of the EGTC are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Promote economic and social cross-border cooperation and strengthen territorial cohesion in the territory where a mixed population of Hungarian and Slovenian national communities live; 2) Improve welfare and quality of life in the territory; 3) Facilitate implementing statutory rights of Hungarian and Slovene national minorities in the territory, preserve the national identity of its members and their relations with their mother nation, particularly safeguarding and preserving language and culture; take a stand and formulate opinions in these fields; prepare and submit recommendations to competent bodies; 4) Put into action and use local and other human and material resources to implement the provisions under sections 1 –3 above.
Tasks	In the remaining programming period, the EGTC would like to develop its activities on soft tourism, cycling tourism and connecting the EGTC territory to the EuroVelo network. The EGTC enhances harmonious development and social and economic cohesion in the territory.
Challenges or issues	The EGTC does need further development. Further steps are under discussion.
Budget	HUF 5,000,000 (approximately € 16,223).
Staff (in FTE)	No staff were reported since the EGTC does not have enough financial sources yet to employ full time staff.
Law applicable	Act LXXV. of 2014 and Regulation 2/2014. (XII.30.) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (HU).
Governance, organs and their main competencies	The assembly, the director and the supervisory board. EGTC officials are: a) senior officials: the chairman and co-chairman of the assembly, the chairman of the supervisory board and b) other officials: other members of the supervisory board. The activities of the EGTC's organs and officials shall be carried out according to the specified competences and operating procedures. The general competences of the EGTC's organs shall be specified in the convention; further provisions, decision-making procedures and detailed rules on the operation and competences of the organs shall be stipulated in the Statutes and other regulations of the EGTC.
Function of EGTC according to Art. 7 of the EGTC Regulation	So far, there is no experience with the function of the grouping according to the regulation.
Public participation processes of the EGTC	So far, there is no experience with public participation processes.
Mechanisms of political accountability	The basic mechanisms of accountability are included in the project contracts.
Languages	Hungarian, Slovenian and English.

3.3 Summarising quantitative overview of EGTCs

Indicator	Unit	31 Dec 2017	Comment / Source
Authorities with EGTCs in their territories	Number of authorities with EGTCs*		Data from Spatial Foresight and University of Geneva based on material from Eurostat GISCO, the GADM database and the EEA.
MS		20	
Regional authorities (NUTS 2)		100	
Local authorities (LAU 2)		42 148	
Third countries involved in EGTCs as members	Third countries involved	4	Albania, Palestine, Switzerland and Ukraine
Approximate number of citizens in territories covered by EGTCs	Number of citizens	~140,200,000 (~ 28% of the total EU population in 2011)	The number covers all citizens that are covered in the territory of an EGTC based on the membership structure. This excludes the so-called 'network EGTCs'. Data from Spatial Foresight and University of Geneva based on material from Eurostat GISCO, the GADM database and the EEA.
Total number of EU-funded projects implemented by EGTCs in 2017	Number of EU-funded projects	91**	Questionnaire for EGTCs
Number of national and other projects implemented by EGTCs in 2017	Number of national and other projects	> 27***	Questionnaire for EGTCs
Total number of staff employed by all EGTCs, differentiating between directly and indirectly employed staff	FTE	512.5*	Questionnaire for EGTCs
Staff hired directly	FTE	425.2****	Questionnaire for EGTCs
Staff hired indirectly	FTE	87.3****	Questionnaire for EGTCs

* Each authority is counted if an EGTC has at least one member located in the respective territory, whether covering all or parts of this territory.

** Please note that the number accounts for ETC projects and projects that are funded under any other EU funding scheme, i.e. Erasmus+ or Horizon 2020.

*** This includes projects implemented by the EGTCs during 2017 that were financed from either regional, national and international (non-EU) funds (i.e. national scheme, Visegrád fund) and projects that were implemented by the EGTCs own budgets. Three EGTCs did not mention an exact number but only referred to multiple project involvement. Therefore, the number is higher than 27.

**** Where there was no differentiation between staff hired directly and indirectly, it is assumed that the staff were hired directly. The number includes staff from EGTC HC (195 directly employed, 38.2 indirectly employed).

Source: *Spatial Foresight, based on data from EGTCs*

4 The Groupings in a nutshell – Implementing actions of European Territorial Cooperation

This chapter assesses the activities of EGTCs in terms of their contribution to implementing ETC programmes and projects. This cross-analysis of the EGTCs compares them from different thematic perspectives, namely:

Section 4.1: Evolution of geography and partnership

Section 4.2: EGTCs' staff, budget and projects

Section 4.3: Thematic focus of EGTC activities

Section 4.4: Profile, achievements and obstacles of EGTCs in ETC

Section 4.5: Use of new instruments and smart specialisation strategies

The analysis includes all 68 EGTCs at the end of 2017. When smaller samples were used, this is mentioned in the text and figures/tables. Whenever the analysis mentions 'newly' constituted EGTCs, it refers to the four EGTCs founded during 2017. This chapter is complemented with information in Annexes 2 and 3.

4.1 Evolution of geography and partnership

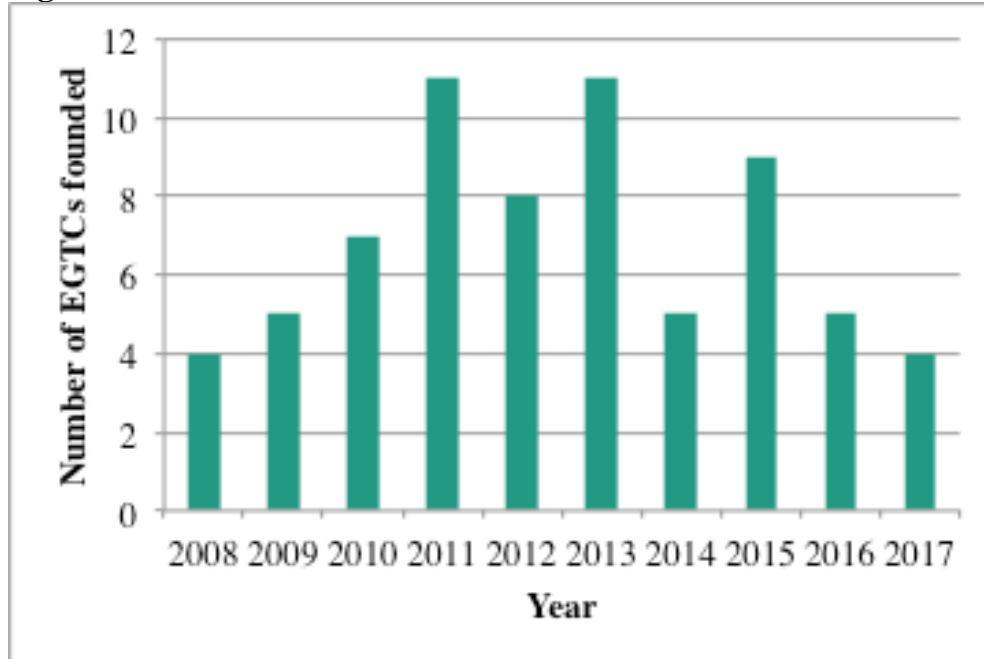
The following gives an overview of EGTCs founded since the introduction of the EGTC instrument. This includes the geography of new EGTCs, changes in partnerships and updates on the main types of EGTCs.

During 2017, four new EGTCs were registered at the CoR and was one dissolved, as of December 2017 there were 68 EGTCs. In comparison with previous years, there were fewer new EGTCs (see Figure 1).

Since the first EGTCs were formed in 2008, some EGTCs have lost momentum or did not accomplish the cross-border cooperation activities they intended to facilitate. These EGTCs seem to be never operational, already closed (Karst-Bodva EGTC), their tasks were time-limited (Grande Région EGTC) or they did not pass audit controls and hence recommendations were issued for winding them up (UTTS EGTC)⁸. This may imply that more EGTCs will be dissolved by force or after losing their purpose in the coming years.

⁸ Hesz et al., 2016, p. 42

Figure 1: EGTC foundations



Source: Spatial Foresight, based on information from the official CoR EGTC register

Geography

The number of EGTCs founded in Central-Eastern Europe, mostly involving Hungary, has stabilised again. In 2017 two EGTCs with Hungarian involvement (Ipoly-völgye EGTC and MURABA EGTC) were founded, compared to one and two in 2016 and 2015 respectively. However, especially in Hungary, the territorial coverage of EGTCs is particularly high. Other new EGTCs are DIETAMED between Italy and Greece, as well as HELICAS EGTC between Greece and Bulgaria.

There are three major types of EGTC; **cross-border** that mainly address local and regional aspects, **transnational** whose territory is considerably wider than, for example, cross-border cooperation areas and **network EGTCs** with members who typically do not have connected territory. There are 59 cross-border EGTCs and only a few are truly transnational or network oriented (Table 2).

In 2017, four EGTCs had members from non-EU countries. These were Tisza EGTC, EUCOR The European Campus, Interregional Alliance for the Rhine-Alpine Corridor EGTC and Amphictyony. During 2017 only one new member from a non-EU country was involved. Amphictyony incorporated a member from Albania. Nevertheless, a couple of EGTCs are either willing or actively looking to integrate members from non-EU countries.

Table 2: Type and geography of existing and new EGTCs

Geography of EGTC*	Pre 2017	New EGTCs	Comments
Cross-border Iberia & southern France	15		
Cross-border North-west Europe	11		
Cross-border Alpine area	4		
Cross-border area involving Germany, Poland and Czech Republic	3		
Cross-border areas involving Hungary & Slovakia	24	2 / -1	The Ipoly-völgye EGTC and MURABA EGTC were founded. Karst-Bodva EGTC was closed.
Cross-border areas central and eastern Mediterranean Sea		1	HELICAS EGTC
Transnational	3	1	DIETA MED EGTC was assigned as a transnational EGTC due to the lack of geographic neighbourhood founded with members from IT and EL.
Network	5		

* The differentiation of groups follows as much as possible the outlines of Map 1.

Source: EGTC monitoring report 2016 and Spatial Foresight based on data from new EGTCs

Partnership

During 2017, EGTCs were active in re-structuring their membership. In total, 21 or 31% of EGTCs reported a change in partnership. Four EGTCs reported that members left. For Pannon four members were excluded and one member left the group, for Efxini Poli – SolidarCity Network the municipality of Athens and region of Attika left, with EUKN, Hungary and Poland left and with TRITIA, Opole Vovoideship left.

For two EGTCs, their membership structure was modified but the number of members remained unchanged. For EGTC Flandre-Dunkerque-Côte d'Opale, a French 'Pays' was dissolved (Moulins de Flandre) and thus left the grouping. A new member was admitted which will replace the Pays (Communauté de Communes des Hauts de Flandre). The restructuring of French administrative regions also caused the EGTC EPM to incorporate the new member region with the merger of Languedoc-Roussillon and Midi-Pyrénées.

In 15 EGTCs the membership structure changed and new members were integrated during 2017. Most integrated a single or only a few new members.

The most dominant type of partnership is a cooperation of local authorities with small to medium-scale cooperation structures of 2 to 20 municipalities. The

second most prominent type of partnership is cross-border cooperation involving regional level authorities (see Table 3).

Table 3: Type of EGTC partnerships

Partnerships of EGTCs	Pre 2017	New	Comments
<i>Cross-border:</i>			
Local level:			
- 2-20 members	18	-1	<i>Karst-Bodva EGTC was closed.</i>
- 21-100 members	6		
Local-regional level	7	2	<i>HELICAS EGTC and Ipoly-völgye EGTC are the new EGTCs. HELICAS EGTC also includes non-territorial members.</i>
Regional level	17		
Regional-national level	2		
Local-regional-national level	5	1	<i>MURABA EGTC is the new EGTC.</i>
<i>Transnational / Networks:</i>			
Local-regional	5	1	<i>DIETAMED is the new EGTC.</i>
National	2		
<i>Without territorial authorities:</i>			
- Cross-border	2		
- Transnational/ network	1		

Source: EGTC monitoring report 2016 and Spatial Foresight based on data from new EGTCs

26 EGTCs mentioned that they intend to enlarge their group of members. These intentions range from vague ideas about new members and first informal approaches, to ongoing approval procedures for new members. At least three EGTCs have concrete plans for incorporating new members in the near future. AEuCC and Pannon will incorporate new members in 2018 and PAHT in 2020.

4.2 EGTC staff, budget and projects

The role of EGTCs can be illustrated quantitatively through their staff, budget and number of externally financed projects. For the projects, a more qualitative assessment in Section 4.4 complements this analysis, assessing the role of EGTCs particularly in Cohesion Policy and ETC.

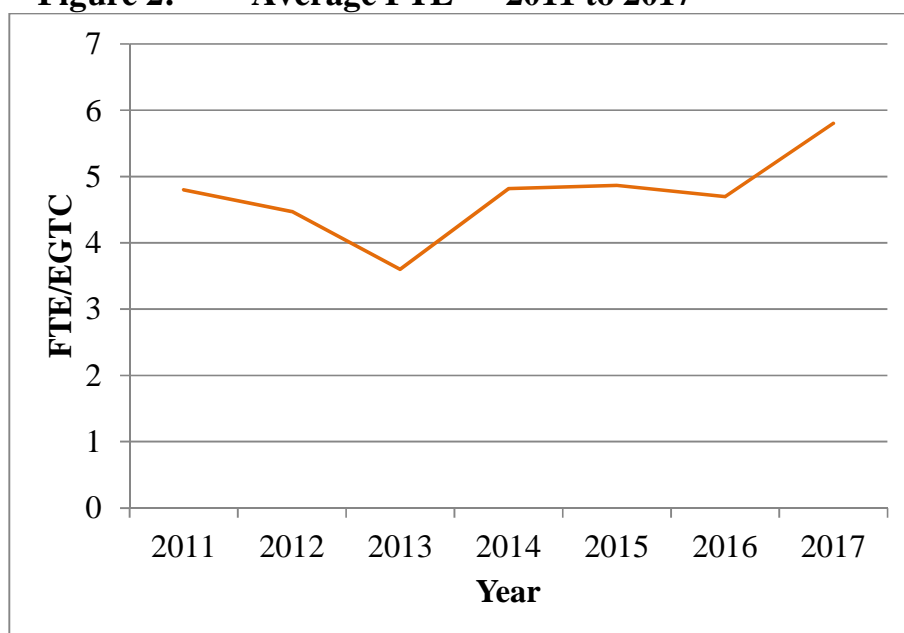
Staff

For 2017, 53 of the 68 EGTCs reported staff hired directly. Compared with **460 persons** in 2016, approximately **512.5 FTE** were working at EGTCs in 2017.

This increase is partly explained once again by additional staff hired by the EGTC Hôpital de Cerdanya (EGTC HC). The grouping has hit the maximum threshold of 195 full-time equivalents (FTE) that are employed directly plus 70 persons employed indirectly (38.2 FTE).

Without the EGTC-HC staff EGTCs employed approximately **279 FTE** in 2017.⁹ Thus, employment has further increased. This is explained through the additional EGTCs created in 2017 and a general increase in staff hired in 2017. The number of responses from the EGTCs remains high and does not influence the reported staff significantly. Excluding the EGTC HC, there was an average of about 5.8 FTE in 2017, compared to 4.7 FTE in 2016 (see Figure 2).

Figure 2: Average FTE* – 2011 to 2017



*The average FTE/EGTC was calculated including only EGTCs that reported staff hired/employed. EGTC HC is excluded from the calculation. For 2017 the sample consists of 49 EGTCs.

Source: *Spatial Foresight, based on EGTC monitoring report 2016 and data from EGTCs*

Budget

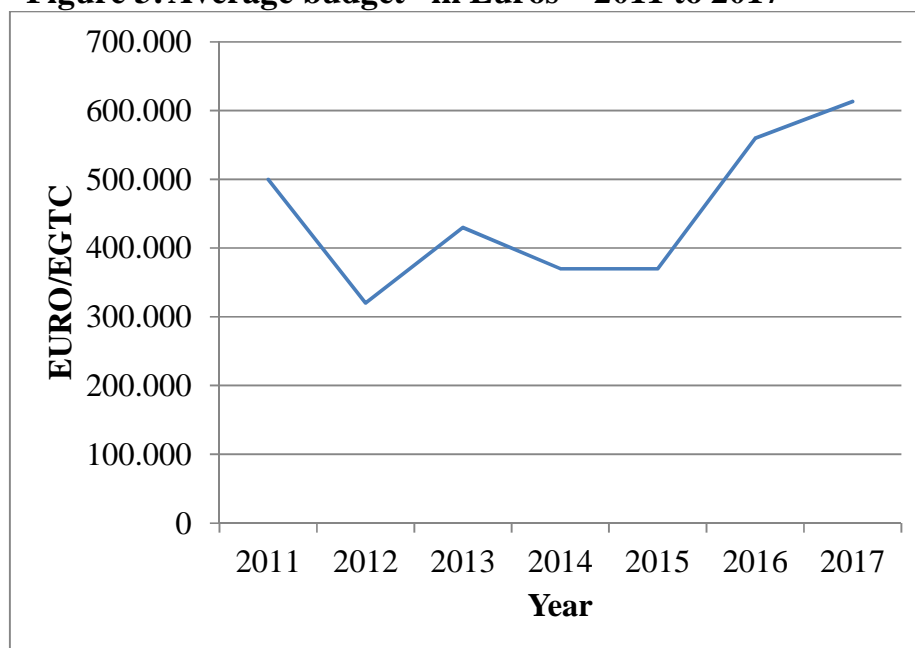
Membership fees still provide the primary source of EGTC budgets. For 2017, more EGTCs than in 2016 indicated that their budgets include also other funding sources. This can be partly explained by considerably more EGTCs implementing ETC projects, therefore being less reliant solely on internal funding. Nevertheless, membership fees still contribute to financing the EGTCs'

⁹ The actual number of FTE may be higher if e.g. freelance social workers (see EGTCs Torysa and Svinka in Annex 2) are included.

principal functions. A precise calculation of the membership fee share is not possible, since not all EGTCs provided a detailed breakdown of their budgets. Altogether, 53 EGTCs reported their budget. Some were not precise, so no exact total can be calculated. Nevertheless, the amounts reported were about € 52 million. This includes € 20 million from EGTC HC, which plays an outstanding role compared with all other EGTCs and is the only EGTC so far operating an infrastructure. Compared with 2016, the total budget for all EGTCs increased only 1.7%¹⁰, which is put in relation by comparing average budgets of EGTCs.

This is mainly because budget allocations for EGTCs only slightly increased from the preceding year. EGTCs reporting their budget, and again excluding EGTC HC, had a budget of about € 613,000 on average in 2017. This is significantly higher than previous years (see Figure 3, an increase of 9.5%). However, differences between budgets remain very high.

Figure 3: Average budget* in Euros – 2011 to 2017



*The average Euro/EGTC was calculated including only EGTCs that reported at least a rough indication of their budget that was above zero, excluding EGTC HC.

Source: *Spatial Foresight*, based on EGTC monitoring report 2016 and data from EGTCs

Other important sources of funding for EGTCs are national and regional contributions from respective MS budgets. For 2017, 14 EGTCs indicated that they benefitted from national and / or regional funds. It is worth noting that in recently funded EGTCs involving Hungary some were supported substantially by the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade. This shows a continued national interest in promoting EGTCs on Hungarian borders.

¹⁰ Including the budget of EGTC HC.

Another source of funding is the contribution from EU funds. This is mainly provided through ESIF (ERDF/ETC, ESF, EAFRD) but EGTCs also benefit from LIFE, Erasmus+ and Horizon 2020 funding. Altogether, nine EGTCs indicated that they received EU programme funding outside ESIF (see Table 4). Thirty-five EGTCs have implemented European projects, of which 33 through ETC.¹¹ EGTCs voiced a general interest in diversifying their funding sources. The number of EGTCs using European funds may be even higher, since it is not always apparent whether regional or national funding is co-financed by the EU. EUCOR The European Campus is an example for a potential variation of funding sources. It has applied for funding under the Marie Curie programme to develop an EU-wide research hub on quantum physics.

Table 4: Use of EU funds other than ERDF (2017)

Fund/ Programme	EGTCs
European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)	EGTC Linieland van Waas en Hulst, EGTC Spoločný región, PAHT EGTC
European Social Fund (ESF)	ZASNET
Horizon 2020	EGTC Efxini Poli - SolidarCity Network
CEF	Interregional Alliance for the Rhine-Alpine Corridor EGTC
Creative Europe	AEuCC EGTC, EPM EGTC,
Erasmus+	AEuCC EGTC, EPM EGTC, EUCOR The European Campus, León-Bragança EGTC
Europe for Citizens	BTC EGTC
Hercule III	Mura Region
Direct funding from DG Regio (under the Urban Agenda)	EUKN EGTC

Source: Spatial Foresight, based on data from EGTCs

¹¹ For more details on the role of ETC for EGTCs see Section 5.4 below.

4.3 Thematic focus of EGTC activities

Previous EGTC monitoring reports outlined the great diversity of topics covered by EGTCs. This has not changed. This section presents EGTC thematic fields of activities supporting Europe 2020 and its flagship initiatives, as well as policy areas according to different CoR Commissions. These policy areas reflect the most recent list and thus deviate from previous monitoring reports. Both thematic differentiations are based on responses from EGTCs for 2017.

4.3.1 Europe 2020 flagship initiatives

Europe 2020, launched in 2010, is the overarching EU strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth in the EU, which guides all EU policies including Cohesion Policy. Seven flagship initiatives support these three overall aims, highlighted in the table below.

As outlined in the amended EGTC Regulation¹² "EGTCs can have the potential to contribute to meeting the objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy". The strategy and its flagship initiatives are also relevant for EGTC activities, especially for EGTCs that implement European programmes or projects, as outlined in Section 4.4. They contribute to Europe 2020 which, however, is not explicit, as shown by the analysis below.

Table 5: Europe 2020 flagship initiatives

Smart growth	Sustainable growth	Inclusive growth
Digital agenda for Europe	Resource efficient Europe	An agenda for new skills and jobs
Innovation Union	An industrial policy for the globalisation era	European platform against poverty
Youth on the move		

Source: http://ec.europa.eu/europe2020/europe-2020-in-a-nutshell/flagship-initiatives/index_en.htm

¹² Regulation (EU) No 1302/2013, Recital (4)

Thirty-two EGTCs explained that they contribute to implementing Europe 2020 either directly or indirectly, with very limited links to specific flagship activities. Only three EGTCs mentioned direct contributions through flagship projects.

EGTC GO on the Italian-Slovenian border clearly mentioned contributing to the flagship initiatives. This EGTC was also the only grouping that contributed directly to Europe 2020. This is through two ITI pilot projects which contribute to "Resource efficient Europe" and the "European platform against poverty". In the pilot project "Isonzo-Soča" the EGTC aims to improve accessibility and attractiveness of the area through new infrastructure or rehabilitation related to pedestrian and cycle mobility, thus reducing gas emissions. The second pilot project "Health" intends to identify and connect health and social services in the territory by establishing a healthcare network based on existing excellence in the Italian and Slovenian areas and on analysis of local health needs. This will contribute to healthcare and social inclusion for the cross-border population as spending on healthcare services is being reduced. Another explicit reference to Europe 2020 flagship initiatives is from the EGTC EPM (Table 6).

Table 6: EGTC EPM Europe 2020 flagship initiatives

Flagship initiative	Contribution
Smart Growth	Increase SME competitiveness with cooperation and projects for water, E-tourism, e-health, biomedical and blue economy.
Innovation Union	Increase cooperation between R&D centres and clusters.
Youth on the move	Promoting youth mobility and integration.
Sustainable growth	Developing blue economy partnerships and networking

Source: Spatial Foresight, based on data from EGTC EPM

Most EGTCs contribute to Europe 2020 without referring to the flagship initiatives, through projects, or through aligning their policies with Europe 2020 objectives. About half the EGTCs included an explanation of their contribution to Europe 2020 (Table 7).

Table 7: Europe 2020 contributions of EGTCs

EGTC	
EU 2020 Strategy in general	Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai, Amphictyony, Flandre-Dunkerque-Côte d'Opale, ABAÚJ – ABAÚJBAN, Pons Danubii, BTC EGTC, Espacio Portalet, Eurorégion Nouvelle Aquitaine-Euskadi-Navarre, BODROGKÖZI, EUKN, Euregio Senza Confini, Secrétariat du Sommet de la Grande Région, AEuCC, HP-HP, AECT-FPI, Mura Region, INTERREG Grande Région, EMI, Eurodistrict PAMINA, Ipoly-völgye EGTC
Smart and inclusive growth	HC, Arrabona, Euregio Tirolo - Alto Adige - Trentino, EGTC GO, Efxini Poli – SolidarCity Network, Via Carpatia, Eurocity of Chaves-Verín, EUCOR The European Campus
Sustainable growth	ZASNET, NOVUM
Smart and inclusive growth / sustainable growth	EPM, Eurodistrict Strasbourg-Ortenau, RDV

Source: Spatial Foresight, based on data from EGTCs

Some EGTCs mention more explicit targets and links to Europe 2020 objectives. An example is the EGTC EFXINI POLI implementation of ETC projects in 2017. The two projects TEESCHOOLS and EDUFOOTPRINT aim at the elimination of CO₂ emissions from public school buildings. Similarly, the project CONSUMELESS aims to develop sustainable tourism, reducing CO₂ emissions.

Novum EGTC also mentioned that it contributed to Europe 2020 through BOOSTEE-CE - Boosting energy efficiency in Central European cities through smart energy management addressing the high potential for the deployment of local energy systems in Central Europe. An emphasis is on the energy efficiency of existing buildings, as they account for considerable electricity consumption that is growing at around 4% p.a. The project addresses a major challenge for public authorities, to reduce energy in public buildings without costly construction works.

Smart and Inclusive growth

Eleven EGTCs contribute to implementing Europe 2020 through activities fostering employment. EGTC Via Carpatia for example was involved in a project that created an agenda for new skills and jobs. The EGTC created five new jobs in the region. The Eurodistrict Straßbourg-Ortenau for example contributed to education and inclusion through projects that promote bilingualism (Fund for bilingualism) and that combat poverty and social exclusion (Fund for young refugees).

Sustainable growth

About five EGTCs focused their activities on resource efficiency, energy efficiency and reasonable energy consumption. For example, EGTC ZASNET worked on sustainable development of the cross-border Biosphere Reserve Meseta Ibérica. This included cohesion between the territories and sustainable development enhancing convergence between the territories.

Europe 2020 in general

Other EGTCs mentioned that they are fully aligned with Europe 2020 priorities, including EUKN, EMI, BODROGKÖZI and Pons Danubii, Ipoly-völgye. Depending on the topic, they may contribute to more than one Europe 2020 objective. Other EGTCs highlighted that they contribute to Europe 2020 more indirectly. This includes providing information on topics that are important for the strategy (EUKN EGTC) and by including Europe 2020 objectives in the cooperation strategy (EGTC Secrétariat du Sommet de la Grande Région). EGTCs also contribute to Europe 2020 objectives through their development priorities. An example is the Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai EGTC that wants to become an experimental centre testing new methods to eliminate barriers to cross-border cooperation. For this, in 2017 the EGTC established a regional strategy to inform EU institutions about day-to-day problems for people living in the Eurometropolis. Reducing barriers to cross-border cooperation also helps to implement Europe 2020 in border regions more easily.

4.3.2 Activities in CoR Commission policy areas

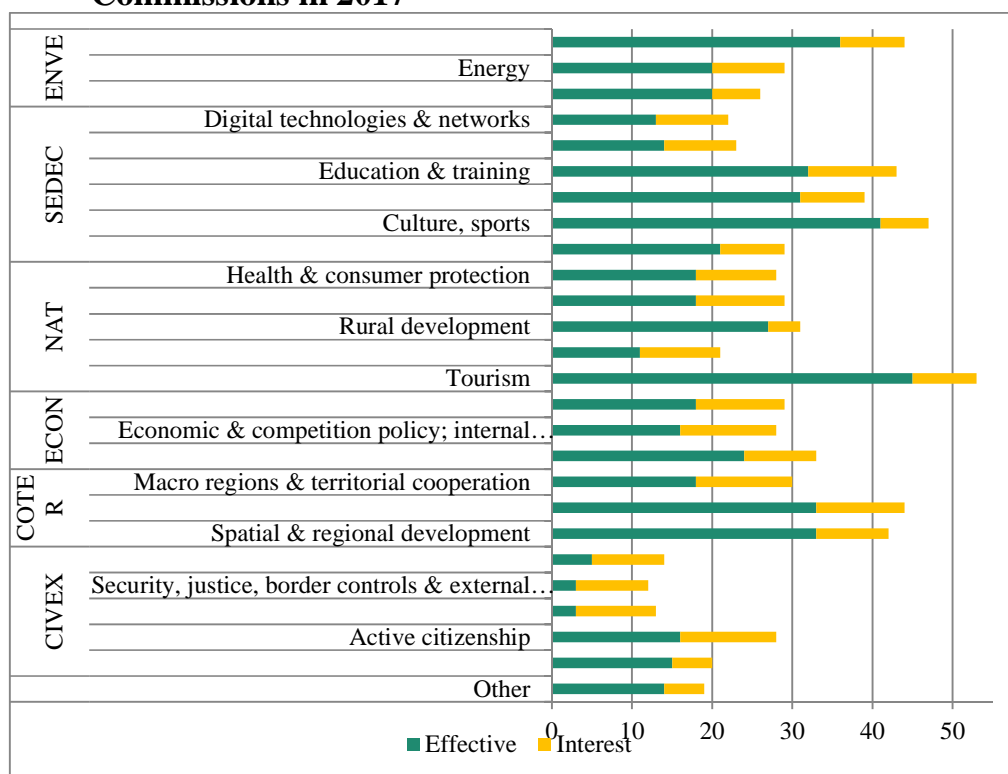
EGTC activities are related to policy areas of the six CoR Commissions; CIVEX, COTER, ECON, NAT, SEDEC and ENVE. There is a large diversity of thematic activities, from culture and sports, transport, forestry, fisheries and food production, to human rights, civil protection, employment and equal

opportunities. The table in Annex 3 displays the activities for each EGTC in more detail.

Figure 4 summarises the EGTC activity fields per CoR Commission. It differentiates between activities where EGTCs are already active (in green) and where they have shown interest (in yellow).

As in the two previous years, tourism took first place in EGTC fields of interest in 2017. In total, 45 EGTCs said they are active in this field. Eight more EGTCs expressed interest in tourism-related actions. Culture and sports activities are again the second most popular activities. Forty-one EGTCs already have culture and sports related activities, while six more indicated their interest in these.

Figure 4: Fields of activity grouped according to CoR Commissions in 2017



Source: Spatial Foresight, based on data from EGTCs. Environment activities take third place. Transport moves from third place in 2016 to fifth position after spatial & regional development. A total of 36 EGTCs are already active in environment activities, eight express their interest. Thirty-three EGTCs mentioned spatial & regional development for new activities while nine mentioned their interest. Transport is relevant for 33 EGTCs while eleven more are interested in this area.

Education and training is also important. In total 32 groupings mentioned they are working on this while eleven more are interested.

The least interest is for human rights and security, justice, border controls & external relations. Governance, subsidiarity & public capacities are also less actively pursued by EGTCs. Nevertheless, these areas still seem to benefit from many EGTCs being interested. The gap between the three least favourite fields of activity and the others increased in 2017

4.4 Profile, achievements and obstacles of EGTCs in ETC

The original objective of implementing the EGTC instrument was to better facilitate ETC, both at programme and project level.¹³ Thus, the role of EGTCs in ETC needs to take into account not only their participation in ETC projects but also in relation to programme implementation and their wider involvement in programming, etc. (sub-section 4.4.1). This is complemented by future expectations of EGTCs to implement ETC. Although a considerable number contribute to implementing ETC, some still face obstacles. These are reconsidered in sub-section 4.4.2.

4.4.1 Role of EGTCs in ETC in 2017 and beyond

As in 2016, there are still only two EGTCs that implement ETC programmes. One is EGTC INTERREG Grande Région, acting as MA that replaces the previous EGTC responsible for implementing the cross-border Interreg programme of the Greater Region (EGTC Grande Région). The other is the ESPON EGTC, which has a specific role, since it is the sole beneficiary of the ESPON programme 2014-2020 and as such responsible for implementing the programme's studies. In addition, some EGTCs have been given responsibility for implementing a Small Project Fund (SPF). RDV EGTC and Via Carpatia, respectively manage two and one small project fund under the Interreg HU-SK Programme.

Two EGTCs are the sole beneficiaries of ETC projects. These are Duero-Douro for the development of the e-Douro Export Project and TATRY EGTC as sole beneficiary of a micro-project for education.

Participation in ETC projects is much more common among EGTCs. In 2017, 33 EGTCs indicated their involvement as partner or lead partner in ETC projects, citing some 83 ETC projects. This is more than double the 35

¹³ See e.g. Zillmer et al., 2015, p. 19

mentioned for 2016. On average, each EGTC that reported being involved in ETC, was involved in about 2.5 ETC projects during 2017.

The increase on the previous year can be explained by more operational programmes under the current programming period (2014-2020) being operational. This is mirrored, inter alia, by the increased number of ETC programmes in which EGTCs participate compared to 2016. Many EGTs also mentioned that they have applications for ETC projects pending.

Table 8: EGTCs in ETC in 2017

ETC programme	EGTCs involved	Role of EGTCs
Unknown*	Amphictyony, Eurodistrict Strasbourg-Ortenau, ZASNET, Arrabona, Eurodistrict PAMINA	Project implementation
Interreg VA SUDOE	EGTC EPM	Project implementation
Interreg VA Saxony-CZ	EGTC PROUD	Associated partner
Interreg VA POCTEP	EGTC León-Bragança, EGTC GNP, EGTC Eurocity of Chaves-Verín	Project implementation
Interreg VA Grande-Région	EGTC SaarMoselle, EGTC Alzette Belval	Project implementation, managing partner, Managing Authority
Interreg VA POCTEFA	EGTC HP-HP, EGTC Espacio Portalet	Project implementation
Interreg VA IT-AT	EGTC Euregio Tirolo - Alto Adige - Trentino, EGTC Euregio Senza Confini	Project implementation and observer
Interreg VA Upper Rhine	EGTC EUCOR The European Campus	Project implementation
Interreg VA FR-Wallonie-Vlaanderen	EGTC Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai, EGTC Flandre-Dunkerque-Côte d'Opale	Project implementation and associated partner
Interreg VA Vlaanderen-NL	EGTC Linieland van Waas en Hulst	Project implementation

Interreg VA PL-SK	EGTC TATRY, EGTC TRITIA	Project implementation
Interreg VA HU-SK	EGTC RDV	Project implementation
Interreg VA RO-HU	BTC EGTC	Project implementation
Interreg VA HU-HR	EGTC Mura Region	Project implementation
Interreg VA IT-FR	EGTC ArchiMed	Project implementation
Interreg VA IT-SI	EGTC GO	Project implementation
Interreg VA CZ-PL	EGTC NOVUM	Project implementation
Interreg Alpine Space	EGTC Euregio Tirolo - Alto Adige - Trentino	Managing partner
Interreg Central Europe	EGTC NOVUM, EGTC TRITIA, CETC-EGTC	Project implementation
Interreg Atlantic Space	EGTC Eurorégion Nouvelle Aquitaine-Euskadi-Navarre	Project implementation
Interreg Danube	EGTC Pons Danubii	Project implementation
Interreg Baltic Sea	CETC-EGTC	Associated partner
Interreg MED	EGTC Efxini Poli – SolidarCity Network	Project implementation
Interreg Europe	EGTC León-Bragança, EGTC GO, EGTC Pannon, EGTC Pons Danubii, EGTC EPM	Project implementation
ESPON	EGTC GNP, ESPON EGTC	Single beneficiary and stakeholder (associated partner)

* Some EGTCs did not indicate the Interreg programme where they implement ETC project or have an associated role.

Source: *Spatial Foresight, based on data from EGTCs*

EGTCs mentioned that involvement in ETC can and is happening in multiple ways that go beyond those described above. EGTCs may co-finance or facilitate ETC projects, or develop plans for ESIF programmes etc. The following list gives some examples:

- ArchiMed EGTC through the attraction, communication and diffusion of ETC projects and calls;
- Strasbourg-Ortenau EGTC through multiple roles, including project partner, project manager, co-financer, facilitating civil society groups to generate cross-border projects, etc. and setting up the third generation Interreg financial support for micro-projects on a wide range of topics;
- ZASNET EGTC in day-to-day management of the cross-border biosphere reserve, preparing the management system and submitting applications to Interreg VA and VB programmes;
- Pons Danubii EGTC by organising joint workshops for Hungarian and Slovakian stakeholders to discuss problems and funding opportunities;
- Euregio Tirolo - Alto Adige – Trentino EGTC as being the coordination point for more than 30 projects of EGTC members.
- GO EGTC by promoting organisational innovations to the MA for project implementation and preparing the future implementation of an ITI under the Interreg VA Italy-Slovenia programme;
- EGTC Espacio Portalet through the link between public and private actors on both sides of the border, through promoting projects and cooperation actions at local, regional and national level for culture, tourism, infrastructure security and economic development;
- EUKN EGTC organised cooperation and networking events with other Programmes and EGTCs;
- EGTC TRITIA as a member with voting rights in the Interreg VA PL-SK programme MC;
- EGTC TATRY as being the sole beneficiary of the micro-project "Cross-border specialist and vocational training in EGTC TATRY" for education;
- EGTC Alzette Belval by helping its members and players in the cross-border agglomeration (administrations, associations, schools/high schools, inhabitants, etc.) to realise and succeed with their cross-border projects.

Because of its experience it is also a methodological partner in several Interreg projects of the Greater Region programme (AROMA, GRUNDS, EDUCO, SDT-GR, A(l)qua, “Alzette, Objectif qualité”);

- FPI EGTC by approving a draft strategic and action plan to put the EGTC in motion and to serve as a roadmap;
- PONTIBUS EGTC in being mediator and facilitator preparing for a bridge over the river Ipeľ between Chľaba and Ipolydamásd municipalities;
- Ipoly-völgye EGTC by submitting an action plan to the Interreg VA SK-HU Programme to support implementing the EU2020 Strategy objectives;
- ESPON EGTC by launching a survey to identify the needs of 19 ESIF programmes, including ETC programmes, for territorial evidence support.

Many EGTCs mentioned that they submitted project proposals either alone or as (lead) partners in a joint proposal to the open calls for Interreg programme projects. Eleven EGTCs explicitly mentioned that they intend to apply under calls for projects until the end of the 2014-2020 programming period, compared to 28 during 2016. This decrease can be explained through the current increase of EGTCs involved in ETC projects. No EGTC founded during 2017 yet implements ETC projects but they intend to do so in the near future. In addition, considerably more EGTCs will apply for European funds without a link to ETC. The EGTCs therefore aim to intensify their involvement in implementing EU Cohesion Policy in general with a continued focus on ETC.

However, not all EGTCs aim to benefit from ETC funds. Thirteen EGTCs either did not provide any information on future intentions or explicitly excluded ETC involvement. The EGTC Flandre-Dunkerque-Côte d'Opale deliberately does not participate in ETC programmes, as members of the EGTC already do so extensively. Another example is EGTC HC, which relies on different funding and used ETC only for developing the hospital.¹⁴

4.4.2 Obstacles to EGTC involvement in ETC

EGTCs still face different types of obstacles to being involved in ETC and for different reasons, not necessarily or directly linked to their own shortcomings. The obstacles can be financial and legal, including a lack of recognition of EGTCs in national legislations and strategic inconsistencies (Table 9). Financial obstacles often refer either to a lack of sources from EGTC members or the need

¹⁴ See e.g. Zillmer et al., 2015, p. 115

to prefinance ETC project activities. Legal obstacles often concern the operation of activities across borders while applying the legal framework of the seat country.

In comparison to 2016, EGTCs reported more ETC related obstacles linked to project implementation. This is logical since more EGTCs are involved in ETC projects than in 2016. These concrete obstacles are mainly linked to insecurity of financing or the obligation to provide pre-financing of projects. There is a lack of security for ETCGs that co-funding is transferred to its members after the eligible costs are reimbursed. Another obstacle that has become more visible with more ETC project applications is the lack of recognition of EGTCs as cross-border bodies, hampering the uptake of ETC projects through the EGTCs alone.

Several of the obstacles in Table 9 relate to differences between MS, whether for responsibilities, strategic orientations, laws, document recognition, etc. This illustrates the influence of national politics on the functioning of EGTCs, which may be influential at times of increased nationalism. At the same time, public players become members of EGTCs to stabilise their cross-border/transnational activities, as was outlined by EUCOR The European Campus.

Table 9: Obstacles to EGTC in involvement ETC

Issue	Obstacle	EGTCs reporting obstacles
Finances	Lack of stable financial framework for operational stability/ pre-financing of projects	6
Staff / Expenses	Lack of transnational statute recognition for personnel	1
	Varying wage / tax levels, national differences in labour law (timing and criteria), etc.	3
Legal	Lengthy constitution because of difficulties in implementing EGTC law in national law (including recognition of documents)	1
	EGTCs having to apply the legal framework of the country of the seat / EGTCs having to apply the legal framework of multiple countries (impact on staff, controls, procurement, etc.)	2
	National differences in adoption of EGTC regulation	2
	Different laws to be applied in the working fields of the EGTCs (not EGTC regulation related)	1

	Cooperation with national bodies on respective national regulation difficult	1
Recognition challenges	Recognition of EGTCs as cross-border/transnational-partners (ETC) or by MA (to make funding easier)	7
EGTCs in / and ETC	Interreg projects less focused on the needs of some types of EGTCs / territories of EGTCs (i.e. cross-border, more people-to-people projects, etc.)	2
	Furthering the involvement of EGTCs in ETC	1
	Eligibility of EGTC or members outside the programming area (location of headquarters vs. location of members)	1
Other	Emergence of nationalist influences	1

Source: *Spatial Foresight*, based on data from EGTCs

4.5 Use of new instruments and smart specialisation strategies

New instruments such as Community-Led Local Development (CLLD), Integrated Territorial Investments (ITI) and Joint Action Plans (JAP) as well as implementing smart specialisation strategies (RIS3) are at the heart of the ESIF programming period 2014-2020. As part of Cohesion Policy, they also provide potential fields of action for EGTCs. Especially EGTCs involved in regional strategy development are suitable players for transferring them in new instruments and contributing to their implementation.

New instruments

In 2017, the uptake of these new instruments is considerably higher than it was in 2016 and 2015. In total, 13 EGTCs used at least one of the three instruments in 2017. The four EGTCs that used CLLD did not use either ITI or JAP. Table 10 lists the EGTCs using such instruments in 2016 and 2017. Four EGTCs used CLLD, seven ITI operations and six used JAP. A few EGTCs used more than one new instrument, such as ZASNET and the PONTIBUS EGTC. These both used all three instruments. Several EGTCs that indicated using at least one new instrument mentioned interest in using another.

Table 10: Use of new instruments 2016 and 2017

Instrument	Activity 2016	Continued in 2017	New activity 2017
<i>CLLD</i>	- Arrabona EGTC - European Common Future Building EGTC - PONTIBUS EGTC	- Arrabona EGTC - European Common Future Building EGTC - PONTIBUS EGTC	- ZASNET EGTC
<i>ITI</i>	- Ister-Granum EGTC - RDV EGTC - EGTC GO* - Poarta Europa GECT - EGTC Spoločný región	- EGTC GO - EGTC Spoločný región	- ZASNET EGTC - ABAÚJ - ABAÚJBAN EGTC - Bodrogközi EGTC - PONTIBUS EGTC - Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai EGTC
<i>JAP</i>	- Ister-Granum EGTC - Bánát - Triplex Confinium EGTC - RDV EGTC - EGTC Spoločný región		- Duero-Douro** - ZASNET EGTC - BTC EGTC - AEuCC EGTC - PONTIBUS EGTC - Ipoly-völgye EGTC

* Preparation in 2016, actual start in 2017.

** Collaborated with other Spanish and Portuguese organisations in the conception of the JAP.

Source: Spatial Foresight, based on EGTC monitoring report 2016 and data from EGTCs

More EGTCs are considering using such instruments in future: six EGTCs are considering CLLD, 13 ITI and eleven JAP. Some of these are already using one new instrument (see Table 11).

Table 11: Intentions for future use of new instruments

CLLD	ITI	JAP
		Amphictyony EGTC
	SaarMoselle EGTC	
✓	Arrabona EGTC	✓
	RDV EGTC	
	EUKN EGTC	
	Euregio Senza Confini EGTC	
	Via Carpatia EGTC	
✓	Spoločný region EGTC	✓
		CETC-EGTC
		HELICAS EGTC
✓		European Common Future Building EGTC
	Mura Region EGTC	
	European Border Cities EGTC	
	Eurocity of Chaves-Verín EGTC	
	Svinka EGTC	
	EPM EGTC	

✓ New instrument already used by the EGTC in the respective row

Source: Spatial Foresight, based on data from EGTCs

Smart Specialisation Strategies

Two EGTCs have been involved in implementing Smart Specialisation Strategies in 2017. These are the EPM and Espacio Portalet EGTCs.

The Espacio Portalet EGTC mentioned that its execution of S3 strategies is organised through the InturPYR project to foster innovation in tourism in the Pyrenees and the innovation project SECURUS for natural risk management with cross-border roads.

The Eurorégion Aquitaine-Euskadi EGTC is developing a territorial strategy aligned with Europe 2020, creating euro-regional key sectors that follow the provisions in the regional S3 strategy of Euskadi and Aquitaine. ABAÚJ – ABAÚJBAN and BODROGKÖZI EGTC mentioned that they have executive functions in implementing S3 strategies. Faja Pirítica Ibérica EGTC incorporates the objectives of the underlying S3 strategy in its Action Plan. Additionally, six EGTCs mentioned their interest in becoming involved in Smart Specialisation Strategies in the future.

5 EGTCs being set up and closed in 2017

This chapter reviews EGTCs being set up and compares development since the 2016 monitoring report. The list in Section 5.1 is probably not complete but is based on data available to the CoR and extensive desk research and interviews with existing EGTCs and other authorities.

EGTCs being set up repeatedly report delays in the process and sometimes the process is not pursued further. Section 5.2 is devoted to the obstacles and provides an overview. For the first time, this is complemented by a short review of closed EGTCs (section 5.3). Already the 2016 monitoring report indicated that some EGTCs may be closed due to a lack of activity or a time limitation.

5.1 EGTCs being set up

The EGTCs Ipoly-Völgye and HELICAS that were awaiting approval in 2016 were approved in 2017. DIATAMED and MURABA were under preparation in 2016, also finalised their constitution in 2017. These four are presented in Chapter 3 with extensive factsheets.

The following table lists EGTCs under constitution at the end of 2017. Overall, more than 20 could be identified, similar to 2016. A few previously identified processes were stopped and new ones have started.

Some EGTCs awaiting approval were in the same category in the 2016 EGTC monitoring report. One status has been adjusted to being under preparation following an update from the EGTC members. Some approval processes have been prolonged and the EGTCs are cautious in indicating an expected approval date. Nevertheless, the first two EGTCs listed have recently been approved.

Table 12: Overview of EGTCs under constitution according to status

No.	Name	Status 2016	Status 2017	Countries
1	EGTC InterPal - Medio Tejo	Awaiting approval	Awaiting approval – approved in 2018	Portugal, Spain
2	Rio Minho	Awaiting approval	Awaiting approval – approved in 2018	Spain, Portugal
3	EGTC Alpine Pearls	Awaiting approval	Awaiting approval	Austria, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, Slovenia, France
4	Cittaslow	Awaiting approval	Awaiting approval*	Italy, Netherlands
5	Eurociudad del Guadiana	Awaiting approval	Awaiting approval	Spain, Portugal

6	INNOVATIVE EUROPE - INEU	Awaiting approval	Awaiting approval*	Greece, Bulgaria
7	European Campus of Studies and Research	Awaiting approval	In preparation	Germany, Austria
8	EGTC David	In preparation	Awaiting approval	Slovenia, Austria
9	Alto Adriatico/Severni Jadran/ Sjevorni Jadran	In preparation	In preparation*	Italy, Slovenia, Croatia
10	EGTC Saint Martin Sint Maarten	In preparation	In preparation*	France, Netherlands
11	Odra+Oder	In preparation	In preparation	Poland, Germany
12	Euro Contrôle Route (ECR)	In preparation	In preparation*	Belgium, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, France, Germany, Ireland, UK, Poland, Austria, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Lithuania, Croatia
13	Geopark Muskauer Faltenbogen	In preparation	In preparation	Poland, Germany
14	Geopark Karawanken-Karavanke	In preparation	In preparation	Slovenia, Austria
15	Sportzentrum Ralingen-Rosport	In preparation*	In preparation*	Germany, Luxembourg
16	EGTC Hercules	In preparation	In preparation	UK, Spain
17	CIRCULAR ECONOMY, TERRITORIAL COHESION, AND INSULARITY EUROPEAN GROUPING OF TERRITORIAL COOPERATION		In preparation	Greece, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Italy, Malta, Spain
18	Pirineos-Pyrénées		In preparation	France, Spain
19	Cross-border University Campus		In preparation	Spain, France, Andorra
20	Euregio Bayerischer Wald - Böhmerwald		Idea	Germany, Austria, Czech Republic
21	Europaregion Moldau		Idea	Germany, Austria, Czech Republic
22	GEPACO - GEmeindePARTner PARTenaires COMMuniaux		Idea	Belgium, Germany, France, Luxembourg

* Assessment not based on response from EGTC but on information such as approval authorities, news etc.

Source: *Spatial Foresight*

Some EGTCs under constitution expect to finalise their preparation in 2018 and to be approved in 2018 or 2019. Many EGTCs currently in preparation cannot assess when the process may be finalised. Based on previous experience and unexpected prolongations and delays, the founders tend to be cautious in indicating an expected date.

EGTCs under constitution vary widely regarding their thematic focus and geographic location. As in the past, many of these cross-border EGTCs under constitution tend to have a cross-thematic approach focusing on territorial development of their cities or regions. However, there are also EGTCs under constitution with a specific thematic focus. Examples are the support and marketing of environmentally friendly tourism for a network of 24 Alpine tourism destinations (Alpine Pearls), cross-border geopark management (Geoparks Muskauer Faltenbogen and Karawanken), improving road safety, sustainability, fair competition and labour conditions in road transport (Euro Contrôle Route - ECR) and educational networks and collaboration (European Campus of Studies and Research).

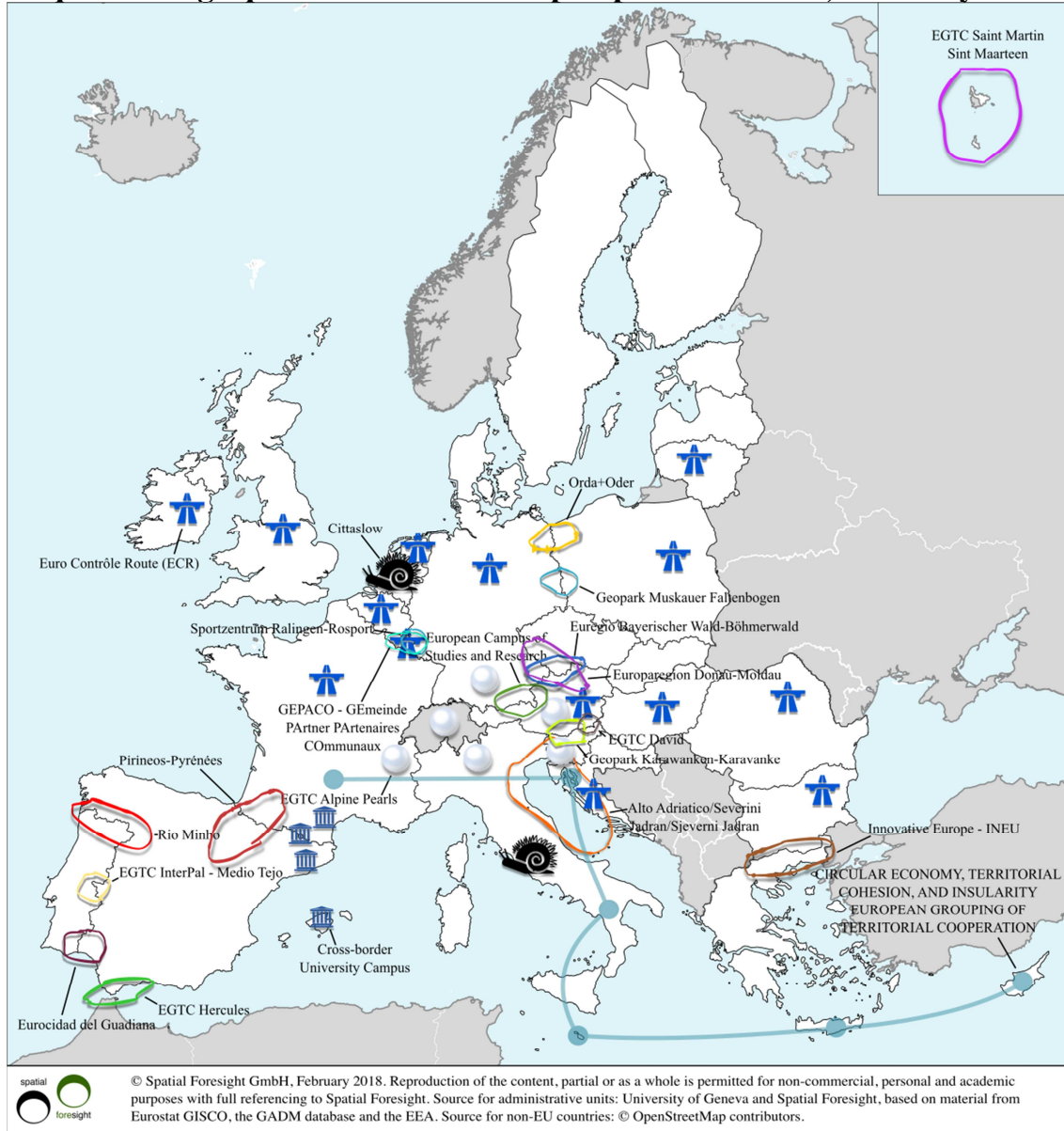
Many local and regional authorities will become members of these EGTCs, as will national authorities (ECR) and educational institutions (European Campus of Studies and Research). The number of prospective members per EGTC varies from two to more than 20.

Map 3 gives a tentative overview of the geographic locations of the EGTCs under constitution at the end of 2017. In contrast to the map on existing EGTCs, the indications do not correspond to the territory covered by the prospective members of the EGTCs. Many will work cross-border, but some network EGTCs will be transnational or interregional (e.g. Alpine Pearls and Circular Economy, Territorial Cohesion and Insularity EGTCs).

Prospective EGTC members can be found all across the EU. Three include members from non-EU countries (Alpine Pearls, Cross-Border University Campus and GECT Transfrontalier Vintimille). However, a few prospective EGTCs plan to extend their membership; some want to include members from non-EU countries (Cittaslow). New future cross-border EGTCs are mainly in border areas with previous EGTCs (Greater Region and Portugal-Spain). In addition there are new areas e.g. along the German-Polish and Austrian-Slovenian borders as well as in south-eastern Europe.

The variety of applications of the EGTC instrument is likely to expand further with the foundation of EGTCs currently under constitution.

Map 3: Geographical distribution of prospective EGTCs, February 2018



Source: Spatial Foresight, based on data from EGTCs, national authorities and EGTCs under constitution

5.2 Obstacles causing delays

A few EGTCs reported as prospective in previous monitoring are not being pursued further. These are Trans-Oderana on the German-Polish border, the Shrines of Europe with the involvement of Poland, Germany, France, Austria and Portugal and the Eurocidade Valença do Minho – Tui on the Spanish-Portuguese border (see Table 13).

In some cases, representatives explicitly mentioned that there is no intention to pursue the foundation any further (e.g. Eurocidade Valença do Minho - Tui) or that they interrupted the process for at least a few years. Reasons are both in the cooperation (e.g. lack of interest or political support) and long-lasting processes.

Table 13: Prospective EGTCs not pursued further

Name	Status 2015	Countries
Trans-Oderana	In preparation	Germany, Poland
Shrines of Europe	In preparation	Poland, Germany, France, Austria, Portugal
Eurocidade Valença do Minho - Tui	Idea	Portugal, Spain

Source: *Spatial Foresight*

Many EGTCs mention that decisions about the liability of the EGTC cause delays. Other lengthy decisions concern the seat, budget and staff. The time needed for these decisions varies considerably depending on individual EGTC characteristics and past cooperation experience. Other effects delaying foundation are linked to external conditions, e.g. regional administrative reforms or political representatives changing during the foundation process, since this affects ownership. EGTCs aiming for limited liability often face different implementation rules in different MS crucial for the foundation and approval. In addition support from approval authorities can vary. EGTCs under constitution sometimes wish for better support and collaboration to speed up the foundation process. In a few cases, communication procedures with approval authorities are lengthy if additional documents or clarifications are requested. This often tends to be less critical if the approval authorities are consulted early in the process. Delays also occur with members from several countries, especially non-EU countries.¹⁵

EGTCs being set up in 2017 highlighted delays related to liability. These matter for the EGTC statutes and convention as well as for approval authorities. The other main reason for delays is linked to approval procedures that vary between countries and are affected by individual implementation rules, e.g. scrutinising the documents in different ways.

5.3 Overview of EGTCs closed in 2017

In 2016 some EGTCs appeared not to be active anymore and discussion about the first EGTC closures was raised. Some EGTCs have specific termination dates or conditions defined in their convention. According to article 8 of the

¹⁵ See also Zillmer et al., 2014; Zillmer and Lüer, 2016; Zillmer and Toptsidou, 2014

EGTC regulation EGTCs have to specify their duration and conditions for their dissolution in their convention¹⁶. In some cases, this refers to specific dates or achievements. These specifications must also include arrangements for liability of the EGTC and its members for EGTC obligations arising during its existence.

To 2017, no EGTC has closed due to specifications in its convention.

In addition to conditions in the EGTC's convention, in Article 14 the EGTC regulation refers to the dissolution of an EGTC initiated by the MS where the EGTC has its registered office (see box below). Therefore, the dissolution of EGTCs under Article 14 is subject to national implementation rules governing such dissolution, including procedures for cessation of payments, liabilities, the national EGTC register and/or national official journal.

Article 14 - Dissolution*

1. Notwithstanding the provisions on dissolution contained in the convention, on an application by any competent authority with a legitimate interest, the competent court or authority of the Member State where an EGTC has its registered office shall order the EGTC to be wound up if it finds that the EGTC no longer complies with the requirements laid down in Articles 1(2) or 7 or, in particular, that the EGTC is acting outside the confines of the tasks laid down in Article 7. The competent court or authority shall inform all the Member States under whose law the members have been formed or any application to dissolve an EGTC.
2. The competent court or authority may allow the EGTC time to rectify the situation. If the EGTC fails to do so with the time allowed, the competent court or authority shall order it to be wound up.

* EGTC Regulation (EU) No 1082/2006, 31 July 2006

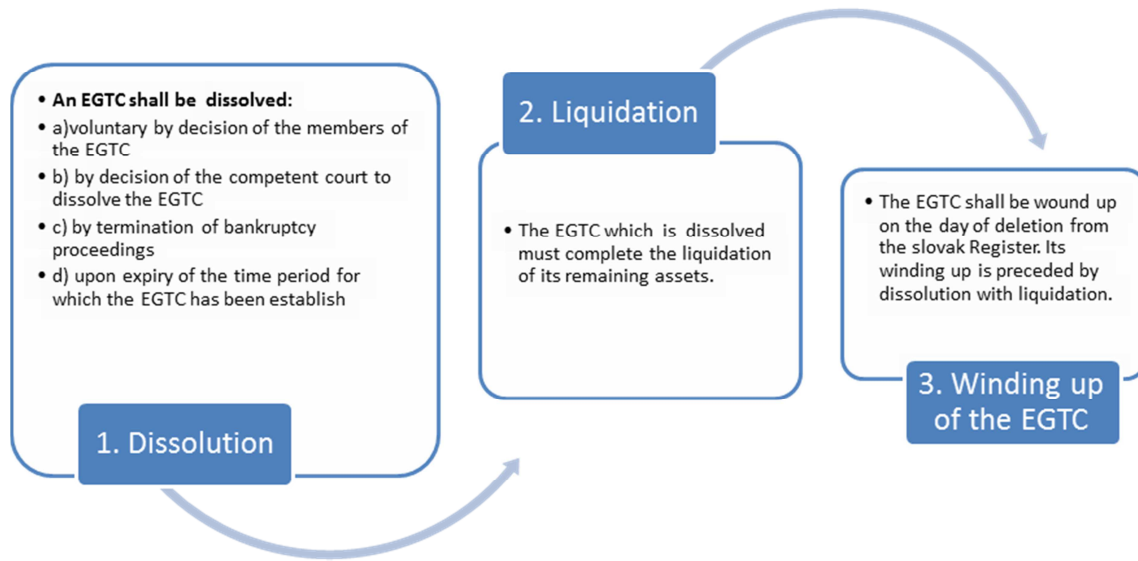
The first EGTC closed according to proceedings following article 14 of the EGTC regulation is the EGTC Karst-Bodva.¹⁷ Already in 2012 a corresponding request was submitted by the Ministry of Transport and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic (acting as Register for EGTCs in SK) as the EGTC was not fulfilling its legal obligations.

The proceeding was concluded in 2017. The EGTC Karst-Bodva is dissolved and not functional any more. Nevertheless, it still exists legally, since its liquidation, winding up and deregistration in Slovakia has not taken place yet (see Figure 5). The EGTC may only be de-registered at the CoR EGTC Register after finalisation of the last two steps.

¹⁶ For EGTCs founded before June 21, 2014, under the original EGTC regulation 1082/2006, this is also detailed in the statutes.

¹⁷ For the corresponding court decision see <https://obcan.justice.sk/infosud/-/infosud/i-detail/rozhodnutie/c3bdc8ab-5518-45e9-b86a-af1cdbcbb21c%3Adb3061b5-c292-4a02-aa70-0fed78b9d621>.

Figure 5: Dissolution process of EGTCs in Slovakia under article 14 of the EGTC regulation



Source: Deputy Prime Minister's Office for Investments and Informatisation of the Slovak Republic, 2018

6 Tentative insights on an evaluation of the current EGTC regulation

According to Regulation (EU) No 1302/2013 a report on the application of this regulation shall be drafted by 1 August 2018. This report shall contribute to the evaluation of the effectiveness (section 6.1), efficiency (section 6.2), relevance (section 6.3), European added value (section 6.4) and scope for simplification (section 6.5) of the EGTC regulation as it is currently in place. It is based on pre-defined indicators and provides data and findings that were feasible to obtain within the monitoring report service.

The preamble of Regulation (EU) 1302/2013 identifies a series of objectives, which are the basis for this analysis:

- to facilitate the establishment and operation of EGTCs;
- to clarify certain provisions;
- to allow for a more extensive use of EGTCs to contribute to better policy coherence and cooperation between public bodies without creating an additional burden on national or Union administrations

These objectives are then further detailed into sub-objectives, such as the:

- possibility for national authorities to become members of an EGTC;
- possibility for private bodies governed by public law to become members of an EGTC to manage public services;
- clarification of the participation of members from third countries;
- simplification of the approval process of the convention and the statutes, including the tacit approval or the amendment of the convention;
- clarification of the applicable law;
- clarification on the control and audit of the EGTC;
- clarifications on the liabilities.

In order to assess if these objectives and sub-objectives have been achieved, the following indicators give some first insights, but not a complete picture of the effectiveness of the regulation. The reasons are a lack of some baselines and the generic character of answers received.

Analysis of the data received enable only initial insights. In addition, the answers often refer to the EGTC instrument as such and not to the amendments provided for in Regulation 1203/2013. Specific attention to this should be paid in the future evaluation.

6.1 Effectiveness of the EGTC regulation

The evaluation of the *effectiveness of the EGTC regulation* should consider:

- To what extent have the objectives of the EGTC regulation been achieved?
- Are the effects produced by the (amended) EGTC Regulation in line with stated objectives?
- How effective is the regulation in promoting the use of EU-level legal instruments for cooperation?

The quantitative and qualitative evaluation indicators are summarised in Table 14. Several indicators seem to make exact values difficult. Indicator 7 has been renamed, since the original indicator could not be traced back.

Table 14: Overview of effectiveness indicators

Indicator	Unit	21 June 2014	31 Dec 2017
1. Conformity of MS' national rules with the Regulation	No. of MS with adopted implementation rules after amendment of regulation	n.a.	23*
2. Conformity of MS' national rules with the Regulation	Qualitative assessment		
3. Increase of EGTCs set up	Number of EGTCs	45	68
4. Increase of EGTC members in existing EGTCs	Number of EGTCs	n.a.	21**
5. Participants' assessment of improvement of the quality of cooperation as a result of the EGTC instrument	Qualitative assessment		
6. Increase of EGTC members per category	Number of types of EGTC members		
MS		n.a.	16**
Authorities at national level		n.a.	6**
Regional authorities		n.a.	81**
Local authorities		n.a.	561**
Public undertakings		n.a.	10**

Undertakings entrusted with services of general economic interest	n.a.	7**
Associations consisting of bodies belonging to one or more of these categories	n.a.	19**
National, regional or local authorities, or bodies or undertakings, equivalent to those above from third countries	n.a.	7**
7. Number of EGTCs involved in organisation of cross-border services***	Number of services according to categories	n.a. 14

* Not all approval authorities replied to the information request, therefore this excludes a significant number of MS. The total however, includes amended provisions adopted by the approval authorities in the respective MS that do not represent an MS but represent the competent legal body for EGTC regulation (i.e. federal countries such as Germany with Bundesländer).

** Not every EGTC fully replied to this question. A separate evaluation beyond the standard monitoring procedure should emphasise acquiring the information from EGTCs. A sound approach could be a centralised system on behalf of the CoR.

***Indicator renamed from "Increase of services provided as a result of EGTCs" due to infeasibility of obtaining reliable data in line with the original formulation.

Source: *Spatial Foresight, based on data from EGTCs and national authorities*

Tentative findings

As shown in the table above, 24 new EGTCs were formally established between June 2014 and December 2017, 34% of existing EGTCs. The pace has therefore been maintained since initial approval of EGTC Regulation (EC) No 1082/2006. Therefore, we cannot confirm that Regulation 1302/2013 has simplified the process from changes in EGTC creation.

The influence of national legislation on the establishment and operation of EGTCs is not fully clear. We received only a few answers with information about national legislation issued as a result of Regulation 1302/2013, but this describes the legal acts approved, with no mention of the potential for facilitating EGTC creation. Conformity is understood quite differently by MS, leading to different degrees of detail laid down in national implementation rules. For example, Bulgaria approved several rules in 2015 that deal with the establishment, registration and membership of EGTCs as well as record keeping for EGTCs with Bulgarian participation. Several MS adopted amended implementation rules in 2015 and 2017. Poland approved a new regulation in 2016 dealing with the register of EGTCs. Greece issued new rules for the convention, governance and seat in 2017. While there are cases that may have triggered the adoption of renewed implementation rules, an immediate link between these legal acts and the facilitation of EGTC foundations is not necessarily apparent.

There are no baselines for increased members in existing EGTCs or the increase of services, which makes these impossible to assess. 14 EGTCs said that they are involved in providing services. These include services that are directly managed by EGTCs and services for which EGTCs have played a more indirect role, e.g. through strategy development or encouragement of the responsible stakeholders. Additional EGTCs are involved in future service provision development. Examples for public services managed directly and indirectly by EGTCs are:

- cross-border mobility services, such as bike sharing systems, transport planners and public transport connections;
- provision of services (e.g. information services, project secretariat) for members of the EGTC;
- joint management and preservation of environmental resources (biosphere, nature, national parks);
- joint public healthcare provision to citizens;
- providing support for education via funding cross-border exchanges and cross-border research projects;
- joint provision of cultural activities;
- joint tourism services.

EGTCs plan to provide or contribute to more services in the future, e.g. in the fields of daycare, crime prevention, natural disaster warning systems, cross-border waste recycling.

A more general assessment whether Regulation 1203/2013 has achieved the objective of providing more clarity can be best assessed on basis of literature, since EGTCs usually lack a comparison between Regulations 1082/2006 and 1203/2013. Studies¹⁸, confirm an improved clarity in several aspects, inter alia, members, participation of authorities from third countries, relation between convention and statutes. However, due to the flexibility of the instrument EGTC foundations still require the search for individual solutions that may be considered as hampering in terms of clarity.

Some of the answers confirm the usefulness of the EGTC instrument to implement public policy in cross-border areas and cooperation areas in general. These answers refer to the EGTC instrument, with no focus on Regulation 1302/2013 or the modifications it introduces, and are summarised as follows:

- **Quicker and more efficient decision-making.** This is the most frequent answer received. The EGTC as a legal entity allows for quicker and more

¹⁸ See e.g. Krzymuski and Kubicki (2014), Krzymuski (2017).

efficient decisions in a cross-border environment where several authorities are involved.

- **Common objectives and strategies.** EGTCs allow for coherence, permanent and ongoing coordination, encourage common objectives and stabilise cooperation in the cross-border area.
- **Close to the ground.** At the same time, the EGTC is close to where cross-border problems occur.
- **Legal assurance.** Legally speaking, it formalises the commitment of the partners and gives legal assurance to the common actions.
- **Independence from single political decisions.** The EGTC is seen as independent from single political decisions and developments.
- **More visibility.** EGTCs allow for more visibility at EU-level and for local politicians to receive continuous and direct information on EU issues and be positioned at EU level.
- **Easier for cooperation** compared to other legal entities in national law.
- **Possibility to network with other EGTCs.**
- **Easier accounting processes** when EGTCs are sole beneficiaries of projects.
- **Absorption of EU funding.**

Many of these refer to the general benefits attributed to EGTCs in literature.

Another factor that we may identify from the data is that at least 7 undertakings entrusted with services of general economic interest are members of EGTCs. These are mostly universities. This has only been allowed since approval of Regulation 1302/2013. Even though not specified in the data, involvement of these stakeholders since the amendment of the regulation indicates their interest.

Some negative opinions on the EGTC instrument were received via the questionnaire, but these were probably related to the specific EGTCs. One EGTC did not see any benefit because there is no automatic funding. Another saw the same benefits as a network and one considered there were no benefits because that EGTC had no thematic focus. Such answers are individual and cannot be considered as shared by a majority of EGTCs.

6.2 Efficiency of the EGTC regulation

Evaluation of the *efficiency of the EGTC regulation* should consider:

- How efficient is the EGTC regulation in terms of reaching its objectives?
- Are the costs of setting up and running an EGTC proportionate to the benefits?

As with the effectiveness analysis, the data do not give a complete picture of the efficiency provided for by Regulation 1203/2013. This is also shown by the fact that the relevant evaluation indicators listed in Table 15 cannot be collected through the current monitoring report exercise.

Table 15: Overview of efficiency indicators

Indicator	Unit	21 June 2014	31 Dec 2017
8. Costs for setting-up of an EGTC compared to comparable structures under international or national law	Euro per EGTC	n.a.	
9. Costs for the functioning of an EGTC compared to comparable structures under international or national law	Euro per EGTC	n.a.	
10. Approval procedure for EGTCs compared to the approval procedure for comparable bodies under international or national law			Qualitative assessment

Source: Spatial Foresight, based on data from national authorities

Evaluating the costs for setting-up an EGTC (indicator 8) and for running an EGTC (indicator 9) require an in-depth analysis with control groups.

Tentative findings

The only aspect that we can partially assess is the approval procedure, though the efficiency cannot be assessed with the available data.¹⁹ Very few approval authorities responsible for EGTCs have insights in other approval procedures of comparable bodies. The few cases mentioned (e.g. from Portugal, Spain, Greece) do not hint at severe differences in terms of approval procedures. Some answers explicitly mentioned tacit approval, which was not seen positively in answers from national authorities. The answers were all in favour of explicit approval. Some reasons were:

- National authorities prefer to have a good knowledge of the EGTC activity in their territory and ask for clarifications if needed.
- The applicant has a written decision to use in a court of law if needed.
- In some cases the national law requires an explicit approval.

¹⁹ For robust information on efficiency indicators, that are complex in nature, an additional study would be required, including counter-factual analysis or control groups.

6.3 Relevance of the EGTC regulation

Evaluation of the *relevance of the EGTC regulation* should consider:

- To what extent has the (amended) regulation reduced the difficulties in implementing and managing territorial cooperation?
- Is the intervention still relevant?

For this, some data has provided a tentative picture. The evaluation indicators listed in Table 16, however, could not be collected through the monitoring report exercise and require additional research.

Table 16: Overview of relevance and sustainability indicators

Indicator	Unit	21 June 2014	31 Dec 2017
11. Use of EGTC for the implementation of a cooperation programme (as MA)	Number of EGTCs	1	2 (3)*
12. Use of EGTC to implement part of a cooperation programme (e.g. sub-programme, Small-project-fund; people-to-people projects; ITI, JAP)	Number of EGTCs	17	37
13. Use of EGTC to implement an operation (according to sub-categories of different funding sources)	Number of EGTCs	n.a.	33
14. Use of the different options for the choice of the applicable law	Qualitative assessment		
Public or private		n.a.	13
Public		n.a.	37
Private		n.a.	1
n.a.		n.a.	3
15. Use of own staff as compared to delegated staff	Qualitative assessment		
16. Motivating factors in choosing to set up an EGTC, for those bodies who have formally entered into an EGTC agreement	Cannot be assessed in the underlying monitoring report		
17. Probability that an EGTC is to be continued after its duration has come to an end	Cannot be assessed in the underlying monitoring report		
18. EGTCs registered without performing activities	Number of EGTCs / qualitative	n.a.	6

* These are the ESPON EGTC and the INTERREG V A Grande Région EGTC that are still active and an inactive EGTC, the INTERREG "Programme Grande Région" EGTC.

Source: *Spatial Foresight, based on data from EGTCs and national authorities and EGTC monitoring report 2014*

Tentative findings

Of the 68 EGTCs, two were created to manage an Interreg programme (Greater Region IVA and VA). Similarly, the ESPON programme is carried out through an EGTC, but not as an MA but as a single beneficiary of the programme. In addition, 37 EGTCs are involved in part of a cooperation programme (e.g. sub-programme, SPF, people-to-people projects, ITI, JAP) and 33 are implementing at least one ETC project. Some, EGTCs ticked both 12 and 13, as they both refer partially to operations, indicating different types of ETC activities. The majority of EGTCs (27 of 33) are implementing or are involved in more than a single Interreg project.

Those figures confirm the relevance of EGTC as an instrument for Interreg. However, to deepen the analysis, such figures should probably be compared with the number of EGTC applications to Interreg calls for projects. That would give more evidence of the relevance of EGTCs for cooperation, and for cooperation in Interreg.

A more extensive evaluation could assess if cooperation among those bodies has stabilised and to what extent it is covered by Interreg funds, other EU Funds or by own sources. Some elements were included in the 2016 monitoring report, but stable updated data would be needed.

The data in this study do not identify if Regulation 1203/2013 has reduced the difficulties of setting up or managing territorial cooperation. Renewal of the EGTC foundation for the Greater Region Interreg programmes indicates: a) the EGTC instrument has been considered useful and, b) the set-up with members from all MS involved in the programme was too complex. As mentioned in previous sections, a specific evaluation targeting the legal services of EGTCs (including the approval authorities) is needed. This will require qualitative information.

It is also not possible to assess if Regulation 1203/2013 has made the intervention more relevant. Again, a specific evaluation should deal with this and the answers received by the legal services should be compared with answers from approval authorities and the EGTCs themselves. Targets could also be EGTCs that had other legal structures prior to the EGTC foundation.

From the 512.5 FTE working for EGTCs in 2017, 425.5 were employed directly whereas 87.3 (~83%) were employed indirectly (~17%). The indirect staff may be underestimated since some EGTCs only referred to delegated staff without providing a number.

The reasons to hire staff directly or indirectly differ from EGTC to EGTC;

- **Differences in salary levels.** When the salary discrepancy between members is high, EGTCs sometimes hire staff indirectly because wage levels for the country where the EGTC has its seat are limited.
- **Higher efficiency.** Staff might be hired directly to ensure the immediate functioning of an EGTC whereas project and activity related staff could be employed indirectly as needed.
- **Continuity.** Staff can be hired directly by EGTCs to avoid fluctuation of employees. This ensures that staff working on behalf of the EGTC builds up significant experience relevant for the EGTC.
- **Independence.** EGTCs can be established as fully independent and autonomous bodies, staff can be employed directly in some EGTCs.
- **Flexibility.** Staff can be employed directly, but less than full time, for slimmer legislation in some EGTCs.
- **Administrative costs.** For some EGTCs it is easier to work with delegated staff from the members, as this saves additional administrative costs (e. g. setting up salary accounts).
- **Attractiveness for employees.** Delegation of staff is more attractive for employees in some EGTCs. It can also be cheaper for the groupings and affect their budgets.
- **Continuation of previous job positions.** In some cases staff worked with the respective authorities before the EGTC was founded. Therefore it seems logical that they hire staff that was in charge of their creation.

The fact that six EGTCs have no activity cannot be considered an element to assess the instrument, as the reasons for the lack of activity are varied and linked to the local context rather than the requirements of an EGTC (see Section 5).

6.4 European added value

Evaluation of the *European added value of the EGTC regulation* should consider:

- What is the added value of this EU regulation compared to what can be achieved at national, regional or local level?

Table 17 indicates that European added value can be evaluated through the qualitative evaluation indicator, since the indicator 19 appears to be difficult to grasp for the EGTCs.

Table 17: Overview of indicators related to European added value

Indicator	Unit	21 June 2014	31 Dec 2017
19. Number of territorial cooperation structures and networks which would not have been set up in the absence of the EGTC instrument		Quantitative indicator cannot be assessed, please see qualitative assessment on the advantages of the EGTC instrument (indicator 20)	
20. Advantages of a legal body set up under EU law compared to (other) legal bodies existing under international or national law		Qualitative assessment	

Source: *Spatial Foresight*, based on data from EGTCs and national authorities

Tentative findings

Answers on the advantages of an EGTC compared to similar legal bodies give valuable qualitative information to assess the European added value of the EGTC instrument²⁰. A number of benefits of EGTCs and their contribution to better policy coherence were included in section 6.1 above. Among those answers, some point directly to the European added value of EGTCs compared to national instruments, for example:

- **Quicker and more efficient decision-making.** The EGTC as a legal entity enables quicker and more efficient decisions in a cross-border environment where several authorities are involved;
- **Common objectives and strategies.** EGTCs enable coherence, permanence and ongoing coordination, encourage common objectives and stabilise cooperation in the cross-border area;
- **Independence from single political decisions.** The EGTC is seen as independent from single political decisions and developments which could block the adoption or implementation of measures useful for the cooperation area going beyond national borders;
- **The negotiating power** it gives to the cooperation area, enabling a better defence of its needs;
- **The increased visibility on EU level it gives to local leaders,** especially as they receive continuous EU information and they are considered both at national and EU level.

Respondents stated that other international legal instruments are very complex for cross-border cooperation under Cohesion policy. Euroregions have no legal personality. The negotiating power and positioning EGTCs give local leaders highlight advantages of the EGTC instrument compared to other international legal instruments focusing on certain border relations and territories only.

²⁰ As previously stated, questions and answers refer to the instrument rather than the amendments of Regulation 1203/2013

6.5 Simplification achieved and potential for further simplification

Evaluation of the *simplification of the EGTC regulation* should consider:

- Does the simplification of the EGTC regulation correspond to the needs of EGTC stakeholders?²¹
- Is there room for further amendments of the regulation?

Table 18: Overview of indicators related to simplification achievements and needs

Indicator	Unit	21 June 2014	31 Dec 2017
21. Average time for setting up an EGTC – phase 1	Months	n.a.	18 (on average)
22. Average time for setting up an EGTC – phase 2	Months	n.a.	17 (on average)
23. Number of tacit approvals	Number of tacit approvals & qualitative	Qualitative assessment, quantitative indicator cannot be reliably assessed	

Source: Spatial Foresight, based on data from EGTCs and national authorities

Tentative findings

The above indicators 21 and 22 probably refer to the efficiency check rather than the simplification. Only a comparison of time needed (especially for phase 2) under the unamended and the amended regulation may shed more light on simplification achieved. In addition, the indicators would need to check whether this lapse of time (18 and 17 months) is proportionate or not. As an example, one cooperation project may take 18 months from application to starting its activities, and projects are in principle not stable cooperation structures.

A specific evaluation should review more focused questions that grasp the specificities and potential of the simplification, and cover all the simplification measures of Regulation 1302/2013.

Nevertheless, insights into tacit approval are highlighted by the qualitative answers. As mentioned in section 6.2 above, answers from national authorities were rather negative. The answers were all in favour of explicit approval and some reasons for this are given above.

²¹ The indicator as listed in the service request mentions "... to the needs of beneficiaries". This is changed since the EGTC is a legal instrument rather than a funding instrument.

7 Conclusions

This EGTC monitoring report highlights that the variation in tasks, partnership and territorial structures of EGTCs further increased in 2017. The different examples illustrate that EGTC tasks vary from soft general cooperation to very specific subjects that are impossible to tackle without cross-border cooperation. Only four EGTCs were constituted during 2017, which is relatively few compared with most previous years. However, the instrument still appears to be attractive, since more than 20 potential EGTCs have been identified.

New cross-border EGTCs continuously develop in the same or neighbouring areas to other EGTCs. This indicates that the positive experience of some stakeholders is transferred to neighbouring regions. An amendment of the EGTC regulation in 2013 aimed to clarify and support the participation of players from non-EU MS in EGTCs and allows for different procedures. The uptake of this amendment is slow with the first members from Switzerland, Ukraine, Palestine and Albania. There is still no EGTC including Overseas Countries and Territories (OCT).

A few of the 69 EGTCs founded up to the end of 2017 are not active anymore or have never been operational. The first EGTC was dissolved in 2017. Other closures are expected to follow, e.g. the EGTC Grande Région, after closure of the Interreg IVA programme Grande Région where the EGTC acted as MA.

All MS fulfil the formal requirement of having adopted the EGTC regulation. However, only some MS have updated their implementation provisions after amendment of the EGTC regulation in 2013. This is, however, not related to the number of EGTCs in these MS. Many MS with several EGTC seats or members of EGTCs increasingly support implementing the instrument, though with different intensity.

Many EGTCs either implement projects funded under ETC or otherwise contribute to European policy objectives as laid out in the Europe 2020 Strategy. Implementing ETC programmes still plays a minor role, though this was one of the original main objectives for which the EGTC instrument was developed.

For an evaluation of the EGTC regulation, the team collected a first set of data for this report. This data only gives an indicative insight into whether the improved EGTC regulation had any impact on the work of the EGTCs. Overall, the regulation has introduced some improvements and simplifications. This includes, inter alia, better clarity regarding some decisions during the EGTC foundation.

8 Bibliography

The central source of information for the EGTC monitoring report 2017 is data and information from EGTCs, EGTCs being set up and national authorities collected through a written questionnaire and interviews. The following sources give an overview of additional literature and reports used.

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European Committee of the Regions, 2018. Register of European Groupings of Territorial Cooperation, (accessible under: <https://portal.cor.europa.eu/-egtc/CoRActivities/Pages/welcome.aspx>).

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Zillmer, S., Böhme, K., Lüer, C., Stumm, T., 2014. Guideline for the establishment of an EGTC for stakeholders of transnational cooperation, BMVI-Special publications. Bundesministerium für Verkehr und digitale Infrastruktur, Berlin.

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Annex 1 – Legislation update

Answer outstanding

New provisions as compared with EGTC monitoring report 2016

MS	EGTC National Provision	Date of adoption, incl. Regulation 1302/2013	Competent authority	General information
AT - Burgenland	Burgenländisches EVTZ-Gesetz - Bgld. EVTZG	24 Feb 2011, Amendment 1302/2013 adopted: Dec 2014	Land Burgenland (Regional government – federal state of Burgenland)	Public or Private law with Limited or Unlimited Liability *
AT - Carinthia	Kärntner EVTZ-Gesetz - K-EVTZG	18 Dec 2008, Amendment 1302/2013 adopted: Oct 2014	Land Kärnten (Regional government – federal state of Carinthia)	Public or Private law with Limited or Unlimited Liability *
AT - Lower Austria	Niederösterreich EVTZ-Gesetz	21 Jan 2010 Amendment 1302/2013 adopted: Aug 2015	Land Niederösterreich (Regional government – federal state of Lower Austria)	Public or Private law with Limited or Unlimited Liability *
AT - Salzburg	Salzburger EVTZ- Anwendungsgesetz - S.EVTZ-G	26 Sep 2009, Amendment 1302/2013 adopted: Feb 2015	Land Salzburg (Regional government – federal state of Salzburg)	Public or Private law with Limited or Unlimited Liability *
AT - Styria	Steiermärkisches EVTZ- Anwendungsgesetz - StEVTZG	17 Nov 2009, revised: Sep 2013	Land Steiermark (Regional government – federal state of Styria)	Public or Private law with Limited or Unlimited Liability *
AT - Tyrol	Tiroler EVTZ- Gesetz	3 Sep 2010, Amendment 1302/2013 adopted: Oct 2014	Land Tirol (Regional government – federal state of Tyrol)	Public or Private law with Limited or Unlimited Liability *
AT - Upper Austria	EVTZ-Anwendungsgesetz OÖ- EVTZG.	31 Mar 2011, Amendment 1302/2013 adopted: Dec 2017	Land Oberösterreich (Regional government – federal state of Upper Austria)	Public or Private law with Limited or Unlimited Liability *
AT - Vienna	W-EVTZG	24 Sep 2010, Amendment 1302/2013 adopted: Apr 2015	Municipal Administration of the City of Vienna	Public or Private law with Limited Liability

MS	EGTC National Provision	Date of adoption, incl. Regulation 1302/2013	Competent authority	General information
AT - Vorarlberg	EVTZ-Gesetz	23 Apr 2009, Amendment 1302/2013 adopted: Jun 2015	Land Vorarlberg (Regional government - federal state of Vorarlberg)	Public or Private law with Limited or Unlimited Liability *
BE - Brussels Capital	Ordonnance portant exécution du Règlement (CE) n° 1082/2006 du Parlement européen et du Conseil du 5 juillet 2006 relatif à un Groupement européen de coopération territoriale (GECT) (1)	14 May 2009	Government of the Region of Brussels Capital	Public Law
BE - Flanders Region	Houdende uitvoering van de Verordening (EG) Nr. 1082/2006 van het Europees Parlement en de Raad van 5 juli 2006 betreffende een Europese groepering voor territoriale samenwerking (EGTS)	6 Dec 2007	Ministry for Regional Development	n.a.
BE - German-Speaking Community	Dekret Über Die Zuständige Behörde Zur Ausführung Der Verordnung (Eg) Nr. 1082/2006 Über Den Europäischen Verbund Für Territoriale Zusammenarbeit	23 Jun 2008	Government of the German-speaking Community	Public Law
BE - Walloon Region	C.R.I.C. N° 68 (2008-2009)	10 Feb 2009	Ministry of Internal Affairs	n.a.
BG	Decree No. 199 of 29 August 2007 / Decree No. 24 of 10.02.2015	4 Sep 2007, Amendment 1302/2013 adopted: Feb 2015	Council of Ministers	Public law with Unlimited Liability
CY	Απόφαση 67.446 με ημερομηνία 9/7/2008 (Decision of the Ministerial Council 67.446 as of 9/7/2008)	Jul 2008	Committee of representatives from the Ministry of the Interior, the Directorate General for European Programmes, Coordination and Development and the Department of registrar of companies and official receiver	Private law, non-profit

MS	EGTC National Provision	Date of adoption, incl. Regulation 1302/2013	Competent authority	General information
CZ	Zákon, kterým se mění zákon č. 248/2000 Sb., o podpoře regionálního rozvoje, ve znění pozdějších předpisů, zákon č. 218/2000 Sb., o rozpočtových pravidlech a o změně některých souvisejících zákonů (rozpočtová pravidla), ve znění pozdějších předpisů, a zákon č. 89/1995 Sb., o státní statistické službě, ve znění pozdějších předpisů (154/2009 Sb.)	7 May 2009, Amendment 1302/2013 adopted: Nov 2015	Thematic responsible Ministry	Public law with Limited or Unlimited Liability
DE - Baden-Württemberg	Verwaltungsvorschrift der Ministerien zur Ausführung der Verordnung des Europäischen Parlaments und des Rates über den EVTZ	18 Jun 2007, Amendment 1302/2013 adopted: 25 Mar 2015	Regional Council of Freiburg (on behalf of the State of Baden-Württemberg)	Public law with Unlimited Liability **
DE - Bavaria	Art. 13 Gesetz über die Zuständigkeiten zum Vollzug wirtschaftsrechtlicher Vorschriften / EVTZ-Durchführungsverordnung	20 Dec 2007, Amendment adopted: 16 Aug 2017	Regional Council of Upper Palatinate (Oberpfalz) (on behalf of the Free State of Bavaria)	Public law with Unlimited Liability **
DE - Berlin	Senatsbeschluss Nr. 200/2007	20 Feb 2007	Senate Department for Economics, Energy and Public Enterprises (Berlin)	Public law with Unlimited Liability **
DE - Brandenburg	Brandenburgische EVTZ-Zuständigkeitsverordnung	22 Nov 2007, revised 23 Jun 2012	Ministry for the Interior and Municipality Affairs (Brandenburg)	Public law with Unlimited Liability **
DE - Bremen	Landesinterne Organisationsanordnung (unpublished)	n.a.	Municipal Administration of Bremerhaven	Public law with Unlimited Liability **
DE - Hamburg	Anordnung über Zuständigkeiten im Zusammenhang mit dem EVTZ	17 Nov 2008, revised 17 Dec 2013	Senatskanzlei (Hamburg)	Public law with Unlimited Liability **
DE - Hesse	Landesinterne Organisationsanordnung (unpublished)	n.a.	Hessian Ministry of Economics, Energy, Transport and Regional Planning (Hesse)	Public law with Unlimited Liability **

MS	EGTC National Provision	Date of adoption, incl. Regulation 1302/2013	Competent authority	General information
DE - Mecklenburg Western Pomerania	Landesverordnung zur Übertragung von Zuständigkeiten nach der Verordnung (EG) Nr. 1082/2006 im Land Mecklenburg- Vorpommern	18 Jun 2007	Ministry for Economics, Employment and Health (Mecklenburg Western Pomerania)	Public law with Unlimited Liability **
DE - Lower Saxony	Interner Beschluss der Landesregierung (unpublished)	10 Jul 2007	State Chancellery (Lower Saxony)	Public law with Unlimited Liability **
DE - North-Rhine Westphalia	Verordnung zur Regelung von Zuständigkeiten nach der EG-Verordnung über den Europäischen Verbund für territoriale Zusammenarbeit (Europäische Territorialverbundverordnung - ZV EVTZ)	29 Apr 2008	Ministry for Economic Affairs, Energy, Industry and Craftmanship (North-Rhine Westphalia)	Public law with Unlimited Liability **
DE - Rhineland-Palatinate	Landesverordnung über die zuständigen Behörden zur Ausführung der Verordnung (EG) Nr. 1082/2006 über den Europäischen Verbund für territoriale Zusammenarbeit	18 Jul 2007	Ministry of the Interior and Sport (Rhineland-Palatinate)	Public law with Unlimited Liability **
DE - Saarland	Verordnung über die Zuständigkeit zur Ausführung der Verordnung (EG) Nr. 1082/2006	07 May 2008	Ministry for Economics, Employment, Energy and Transport (Saarland)	Public law with Unlimited Liability **
DE - Saxony	EVTZ-Zuständigkeitsverordnung	02 Jan 2008	Regional Council of Dresden and the Ministry of the Interior (Saxony)	Public law with Unlimited Liability **
DE - Saxony-Anhalt	Beschluss der Landesregierung über die Benennung der zuständigen Stelle/Behörde in Sachsen-Anhalt im Wege eines Organisationerlasses im Rahmen der Verordnung (EG) Nr. 1082/2006	24 July 2007	Ministry for Economics, Science and Digitisation (Saxony-Anhalt)	Public law with Unlimited Liability **
DE - Schleswig-Holstein	Gesetz- und Verordnungsblatt für Schleswig-Holstein, Buchstabe A, Ziffer 1	17 Dec 2009	Ministry of Justice, Cultural and European Affairs (Schleswig-Holstein)	Public law with Unlimited Liability **

MS	EGTC National Provision	Date of adoption, incl. Regulation 1302/2013	Competent authority	General information
DE - Thuringia	Thüringer EVTZ-Zuständigkeitsverordnung	23 July 2007	Thuringian Administration Office (on behalf of the Free State of Thuringia)	Public law with Unlimited Liability **
DK	Lov om administration af forordning om oprettelse af en europæisk	1 Jun 2008, amendment adopted: 21 Feb 2014	Danish Commerce and Company Agency and approval of the request for participation from the Danish Enterprise and Construction authority	Public law with Limited or Unlimited Liability
EE	Euroopa Parlamendi ja noukogu määruse (EÜ) Nr 1082/2006 "ETKR kohta" rakendamise seadus	5 Jun 2008	Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Finance	Public law with Limited or Unlimited Liability
EL	Law No 4483/2017	30 Jun 2008, amendment adopted: July 2017	Committee consisting of representatives of the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Economy and Development, the Association of Greek Regions (ENPE, when the applicant member is a Region) and the Central Union of Municipalities of Greece (KEDE, when the applicant member is a Municipality)	Public law with Limited or Unlimited Liability
ES	Real Decreto 37/2008 por el que se adoptan las medidas necesarias para la aplicación efectiva del Reglamento (CE) n° 1082/2006 / Real Decreto 23/2015	18 Jan 2008, amendment adopted: Jan 2015	An EGTC is notified to the Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores, which transmits all applications (and modifications) to the Ministerio de Administraciones Públicas	Public law with Unlimited Liability
FI	Act on a European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (1340/2015)	24 Jul 2009, amendment adopted: 20 Nov 2015	Ministry of Employment and the Economy	Public law with Unlimited Liability

MS	EGTC National Provision	Date of adoption, incl. Regulation 1302/2013	Competent authority	General information
FR	Loi n° 2008-352 visant à renforcer la coopération transfrontalière, transnationale et interrégionale par la mise en conformité du code général des collectivités territoriales avec le règlement communautaire relatif à un groupement européen de coopération territoriale	16 Apr 2008	State Representative at the regional level: Préfectures de région	Public law with Limited or Unlimited Liability
HR	Zakon o provedbi uredbi Europske Unije o Europskoj Grupaciji za Teritorijalnu Suradnju	13 Jun 2014	Ministry of Administration	n.a.
HU	Act XCIX of 2007 on the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (in English)	25 Jun 2007, amendment 1302/2013 adopted: Dec 2014	Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade	Public law with Limited Liability
IE	Statutory Instrument, S.I. No. 533	16 Dec 2009	Department of Finance	Public or Private law with Limited Liability
IT	Disposizioni per l'adempimento di obblighi derivanti dall'appartenenza dell'Italia alle Comunità europee - Capo III - Attuazione del regolamento (CE) n. 1082/2006	23 Jun 2009	General Secretariat of the Prime Minister	Public law with Limited Liability
LT	Lietuvos Respublikos Europos Teritorinio Bendradarbiavimo Grupiu I Statymas	3 Jun 2008	Ministry of Internal Affairs	Public law with Limited Liability

MS	EGTC National Provision	Date of adoption, incl. Regulation 1302/2013	Competent authority	General information
LU	Loi portant diverses mesures d'application du règlement (CE) N. 1082/2006 relatif à un GECT	19 May 2009	Ministry of Sustainable Development and Infrastructure, Department for Spatial Planning	Public law with Limited or Unlimited Liability
LV	Eiropas teritoriālās sadarbības grupu likums	20 Aug 2009	Ministry of Regional Development and Local Government Affairs	Public law with Limited or Unlimited Liability
MT	L.N. 8 of 2011	12 Jan 2011	Ministry of Finance	Public or Private law with Limited or Unlimited Liability
NL	Uitvoeringswet EGTS-verordening	26 Nov 2009	Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations	Public law with Unlimited Liability
PL	Ustawa z dnia 7 listopada 2008 r. o europejskim ugrupowaniu współpracy terytorialnej	7 Nov 2008, amendment 1302/2013 adopted: 11 Sep 2015	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Public law with Unlimited Liability
PT	Decree Law No. 376/2007, Decree Law No. 60/2015	9 Nov 2007, amendment 1302/2013 adopted: 22 Apr 2015	Ministry for the Environment, Territorial Planning and Regional Development	Public law with Limited or Unlimited Liability

MS	EGTC National Provision	Date of adoption, incl. Regulation 1302/2013	Competent authority	General information
RO	Emergency Ordinance regarding the European Grouping of Territorial Cooperation (no. 9/2015)	12 Nov 2007, amendment 1302/2013 adopted: 2015	Ministry of Regional Development and Tourism	Public
SE	Svensk författningssamling - Lag om europeiska grupperingar för territoriellt samarbete	1 Aug 2009	Companies Registration Office	Public or Private law with Limited or Unlimited Liability
SI	Uredbo o ustanavljanju evropskega zdruzenja za teritorialno sodelovanje (EZTS)	30 Mar 2008, amendment 1302/2013 adopted: Apr 2015	Government Office for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy	Public law with Unlimited Liability
SK	Act No. 90/2008 Coll. on a EGTC	15 Feb 2008, amendment 1302/2013 adopted: 2015 and 2016	Ministry of Construction and Regional Development	Public law with Limited or Unlimited Liability
UK	Statutory Instrument - 2007 No. 1949, Guidance Note, Statutory Instrument 2008 No. 718	1 Aug 2007, revised 1 Apr 2008	The Secretary of State	Public or Private law with Unlimited Liability

Source: *Spatial Foresight*, based on data collected from national authorities.

Annex 2 – Overview of key characteristics of EGTCs

EGTC	Foundation year	Seat	Other countries	Partnership	No of partners	Purpose (2016)	Budget in EUR										Staff (from 2013 in FTE)					
							Ongoing ETC projects 2017	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
1	Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai	2008	FR	BE (operational seat)	national, regional, CU, local (147 municipalities)	19	Creating cooperation structures between the political and institutional representatives of its members and helps to concretise more quickly on what are the needs of the French-Belgium inhabitants of the territory	0	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,900,000	1,900,000	1,407,000	1,600,000	1,600,000	8	12	12	12	10	8	8
2	Ister-Granum	2008	HU	SK	local functional area around the cities of Esztergom (HU) and Štúrovo (SK); intent to reach 102 members (initial members of euroregion)	82	Primary task: implement territorial cooperation programs and projects co-financed by the European Union, Six more detailed sub-tasks:	0	18,400	74,000	54,000	54,000	125,000	125,000	n.a.	4	2	2	3	4	3	n.a.
3	GNP	2008	ES	PT	national (PT), regional (ES) - rather rural area	2	Promotion of interconnection for the Euroregion and fostering of cross-border cooperation	0	350,000	270,000	270,000	400,000	400,000	450,000	450,000	7	6	6	6	6	6	6
4	Amphicityony	2008	GR	IT, FR, CY, AL, PS	local	46	Cooperation among elected representatives and staff of municipalities; implementation of EU projects	0	500,000	135,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	120,000	200,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	4

EGTC	Foundation year	Seat	Other countries	Partnership	No of partners	Purpose (2016)	Ongoing ETC projects 2017	Budget in EUR										Staff (from 2013 in FTE)				
								2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
5	UTTS	2009	HU	SK	local	4	Local development			-	-	-	-	n.a.	n.a.		0	0	0	0	n.a.	n.a.
7	Duero-Douro	2009	ES	PT	local plus associations of municipalities	~200	Achieve territorial cohesion, solving common needs, through joint actions in rural areas from Spain and Portugal	0	170,000	650,000	650,000	654,000	654,000	1,022,932	1,137,010	7	15	7	30	30	20	22
8	Flandre-Dunkerque-Côte d'Opale	2009	FR	BE (operational seat)	national, regional, local	13	Facilitate and promote efficient and coherent cross-border cooperation in the region	3	300,000	270,000	327,265	320,000	320,000	376,614	296,731	2	0	0	0	0	2	3
9	Archi Med	2011	IT	ES, CY, GR	regional	7	Development and implementation of projects; valorisation of existing cooperation	n.a.		60,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	n.a.	n.a.		1	1	1	1	n.a.	8
10	EPM	2009	FR	ES	regional	4	Culture, innovation, sustainable development, higher education, tourism, implementation of a new strategic project between the partners	1	700,000	700,000	800,000	800,000	800,000	800,000 - 900,000	n.a.	8	8	8	9	9	9	8
11	Euro district Strasbourg-Ortenau	2010	FR	DE	local (cities/municipalities), CU de Strasbourg	86	Facilitation and implementation of cross-border projects	1	850,000	850,000	850,000	850,000	850,000	850,000	850,000	4	5	5	5	6	7	8

EGTC	Foundation year	Seat	Other countries	Partnership	No of partners	Purpose (2016)	Ongoing ETC projects 2017	Budget in EUR										Staff (from 2013 in FTE)				
								2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
12	ZASNET	2010	PT	ES	regions, associations of municipalities	6	Promote cross-border relations between the members of the EGTC, ZASNET in the traditional fields of cooperation	n.a.	240,000	480,000	548,022	432,219	154,849	154,849	140,000	0	1	1	1	3	2	8
13	HC	2010	ES	FR	national, regional, local	4	The building and subsequent joint management and operation of a cross-border Hospital	0	40,000	15,500,000	20,000,000	20,000,000	20,000,000	20,000,000	20,000,000	4	4	4	4	4	195	23 3. 2
14	Grande Région	2010	FR	DE, LU, BE	national, regional, local	11	Management (MA) of multilateral ETC CB programme 2007-2013, Currently, the EGTC is in charge of the closure of the programme	n.r.	500,000	650,000	519,227	519,227	-	-	-	2	2	3	3	4	1	0
15	Saar Moselle	2010	FR	DE (operational seat)	RV, CU, local	8	Ensuring the sustainable development of the region by supporting the cross-border cooperation in two key areas: Support the development of the Eurodistrict territory and initiate, monitor and implement inter-communal cooperation projects	4	-	480,000	2,500,000	1,600,000	1,600,000	1,150,000	1,100,000	-	0	0	4	7	6	6. 3
16	ABAÚJ - ABAÚJBAN	2010	HU	SK	local	14	Realise cross-border developments and implement the development plan	0	-	29,780	38,441	20,000	29,000	9,627	6,444	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

EGTC	Foundation year	Seat	Other countries	Partnership	No of partners	Purpose (2016)	Ongoing ETC projects 2017	Budget in EUR										Staff (from 2013 in FTE)				
								2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
17	Pons Danubii	2010	SK	HU	local (cities)	7	Strengthen cross-border cohesion on the whole territory; implementation of projects aimed at strategic development; improvement of everyday life of inhabitants	1		145,000		2,100,000	2,100,000	300,000	300,000	1	6	3	5	4	3	5
18	BTC	2011	HU	RO, Serbia (observer)	local	80	Implementation of Integrated Regional Strategy of EGTC	0		34,000	43,000	100,000	100,000	120,000	80,000		2	3	3	3	3	3
19	Arrabona	2011	HU	SK	local	30	Supporting urban and territorial development/management	0		100,000	132,663	123,722	234,466	250,318	253,000		3	4	4	6	7	10
20	Linieland van Waas en Hulst	2011	BE	NL	local, intermunicipal, region (province)	8	Cross-border cooperation in the fields of port & economy, mobility, nature, recreation & cultural history, and habitation and liveability	2		115,000	115,000	115,000	115,000	273,269	284,500		2	2	2	2	3	3.5
21	Euregio Tirolo - Alto Adige - Trentino	2011	IT	AT	regions	3	Foster collaboration between the Members of the EGTC and establish visible and significant projects and cross-boarder services to the citizens	4		250,000	750,000	750,000	750,000	2,900,000	4,300,000		4	4	7	10	13	8.5
22	GO	2011	IT	SI	local	3	Encourage and support territorial cooperation in all areas relating to regional development and reinforcement of economic and social cohesion	0		40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	907,651		0	1	1	1	4	7

EGTC	Foundation year	Seat	Other countries	Partnership	No of partners	Purpose (2016)	Budget in EUR										Staff (from 2013 in FTE)					
							Ongoing ETC projects 2017	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
23	Pirineus - Cerdanya	2011	FR	ES	local association of municipalities	2	Bringing together cross-border actors within a single structure and bringing together shared financial resources	0	'		15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	34,000		0	0	0	3	n.a.	n.a.
24	Espacio Portalet	2011	ES	FR	regional	2	Identification, promotion and implementation of programmes, projects and joint actions of territorial cooperation that are of interest to its members	2	'		738,619	738,619	724,664	886,242	906,687			1	1	2	2	3
25	RDV	2011	HU	SK	regional	3	Its primary task is to implement territorial cooperation programs and projects co-financed by the European Union	0		42,000			41,500	50,000	42,000		2	1	2	2	2	6
26	Euro région Nouvelle Aquitaine -Euskadi-Navarre	2011	FR	ES	regional	3	Develop and strengthen the cohesion between the three regional territories in an European perspective	2		720,000	1,456,561	1,100,000	1,100,000	1,650,000	1,650,000		3	4	5	5	5	n.a.
27	Poarta Europa GECT	2012	HU	RO	local	36	Support for improving economic and social development of the target area	0		54,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	40,000	n.a.		3	4	4	4	1	n.a.
28	BODRO GKÖZI	2012	HU	SK	local	17	Implementation of cross-border development, job creation, and economic growth in the region	0		29,780	38,441	38,441	29,000	9,627	8,055		0	0	0	0	0	0

EGTC	Foundation year	Seat	Other countries	Partnership	No of partners	Purpose (2016)	Ongoing ETC projects 2017	Budget in EUR										Staff (from 2013 in FTE)					
								2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017		
29	Novo hrad-Nógrád	2011	HU	SK	local	2	Economic and social cohesion; twin cities, Geopark	0		-	30,800	32,000	32,000	-	-		0	3		3	0	n. a.	
30	Pannon	2012	HU	SI, HR	local & university & national park	62	Implementation of EU co-funded programmes and projects of territorial cooperation	0		30,000	6,500	6,500	30,000	59,000	73,500		0	0	0	1	1	3	
31	Efxini Poli – Solidar City Network	2012	GR	CY, BG	local, region, university, RDA	24	Apply territorial cooperation to ensure greener and more inclusive cities	0		600,000	600,000	600,000	200,000	500,000		5	5	5	5	5	5		
32	EUKN	2012	NL	BE, VY, CZ, FR, DE, LU, RO	national	8	Strategic knowledge support and networking and providing research support on urban matters to countries holding the Presidencies of the Council of the EU	n.a.		500,000	460,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	550,000		4	4			4	3	
33	Euregio Senza Confini	2012	IT	AT	regional	2	Encourage, facilitate and promote cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation between its members for strengthening economic and social cohesion	2				-	260,000	405,000	590,000				0	0	4	6	
34	TRITIA	2013	PL	SK, CZ	regional	4	Support for implementation of Cohesion Policy	0			88,000	88,000	88,000	88,000	88,000				3	3	4	4	4

EG-TC	Foundation year	Seat	Other countries	Partnership	No of partners	Purpose (2016)	Budget in EUR										Staff (from 2013 in FTE)						
							Ongoing ETC projects 2017	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017		
35	Sajó-Rima / Slaná-Rimava	2013	HU	SK	local	4	Strengthen economic and social cohesion among members	0				35,000	36,000	36,000	14,668	4,000			1	1	1	1	1
36	Via Carpatia	2013	SK	HU	regional	2	Strengthen and support the cross-border, transnational and inter-regional cooperation to promote economic and social cohesion especially through realisation of projects and programs of cross-border cooperation	0				40,000	40,000	40,000	40,000	50,000			1	3	3	5	8
37	Parc européen Alpi Maritime – Mercantour	2013	FR	IT	National parks	2	Facilitate and promote cooperation among its members in the protection, promotion, awareness and management of natural, cultural and landscape heritage	0							170,000	270,000				0	0	4	4
38	P.M.I.B. B.	2013	IT	FR	National park (IT); Environment Office (FR)	2	Promote protection, management and joint promotion of natural and cultural resources of Bonifacio Strait to implement a joint policy regarding sustainable development	0							No budget for 2016 so far	No budget for 2017 so far				0	0	2	2
39	Secrétariat du Sommet de la Grande Région	2013	LU	FR, DE, BE	regional, national (Länder, departments, LU, FR)	10	Supports the activities of the Summit and its working. Tasks are the coordination, the promotion of networking, to inform about the summit and to network the members of the Summit with external actors					600,000	600,000	600,000	600,000	n.a.			4	4	4	4	4

EGTC	Foundation year	Seat	Other countries	Partnership	No of partners	Purpose (2016)	Ongoing ETC projects 2017	Budget in EUR										Staff (from 2013 in FTE)						
								2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017			
40	TATRY	2013	PL	SK	local; associations of municipalities	2	Further develop, facilitate and promote Polish-Slovak cross-border cooperation to enhance social and economic cohesion of the area	2					13,000	38,000	50,000	150,000				0		2	2,25	3
41	Spoločný región	2013	SK	CZ	local (SK), micro-regions (CZ) covering area of 46 municipalities	22	Implementation of cross-border projects	0			30,000	10,000	10,000	14,200	14,200				0	0	2	2	n.a.	
42	Torysa	2013	HU	SK	local	3	of a waste recycling technology	0				6,500	6,500	3,333	Membership fees					0	1	(21-26)	(21-26)	
43	Svinka	2013	HU	SK	local	3	Developing the members' territory with ecological and sustainable programmes	0				6,500		1,800	n.a.					0	1	(21-26)	(21-26)	
44	Alzette Belval	2012	FR	LU	FR: local, regional, national; LU: local, national	10	Assure a common and complementary development, to develop a real cross-border urban agglomeration, improving the quality of life of its inhabitants, and to support the development and the implementation of cross-border projects	2				80,000	187,588	212,842	249,149					1	2	0	2.1	

EGTC	Foundation year	Seat	Other countries	Partnership	No of partners	Purpose (2016)	Ongoing ETC projects 2017	Budget in EUR										Staff (from 2013 in FTE)						
								2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017			
45	AEuCC	2014	ES	IT, FR, RO	national associations of ceramic cities	4	Enhancing economic and social development and cohesion	0					32,000	32,000	32,000	50,000				0	0	1	1	
46	Eurocity of Chaves-Verín	2013	ES	PT	local	2	Promote cross-border relations among its members, encouraging institutional, economic, social, cultural and environmental convergence between the cities	0					21,000	45,000	175,000	240,000				4	4	0	2	
47	European Common Future Building	2012	HU	RO	local	8	Common product development cooperation, marketing activities, touristic development and the improvement of disaster management	0		'	'	'	'		20,000	20,000				0	0	0	1	1
48	CETC-EGTC	2014	PL	SE, HU, HR	regional	8	Ensure a harmonised stakeholder management approach among the regions to convert mobility boosting measures into sustainable socio-economic growth along the corridor	2					'	'	50,489	43,204				0	0	5	4	
49	HP-HP	2014	ES	FR	regional	2	Local development by promoting exchange of goods and services across the border	1					50,000	50,000	619,000	588,580				0	0	1	1	
50	AECT-FPI	2014	ES	PT	local	11	Cooperation in cultural heritage, tourism and local development	0					11,000		'	n.a.				0		0	0	

EGTC	Foundation year	Seat	Other countries	Partnership	No of partners	Purpose (2016)	Ongoing ETC projects 2017	Budget in EUR										Staff (from 2013 in FTE)								
								2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017					
51	European Border Cities	2014	HU	RO	local	2	Strengthen the economic and social cohesion between its members in the framework of cross-border cooperation	0						12,750	17,062	17,608							5	5	5	
52	ESPON	2015	LU	BE	national, regional		Act as single beneficiary to implement and deliver the content envisaged by the ESPON 2020 Cooperation Programme	n.r.						1,197,260	12,736,494	10,961,351								15	18	20
53	PAHT	2015	FR	ES	local (covering the area of 31 municipalities)	11	Label's administration "Villes et Pays d'Art et d'Histoire" (French Ministry of Culture)	1						-	n.a.	n.a.							0	3	5.5	
54	Inter-regional Alliance for the Rhine-Alpine Corridor	2015	DE	IT, NL, BE, FR, CH	local & regional, harbours & other public players	20	Facilitate and promote the territorial cooperation among its members and jointly strengthen and coordinate the territorial and integrated development of the multimodal Rhine-Alpine Corridor from the regional and local perspective	0						80,000	140,000	n.a.								0	n.a.	0
55	MASH	2015	HU	SI	local	4	Platform allowing mayors to work together on common cross-border projects and programmes	0						n.a.	n.a.	n.a.								2	1	n.a.

EGTC	Foundation year	Seat	Other countries	Partnership	No of partners	Purpose (2016)	Ongoing ETC projects 2017	Budget in EUR										Staff (from 2013 in FTE)								
								2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017					
56	Mura Region	2015	HU	HR	local	16	Cross-border cooperation involving support for territorial cooperation and the removal of barriers to the internal market	0							28,909	236,938								3	2	
57	Tisza	2015	HU	UA	local & regional	3	Create stable cooperation and social cohesion across the EU external border area and develop infrastructure and economy of the relevant area	0							40,000	40,000									2	2
58	INTER REG Grande Région	2015	LU	FR	regional (FR) & national (LU)	2	Management of the Programme Interreg VA Grande Région / Großregion	n.r.							959,877	1,113,181									20	12
59	NOVUM	2015	PL	CZ	regional	9	Intensify, facilitate and promote Polish-Czech cross-border cooperation aimed at strengthening economic and social cohesion of the area covered by the Grouping functioning	1						120,000	120,000	120,000								2	3	4
60	León-Bragança	2015	ES	PT	regional (ES) & local (PT)	2	Promote economic and social cohesion in both territories	2							60,000	60,000									0	2
61	PONTI BUS	2016	HU	SK	regional	2	Development and support of cross-border and interregional cooperation between its members to strengthen economic and social cohesion	0							23,000	30,900									3	3

EGTC	Foundation year	Seat	Other countries	Partnership	No of partners	Purpose (2016)	Ongoing ETC projects 2017	Budget in EUR										Staff (from 2013 in FTE)								
								2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017					
62	EUCOR The European Campus	2016	DE	FR, CH	universities	5	Apply for joint research grants, establish joint professorships, and offer joint degree programmes	0								200,000	500,000								No direct staff	No direct staff
63	EMI	2016	ES	FR	regional & other public players	5	Carry out and manage projects and cooperation actions related to the management and valorisation of mycological resources	0								25,000	40,000								0	0
64	Eisen-Bahnneu-Bau-strecke Dresden Prag	2016	DE	CZ	national, regional & local	4	Creation and coordination of planning activities, communication with the national and EU authorities and broad public to obtain funds for financing the project	0								8,000 plus member contributions	8,000 plus member contributions								Delegated	Delegated
65	Euro district PAMINA	2016	FR	DE	local & regional	15	Platform for pooling responsibilities, expertise and resources, and acting as agent for promoting territorial cohesion to intensify the cooperation towards a balanced and sustainable development of the territory	0								607,734	686,938								6	2,4

EGTC	Foundation year	Seat	Other countries	Partnership	No of partners	Purpose (2016)	Ongoing ETC projects 2017	Budget in EUR							Staff (from 2013 in FTE)							
							2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2010	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017		
69	MURAB A	2017	HU	SI	Local & regional & national authorities' representation	5	Implementation of cooperation programmes in full or in part, as well as projects or programmes developed in cross-border cooperation and co-financed by the European Union through the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund and/or the Cohesion Fund or other Community financing schemes accessible to the EGCT, with or without the financial contribution of MS							16,110								0

Source: Spatial Foresight, based on data collected from EGTCs. The purposes highlighted in grey were taken from the previous monitoring report since the EGTC did not reply to the request for information or the fields were not filled in.

Annex 3 – Policy areas of EGTCs

No.	EGTC name	CIVEX				COTER			ECON		NAT					SEDEC				ENVE							
		Enl. & neighbourhood	Active citizenship	Human rights	Security, justice, border controls & Governance, subsidiarity & public	Spatial & regional development	Transport, infrastructure	Macro regions & territorial	Entrepreneurship	Economic & competition policy;	Economic governance	Tourism	Civil protection	Rural development	Forestry, fisheries, food production	Health & consumer protection	Research & innovation	Culture, sports	Employment and social policy, equal	Education & training	Mobility	Digital technologies & networks	Climate change	Energy	Environment	Other	
1	Lille-Kortrijk-Tournai					X	X	X	X			X					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
2	Ister-Granum						X		X			X					X	X	X							X	
3	GNP		X					X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X				X		X	X	
4	Amphictyony	X	X	X				X									X	X	X					X			
5	UTTS					X																					
7	Duero-Douro	X	X	O	O	X	O	O	O	X	X	O	X	X	X	X	O	O	X	X	X	O	O	O	X	X	
8	Flandre-Dunkerque-Côte d'Opale					X	O	O		O	O		X				X	X				X	X		X		
9	ArchiMed					X																			X		
10	EPM	O	O			O	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	O	X		
11	Eurodistrict Strasbourg-Ortenau		X			X	X		X	X	X	X			X		X	X	X						X		
12	ZASNET		X					X	X			X		X	X	X	X	X				X	X	X	X		
13	HC					O	O	O				O	O			X	X	O		X		O					
14	Grande Région																									X	
15	SaarMoselle	X			X	X	X			O		X			X		X	X	X	X	X			O	X		
16	ABAÚJ - ABAÚJBAN	X	X			X	X	X				X		X		X	X	X	X					X	X		

No.	EGTC name	CIVEX				COTER			ECON			NAT				SEDEC					ENVE				
		Enl. & neighbourhood	Active citizenship	Human rights	Security, justice, border controls & Governance, subsidiarity & public	Spatial & regional development	Transport, infrastructure	Macro regions & territorial	Entrepreneurship	Economic & competition policy;	Economic governance	Tourism	Civil protection	Rural development	Forestry, fisheries, food production	Health & consumer protection	Research & innovation	Culture, sports	Employment and social policy, equal	Education & training	Mobility	Digital technologies & networks	Climate change	Energy	Environment
17	Pons Danubii						X		X			X				X			X		X			X	
18	BTC EGTC					X			X		X	X		X			X	X	X			X	X		X
19	Arrabona	O	O		O	O	O	O	O		O	X	O	X	O		X	X	X	O	O	X	O	O	
20	Linieland van Waas en Hulst					X	X	X	X	X	X			X			X	X	X			X		X	
21	Euregio Tirolo - Alto Adige - Trentino					X								X								X			
22	EGTC GO					X	X					X			X		X								
23	Pirineus - Cerdanya					X					X														
24	Espacio Portalet	X			X	X	X			X	X			X			X	X		X	X			X	X
25	RDV		O			O		O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O			O	O
26	Eurorégion Nouvelle Aquitaine-Euskadi-Navarre		X				X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X
27	Poarta Europa GECT		X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X				X	X	
28	BODROGKÖZI	X	X			X	X	X				X		X			X	X	X	X			X	X	
29	Novohrad-Nógrád																								
30	Pannon	X				O	O	O	O			X		O		O	X	O	O				O	O	
31	Efxini Poli – SolidarCity Network	O	O	O	O	O	X	O	X	X	O	O	X	O	X	O	O	X	O	O	O	O	X	X	X
32	EUKN		O			X	X	X		X	X	X				X	X	X		X		X	X	X	
33	Euregio Senza Confini				X		O	X	X	X	O	O	X	X		O	X	X	X	O	X	O			X

No.	EGTC name	CIVEX				COTER			ECON			NAT				SEDEC				ENVE						
		Enl. & neighbourhood	Active citizenship	Human rights	Security, justice, border controls & Governance, subsidiarity & public	Spatial & regional development	Transport, infrastructure	Macro regions & territorial	Entrepreneurship	Economic & competition policy;	Economic governance	Tourism	Civil protection	Rural development	Forestry, fisheries, food production	Health & consumer protection	Research & innovation	Culture, sports	Employment and social policy, equal	Education & training	Mobility	Digital technologies & networks	Climate change	Energy	Environment	Other
34	TRITIA		X			X	X				X				X	X	X		X	X	X			X		
35	Sajó-Rima / Slaná-Rimava										X						X								X	
36	Via Carpatia					X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						X	
37	Parc européen Alpi Marittime – Mercantour					X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X		X		
38	P.M.I.B.B.										O		X					O			O		X	X		
39	Secrétariat du Sommet de la Grande Région					X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X		X									
40	TATRY						X				X	X	X			X		X						X		
41	Spoločný región		O	O	O	X	O	O	X	O	X	O	X	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	O	X	X	X	X
42	Torysa		O				O				X	O		O	O			O	O			X	X	O		
43	Svinka		O	O							O	O		O	O				O							
44	Alzette Belval		X			X	X				X					X		X	X				X	X		
45	AEuCC	X	X					X	X	X	X		X			X	X	X	X		X		X			
46	Eurocity of Chaves-Verín	X	X	O	X	O	O	X	X	O	X					X	X	O	X	X				O		
47	European Common Future Building	X	O	O	O	X	O	X	O	O	O	X	X	O	O	O	X	O	O	O	O	O	X	O	O	O
48	CETC-EGTC					O	X	O	O		O	O								O			O			
49	HP-HP										X															

No.	EGTC name	CIVEX				COTER			ECON			NAT				SEDEC					ENVE						
		Enl. & neighbourhood	Active citizenship	Human rights	Security, justice, border controls & Governance, subsidiarity & public	Spatial & regional development	Transport, infrastructure	Macro regions & territorial	Entrepreneurship	Economic & competition policy;	Economic governance	Tourism	Civil protection	Rural development	Forestry, fisheries, food production	Health & consumer protection	Research & innovation	Culture, sports	Employment and social policy, equal	Education & training	Mobility	Digital technologies & networks	Climate change	Energy	Environment	Other	
50	AECT-FPI					X	X		X	X	X			X	X			X									
51	European Border Cities						O					O	O				X								X		
52	ESPON	X				X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
53	PAHT				X					X		X		X			X	X									
54	Interregional Alliance for the Rhine-Alpine Corridor					X	X																		X		
55	MASH					X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X					X	X		
56	Mura Region	X	X	X	O	O	X	X	O	X	O	X	X	X	X	O	O	X	X	X	O	O	O	O	X	X	O
57	Tisza																										
58	INTERREG Grande Région																									X	
59	NOVUM					X	X		X						X	X			X			X	X	X			
60	León-Bragança											X		X	X												
61	PONTIBUS	X	O	O	O	O	X	X	O	O	O	X	O	X	O	O	O	O	X	X	X	X	X	O	O	O	O
62	EUCOR The European Campus															X											
63	EMI											X		X	X	X	X		X				X		X	X	
64	PROUD						X																				
65	Eurodistrict PAMINA	O	X	O	O	O	X	X	O	X	X	O	X	X	O	O	X	X	X	X	X	O	X	O	X		
66	Ipoly-völgye EGTC	X	O	O			X	X	X	O	O	X	X	X	O	O		X	X	X	X			X	X		

No.	EGTC name	CIVEX					COTER			ECON			NAT					SEDEC					ENVE				
		Enl. & neighbourhood	Active citizenship	Human rights	Security, justice, border controls &	Governance, subsidiarity & public	Spatial & regional development	Transport, infrastructure	Macro regions & territorial	Entrepreneurship	Economic & competition policy;	Economic governance	Tourism	Civil protection	Rural development	Forestry, fisheries, food production	Health & consumer protection	Research & innovation	Culture, sports	Employment and social policy, equal	Education & training	Mobility	Digital technologies & networks	Climate change	Energy	Environment	Other
67	DIETA MED EGTC	The EGTC did not reply to the information request. Therefore no information could be indicated.																									
68	HELICAS EGTC	O	O	O	O	O			O	O	O	O	O	O				O	O	O		O	O	O	O	O	
69	MURABA EGTC	X	X	X	O	X	X	X	X	O	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	O	
Total active		15	16	3	3	5	33	33	18	24	16	18	45	11	27	18	18	21	41	31	32	14	13	20	20	36	14
Total interested		5	12	10	9	9	9	11	12	9	12	11	8	10	4	11	10	8	6	8	11	9	9	6	9	8	5

X – Effective fields of activity; O – Interest in field of activity

Source: Spatial Foresight, based on data collected from EGTCs. The fields of activity highlighted in grey were taken from previous monitoring report since the EGTC did not reply to the request for information or since the fields were not filled in.

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