

Transnational Cooperation and Value Chains

The case of Pyrenees-Mediterranean Euroregion: The Euroregional Innovation Strategy

The primary objective of the strategy was to encourage Euroregional collaboration between public and private sector players in the four member regions. In a like manner to the principles of smart specialisation, the Euroregional Innovation Strategy aims to **target public resources on a narrow selection of sectors in which the Euroregion is considered to have a global comparative advantage**. The Euroregional Innovation Strategy focuses on three priority sectors (water, e-health and agri-food) and one cross-cutting area (tourism). The strategy also contributes to the **integrated territorial development** of the Euroregion.

The Euroregional Innovation Strategy is based on the evaluation of existing **complementarities in the regional innovation strategies** of the four concerned regions. Comparative analyses conducted in the three priority sectors defined in the Euroregional Innovation Strategy paved way for the identification of mutually interesting sub-topics and further **cross-border areas of specialisation**. In addition, the interregional assets, the key actors and existing regional projects were analysed from the viewpoint of each area of Euroregional innovation specialisation.

Among the core outputs of the Euroregional Innovation Strategy is the development of eHealth Eurocampus, which conveys with the political aspirations of the Pyrenees-Mediterranean Euroregion. The project placed the e-health as a strategic growing sector that responds to major cross-border economic and social issues. The project aim is to prepare professionals to become innovators in the field of information and communications technology within the health service sector. This strategic partnership of higher education is a part of the European Erasmus + Programme and fully funded by the European Union to the amount of EUR 430 000 for a period of 3 years (2016-2019).

References:

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