



2015-2020 CPER: SUPPORT INVESTMENT IN THE TERRITORIES

With the State-Region Project Contracts (CPERs), over 30 billion euros will be injected into the regional economy for the benefit of structuring projects by 2020. Employment, green growth, and territorial solidarity make up their common threads.

The General Commission for Territorial Equality (CGET) provides co-ordination in liaison with the General Directorate for Overseas Territories. With the new territorial order, the CPER offers a preferential partnership framework between the State, the Regions, and the infra-regional authorities, in the service of development and local jobs.

CPERS, INVESTMENT CATALYSTS

Boosting the competitiveness and the attractiveness of territories by financing projects for the future: that is the objective of the seven themes of the 2015-2020 contract process. In addition to employment, which is a cross-cutting priority, the CPERs will support:

- high-performance transport networks to meet mobility needs;
- attractive, functional campuses that benefit from modern research and innovation facilities;
- projects that encourage ecological and energy transition as well as green growth;
- regional governance that allows the digital economy to be rolled out;
- innovative projects borne by businesses for the benefit of territories;
- integrated territorial development.

January 2016
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National guidelines supported by the State have been set out and adapted at regional level in line with strategic priorities defined by regional councils (particularly as part of Schémas Régionaux pour le Développement Durable du Territoire (SPRADDT - Regional Schemes for Territorial Planning and Sustainable Development), Schémas Régionaux de Développement Économique (SRDE - Regional Schemes for Economic Development), and Stratégies Régionales d'Innovation pour une Spécialisation Intelligente (SRI-SI - Regional Innovation Strategies for Intelligent Specialisation)).

Through contracts, the State and the Regions undertake to mobilise 14.3 billion euros and 15.2 billion euros respectively, to which is added 900 million euros from the infra-regional authorities that are signatories. Several State operators are stakeholders in CPERs: the Agence Nationale pour la Rénovation Urbaine (ANRU - National Agency for Urban Regeneration), the Agence de l'Environnement et de la Maîtrise de l'Énergie (ADEME - Environment and Energy-Management Agency), water agencies, Voies Navigables de France (Navigable Waterways of France), etc.

In a context of changes in the State's modes of intervention on the one hand, and an affirmation of the weight of the

FEEDBACK ON THE CONTRACT- PREPARATION STAGES

Launched in the summer of 2013, the preparation of project contracts was sequenced over two phases. The first consisted of producing diagnostics and regional strategies that identified the intervention priorities of regional actors with regard to national guidelines. Based on budget arbitrations handed down during 2014, the Prime Minister sent regional *préfets* (the State's regional representatives) a mandate to negotiate with the presidents of regional councils and infra-regional authorities. The second phase started in autumn 2014. It enabled determination of the terms and conditions for intervention, as well as the multiyear financial commitments of each partner. It led to all the CPERs being signed during 2015.

Regions on the other hand, the CEPR is an important tool for steering public action at regional level, for dialogue between the State and territorial authorities, and for supporting decentralisation.

THE ECONOMIC AND TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES OF THE REGIONS

CPERs contribute to boosting the abilities of all territories, based on their resources and needs. The competitiveness of metropolises, conurbations, and large towns and cities is supported at national and European level through main infrastructures for transport, higher education, and research. The development of medium-sized towns and cities and of structuring clusters in peri-urban territories, the revitalisation of village centres, and opening up rural areas also constitute priorities.

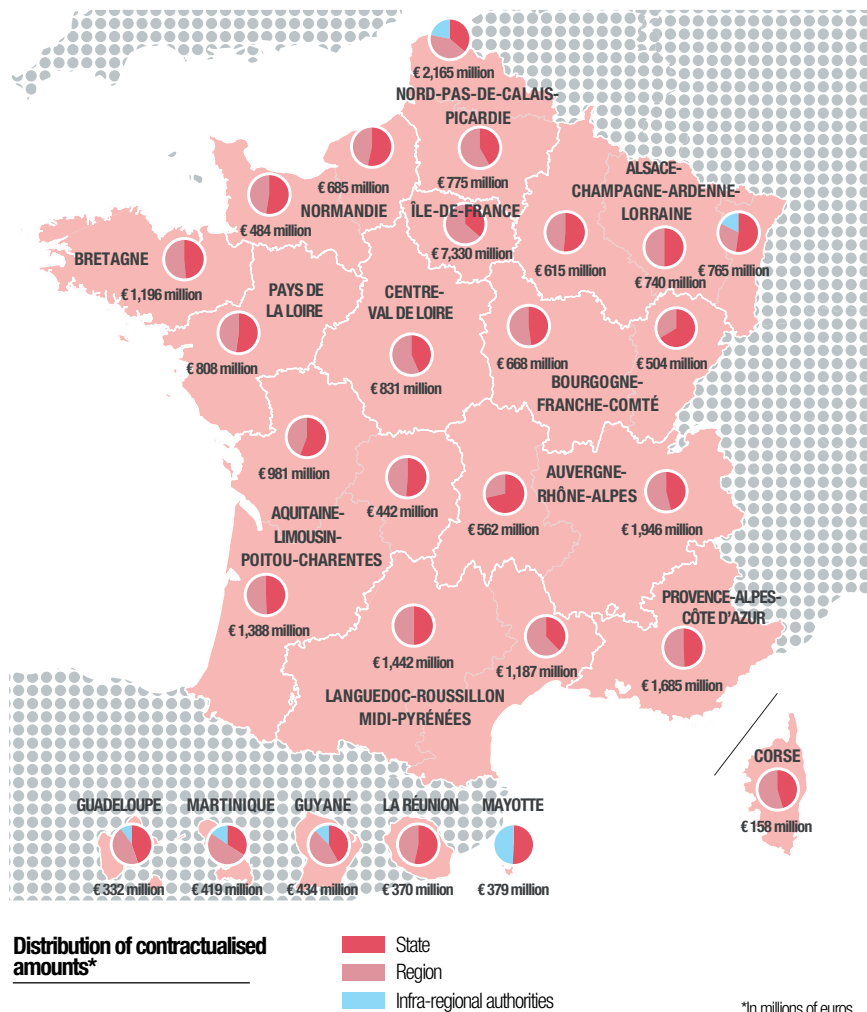
MULTIMODAL MOBILITY

Transport is an investment priority for the CPERs. It represents half of financial commitments (i.e. about 15 billion euros), and it is also the most significant in terms of impact on jobs. Projects aimed at modernising infrastructures and at improving service in territories from the perspective of multimodal mobility: road operations (previously supported as part of Programmes de Modernisation des Itinéraires (PDMI - Route-Modernisation Programmes) as well as rail, river, and port operations. Soft mobility is also encouraged. In Île-de-France, the State and the Region are mobilising 4.5 billion euros for public transport for the Nouveau Grand Paris (New Greater Paris for Transport).

HIGHER EDUCATION, RESEARCH, AND INNOVATION

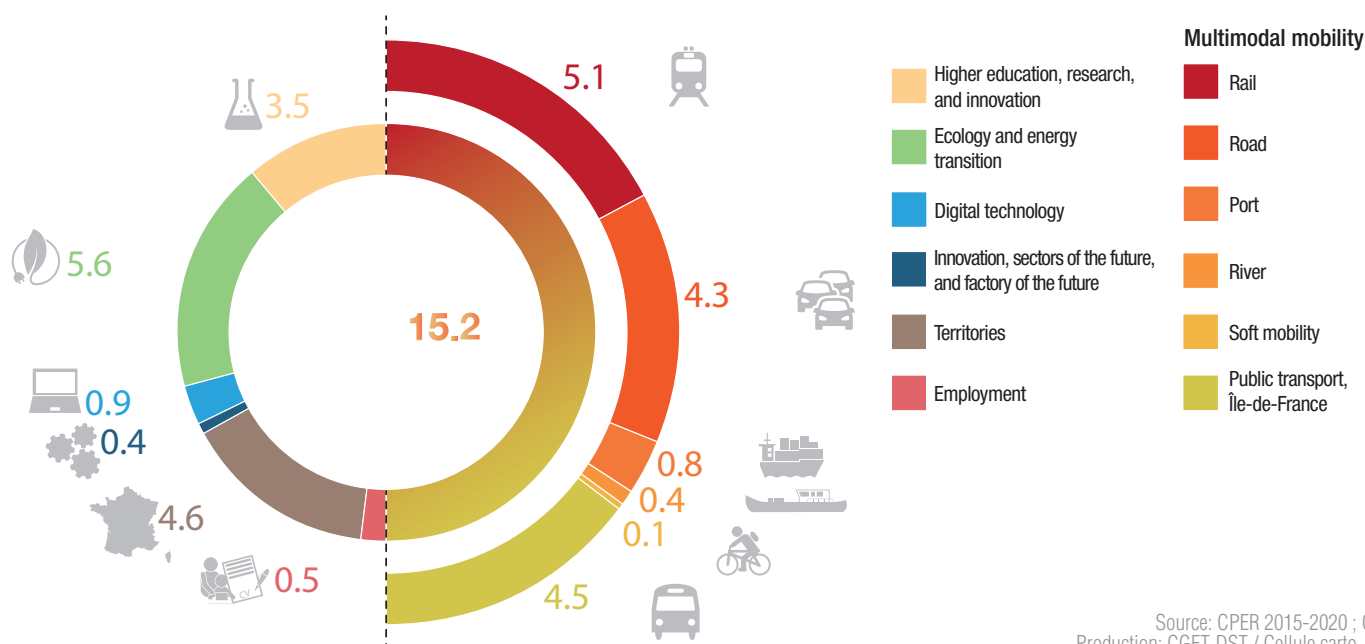
It is a case of offering actors in higher education and in research facilities equipment that is modern and competitive. In the field of higher education, operations cover the renovation of university property, constructing and refurbishing student accommodation, and developing the use of digital technology.

Figure 1. The financial commitments of signatories to the 2015-2020 CPERs



Source: CPER 2015-2020; CGET - Production: CGET-DST / Cellule carto, 2015

Figure 2. Amounts contractualised by section of 2015-2020 CPERs (in billions of euros)



Source: CPER 2015-2020 ; CGET
Production: CGET-DST / Cellule carto, 2015

In matters of research, investments concern scientific facilities, technology-transfer structures, and support for innovative research projects. CPER financing (3.5 billion euros) is complementary to financing from the Campus plan¹ and from research and innovation projects of the Investments for the Future Programme.

ECOLOGICAL AND ENERGY TRANSITION

The significant contributions from operators (ADEME and water agencies) are added to ministerial credits, allowing 5.6 billion euros to be given over to sustainable development and to reducing greenhouse-gas emissions. It is a matter of supporting various action plans relating to ecology (preventing natural risks, reconquering biodiversity, preserving resources, etc.) and energy (developing renewable energies as well as the circular economy, etc.). The intervention of CPERs contribute to implementing guidelines defined in Schémas Régionaux de Cohérence Écologique (SRCE – Regional Ecological-Cohesion Plans), and Schémas Régionaux du Climat, de l’Air et de l’Énergie (SRCAEs - Regional Climate-Air-Energy Schemes).

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

As a complement to rolling out very-high-speed broadband financed by the France Très Haut Débit Plan² under the Investments for the Future Programme, CPER credits (0.9 billion euros) support the reabsorption of mobile-telephony dead zones, implementing pooling tools (geographic information systems), and the development of digital uses and services for the benefit of territorial actors (the cloud, open data, teleworking, on-line public services, connected schools, e-health, etc.). Those projects are part of the Stratégies de Cohérence Régionale pour l’Aménagement Numérique (Scoran -

Regional Cohesion Strategies for Digital Planning).

INNOVATION, THE SECTORS OF THE FUTURE, AND THE FACTORY OF THE FUTURE

This theme is based on ensuring consistency between European, national, and regional guidelines through setting out the Industry of the Future and the nine industrial solutions³, as well as Regional strategies for intelligent specialisation. Regional innovation partnerships⁴ are being tried out in five regions (Alsace-Champagne-Ardenne-Lorraine, Aquitaine-Limousin-Poitou-Charentes, Nord-Pas-de-Calais-Picardie, Pays de la Loire, and Provence-Alpes-Côte d’Azur). They support innovation projects, especially non-technological ones, borne by SMEs in regional areas of specialisation.

JOBS

Over and above the contribution made by the various CPER interventions in job development, specific measures are financed to encourage guidance, training, and insertion aimed at the most vulnerable members of the public in the job market. CPER credits (500 million euros) are mobilised for actions to professionalise actors, secure professional pathways, support businesses, and provide Gestion Prévisionnelle de l’Emploi et des Compétences (Forward-Looking Management of Jobs and Skills) in territories. In that regard, support is given to the network made up of Carif-Oref⁵ (Centre d’Animation, de Recherche, et d’Information sur la Formation-Obervatoire Régional de l’Emploi et de la Formation – Centre for Facilitation, Research, and Information on Training-Regional Observatory for Employment and Training) and the Associations Régionales pour l’Amélioration des Conditions de Travail (ARACT – Regional Associations for Improving Working Conditions).

¹ A one-off plan, launched in February 2008 and given 5 billion euros for the refurbishment of university property.

² A plan launched in the spring of 2013, its aim being to provide the entire territory with very-high-speed broadband coverage by 2022 and applying an investment of 20 billion euros in ten years. To find out more: <http://www.francethd.fr/>

³ Second phase of Nouvelle France Industrielle (New Industrial France), launched in 2015 and capitalising on the gains of 34 industrial plans (including the Usine du Futur (Factory of the Future) plan) initiated in September 2013.

⁴ Arrangement launched in October 2014 as part of the CPERs, given a budget of 100 million euros for calls for projects made in partnership between the State (PIA) and the Regions concerned. To find out more: <https://pri.bpifrance.fr/>

⁵ They are financed by the State and the Regions. They make up a network of operators in relationship with social partners and actors in the area of vocational training.

THE TERRITORIAL SECTION, A LEVER FOR TERRITORIAL EQUALITY

The territorial section of CPERs is co-constructed by the State and the Regions based on the specific needs of infra-regional territories, and encourages their balanced development. Regional partners contribute 4.6 billion euros, including 600 million euros to the Fonds National d'Aménagement et de Développement du Territoire (FNADT – National Fund for Territorial Planning and Development) managed by the CGET, mobilised with a twin objective of supporting territorial dynamics and fighting infra-regional disparities.

In the most vulnerable territories (territories undergoing socio-economic change, priority urban-policy neighbourhoods, fragile peri-urban and rural territories, etc.), support is planned for territorial and land engineering, developing the offer, physical accessibility, and digital accessibility of services, as well as of collective facilities that boost the centrality functions of villages and small towns and cities. Project territories and structuring projects are also supported in their governance and plans: metropolitan dynamics, cross-border co-operation, integrated coastline management, etc.

The territorial section also enables consistency to be ensured between the State's various contractual processes with infra-regional territories: city contracts⁶, contracts for revitalising village centres, contracts for reinvigorating defence sites, etc. It incorporates territorialised contributions from several ministries (health⁷, employment, ecology, urban planning, culture, etc.). All those interventions can thus be articulated with the territorial policies of regional councils and the integrated territorial approaches of European Structural and Investment Funds, in order to better meet the needs of the most fragile territories.

⁶ Attaching city contracts to the territorial section of the CPERs enabled regional partners, in the context of CPER negotiations, to draw up the list of regional projects of the New National Programme for Urban Regeneration. In that regard, 850 million euros (grant equivalent) are mobilised by ANRU; to that amount is added the contributions from Regions and from infra-regional authorities.

⁷ By way of example, health policy is supported by financing multidisciplinary health centres and using digital technology (telemedicine) to facilitate access to local healthcare, thanks to support from the State, regional health authorities, and regional councils.

PRIORITIES ADAPTED FOR THE OVERSEAS TERRITORIES

The Overseas Territories benefit from a contract-process budget of 1.9 billion euros. National guidelines for project contracts take account of the specificities of the Overseas Territories, and, as a priority, they aim at correcting development gaps in economic and social terms, ending physical and digital isolation, and ecological and energy transition. Thus, investments particularly concern infrastructures and basic collective services, sustainable urban planning, managing environmental resources, and support for research facilities as well as innovative sectors.

PROJECT CONTRACTS DEDICATED TO INTER-REGIONAL AREAS

Mountain areas, river basins, and the Seine valley will be the subject of specific planning and development strategies set out as part of Contrats de Plan Interrégionaux État-Régions (CPIER – Inter-Regional State-Region Project Contracts). A sum of 1.4 billion euros has been set aside for implementing action plans that encourage sustainable development and the attractiveness of those territories, especially economic development for the Seine valley, by preserving and showcasing the natural and cultural heritage of those areas. Supporting adaptation to climate change and preventing natural risks constitute priorities. Inter-territorial co-operation is also encouraged.