

## Detailed strategic orientations

Some co-operation activities are outlined for each of the following strategic orientations:

### 1. STRATEGIC ORIENTATION

Strengthening the cohesion of the Channel area

### 2. STRATEGIC ORIENTATION

Taking advantage of and strengthening the territorial position of the Channel area in Europe

### 3. STRATEGIC ORIENTATION

Contributing to safe navigation in the Channel area

### 4. STRATEGIC ORIENTATION

Ensuring sustainable development of the Channel area

### 5. STRATEGIC ORIENTATION

Promoting integrated coastal zone management

## **1. STRATEGIC ORIENTATION**

### **Strengthening the cohesion of the Channel area**

#### **a. Increasing exchange and mobility, especially for young people**

- Definition of co-operation strategies in the field of higher education: framework agreements to be defined (via a conference of Channel area higher and further education institutions), in order to organise, for example, youth exchanges for training or cross-Channel degree courses.
- Youth exchanges for professional training (e.g. for hotels and restaurants) and between French and English secondary schools and colleges.
- « Mobility pass » for young people, making internships easier for apprentices, students or young unemployed.

#### **b. Developing tourist assets and ensuring better communication on both sides of Channel**

- Creation of shared information database including less traditional /famous tourism sites and services: help tool for creating tourist group tours in the whole Channel area
- Applied research on tourism, such as the analysis of cross-Channel flows
- Encourage exchange and retention of tourists within the Channel area with short breaks offers
- Better communication on tourist assets on both sides of Channel, including events and festivals
- Co-operation in the fields of quality and professional training

#### **c. Organising cultural, sports, scientific events and ensuring their synergy, promoting Channel activities**

- Further organisation of conferences and seminars enabling increased mutual awareness
- Organisation of debates about European policies with a Channel area audience e.g. on the Commission Green Paper for an integrated maritime policy in Europe.
- Joint organisation or support for events and projects (scientific, cultural, sports, etc.) making the general public more aware of the cross-Channel area

#### **d. Improving resources for shared knowledge and better dissemination of scientific knowledge**

- Improved resources for knowledge and joint work on the Channel area following up on the EMDI regional data tool, notably creating an observatory of cross-Channel movement of people
- Better dissemination of scientific knowledge to a wider audience and stakeholders through improved methods of communication

#### **e. Creating sector-based networks, notably in the fields of research, centres of expertise and business parks**

#### **f. Reinforcing consultation bodies and regional governance**

- Concerted and sustainable management of fishing resources: Strengthening the sub-RAC for the Channel area within the North Western Waters RAC (Regional Advisory Committee)
- Institutional and political level
  - Arc Manche Assembly
  - Going as far as proposing institutional solutions : Member-states agreement for Franco-British cross-border co-operation following the example of other cross-border areas

## DETAILED STRATEGIC ORIENTATIONS

### 2. STRATEGIC ORIENTATION

#### **Taking advantage of and strengthening the territorial position of the Channel area in Europe**

##### **a. Improving the flow of world-Europe traffic and conditions for adding value to these flows**

- Improving intermodal links with the hinterland and facilitating modal shift for freight and passengers from road to more sustainable modes such as maritime, rail, and waterways transport.
- Identifying and taking economic advantage of exchange functions, including logistics
- Promoting intelligent transport systems, incl. Research and Development activities
- Study of scenarios of complementary and controlled competition (“coopetition”) of the ports in international exchanges and new forms of trade.

##### **b. Reinforcing cross-Channel flows and promoting a balanced development of ports**

- Creation of a Federation of Regional and Local Channel Ports
- Conduct a mission on the possibility of starting a new short sea shipping/chartering centre

##### **c. Improving connections between ports, towns and their hinterland**

### 3. STRATEGIC ORIENTATION

#### **Contributing to safe navigation in the Channel area**

##### **a. Improving maritime safety in the Channel**

- Harmonising and reinforcing Vessel Traffic Management Systems (VTMS)
- Work to reduce the number of collisions in the Channel: involvement of the merchant shipping sector, working with fish producers’ organisations, raising awareness among sailors, designing, proposing and promoting technical solutions

##### **b. Improving consultation in the response to and prevention of marine pollution**

- Improving consultation with local authorities in response to and prevention of marine pollution
- Development of joint approaches for improving the action of local authorities in the management of marine pollution and recovery after pollution incidents

##### **c. Safety in the Channel: a shared concern**

- Informing local communities about maritime traffic and safety in the Channel area
- Raising awareness among other European states and regions of the Channel areas’ importance for the European economy and defining solutions to ensure European solidarity

## **4. STRATEGIC ORIENTATION**

### **Ensuring sustainable development of the Channel area**

#### **a. Development of cross-Channel centres of expertise**

- Development of cross-Channel centres of expertise (or networks) on some identified themes (marine technologies, renewable energies, estuarine, coastline and seabed management, etc.) providing greater European and international visibility:
  - Networking companies, research centres, education and training institutions
  - Pooling data, approaches and even resources (including equipment): airborne laser project
  - Developing a few flagship projects in these fields, including research projects
  - Communication / promotion of expertise on a world-wide scale
  - Developing exchanges between stakeholders

#### **b. Fostering cross-Channel innovation**

- Joint initiatives fostering innovation, notably:
  - the generation of start-ups: promoting entrepreneurship, linking research and industry, etc.
  - support of innovation: exchange of best practice, support for international growth, organisation of targeted meetings between research centres and companies, etc.

#### **c. Taking action and anticipating climate change**

- Preparing for climatic change through research and strategic thinking as regards coastal erosion (coastal defence) and flooding
- Communication to the wider public and the professional sector
- Development of renewable energies, namely wind energy (on land and offshore) and tidal power.

#### **d. Developing competitive, balanced and sustainable tourism**

- Increasing the competitiveness of the tourist sector:
  - Achieving a high quality of services (welcome, accessibility, etc.)
  - Improving knowledge about visitors
  - Developing skills and professional training
  - Improving mobility of the workforce
- Promoting sustainable and balanced tourism through joint approaches:
  - develop the tourist attractiveness of the coastlines without damaging them – management of tourist pressure – development of coastal – hinterland links
  - organisation of mobility from ports and airports, by systematically searching for transport solutions that preserve the environment
  - Development of “nature” tourism and valorisation of natural heritage.
- Supporting growth sectors that have an interest for the whole Channel area: Channel cruises adapted to the various categories of ports, networking marinas.
- Developing sustainable water sport.
- Developing and linking cycle routes and networks.

#### **e. Promoting sustainable fisheries, aquaculture and fish farming and improving scientific knowledge of fishing resources in the whole Channel area**

- Increasing scientific knowledge on fishing resources and their habitats on the scale of the Channel area and communicating this knowledge as a sustainable development resource: monitoring of species, prevention of health risks, etc.
- Raising the profile of fisheries:
  - quality of the products
  - attractiveness of the fishermen’s profession
  - on-board safety

### **5. STRATEGIC ORIENTATION**

#### **Promoting integrated coastal zone management**

##### **a. Sharing and harmonising data and reference systems**

- Sharing and harmonising data and reference systems as a prerequisite for integrated management of marine and coastal zone

##### **b. Developing joint approaches and sharing experiences, notably in terms of management and governance**

- Developing and sharing governance experiences:
  - concerning the improvement of estuaries, coastlines and seabed : exchange of experience on approaches involving public, private and scientific stakeholders
  - concerning the resolution of potential or current conflicts on the marine and coastal zone.

