



Short reporting

Dialogues on Cohesion Policy – March 28, 2018

Organizer

Union des Villes et Communes de Wallonie

Place

Château de Courrière (Assesse, Walloon region)

Date

March 28, 2018

Description of the discussions during the event

Please see the program attached (annex 1)

The dialogue focused on three main themes:

- *Economic development: sectorial clusters and hubs;*
- *Work training especially for long term unemployed and low skilled job seekers;*
- *Urban renewal.*

Conclusion of the substantive discussions

GENERAL CONCLUSION

- *Doubts about cohesion policy's future (Brexit, ...)*
- *Without the support of EU Funds, loads of local projects won't be implemented. ; EU Funds cover areas which are not covered by Wallonia budget.*
- *Priorities for investment the EU should invest in the social and not focus on the economy and employment (innovative social models for economic models such as cooperatives, co-working models), notably under the ESF funding.*

ERDF

- *Short implementation deadlines :*
 - o *Allow a positive dynamic*
 - o *Need a transversal approach*
 - o *Make difficult citizen participations*
- *Communication and transparency on the projects are essential to gain the support of citizens. But the communication costs are not supported by the EU Funds.*

ESF

- *The indicators are not always appropriate:*
 - o *indicators mainly quantitative and not qualitative*
 - o *indicators may be relevant for some countries but not for others*
 - o *indicators mainly relate to economic and growth*
 - o *Evaluation takes place after a too short period of time*

- *The financial support for trainings' organization is appropriate, but there is no support for the "pre-training"*
- *Some projects require a financial support for a longer period than the programming period*

Number de participants

40

Type of participants

Please see the list attached (annex 2)

- 27 local representatives incl CEMR ;
- 5 EU representatives;
- 3 civil society;
- 1 national representatives,
- 2 business,
- 2 research institutes
- 0 Press

Media

- *Media Contact List*

Main national and local media (press agency, TV, newspaper and radio) contacted prior the event (Explanation of the Cohesion Policy's impacts, summary of the event and invitation). Interview will be coordinated if requested by the media.:

Print media	Radio	TV	Others
Confluent La Libre GrenzEcho Imagine Magazine L'Avenir Metrotime Le Soir Soir Mag Trends Tendance Le Vif L'Echo Le Ligueur Moustique DH Guide Social Nieuwsblad Standaard De Tijd	RTBF RTL Radio Contact Nostalgie Sud Radio VRT	RTBF RTL Télévesdre Canal C Canal Z Notélé Matélé Canal Zoom RTC Télémb TéléSambre VRT TVLux TVcom	Belga IEW Online Etopia FWA SAIPM

Event Promotion:

- *Event announced by an article on internet :*
<http://www.uvcw.be/actualites/33,72,35,35,7423.htm>
- *Event announced by our newsletter : 26.199 subscribers*

- *Invitation provide by individual emails*
- *-Invitation provide by individual letter for the 580 Walloon municipalities*
- *Press Release no*
- *Press Conference no*
- *Video : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MVXQz6-6PR4>*
- *[Website event webpage](#) views: 335*
- *An article reporting the event will be published in the UVCW's magazine. Date of publication to be defined . As well, information disseminated via website: <http://www.uvcw.be/dialoguelocal28mars>*