

# France Strategy

## Feuille de route II – Roadmap



# 1. Pre-School Sector

## a) Expansion of the Network of Elysée Nurseries

In 2016, a further 19 Saarland nurseries qualified for the Elysée network of bilingual nurseries found all over Germany and France. This means that there are currently 46 Saarland nurseries with the quality label of the “Franco-German Quality Charter for Bilingual Nurseries”. The next invitation to tender will take place at the end of 2016.

**Obj.** Qualification of more Saarland nurseries for the “Franco-German Quality Charter for Bilingual Nurseries” label with the application documents being submitted on time.

## Bilingual Crèches and Nurseries

The Saarland has a total of 480 nurseries. Around 200 of them are currently bilingual.

**Obj.** The aim is to continue and expand the above-mentioned offerings as far as possible as well as to evaluate what has been achieved to date.

# 2. Primary School Sector

## Bilingual Primary Schools

The Saarland has a total of 162 primary schools. All teach French from Year 3. 47 primary schools (including 5 with a bilingual curriculum) offer French from as early as Year 1.

**Obj.** The aim is to continue and expand the above-mentioned offerings as far as possible as well as to evaluate what has been achieved to date.

## Primary Schools with French from Year 1

47 primary schools offer French from as early as Year 1.

**Obj.** The aim is to continue and expand the above-mentioned offerings as far as possible as well as to evaluate what has been achieved to date.

## Promoting French Language Communication Skills in the Primary School Sector

A high-quality handout with extensive teaching material has been developed for learning French in the primary sector, enabling communicative teaching in the primary school. More than 75% of the pupils throughout Germany who acquire the DELF Prim A1.1 certificate from the French state come from the Saarland. More than 80% of the Saarland pupils who have learned French from Year 1 onwards have acquired a DELF Prim A1.1 certificate in the last few years.

**Obj.** The further-reaching evaluation and funding measures should be continued and further developed where possible.

## 3. Mainstream Schools

### a) Encouraging Multilingualism

In recent years, the range of modern foreign languages offered in secondary schools in the Saarland has developed so that all pupils in secondary level I now acquire communication skills in French and English. In particular, the newly created language course in Years 5 and 6 of community school strengthens this offer.

**Obj.** In particular, the quality of the measures to encourage multilingualism should be enhanced.

### b) Strengthening the Oral Communication Skills of Pupils

As part of implementation of the various education standards of the Conference of Education Ministers for the Modern Foreign Languages French and English, the skills of listening comprehension and speaking have become more central in foreign language teaching. New forms of measuring and assessing oral performance, such as oral work in class and coursework have been introduced and will be expanded. The binding skills tests in Year 6 of community school review oral skills, "oral exams" for the written school-leaving exam in foreign languages have been successfully trialled.

**Obj.** Encouraging pupils' oral skills in foreign languages is to be continued and investments made as and when possible.

### c) Encounter and Exchange Project with France

Thanks to its proximity to France, the Saarland has ideal conditions for organising and carrying out encounter and exchange projects with its neighbouring country that help to expand communication skills.

**Obj.** Cross-border individual and group exchange programmes for schoolchildren should continue to be funded and, where it makes sense and is necessary, further developed.

### d) Work Experience in France for Schoolchildren in Mainstream Schools

Cross-border work experience open up the path to intercultural learning while still at school and for improving French language skills and prepare the children for the international labour market.

**Obj.** Work experience in France should be made easier for pupils at mainstream schools.

### e) Cross-Border Cooperation of the Education Authorities

Traditionally, the Saarland school authorities maintain close cooperation with their French partner institutions.

**Obj.** Cross-border cooperation between education authorities should be further expanded and intensified as far as possible.

#### f) “Franco-German Grammar School” as Part of the France Strategy

The long history, the subsequent foundation of more Franco-German grammar schools and the current interest in founding new ones confirm the success. The impressive number of alumni over the years can bring about a further growing together of the border region thanks to their linguistic and intercultural skills.

- Obj.** A particularly intensive route to bilingualism and interculturalism is available to the children and young people of the border region. In this respect, the integration strategies are adapted to the changing demands of the inhabitants of the border region.  
In accordance with the founding mission, the project is continuing a rapprochement of the German and French school systems in the shape of this school form, which is unique in Europe.

#### g) Twinning Schools

In the Saarland there are already many school twinning relationships in all forms of school. These twinings should be expanded. For example, e-twinning (linking schools via the internet) could support this.

- Obj.** Cross-border school twinning should be encouraged and further developed.

## 4. Vocational Training

#### a) Foreign Language Teaching in Vocational Schools

Teaching in a foreign language in vocational schools, especially French for specific commercial and sales jobs, will be further expanded.

**Measures:** Thanks to the new design of all timetables (learning areas) in vocational schools, the vocational training centre in question can offer foreign languages, depending on needs and whether it is possible.

Students at vocational schools with an apprenticeship in Lorraine (cross-border apprenticeship) are regularly also taught in the vocational schools.

The Franco-German vocational school automotive sector in the St. Ingbert vocational training centre will be expanded as planned.

- Obj.** Expansion of teaching in a foreign language in vocational schools.

## 5. Industry

**a) Identifying Funding Measures and Programmes of the European Union to implement individual measures within the context of the France Strategy**, e.g. the new INTERREG VA Region 2014-2020 programme to implement individual measures within the context of the France Strategy, provided that the measures are consistent with the aims of the EU programme.

### Interreg Project

The first projects in the field of cooperation in basic and further vocational training have come about in the last few years, e.g. specialist centre for cross-border training, Franco-German vocational school automotive sector, cross-border training contracts. Now we have to make European support usable for these projects, for example by means of Interreg projects. Cooperation with the Interreg projects that have come about in the Upper Rhine region could be suitable for this.

**Obj.** Observing the Interreg project for cross-border basic and further vocational training measures, where appropriate in cooperation with existing Interreg projects between Alsace and Baden-Württemberg and examining means of cooperation.

### b) INTERREG V A Project “Specialist Centre for Cross-Border Training”

We are also putting the emphasis on a low-threshold offer in the form of the specialist centre for cross-border training, which is based at Verbundausbildung Untere Saar (VAUS) [Lower Saar Collaborative Training]. It is aimed equally at French high-school pupils (Bac Pro and BTS level), who want to complete some of their mandatory practical phases (PFMP) in a German company, and at German apprentices who want to spend some of their vocational training in a French company.

**Obj.** Extending the activities to the whole of Lorraine and the western Palatinate and to students at technical colleges. Encouraging the individual mobility and intercultural and language skills of adolescents and young adults.

A corresponding INTERREG long application has been approved.

### c) Consolidating the Intensive Economic Relationship with France

By means of targeted support to Saarland market development projects in France and French projects in the Saarland and by means of the continuous advertising of France as the focus of the Saarland’s foreign economic strategy, economic relations with France have been greatly intensified in the last few years.

**Obj.** Continuing market development measures will consolidate and further expand the already intensive economic relations.

## 6. Cross-Border Environmental Protection

### a) Cattenom Nuclear Power Plant and Planned Final Storage in Bure, Lorraine

Irrespective of the strong cross-party demand made in the Saarland for Cattenom plant to be decommissioned as quickly as possible, the regional government maintains a regular and confidential exchange of information with the relevant contacts in France at various meetings at top and working level.

With respect to the final storage project in Bure, an agreement has been reached with the French contacts to the effect that the Saarland regional government will be informed of future procedural steps at an early stage so that it can intervene in detail, as was already successfully done during the public debate about the future final storage project in 2013 together with the governments of Luxembourg and Rhineland Palatinate in the form of a joint technical statement.

This thus means that the interior and environment ministries receive systematic information about events with a cross-border character.

**Obj.** Continuation of the regular exchange of information, meetings at top and working level, participation in the approval process at the Bure final storage site.

The regional government's declared objective is for Cattenom nuclear power plant and the "Bure final storage site" to be decommissioned. However, due to the national sovereignty of France, it is unlikely that the Saarland can impose its interests.

### b) Carling Chemicals Platform

The chemicals platform in Carling/Saint-Avold is home to various industrial production sites. The German border is 2 to 3km to the north of the Carling chemicals platform.

The Ministry for the Environment and Consumer Protection (MUV) is represented together with the city of Völklingen and the community of Großrosseln in the commission de suivi de site (CSS), in which the companies of the chemicals platform report on environmentally relevant aspects of the plant operation as well as on matters relating to incident management.

The French authorities report on the inspections carried out and the measures implemented. In this context, the French prefecture arranged for simultaneous interpretation of the meetings of this body to improve the exchange of information between German and French participants. A preliminary meeting is organised by the Ministry for the Environment and Consumer Protection prior to every CSS meeting, in which the appointed Saarland members of the CSS and, by invitation, the local authorities of Überherrn and Saarbrücken as well as representatives of the grassroots initiative "Saubere Luft" (Clean Air) take part. The CSS secretariat provides the Saarland members of the CSS and the other participants in the preliminary meeting with the meeting documents in French and the German translations commissioned by the Ministry for the Environment and Consumer Protection. In addition, a debriefing is offered after every CSS meeting.

This brings about improved communication and a more transparent information policy on the part of the French authorities and companies based on the chemicals platform.

Furthermore, emission measuring campaigns have been conducted in Warndt for many years, with which compliance with the threshold values for air pollutants is demonstrated on the French and the German side.

**Obj.** The short routes between the German and French authorities and the transparent information policy should also remain in place. Communication with the French authorities and the operators of the chemicals platform and transparent and comprehensive information for the Saarland citizen affected should be further intensified.

The Ministry for the Environment and Consumer Affairs has created an environmental monitoring programme to examine the effects on Saarland territory of restructuring the platform, where the impacts on nature conservation and soil are considered as well as air pollutants and water quality being monitored. In comparison to previous years, the programme has been expanded with additional parameters and harmonised with the newly built plants.

This new 2016/2017 environmental monitoring programme was launched in Warndt in June 2016. In this connection, close and intensive cooperation with the French authorities and measuring centres is planned. An overall view of the results on German and French national territory will enable cross-border identification of air pollution.

### **c) Economical Water Supply and Waste Water Treatment in Settlements Close to the Border**

In the field of cross-border water supply and waste water treatment, there are individual bilateral agreements for settlements close to the border, arranged for reasons of efficiency, for example the treatment of German waste water in France and Luxembourg waste water in the Saarland and the supply of Saarland drinking water to France and mutual security.

**Obj.** Further expansion of drinking water supply from the Saarland to France and mutual security of the water supply as well as treating German waste water in France and vice versa. As required, project to connect small settlements close to the border to existing or planned plants in the neighbouring country will be initiated.

### **d) Cross-Border Flood Partnerships**

Cross-border flood partnerships have been set up for the Lower Blies (2009), Upper Saar (2012) and Trilateral Moselle (2013). Up to 2013, organisation of the flood partnerships was part of the INTERREG project FLOW-MS and it has been financed from budget funds since 2014.

**Obj.** The aim is to improve cross-border cooperation in flood protection, raising awareness of flood risks among those affected and strengthening the local authorities' own prevention measures, as well as those of their associations and the citizens affected. Specific measures are planned, including some on the subject of heavy rain - in the form of creating a leaflet - and on specific issues including shared local meetings.

### **e) International Commission to Protect the Moselle and the Saar [Internationale Kommissionen zum Schutze der Mosel und der Saar] (IKSMS)**

Within the context of the International Commission to Protect the Moselle and the (IKSMS) there is a regular exchange of information and agreement on shared, cross-border activities in the fields of water quality, water body management, accident prevention and flood protection. The international measuring programme on the state of the water bodies, implementation of the European Water Framework directive, accident prevention and the „Plan of Action for Floods“ are exemplary here.

**Obj.** The joint activities with France, Luxembourg and Rhineland-Palatinate in the fields of water quality, water body management, accident prevention and flood protection should be intensified. Specific examples are implementation of the flood risk management plan and the programmes of measures under the Water Framework directive as well as regular joint exercises within the context of the warning and alarm plan.

## 7. Culture

Franco-German cooperation has always been especially important in the cultural policy of the Saarland. The 40th anniversary of the PERSPECTIVES Festival in 2017 is proof, just as much as the large number of new projects based on intensive cooperation with France. (List in Annex 3)

The agreement on objectives signed in 2015 on cooperation in the field of cultural education facilitates access to art and culture for young people in the Saarland and Lorraine and gives both cultural players and schools a permanent framework for diverse, cross-border exchange projects.

Since 2013 the “Courage – Respect, Tolerance, Responsibility” project, as a cultural programme lasting several years against the background of the commemorative events for World Wars I and II, has encouraged an innovative artistic debate with historical and topical places, events and people. Particular attention is given to artistic personalities who stood up against war and for tolerance and humanity. The main aim is to provide a contemporary “translation” of historical events into the reality of the lives of young people in particular.

Within the context of the Courage programme, in May 2016 Frans Masereel was presented, with a publication on the pacifists’ intellectual network, an exhibition and specialist lectures at Heinrich Heine House in Paris.

In June 2016 the “keystone” of the Pease Road initiated by Leo Kornbrust, based on an idea by the sculptor Otto Freundlich, who was murdered in Sobibor concentration camp, was presented to the public in St. Aubin sur Mer, Normandy, as part of the celebrations for the anniversary of the Allied Landings. The sculptural peace road that runs throughout Europe as a symbol against war and for international understanding, links the Normandy Coast to Moscow on one side (West-East route) and Amsterdam to the Pyrenees on the other (North-South route).

A good example is the cooperation between the Saarland Culture foundation and the Centre Pompidou in Metz, with the realisation of the exhibition “Entre deux horizons”, at which a selection of 200 cultural works owned by the Saarland were shown to the French public for the first time, with great success.

**Obj.** Intensifying the existing cooperation, creating a permanent framework for cooperation between Lorraine and Saarland players in the field of education and culture; facilitating access to art and culture for young people.

## 8. Academia

### a) UNESCO Chair for Multilingualism at the University of the Saarland

UNESCO chairs research and teach in UNESCO’s the priority areas and act as relays in the implementation and goals and in the organisation’s work. Such a chair is mainly financed by the universities’ funds in the form of non-cash contributions and manpower. There is no (co) financing by UNESCO.

**Obj.** The possibility to establish a UNESCO chair for multilingualism at the University of the Saarland by the university should be examined in conjunction with the state chancellery. This should emphasise the particular expertise of the University of the Saarland in teaching foreign languages and in teaching French in particular.

## **b) IT Research Consultation with Lorraine**

Saarbrücken and Nancy are renowned for IT research in the cross-border university landscape: both universities are proven universities of excellence in this field, within the context of the national excellence initiatives in force.

Both Nancy and Saarbrücken have a high degree of complementarity in their focuses as scientific locations for IT. In addition to the internationally standard scientific relations and the border location, they use the existing special intercultural skills for close cooperation and joint projects - especially in IT security research.

These are good preconditions for closer cooperation between Germany and France in researching and developing new IT security solutions, which comprise citizens' privacy, the competitiveness of industry and safeguarding infrastructure, such as energy, water, communication, finance, mobility, etc. Bilateral measures could be used to bundle national interests and research shared solutions - also and especially to secure the implementation of shared goals.

**Obj.** Intensifying research consultations in the field of IT with Lorraine should help to strengthen existing cooperation in this field and, if possible, generate synergistic effects.

## **c) Attracting Interested Parties to Studies for the Franco-German University Institute DFHI/ ISFATES in Schools**

Thanks to the close communication of DFHI/ISFATES with schools in the Saarland and Lorraine, several visits by groups of pupils at the Metz and Saarbrücken sites have been organised. In addition, career-oriented "workshops" have been held at the schools that were supported by German and French DFHI students.

**Obj.** The DFHI is examining whether to extend its offer of cross-border activities in cooperation with schools in Lorraine and the Saarland so that interest in bilingual studies can be aroused in even more pupils.

## **d) Expanding Cross-Border Offers in the Field of Scientific Education**

The joint "Saarländische Hochschulzentrum für akademische/wissenschaftliche Weiterbildung" [Saarland University Centre for Academic/Scientific Further Education] planned by the University of the Saarland and the University for Technology and Business of the Saarland, which will probably be officially founded at the end of 2016, has set itself the goal of coordinating interdisciplinary and cross-university tasks in the field of further education for both universities. With this offer, the universities want to position themselves not just in the regional environment, but explicitly on the wider regional, supraregional and international market. For example, the centre will support the faculties in developing multilingual offers.

**Obj.** The extent to which the Saarland University Centre for Academic/Scientific Further Education can offer special further education offers for students from France in the Saarland is to be examined.

### e) "Tripimar" Project

On the basis of the "Primary Level" course established for the 2015/2016 winter semester, with the focus on French, a trilateral bilingual course should have been developed by the 2018/2019 winter semester where possible. A corresponding INTERREG VA application will be developed between the University of the Saarland, the University of Luxembourg and the Université de Lorraine incorporating the state study seminar (2nd phase of teacher training) of the "Institut de Formation de l'Education Nationale" (Luxembourg) and the "ESPE" (Ecole Supérieur du Professorat et de l'Education) Sarreguemines (Lorraine). It is planned to submit a funding application for this project within the scope of the second project call for the INTERREG VA programme in December 2016.

**Obj.** With such a course, the students should acquire a teaching qualification not just for German primary schools, but also for primary schools in Luxembourg and Lorraine.

## 9. Regional Marketing

On 24/11/2015, on the invitation of Minister Reinhold Jost and under the auspices of the then consul general Frédéric Joureau, the first conference for regional marketing in the greater region was held in Otzenhausen. More events - including ones at the invitation of other regions - are to follow.

**Obj.** Networking the players in regional marketing within the entire wealth creation chain (from production, processing and marketing right up to consumer protection and tourist marketing) and further expansion of close cooperation of short routes.

## 10. Regional Administration

### a) Founding a France Conference

The new territorial organisation of France with the greater Alsace-Lorraine-Champagne-Ardenne region requires new forms of cooperation from the German side. The minister-president has therefore suggested to her colleagues in Baden-Württemberg and Rhineland-Palatinate that a France Conference be founded for the three Federal Länder that border France. The exact shape will be decided jointly.

**Obj.** The France Conference should start its work at the turn of the year 2016/2017.

### b) Exchange Programme for Higher Service Level Employees of the Saarland Regional Administration

Higher level employees in the Saarland Regional administration should be given the opportunity to take part in exchange programmes with French authorities lasting several months.

**Obj.** To become more familiar with the administrative structures and processes in France, higher level employees in the Saarland Regional administration should be given the opportunity to take part in exchanges with a French administrative authority for several months. This programme should also take account of Best Practice examples at Federal and Regional level.

### c) Tandem Programme

Against the background of the Saarland's France Strategy and the German Strategy of the départements Meurthe-et-Moselle and Moselle, the employees of the Saarland Regional administration and the two départements should be given the opportunity to take part in online-based further training in languages.

**Obj.** Employees who work in comparable subject areas should come together for an online tandem and support each other in their language further training, for example in the form of emails or telephone calls.

### d) Cross-Border Cooperation for Multilingualism

In line with the Saarland's France Strategy, Lorraine has drawn up a Germany Strategy. Relevant synergistic effects should be identified and used.

**Obj.** The Saarland's France Strategy and Lorraine's Germany Strategy should be linked together to achieve the best possible results in the field of multilingualism for our entire border region. The appropriate points of contact should be checked.

## 11. Social Affairs

### a) Franco-German Voluntary Service "Opportunities" (DFFD-O)

This is a short-term voluntary service of the Deutsch-Französisches Jugendwerk (DFJW) [Franco-German Youth Office] with a term of six months, three of which are spent at home and three abroad. The existing voluntary service of the DFJW will be supplemented with a new format. This format should facilitate access for young people with special social needs aged between 18 and 25, for whom a six-month stay abroad is possibly too long due to their inexperience of mobility.

**Obj.** Moral support in supporting the Franco-German voluntary service "Opportunities".

### b) Cross-Border Cooperation in the Field of Academic Care Training - Partner: IFSI (Institut de formation en soins infirmiers) and BAGSS (Berufsakademie für Gesundheits- und Sozialwesen Saarland gGmbH)

The module manuals of both courses have been translated and French and German healthcare training compared. Common content has been identified. Mutual participation in lectures is planned, however embedded in an additional teaching offer, i.e. not within the context of the statutory prescribed training. Prior to implementation, the documents were sent to the Regional Office for Social Affairs.

**Obj.** To gather experience in cooperation and expand on this experience. Long-term goal: Mutual recognition for students' modules or partial completion of modules.

### **c) Partnership of SHG Hospitals Völklingen/Education and Skills Workshop and Training Institute for Nursing in Saargemünd (IFSI)/Hospital Facilities Saargemünd (Cooperation Agreement on Cross-Border Cooperation of 14.11.2014)**

This measure has been implemented. The exchange takes the form of cross-border placements, shared events and language and intercultural awareness raising in teaching. French schoolchildren in particular are addressed. For German apprentices, these are optional placements alongside the mandatory placements provided for in practical training. The plan is to raise the partnership to a new level within the framework of the new INTERREG programme (project has been submitted) on the basis of the experience gained.

- Obj.** Promoting interculturalism and bilingualism in the field of nurse training; facilitating mobility and openness to Europe, and, in particular, the neighbouring country of the future graduates; enabling the enhancement of mutual specialist knowledge by means of innovative experience in the field of training in line with the relevant legislation; further optimisation of communication with French patients who are treated in the SHG hospitals Völklingen within the context of cross-border agreements, where the hiring of French nurses is encouraged after their training at IFSI Saargemünd.

### **d) Cross-Border Hospital Partnership in the Field of Basic and Further Training in Care (Interreg Application by the Centre Hospitalier de Sarreguemines; Project Partner: SHG Hospitals Völklingen)**

As part of the 2nd phase of application for projects from the 1st call, the cross-border consortium submitted a long application to the administrative authority of the INTERREG VA greater region, which is currently being scrutinised.

- Obj.** To train more apprentices so that they can apply for jobs where they wish and according to the needs of the labour market in the greater region.

## **12. Public Relations**

### **a) Presentation of the France Strategy by the Minister-president to French Regions**

- Obj.** To carry out political delegation trips, possibly with participation by business, for example to the Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region to the Aquitaine region and to the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region

### **b) Website [www.saarland.de](http://www.saarland.de)**

Currently, the Region's website at [www.saarland.de](http://www.saarland.de) has several French-language texts at various portals maintained by several ministries.

- Obj.** In 2016 two new subject portals have been developed in English and French, which can be accessed via the home page of [saarland.de](http://www.saarland.de). These subject portals will be further developed in the years ahead so that the most important subjects in the Saarland are always summarised in new, constantly updated texts.

## 13. Europe

### a) Cross-Border Cooperation at Greater regional Summits

Since 1995, the top government representatives of the partner regions in the greater region meet regularly for the “Greater regional Summits”. These meetings are designed to give new stimulus to cross-border and interregional cooperation in the greater region. The chairmanship of the “Greater regional Summits” is held by one of the partner regions for two years on a rotating basis. During the Saarland summit chairmanship (2019-20) the subject of intensifying multilingualism should play a special role.

- Obj.** Currently, Wallonia holds the chairmanship of the 15th summit until the end of 2016. Luxembourg will follow in 2017/18. Then, the Saarland will hold the chairmanship again from 2019/20. Particular attention should be paid to the subject of intensifying multilingualism when the Saarland chairmanship is being prepared and taken on and specific cooperation measures with the interregional cooperation partners should be continued.

### b) Chairmanship of the Conference of Europe Ministers

Many subject areas lie within the competence of the EU. European legislation and European initiatives influence German and also Saarland policy in all subject areas.

At the level of the Federal Länder, the Conference of European Ministers (EMC) coordinates the interests of the Länder and represents them vis-a-vis the European Commission, the European Parliament or the Council of Ministers and the Federal Government.

The chairmanship of the EMC changes annually in alphabetical order following the principle of rotation. The Saarland will assume the chairmanship on 1 July 2020.

- Obj.** When preparing for the chairmanship of the Conference of Europe Ministers in 2018 and 2019, particular attention should be paid to the subjects of intensification of multilingualism and cross-border issues.

### c) Saarland Office in Paris

After opening the Saarland Office in Paris and founding a Circle of Friends of the Saarland in Paris, the local activities should be expanded in cooperation with all of the departments of the Regional government as well as partners from politics, business, academia, culture and civil society. After two years there will be an evaluation that will be the basis of the decision on further continuation and development of the office.

- Obj.** Further expansion of the presence and activities of the Regional government in Paris with the aim of establishing the Saarland as a cross-border Franco-German centre of expertise in the French capital (by the end of 2017).

If the activities are continued after the evaluation, the foundation of partnership of Saarland institutions with institutions based in Paris should be supported with the help of the “Circle of Friends of the Saarland”. The presence of Saarland institutions in Paris should also be strengthened.

## 14. Internal Affairs and Sport

Many sports clubs maintain cross-border contacts. This is the case for the Regional Sports Association in almost every sport. The Regional Sports Association is a dedicated partner of the France Strategy and has set up an internal working group for this purpose.

The results of a survey of cross-border contacts and proposals to intensify and expand contacts along the lines of the France Strategy are to be presented in 2016.

- Obj.** In cooperation with the Regional Sports Association, the Regional government is organising a workshop with the presidents and managing directors of the Regional Sports Association and will possibly develop an offer to support cross-border contacts and the training of responsible parties for volunteers in clubs.

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