



**Gestion Européenne Conjointe des
Connexions et Transports Transfrontaliers
pour les îles - GEECCTT-ÎLES**

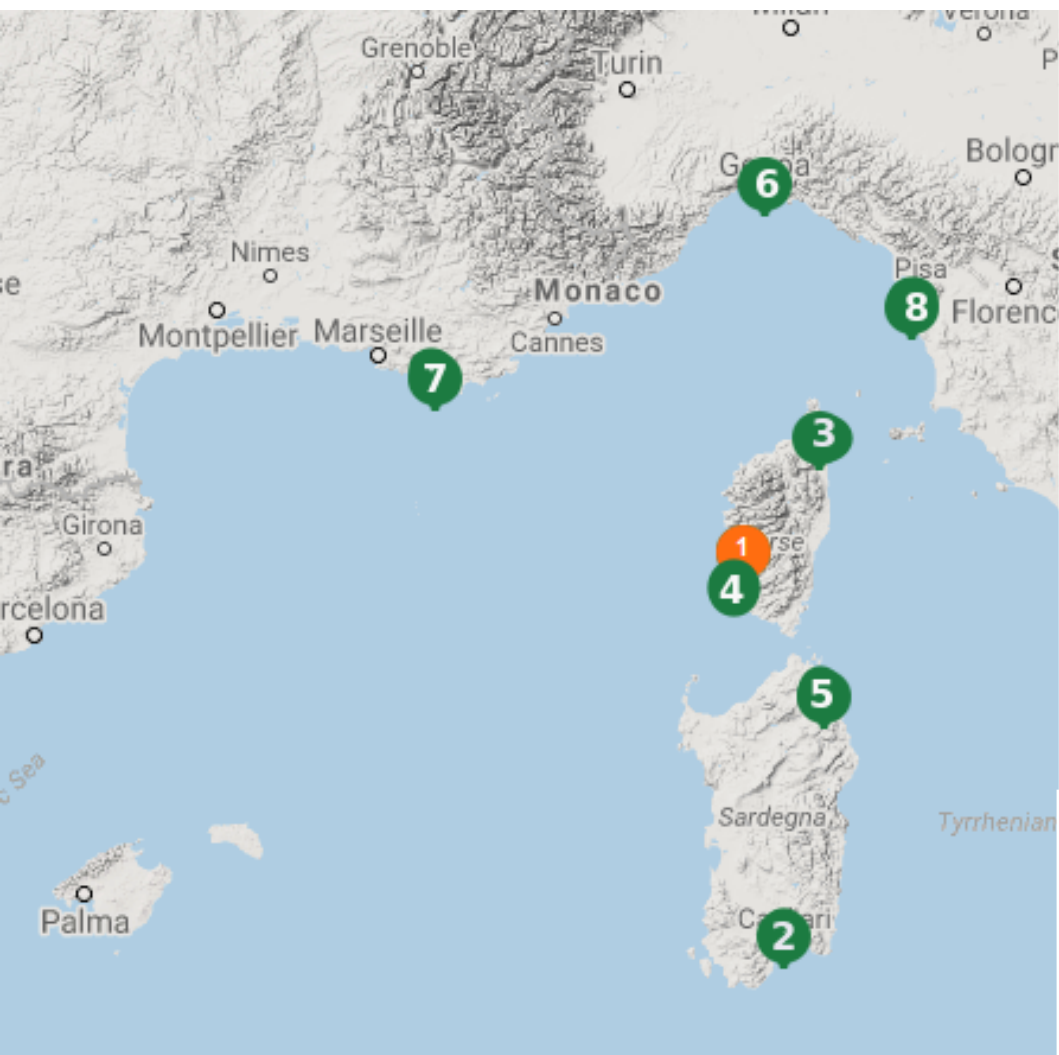
**Gestione Europea Congiunta delle
Connessioni e dei Trasporti Transfrontalieri
per le isole - GEECCTT-ÎLES**

Joint European Management of Cross- border Connections/Transport for Islands - Action Plan

***Overcoming barriers to cross-border maritime
cooperation***



A complete partnership



1 - Office des Transports de la Corse

2 - Regione Autonoma della Sardegna

3 - Chambre de commerce et d'industrie territoriale de Bastia et de la Haute-Corse

4 - Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie d'Ajaccio et de la Corse du Sud

5 - Autorità di Sistema Portuale del Mare di Sardegna

6 - Regione Liguria

7 - Chambre de Commerce et d'Industrie Territoriale du Var

8 - Autorità di Sistema portuale del Mar Tirreno Settentrionale

What if ... without GEECCTT-Îles

- **Cross-border territorial continuity remains a "domestic issue". Effects are:**
 - **citizens' demand for accessibility remains unsatisfied: both cross-border (Corsica-Sardinia-Elbe) and with mainland (Toscana-Liguria-Var) accessibility;**
 - **goods do not circulate freely, limiting the access of citizens and enterprises to the benefits of single market (most goods move better by sea!);**
 - **the growth potential of a cooperation area which involves > 2.5 million people, is hampered (there is strong evidence of this potential);**
 - **two European communities historically linked keep being separated**

WEAK TERRITORIAL COHESION AND COOPERATION

What if... territorial continuity remains "domestic"

Domestic solutions to territorial continuity for Corsica, Sardinia, Elbe

- face "anomalous" competence when affording cross-border issues
- if put in place, have limited timespan and sustainability
- risk inefficiency: cannot exploit the effect of full-scale cross-border cooperation
- coordination with EU-wide systems, like TEN-T, is difficult

LITTLE EU ADDED VALUE

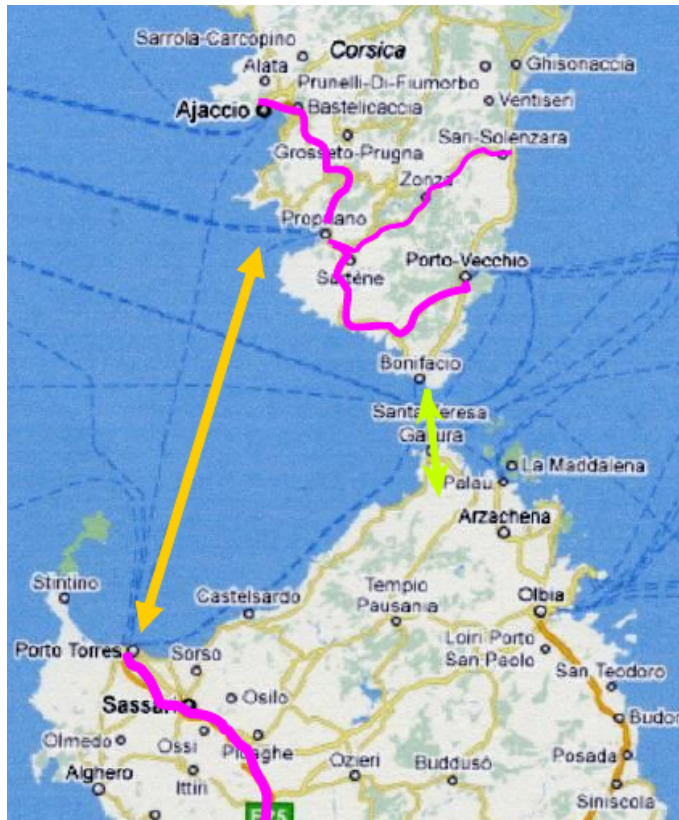
GEECCTT-Îles solution

- **Grounds on two existing instruments that work well**
 - the cross-border Interreg Italy-France Maritime Programme
 - the European Grouping for Territorial Cooperation (EGTC)
- **Focusses on a key innovation, i.e. to bring the territorial continuity of Corse and Sardinia in the field of cross-border maritime cooperation**
- **Creates a permanent body capable of evolution and adaptation: EGTC**
- **The EGTC will manage the cross-border territorial continuity Corse/Sardinia by means of PSO, Public Service Obligation as device (no state-aid)**
- **The EGTC opens to wider future maritime cooperations (e.g. Balears)**

What if... GEECCTT-Îles solutions

- **Currently drawing the statutes of the GECT**
- **Meanwhile "domestic" PSO tenders for two key maritime connections have being issued**
- **These contracts will converge into the EGCT**
- **Full implementation by half 2019 (due to the timing of PSO publicity procedures)**

Connections under PSO



Propriano-Porto Torres
by the Office des Transports
de la Corse

S. Teresa Gallura-Bonifacio
by Regione Autonoma della
Sardegna

Are there more advanced options?

- **GEECCTT-Îles is a result of the "Maritime" Programme implementing the European Territorial Cooperation to overcome sea barriers;**
- **GEECCTT-Îles main output, the EGTC, is the existing EU instrument;**
- **PSO is the device used.**

Is that enough for an effective maritime cross-border cooperation?

Islands: European maritime issue

- **Art. 174 TFUE "particular attention shall be paid to ... island" strengthening economic, social and territorial cohesion.**
- **The "Maritime" programme has proved effective to afford maritime specific needs: the programme should be reinforced to complete the actions it has successfully leveraged. For instance a one-stop-shop for islands (Island Desk) would prove useful within next programming period.**
- **At wider scale, the consolidation of strategic actions - like cross-border connections managed by joint bodies suffer of inadequate state-aid rules: islands should benefit of exemptions for growth enabling operations.**

Merci!

GEECCTT-Îles

**Plan d'action: GEstion Européenne Conjointe des
Connexions/Transports Transfrontaliers pour les Îles**

<http://interreg-maritime.eu/fr/web/geecctt-iles/projet>

