



UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

7th session of the Expert Group on Euro-Asian Transport Linkages



Developing Euro-Asian Inland Transport Links

Progress
October 2011

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Background EATL Phase I

- Part of UN global interregional transport links project
- UNDA Capacity Building
- Implemented jointly by ECE and ESCAP 2003-2007
- Objectives:
 - To identify Euro-Asian inland transport links
 - To strengthen the capacities of national officials
 - Put in operation Euro-Asian transport links
- Participants: 18 countries along on the Euro-Asian land bridge



EATL Phase I- Main Achievements

- Selection of main **Euro-Asian road, rail and inland water transport routes**, transshipment points & ports
- **Prioritization of projects** on agreed methodology
- First **analysis of physical and non-physical obstacles**
- Establishment of database and GIS maps
- Organization of 6 EGM and many capacity building national, regional and interregional workshops
- Joint ECE-ESCAP study with results, conclusions and recommendations on the way to proceed

Interregional transport linkages

UNDA funded global capacity-building project (2003-2007)

ECE-ESCAP-ESCWA-ECA

Priority Interregional rail transport and maritime linkages





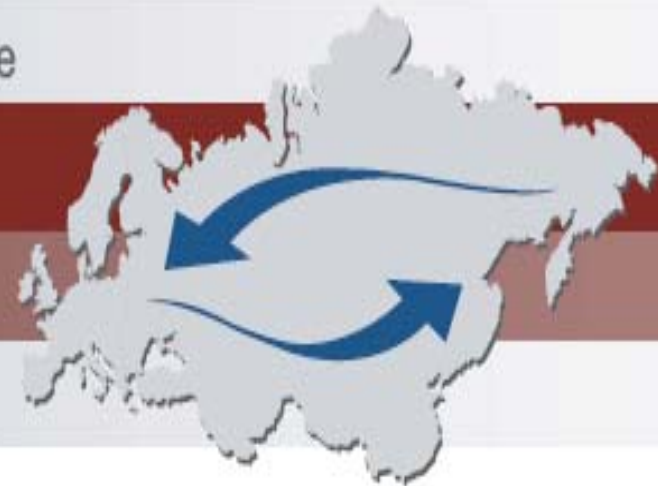
UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

70th Session of the UNECE Inland Transport Committee



Euro-Asian Transport Links Ministerial Meeting

19-21 February 2008 | Geneva, Switzerland

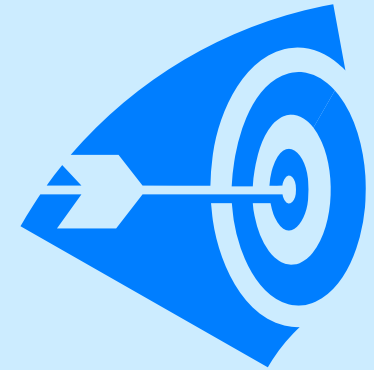


**Approved results, committed cooperate and implement, agreed to
continue through setting a monitoring mechanism
Signed a Joint Statement**



EATL Phase II

- **ECE Group of Experts to monitor and coordinate EATL developments**
- **EATL Phase II (2008-todate) objectives**
 - Wider geographical coverage;
 - Continue projects' prioritization and implementation
 - Put emphasis on facilitation aspects;
 - Further develop and update GIS database;
 - Promote harmonized legislation and procedures
 - Strengthen capacities of national officials
 - Improve operational performance, including border crossing, compare inland transport options with maritime
- **27 countries active participation (NFP) and contribution**
- **Partial funding from Russian Government's – co-funding MoT Kazakhstan, Turkey, OSCE, BSEC**
- **UNECE secretariat and technical backstopping and support**





EATL Phase II achievements

Phase II

1. SWOT Analysis: *Useful information on strong and weak points of EATL inland transport links, potential for further development and threats;*
2. Study transport statistics, flows and trends showed: *Rapid growth of Europe- Asian trade, increasing inter Asian trade trends;*
3. Phase I priority projects reviewed: *54 % completed, 23 % with longer implementation time-frame, now part of EATL Phase II);*
4. EATL priority routes and EATL ports, transshipment points and terminals: *Extended to include the 9 newly involved counties;*
5. 404 projects proposed - total cost US\$ 246 billion.
 - *287 projects along EATL routes with US\$ 189 billion cost and*
 - *117 projects of national importance with US\$ 57 billion cost;*



EATL Phase II achievements, (cont'd)

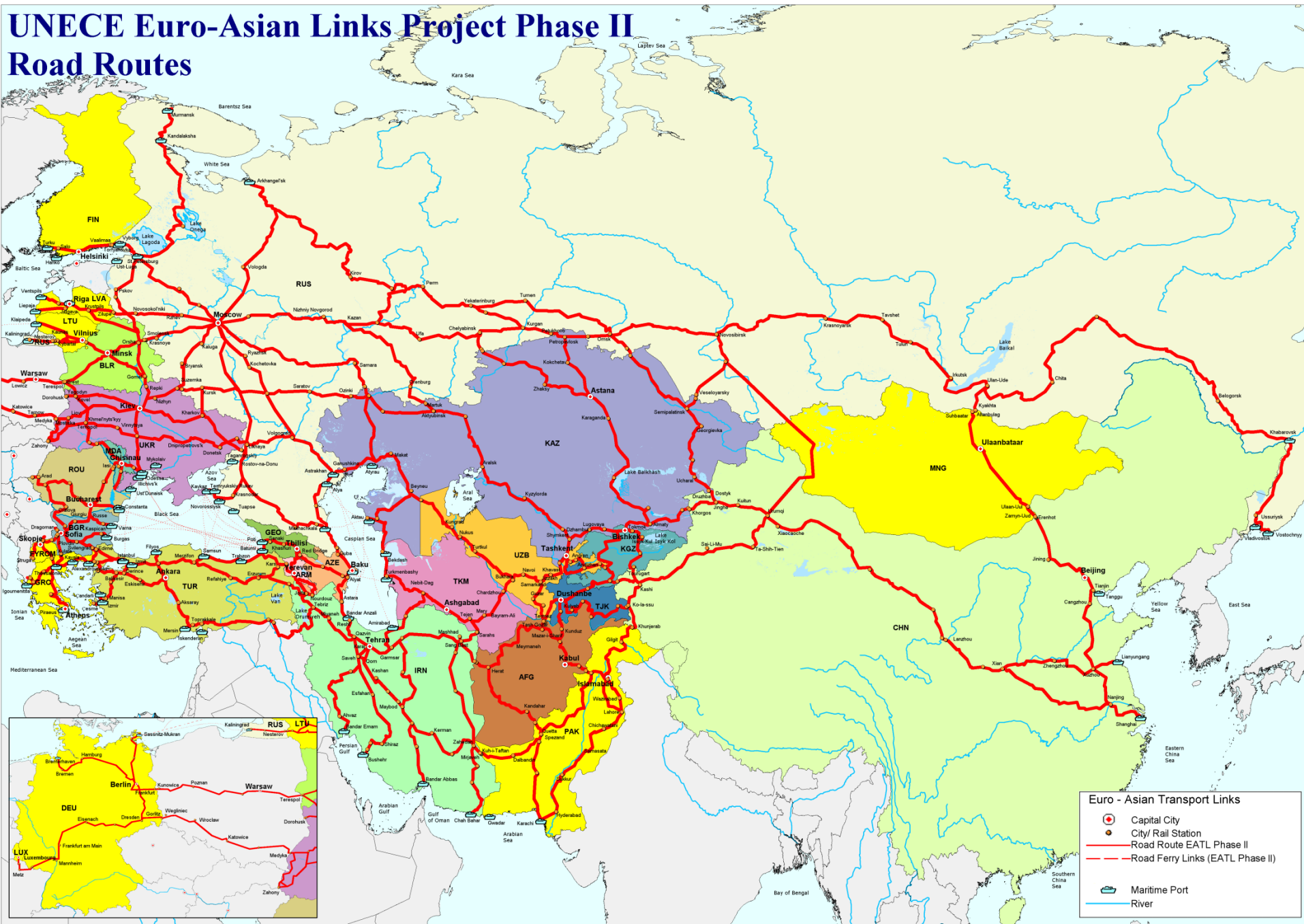
6. Comparison study of Euro-Asian maritime routes with selected rail routes: *In five out of the nine scenarios, rail transport performs better than maritime for both the cost and time!*

7. Collection and processing of huge volume of GIS data finalized and web based GIS application is ongoing: *New GIS maps prepared for the EATL region and each country involved.*

8. Analytical work on non-physical obstacles to transport along the Euro-Asian Transport routes is ongoing. *One thousand questionnaires have been sent. Long waiting times at BCP some times a whole day. Few work 24H/7Days. Long delays for Veterinary, Phyto-sanitary, passport, transit, visa and other controls*

UNECE Euro-Asian Links Project Phase II

Road Routes



UNECE Euro-Asian Links Project Phase II

Rail Routes





EATL the way ahead

- Continuing new Phase III – Coordination and monitoring
- Extension of the EATL Group of Experts for 2 more years
- EATL Meeting of Minister of Transport in 2012
- Partial funding of Phase III from Russian Federation
- Focused workplan to be discussed at 7th EGM aimed at making **Euro-Asian inland transport links operational**
 - Analyse and compare **existing transport needs** with inland transport solutions
 - Facilitate and simplify **customs procedures** and assist **capacity-building**
 - Support **national transport and trade facilitation** action plans and committees
 - Promote **initiatives and projects (NS)**: RF-IRN-IND and (**EW-North / Central / South**) Transsiberian, TRACECA and CHI-CA-IRN-TUR-W.EUR), case studies and best practices
 - Further improve **GIS internet free-access application** and **develop a web tool for comparison between inland transport options and maritime**
- Extend geographic coverage and promote inter-country cooperation for the coordinated development of EATL routes



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Thank you!

<http://live.unece.org/trans/welcome.html>