HEALTH ASPECT IN SEA: THE CASE OF RAIL BALTIC, ESTONIA

HEIKKI KALLE

27TH NOVEMBER 2019
UNECE, GENEVA
RAIL BALTIC PROJECT
RAIL BALTIC FACTS

700 km of new high speed railway (up to 240 km/h)

Ca 200 km will be in Estonia

Feasibility study was made in 2010

Regional planning and SEA was carried out 2012-1018

SEA had several tiers, from state level to regional and local

EIA on the railway sections is ongoing
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tier</th>
<th>Dominant approach</th>
<th>Main determinants of health</th>
<th>Health outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Global/state level</td>
<td>Objectives led</td>
<td>Air pollution, greenhouse gas emissions, flooding,</td>
<td>Mainly positive changes due to shift to more sustainable form of mobility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional level</td>
<td>Baseline led</td>
<td>Accessibility</td>
<td>Positive if properly supported by planning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local</td>
<td>Baseline led</td>
<td>Noise, vibration, electromagnetic radiation (operational phase), +dust (building phase)</td>
<td>Negative, if not properly mitigated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WHAT THE SEA STUDIED**
LESSONS LEARNED

The health authorities were involved in the SEA but it took time to find common ground as public health specialists are not familiar with SEA.

Rail Baltic SEA brought regional health considerations of accessibility into discussion.

There is need of health objectives in state and regional scale,

The objectives led approach potential is not used in full in SEA,

In SEA there is a need for spatial data on health indicators as well as risk factors,

It is important to organize assessment according to spatial and temporal scales,

SEA can and should communicate also positive effects.
WHAT NEXT

There is a need for spatial data linking determinants of health, health indicators, risk factors and health outcomes,

Cross training of SEA experts and public health experts,

Good guidance on health in SEA and EIA.
THANK YOU!

Heikki Kalle
+372 5025563
heikki@ekki.ee