



UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE

Working Party on Rail Transport SC.2

Geneva, 8 November 2012



EURO-ASIAN TRANSPORT LINKS

OVERVIEW

Miroslav Jovanovic, UNECE

Transport Facilitation and Economics Section



EATL

STRUCTURE

- EATL
- Phase 1 - Achievements
- Phase 2 - Achievements
- Draft Joint Statement



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



EATL

70th Session of the UNECE Inland Transport Committee



Euro-Asian Transport Links Ministerial Meeting

19-21 February 2008 | Geneva, Switzerland



United Nations Economic Commission for Europe - Transport Division



EATL

Phase 2 - Main Achievements

- ECE Group of Experts to monitor and coordinate EATL developments
- EATL Phase II (2008 - to date) objectives and achievements
 - Wider geographical coverage;
 - Continue projects' prioritisation 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 Federation, Kazakhstan, Turkey, OSCE, BSEC
- UNECE secretariat and technical backstopping and support



EATL

Phase 2 - Report

- EATL priority routes and EATL ports, transshipment points and terminals: *Extended to include the 9 newly involved countries*
- Study transport statistics, flows and trends showed: *Rapid growth of Europe-Asian trade, increasing inter-Asian trade trends*
- 311 priority transport projects - total cost \$215 billion.
- 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!*



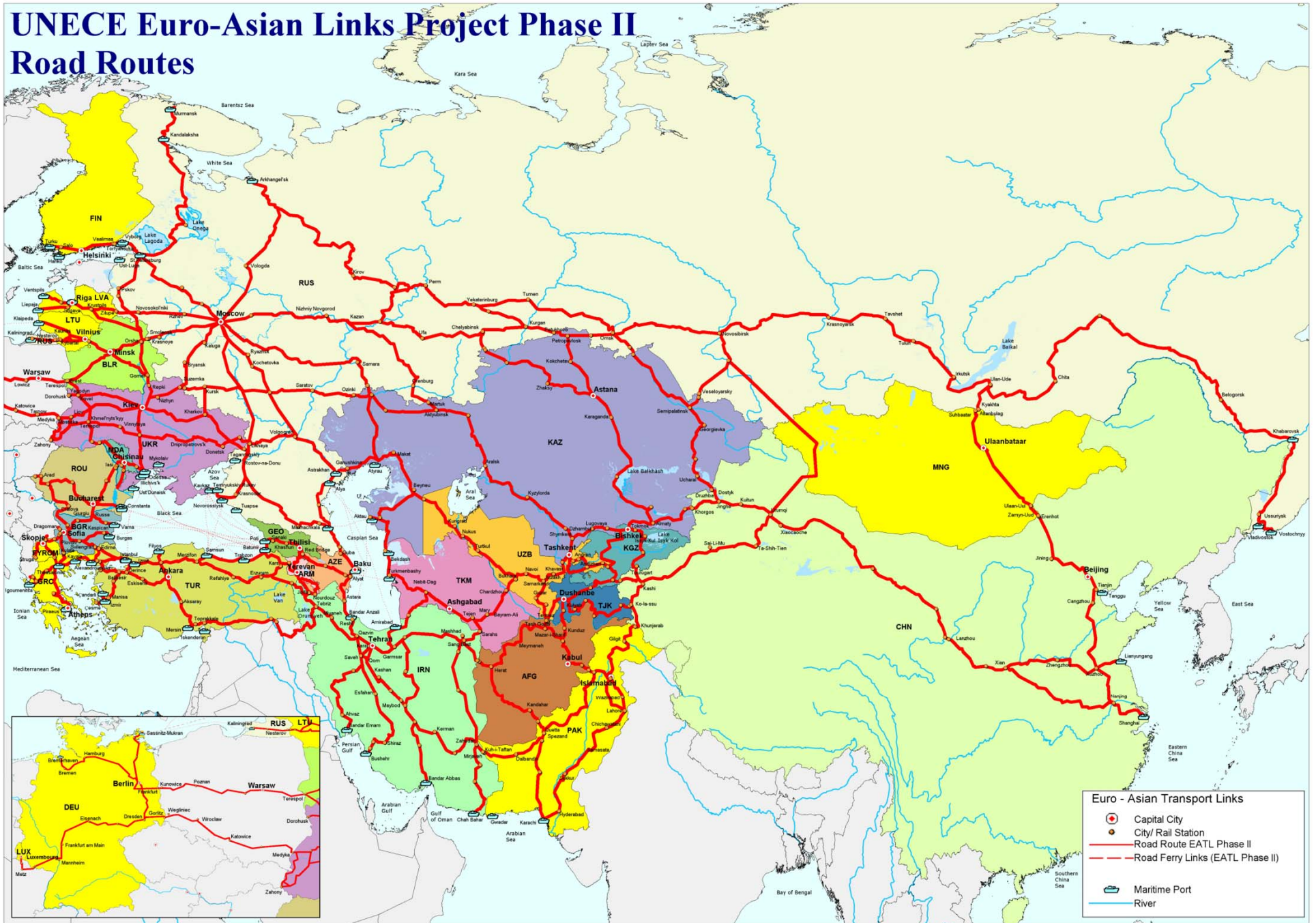
EATL

Phase 2 - Report

- **SWOT Analysis:** Useful information on strong and weak points of EATL inland transport links, potential for further development and threats
- EATL GIS application is available at <http://apps.unece.org/eatl/>
- Non-physical obstacles to transport along the Euro-Asian Transport routes are identified based on questionnaires and field missions: *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*

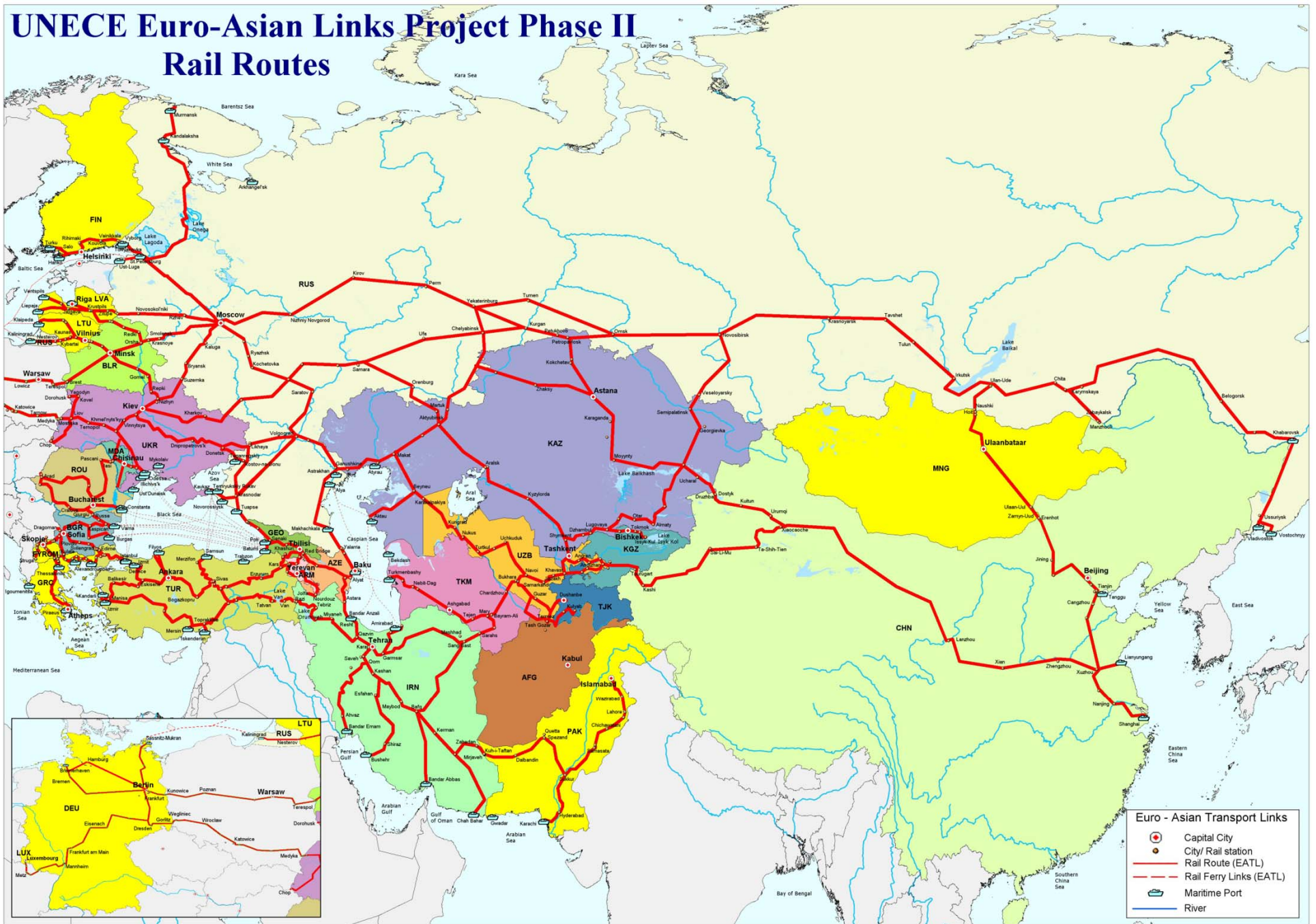
UNECE Euro-Asian Links Project Phase II

Road Routes



UNECE Euro-Asian Links Project Phase II

Rail Routes





EATL

EATL Phase 3

- Group of experts: coordination, monitoring, analysis and policy recommendations to make EATL 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 new projects to attract IFIs
- Case studies and best practices
- Further improve GIS internet free-access application and develop a web tool to compare inland transport options and maritime
- Extend geographic coverage and promote inter-country cooperation for the coordinated development of EATL routes
- Poland joined in July 2012
- **EATL Meeting of Ministers of Transport in Geneva on 26 February 2013**
- Draft Joint Statement
- Funding of Phase 3 – sponsors are welcome



**UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE**

Thank you!

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