



## Operationalization of Euro-Asian Transport Links

Mr. Roel Janssens, Transport Facilitation and Economics Section UNECE Sustainable Transport Division Tbilisi, 12-13 December 2019



# **UNECE Euro-Asian Transport Links (EATL) Project**



EATL Phase I (2002-2007), Phase II (2008-2012) and Phase III (2013-2017)

- 38 participating countries from Europe and Asia
- 9 rail & road, 17 inland waterway transport links, 52 inland river ports and 70 maritime ports identified
- 311 project proposals/ worth USD 215 billion
- Detailed mapping of physical and non-physical obstacles/ comparative study inland versus maritime
- Creation of a web-based Geographical Information System (GIS)



#### **Euro-Asian Routes in GIS**





- Euro-Asian Transport Links
- Benchmarking of Euro-Asian Transport
  Infrastructure Projects
- Climate change impacts on Euro-Asian transport infrastructure

### Findings and way forward



What do we know? (source EATL phase III project)

#### Corridors need to:

- be competitive
- meet the requirements of modern supply chains

Physical and non-physical gaps are obstacles to meeting the objectives



#### Findings and way forward

- Need to harmonize operating standards
- Address missing infrastructure links, border crossing and transit obstacles (i.e. implementation of relevant conventions)
- Need to increase productivity of railway operations
- Acknowledge impact of intelligent transport systems, the digitalization of transport documents, the full computerization of BCPs, satellite track and trace services, the introduction of autonomous vehicles
- Need to strengthen administrative harmonization of transport documents and consignment notes, i.e. unify railway regimes along EATL railway routes, use of TIR/eTIR, CMR/ eCMR etc.

