Connecting Danube region by rail – improved passenger services and infrastructure development opportunities

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Ljubljana, December 2018

THE DANUBE REGION TRANSPORT DAYS 2018
DANUBE REGION - RAILWAY INFRASTRUCTURE

- Danube river
- Railway network (majority are regional lines!)
SEESARI - SOUTH EAST EUROPE STRATEGIC ALLIANCE FOR RAIL INNOVATION

Vision and objectives of SEESARI:

• to be an important player of railway system development in South East Europe
• establish a wide network of interested stakeholders for identifying innovative ideas/solutions/projects for railway and transport development
• bringing new ideas and solutions into reality (concrete projects)
• contribute to advanced railway transport development in South East Europe and wider European railway transport system and contribution to more sustainable transport in Europe

Partnership => supported by International Union of Railways (UIC):

• currently more than 60 members from 14 countries (railway transport operators and infrastructure managers, manufacturers and suppliers of technical equipment, financial institutions, research institutions, associations and interest groups connected with (rail) transport, national and regional authorities, ...)
KICK-OFF MEETING IN BELGRADE

• Took place on 26th January 2016
• 70 participants from 14 countries
• Opened by the Vice-Prime minister and Minister of Transport and Infrastructure of Serbia
• Presented vision, strategy, action plan and Declaration of intent (establishment)
• Selected Chairman of SEESARI
• Signed Memorandum of establishment (Declaration of intent)
SUPPORT BY EC AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

=> Full support of International Union of Railways
   - Special Taskforce for the SEESARI
   - Technical support, promotion, …

=> Support of EU Commissioner for transport
   Ms. Violeta Bulc

=> Support of Community of European Railways

=> Support of SHIFT2RAIL
   (cooperation agreement signed in September 2018)
SHIFT2RAIL – SEESARI AGREEMENT

- Signed in September 2018 at InnoTrans
- Long term cooperation
- Presence of the EU Commissioner for Mobility and Transport
- Focus of the agreement: the exchange of information on current and planned activities and research and innovation programs; the exchange of experience and good practices in the framework of the transformation of the rail system, with a particular focus on digitization and interoperability; the involvement of the SEESARI initiative in the S2R SU Working Groups.
SEESARI – MAIN PRIORITIES

- High Speed Rail Network
- Interconnection of Passenger Transport
- Regional Railway Network
- Railway Rolling Stock
- Interoperability and Technical Standards
- Social Component/Human Resources
- Cooperation in Freight Transport

Sustainability
Energy Efficiency
Digitalization
KEY ELEMENTS OF RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT

- Business => high quality transport services and infrastructure
- Investments => investments in infrastructure and rolling stock
- Innovations => following the newest innovation/technology trends for ensuring competitiveness
- Cooperation => close cooperation with stakeholder and partners
- Energy, Environment, Sustainability => ensuring the sustainability and environmental protection
SEESARI project proposals:

- Development of the High Speed Rail South East Europe
- Revitalization of regional railway lines and services
- Integrated cross border E-ticketing
- Education centre for young professionals and railway staff and re-organization of human resources
DEVELOPMENT OF THE HIGH SPEED RAIL NETWORK IN SEE

High-speed lines in Europe

UIC Proposal 1974
DEVELOPMENT OF THE HIGH SPEED RAIL NETWORK IN SEE
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PAST RAILWAY NETWORK DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS:

High speed line Ljubljana-Dobova (towards Zagreb)
EU TRANSPORT WHITE PAPER - SUMMARY OF RAIL-RELATED GOALS

=> By 2050, complete a European high-speed rail network.

=> By 2030, triple the length of the existing high-speed rail network and maintain a dense railway network in all Member States. By 2050 the majority of medium-distance passenger transport should go by rail.

=> By 2050, connect all core network airports to the rail network, preferably high-speed.

By 2020, establish the framework for a European multimodal transport information, management and payment system.
DEVELOPMENT OF THE HIGH SPEED RAIL NETWORK IN DANUBE REGION

High speed line/belt Vienna-Ljubljana-Zagreb-Belgrade-Budapest-Bratislava-Vienna (1)

- SEESARI/ÖBB/G4 proposal
- Feasibility studies planned for next year
- Railways lines Vienna-Graz-Villach and Belgrade-Budapest already in construction
DEVELOPMENT OF THE HIGH SPEED RAIL NETWORK IN DANUBE REGION

High speed line/belt Vienna-Ljubljana-Zagreb-Belgrade-Budapest-Bratislava-Vienna (2)

- 6 capital cities, total 9 million people
- 6 countries, 28 million people
- 1500 km of length
- Connections to North-West and South East
Regional lines:

- big potential (infrastructure already exists)
- low density lines
- less developed and neglected areas
The project intends to increase growth in transport demand and customer expectations based on quality of service, with demonstrative implementation of smart technologies that can ultimately contribute to improving the reliability and responsiveness of customer service in rail transportation, such as:

- Sustainable transport and logistics services

- Integrated smart services model for regional railway network - advanced ticketing and traffic operation integration with other modes (bus, trams, P +R, taxi, etc.) – intelligent door to door integrated public passenger service

- New generation of rail vehicles (light passenger vehicles and buses, intermodality)

- Improved signaling and safety devices (ERTMS regional)

- No man occupancy traffic operations (simple ERTMS with satellite and WIFI solutions)
Railway network of Western Balkans: revitalization of (regional) railway lines and services
Example: Railway line Ljubljana – Grosuplje – Trebnje – Novo mesto – Metlika – Karlovec – Zagreb (1)

Letter of intent signed in 2018 by 9 slovenian mayors and representative of Karlovac County

MAIN GOALS:
- Better competitiveness of rail transport
- More passengers
- Integrated rail passenger transport
REVITALISATION OF REGIONAL RAILWAY LINES IN DANUBE REGION

Example: Railway line Ljubljana – Grosuplje – Trebnje – Novo mesto – Metlika – Karlovec – Zagreb (2)

New products and services

- Integrated services/modern products/services (ticketing, public passenger transport integration, P+R,..)
- Cross-border passenger train sets (daily commuters, touristic services,..)
- Modern logistics products, industrial sidings
European cofinancing programmes

EUROPEAN COFINANCING PROGRAMMES

FINANCING => EU funds, state budget, local authorities, PPP

EU initiatives and programmes

• Connecting Europe Facility - CEF (infrastructure)
• European Fund for Strategic Investment - EFSI (EIB) (infrastructure)
• Cohesion fund (infrastructure)
• SHIFT2RAIL/Horizon 2020/
• Danube programme
• ADRION (Adriatic-Ionian programme)
• Central Europe programme
• Balkan-Mediterranean programme
• Cross-border regional programmes (e.g. Slovenia/Austria, Croatia/Slovenia)
Thank you for your attention.

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