

Rail Baltica - Urban Impacts: improved city planning in a connected region

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Something is missing?



**Rail Baltica project is actually
about Transformations of the cities!**

Rail Baltica - Urban Impacts project

HELSINKI



RIGA



TALLINN



- Focus on Connecting 3 Cities
- Different starting points for growth
- Analysis of potential urban transformations that Rail Baltica project will cause

The Challenge

How to establish an integrated planning process that would balance interregional-scale benefits RB connection creates with city-scale, long-term benefits for the urban environments and local communities that are affected.

The Tri-part model

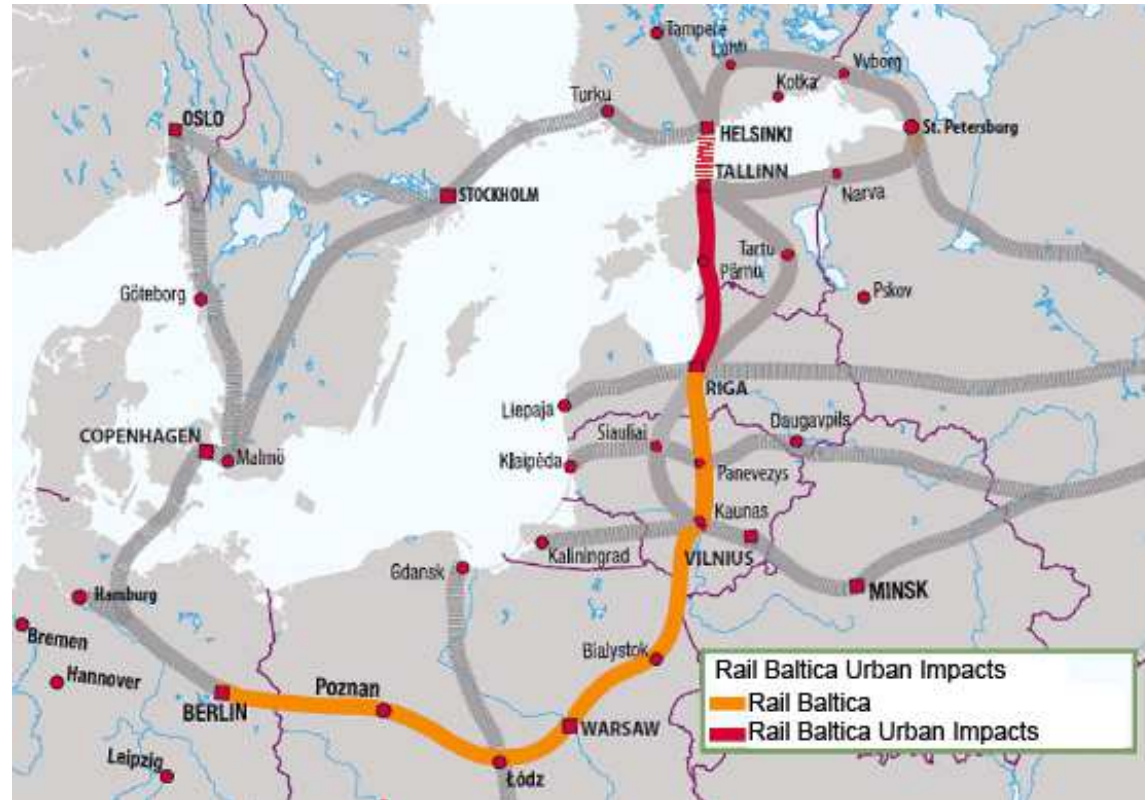
CITY_X (general approach according to Integrated planning: Participatory planning /Democratic City/Sustainable City)			
	▼	▼	▼
	METROPOLITAN	CITY	DISTRICTS-SITES
SPATIAL/HARD (systems) ►			
SOCIAL/SOFT (systems) ►			
MOBILITY	▲	▲	▲

The aim of the RB UI project is to create a comprehensive operational system to collect and connect existing and new data from various sources, but also to use the data to develop new interpretations and visualize possible future scenarios for each partner city.

Questions to the cities (All Scales)

- What are the impacts on spatial structure of historical city centers and heritage sites in the city centers ?
- What are the effects on metropolitan growth patterns and spatial/socio-economic conditions in peripheral areas ?
- What are the prospects for migration? How are cities going to attract talent and increase their competitiveness at a European and Global level? Will there be a pattern of low-paid migrating labor force?
- How do the cities address the future of this diverse migrating workforce and migrants in terms of meeting their requirements for housing either in the historical part or peripheral parts of the city?
- How do physically enabled connections effect or conduce to mental interconnectivities, cohesion and a sense of belonging in cities under observation and at a larger scale of Europe?
- How do the city development plans and heritage protection mechanism in place address these changes?

1. Regional Scale (Challenge)



Planning large-scale, interregional infrastructure and integration of a large-scale infrastructure project such as a transportation interchange and multimodal public transportation hub is a new challenge for all three cities.

Other completed or ongoing projects



These projects are mostly dealing with issues of transportation and infrastructural challenges without addressing the issues related to the urban-planning impacts this infrastructure project causes.

RBUI Calls for cross-border cooperation between Cities

- New integrated planning methods have to be employed and developed.
- The collaboration between the three cities and ongoing exchange of knowledge and experience.
- Complementary collaboration between municipalities, research institutions and shareholders in the 3 cities is important to deal with the highly complex issues and topics that this project addresses.
- Support for the New Regional politics for the Baltic Sea Region

2. City Scale (Challenge)

- How to integrate multimodal transport hubs in the city fabric (especially important for UNESCO World Heritage sites)?
- How to transform planning process in order to address the change of paradigm from planning actually Urban node rather than Transfer node?
- How to create a shift from HUB being planned as a transportation and infrastructural node rather than as the Urban node that in turn potentially could become an agent and a catalyst for controlled and sustainable change in the formerly deprived areas and neighborhoods in the vicinity?

From Transit Node to Urban node



HELSINKI – Extensive and difficult redevelopment of the Helsinki Downtown district -Kamppi

Successful Cities are making sure that a transport investment such as an interchange is implemented jointly **with an integrated development plan or an urban regeneration or redevelopment plan**, it is more likely to induce economic and social impacts.

Linking the planning and transportation



NEW YORK - High Line. New York City linear park built in Manhattan
On an elevated section of a disused Railroad spur called the West Side Line.

Successful Cities are aware of the importance of realizing transport investments at particular **nodes linking the planning principles and transportation** projects and land use proposals in order to **achieve sustainability and smart growth objectives.**

New neighborhoods



LILLE – Euralille Interchange
Development Create Completely new
Neighborhoods. Transport Interchange
as an urban development component

Successful Cities are aware that Multimodal city-hubs are more likely to impact on the local economy and land use when integrated policies (transport and urbanism) are implemented associated with policy makers' involvement; **new neighborhoods** can be created and **urban regeneration supported**.

3. Community -Site Scale (Challenge)



RIGA Moscow quartier –
UNESCO World Heritage Site.
Exchange between the node and
neighborhood

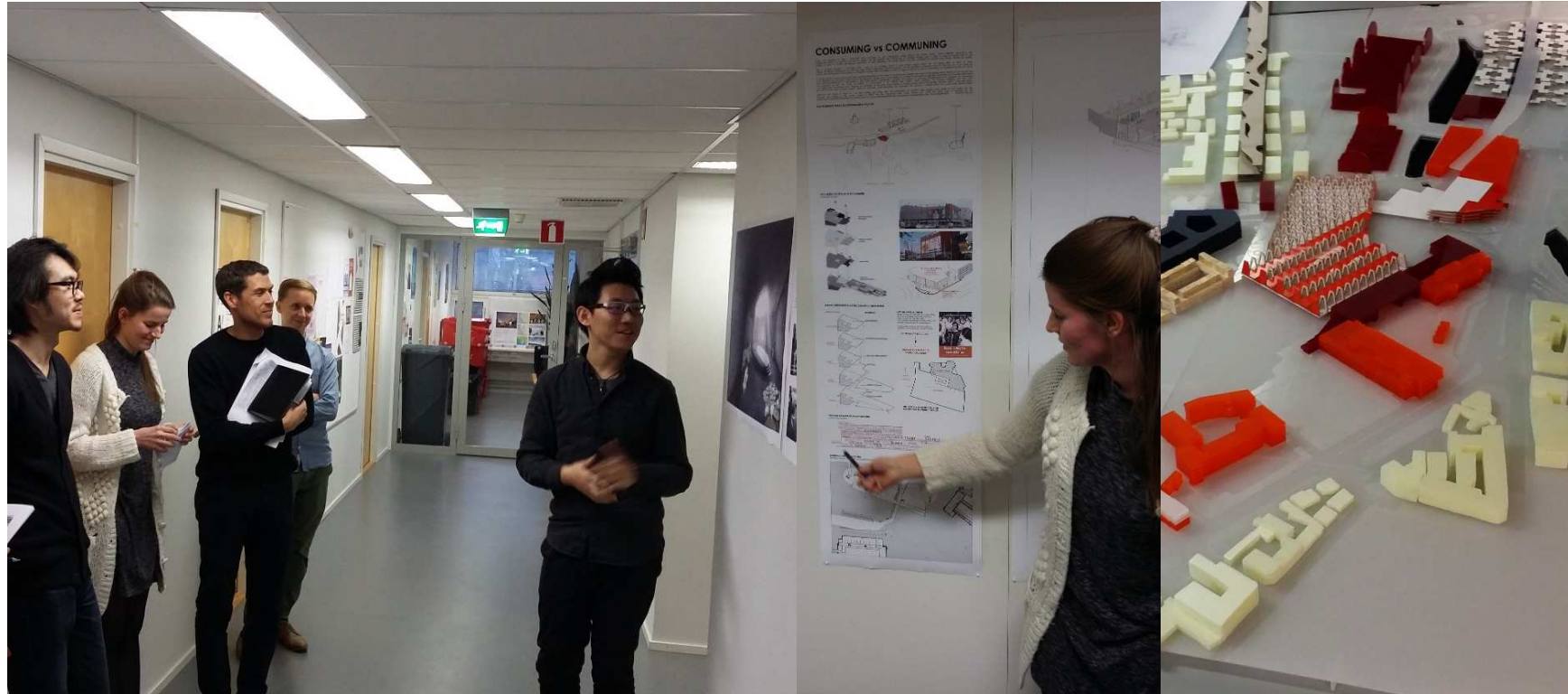
RBUl project on a scale of the Site is a search for strategic and spatial design interventions to develop a multimodal transfer hub into an urban sub centre, enhancing a positive exchange between the node and it's neighboring environment.

Moskauer Vorstadt. Mapping and data analysis



The pilot project on the site scale is approaching the large-scale infrastructure project (Multi Modal Public Transportation Hub) from the perspective of the **most vulnerable and most deprived neighborhood** that will have potentially see the biggest impacts and transformations.

Scenarios for the pilot area in Riga



An urban regeneration or redevelopment plan - New opportunities for the City. Vision for the Moskauer Vorstadt - to become an experimental think-tank for sustainable Urban regeneration in the 21st Century.

Vision

RB Urban Impacts project is aiming to establish an integrated planning process that would balance interregional-scale benefits RB connection creates with city-scale, long-term benefits for the urban environments and local communities that are affected.

RB Urban Impacts project is aiming at establishing a regional collaborative urban planning platform for connected cities involving municipalities, researchers, partners and shareholders in order to achieve more sustainable patterns of growth and travel.

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