## Trans European Transport Networks - the Problems of Delivery

Roger Vickerman
Centre for European, Regional and Transport
Economics
University of Kent, Canterbury, UK

International Conference on Economic Integration in the Enlarged EU Wrocław, Poland, 17-18 April 2008



### Overview

- Transport infrastructure as a tool of integration
- TENs a critical part of EU Transport Policy
- Progress slow leading to need for review
- Much of the emphasis in EU on identifying the Community interest in new links: competitiveness and cohesion.
- At regional or local level high-level improvements can have mixed impacts
- Wider economic benefits of high level transport infrastructure improvements elusive
- Issues for policy making and appraisal



## TENs development

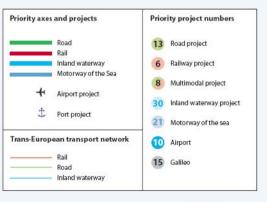
- Essen projects 1994
  - 14 high level projects all in advanced state o planning
  - Political nature of choice modes and countries covered
- Consolidation, development and TINA
  - More strategic phase need to extend to Central and Eastern European countries, including links to Russia
  - Networks (2001): 75200 km of roads, 78000 km of railways, 330 airports, 270 international seaports, 200 inland ports + Galileo satellite navigation system.
- Lack of completion, need for renewal
  - 2003 only 2/14 Essen projects complete, only 5/14 expected complete by 2007 (Van Miert Group)
  - But 16 more priority projects added + 'Motorways of the Sea'
- The funding gap
  - Cost ~ €600bn
  - EU funds €23.2bn + EIB €6.6bn





#### Trans-European transport network (TEN-T) Priority axes and projects

- 1. Railway axis
- Berlin-Verona/Milan-Bologna-Naples-Messina-Palermo
- High-speed railway axis Paris-Brussels-Cologne-Amsterdam-London
- 3. High-speed railway axis of south-west Europe
- 4. High-speed railway axis east
- Betuwe line
- Railway axis Lyons-Trieste-Divača/ Koper-Divača-Ljubljana-Budapest-Ukrainian border
- 7. Motorway axis Igoumenitsa/Patras-Athens-Sofia-Budapest
- 8. Multimodal axis Portugal/Spain-rest of Europe
- Railway axis Cork-Dublin-Belfast-Stranraer
- 10. Malpensa airport
- 11. Øresund fixed link
- 12. Nordic triangle railway/road axis
- 13. United Kingdom/Ireland/Benelux road axis
- 14. West coast main line
- 15. Galileo
- 16. Freight railway axis Sines/Algeciras-Madrid-Paris
- 17. Railway axis Paris-Strasbourg-Stuttgart-Vienna-Bratislava
- 18. Rhine/Meuse-Main-Danube inland waterway axis
- 19. High-speed rail interoperability on the Iberian peninsula
- 20. Fehmarn belt railway axis
- 21. Motorways of the sea
- 22. Railway axis Athens-Sofia-Budapest-Vienna-Prague-Nuremberg/Dresden
- 23. Railway axis Gdansk-Warsaw-Brno/Bratislava-Vienna
- 24. Railway axis Lyons/Genoa-Basle-Duisburg-Rotterdam/Antwerp
- 25. Motorway axis Gdansk-Brno/Bratislava-Vienna
- 26. Railway/road axis Ireland/United Kingdom/continental Europe
- 27. 'Rail Baltica' axis Warsaw-Kaunas-Riga-Tallinn-Helsinki
- 28. 'Eurocaprail' on the Brussels-Luxembourg-Strasbourg
- 29. Railway axis of the Ionian/Adriatic intermodal corridor
- 30. Inland waterway Seine-Scheldt



### Van Miert Recommendations

- Van Miert High Level Group (2003)
- Carry out priority projects by 2020
- Cost
  - Priority projects: €235 billion (0.16% of GDP), total cost of network:
     > €600 billion,
  - Member States invest < 1% GDP in transport infrastructure and only one-third of this TENs
  - EU share in funding TENs only about €20 billion 2000-2006.
  - Need to develop the financing capacity of EIB
  - Conflict between investment needs and constraints on public expenditure
- Organisational problems
  - Cross-border projects held up through difficulty of coordination Guaranteeing funding for priority projects



### Guidelines for action 2007-13

- Priority to the 30 projects of European interest, located in Member States and regions eligible under the Convergence objective. Other projects supported where strong case in terms of contribution to growth and competitiveness. Cross-border links merit special attention.
- Complementary investment in secondary connections important in context of an integrated regional transport and communications strategy to ensure that regions benefit from opportunities created by the major networks.
- Support for **rail infrastructure** should seek to ensure greater access and enhance the creation of an EU-wide interoperable network.
- Promoting environmentally sustainable transport networks.
- Attention should be paid to improving the connectivity of landlocked territories to the Trans-European network (TEN-T). In particular, harbours and airports should be connected to their hinterland.
- More attention should be paid to developing the "motorways of the sea" and to short-sea shipping as a viable alternative to long-distance road and rail transport.
- Also links beyond the EU to neighbouring states via 5 key corridors







### Policy conflicts in TENs

- Lack of clarity in responsibility
  - TENs an EU concept but responsibility for decisions with member states, local/regional government or private sector
  - only matters on which cross-border agreement is needed (i.e. the strictly international elements of the TENs) should be resolved at EU level.
  - need for institutional structures to enable multi-level decisionmaking and their policing
- EU level transport policy addresses two fundamental concerns
  - development of a world class competitive economy (Lisbon Agenda)
  - increased cohesion within and between the member states
- National level takes decisions and coordinates funding
- Problems
  - Horizontal conflicts with other policy areas
  - Vertical conflicts through policy refraction



## Appraising TENs Projects

- EU-wide issues: added value to the EU of the network and of any link.
  - Integration effect in terms of contribution to economic growth
  - Cohesion impact
    - Redistribution and the 'two-way road' effect
    - Empirical evidence:
      - increase in welfare from completion of the TENs typically < 4 per cent of regional GDP
      - only 1/10 change in relative accessibility
      - can be negative
    - Regions may campaign for projects which harm them
    - EU may be promoting projects which ultimately promote economic divergence
    - The policy structure fails to establish a clear dialogue between the different levels of government to reduce asymmetric information problem

      University of

## Evaluation of 2000-06 period

#### Effectiveness

- Predictability combined with flexibility
- Value attached to not losing the funding was key factor in on-time implementation
- 2004 Revision acted as additional performance incentive.
- But tendency of mature projects with high national commitment to selfselect, frequently projects would have proceeded anyway and may exclude cross-border projects

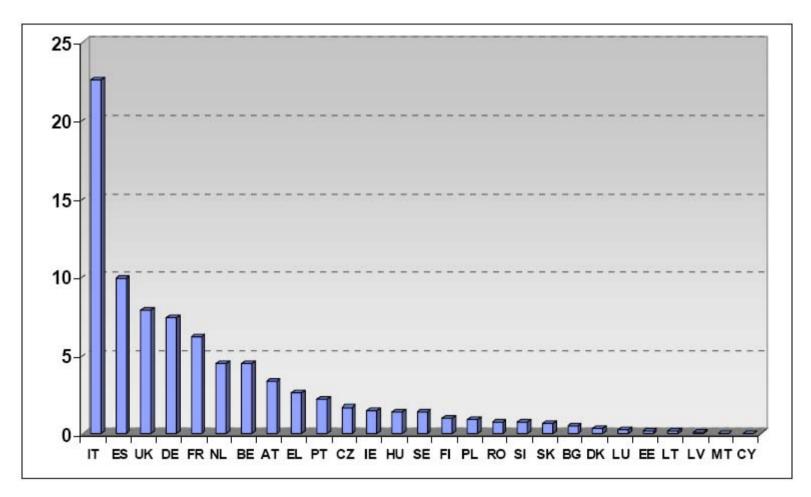
#### Lack of effectiveness

- Encouraging public-private partnerships.
- Instability of the management procedures affected the effectiveness, efficiency and relevance of the programme.
- Minimising the administrative burden and the need to demand accountability and transparency were controversial.

#### Streamlining procedures

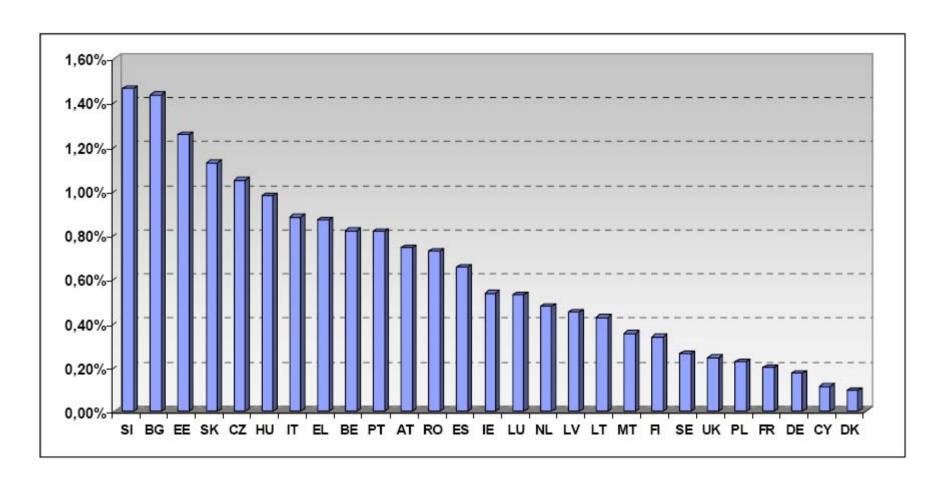
- More emphasis on indicators which make it possible to evaluate impacts ex post.
- Challenge for individual projects whose full benefit depends on completion of other projects, and often on the full implementation of the complete TEN-T project of which they are part.

# Investments in TEN-T,EU-27 per country, 2002/03, €bn



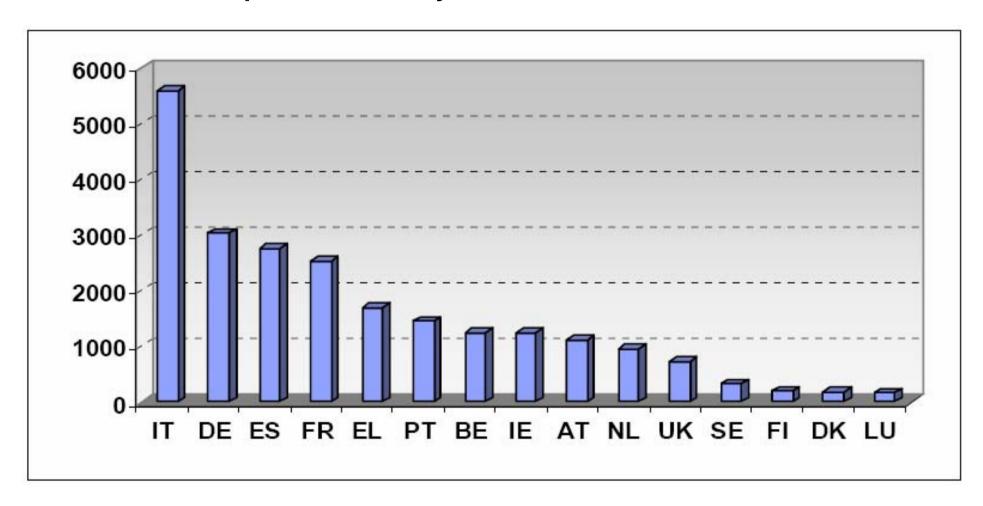


## Investments in TEN-T,EU-27 per country, 2002/03, av. % GDP



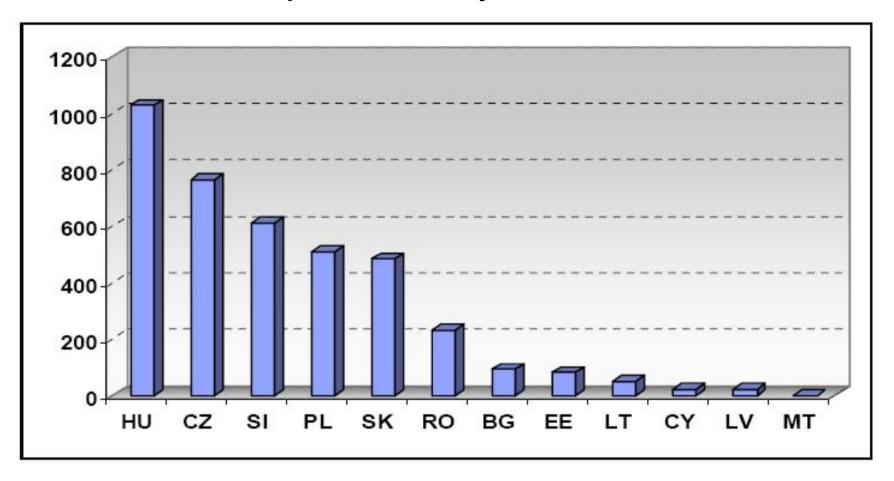


# Investment in TEN-T road network, EU-15 per country, 2002/03, €mn



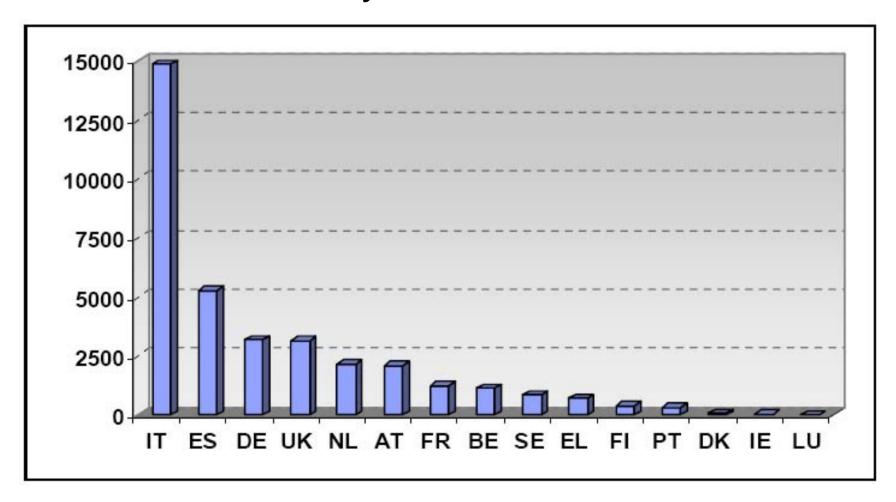


# Investments in TEN-T road network,EU-10 and EU-2 per country, 2002/03, €mn



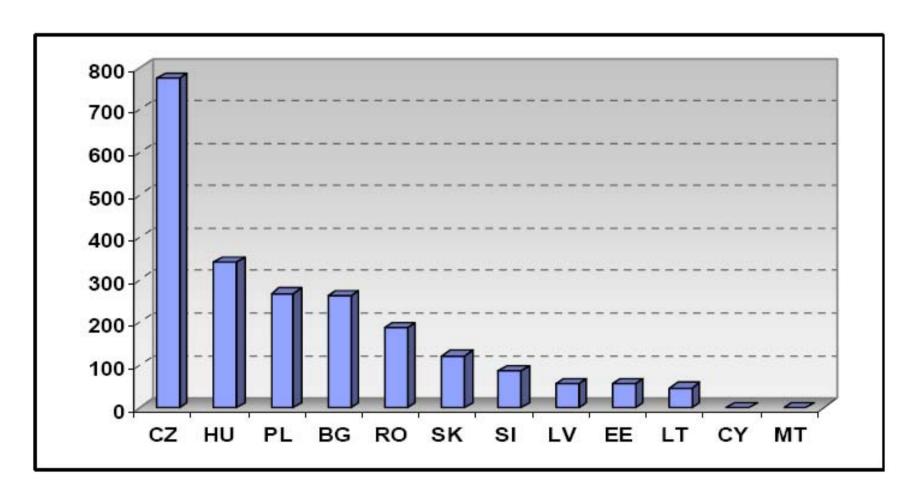


# Investment in TEN-T rail network, EU-15 per country, 2002/03, €mn



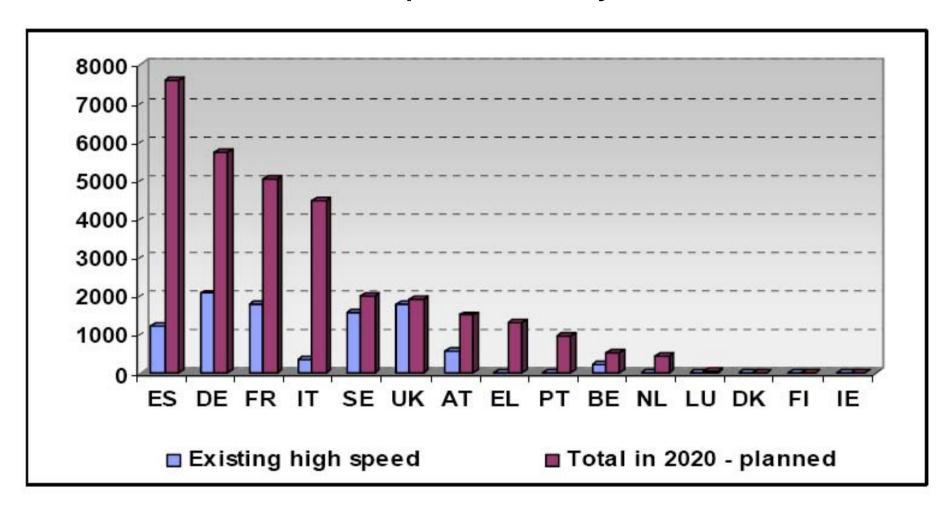


# Investments in TEN-T rail network, EU-10 and EU-2 per country, 2002/03, €mn



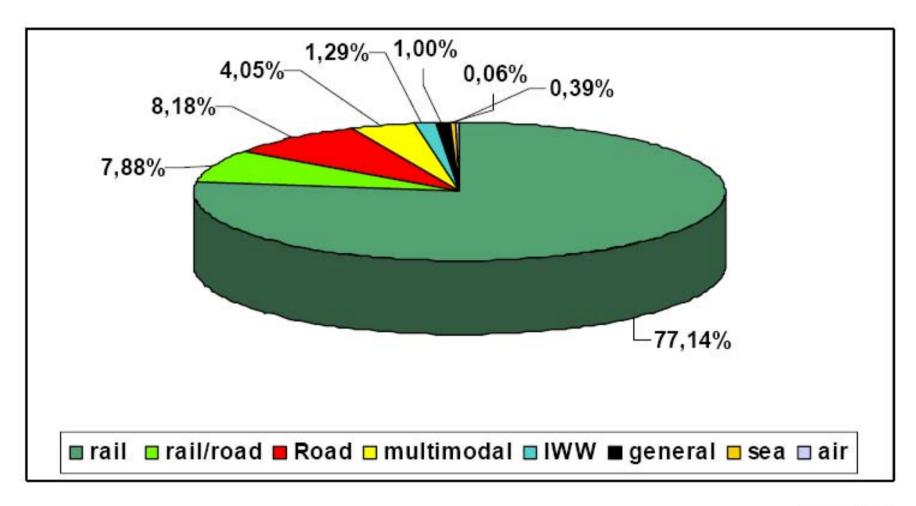


# Development of TEN-T HSR lines, EU-15, 2003-20 per country, km



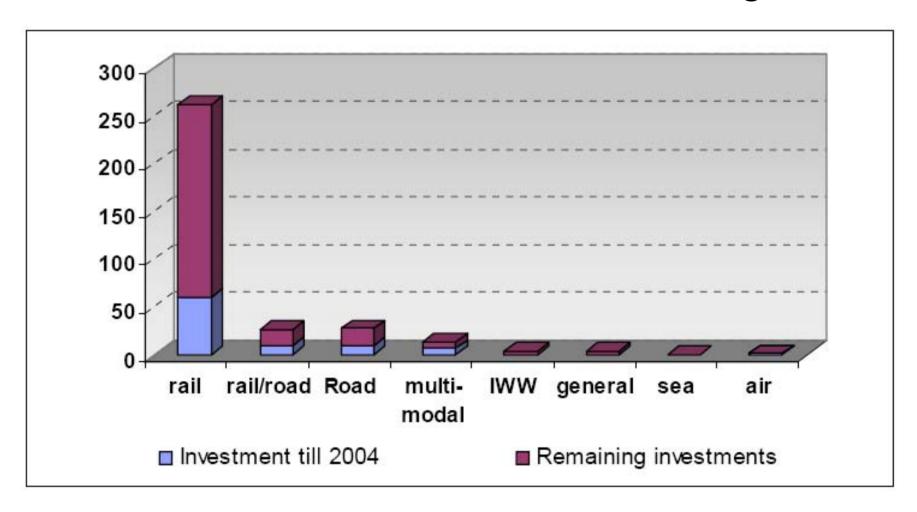


# Modal split of investments in priority projects, EU-27, 2004–20



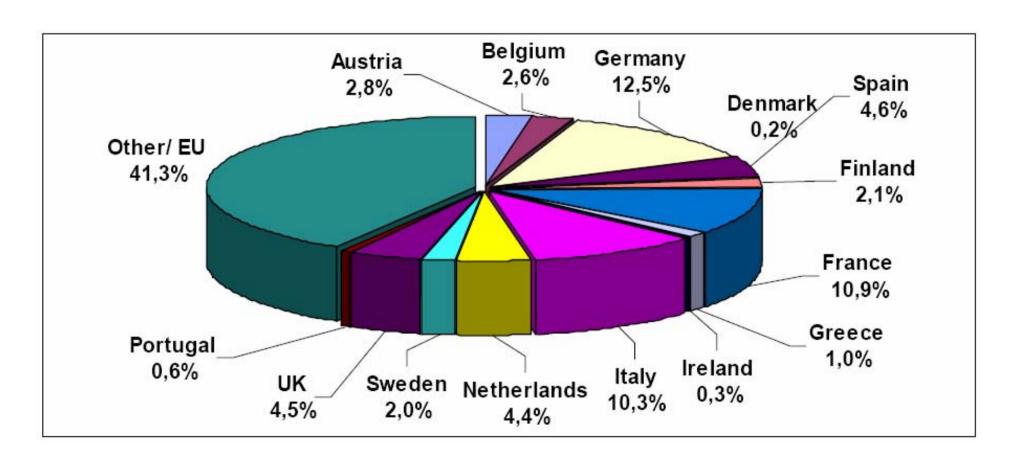


# Investments in priority projects per mode – effected till 2004 and remaining



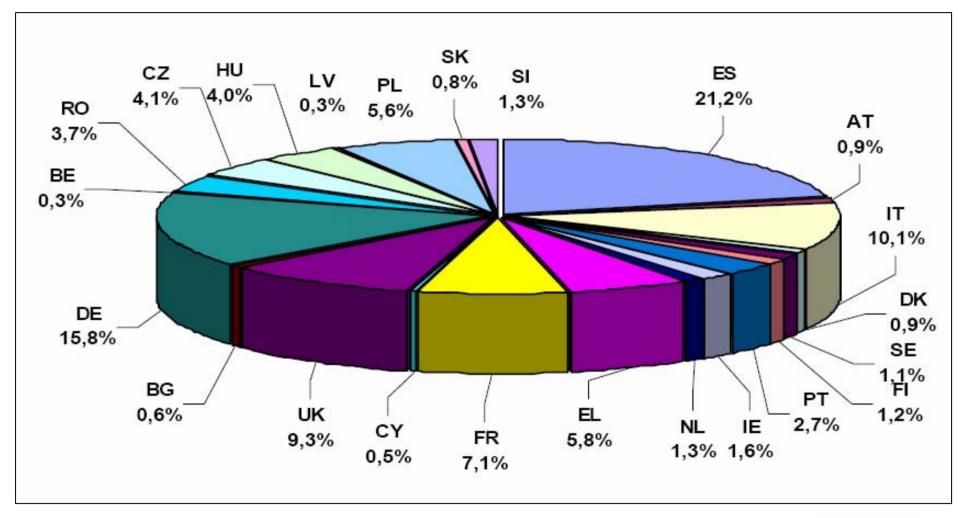


# Distribution of TEN-T budget support by country, 2002-03





### Distribution of EIB loans by country, 2000-03





### Reasons why implementation lagging

#### Budget

- EU contribution (2000-06) around €20 billion (5 to 6% of the investments needed)
- EIB has lent around EUR 50 billion in the same period.
- Member States need to find majority of funding in 2003 Member States put €15 to €20 billion into TEN-T projects, <0.3% GDP</li>
- Lack of success in implementation of infrastructure charging
- Difficulty of coordination
  - Projects, especially cross-border projects, face difficulty of coordinating timetables, financial planning and administrative procedures.
  - Countries define programming priorities
  - Countries more inclined to invest in connections to European core than in missing links towards more peripheral countries.
- Poor project preparation
  - Projects not fully developed by promoters before application for TEN-T budget.
  - Environmental aspects of projects not always sufficient
  - Risk assessment needs improvement
- Non-optimal institutional setting
  - More attention needed to institutional and organizational setting of a project (e.g. (de)regulation, market access)

### Critical factors for implementation

#### Financial resources

- TEN-T budget for 2007-2013 is around € 8 billion
- Cohesion Fund for 2007-2013 estimated around € 54 billion around half of this (€ 27 billion) will be spent on priority projects.
- EIB loans around €6-8 billion per year, around €42-56 billion over the period.
- Scope for PPP unknown,
- Budget needed is around €126 billion in 2007-2013
  - Financing gap €91 billion needs to be financed by Member States (through EIB loans, national budgets or potential PPPs). Assuming rate of expenditure from 2000-06 maintained remaining gap of €12-26 billion

#### Prioritisation

- Administrative and organizational capacity limited makes it important to prioritise
- Distinction between priority axes/projects and other TEN-T projects needs to be clearer
- Need to focus Community activity on reducing bottlenecks on major trans-European routes to complement national projects
- Focus investment on cross-border sections, which often do not have priority from a national point of view

#### Coordination

- To encourage cooperation with users and operators of TEN-T projects,
- To promote projects amongst private investors and financial institutions



## Regulatory and policy conflicts

- Vertical conflicts
  - Nested principal agent problem
  - Defining objectives and targets
  - Monitoring effort
- Horizontal conflicts
  - Jurisdictional boundaries
  - Inconsistency with market areas, especially labour markets, and transport flows
  - Liberalisation and rent-seeking
  - Efficiency in a multi-agency world



## Regulatory and policy conflicts

- Regulatory capture and double asymmetry
- Transactions costs and regulatory competition (rent capture)
- Tax competition analogies
  - Tax, standards and public goods provision
  - The 'race to the bottom' problem
  - Tax competition and transit traffic
  - Competitive tolling and the 'beggar my neighbour' problem
  - Redistribution between residents and non-residents: relative mobility of factors of production



### Measuring wider economic effects

#### Summary of effects

- Impact on competition in the affected regions,
- Impact on the ability to gain benefits from the change in market power through agglomeration,
- Impact on linkages, particularly backward linkages such as the labour market.

#### Results

- Large changes in accessibility may lead to only small changes in GDP/welfare in large networks
- Ambiguity over relative influence of road and rail
- Wider benefits may be additional 10-20% (SACTRA) or as high as 30-40% (Elhorst et al.) of direct benefits
- Possibly higher than earlier theoretical studies had suggested
- But impacts not always positive
- Distribution of impacts critical



## Local impacts

- Spillover issues
  - May be more difficult to identify than global
  - Depend on local connectivity
  - Introduction of competition between station locations
- Objective and performance issues
  - Need for services not to abandon existing communities
  - Conflict between metropolitan needs for fast links and areas in-between for connectivity
  - Dealing with by-passed locations
  - Border 'shadow' areas



### Some conclusions

- Lack of clarity in responsibilities
  - TENs an EU concept
  - Decisions rest with lower levels or private sector
- Models of policy
  - Intergovernmental/state-centric model
    - only cross-border elements resolved at EU level.
  - Federal/multi-level governance model
    - functions assigned to level where most efficiently administered
    - · needs institutional structures for decision-making and policing
- EU transport policy has two fundamental concerns
  - Contribution to development of competitive economy (Lisbon Agenda)
  - Increased cohesion within and between the member states
- Main problem areas
  - Horizontal conflicts between policy authorities
  - Vertical conflicts through policy refraction

