

Splashing Benefits of Rail Baltica: Connecting Rural Areas of the Baltic States to the European Rail Network

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RAIL BALTICA

Rail Baltica is a project that will integrate the Baltic States in the European rail network.

It will connect **Helsinki, Tallinn, Pärnu, Riga, Panevežys, Kaunas, Vilnius, Warsaw.**

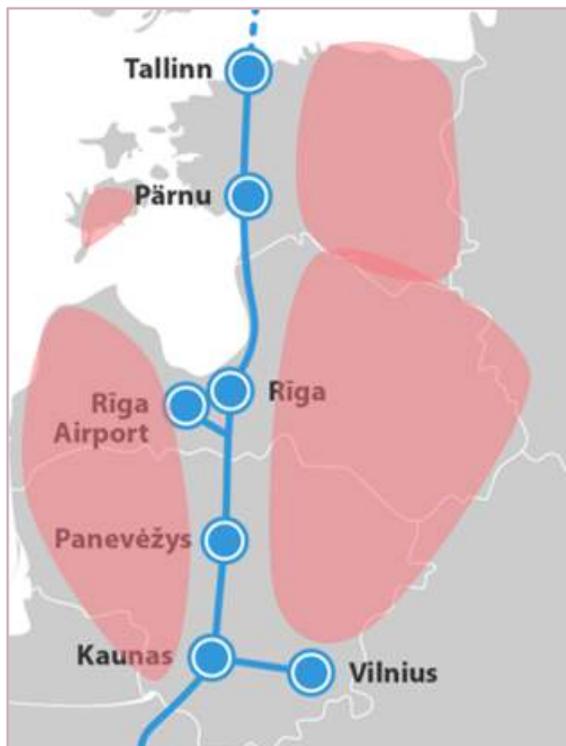
It is going to be finished by **2026.**



WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?



ACCESSIBILITY



There are **more than 2 million people** who do not benefit from Rail Baltica !



SUSTAINABILITY

Passengers by Car:

In Estonia: 79.5%

In Latvia: 82.8%

In Lithuania: 89.9%

Mobility habits of inhabitants show **lack of sustainable mobility**

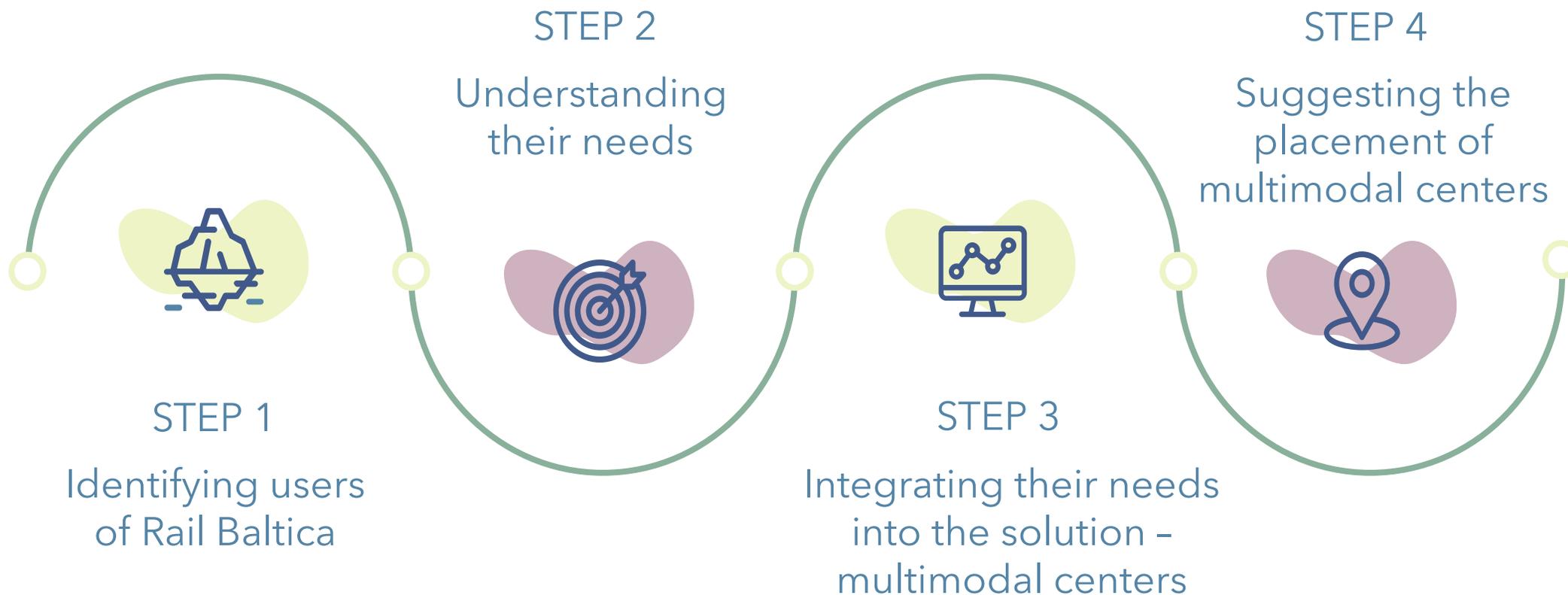
Source: EU Commission (2019): Transport in the European Union Current Trends and Issues. P.50, 89, 94 // Data Source: EU Transport in figures, Statistical Pocketbook 2018) // Thomas Brinkhoff: City Population, <http://www.citypopulation.de>

SOLUTION: MULTIMODAL CENTERS

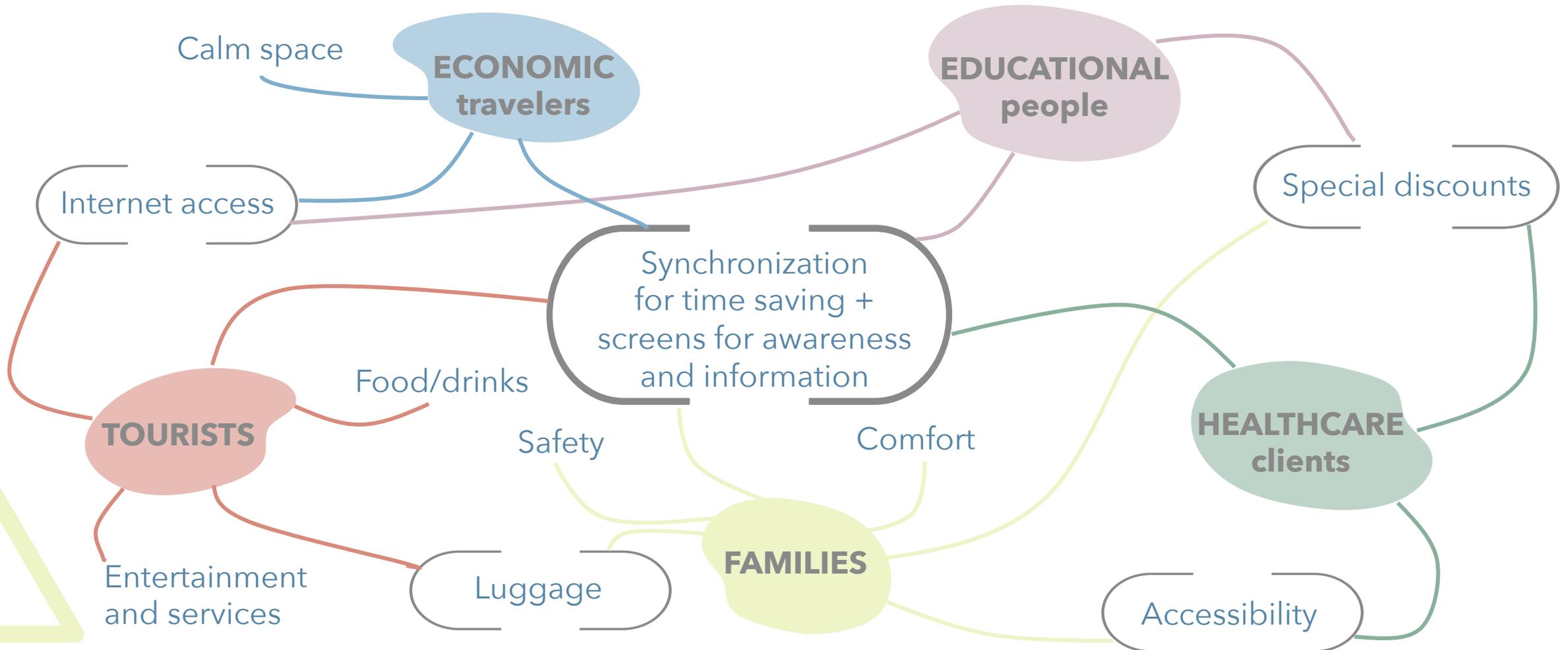
A multimodal center provides users with **alternative transport systems** with **easy access** in the most effective and sustainable way.

Multimodal centers join **different modes of transportation** - for example car sharing services, commuter trains, buses, bicycles, and pedestrians - into a convenient hub.

METHODOLOGY



NEEDS OF USERS OF RAIL BALTICA



IDENTIFIED FUNCTIONS OF A MULTIMODAL CENTER

E-buses / trains



Shared office space

Synchronized timetable



Small shops

Digitalisation: one app for
everything



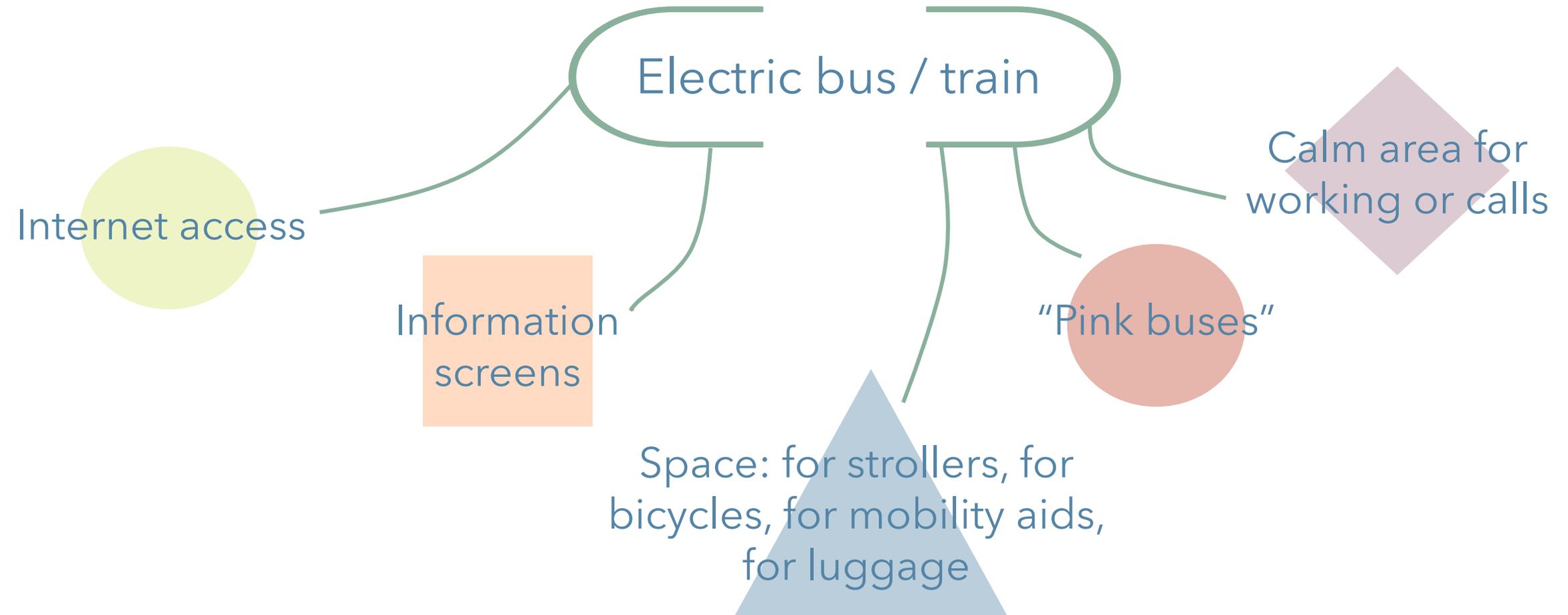
Park & Ride; Bike & Ride

Ride pooling → Discount



Charging stations

REQUIREMENTS FOR BUSES / TRAINS that connect multimodal centers with Rail Baltica



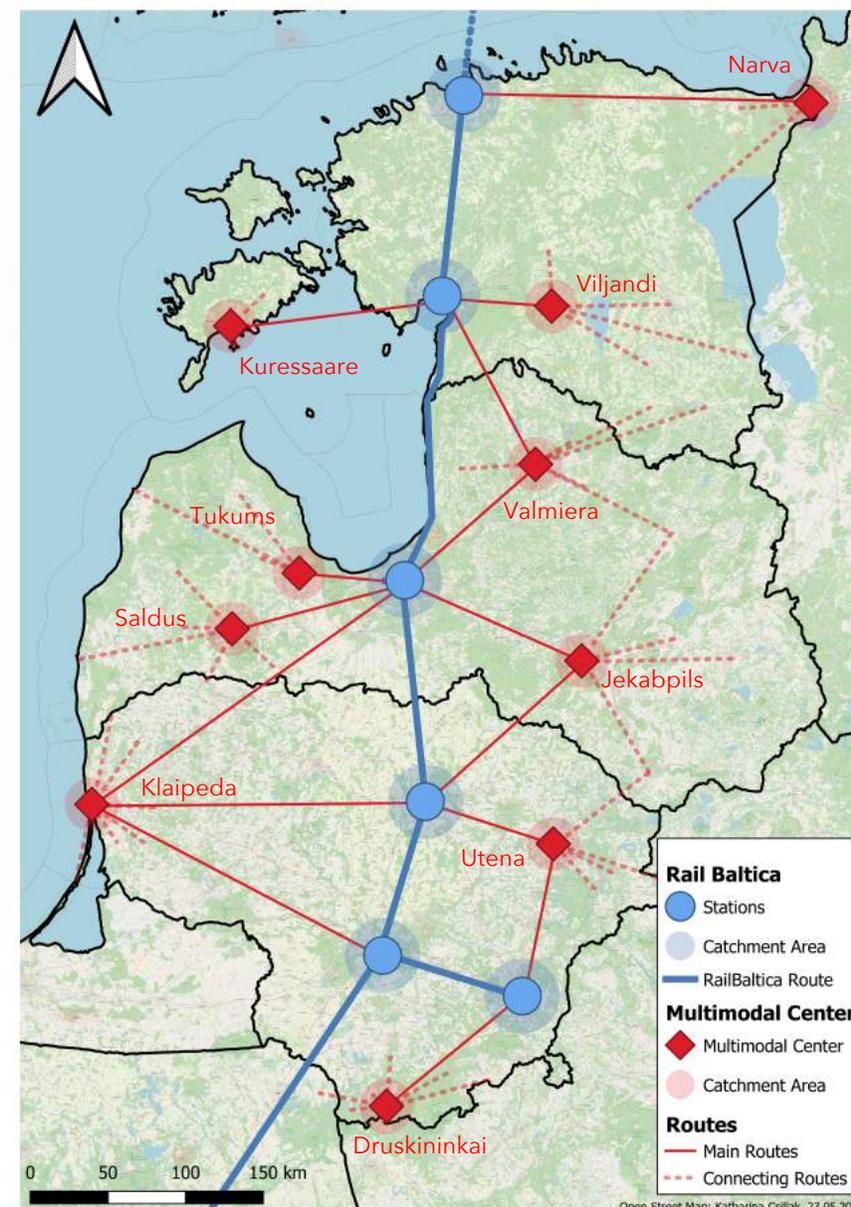
SUGGESTED PLACEMENT

First draft of possible placement of multimodal centers in the Baltic States.

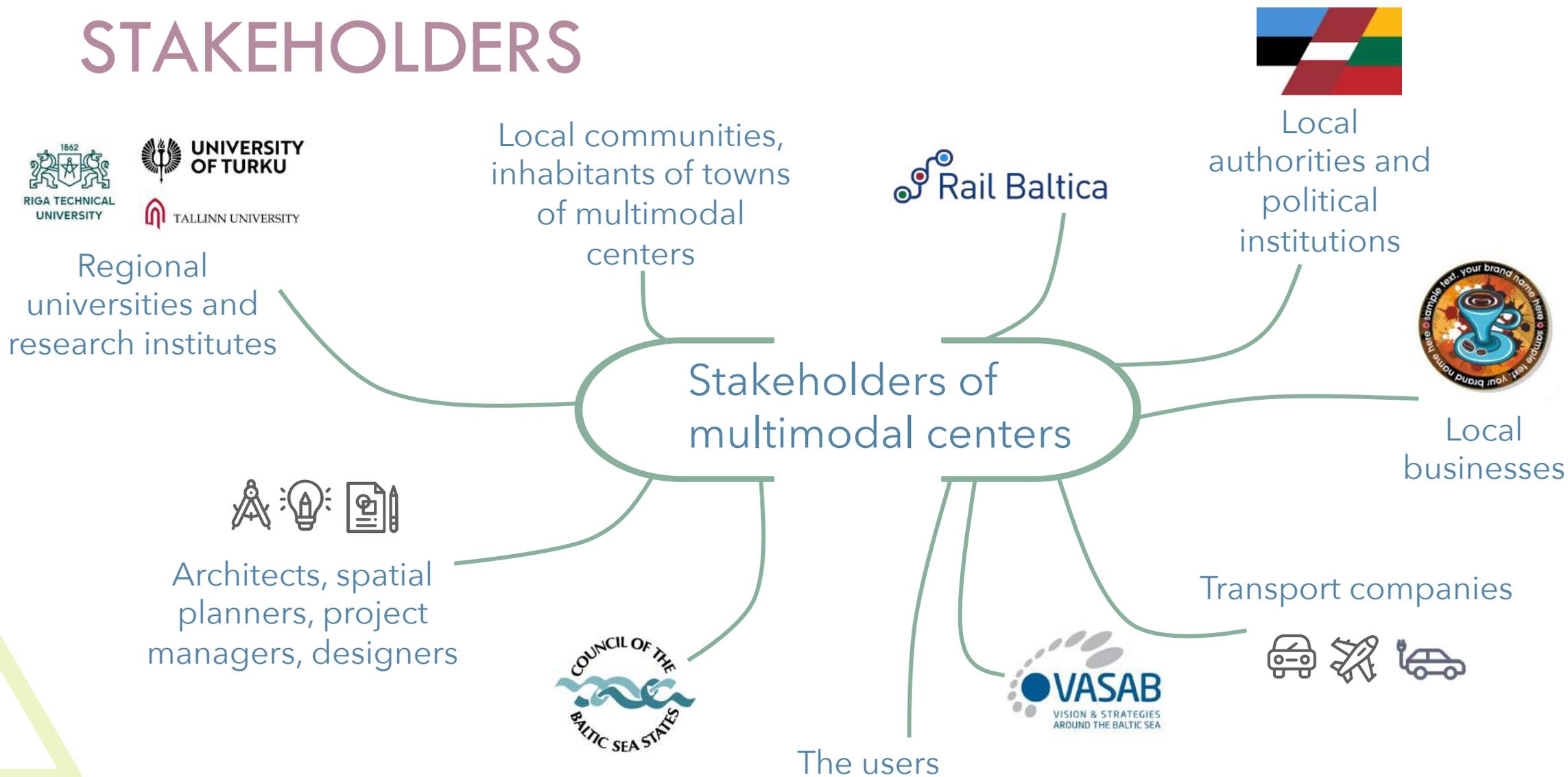
Cities with multimodal centers?

Narva,
Viljandi,
Kuressaare,
Valmiera,
Tukums,

Saldus,
Jēkabpils,
Klaipēda,
Utena,
Druskininkai.



STAKEHOLDERS



FEASIBILITY?

BARRIERS

- Financing, e.g. the need for additional investment and higher service costs
- Regulations, e.g. heterogeneous policies
- Mobility behaviour change
- Compromising on opinions and perspectives
- Integrating different stakeholders
- Bad location or planning

OPEN QUESTIONS

- Electro mobility market?
- Financing and organisation?
- Feasibility of positions ?

DRIVERS

- European Green Deal and other international concepts for climate protection
- Regional development with politics and political willingness on national level
- Education of sustainable mobility modes and pushing good experiences
- Getting awareness and support from **citizens**, media, NGOs etc.
- Developing long-term mobility planning tools and visions
- Improving the legal framework

Possible research in the Baltic Sea region?

THANK YOU!



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