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Almaty-Bishkek Economic Corridor

*Cooperation between the two cities in
CAREC region for sustainable and long-term development*

Almas Baitenov,
ABEC National Coordinator for Kazakhstan

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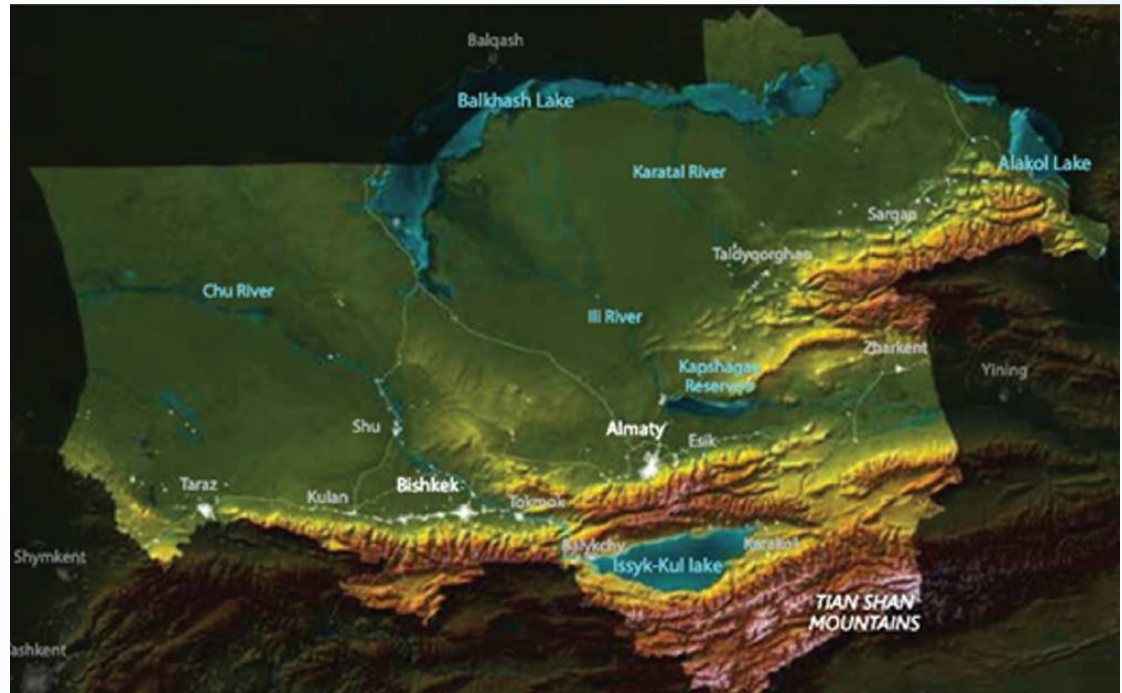


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What is the Almaty-Bishkek Economic Corridor?



www.almaty-bishkek.org



ABEC: A bold vision

- ❖ Imagine the potential of Almaty and Bishkek if they would be one connected without barriers and commuting between the two cities would be possible well within 2 hours.
- ❖ The two cities are only 240 kilometers apart but, at the moment, travelling from one city to the other takes around 3-4 hours, including a cumbersome border crossing in between.
- ❖ The concept is straightforward. The two city regions can achieve far more together than what can be achieved by either alone.

ABEC strategic priorities and sectors



**Transport Connectivity
and Border Crossing
Infrastructure**



**Climate Change and
Disaster Risk
Management**



**Regional Tourism
Development**



Regional Health Security



Agribusiness



**Annual ABEC
Intergovernmental
Subcommittee meetings
chaired by the Ministries
of Economy of two
countries**

ABEC Support

- ADB technical assistance of \$3.225 million for both countries was completed in December 2022.
- In 2022, ADB approved ABEC Support Phase 2 for \$1.9 million
 - Output 1: Conceptualization, readiness, and policy reform enabling the preparation of investment projects with regional relevance in the ABEC region strengthened
 - Output 2: Institutional capacity and outreach of the ABEC Subcommittee improved (regional development fund)
- Political support from the Intergovernmental Council to ABEC Subcommittee (ITLC*, BCP procedures and modernization (trucks and busses), Almaty-Issyk-Kul Road PPP project)

*Note: Joint Industrial Trade and Logistics Complex

ABEC Strategic Alignments

ADB	CAREC	Intergovernmental Council	Sector Roadmaps
<p>STRATEGY FOR OPERATIONAL PLAN FOR PRIORITY 7 FOSTERING REGIONAL COOPERATION AND INTEGRATION, 2019-2024 SEPTEMBER 2018</p> <p>ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK</p>	<p>CAREC</p> <p>CAREC 2030 CONNECTING THE REGION FOR SHARED AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT</p>		<p>ALMATY-BISHKEK ECONOMIC CORRIDOR TOURISM MASTER PLAN DECEMBER 2019</p>



ABEC Institutions



Kazakh - Kyrgyz Intergovernmental Council

- Policy and strategic dialogue
- Decision body



ABEC Subcommittee meeting

- Complex projects / initiatives approval and coordination
- Oversight and progress monitoring

Ministry of National Economy

Coordination role
and monitoring, public
and private sector
dialogue



**Working groups among ministries and quasi-public sector
(tourism, health, transport, agriculture, etc.)**

Ministry of Economy and Commerce

Coordination role
and monitoring, public
and private sector
dialogue

ABEC Achievements

- Strengthening Regional Health Security Project (KGZ, approved in 2022 for \$30m)
- Issyk-Kul Environmental Management and Sustainable Tourism Project (KGZ, for approval in 2023)
- ABEC Regional Improvement of Border Services (KGZ, for approval in 2024)

- Pre-feasibility Study on Turgen Mountain Resort Development (KAZ)
- Almaty-Issyk-Kul Alternative Road Public-Private Partnership (REG)
- ABEC Health and Safety Standards (REG)
- Joint Accommodation Classification System (REG)
- Clean Air Action Plans for Almaty and Bishkek (REG)
- High-tech innovations for reform:
 - 100 Air Quality Monitoring Sensors for Almaty and Bishkek;
 - Mobile Passport Scanners for regular bus connection between Almaty and Bishkek



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Thank you!



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