



**2023 ADB Regional Cooperation and Integration (RCI) Conference**  
Strengthening RCI through Economic Corridor Development  
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# **Almaty-Bishkek Economic Corridor (ABEC)**

## **Project Review and Key Achievements**

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# Framework

- i. About ABEC (creation, institutional framework)
- ii. Connectivity
- iii. Tourism Development
- iv. Agribusiness Development
- v. Air Quality Control
- vi. Healthcare



# About the Almaty-Bishkek Economic Corridor

## ABEC Project Implementation

- Initiated in 2013 at the site of the CAREC program
- The MoU was signed in 2014.
- ABEC Subcommittee established in 2016





# Institutional Framework

Kyrgyz-Kazakh Intergovernmental Council

ABEC Subcommittee

Working Group



Agriculture



Tourism



Connectivity



Healthcare



Source: Asian Development Bank



# Connectivity

## Modernization of Border Checkpoints

It is planned to sign a project with ADB, in the amount of about USD 25 mln in 2024.

### **Almaty - Issyk-Kul Alternative Road**

Following the request of the countries, ADB has completed a preliminary feasibility assessment of the Almaty-Issyk-Kul Alternative Road Project. Further, in accordance with the decision of the ABEC Sub-Committee, it is planned to provide support in the development/updating of the cost-benefit analysis and the cost allocation mechanism of the project

### **Almaty-Bishkek Bus Service**

A direct regular bus service was launched between the two cities in September 2022. Joint work on the possible organization of a separate procedure and lane for buses at checkpoints using mobile passport scanners on buses is underway.

**ADB-backed joint work is underway to improve ABEC trade and logistics.**



# Tourism Development

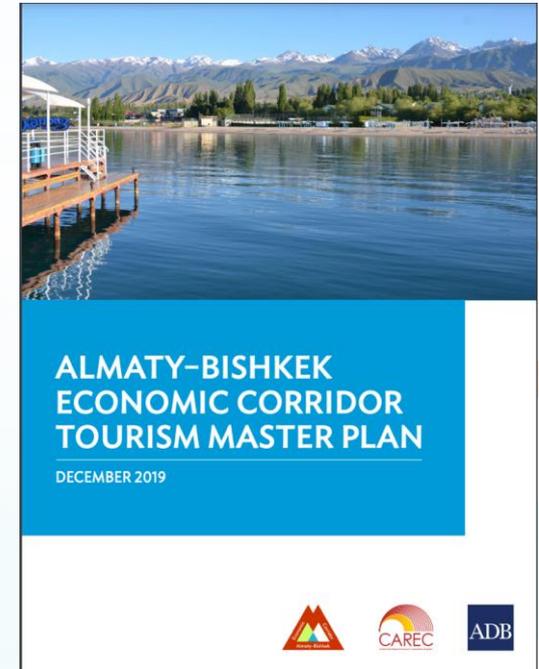
## Investments in:

Regional Tourism Development  
Tourism Clusters Development  
Ski Sector

## Projects:

- “Ylssyk-Kul Environmental Management & Sustainable Tourism Development”;
- “Development and implementation of a common classification system for accommodation facilities” for two countries;
- "Development and implementation of common security measures for ABEC"

## ABEC Tourism Master Plan 2019





# Agribusiness and Trade Logistics

By the end of 2023, it is planned to approve the ADB Project on “Development of Value Added Chains in Climate Resilient Agriculture”, in the amount of about \$40 mln.

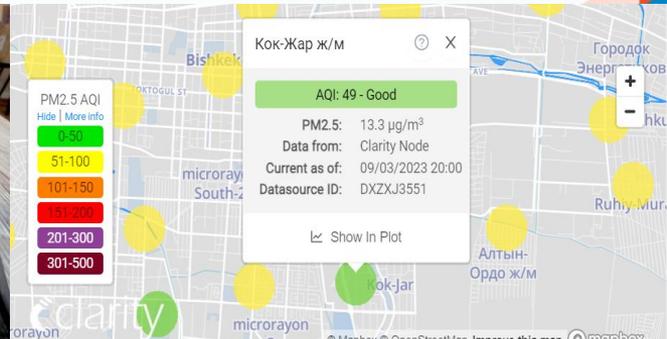
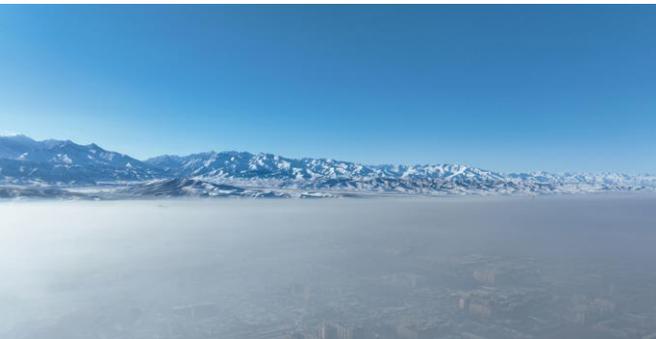
Further it is planned to move on to the development of modern agricultural wholesale markets and trade and logistics centers.





# Air Quality Control

- 50 air quality sensors “Clarity” were deployed through Bishkek in January 2021, with the license extended until January 2025.
- 50 sensors deployed in Almaty in October 2022.
- All data is available in real time.
- Publishing air quality data will help raise awareness among the local population about the causes and health effects of air quality. Conducting monitoring and data analysis
- Air Pollution Action Plan prepared in Bishkek.





# Healthcare

## ABEC Action Plan for the Development of Reference Laboratories

signed by both countries on 7 December 2021 in Nur-Sultan and updated for 2022–2024.

- In September 2022, ADB approved the Strengthening Regional Health Security in Kyrgyzstan project (\$30 million) to:
  - improve the infrastructure and capacity of reference laboratories
  - collaborate on quality assurance and standardization of reference studies
- Support for the Scientific and Practical Center for Sanitary and Epidemiological Expertise and Monitoring in Almaty maintains.





# Thank you for your attention!

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