



Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program

**Almaty–Bishkek Agro-food Value Chains Cluster and e-Agriculture Developments  
in Almaty–Bishkek Economic Corridor Initiative**

-----  
**26 April 2016**

**The Ritz-Carlton Hotel Almaty, Kazakhstan**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Activities</b>
<b>08:30-09:00</b>	<b>Registration</b>
09:00-09:20	<p><b>Session I: Welcome</b> <i>Mr. Yerlan Aukenov, Deputy Akim (Mayor), Almaty Akimat (Almaty City Administration)</i></p> <p><b>Opening Remarks</b> <i>Vicky Tan, Director, CWRC</i></p> <p><b>Overview of the Forum</b> <i>Akmal Siddiq, Director, CWER</i></p>
09:20-09:50	<p><b>Session II: The Almaty–Bishkek Corridor Initiatives (ABCI): Possibilities, Challenges and Opportunities</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> <i>Pradeep Srivastava, Principal Economist, CWRC</i></p> <p>The session will provide an overview of the pilot economic Almaty–Bishkek Corridor Initiatives (ABCI) and how it fits with the overall CAREC program. The rationale and objectives of the corridor initiatives specific to agriculture will be discussed.</p> <p>Discussion, Q &amp; A session</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <i>Mr. Maxat Rakhmetov, Deputy Head, Agriculture Division, Almaty Akimat</i></p>
09:50-10:50	<p><b>Session III: Agro-food Value Chains in ABCI: Challenges, Opportunities, and Recommendations</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> <i>Lourdes Adriano, ADB Consultant</i></p> <p><b>Discussants:</b> <i>Representatives from Development Partners - Mr. Holger Wiefel, EBRD Advice for Small Businesses, Head of Regional Programme, Kazakhstan and Mongolia, EBRD ; Altynbek Kadyrov, Project Management Specialist (Agriculture), USAID/Kyrgyz Republic, USAID</i></p> <p>The session will provide a brief overview of the best practices and lessons drawn from international and domestic experiences. It will include presentation on Value Chain in Food-Vegetable and Livestock-Meat-Dairy industry; results of the ABCI feasibility study. It is hoped that at the end of the discussion, the areas for the proposed agro-food value chain clustering could be validated.</p>



Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program

	<p><i>Discussion, Q &amp; A session</i>  <b>Moderator:</b> Mr. Madil Ortanbetov Deputy Head, Agriculture Development Division of Almaty Oblast</p>
10:50-11:10	<b>Coffee Break</b>
11:10- 12:00	<p><b>Session IV: Key stakeholders Perspectives on Agro Food Value Chains in ABCI: Binding Constraints for Cross-border Connectivity and Agglomeration</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Lourdes Adriano, ADB Consultant  <b>Panelist:</b> Ms. Aigul Kosherbayeva, Director, Center of regional and Sociological Research JSC "Economic Research Institute" under the Ministry of National Economy (5 min. speech)  <b>Discussants:</b> Ms. Liliya Mussina, Managing Director, Member of Executive Board, JSC "Holding" KAZAGRO" (TBC); Mr. Arsen Kerimbekov, Deputy Chairman of the Board, JSC "KazAgroMarketing"; and Mr. Michael Adams, Director, CFA, PwC, Kazakhstan, Ms. Alma Mukasheva, Managing Director, LLP "Tsin –Kaz"</p> <p>This session will be an open dialogue among government, private sector, and civil society on the binding constraints in and the enabling factors for establishing and agglomerating Agro Food value Chains through the clustering of contiguous agro-food value chains at the borders of Almaty and Bishkek cities. It is envisaged that at the end of the session, the participants would have identified the key binding constraints to clustering cross-border agro-food value chains and that if addressed will incentivize private sector and civil society to work for cross border agro food value chains.</p> <p><i>Discussion, Q &amp; A session</i>  <b>Moderator:</b> Ms. Aigul Kosherbayeva, Director, Center of regional and Sociological Research JSC "Economic Research Institute" under the Ministry of National Economy</p>
12:00-13:30	<b>ADB-hosted Lunch, Vista Restaurant, 30<sup>th</sup> Floor, Ritz Carlton Hotel</b>
13:30-14:20	<p><b>Session V: e-Agriculture in ABCI: Improving regional connectivity, efficiency and productivity using ICT in Agribusiness Operations</b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Arun Ramamurthy, SDCC and Lourdes Adriano, ADB Consultant  <b>Discussants:</b> Mr. Yerlan Muratov, Managing Director, JSC "National Agency on Export and Investment "KAZNEXINVEST"</p> <p>The purpose of this session is to highlight possibilities of application of internet economy in agribusiness activities of ABCI. This will provide insight to reaping the benefits of ICT based innovations in agribusiness value chain to the stakeholders of ABCI. Specifically, the session will explore ways to bridge information needs of farming and agribusiness community, and seamless coordination electronically with other economic players such as logistic providers, food processing industry players, traders and Governments.</p>



Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program

	<p><i>Discussion, Q &amp; A session</i></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <i>Vicky Tan, Director, CWRC</i></p>
14:20-16:10	<p><b>Session VI: Transformative interventions in Agro-food Value Chain Cluster Development in ABCI: Investments, Policies and Other Steps</b></p>
14:20 – 15:00	<p><b>Panelist:</b> <i>Mr. Askar Nursha, External Policy Project Coordinator, Institute of World Economics and Politics under the Fund of the First President of the Republic of Kazakhstan;</i></p> <p><b>Discussants:</b> <i>Mr. Sergey Kiselev, Deputy Managing Partner in Kazakhstan, McKinsey &amp; Company, Kazakhstan; Mr. Stanislav Grokhotov, Adviser to the Chairman of the Board, JSC "Eurasian Food Corporation" (TBC); Ms. Almira Sagatova, Chairman of Credit Partnerships in Agriculture (TBC);</i></p> <p>Each discussant will provide briefly their views of what are the key policies, investments, and/or institution/capacity building that are needed to address the major concerns in developing an Almaty-Bishkek agro-food value chains. A short open forum will enable the participants for clarification of views. The panel discussion will set the tone for the breakout group session.</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <i>Mr. Yerlan Muratov, Managing Director, JSC "National Agency on Export and Investment "KAZNEXINVEST"</i></p>
15:00 – 16:10	<p><b>Breakout sessions:</b></p> <p>The participants will then be divided into 2 groups, specifically the fruit and vegetable agro-food value chain, and the livestock-dairy-meat value chain. Each group will provide the participants the opportunity to discuss on the binding constraints affecting the value chain and identify the most important measures for the proposed border agro-food value chains in the ABCI to work. The measures may be policies, and hard and soft infrastructure. Each group will also identify the roles of different players like the government, nongovernment organizations and international development organizations, and private sector.</p>
15:50 – 16:10	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Coffee Break</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(Coffee and snacks to be served at the break out group meeting rooms)</p>
16:10-17:15	<p><b>Session VII: (Plenary) Agro-Food Value Chain Clusters in ABCI: Steps Forward</b></p> <p>The session enables the two groups to present their discussions and ensure more dialogues in the plenary.</p> <p>Wrap up of the day's dialogue will comprise the identification of key agenda for action towards the development of agro-food value chains in ABCI, and some suggested next steps to move the agenda of cross border agro-food value chain clustering to the next level.</p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Akmal Siddiq, Director, CWER and Lourdes Adriano, ADB Consultant</p>



Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program

17:15-17:30	<b>Session VIII: Closing and wrap up</b> <i>Mr. Maxat Rakhmetov, Deputy Head, Agriculture Division, Almaty City Administration</i> <b>Closing Remarks:</b> <i>Vicky Tan, Director, CWRC</i>
17:40 – 20:00	<b>ADB-hosted Dinner, Vista Restaurant, 30<sup>th</sup> Floor, Ritz Carlton Hotel</b>