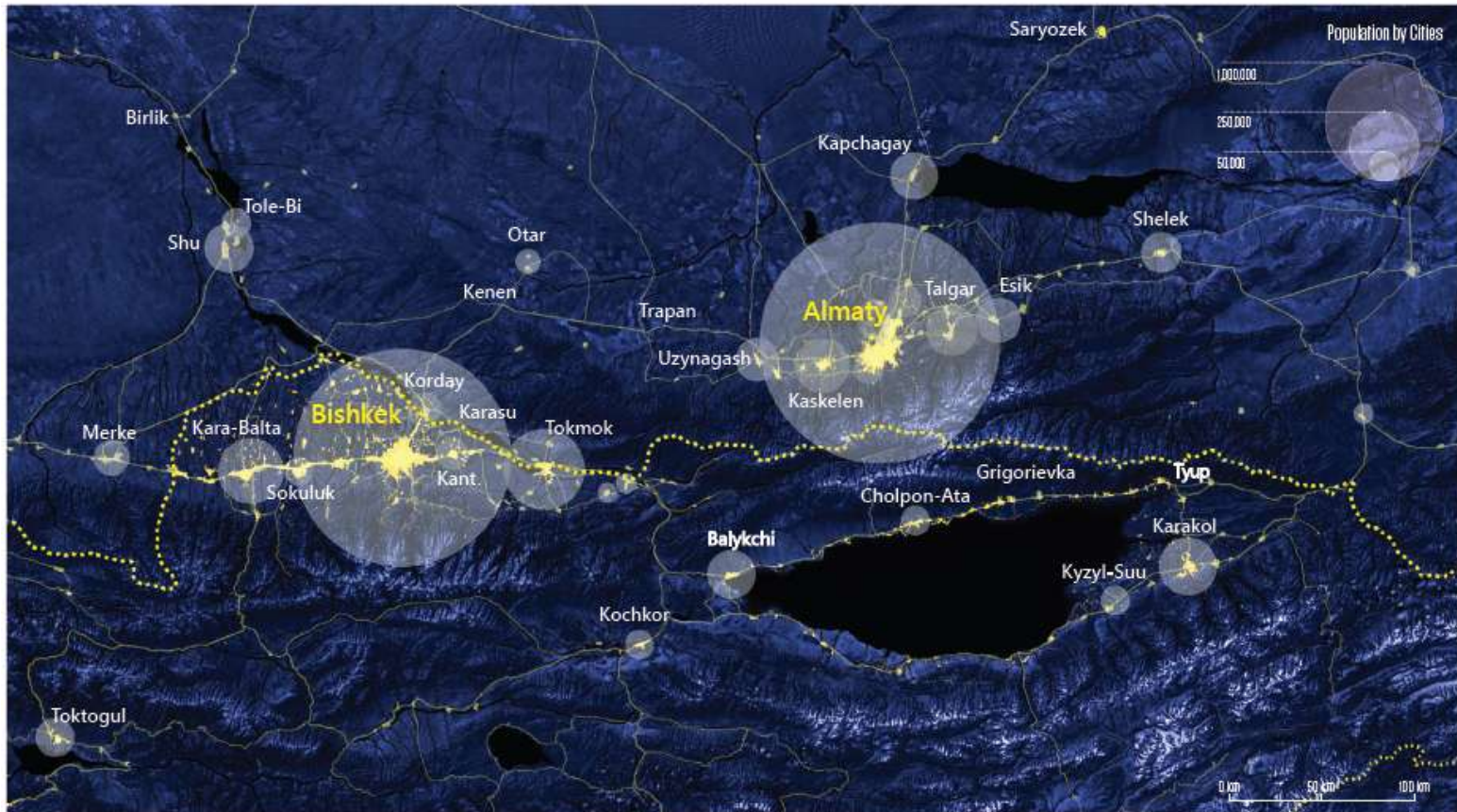


Almaty-Bishkek Corridor Initiative



CAREC Senior Officials' Meeting
Islamabad, Pakistan
25 October 2016

Almaty-Bishkek Corridor Vision 2030

- Single integrated, dense and diverse economic region
- High growth driven by new drivers – export-oriented knowledge intensive services, modernized agriculture and agri-business and tourism
- Exploiting agglomeration, scale and specialization benefits; building on opportunities of EEU's single economic space
- Spatially integrative transport and communication Infrastructure developed, e.g. Higher-speed rail connection
- Major economic center in Central Asia, successfully competing with other economic centers

ABCI Investment Framework

- 4 strategic pillars of the IF:
- Business-friendly regulatory environment
- Creation of larger (scale) and deeper (specialization) markets through sector-level integration
- Fostering ecosystem for knowledge and technology-based activities
- Make cities attractive
- Interactive pillars (spillovers)

ABCI IF (2)

- Sector-level integration: Agri-business, advanced health, advanced education, tourism
- Education as driver itself and multiplier
- ICT leveraging human capital in – tourism, agri-business, health
- City-level: urban management and planning, city-to-city links, disaster risk management
- Physical infrastructure investments: transport, logistics, ICT
- Infrastructure PPP and crowd-in private investment

Joint WG and Steering Committee

- Fourth JWG and SC meetings Sep 26-28, Almaty
- Endorsed the ABCI IF;
- Prioritized a select list of projects and initiatives for early implementation;
 - Improving border crossing
 - Agriculture: Local branding, cross border value chain
 - Education: Service-oriented high tech course
 - Health: eHealth and harmonized regulation
 - Develop distinct tourism branding as region
 - Disaster response
- Requested a detailed IF Implementation Plan
- Institutionalize development of A-B Corridor

Growing Together: IF – Implementation Plan

- Bi-national nature demands coordination of policy makers
- Major tasks for IP:
 - Sequencing – across sectors, within sectors, and policy reforms
 - More detailed design for projects and reforms
 - Coordinating overcoming regulatory obstacles to integration and investments
 - Identifying financing sources, private and public
 - Harmonization with national plans and EEU institutions

Growing Together: Building Institutions

- Suggested two tier institutional structure:
 - Supreme Corridor Authority
 - Overall guidance, multi-year work programs and budgets, inter-government coordination
 - High level – fast tracking priority projects
 - Corridor Development Authority
 - Design, implement, manage projects
 - Level of vice ministers and vice mayors

Thank you for your attention.

