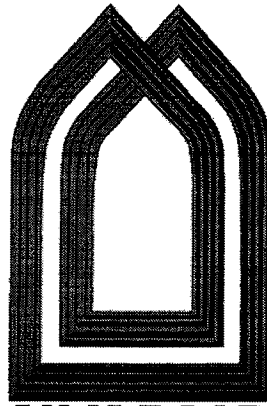




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UNCTAD
World Tourism Organisation



**SILK ROAD
INITIATIVE**



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SILK ROAD INITIATIVE



**Opportunities for business
communities in the region**

Wojciech Hubner, CTA

**CAREC South-Central Asia Regional Business
Roundtable**

Bishkek, 3-4 November 2005

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Capacity building for regional cooperation and development – Future built on tradition



- **Scope:** China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan

- **Possibilities to expand** – open initiative

Launch/strengthen long-term regional processes

- Towards improved policy & legal environment for **trade development**
- Towards increased role of **PPP** in trade development and investment facilitation
- Increased levels of **investment** in the Silk Road area
- Increased levels of **tourism** in the Silk Road area;
- Exchange of **experience, integration and harmonisation**

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Management and partnerships



- Use the **network and potential of UNDP Country Offices;**
- Cooperation with **UNCTAD** (in Investment), **WTO** (Tourism),
- Coordination under **CAREC;**
- **National projects** in each country to support the regional one,
- Partnerships with the **SCO** and its institutions.



Programme strategy

Trade component



- Research and discussion: **identifying and abolishing remaining barriers** in trade between China and CA;
- **Capacity building assistance** for the SCO (SCO' s Secretariat and Business Council; inputs to its Working Groups);
- Inputs to regional **business association networks** (development of linkages with the Investment Forum coordinated under CAREC RBR)
- Focus on **constituency building effort**; dialogue within business associations



Programme strategy

Investment component



- Central event: **2006 Silk Road Investment Forum** – the idea is to launch a new tradition, with a changing host country,
- Preparatory process: **study tours, roundtable discussions**;
- **Encourage PPP**, strengthen business associations; towards area network,
- Pragmatic approach: attention paid to **facilitation of direct contacts.**

Prepared together with UNCTAD

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Programme strategy
Tourism component



- **Central events and initiatives:**
 - **UN Silk Road City awards;**
 - **Silk Road Multi-destination Visa** for Silk Road area – promotion of the idea;
 - **Eminent Persons Group**– to advise and allocate awards
 - **Regional Silk Road Mayors' Forum**
 - **Inject dynamism** to tourism centres along the Silk Road
 - Promote value-added **cultural & ecotourism**
- Implemented together with WTO*

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Key events / opportunities
Trade /investment



- Preparatory process to 2006 Silk Road Investment Forum:**
- **October/November 2005 study tour for Chinese entrepreneurs** and its roundtable discussions in three CA countries,
 - **Euro-Asia Economic Forum in Xian** (November 10-11, 2005),
 - **Silk Road International Symposium in Xuzhou** (December 6-7, 2005) followed by a **study tour for CA entrepreneurs and Mayors**

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Key forthcoming events/opportunities
Tourism



- Meeting of **Silk Road Mayors in Xian** under the Euro-Asia Economic Forum in Xian (November 10-11);
- Meeting of **Silk Road Mayors in Xuzhou** under the International Silk Road Symposium in Xuzhou (December 6-7);
- Beginning of the selection of **candidates for the Silk Road City award,**
- **First Regional Silk Road Mayors Forum** – planned to be held in Tashkent in the 2nd quarter 2006.

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Key to success – strategic issues



- **Process** rather than isolated events
- **Effective coordination and harmonisation** with other regional programmes,
- Balance in cooperation vis-à-vis **governments and business communities,**
- **Strong feedback** from regional business community networks,
- **Proactive approach** of business community – ready to take over the **ownership**
- **Basic permanent structure** established to continue in long-term