



Issyk-Kul, 17 June 2025

Tourism Initiatives of the Almaty-Bishkek Economic Corridor

Destination Central Asia: Advancing Regional Tourism Cooperation Among CAREC's Five Central Asian Countries

The logo of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), consisting of the letters 'ADB' in a white serif font on a dark blue square background.



Intergovernmental Council – Subcommittee Meeting – Working Groups

Spatial Economic Corridor to create a competitive cross-border region.

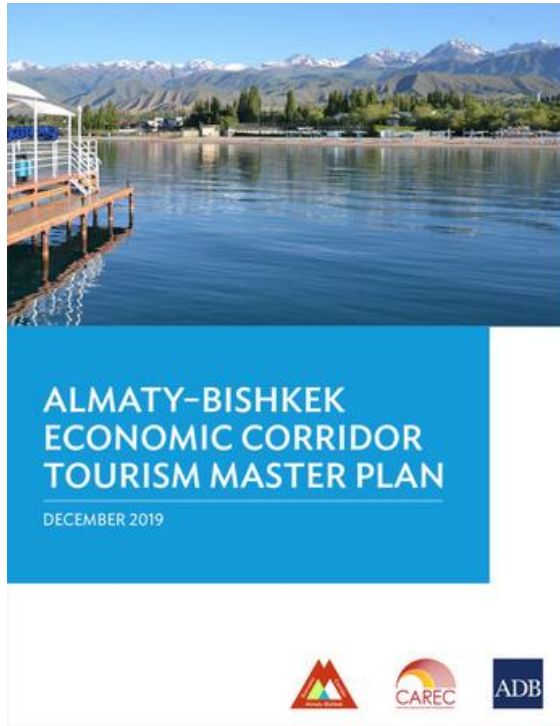
Tourism Working Group Meeting held on 28 February 2024 in Almaty:

- ABEC Joint Accommodation Classification System Agreement
- Tourism Statistics
- Professional Standards Development
- Green Tourism Development





ABEC TOURISM MASTER PLAN



Tourism Flow Analysis | РУССКИЙ

Regional Air Connectivity | РУССКИЙ

Legal and Institutional Frameworks | РУССКИЙ

ABEC Tourism Spatial Planning | РУССКИЙ

Proposed Investments

Demand Forecasts and Scenarios | РУССКИЙ

Discussion Paper on Natural Parks Organization | РУССКИЙ

- identifies key investment priorities such as developing ski resorts
- linking these winter sport facilities with summer tourism opportunities
- proposes transport infrastructure improvements

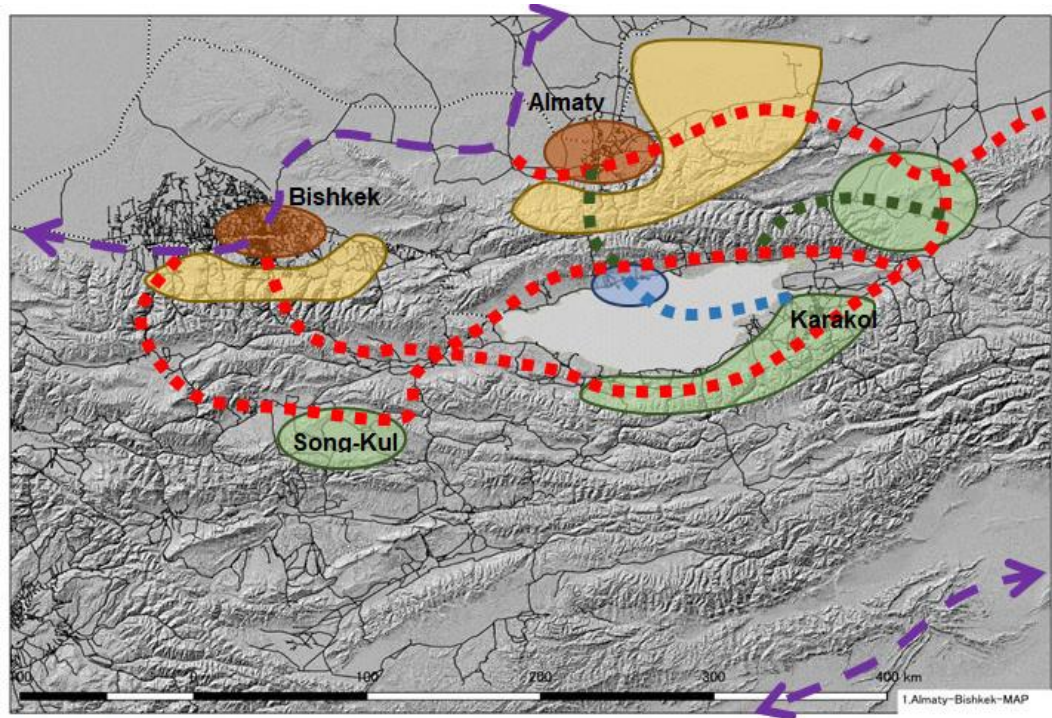


ABEC TOURISM MASTER PLAN



ALMATY-BISHKEK ECONOMIC CORRIDOR TOURISM MASTER PLAN

DECEMBER 2019





ISSYK-KUL ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT AND SUSTAINABLE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

ADB project for \$56 million approved in 2024 for the Kyrgyz Republic to:

- rehabilitate climate resilient wastewater infrastructure;
- develop tourism infrastructure, services, and management
 - ✓ One museum, one tourism information center and two unmanned information points
 - ✓ Bike Trails, walking path, valorization of archeological heritage site, toilet blocks
 - ✓ Three public parks and natural park developments
 - ✓ 50 sanitary solid waste collection facilities, etc.,





ACCOMMODATION CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM



HOTELS (STARS OF THE HOTEL STARS UNION)



GUEST HOUSES



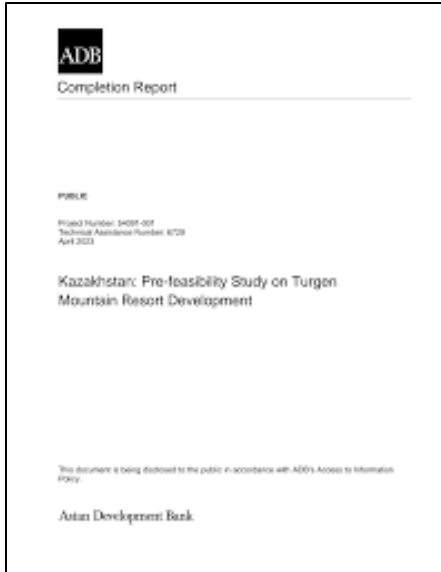
HOSTELS, CAMPSITES, YURTS



- > Joint classification system for all accommodation types in Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic
- > Memorandum of Understanding to implement the system in both countries signed in Dec 2024
- > ACS formally endorsed by parliament in the Kyrgyz Republic in March 2025



TURGEN MOUNTAIN RESORT DEVELOPMENT



- Priority tourism destination for Kazakhstan as identified in the State Program for Tourism and ABEC Tourism Master Plan
- ADB support TA was approved in April 2021 for \$225,000
- TA outputs completed by April 2023 were:
 - (i) development strategy for Turgan mountain resort
 - (ii) pre-feasibility study, including solutions for project financial modality prepared
 - (iii) government's capacity to develop mountain resort improved.

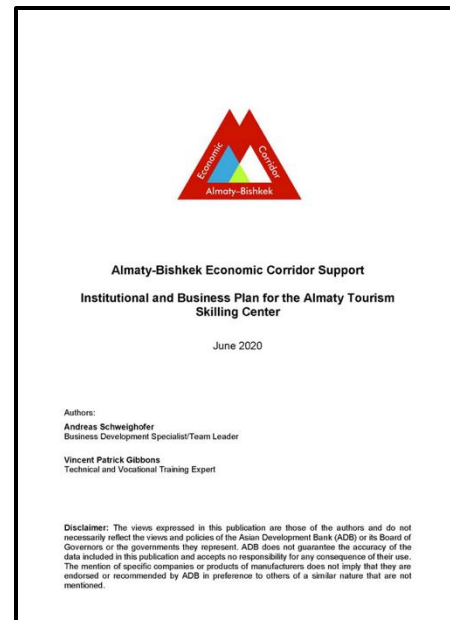
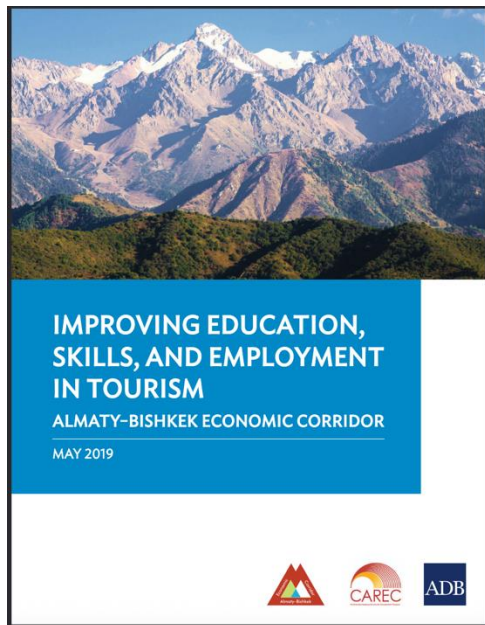




TOURISM SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

Improving Education, Skills, and Employment in Tourism: Almaty-Bishkek Economic Corridor

Institutional and Business Plan for the Almaty Tourism Skilling Center



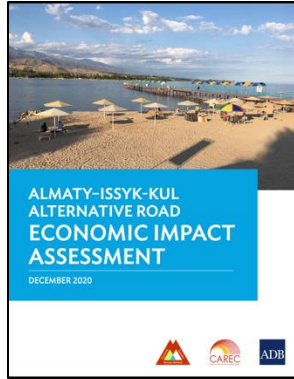


FIVE PPP PROJECTS IN THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

1. New Skiing and Sport Center with Spa at Issyk-Kul
2. Issyk-Kul Water Transport and Lakeside Cruising
3. Panorama Hotel with Golf Course and Yachting Port Development
4. Concessional Development of Song Kol and Surrounding Area
5. New Convention and Fair Center in Bishkek



AA-IK ALTERNATIVE ROAD



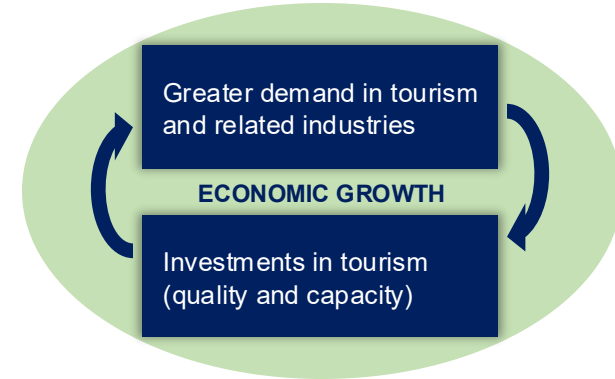
CAPITAL INVESTMENT

Capital investment estimated at \$80 - 120 million, financed by toll collection



TRAVEL TIMES

Travel times are 40% shorter than on the existing routes through Korday or Karkyra



ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESMENT

Economic Impact Assessment confirmed increased GDP growth generated in both countries by the alternative road

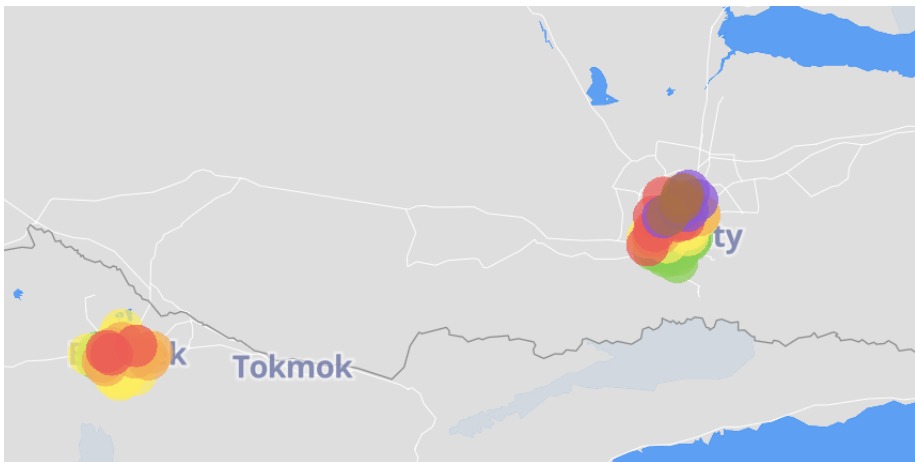


ABEC RIBS PROJECT





AIR QUALITY



SENSORS & DATA

- > 100 Air Quality Sensors report live data from Almaty and Bishkek
- > Clean Air Action Plans prepared for both cities



ADB/ABEC SUPPORT

- > ADB/ABEC supporting low-emission zone development in Almaty
- > ADB/ABEC supporting conceptualisation of school energy efficiency renovation project in Bishkek



- ▶ Green Update of the Almaty-Bishkek Economic Corridor Tourism Master Plan
- ▶ Implementation of the Joint Almaty-Bishkek Economic Corridor Accommodation Classification System
- ▶ Development of Joint Professional Standards in the Tourism Sector for Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic
- ▶ Development of the National Feasibility Study for the Almaty-Issyk-Kul Alternative Road and Almaty-Bishkek Electric Bus Service

Next Steps