

# **First Meeting of Joint Working Group: ABCI**

## **Linking Almaty and Bishkek: Getting Started**

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# 3 linked areas

- Economic geography and agglomeration
- Urbanization and urban development
- Services

# Economic geography, agglomeration

- Spatial economic disparities
- New Economic Geography
- Agglomeration economies
- Size distribution of cities

# Urbanization, urban development

- Urbanization, industrialization and growth
- Urban development: hierarchy of markets
- Role of cities: product specialization, functional specialization
- Role of large cities and stages of development

# Services

- Heterogeneity, conceptual issues
- Data issues
- New escalators, industrialization
- Mobility: labor, people, ideas

# Scope, content, design

- Cross-border links
- Right questions
- Practicality
- Commitment mobilization

# Linking cities

June 16, 2014 , [T]win Cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul celebrated [completion of the Central Corridor light rail line](#), the single largest public works project in the history of Minnesota. The new route links the cities along one of the most heavily traveled corridors in the region and will significantly improve access to jobs and other opportunities for thousands of residents.

The Central Corridor has also been an engine of economic development; since the line was announced, it has helped attract more than a hundred economic development projects that are planned or being built and generated billions of dollars in private investment.

<http://www.dot.gov/fastlane/central-corridor-light-rail-links-twin-cities-each-other-and-opportunity>

# Linking cities

Osborne to unveil plans for Northern super city: Fast trains would link Liverpool, Manchester, Sheffield and Leeds

[P]lan for a Northern ‘super city’ – which could rival London as a global economic powerhouse by linking Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds and Sheffield. The Chancellor will propose pouring in investment while connecting the cities with high-speed transport links.

‘Not one city but a collection of cities sufficiently close to each other that they can take on the world.’ (June 2014)

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2665344/Osborne-unveil-plans-Northern-super-city-Fast-trains-link-Liverpool-Manchester-Sheffield-Leeds.html>



# Linking cities

Brazil's president, Dilma Rousseff, told reporters in Paris her government intends to build approximately 800 regional airports in Brazil. The project considers that each city with over 100.000 inhabitants should have an airport within a 60-kilometer range.

<http://www.ritzproperty.com/brazil-plans-to-build-800-regional-airports-linking-cities-with-100-000-population/>

# Linking cities

## Food Security

“We call for the development and implementation of holistic ecosystems-based approaches for city-region food systems that ensure food security, contribute to urban poverty eradication, protect and enhance local level biodiversity and that are integrated in development plans that strengthen urban resilience and adaptation”

Bonn Mayors Adaptation Charter signed by 20 city-leaders, June 2013

<http://www1.montpellier.inra.fr/daume/writeable/documents/ruaf.pdf>

# Linking cities

The opening of GCU New York brings together GCU's presence in three great cities – Glasgow, London and New York – creating opportunities for educational, professional and cultural development.

GCU is the first British university to establish a campus in New York and it was the first Scottish university to open a campus in London.

<http://www.gcunewyork.com/aboutgcu/linkingthreegreatcities/>

# Linking cities

- Human capital and business requirements
- Research intensive versus teaching intensive universities
- Regional contribution of universities, coordination and regional cooperation in education
- Extensions to health, other sectors, city system?

# Starters

- Are there existing analyses at sector levels that have looked at linkages either within your country or across borders?
- Can you think of areas or sectors where firms in Almaty and Bishkek can benefit from each other's activities?
- Are there sectors where there is direct competition between firms in Almaty and in Bishkek for the same markets?