



Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation Program

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

29 April 2016

Hyatt Hotel, Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic

Time	Activities
08:30 – 09:00	Registration
09:00 – 09:20	<p>Session I: Welcome <i>Almaz Sazbakov, Deputy Minister of Economy</i> <i>Erkinbek Choduev, Ministry of Agriculture and Melioration</i></p> <p>Opening Remarks <i>Vicky Tan, Director, Regional Cooperation and Operations Coordination Division (CWRC)</i></p> <p>Overview of the Workshop <i>Akmal Siddiq, Director, Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture Division (CWER)</i></p>
09:20 – 09:50	<p>Session II: The Almaty–Bishkek Corridor Initiatives (ABCI): Possibilities, Challenges and Opportunities</p> <p>Presenter: <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 & A session</p> <p>Moderator: <i>Alymbek Orozbekov, Head Investment and PPP Department, Ministry of Economy</i></p>
09:50 – 10:50	<p>Session III: Agro-food Value Chains in ABCI: Challenges, Opportunities, and Recommendations</p> <p>Presenter: <i>Lourdes Adriano, ADB Consultant</i> Discussants: <i>Representatives from Development Partners</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> <p><i>Discussion, Q & A session</i></p> <p>Moderator: <i>Roman Mogilevskii, University of Central Asia</i></p>
10:50 – 11:10	Coffee Break



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<p>11:10 – 12:00</p>	<p>Session IV: Key stakeholders Perspectives on Agro-food Value Chains in ABCI: Binding Constraints for Cross-border Connectivity and Agglomeration</p> <p><i>Presenter: Lourdes Adriano, ADB Consultant</i></p> <p><i>Discussants: Azizbek Ryskulov, State Sanitary and Phytosanitary Safety Inspection; Jumabek Asylbekov, Head of Food Security Policy and Agro Marketing, Ministry of Agriculture and Melioration; Gulnara Uskenbaeva, Head of Association of Suppliers</i></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 & A session</i></p> <p><i>Moderator: Atambek Botoev, Head of Processing and Agro-marketing, Ministry of Agriculture and Melioration</i></p>
<p>12:00 –13:30</p>	<p>ADB-hosted Lunch, Crostini Restaurant, Ground Floor, Hyatt Hotel</p>
<p>13:30 – 14:30</p>	<p>Session V: e-Agriculture in ABCI: Improving regional connectivity, efficiency and productivity using ICT in Agribusiness Operations</p> <p><i>Presenter: Arun Ramamurthy, Senior Public Management Specialist (ICT and e-Governance), Social Development, Governance and Gender Division</i></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> <p><i>Discussion, Q & A session</i></p> <p><i>Moderator: Vicky Tan, Director, CWRC</i></p>
<p>14:30 –15:30</p>	<p>Session VI: BREAKOUT SESSION: Transformative interventions in Agro Food Value Chain Cluster Development in ABCI: Investments, Policies and Other Steps</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 every participant 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>



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15:30 – 16:00	Coffee Break
16:00 – 17:15	<p>Session VII: (PLENARY) Agro-Food Value Chain Clusters in ABCI: Steps Forward</p> <p>This 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>Moderator: <i>Akmal Siddiq, Director, CWER and Lourdes Adriano, ADB Consultant</i></p>
17:15 – 17:30	<p>Session VIII: Closing and wrap up</p> <p>Closing Remarks: <i>Vicky Tan, Director, CWRC</i></p>
17:30 – 19:30	ADB-hosted Dinner, Crostini Restaurant, Ground Floor, Hyatt Hotel