



SILK ROAD Investment Forum 2006



The Silk Road Investment Destination: New Business Frontiers

China | Kazakhstan | Kyrgyzstan | Tajikistan | Uzbekistan



The first "Silk Road Investment Forum" will raise awareness about investment opportunities, facilitate business partnerships, and create public-private sector partnerships for an improved business environment in the new business frontiers of the Silk Road Region.

When

June 7-9, 2006

Where

Xi'an, China

Organizers

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); with United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD); CICETE/Ministry of Commerce, China; City of Xi'an; and Boao Forum for Asia

Participants

Interested foreign investors from around the world, business leaders from the Silk Road Region, and high-level government officials from the five countries

Background and Rationale

The Silk Road Initiative aims to stimulate regional business activities in China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Recent developments in economic environments, technology, transport and communications will help the region reclaim its historic position as a strategic crossroads between east and west and stimulate investment opportunities based on partnership, complementarity, and diversity. Central Asia stands to benefit directly from China's outward foreign investment and, equally importantly, the Silk Road Region economies are committed to mobilizing their initiatives and resources on a truly regional basis. This will complement individual country strategies and enable them to compete more effectively with other economies and regions throughout the world.

The Silk Road Investment Forum reflects a coordinated investment promotion approach for the region in order to attain the proper economies of scale in terms of markets, skilled labor, natural resources, and transport infrastructure. It will demonstrate the emerging opportunities for profitable production chains across the Silk Road countries and for linking into broader regional and global supply chains. In line with UNDP business development strategies, the Forum will facilitate greater private sector contributions to sustainable development through commercially viable activities.

Objectives of the Silk Road Investment Forum

- Promote greater awareness about the regional investment potential of the Silk Road countries
- Identify potential investment projects
- Provide a forum for regional stakeholders' dialogue
- Facilitate public-private sector partnerships to fully realize the Silk Road's business potential
- Propose actions to address impediments to investment, and
- Institute an annual Silk Road Investment Forum to follow up on commitments from previous Forums and address specific sectoral issues to enhance the Silk Road Region's investment potential

Format and Basic Structure

The Forum will bring together high-level Government representatives of the Silk Road countries (China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan), investment promotion officials, and domestic and international investors to discuss concrete initiatives to attract foreign investment to the Silk Road as a region. Day 1 will present open dialogue on the Silk Road regional investment opportunities as well as the impediments to investment in the region. Day 2 will consist of multilateral and bilateral meetings where investors will explore concrete business opportunities with regional business leaders, high-level Government representatives and investment promotion officials.



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Silk Road Initiative

Capacity building for regional cooperation
and development in China and Central Asia

The Silk Road Initiative (SRI) is a regional programme under UNDP administration involving China, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan.

The programme's overarching goal is to help the region meet the Millennium Development Goals of reducing poverty and promoting growth and equality.

More specifically, and inspired by the ancient Silk Road trade traditions, the Initiative aims to enhance regional cooperation and development. It targets three main areas: trade, investment, and tourism.

The SRI is establishing sustainable capacity building mechanisms, through various working-level activities, using the concept of 'seed money'. As a result, it is hoped that the Silk Road region may continue to reap rewards, and to further develop and prosper.

The Silk Road Initiative works to:

- Improve policy and legal conditions for trade
- Initiate and attract investment
- Promote and attract tourism

The SRI is currently in its second phase. As the Initiative matures, it will inevitably broaden its geographical reach, encompassing ever more of the Silk Road region.

Contact Information

For more information on the Silk Road Investment Forum and to register for the event, please contact:
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Please check for regular updates and further information on the Silk Road Investment Forum at
www.silkroad.undp.org.cn

