Early Warning System

MIGA-15432

Almaty Railway Bypass Project

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Quick Facts

Countries	Kazakhstan
Specific Location	Almaty
Financial Institutions	Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)
Status	Approved
Bank Risk Rating	A
Voting Date	2025-08-04
Borrower	Standard Chartered (Hong Kong) Limited
Sectors	Infrastructure, Transport
Investment Type(s)	Guarantee
Investment Amount (USD)	$ 113.02 million
Project Cost (USD)	$ 336.99 million

Project Description

As stated by the MIGA, the Government of Kazakhstan developed a Concept for the development of Transport and Logistics Potential in the country until 2030 with the objective of turning Kazakhstan into a large transit and logistics hub in Central Asia. Under this transport concept, the Middle Corridor - a strategically important trade route linking China, Central Asia, the Caspian region, and Europe - has been receiving considerable attention due to its potential to enhance regional connectivity and promote economic integration. The Middle Corridor serves as a transport route connecting Central Asia countries and China and Europe through Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, the Caspian Sea and Georgia.

Notwithstanding its geographical importance, the Middle Corridor remains underdeveloped as it has more border crossings, more transshipment, operational inefficiencies, and infrastructure bottlenecks.

Toward this end, the national railway company, Joint-stock Company "National Company "Kazakhstan Temir Zholy" ("KTZ") has developed an investment plan for the development of the Middle Corridor, including the construction of the Almaty Railway Bypass Project, a 130 km electrified railway line bypassing the logistics bottleneck around the Almaty, the largest city in Kazakhstan, while enhancing cargo transportation along the Middle Corridor. The Project cost, estimated at CHF 272 million, will be financed by loans from the International Finance Corporation ("IFC"), Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank ("AIIB"), and Standard Chartered Bank to KTZ. These loans will also be guaranteed by the Joint-stock Company "Sovereign Wealth Fund "Samruk Kazyna" ("Samruk Kazyna"), the sole shareholder of KTZ.

MIGA's Non-Honoring of Financial Obligations of a State-Owned Enterprise (NHFO-SOE) cover is to guarantee the financial obligation of Samruk Kazyna, that provides a guarantee on up to CHF 83.53 million ten-year loan from Standard Chartered Bank to KTZ to finance the construction of the Almaty Bypass.

MIGA Gross Guarantee Amount is CHF 88.94 million (USD 113.02 million), covering the loan principal amount and future interest.

Investment Description

- Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)

Private Actors Description

As stated by the MIGA, KTZ is a vertically integrated group and is a 100% state-owned enterprise (via Samruk-Kazyna). The group owns and operates all the state railway network and is the country's largest owner of rolling stock. KTZ plays a key role in the national and regional transport system, providing economic connectivity with regions of Kazakhstan, and with five neighboring countries, rendering KTZ as one of the 15 largest railway companies in the world in terms of freight turnover.

Samruk Kazyna is a State-Owned Sovereign Wealth Fund in Kazakhstan mandated to control and manage 21 strategic SoEs (including KTZ) to support the welfare of the economy. Samruk Kazyna's assets account for around 30% of the country's GDP.

Private Actor 1	Private Actor 1 Role	Private Actor 1 Sector	Relation	Private Actor 2	Private Actor 2 Role	Private Actor 2 Sector
JSC "SWF Samruk-Kazyna" (SKKZ)	Parent Company	Finance	owns	JSC National Company Kazakhstan Temir Zholy	Client	Transport
Standard Chartered Bank	Investor	Finance	invests in	JSC National Company Kazakhstan Temir Zholy	Client	Transport

Contact Information

No project contacts provided at the time of disclosure.

ACCESS TO INFORMATION

You can submit a request for information disclosure at: https://www.miga.org/contact/access_to_information

You can also request general information about MIGA and for information on guarantees by emailing: migainquiry@worldbank.org

ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISM OF IFC/MIGA

The Compliance Advisor Ombudsman (CAO) is the independent complaint mechanism and fact-finding body for people who believe they are likely to be, or have been, adversely affected by an IFC or MIGA- financed project. If you submit a complaint to the CAO, they may assist you in resolving a dispute with the company and/or investigate to assess whether the IFC is following its own policies and procedures for preventing harm to people or the environment. If you want to submit a complaint electronically, you can email the CAO at CAO@worldbankgroup.org. You can learn more about the CAO and how to file a complaint at http://www.cao-ombudsman.org

Media

- IFC, MIGA, AIIB and Standard Chartered Support Almaty Railway Bypass with $300 Million Investment in

Other Related Projects

- AIIB-000870 Kazakhstan: Almaty Railway Bypass Project
- IFC-49394 Almaty Railway Bypass