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**Annual Meeting & Business Forum
Eurasian Development Bank
25 – 26 June 2026, Almaty**

BUSINESS PROGRAMME

Thursday, June 25

8:30 AM – **Welcome coffee**

9:30 AM

9:00 AM – **EDB Council Meeting**

10:00 AM

Chairman of the EDB Council, representatives of the member states.

EDB Council Hall
(Council Members Only)

9:00 AM – **Warm Up Session**

9:30 AM

Presentation and
Ceremonial Area

Join us for a warm-up session to explore EDB's new analytical reports. Strong analytics help identify practical solutions and shape development strategies. EDB is one of Eurasia's key centres of expertise, with a deep understanding of the region's challenges and opportunities. The first day of the event will open with EDB analysts and experts from leading international think tanks. We will discuss approaches to a balanced energy transition in Central Asia: the roles of conventional generation and renewable energy sources, regional energy interconnectivity, cross-border electricity trade, and practical solutions to improve the reliability of power systems and reduce their costs.

Speakers:

- **Sergey Tulinov**, Economic Affairs Officer, Energy Division, UN ESCAP
- **Demir Kabybayev**, Senior Analyst at the Centre for Industry Analysis, Research Department, EDB

10:00 AM – **Grand Opening**

11:30 AM

Ballroom

Plenary Session "Eurasia 2030+: Investments, Growth and New Opportunities"

The global economy is changing rapidly. How can the countries of the Eurasian region navigate this shift and secure their place in the new global landscape? The capacity to rapidly adopt and scale groundbreaking technologies is becoming a key resource. The Eurasian region has one of the world's most significant development potentials. In recent years, the economies of the EDB member states and Central Asia have outpaced global average growth rates. To sustain and accelerate this positive



momentum, the region requires more than just sustained growth. The growth is to be rapid, deeply integrated with new technological paradigms, and, above all, centred on human capital. This means a new quality of growth for Eurasia – growth that is fast, technologically advanced, and people-oriented.

Discussion Questions:

- A Long-Term Vision for Eurasia: How to turn the region’s potential into a strategic advantage?
- What part should international development banks play in the structural transformation of the Eurasian region?
- What are the key objectives and priorities for the EDB in the 2027-2031 period, and how will the EDB facilitate sustainable growth in the region?
- Eurasia’s Investment Agenda 2030+: where could new growth points emerge?

Moderator:

- **Nikolai Podguzov**, Chairman of the EDB Management Board

Speakers:

- **Vahe Hovhannisyan**, Minister of Finance of the Republic of Armenia
- **Vladislav Tatarinovich**, Minister of Finance of the Republic of Belarus
- **Madi Takiyev**, Minister of Finance of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- **Bakyt Sydykov**, Minister of Economy and Commerce of the Kyrgyz Republic
- **Ivan Chebeskov**, Deputy Finance Minister of the Russian Federation
- **Farhod Vosidiyon**, Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade of the Republic of Tajikistan
- **Laziz Kudratov**, Minister of investment, industry and trade of the Republic of Uzbekistan

**11:30 AM –
12:00 noon**

Media Stakeout & Signing ceremonies

**12:00 noon –
1:00 PM**

Plenary Session “Eurasia 2030+: Investments, Growth and New Opportunities” (continued)

Ballroom

The Eurasian region is a space where sustainable growth, investment appeal and increasing connectivity combine to create a long-term foundation for business development. How can practical business solutions, supported by financial institutions, transform people’s lives?

Looking towards 2030, the strategic priority is to foster a new quality of growth driven by business adoption of new technologies, modernization of key industries, expansion of logistics and digital infrastructure, development of e-commerce, and investment in human capital. These factors will shape the future of cooperation and the projects that will define the architecture of the Eurasian economic system for decades to come.



Discussion Questions:

- How can the technology boom become a foundation for sustainable long-term growth in the Eurasian region?
- How can businesses adopt new technologies faster and more effectively?
- What trends will influence the structural transformation of key industries in the Eurasian region?
- Future trends: what lies ahead for the transport and logistics sector beyond 2030?

Moderator:

- **May Ben Khadra**, Journalist and Business Anchor, Al Arabiya

Speakers:

- **Daron Acemoglu**, Institute Professor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- **Philippe Laborie**, Senior Vice President – Deputy CEO, Groupe ADP / TAV International airport Almaty
- **Sergey Tkachuk**, Shareholder, LLC «Prilesie-Logistic»
- **Sanjar Usmanov**, Chief Investment Officer, The Turkic Investment Fund
- **Azamat Tuleubay**, Senior Managing Director, EDB

**1:00 PM –
2:30 PM**

Lunch for Participants

**1:30 PM –
2:30 PM**

Executive Lunch Discussion “Human Capital 2050: What and How We Learn”

Executive Lunch Discussion
(by Invitation Only)

According to The Future of Jobs Report 2025 by the World Economic Forum, structural transformation is expected to affect around 22% of all existing jobs worldwide by 2030. Artificial intelligence, robotics, and global competition do not diminish the role of humans — but they fundamentally reshape it. Even experienced leaders risk losing their competitive edge if learning ceases to be part of their lives. The courage to acknowledge one’s own skill gaps, to relearn, and to reinvent oneself and one’s team is becoming a professional requirement.

Leaders, business, and the state are facing challenges of a new complexity:

- Which competencies will become “**irreplaceable**” by 2050?
- What should **leaders learn** to remain **relevant** in the **economy of the future** — technology, management, cultural empathy, AI ethics?
- How **can leaders develop their teams** to achieve **long-term strategic goals**?

Speakers:

- **Dr. Tariq Qureishy**, futurist, transformation advisor, and Chairman & CEO of the Future Readiness Forum and Xponential
- **Maria Pavlova**, Head of the EDB Academy



**2:30 PM –
4:00 PM**

Ballroom

Session “Seamless Eurasia: A Logistics Hub at the Crossroads of Continents”

The transformation of global supply chains is elevating logistics to one of the key drivers of economic development. Central Asia sits at the intersection of strategic transport corridors — North–South, West–East, the Trans-Caspian International Transport Route (TITR), and the emerging China–Kyrgyzstan–Uzbekistan railway. This creates a unique opportunity to transform the region into a pivotal logistics hub of the continent. Unlocking this transit potential requires a comprehensive approach: the synchronised development of transport infrastructure — railways and highways — alongside logistics capacity – warehousing complexes, dry ports, and transshipment terminals.

Discussion Questions:

- How to ensure the synchronised development of transport corridors, warehousing complexes, and transshipment terminals to create seamless supply chains across Eurasia?
- What role do multilateral development banks and sovereign wealth funds play in attracting private capital and structuring complex infrastructure projects?
- Game-changing projects: how will the construction of the China–Kyrgyzstan–Uzbekistan railway reshape Eurasia’s transport map, and what warehousing capacity will be needed along the new route?
- Urbanisation, cross-border trade, and e-commerce: how to adapt logistics infrastructure to new demand drivers?
- Digitalisation and artificial intelligence: which technologies will ensure the integration of the region’s transport and warehousing systems?

Moderator:

- **Hussein Sayed**, Senior Anchor, CNBC Arabia

Speakers:

- **Maksat Kaliakparov**, Vice-Minister of Transport of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- **Sherkhan Sugurbekov**, Chief Executive Officer, Caspian Integrated Maritime Solutions Ltd
- **Vadim Zakharenko**, General Delegate Permanent Delegation to Eurasia, IRU
- **Maksat Kaliakparov**, Vice-Minister of Transport of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- **Sagi Sadykuly**, Chief Engineer, JSC NC KazAvtoZhol
- **Alexei Skatin**, Deputy Chairman of the Management Board, EDB
- **H.E. Jasurbek Choriyev**, Secretary General, Permanent Secretariat of the Intergovernmental Commission TRACECA
- **Yulia Shtrek**, General manager, AVTOBAN Road Construction Company



**4:00 PM –
4:30 PM**

Presentation and
Ceremonial Area

Launch of the electronic knowledge platform “E-Handbook: System of International Financial Institutions”

International financial institutions play an important role in addressing global and regional challenges. In the current global economic climate, the international financial institutions system particularly needs new ideas, practical solutions and collaborations.

‘E-Handbook: System of International Financial Institutions’ is a new dynamic digital knowledge platform on the activities, instruments, and development prospects of international financial institutions with focus on multilateral development banks. The platform provides open access to:

- **Analytical materials:** research, articles, presentations.
- **Databases** of development institutions and MDBs, dashboards.
- **Media resources:** interviews, expert blogs, webinars.
- **Educational resources:** training courses, online seminars.

The platform will be useful for all stakeholders, including government institutions, businesses, media, experts, and the academic community.

Attention! We invite experts from international organizations, educational institutions, and research centres to actively participate in developing the knowledge platform by using its resources and capabilities and sharing their own research.

Speakers:

- **Evgeny Vinokurov**, Deputy Chairman of the Management Board – Chief Economist, EDB
- **Alexey Kuznetsov**, Head of Research Department, EDB
- **Anton Malakhov**, Head of the Centre for Analysis of International Finance, Research Department, EDB

**4:30 PM –
6:00 PM**

Ballroom

Session “Digital Eurasia: Technology, Innovation and Growth”

Eurasia faces the imperative of addressing strategic challenges: from advancing artificial intelligence and big data to building a unified technological infrastructure across the region. Today, the priority is to shape a digital space in which technology innovation becomes the driving force behind sustainable economic growth and improved quality of life for all countries across the region.

Discussion Questions:

- New digital projects of the EDB. The growing significance of AI and its increasing share in project activities.
- AI, digitalization, and integration. The importance and opportunities for synchronization.
- New trends in digital projects: public administration, healthcare, GIS, education.

Moderator:

- **Tigran Sargsyan**, Deputy Chairman of the EDB Management Board



Speakers:

- **Aset Nusupov**, Vice Minister of Trade and Integration of the Republic of Kazakhstan
- **Kairatgali Khairulla**, Chairman of the Board of the Water Resources Information and Analysis Centre NJSC (WRIAC)
- **Zhanerke Yegeubayeva**, Managing Director of Astana Hub
- **Alexey Shurupov**, Deputy Director General for Intelligent Transport Systems, Kompas JSC
- **Anna Meshcheryakova**, Co-founder and CEO of Third Opinion Platform LLC
- **Denis Strukov**, Director General, Centre for Spatial Research LLC

Award Ceremony and Presentations of the Winners of the Digital Projects Competition 2025/2026.

- **Anton Maevsky**, Director for Strategic Development, Inventorus LLC
- **Alexander Fradkov**, First Deputy General Director, IRTech JSC

Friday, June 26

8:30 AM – 9:30 AM **Welcome coffee**

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM **Warm-up session**

Presentation and Ceremonial Area

EDB analysts and experts from leading international think tanks will once again kick things off. You are invited to attend two analytical presentations. The second day of the event will once again open with presentations by EDB analysts and experts from leading international think tanks. We invite you to attend the presentations of analytical reports.

The adaptation finance gap remains critically large. Global adaptation finance needs are estimated at USD 310–365 billion annually, while actual international financial flows amount to only USD 26 billion. How can adaptation technologies become more attractive to investors and enable a shift from fragmented project support towards systemic solutions? What role can public policy play in generating demand for adaptation finance? Which financial instruments can help overcome structural barriers to the implementation of adaptation projects in Central Asia? The Eurasian Development Bank, the Astana International Financial Centre, and the Secretariat of the Green Investment Principles have joined forces to explore practical solutions to these challenges.

Moderator:

- **Julia Ivanova**, Head of Public Relations, EDB

Speakers:

- **Evgenia Klochkova**, Head of Office for Sustainability, Eurasian Development Bank
- **Nagima Ayubayeva**, Deputy CEO, AIFC Green Finance Centre



- **Cheng Lin**, Director of Center for International Collaborations at the Institute of Finance and Sustainability (IFS), Head of Secretariat of the Green Investment Principles (GIP) for the Belt and Road (*online*)

Peking University presents the inaugural issue of the Public Development Finance Observer, which focuses on how artificial intelligence is empowering public development finance institutions to enhance the efficiency of their operations and the effectiveness of fulfilling their mandates.

Speaker:

- **Jiajun Xu**, Tenured Associate Professor and the Principal Investigator of Public Development Finance Research Program at Peking University

**9:00 AM –
10:00 AM**

Diamond Hall

Session “Technical Assistance as a Catalyst for Investment: MDBs’ Perspective”

The session is dedicated to the role of technical assistance (TA) in the activities of multilateral development banks and international financial institutions operating in Central Asia. The discussion will focus on TA as an integrated instrument within the investment cycle, supporting project preparation, institutional development, regulatory improvements, and investment mobilization.

Participants will discuss how technical assistance instruments are evolving from support for individual projects toward more strategic mechanisms for building investment pipelines, including special funds and project preparation programmes.

Questions for discussion:

- How do development banks use technical assistance to build their investment portfolios and develop new investment instruments?
- How do technical assistance special funds and project preparation mechanisms contribute to the development of investment-ready projects?
- How can development banks coordinate technical assistance resources in the Central Asia region? What are the key advantages of platform-based coordination formats for technical assistance?

Moderator:

- **Vera Barkatina**, Head of the Technical Assistance Coordination Office, Department of Strategy and Business Initiatives, Eurasian Development Bank

Speakers:

- **Aleksei Skatin**, Deputy Chairman of the Management Board, EDB
- **Zhongjing Wang**, CEO, Multilateral Cooperation Center for Development Finance
- **Strahan Spencer**, Head of Platform Team, Multilateral Cooperation Center for Development Finance
- **Utsav Kumar**, Country Director for Kazakhstan, Asian Development Bank



- **Yahya Rehman**, Deputy Head of Global Lead Specialists, Islamic Development Bank
- **Kazuhiro Nomoto**, Partnership Officer, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank

**10:00 AM –
11:15 AM**

Diamond Hall

Session “Using population foresight data and demographic shifts to unlock and guide investments in the EDB member States”
(in partnership with the UNFPA)

The session will focus on the role of demographic data and forecasting in shaping investment decisions and public policy in the member states of the Eurasian Development Bank. The discussion will center on the use of modern data systems and analytics to account for demographic change in the planning of infrastructure, social, and economic investments.

Participants will discuss how demographic shifts are affecting investment priorities and creating the need for more targeted, data-driven decision-making. Particular attention will be paid to the development of digital statistical infrastructure and the integration of demographic analysis into investment strategies.

Questions for discussion:

- How can demographic data and forecasting be used to shape investment portfolios and prioritize projects?
- How does the digitalization of statistical systems contribute to more accurate and effective investment decision-making?
- How can public policy adapt to demographic trends to support sustainable growth and human capital development?

Moderator:

- **Utsav Kumar**, Country Director for Kazakhstan, Asian Development Bank

Speakers:

- **Klaus Beck**, Deputy Regional Director for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- **Fabio Losa**, Regional Adviser for Demographic Resilience and Policy, UNFPA Eastern Europe & Central Asia Regional Office
- **Sevak Sarukhanyan**, Director, Department of Digital Initiatives, Eurasian Development Bank
- **Shokhjakhon Yusupov**, Head of the Division for Demography, Employment and Living Standards Forecasting of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of the Republic of Uzbekistan
- **Tigran Jrbashyan**, Partner, Ameria Management Advisory
- **Irina Bichan**, Head of the Demographic Statistics and Population Census Department, National Statistical Committee of the Republic of Belarus



**10:00 AM –
11:30 AM**

Ballroom

Session “Investing in Central Asia: Opportunities and Partnerships”

Central Asia is one of the most promising destinations for international investment amidst the transformation of the global economy and the redirection of investment flows. The region is entering a new stage of economic growth, where international capital, Islamic finance, and other modern financial instruments can become key drivers of sustainable development and help avoid the ‘middle-income trap’. It possesses significant potential in infrastructure, energy, logistics, agribusiness, and industry. Realising this potential requires the development of sustainable financing mechanisms and the strengthening of international partnerships involving states, international financial institutions, and private capital. This includes mobilising of diverse capital, including Islamic finance as a source of long-term, stable funding that aligns with the principles of responsible investment.

Discussion Questions:

- How will the global transformation of investment flows, the emergence of new growth centers, and structural changes in the world economy impact the development of Islamic finance in Central Asia and Eurasia?
- What role can the EDB, other international development banks, and institutions such as AAOIFI and IFSB play in shaping a sustainable Islamic finance ecosystem capable of mobilizing private capital for the region's priority sectors?
- What regulatory, institutional, and market conditions are required to create further opportunities for attracting and scaling Islamic investment in logistics, energy, food security, and the social sector amidst new global challenges?

Moderator:

- **Paula Naoufal**, Senior Reporter at CNN Business Arabic

Speakers:

- **Ruslan Dalenov**, Deputy Chairman of the EDB Management Board
- **Sami Al-Suwailem**, Acting Director General of the Islamic Development Bank Institute, Saudi Arabia
- **H.E. Sheikh Ebrahim bin Khalifa Al Khalifa**, Chairman of the Board of Trustees at the Accounting and Auditing Organization for Islamic Financial Institutions (AAOIFI), Bahrain
- **Abdullah Haron**, Deputy Secretary-General of the Islamic Financial Services Board (IFSB), Malaysia
- **Angela Cheng**, Chief Macro Strategist, China Galaxy International Securities (CGIS), PRC
- **Ammar Ahmed**, CEO of Dar Al Sharia, UAE
- **Teze Wang**, Managing Director, CCX Green Finance International, PRC



**11:30 AM –
12:00 noon**

Diamond Hall

Session: "Labor Markets and Economic Growth in Central Asian Countries: Challenges and Development Prospects"

Labor markets in Central Asia are one of the key areas of attention for ensuring the region's sustainable development given the emergence of several systemic challenges. By 2040, demographic projections predict a significant increase in labor supply, whereas domestic labor demand remains limited, and opportunities for labor migration abroad are declining.

The Eurasian Fund for Stabilization and Development (EFSD) is presenting a flagship report based on a comprehensive analysis of macro- and microdata for Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan.

Realizing the potential of human capital requires a deeper understanding of the relationship between demographics, economic growth, and labor market functioning.

Discussion Questions:

- What demographic trends are shaping labor market development trajectories in the region?
- What structural shifts are occurring in the labor market, and how are they linked to economic growth?
- Is the "low unemployment + high informality" model a sustainable trade-off for social stability?

Speakers:

- **Taras Tsukarev**, Head of Research Department, Eurasian Fund for Stabilization and Development
- **Marina Grichi**, Macroeconomic Forecasting Unit, Research Department, Eurasian Fund for Stabilization and Development
- **Vladimir Kozlov**, Professor at Nazarbayev University in Astana, PhD in Economics

**12:00 noon –
1:30 PM**

Ballroom

Session "Public-Private Partnerships: Unlocking the Investment Potential of Eurasia's Future"

PPP continues to play a key role in infrastructure development in Eurasia. The session will focus on the growth drivers in the PPP markets of Kazakhstan, Russia, Uzbekistan, and Kyrgyzstan, benchmarking failures and recipes for success in preparing a pool of high-quality PPP projects to realize the competitive advantages and strategic priorities of countries with the expert and financial support of the EDB.

Discussion Questions:

- Overview of PPP markets in EDB member countries:
 - What hinders and what drives PPP projects in EDB countries?
 - PPP regulations and PPP institutions: what works, what doesn't, and why?
 - What PPP mechanisms and practices can member countries adopt from each other? What role can the EDB play in this process?
- Upstream preparation of PPP projects:



- Focus on actions that lay the foundation for successful PPP projects.
- Well spent: the effects of EDB technical assistance on the development of PPP maturity and markets in Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan.

Moderator:

- **Svetlana Maslova**, Director of PPP Projects, EDB

Speakers:

- **Avag Avanesyan**, Deputy Minister of Finance of the Republic of Armenia
- **Aidos Kobetov**, Deputy Chairman of the Management Board of Kazakhstan PPP Centre
- **Aziz Gafurov**, Head of the Secretariat of the Council of Foreign Investors under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan
- **Nurbek Anarbekin**, Director of the PPP Centre at the National Investment Agency under the President of the Kyrgyz Republic

**12:15 noon –
1:30 PM**

Diamond Hall

Session: “From Idea to Contract: Practical Approaches to Participating in MDB-Financed Projects”

(in partnership with DevelopmentAid)

The session will be structured as a practice-oriented dialogue and will focus on the practical aspects of companies’ participation in projects financed by multilateral development banks and international financial institutions. The discussion will center on the factors that determine success in entering the MDB project market and securing contracts.

Participants will discuss the strategies that enable both companies to position themselves effectively, build engagement with development banks, and increase their chances of success in competitive procurement procedures. Particular attention will be paid to the common barriers faced by participants in requests for proposals, as well as to the expectations of development banks when selecting contractors and suppliers.

Questions for discussion:

- What factors distinguish successful proposals submitted in response to requests for proposals under MDB-financed projects? What is the key to success?
- What should companies focus on in order to remain competitive?
- Is harmonization of company evaluation and due diligence procedures across different MDBs possible, and what risks may arise?

Moderator:

- **Mariana Bastron**, Head of Department, Strategic Partnerships and Donor Relations, DevelopmentAid

Speakers:

- **Yorkinjon Alimov**, Senior Procurement Specialist, Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank



- **Shukhrat Khojaev**, Regional Procurement Officer, Islamic Development Bank
- **Galiya Ismakova**, Director for Procurement, Portfolio and Financial Management Department, Asian Development Bank

**1:30 PM –
2:30 PM**

Presentation and
Ceremonial Area

Presentation of the 2025 results and the EDB’s ESG agenda

Moderator:

- **Julia Ivanova**, Head of Public Relations, EDB

Speakers:

- **Berik Mukhambetzhonov**, Deputy Chairman of the Management Board, EDB
- **Evgeny Vinokurov**, Deputy Chairman of the Management Board – Chief Economist, EDB
- **Evgenia Klochkova**, Head of Office for Sustainability, EDB

**2:30 PM –
3:30 PM**

Ballroom

EDB Media Awards Ceremony

**14:30 PM –
16:30 PM**

Diamond Hall

New Approaches to Learning: Formats, Tools and Business Models *(a specialized session for leaders of the education sector and academic community)*

An open strategic discussion on how the logic of learning is changing, why mass education is beginning to compete with personalized learning ecosystems, which learning models will be in demand over the next 3–7 years, and how AI is transforming the economics of the education business.

Questions for discussion:

- What are the key transformations taking place in education today?
- Massification vs. Personalization: How is the learning model changing?
- The New Economics of the Education Business
- Which skills will retain uniquely human value in the future?
- Who Will Thrive in the AI Era?

Speakers:

- **Dr. Tariq Qureishy**, futurist, transformation advisor, and Chairman & CEO of the Future Readiness Forum and Xponential
- **Maria Pavlova**, head of the Eurasian Development Bank Academy