

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS AND CURRENT ISSUES OF GREEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN UZBEKISTAN

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Annotatsiya: Ushbu havola etilayotgan maqolada O'zbekistonda yashil tadbirkorlikning zamonaviy holati, rivojlanish tendensiyalari va istiqbollari tadqiq etilgan. Shuningdek, yashil iqtisodiyot tamoyillarini joriy etish jarayonidagi asosiy muammolar va to'siqlar, hamda ularni bartaraf etish yo'llari tahlil qilingan.

Qolaversa, O'zbekiston uchun yashil tadbirkorlikni rivojlantirish strategiyasi taklif etilgan bo'lib, u mamlakatimizning iqlim o'zgarishlari va ekologik muammolarga qarshi kurashish hamda barqaror rivojlanish yo'lidagi xalqaro majburiyatlariga asoslangan. Qarorlar qabul qilish jarayonida yashil texnologiyalarni joriy etishning iqtisodiy samaradorligini baholash metodologiyasi ham keltirilgan. Tadqiqotimiz so'ngida O'zbekistonda yashil biznesning kelgusi o'n yillikdagi istiqbollari baholanib, yashil iqtisodiyotni rivojlantirish bo'yicha tavsiyalar ishlab chiqilgan.

Kalit so'zlar: Yashil tadbirkorlik, barqaror rivojlanish, qayta tiklanuvchi energiya, resurs samaradorligi, ekologik innovatsiyalar, raqobatbardoshlik, yashil investitsiyalar

Abstract: This article examines the current state, development trends and prospects of green entrepreneurship in Uzbekistan. The main problems and obstacles in the process of implementing green economy principles, as well as ways to overcome them, are analyzed. The article proposes a strategy for the development of green entrepreneurship for Uzbekistan, based on the country's international commitments to combat climate change and environmental problems, as well as sustainable development.

The methodology for assessing the economic efficiency of implementing green technologies in the decision-making process is also presented. At the end of the article, the prospects for green business in Uzbekistan for the next decade are assessed, and recommendations for the development of the green economy are developed.

Keywords: Green entrepreneurship, sustainable development, renewable energy, resource efficiency, environmental innovations, competitiveness, green investments

Аннотация: В данной статье исследуется современное состояние, тенденции развития и перспективы «зелёного» предпринимательства в Узбекистане. Также проанализированы основные проблемы и препятствия в процессе внедрения принципов зелёной экономики, а также пути их преодоления. Кроме того, предложена стратегия развития зелёного предпринимательства для Узбекистана, основанная на международных обязательствах страны в области борьбы с изменением климата и экологическими проблемами, а также устойчивого развития.

В процессе принятия решений приведена методология оценки экономической эффективности внедрения зелёных технологий. В заключение исследования оценены перспективы зелёного бизнеса в Узбекистане на ближайшее десятилетие и разработаны рекомендации по развитию зелёной экономики.

Ключевые слова: Зелёное предпринимательство, устойчивое развитие, возобновляемая энергия, ресурсная эффективность, экологические инновации, конкурентоспособность, зелёные инвестиции

Introduction

It is well known that one of the most pressing global challenges of the 21st century is ensuring economic development in the context of climate change and environmental crisis. The international community widely recognizes the necessity of transitioning to a “green” development path, in which economic growth is achieved without causing harm to the environment or depleting natural resources. In this regard, “green entrepreneurship refers

to business activities that stimulate economic growth while avoiding environmental damage and contributing to sustainable development.’¹

In recent years, Uzbekistan has undertaken extensive reforms aimed at modernizing the national economy and fostering deeper integration into the global community. Nevertheless, the country continues to confront a number of critical environmental challenges, including the long-term consequences of the Aral Sea’s desiccation, shortages of water resources, soil degradation, air pollution, and the adverse impacts of climate change on agricultural production. Addressing these issues, President Shavkat Mirziyoyev has underscored the need to “broadly introduce the principles of a green economy and further expand the use of renewable energy sources. In this regard, we must act decisively and without hesitation.”²

This situation calls for new approaches grounded in sustainable economic development and the active implementation of “green” technologies. It would not be an exaggeration to say that the adoption of the Strategy for the Transition of the Republic of Uzbekistan to a Green Economy for 2019–2030 has given a powerful impetus to the development of green entrepreneurship in the country. Within the framework of this program, significant projects have been implemented in areas such as improving energy efficiency, expanding the use of renewable energy sources, ensuring the efficient management of water resources, recycling waste, and many others. Nevertheless, there remain issues that must be addressed to fully realize the potential of green entrepreneurship in Uzbekistan.

In addressing such challenges, the transition to a green economy and the active deployment of green technologies play an invaluable role. As President Shavkat

¹ <https://www.oecd.org/greengrowth/towardsgreengrowth.htm>

² Here’s your translation into C1-level English:

From the speech of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, at the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly, September 2020.

Mirziyoyev aptly stated: “The path towards sustainable development is the path of ‘green’ development.”³

Uzbekistan possesses significant potential for the development of organic farming. Since 2022, the Law on Organic Agriculture has been in force in the country, regulating the production, certification, and marketing of organic products. At present, projects for cultivating organic fruits and vegetables, as well as medicinal plants, are being implemented in the Fergana Valley and in the Samarkand and Jizzakh regions.

Analysis of the Literature Used

In the course of our research, we drew upon the most notable works of prominent scholars, as well as the decrees and resolutions of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Shavkat Mirziyoyev, concerning the development of the green economy. Below, we provide a detailed overview of these sources and their significance.

In preparing our article, we made use of Muhammad Yunus’s work *A World of Three Zeros*, which addresses three fundamental goals of the modern economy: the eradication of poverty, the elimination of unemployment, and the reduction of carbon emissions to zero. Furthermore, in the process of writing, we examined Uzbekistan’s *Strategy for the Transition to a Green Economy, 2019–2030*. This strategic document outlines a clear roadmap for introducing green technologies, protecting the environment, and achieving sustainable development objectives. We also referred to the *Development Strategy of New Uzbekistan for 2022–2026* (Presidential Decree No. PF-60), which defines the country’s current policy priorities. This document serves as a practical framework for integrating the principles of a green economy into the national development program and underscores the relevance of the research topic.

Analysis and Results

In assessing the current state and prospects of green entrepreneurship, we selected SWOT analysis as one of the most effective methods. This approach enables the

³ <https://president.uz/uz/lists/view/6805>

identification of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats, thereby providing a comprehensive evaluation of the subject matter.

SWOT analysis

Table 1

| Strengths | Weaknesses |
|--|--|
| <p>✓ Significant potential in renewable energy resources (solar, wind) – due to its geographical location, Uzbekistan has the capacity to generate large amounts of solar and wind energy annually.</p> <p>✓ Availability of government support programs – national strategies and financial incentives aimed at developing the green economy are driving progress in this sector.</p> <p>✓ Wide-scale economic reforms – modernization processes carried out in recent years are creating a favorable environment for green business.</p> <p>✓ A large proportion of young population and potential consumers – the majority of the population is young and shows interest in new technologies and eco-friendly products.</p> | <p>✓ Shortage of qualified specialists in the green business sector – there are few experts with specific knowledge and experience in green entrepreneurship.</p> <p>✓ Low level of environmental awareness among the population – many citizens do not fully understand the importance of green products and environmentally friendly production.</p> <p>✓ Insufficient infrastructure – the necessary facilities for implementing green technologies in practice are not yet fully developed.</p> |
| Opportunities | Threats |
| <p>✓ Expanding international cooperation and attracting foreign investment – there are opportunities to work with foreign investors and donors in the green business sector.</p> <p>✓ Creating new jobs in the field of green</p> | <p>✓ Climate change and worsening environmental issues – water scarcity, drought, and natural disasters may hinder the implementation of green projects.</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>technologies – this area fosters the emergence of new professions and innovative forms of employment.</p> <p>✓ Increasing export potential (organic products, renewable energy) – green products are in high demand in international markets, expanding export opportunities.</p> | <p>✓ Intensifying competition in the international market – the green products sector is highly competitive, making it difficult to secure strong export positions.</p> <p>✓ Dependence on imported green technologies – slow domestic production leads to high reliance on foreign technology.</p> <p>✓ The impact of economic crises – global or regional financial crises may reduce green investment.</p> |
|--|--|

The conducted SWOT analysis demonstrates that Uzbekistan possesses considerable potential for the development of green entrepreneurship. However, there are also a number of challenges and barriers that must be addressed. Therefore, a thorough analysis of strengths and weaknesses, alongside the minimization of risks, is of critical importance in advancing green entrepreneurship.

Discussion

As can be seen from our research findings, the analysis of the development process of green entrepreneurship in Uzbekistan has revealed a range of significant innovations and opportunities. The adoption of the national strategy for the transition to a green economy, the increase in investment flows, and the growing environmental awareness among the country's youth are laying a solid foundation for green entrepreneurship.

Renowned scholars and economists worldwide have highlighted the importance of green entrepreneurship and sustainable development. The research of Nobel Prize laureate and social entrepreneurship theorist Muhammad Yunus underscores that “the business

world should not be driven solely by profit but must also aim to address social issues. Green entrepreneurship means taking responsibility for future generations.”⁴

Harvard Business School Professor Michael Porter has often spoken about competitive advantages and the creation of shared value. He emphasizes that “the most successful companies are those that integrate social and environmental needs into their business strategies.”⁵

Columbia University Professor Jeffrey Sachs notes in his research that “the greatest opportunity for 21st-century entrepreneurship lies in the development of green technologies and sustainable business models.”⁶

The above perspectives outline key guiding principles for the development of green entrepreneurship in the context of Uzbekistan. Moreover, they clearly illustrate the importance of promoting green entrepreneurship not only in Uzbekistan but across the entire world.

Conclusion and Recommendations

In conclusion, Uzbekistan possesses the necessary potential to develop green entrepreneurship. To fully realize this potential, the following measures could prove effective:

- Strengthening government support mechanisms;
- Attracting financial and investment resources;
- Training qualified specialists;
- Introducing innovative technologies;
- Raising public environmental awareness.

Indeed, as the founder of the World Economic Forum, Klaus Schwab, has emphasized: “In the future, competitive economies will be green, innovative, and socially responsible.”⁷

⁴ Muhammad Yunus “Creating a World Without Poverty: Social Business and the Future of Capitalism” (2007)

⁵ Michael Porter Harvard Business Review “Creating Shared Value”(2011) 89(1/2), 62-77.

⁶ Jeffrey Sachs “The Age of Sustainable Development” (2015)

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⁷ Klaus Schwab (2016).”The Fourth Industrial Revolution”

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