

GREENING THE REGIONAL ECONOMY IS THE PRIMARY FACTOR OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND FUTURE SECURITY

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Introduction

Today, humanity is witnessing a severe crisis of the traditional economic model based on extensive and inefficient resource utilization. Global climate change, loss of biodiversity, and the acute depletion of freshwater resources now necessitate a fundamental reconsideration of economic growth models. The concept of the "green economy," which emerged in response to these global risks, is the only alternative system that simultaneously ensures economic development, mitigates environmental hazards, and serves to promote social equity.

At the regional level, this concept is not merely a matter of implementation; rather, it is a vital strategy that must be put into practice based on the specific natural-climatic conditions and resource potential of each territory.

Within the regional economic system, green growth is not just a combination of simple environmental measures, but a mechanism for the radical modernization of territorial productive forces. The economic stability of regions directly depends on their potential for the efficient and thrifty use of resources, which manifests itself in the following directions:

- Integration of resources: The rational and mutually coordinated utilization of water, energy, and land resources by regions yields a synergetic economic effect.
- Green cluster system: Organizing industry and agriculture through the cluster approach enables the implementation of zero-waste technologies and reduces raw material losses.
- Low-carbon logistics: Greening interregional transport corridors lowers product prime costs and drastically reduces greenhouse gas emissions.
- Sustainable urbanization: "Green city" and "smart region" projects counterbalance the ecological pressure exerted by demographic growth on urban infrastructure.

Any green strategy at the regional level must be aligned with international standards and global goals. The United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and their logical continuation, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), constitute the international legal and institutional foundation for greening the regional economy. In this context, the following global tasks are logically linked with regional development:

1. Environmental sustainability and quality of life: Protecting natural resources and combating desertification directly determine the health and well-being of the regional population.
2. Affordable and clean energy (SDG 7): Expanding the scope of renewable energy source utilization leads to liberating the regions from traditional energy shortages.
3. Decent work (SDG 8): The introduction of environmentally friendly technologies and infrastructure creates entirely new "green jobs" in the regions and reduces unemployment.
4. Climate resilience (SDG 13): Forming regional economic systems resilient to climate cataclysms and droughts prevents unexpected economic losses.

The global tasks set by the United Nations are also finding their practical reflection in the state policy of the Republic of Uzbekistan. In particular, in response to global challenges, our country has

adopted the "Strategy for the Transition of the Republic of Uzbekistan to a Green Economy in the Period up to 2030," which is being executed directly across regions. The global goals, national policy, and regional execution chain are integrated as follows:

- Energy transformation: In order to reduce the energy intensity of the economy, large-scale alternative power station networks are being constructed in regions rich in solar and wind energy, such as Navoi, Bukhara, and Jizzakh. This represents a direct national application of SDG Goal 7.
- Mitigation of the Aral Sea ecological disaster: The extensive greening activities (establishing saxaul plantations) carried out in the Aral Sea region, which is considered the most severe climatic zone, fully comply with the international tasks of combating climate change (SDG 13).
- Industry and innovations: Modernizing enterprises, filtering atmospheric emissions, and implementing resource-saving "clean production" standards in highly industrialized regions like Tashkent, Fergana, and Andijan mitigate the adverse environmental impact of economic growth.

Although global goals and national policies are integrated, certain logical contradictions and barriers are observed in fully implementing green economy elements at the regional level. These include the following:

A. The problem of balancing investments and expenditures: Green technologies require high initial capital, whereas regional budgets are often unprepared to cover these costs, or the population does not sufficiently comprehend the essence of the matter. Solution: Developing "green subsidies" and public-private partnerships, and formulating measures to shift public perception.

B. Human resources potential and innovations: Modern ecological facilities are being constructed, yet local specialists to manage them are lacking or entirely absent in certain regions. Solution: Aligning the higher education system with regional green demands.

C. Infrastructure disproportion: Due to obsolete electricity and water networks, resource losses still remain high. Solution: Digitalizing the infrastructure of the regions.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the transition to a green economy is a chained and mutually necessitating logical process. The global ecological crisis generated the UN programs and goals. It can be said that the UN goals have become the strategic foundation of the state policy of Uzbekistan. The national policy, in turn, compels the modification of the economic model of our republic's regions. By "greening" the regional economy, we can guarantee not only today's economic stability but also the creation of a clean and safe environment for future generations.

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