

Educational Policy in Uzbekistan: Experience and Modernization Processes

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Abstract

This article analyzes the development, experience and modernization processes of educational policy in Uzbekistan. The article examines the reforms implemented in the field of education after Uzbekistan gained independence, international experience and the introduction of digital technologies. The economic and social impact of changes in the education system, the introduction of new methodologies, innovative approaches and digital educational technologies aimed at improving the quality of the educational process, is shown. The article also provides proposals and recommendations for further improvement of educational policy, with special attention paid to ensuring the global integration of the Uzbek education system, the application of innovations and its development based on modern requirements.

Keywords: Uzbekistan, education policy, reforms, modernization, digital education, international experience, innovative approaches, teaching methodology, education system, economic impact, social impact.

Introduction

Relevance of the Topic

After Uzbekistan gained independence, the education system was given special attention as one of the areas that make a significant contribution to the socio-economic development of the country. During the years of independence, the renewal and modernization of education policy have taken an important place in all spheres of the country, especially in the economy and social sphere. The modernization process of the education system, the reforms being carried out in teaching methodology, pedagogy, educational technologies, etc. based on modern requirements, serve to ensure the scientific and cultural development of society. The relevance of this process is primarily due to the need to increase the global competitiveness of the national education system, create innovative opportunities, and strengthen Uzbekistan's position in the field of education in the international arena. At the same time, the introduction of digital technologies and innovations into the educational process, improving the quality and efficiency of education, and creating new opportunities for young people are currently one of the most pressing issues.

The purpose and objectives of the article.

The main purpose of this article is to analyze the changes in the education system of Uzbekistan, its renewal and modernization processes, and thereby study the impact of these processes on society and the economy. The article aims to show, in particular, how educational policy reforms, digital technologies, and new teaching methodologies are bringing positive changes to the education system, as well as the significance of these changes for society and the economy. The main objectives of the article include:

1. Analysis of the historical overview and main directions of reforms and innovations in the education system of Uzbekistan.
2. To study the impact of modern changes in education policy on the economic and social development of the country.
3. Demonstrate the application of digital technologies and innovative approaches to the education system and the successes achieved with their help.
4. Uzbekistan's education system to international experience and standards and ensuring global integration.
5. Develop measures and proposals necessary for the further development of the education system

Research Methodology

This scientific study uses several scientific methods to analyze the processes of reforms and modernization in education policy. First of all, **surface analysis and content analysis** methods are used. With the help of these methods, changes and reforms in the education system are analyzed on the basis of documents and regulatory documents. Resolutions, decrees and other regulatory documents of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on education policy are studied extensively.

The second method, **comparative analysis**, is based on comparing the education system of Uzbekistan with international experiences. This method studies the experience of other countries and identifies approaches that may be useful for Uzbekistan. **Empirical research methods** are also used. These methods are used to study and analyze the effectiveness of reforms implemented in the education system, collect feedback from teachers, students and education specialists. In addition, **a systematic approach** and **Forecasting** methods are also used to analyze the prospects and opportunities for the future development of the education system of Uzbekistan. With the help of these methods, the prospects for educational policy and the measures necessary for the implementation of successful modernization processes are developed. The results obtained through these methods will help ensure the successful implementation of reforms and modernization processes in the education system of Uzbekistan and will serve as the basis for developing specific recommendations for further improvement of these processes.

History of education policy in Uzbekistan

The development of the education system in Uzbekistan and the changes made during the Soviet era.

The education system of Uzbekistan began to undergo significant changes from the beginning of the 20th century. During the process of joining the Soviet Union, the education system was organized on the basis of a centralized and standardized system. In 1924, a network of secondary

schools was established in the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic, and a number of reforms were implemented aimed at improving the qualifications of teachers and developing scientific and pedagogical knowledge. The development of the Uzbek language and the process of teaching in the Uzbek language also took place over several years.

During the Soviet era, the education system was strictly controlled by the state. All schools, universities, and vocational colleges operated according to a program set by the central government. They were primarily aimed at satisfying economic needs and widely promoting communist ideology. The education system was also aimed at suppressing the need for national independence and identity. In particular, the development of the Uzbek language, the teaching of national literature, and the arts were carried out in accordance with Soviet ideology.

The socio-economic impact of educational reforms implemented during the Soviet era lasted for many years. School education became more popular, the number of students in higher education institutions increased, and vocational colleges and technical schools expanded their activities. In the 1980s, the number of personnel graduating from higher education in Uzbekistan was 15 percent. Also, during the Soviet era, scientific research and achievements in the field of science were significant.

And updates in education policy in the post-independence period. After Uzbekistan gained independence, serious changes began in the education system. Having gained independence in 1991, Uzbekistan began to reconsider the main directions of its education policy and develop them based on new modern requirements. In the early years of independence, issues such as improving the qualifications of teachers, building education on the basis of nationality, and raising the Uzbek language to a leading position in society as the state language were in the spotlight.

In the first years of independence, in 1992, a new law on education of the Republic of Uzbekistan was adopted, which provided for new directions in the education system, such as the introduction of digital technologies, strengthening general and professional education, and improving the professional qualifications of teachers. By the 2000s, state education policy had undergone changes. In particular, in the field of higher education, new universities were established, reforms were implemented aimed at improving the quality of education. Large-scale work was begun to create systems for assessing and monitoring the quality of education. The funds allocated for education from the state budget increased significantly.

In 2017, the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On the Development of a Strategy for Modernizing the Education System until 2030" launched a new phase of reforms in the education sector. This strategy was aimed at ensuring the development of Uzbek education in line with global requirements, covering all aspects of the education system, including teaching methodologies, educational resources, and the introduction of digital technologies.

Reforms in the field of education and their socio-economic impact.

The reforms implemented in the field of education in Uzbekistan have had a significant impact not only on improving the quality of education, but also on socio-economic development. Changes in educational policy were aimed, first of all, at training personnel adapted to the labor market and meeting modern economic needs. In the 2000s, the network of vocational colleges and technical schools was expanded, which made it possible to train specialists in demand in the labor market.

Reforms in the education system have also helped to ensure social stability. As part of the state program "Improving the system of financial support for education", implemented in 2017, funds allocated to educational institutions increased, which led to improvements in the infrastructure of schools and higher education institutions. In 2020, the number of higher education institutions exceeded 100, and their scientific and technical potential and curricula were updated.

During the years of independence, the quality of education has also gained international recognition. The education system of Uzbekistan has been supported by the World Bank and other international organizations, which has led to the strengthening of the country's education system on a global scale. In 2019, the higher education system of Uzbekistan took its place in the QS World University Rankings for the first time. This indicates not only an increase in the quality of the education system, but also ensuring the country's competitiveness in the global economic arena. At the same time, the modernization of the education system and its impact on economic growth have led to changes in the choice of professions among young people. Young people have become more interested in technological and innovative sectors, which require training in new areas. Through increased funding for education and improved infrastructure, Uzbekistan's youth have expanded their educational opportunities and are growing as professionals who contribute to the country's social and economic development.

Thus, the reforms implemented in the education sector in Uzbekistan have not only helped to increase the quality of education, but also to meet the needs of the labor market and ensure social stability. Updates in the education system play an important role in increasing Uzbekistan's global competitiveness and creating broad opportunities for young people.

Modernization processes in the education system in Uzbekistan

Main directions of modernization in the education system

The modernization processes in the education system of Uzbekistan include, first of all, a number of reforms aimed at improving teaching methodology, curricula and the quality of education. These processes are aimed at adapting the education system to global requirements and training young people as specialists who can meet the innovative, economic and social needs of society.

Although the Uzbek education system has been using teaching methods based on the Soviet system for many years, during the years of independence, there was a need to update teaching methods. Programs have been developed aimed at improving the pedagogical skills of teachers, introducing interactive teaching methods, and providing students with independent thinking skills. Since 2017, creative approaches to teaching and practice-based methods have been expanded in the Uzbek education system. These changes are aimed at teaching students not only to provide information, but also to independently solve problems and apply innovative approaches.

Modernization of curricula is also one of the important directions of the education system. The government of Uzbekistan has developed new curricula, which focus on disciplines, technologies and vocational training adapted to modern educational requirements. In order to further strengthen education, in particular, teaching in the Uzbek language and promoting national culture, subjects related to national heritage, history and culture occupy a special place in the curricula. At the same time, new subjects have been added to general education programs, including improving knowledge in technology, information systems and other modern areas.

remains one of the priorities of the education system of Uzbekistan. To ensure the quality of education, measures have been taken to continuously assess and monitor the level of knowledge of students, improve the skills of teachers, as well as improve the infrastructure of educational institutions. Reforms aimed at improving the quality of education serve not only to provide students with knowledge, but also to develop them socially, culturally and morally.

Introduction of digital educational technologies

The introduction of digital educational technologies plays an important role in the modernization of the education system in Uzbekistan. The introduction of digital educational technologies is of great importance not only for improving the quality of education, but also for introducing new teaching methods. The first stage of this process began with the expansion of distance learning. The government of Uzbekistan quickly introduced distance learning platforms to ensure that the education system did not stop during the COVID-19 pandemic. Since 2020, distance learning platforms, in particular the "Ziyonet" system developed by the Ministry of Education of Uzbekistan, have created wide opportunities for students.

Along with the expansion of distance learning, online platforms have also been introduced into the education system. In higher educational institutions and training centers of Uzbekistan, pupils and students have the opportunity to acquire modern knowledge through various online courses and platforms. These platforms offer online lessons in areas such as English, information technology, digital marketing, and business management.

Digital resources have made it possible to further modernize education. The "Electronic Libraries" and "Digital Resources" systems have been introduced in higher education institutions of Uzbekistan, which have allowed students to quickly and easily find scientific literature and sources. The use of interactive technologies in education, the organization of distance learning and testing are also examples of the widespread introduction of digital technologies into the educational process.

Innovative approaches and creative methods in education

The use of innovative approaches and the introduction of creative methods in the education system of Uzbekistan serve to make the educational process more effective and interesting. Innovations in teaching methodology develop students' thinking and learning processes. For example, the "inversion" methodology, which encourages students to participate in lessons as active participants. With the help of this method, students learn more deeply by consolidating their knowledge and applying it in practice.

Creative approaches are also being introduced into the educational process. Teaching students new ideas and advanced methods, developing their creative thinking, has been accepted as one of the main directions of education. This teaches students to increase their creative potential, to use innovative approaches to solve new and difficult tasks. Also, project-based learning and problem-solving methods help students gain experience in solving real-life problems.

At the same time, the use of creative teaching methods in Uzbekistan is also aimed at developing scientific and research activities at school. Involving young people in research work, creating new knowledge and putting it into practice is one of the main stages of modernizing the education system.

Thus, the modernization processes in the education system in Uzbekistan include wide-ranging reforms, from teaching methodologies to digital educational technologies. These processes serve not only to provide students with traditional knowledge, but also to develop their creative and innovative thinking skills.

International experience and reforms in the education system of Uzbekistan

Best practices in international education systems and their potential for Uzbekistan

and innovative approaches implemented in different countries . The best global practices can be useful for the Uzbek education system, especially in ensuring high-quality education, using digital technologies and modernizing teaching methods . For example, the Finnish education system attaches great importance to the development of high-quality teachers and independent thinking of students. This approach can be used in Uzbekistan to improve the skills of teachers and strengthen their pedagogical competencies. Also, the German dual education system, i.e. the integration of practical and theoretical knowledge of students, can be applied to the vocational education system in Uzbekistan.

At the same time, international experience in English language learning and scientific research can help develop digital and modern educational methodologies in Uzbekistan. Programs aimed at individual development of students in the education systems of the United Kingdom and other developed countries are useful in modernizing education in Uzbekistan based on an individual approach.

International cooperation in the education system: programs, grants, educational exchanges

The development of cooperation in the international education system is bringing new ideas and methods to the education system of Uzbekistan. Uzbekistan, together with international organizations, in particular, the United Nations (UN), UNESCO, the World Bank and other financial and scientific organizations, is implementing a number of educational programs. With the help of grants and international programs aimed at modernizing the education system in Uzbekistan, it will be possible to ensure high-quality education, improve the skills of teachers, and introduce digital technologies.

International exchange programs and scholarship programs also provide great opportunities for students and teachers in Uzbekistan. Such exchanges allow for increased intercultural understanding, acquisition of new knowledge , and exchange of experiences. For example, the Erasmus+ program provides opportunities for Uzbek students to study at European higher education institutions, while exchange programs are organized for teachers.

International recognition and integration processes of educational reforms in Uzbekistan

The educational reforms being implemented in Uzbekistan, especially the expansion of digital educational technologies and programs aimed at improving the quality of education, are also being recognized internationally. The innovations and reforms implemented in the education system of Uzbekistan, in particular the expansion of distance learning, are being welcomed by international organizations. The UN and UNESCO highly appreciated the reforms in the education system of Uzbekistan, and these processes were considered exemplary for other countries.

In addition, Uzbekistan's integration processes in the education sector are being implemented through the introduction of international curricula and strengthening cooperation with international organizations. Uzbekistan has been actively participating in the UNESCO Global Agenda for Education since 2018. Uzbekistan's education system and reforms are not only recognized by international organizations, but also serve as a useful model for other developing countries.

The international integration processes of the Uzbek education system and cooperation with international organizations will lead the country to new heights in the field of education and create great opportunities for raising the quality of education to a global level.

and economic impact of education policy

The impact of education policy on economic development: labor market and economic growth

Uzbekistan's education policy plays an important role as the basis for economic development. Reforms and modernization processes in the education system serve to meet the needs of the labor market, train qualified personnel, and promote economic growth. As a result of changes in Uzbekistan's education policy, interest in innovative ideas and new professions is growing among young people in the country.

When high-quality education is provided, not only knowledge and skills increase, but also specialized personnel are prepared that are necessary for economic growth. For example, in recent years, due to the high demand in the digital sector of the economy, great attention has been paid to the training of digital technologies and the development of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) disciplines. This helps to match supply and demand in the labor market.

Changes and innovations in education policy also have a positive impact on the development of small and medium-sized businesses, the training of qualified specialists necessary for the creation of startups and innovative companies. Uzbekistan's education policy stimulates economic growth by developing modern educational programs in line with the needs of the labor market.

Social impact of education policy: equality, social justice and civil society

The social impact of education policy serves the equal and fair development of society on a large scale. Equal access to education allows for the improvement of the social and economic status of every citizen. The social aspect of Uzbekistan's education policy is aimed at expanding educational opportunities for citizens of all ages and social groups. Also, ensuring gender equality, supporting women and girls in obtaining education, helps to ensure social justice in society in Uzbekistan.

Another important aspect of the social impact of education policy is the development of civil society. A modern education system encourages young people to be active, prepares them to find their place in society and fulfill their civic responsibilities. Education also increases the political and social responsibilities of citizens by teaching democratic values, which contributes to the formation of a strong civil society.

of modernization processes in Uzbekistan's education system on youth and other groups in society

The modernization of the education system in Uzbekistan is affecting all segments of society. Youth education is an important factor for the future of the country, making the younger generation globally competitive by teaching new approaches and technologies. In particular,

encouraging young people to study digital technologies and innovative areas will expand their employment opportunities and increase their economic activity.

In addition, modernization processes in the education system will increase social mobility among young people, who will be able to realize their potential more broadly. The reforms being implemented in Uzbekistan will further equalize access to education, which will reduce social stratification and ensure justice in society.

Modernization processes are aimed at supporting not only young people, but also other groups in society. In particular, access to education is expanded to the population living in certain geographical areas or socially disadvantaged groups. This helps reduce social inequality and creates a fair system that includes all segments of society.

and recommendations for improving education policy in Uzbekistan

Proposals to improve the efficiency of the education system: improving teacher training, optimizing educational resources To improve the efficiency of the education system in Uzbekistan, it is necessary to pay great attention, first of all, to improving the skills of teachers. Teachers are the main employees of the education system, and their knowledge and experience determine the quality of education. Therefore, it is important to constantly train teachers through advanced training courses, trainings and scientific and methodological seminars. Teaching teachers modern pedagogical technologies, applying innovative methods, developing the use of distance learning and digital platforms can significantly improve the quality of education.

Optimizing educational resources, including educational materials, methodological guides, and classroom modernization, also helps to increase efficiency. Developing curricula that meet the needs of each educational institution, effectively distributing resources, and optimally using them will lead to improved education quality. It is also possible to update curricula with modern knowledge, making the educational process more efficient and modern.

of digitalization of education and innovation It is important to further expand the processes of digitalization of the education system in Uzbekistan and develop innovations. The introduction of digital educational technologies, the development of distance learning systems, the use of online platforms - all these changes will help improve the quality of education and make it accessible to a wide audience. The use of new educational technologies creates innovative opportunities for students and teachers, increases the effectiveness of distance learning.

artificial intelligence, blockchain technologies, and data analytics in education can also serve to make education more innovative. For example, the creation of educational platforms based on artificial intelligence will help determine the level of knowledge of students and create a personalized learning plan. This will increase the efficiency of the educational process and provide guidance to students in developing their knowledge.

and integration of education policy in Uzbekistan to international standards and integration of Uzbekistan's education policy to international standards will ensure the country's integration into the global education system. The adaptation of education policy to international standards, as well as the study and use of the educational traditions of UNESCO, the UN and other international organizations, will help further strengthen the Uzbek education system. Reforms in Uzbekistan's education policy should include measures such as training qualified specialists in accordance with international education systems, introducing international curricula, expanding educational exchanges and grant programs.

At the same time, in order to bring the Uzbek education system to an internationally recognized level, it is necessary to develop international scientific research and teaching methods in the field of education. It is important to introduce international accreditation systems for Uzbek education, to ensure that the education system complies with global requirements. To implement this process, it is necessary to familiarize all educational institutions and teachers with international experience, and to direct them to study modern teaching methods.

Also, by strengthening the international cooperation of the Uzbek education system, adapting educational institutions to international requirements, and introducing the best practices of global education, the Uzbek education system can be recognized not only domestically, but also internationally.

Conclusion

and modernizations implemented in the education system since independence are aimed at meeting the social, economic and cultural needs of society in line with modern requirements and global changes. The education system in Uzbekistan seeks to create equal opportunities for all citizens, not just for certain social strata.

serve to improve the quality of education, but also to ensure economic growth and social justice in society. New educational programs and methods have a positive impact on the economic and social development of the country by preparing students for digital and innovative sectors. Also, the digitalization of the education system and the introduction of innovations create an opportunity to train strong, globally competitive personnel.

However, to further improve education policy, it is necessary to improve the skills of teachers, optimize educational resources, study and integrate international experiences. By increasing the efficiency of the education system and bringing it into line with international standards, the Uzbek education system can reach a level that is recognized globally. This will serve not only the development of young people, but also all segments of society and ensure social equality.

Future reforms to improve education policy in Uzbekistan will ensure that the education system becomes more efficient and innovative, which will serve to improve the quality of life of all citizens of the country.

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