

REGIONAL ASPECTS OF ECONOMIC GROWTH AND PROSPERITY

Jurayev Toshbolta Tukhtayevich

*Doctor of Economic Sciences,
Professor of the Department of "Economic Theory",
Tashkent State University of Economics
E-mail: djoraevtoshbolta1956@gmail.com*

Aktamov Orzubek Jurabekovich

*1st year student of the Faculty of Finance,
Tashkent State University of Economics
E-mail: aktamovorzubek1@gmail.com*

Abstract: *This article scientifically analyzes strategies for developing regions that are currently lagging behind in economic growth and reducing poverty. It also proposes measures for restarting inactive enterprises in these regions, organizing production processes, providing employment opportunities for the unemployed population, reducing poverty, and effectively utilizing the potential of labor migrants. The article presents practical recommendations aimed at improving the living standards of the population through the implementation of regional economic growth.*

Keywords: *economic growth, poverty reduction, employment opportunities, migrants, population welfare, employment, living standards, government programs.*

Introduction.

Today, the implementation of economic development in certain regions of our country is one of the most important tasks.

One of the most important tasks today is the rational use of funds allocated by the state, the development of healthcare and education, employment of young people, and the introduction of measures aimed at studying and improving the lifestyle of the population.

As the Head of our state Sh.M. Mirziyoyev noted: "Regional economic development is defined as the main factor in creating new jobs, increasing exports and increasing the income of the population, based on the capabilities of each district and city." [1]

Therefore, ensuring sustainable economic and social well-being of the population is considered one of the priority areas of the "Uzbekistan-2030 Strategy".[2]

Today, our country's economy is growing rapidly, but some regions are lagging behind in development due to certain reasons.

Several proposals are put forward to develop the economy of the targeted districts and cities:

- revitalizing inactive enterprises and factories
- establishing local production and creating new jobs

- Attracting investors to districts and regions, providing interest-free loans to young people who want to engage in entrepreneurship and encouraging them.
- Increasing productive use of local resources for development and reproduction.
- and activating the production of quality products that reach the market.
- Organizing vocational schools in districts and regions, providing them with the necessary equipment and modern technologies, and creating programs aimed at ensuring employment of the population.
- Using workers going abroad in the country.

As a result, it is intended to significantly reduce the number of unemployed.

Literature review

The issues of regional economic growth and poverty reduction have been studied by many international and local scholars, and such studies are still ongoing. In particular, Esther Duflo and Abhijit Banerjee in their research propose a “small steps” and targeted approach to poverty reduction. They have proven that economic growth can be achieved by improving health and education in regions.[3]

Natalya Zubarevich, a leading expert on regional economics in Russia and the CIS countries, emphasized that “to ensure economic growth, regions need to be given more freedom.”[4]

Another Russian scholar, Academician Glazyev, has advocated the strategy of “leapfrogging” the development of lagging regions through technological structures and innovations.[5] American economist Daron Acemoglu links the reason for the lagging regions with institutions (rule of law, property rights). In his opinion, regional development cannot be achieved without institutional reforms.[6]

Doctor of Economics and Philosophy, Professor T.T. Jo'rayev, in the process of his research, cited the following quotes about ensuring employment and improving the living conditions of the population: "By ensuring employment, the scope of application of labor expands, the volume of goods and services increases, the standard of living of people rises, and social tension in society is alleviated." [7]

Research methodology

The article presents a statistical and dynamic analysis of the economic development of the region and the methods of finding solutions to these problems in the future. The analysis of the further improvement of the economy of our country and the widespread use of modern technologies in production were carried out, and proposals were developed.

Analysis and discussion of results

In order to effectively use resources, it is necessary to apply the necessary programs, properly direct the allocated investments, and pay special attention to the districts and cities where economic growth is lagging behind, and to seriously approach the problems. Additional funds should be allocated to such regions, and annual plans should be drawn up to develop them economically and increase the number of jobs, like other

regions. In our country, some regions, namely regions and districts, are lagging behind in economic development, and therefore the number of unemployed in these regions is increasing.

The first table lists the districts in some regions of the heavy category selected according to their main socio-economic indicators based on statistical data for 2026.

Table 1

Districts selected in regions[8]

T/P	Territory	District name
1	Republic of Karakalpakstan	1. Buzatov district 2. Qonlikol district 3. Shumanay district
2	Andijan region	1. Bostan District 2. Ulug'nar District 3. Pakhtaabad District
3	Bukhara region	1. Peshku district 2. Olot district 3. Qarakol district
4	Jizzakh region	1. Arnasay district 2. Mirzachul district 3. Forish district
5	Kashkadarya region	1. Dehqanabad district 2. Nishon district 3. Kasbi district

The data in this table show that it is necessary to further strengthen control over socio-economic development in the regions under consideration. Special attention to industry, production and tourism in these regions will lead to development in these regions by the end of the year. It is important to properly allocate the huge funds allocated by the state for entrepreneurship and improving the living standards of the population.

According to statistics, 2025 was a year of significant events in the economic life of Uzbekistan. The growth of gross domestic product was 7%, and by the end of the year it is expected to reach \$ 145 billion.

Poverty decreased from 8.9% at the beginning of the year to 5.8%, and the unemployment rate from 5.5% to 4.9%.[9]

This article focuses on Dehqanabad district, which is currently lagging behind in economic growth rates within the Kashkadarya region.

Table 2

According to the National Statistics Committee, the socio-economic situation of Kashkadarya region in 2025 is as follows.[10]

Permanent residents	3,716,949 people (as of January 1, 2026)
Gross domestic product	increased by 6.8%
Industrial production volume	increased by 7.2%
Construction volume	increased by 10.8%
Retail product development	increased by 8.6%
Market services volume	increased by 13.6%
Foreign trade turnover	increased by 0.3%
Export volume	decreased by 0.9%
Import volume	increased by 1.1%
Rural, forest, and fishery volume	increased by 4.3%

As of January 1, 2026, 30,424 enterprises and organizations were operating.

Statistical data show that in Kashkadarya region, gross regional product increased by 6.8%, industrial production by 7.2%, and retail trade turnover by 8.6%. However, foreign trade turnover increased by only 0.3%, while exports decreased by 0.9%. This indicates that production and product exports are not sufficiently developed. It is necessary to pay more attention to the production sector in order to increase exports.

Table 3.

Dehqanabad district statistics as of 2024

Population	162.7 thousand
National production	200 thousand tons of potassium salt
Local production	83 thousand tons of sand and gravel
Number of unemployed in the region	3.9 thousand people, or 6.2%
The share of industry in the regional economy	2,6%
The share of agriculture in the regional economy	4,1%
The share of services in the regional economy	1,9%
In agriculture	91.5 thousand heads of cattle and 762.7 thousand heads of small cattle

As for the economy of Dekhkanabad district, the main local product of this region, which has a population of 162.7 thousand, is potash salt. 200 thousand tons of potash

salt and 83 million tons of sand and gravel are produced annually. The number of unemployed in the region is 3.9 thousand people, or 6.2%. The share of industry in the regional economy is 2.6%, agriculture is 4.1%, and the service sector is 1.9%. Agricultural products include 91.5 thousand heads of cattle, 762.7 thousand heads of small cattle, and 186.6 thousand heads of poultry. In addition, 25.4 thousand tons of meat and 55.3 thousand tons of dairy products were produced in the region in 2018. According to statistics for 2024, the district's income was 145.5 billion soums, and its expenses were 183.6 billion soums. The difference between these indicators indicates that there are still opportunities for rapid development. Shavkat Mirziyoyev announced that the unemployment rate in Uzbekistan had decreased from 8.9% to 5.8% in 2025. "Even if you applaud this figure more, I agree. These are data provided by international organizations. We are forcing everyone to respect us with all our hard work," the president said. [12]

Conclusion and practical suggestions

As a result of the conducted analysis, it can be concluded that in regions with a low level of local production, low export volume, but increasing import volume, economic growth rates are slow. As a result, the unemployment rate increases and the quality of life of the population deteriorates.

If the financial resources allocated for the development of regions are strictly controlled and used purposefully, these problems can be prevented.

At the end of the study, we found it appropriate to make the following suggestions for regional development:

1. Rational use of local resources in production and modernization of enterprises and factories to increase industrial capacity.
2. Reducing the number of migrants and the unemployed by 2025, and establishing the effective use of their labor potential in our country.

In conclusion, if the economic growth of the regions is ensured, the well-being of the population will be further strengthened and the sustainable growth of the country's economy will be achieved.

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