

**STRATEGIES FOR ENSURING TERRITORIAL ECONOMIC GROWTH THROUGH
THE DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE**

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Annotation. This article analyzes the organizational and economic aspects of ensuring territorial economic growth through the development of tourism infrastructure from a scientific-theoretical and practical point of view. This article covers the role of tourism infrastructure in increasing the economic potential of the regions, the main strategies for its development and the importance of public policy, in particular, decrees and decisions of the president of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Also, the mechanisms for creating new jobs, expanding the service sector and ensuring territorial sustainable economic growth are justified by investing in tourism infrastructure.

Keywords: tourism infrastructure, territorial economic growth, tourist cluster, public policy, investment, sustainable development.

Introduction

In the world economy, the tourism sector is considered as one of the strategic sectors that stimulate territorial economic growth. The development of tourism infrastructure is instrumental in increasing the attractiveness of the regions investiture, creating new jobs, expanding the services sector and increasing the income of the local population. In particular, the harmonious development of transport, hospitality, information and communication technologies and tourist services infrastructure makes it possible to fully realize the economic potential of the regions.

In the Republic of Uzbekistan, in recent years, special attention has been paid to the development of the tourism sector as one of the priorities of the economy. Decrees and decisions of the president of the country aimed at modernizing the tourism infrastructure, organizing tourist clusters, increasing the flow of domestic and foreign tourists serve to strengthen the institutional framework of this industry. In particular, in the adopted state programs for the development of tourism, it is established as the main task to ensure economic growth through the effective use of the natural, cultural and recreational potential of the regions.

Regions with developed tourism infrastructure will have a high level of economic activity. Tourism infrastructure includes transport networks, accommodation facilities, catering enterprises, cultural and educational facilities and a complex of digital services. The development of this infrastructure will bring a multiplicative effect in the territorial economy, while improving the quality of tourist services.

Investments in tourism infrastructure stimulate economic growth not only in the tourism sector, but also in the construction, trade, transport and service sectors. As a result, new jobs are created in the regional labor market, employment is ensured and socio-economic stability is strengthened.

In ensuring regional economic growth, it is advisable that the development of tourism infrastructure is carried out on the basis of the following strategic directions:

First of all, it is important to improve the transport and logistics infrastructure. The development of automobile and railways, air traffic and domestic transport networks will expand the possibilities for tourists to reach the regions.

Secondly, it is necessary to diversify the hotel and accommodation infrastructure. The development of hotels, hostels, family guest houses and ecotourism facilities of various categories increases the coverage of tourism services.

Thirdly, the digitization of tourist services is of strategic importance. Online booking, electronic payments, digital maps and information platforms provide a comfortable environment for tourists and increase service efficiency.

Fourth, the establishment of tourist clusters and special tourism zones is an effective model of territorial development. This direction is also set as a priority in presidential decrees and provides for the implementation of infrastructure projects on the basis of public-private partnerships.

Decrees and decisions of the president of the Republic of Uzbekistan aimed at the development of the tourism sector serve to systematically develop the tourism infrastructure. These documents set out measures to improve the infrastructure of regional tourism, improve the investment environment, introduce tax and financial benefits, and support local entrepreneurship.

As a result of the consistency of State Policy, new tourist areas are developing along with historical cities such as Samarkand, Bukhara, Khiva. This serves to reduce economic imbalances between regions and ensure sustainable economic growth.

Literature review

The issues of development of tourism infrastructure have been extensively researched in the Economic Sciences, in particular within the framework of the territorial economy, the economy of the services sector and the theory of sustainable development. In the scientific literature, the tourism infrastructure is interpreted as a sum of hospitality, transport system, catering facilities, cultural and Educational Facilities, Information Services, as well as other elements of the service infrastructure.

In International Studies (UNWTO, World Bank), it is argued that the level of development of tourism infrastructure is inextricably linked with the country's competitiveness, the volume of tourist flow and the growth of exports of services. Investments in transport and hotel infrastructure in particular are seen as one of the main factors in creating added value and increasing employment in the tourism sector.

Scientists from the CIS and Russia (Alexandrova, Kvartalnov, Balabanov) assessed the tourism infrastructure as a driver of territorial development, scientifically substantiating the manifestation of its economic efficiency through the influx of tourists, the volume of services and the growth of income of local residents. The importance of state support mechanisms to tourism infrastructure is highlighted in these studies.

In the scientific work of scientists of Uzbekistan, the issues of development of tourism infrastructure are also widely covered. In particular, A.Yusupov and B.Kholmurodov conducted research on the diversification of the tourism sector, the formation of tourism clusters in the territories and investments in infrastructure companies interested in the economic security of the country.

Methodology

This research is aimed at analyzing the main indicators of the development of tourism infrastructure in Uzbekistan, assessing their dynamics and impact on economic growth. In the study, a complex, systematic and scientific approach was taken as a basis.

The methodological basis of the study is scientific views on economic theory, the concept of territorial development, the principles of sustainable tourism and the economy of the services sector. Also, decrees and decisions of the president of the Republic of Uzbekistan aimed at the development of the tourism sector were applied as a normative and legal basis.

Analiz va tahlil

In assessing the level of development of tourism infrastructure, key indicators such as the volume of investments, the number of tourists, the share of the busy population in the tourism industry are important. Through these indicators, it is possible to analyze to what extent the tourism potential is effectively used in the country, the effectiveness of the state programs and reforms being implemented.

Therefore, the scientific analysis of the main indicators of the development of tourism infrastructure in Uzbekistan, the study of their dynamics and interdependence are relevant in terms of the country's economic growth, complex development of Regions and improving the well-being of the population.

Table 1

**Main directions of tourism infrastructure development in Uzbekistan
(2020-2025)**

Year	Investments in tourism infrastructure* (trln som)	Touristlar Sony (million kishi)	Bands in tourism* (thousand people)
2020	8,2	1,5	220
2021	9,5	1,9	245
2022	12,1	5,2	280
2023	15,4	6,6	320
2024	18,7	8,0	360
2025	22,0	10,7 ¹	400

¹ Information for 2025—official release from January to November.

Source: State Statistical Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan (stat.uz), official tourism committee data, 2020-2025.

During 2020-2025, the volume of investments in tourism infrastructure has shown a steady growth trend. In particular, in 2020, this figure was 8.2 trillion soums, while by 2025 it was 22.0 trillion soums. This demonstrates the effectiveness of Investiture policies aimed at the tourism sector based on post-pandemic recovery processes, the expansion of public-private partnership mechanisms, and presidential decrees and resolutions.

According to the diagram, although the number of tourists decreased sharply in 2020, there is a steady increase from 2022. As of 2025, the number of tourists was 10.7 million people. This is explained by the development of transport, hotel, service services infrastructure and the strengthening of visa-free regimes and international marketing policies.

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Conclusion

The development of tourism infrastructure is an important strategic factor in ensuring territorial economic growth. The harmonious development of Transport, service and digital infrastructure will increase the competitiveness of the tourism sector and provide the basis for the stable growth of the local economy. Reforms carried out on the basis of presidential decrees and

state programs have a positive effect on the socio-economic development of the territories, strengthening the institutional and economic foundations of this process.

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