

REGIONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF SERVICES IN THE
DIGITAL ECONOMY

Shadieva Gulnora Mardievna

Samarkand Institute of Economics and Service,

Doctor of Economics.

<https://orcid.org/my-orcid?orcid=0000-0001-7078-8815>

Tel: 90-968 51-22

gulnora.shodiyeva@mail.ru

Mamatazimov Jaloliddin Sherzod ugli

Master of Samarkand Institute of Economics and Service

Abstract

This article analyzes regional characteristics and their important aspects of the development of the service sector in the context of the digital economy. Also, the possibilities of digital transformation of the economy are based on the development of digital services in the regions.

Keywords

digital economy, service sector, regional features, digital transformation, economic development, technological innovation, service efficiency, regional development.

Аннотация

Ушбу мақолада рақамли иқтисодиёт шароитида хизмат кўрсатиш соҳасини ривожлантиришнинг минтақавий хусусиятлар ва уларнинг муҳим жиҳатлари таҳлил қилинган. Шунингдек ишда минтақаларда рақамли хизматларни ривожлантиришга асосан иқтисодиётни рақамли трансформациялаш имкониятлари асосланган.

Калит сўзлар

рақамли иқтисодиёт, хизмат кўрсатиш соҳаси, минтақавий хусусиятлар, рақамли трансформация, иқтисодий ривожланиш, технологик инновациялар, хизмат кўрсатиш самарадорлиги, минтақавий ривожланиш.

Аннотация

В данной статье анализируются региональные особенности и их важные аспекты развития сферы услуг в условиях цифровой экономики. Также возможности цифровой трансформации экономики основаны на развитии цифровых сервисов в регионах.

Ключевые слова

цифровая экономика, сфера услуг, региональные особенности, цифровая трансформация, экономическое развитие, технологические инновации, эффективность услуг, региональное развитие.

Introduction. The digital economy creates new economic opportunities for the development of regions on a global scale. In this regard, under the leadership of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev, a number of resolutions and decrees are being adopted in our country on the widespread introduction of the digital economy and the development of the information technology sector. In particular, the Resolution of our President “On Measures for the Development of the Digital Economy”¹ dated April 24, 2020 and the Decree “On the Strategy of Uzbekistan - 2030”² dated September 11, 2023 have created a solid legal basis for the development of the digital economy in our country. These documents provide for accelerating economic growth and ensuring innovative development by introducing digital technologies into all sectors, including the service sector. Also, as our President noted, “... it is necessary to pay special attention to the issues of making significant investments in the regions of our country ...”³ creates new economic opportunities.

The development of the service sector in Uzbekistan in the context of the digital economy depends on regional characteristics and is based on the specific economic, social and infrastructural factors of each region. For example, the widespread use of the Internet in cities expands the digital capabilities of service provision, while in rural areas this process is proceeding much more slowly. Therefore, it is necessary to take into account regional characteristics in the development of digital services, which will ensure economic and social equality in our country, as well as increase the efficiency of the service sector in all regions.

Analysis of relevant literature. The scientific and theoretical foundations of economists who have made a worthy contribution to supporting the service sector and increasing employment are being widely studied. In particular, Makhmudova A. N., Nugmanovna M.A., M.K. Pardaev, M.M. Muhammedov, K.J.Mirzaev, B.H.Koziboev, Usmanova D.I., Urinbaeva Y.P., Mukhitdinov Sh.Kh., Bobokulova S.B., Kuvandiqov Sh.O. and other scientists.

Research methodology. In carrying out this research work, methods widely used in scientific research methodology were used. In studying the ways of developing the service sector in the conditions of the digital economy, the use of deductive or inductive methods from generality to individuality and vice versa is effective, while the method of abstract-logical thinking is important for a systematic analysis of the process. In the process of scientific analysis, these scientific research methods, in particular, observation, generalization, grouping, comparison, and in analysis, synthesis and analysis methods were widely used.

Analysis and results. The concept of a region is applied to a part of the territory of the world or a country. A region, as part of the world territory, includes several countries based on geographical, political, economic, environmental, ethno-cultural information, military and other

¹ O‘zbekiston Respublikasi Prezidentining 28.04.2020 yildagi “Raqamli iqtisodiyot va elektron hukumatni keng joriy etish chora-tadbirlari to‘g‘risida” PQ-4699-son qarori

² O‘zbekiston Respublikasi Prezidentining 11.09.2023 yildagi “O‘zbekiston — 2030 strategiyasi to‘g‘risida” gi PF-158-son farmoni

³ Sh.M. Mirziyoyev - “Milliy taraqqiyot yo‘limizni qat‘iyat bilan davom ettirib, yangi bosqichga ko‘taramiz”, Toshkent – “O‘zbekiston”-2017

criteria and approaches. For example, there are regions of Eastern Europe, Western Europe, Central Asia, Southeast Asia and other countries. Within a single country, regions, districts and cities form its regions as administrative-territorial units based on geographical, economic-political, ethno-cultural, environmental, information and other criteria.

There are such systems of regional economy that occupy a special place in the national economy of each country, in independent economic management and are distinguished by their natural climate, geographical location, reserves of natural-mineral and raw materials resources, provision with labor resources, production potential, the scale of infrastructure of both sectors and industries, customs and traditions of the population, specialization in product production and their contribution to the social division of labor, regional gross domestic product produced per capita by the population, etc.

At the same time, the study and study of economic problems of the regional (regional) sectors on an inter-sectoral scale, environmental problems also occupy a special place within the framework of mesoeconomics (regional economy). The regional economy, as an integral and integral link (part) of the national economy of a country, carries out economic activities in a single integrated form under the influence of an inseparable general economic policy.

In the context of the digital economy, it is advisable to implement the following tasks for the socio-economic development of regions:

1. Ensuring the acceleration and proportionality of production using all resources in the region (material, financial, labor) and, on this basis, increasing its efficiency.
2. Determining the future development rates of regions. In this regard, attention should be paid to the full use of local resources.
3. Widely using the achievements of scientific and technological development in production. For this, it will be necessary to create an economic mechanism that will ensure the acceleration of scientific and technological development in the region and further democratize planning.

In most countries of the world, the service sector has been determining the main macroeconomic indicators of the state in recent years. The introduction of new technologies in industry and agriculture and the automation of production are turning the service sector into the main source of employment. The development of the service sector is a universal process, which in the last decade has been determined by the combination of the following trends⁴:

- digital transformation of social life and the economy;
- socio-economic processes of sustainable development, globalization and humanization;
- service trends and the emergence of hybrid products;

⁴ Maxmudova A. N. i dr. Rol mladogogo pokoleniya v formirovanii sovremennogo grajdanskogo obcestva

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- the development of the economy of cooperation and the economy of shared consumption;

Accordingly, the government of our Republic is taking large-scale measures to develop the service sector in the context of the digital economy. In particular, in accordance with the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PF-6079 dated October 5, 2020, the “Digital Uzbekistan-2030 Strategy” was adopted⁵.

In order to ensure the implementation of this decree, a comprehensive set of measures is being implemented in our country to actively develop the digital economy and widely introduce modern information and communication technologies in all sectors and areas, primarily in public administration, education, healthcare, and agricultural services. In the context of the digital economy, one of the primary goals of the strategy is to improve the quality of products and services, reduce their cost, and increase the transparency of financial and economic activities through the introduction of modern information systems and software products.

In addition, in accordance with the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PF-60 dated January 28, 2022, the “Development Strategy of New Uzbekistan” for 2022-2026 has been developed. The Development Strategy of New Uzbekistan sets 100 goals for Uzbekistan in 7 priority areas of development for the next 5 years. The actions to be taken to achieve these goals are also specific. They, in turn, greatly facilitate monitoring of efficiency and effectiveness. The 3rd direction of this strategy is “Accelerated development of the national economy and ensuring high growth rates”⁶.

Also, taking into account regional indicative (recommended) characteristics, the following tasks should be solved at enterprises:

- organization and development of production in accordance with market volume and conditions;

- expansion of foreign economic activity in order to ensure an increase in foreign exchange earnings;

- introduction of rapidly changing new technologies based on market demand and improvement of product quality, etc.

- development of foreign economic relations taking into account local interests in agreement with the central government bodies.

Based on these considerations, regional policy can be defined as an important component of the national policy aimed at ensuring proportionality in the socio-economic development of regions (territories) and eliminating differences and imbalances in the most important macroeconomic indicators between them. Regional policy in a broad sense represents the goals and objectives of government bodies for managing the political, economic and social development of the country's regions, as well as the mechanism for their implementation.

⁵ O‘zbekiston Respublikasi Prezidentining 2020-yil 5-oktabrdagi PF-6079-son farmoniga muvofiq “Raqamli O‘zbekiston-2030 Strategiyasi” 24-bet.

⁶ O‘zbekiston Respublikasi Prezidentining 2022-yil 28-yanvar kunidagi PF-60-sonli farmoniga muvofiq 2022-2026-yillarga mo‘ljallangan “Yangi O‘zbekistonning taraqqiyot strategiyasi” 2-bet.

The main levers for implementing state regional policy aimed at regulating the development of regions and territories by the state are:

- financial benefits or incentives are provided to production and service enterprises in certain regions for socio-economic development in accordance with the state program, that is, investment grants, low-interest loans, exemption from taxes and rent payments;
- control over the activities of enterprises and firms in developing regions so that they do not move their offices, departments, and production facilities to other regions;
- investments in the development of social and production infrastructure in developing regions, in particular, the construction of roads, and the improvement of the living conditions of the population are of great importance.

An important component of state regional policy aimed at the development of regions is regional economic policy. The goals of regional economic policy are inextricably linked with the goals of regional (territorial) development. The goal of the regional policy in the economic sphere is to increase the living standard and quality of the population based on the rational use of the territory's potential, its limited economic resources, the advantages of interregional labor distribution and cooperation.

At the same time, the state's economic regional policy for regulating regions in the context of the emerging digital economy consists of the following:

- ensuring conditions for raising the standard of living of the population based on ensuring sustainable economic growth in the regions;
- improving the standard of living of the population based on the modernization of production, technical and technological re-equipment, and the introduction of new production technologies in cooperation with the regions to form a multi-modal, socially oriented market economy;
- implementing targeted structural, investment, scientific and technical policies in the regions, stimulating entrepreneurship in the real sector of the economy, activities aimed at solving social problems of economic reforms;
- ensuring the economic security of the region. The economic security of the region is a set of conditions, factors, and existing circumstances that determine the stability and development of its economy.

Based on the above, the main goals of the state regional policy in Uzbekistan in the context of the digital economy are given priority to:

- creating equal political and socio-economic conditions for ensuring the rights established by the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan in all regions of the country;
- ensuring social guarantees and equal social and legal protection for all residents of the republic.

Conclusions and proposals. The rapid development of the digital economy and the widespread introduction of digital technologies in the service sector create new opportunities for

increasing the efficiency and ensuring the competitiveness of the regional economy. Based on the above, the development of the digital service sector, taking into account the regional characteristics of the republic's economy, requires the following:

- creating digital opportunities in the service sector by expanding access to high-speed Internet, technological devices and digital infrastructure in rural and remote areas;

- it is necessary to establish specialized centers in the regions for the development of digital technologies and the promotion of digital services. These centers will allow not only the introduction of digital services for service enterprises, but also to increase the digital literacy of the population;

- increasing the position of small and medium-sized businesses in the service sector in the digital economy by providing financial assistance, preferential loans and grants for the introduction of digital technologies;

- the need to organize regular training courses for employees in the regional service sector to improve digital skills and knowledge, which will open up new opportunities for increasing the efficiency of the service sector.

In general, these proposals and recommendations will help develop the service sector in accordance with regional characteristics in the digital economy and ensure increased efficiency of the sector and the well-being of the population.

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