



Importance of Tourism in the Economic Development of Uzbekistan

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Abstract: This study explores the role of tourism in the economic development of Uzbekistan. It discusses the different types of tourism, reforms in the sector, and the potential impact of tourism on raising the morale of the people. The study aims to provide insights into the tourism industry's contribution to the national economy and its importance for cultural and economic development.

Keywords: Tourism, Types Of Tourism, Tourism Flow In Uzbekistan, Tourism Reforms, Key Indicators In Tourism.



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Introduction

In all economically developed countries, each sector and direction is given special attention, as they contribute significantly to the country's economic development, improving the standard of living, and other important factors (Ruziyeva, 2020). The tourism sector is a major part of the service industry. Tourism involves traveling to places outside one's usual environment for purposes such as leisure, business, or learning about other cultures (Tashmatov, 2021).

Types of Tourism

The contemporary age has witnessed the emergence of diverse forms of tourism, such as recreational tourism and business tourism (Shubbar et al., 2019).

1. Excursion tourism refers to traveling for the purpose of sightseeing and exploring new places.
2. Extreme tourism involves engaging in adventurous and high-risk activities in remote and challenging environments.
3. Cultural and educational tourism focuses on experiencing and learning about different cultures, traditions, and historical sites.
4. VIP tourism involves visiting exclusive and luxurious resorts and destinations.
5. Ecotourism emphasizes responsible travel that promotes conservation and sustainability of natural environments.

6. Mountain tourism involves visiting mountainous regions for activities such as hiking, skiing, and mountaineering.
7. Ethnic tourism centers around experiencing and immersing oneself in the customs, traditions, and lifestyles of different ethnic groups.
8. Marine tourism refers to traveling to coastal areas and engaging in activities such as snorkeling, scuba diving, and boat tours.

Every form of tourism provides distinct opportunities for individuals to develop confidence, bravery, and ethical fortitude, by overcoming challenges and eliciting informative and inspiring feelings(Каримова, 2020). Tourism has a substantial impact on the economy and culture of many locations. For instance, the functioning of the tourism system is intricately connected to the advancement of commerce, social services, cultural activities, and medical facilities catering to tourists(Yassin, 2019).

Research Method

The research used the objective method of scientific knowledge(al-Hamdani, 2021). The study objectively reveals the importance of tourism in the development of Uzbekistan's economy, analyzing the stages of tourism development logically. Methodologically, the laws and decisions related to tourism expenses were considered(Dabi et al., n.d.).

Result and Discussion

Uzbekistan has a rich cultural heritage, numerous historical and archaeological sites, a favorable natural climate, and a variety of landscapes. Despite the potential, the country did not fully and effectively utilize these opportunities for many years. The acceptance of various tourism-related documents by the President of Uzbekistan indicates a high level of attention to the development of tourism. These documents address existing issues in the sector and set priorities for increasing tourism potential, with numerous incentives provided for developing domestic tourism(Ştefanovici & Mazilu, 2021).

This study underscores the significant role of tourism in the economic development of Uzbekistan, highlighting both the achievements and challenges within the sector. The analysis reveals that, despite its rich cultural heritage and diverse landscapes, Uzbekistan had not fully capitalized on its tourism potential until recent years. The implementation of several key reforms and legal frameworks has been pivotal in addressing these gaps(Ştefanovici & Mazilu, 2021).

Tourism Reforms and Economic Impact

The introduction of various tourism-related policies, such as the decision "On additional measures for the accelerated development of tourism in the Republic of

Uzbekistan" (PQ-5611) and the decree "On measures to further develop the tourism sector in the Republic of Uzbekistan" (PF-5781), has laid the groundwork for substantial progress. These reforms have been instrumental in fostering youth tourism, with ambitious targets set to increase both foreign and domestic tourism by 2023.

In economic terms, the tourism sector generated \$1.3 billion in 2019, reflecting a 30% increase from the previous year. Additionally, the sector employs over 260,000 individuals, demonstrating its significant impact on job creation and economic stability. The influx of tourism revenue has not only enhanced the economic landscape but also improved the social and cultural fabric of the country, contributing to the overall well-being of its population.

Additional investigation and implications for theory Although there have been significant breakthroughs, there is still a requirement for more extensive theoretical and practical research to completely understand the long-term effects of tourism on Uzbekistan's economy. Subsequent investigations should prioritize the following areas(Shubbar et al., 2019):

Evaluating the long-term viability: Examining the sustainability of the present expansion of tourism and its ecological consequences. This encompasses the examination of the equilibrium between the advancement of tourism and the preservation of the environment.

Cultural Integration: Investigating the potential for tourism to enhance the integration and promotion of Uzbekistan's cultural legacy, while safeguarding its cultural integrity from any negative impacts of tourism growth. An analysis of how tourism can aid in the economic diversification of Uzbekistan by lowering dependence on conventional industries. Practical Applications and Areas of Limited Understanding Although the study offers useful insights, some practical concerns need to be further investigated:

Infrastructure Development: Extensive study is required to increase tourism infrastructure, encompassing transportation, accommodation, and tourist services, in order to improve visitor experience and satisfaction. The study focuses on the impact of digital technologies on the promotion and management of tourism, aiming to gain a better understanding of the role of digitalization in the tourism industry. This encompasses the capacity of digital marketing, online booking systems, and virtual tours to allure a worldwide audience. Assessing the efficacy of existing tourist policies and reforms in attaining their desired results. This is the examination of statistical data and input from stakeholders in order to pinpoint areas that require enhancement.

A significant knowledge gap that has been found is the limited amount of empirical research on the socio-economic effects of tourism in different regions of Uzbekistan. In order to comprehensively comprehend the distinct challenges and opportunities in various regions of the country, future studies should employ a localized methodology. Furthermore, there is a requirement for increased multidisciplinary study that integrates economics, sociology, and environmental science in order to have a comprehensive comprehension of the impact of tourism (Yassin, 2019).

Reforms and Statistics

Significant steps have been taken to enhance the tourism sector, including the introduction of various reforms and legal frameworks. For example:

1. The decision "On additional measures for the accelerated development of tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan" (PQ-5611) was adopted on January 5, 2019.
2. The new edition of the law "On Tourism."
3. The decree "On measures to further develop the tourism sector in the Republic of Uzbekistan" (PF-5781) was adopted on August 13, 2020.

These reforms aim to develop youth tourism, with specific target indicators set for 2020-2025. For instance, the number of foreign young tourists is expected to increase from 1.3 million in 2020 to 3.3 million in 2023, and the number of young domestic tourists from 8.1 million in 2020 to 13.6 million in 2023.

Economic Impact

In 2019, the tourism sector generated \$1.3 billion, a 30% increase compared to 2018. Over 260,000 people are employed in the tourism sector. The inflow of funds into the country significantly impacts the economic, social, and cultural life, enhancing the well-being of the population.

In Uzbekistan, every sector and direction is given special attention, as they contribute significantly to the country's economic development and improvement of the standard of living. Tourism, as a major part of the service industry, involves traveling to places outside one's usual environment for purposes such as leisure, business, or learning about other cultures. This study used the objective method of scientific knowledge to reveal the importance of tourism in Uzbekistan's economic development, analyzing the stages of tourism development logically. Methodologically, the laws and decisions related to tourism expenses were considered.

Uzbekistan has a rich cultural heritage, numerous historical and archaeological sites, a favorable natural climate, and a variety of landscapes. Despite this potential, the country did not fully and effectively utilize these opportunities for many years. However, the

acceptance of various tourism-related documents by the President of Uzbekistan indicates a high level of attention to the development of tourism. These documents address existing issues in the sector and set priorities for increasing tourism potential, with numerous incentives provided for developing domestic tourism.

Significant steps have been taken to enhance the tourism sector, including the introduction of various reforms and legal frameworks. For example, the decision "On additional measures for the accelerated development of tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan" (PQ-5611) was adopted on January 5, 2019, and the new edition of the law "On Tourism." Additionally, the decree "On measures to further develop the tourism sector in the Republic of Uzbekistan" (PF-5781) was adopted on August 13, 2020. These reforms aim to develop youth tourism, with specific target indicators set for 2020-2025, such as increasing the number of foreign young tourists from 1.3 million in 2020 to 3.3 million in 2023, and the number of young domestic tourists from 8.1 million in 2020 to 13.6 million in 2023.

Economically, the tourism sector generated \$1.3 billion in 2019, a 30% increase compared to 2018. Over 260,000 people are employed in the tourism sector, and the inflow of funds into the country significantly impacts the economic, social, and cultural life, enhancing the well-being of the population. The importance of tourism in improving the living standards of the population and positioning the country on the international stage cannot be overstated.

Conclusion

Tourism plays a crucial role in the economic development of Uzbekistan, improving the living standards of the population, and positioning the country on the international stage. To further promote tourism, various measures are being taken, including broadcasting programs that showcase Uzbekistan's tourism potential, providing subsidies and incentives, and engaging ambassadors and compatriots abroad in promoting national values.

This study emphasizes the substantial influence of tourism on the economic progress of Uzbekistan, emphasizing its contribution to strengthening the country's economic growth, elevating living standards, and preserving cultural heritage. The sector's growth has been accelerated by key reforms, such as the implementation of the decision "On additional measures for the accelerated development of tourism in the Republic of Uzbekistan" (PQ-5611) and the decree "On measures to further develop the tourism sector

in the Republic of Uzbekistan" (PF-5781). The purpose of these legislative measures is to enhance young tourism, with ambitious goals established to augment the number of both international and domestic tourists by 2025. The economic consequences are significant, as demonstrated by the tourism industry producing \$1.3 billion in 2019 and employing over 260,000 workers. The influx of funding has had a beneficial impact on the socio-economic and cultural landscape of the country. The report proposes that by making ongoing investments in tourism infrastructure, implementing focused marketing methods, and offering incentives, Uzbekistan can solidify its status as a top-tier tourist destination. Subsequent studies should investigate the enduring viability of these changes and the capacity of future tourist trends, such as eco-tourism and digital tourism, to broaden and fortify Uzbekistan's tourism offerings.

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