

ECONOMIC AND GEOGRAPHICAL FEATURES OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF RURAL TERRITORIES

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Annotation. *The article describes the basics of the socio-economic development of the country's regions, the practical importance of the regional economy, the territorial features of the formation and development of rural districts, which are administrative structures where the majority of the population lives.*

Keywords. *regional economy, rural administrative districts, population, labor resources, natural resources.*

In the formation of the national economy of any country, its constituent regions are of great importance. Transition to market relations, further deepening and liberalization of economic reforms, achievement of stable development largely depends on the potential and opportunities of these regions, that is, different internal parts of the country, activity. From this point of view, important attention is being paid to proper regional organization of production, efficient use of land and water, mineral raw materials, fuel and labor resources of regions and economic regions.

Urgent issues such as creating a free and open economy, creating its various layers, creating a healthy competition and investment space cannot be solved without taking into account the characteristics of the regions. That's why the government of the Republic of Uzbekistan emphasizes expanding the rights and responsibilities of local authorities (provincial, city, district administrations). In the study of the territorial aspects of the above issues, the regional economy, which is similar to the traditional economic geography, is of particular importance. Regional economy studies the factors and laws of the location of production forces, socio-economic development of a separate area or territory [4; p. 5].

The practical significance of the regional economy consists in developing the main directions of regional policy, socio-economic development of regions on a scientific basis and implementing it in agreement with local authorities. Any country has a regional policy, and its principles and directions, goals and objectives differ between developed and developing countries. The regional policy of developed countries is

more focused on solving issues such as depression and problem areas, development of capital cities and management and regulation of urbanization process, social and environmental issues. In developing countries, in order to form and improve their national economy, effective use of the natural and socio-economic potential of regions, establishment of growth poles and centers, free economic zones, regional complexes and clusters, creation of a modern infrastructure system, construction of joint ventures attracting foreign investments and on this basis, priority is given to increasing the country's export potential.

It is known that the deployment of production forces is determined by the general state of the country's national economy, strategic tasks. In particular, the economy of the transition period in Uzbekistan demanded to pass this period as quickly and smoothly as possible, to create strong production, legal and moral foundations of the market economy. During the transition period, first of all, the main directions of the national economy, in particular energy, grain (grain) and road independence, were achieved. It should be noted that if the development of the regions is not properly regulated and managed, the environment of free competition and open economic relations will not fully exist in the regions. From this point of view, the state regulation of the development of production forces and territorial organization is an objective law. This task is mainly implemented through the regional policy of the state.

The need for regional policy arises from the fact that it is impossible to develop the economy of all regions at the same time. Moreover, not every region has the potential for high development. Therefore, the regional policy is focused primarily on the priority areas and sectors that can be developed and are important for the country. In this sense, it is the driving force, practical (constructive) direction of the regional economy; regional policy tries to dynamically optimize, coordinate and stabilize the situation in interregional socio-economic development [1; 3].

Based on the recognized opinions, the main goal of the regional policy is reflected in the following: Optimizing the socio-economic potential of the regions; Effective use of available raw materials and labor resources; Improving the investment environment of the regions, increasing the export potential; Development of local production, social and market infrastructure; Solving the social and environmental problems of the regions, increasing the level of employment of the population; Development of urban and rural districts, management of urbanization and migration processes [5].

These goals are achieved in various ways. For this, first of all, it is necessary to abandon the idea of equalizing the level of economic development of the regions in absolute terms. However, the market economy itself requires fierce competition between regions. Also, on the basis of liberalizing the country's economy, conducting an open economy, creating a favorable investment environment, attracting foreign investors and building mutually beneficial joint ventures on the basis of increasing the investment attractiveness of regions, the organization of free economic regions of various directions gives a great impetus to the development of regions [2].

Currently, there are 161 rural administrative districts in Uzbekistan, which were formed in different periods. The process of their historical formation can be divided into five periods. For example, during the time of the former Union, in terms of implementation and management of agricultural reforms at that time, in particular, the beginning of the process of implementation of "collectivization" led to the establishment of rural districts. On this basis, 25.2 percent of existing rural administrative districts were formed in 1926. Most of these districts correspond to the appropriated areas specialized in irrigated agriculture since ancient times (Khiva, Shavot, Gurlan, Beshariq, etc.).

The increase or decrease in the number of rural districts was mostly related to administrative-territorial changes, the creation of new regions or their annexation to another one. In the second period of the formation of districts (1927-1937), 18 districts were formed, 6 of which belong to the Republic of Karakalpakstan, which joined Uzbekistan in 1932 (Khojayli, Chimboy, Beruni, etc.). The third period corresponds mainly to the years of recovery of the national economy, which was in a difficult situation after the war. During this period, the number of districts increased to five. In the fourth period, 1960-1969, 37 districts were formed. It is worth mentioning that during the above-mentioned period, 45 rural administrative districts were abolished and merged with another, and most of them were re-established within a short period of 1-2 years [6; 7]. In the fifth period, 40 (25.5%) rural administrative districts were formed. Their emergence was primarily due to the development of the Mirzachol and Karshi deserts, as well as the regional policy aimed at the rapid development of production forces in the Ferghana Valley. In 1980-1990, on average, one rural district was formed every year. In the years of independence, the country's administrative-territorial division entered a qualitatively new stage - a period in which it was in line with market relations, and their rights were expanded. During this period, 8 rural administrative districts were established.

According to the analysis of the available data, the number of rural districts in the republic increased regularly until 2000, and in the following years, a decrease and partial stabilization is observed in this regard. It should be said that the latest changes in the number of districts in our country were caused by the joining of Bandikhon district of Surkhandarya region to the neighboring Kyziriq districts, Zangiota and Tashkent districts of Tashkent region. Also, in order to more effectively and rationally use the economic potential and social infrastructure, labor and material resources of Baharistan and Usman Yusupov districts of Kashkadarya region, Mirishkor district was formed on the basis of combining these two districts and the village of New Mirishkor was designated as its center. In addition, in order to create social and household amenities for the residents of Chirakchi district of Kashkadarya region, and to regulate the planned changes and urbanization processes in the region by the state, especially to ensure employment of the population, it was decided to establish Kokdala district in a part of this district, and its center was designated as Ettitom town. Bozatov district was formed by combining the territories of "Bo'zatov" township assembly, "Kusqanatov", "Erkindarya", "Aspantay" village assemblies and "Kok-suv" village assembly within Chimboy district of the Republic of Karakalpakstan. New Namangan and Davlatabad districts were formed within Namangan city of Namangan region.

At this point, it should be said that the number of rural districts should always be optimal, based on the internal policy of the country. The reason is that their excessive reduction, enlargement and centralization distance the governing bodies from the people and their daily needs, do not allow to quickly solve the local problems that have arisen, and their increase complicates the management system and the financial situation.

Thus, the administrative-territorial structure of our republic changed in terms of time and space and was related to such factors as the political-social structure of that period, assigned tasks, territorial organization of production, improvement of the management system. It should be noted that these administrative divisions are important from the point of view of economic and social (political) geography. Because within them, there are opportunities to collect statistical data, develop scientific and practical recommendations aimed at improving the management system, and determine the country's regional policy. From this point of view, it is desirable that the administrative-territorial units are as stable and optimal as possible. Periodic changes (increase or decrease) in the number of rural administrative districts in conditions of the same territory of the country occur

under the influence of such reasons as social, political, administrative reforms, development of new lands, regional structure of the economy, population settlement. Therefore, comprehensive, "inside" study of rural districts is of great importance in the science of economic and social geography. The reason is that the general economic, political, geographical characteristics of any country are determined on the basis of such large-scale studies.

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