
THE ROLE OF TOURISM IN THE NATIONAL ECONOMY

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Abstract: the article examines the current problems of developing tourism in our country as a priority of the main state policy from the first days of independence. The basis of the achievements is that all the necessary organizational and legal mechanisms for the development of the tourism sector have been created, important regulatory documents have been adopted, and this work is still ongoing.

Key words: service provision, tourism, decrees and decisions, export of tourism services, foreign and domestic tourism, legal documents, capital, business, activity, income, production.

INTRODUCTION

The development of tourism in our country has been considered a priority of the main state policy since the first days of independence. All the necessary organizational and legal mechanisms for the development of the tourism sector were created, important regulatory documents were adopted, and this work is still ongoing.

In particular, the Law of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Tourism", a number of Decrees and Resolutions of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on tourism, Resolutions of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic, guidelines of the Tourism Committee under the Ministry of Ecology and other official state agencies. , guidelines and procedures are being developed and implemented.

At the same time, the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the "Uzbekistan-2030" strategy was approved in connection with the reforms that are being implemented in the way of building a new Uzbekistan. "Increasing the number of tourists by creating ample conditions for the development of external and internal tourism in Uzbekistan" related to the priority direction of the "Uzbekistan-2030" strategy entitled "Ensuring the well-being of the population through sustainable economic growth" In accordance with the stated goal, the performance indicators of the goals to be achieved by 2030 have been determined, which are as

follows:

Increase the number of foreign tourists to 15 million, the number of domestic tourists to 25 million, and the number of pilgrims to 3 million.

Establishment of 30 large tourism clusters in the republic at the expense of attracting private investments, increasing the number of guest places by at least 2 times, building 25 ropeways in mountainous areas, increasing the number of tourism neighborhoods to 175.

To increase the export of tourism services to 5 billion dollars, to increase the export of medical and educational tourism to 1.5 billion dollars per year.

Introduction of "Tax free" system for foreign tourists at all international airports for products purchased and cleared from the republic.

Development of the national program "Masterpieces of Ancient History" and restoration of cultural heritage objects within its framework, organization of "open-air museums" in monuments.

To further encourage the establishment of companies that provide intercity bus transportation on the scale of our country.

Organization of a total of more than 1,000 electric charging stations, food and entertainment, trade and service points.

It is clear and obvious that such reforms carried out for the development of foreign and domestic tourism in Uzbekistan will show their results in the future.

Methodology. The methodological basis of the research was the legal and regulatory documents in the field of tourism development, presidential decrees and decisions. Also, the methods of induction and deduction were widely used in the analysis of views and opinions related to the research work. Statistical data grouping, comparative analysis, sample observation methods were used in the analysis of the data of the Statistical Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan. Scientific abstraction and other methods were used to enrich the content of the work and give it concluding thoughts.

Results. Tourism is the driver of the economy of many modern countries: in addition to budget revenues, it stimulates the development of transport and communication, construction and agriculture, industry, which in turn leads to the creation of additional jobs. Tourist business has a positive effect on the economy of any country, region, district. Although it requires a lot of money, investing in the tourism sector is very profitable, because these funds pay off relatively quickly, and also bring in more foreign currency investment.

According to the information of the International Labor Organization, until the pandemic (until 2019), 284 million of the working population of the world will be employed in the international tourism system. the person is busy. Also, it was determined that one new job created in this network costs 20 times less than in the industrial network. 30 tourists visiting a foreign country create an opportunity to directly create one or two new jobs in the host country. Therefore, compared to other sectors of the country's economy, the tourism sector can create more jobs and provide foreign exchange earnings with less expenditure.

The development of the tourism sector as a driver of the economy in our country leads to an increase in entrepreneurship and institutional activity, providing foreign currency income to the budget, improving hotels and infrastructures, and expanding international relations. Uzbekistan has all the necessary resources to turn the modern tourism industry into a driver of its national economy. It is recognized by the world community as having a high potential for the development of international tourism.

As a result of determining tourism as one of the strategic sectors of the economy in Uzbekistan, over 90 normative legal documents, decrees and decisions were adopted by the government aimed at the rapid development of the sector over the next 5 years.

In particular, the number of countries where visas are not required for foreign citizens has been increased from 9 to 90, and the "electronic visa" system has been introduced for 57 countries. In this year, which is difficult for tourism, entities in the field are being supported in every way, and subsidies and loans are allocated to them.

It should be noted that the socio-economic importance of tourism is expressed in its multiplicative effect. The development of the tourism sector is determined by the multiplier effect in more than 40 sectors of the national economy.

It can be seen in the picture below that the tourism sector is directly and indirectly dependent on many related sectors of the national economy. (Figure 1). In Uzbekistan, taking into account the joint development of the tourism sector with the adjacent sectors shown in the picture, it has been determined that there is a possibility of creating at least 112 thousand additional jobs per year in terms of employment.

According to the World Travel & Tourism Council, in 2019, the number of people employed in Uzbekistan's tourism and related industries (transportation, catering, services, etc.) accounted for 5.3% of total employment and 680 5 thousand specialists are employed.

Thanks to the reforms carried out in the field of tourism in New Uzbekistan, Uzbekistan is one of the 5 safest countries in the world by the "Wegoplace" travel portal, and one of the 10 most popular countries for pilgrimage tourism in the world by "CrescentRating" (Singapore) and "Mastercard" organizations. recognized as one.

The attention of the government and management structures in Uzbekistan is currently focused on the rapid development of inbound and domestic tourism, and a number of government decisions and programs have been adopted in this regard. The measures adopted by this government are determined by the fact that the role of inbound and domestic tourism is a source of free currency conversion and an important reserve for replenishing the gross domestic product. The positive results of government decisions and programs aimed at the rapid development of tourism in Uzbekistan before the pandemic are shown in Table 1.

Table 1

The main indicators of the development of the tourism sector of the Republic of Uzbekistan in 2014-2022

Indicator names	Years					
	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Total number of people served(million people)	13,3	17,8	21,4	5,1	7,7	16,6
Including:						
number of foreign tourists (million people)	2,7	5,3	6,7	1,5	1,9	5,2
Number of domestic tourists (million people)	10,5	12,5	14,7	3,5	5,8	11,4
Number of tourist companies and organizations (units)	449	502	517	337	288	348
Hotel and alternative means of accommodation (unit)	816	916	1051	1156	1085	1167

Source: Prepared based on the information of the State Statistics Committee of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

According to the table, it should be noted that the number of local (domestic) tourists increased by 107% compared to 2017 and reached 14.9 million people.

The number of foreign tourists who came to Uzbekistan was 2.7 million in 2017, 5.2 million in

2022, and 4.3 million in the last 9 months of 2023. The average length of stay of tourists in our country is 4-5 days, which has increased by 1.5 times compared to the same period last year.

Discussion. In 2017, the average amount of money spent by each foreign tourist in the territory of the republic was 197 US dollars, this indicator reached 400 US dollars in 2023, and the volume of tourism exports was 1.72 billion in 9 months of 2023. reached the dollar. Among the important factors that influenced this growth are the liberalization of the visa regime, the simplification of the procedure for traveling and business activities in Uzbekistan, and the simplification of the following tourism formalities:

the number of visa-free countries was increased to 18 in 2018 and 65 in 2019. From January 1, 2021, this number has increased to 90. In addition, citizens of 77 countries were given the opportunity to receive electronic visas, citizens of 109 countries were granted the right to live in the Republic of Uzbekistan.

a system of issuing double and multiple-entry electronic visas was created, five new visa categories were introduced for certain groups of foreign citizens ("Citizen", "Student visa", "Academic visa", "Medical visa", "Pilgrim visa").

The process of temporary registration of foreign citizens has been simplified and transferred to a fully electronic system by means of the electronic program "E-MEHMON", according to which the right to register foreign citizens, by placing them in the electronic system, treatment facilities, tourist companies, private apartment owners, guest houses and foreign tourists traveling independently around the country.

Conclusion. As a result of the ongoing scientific research, the following conclusion can be made for the production of competitive products through the further development of the tourism sector:

- Creation of other types of tourism in our country besides historical monuments and pilgrimage tourism;
- In the development of tourism, the managers of travel agencies should have more information about management and should constantly introduce innovations into tour packages and work on them;
- It is necessary to improve services in tourism based on the experience of developed countries;
- Improving the qualifications of service personnel in the field of tourism;
- Developing tourism by increasing the quality of services provided to tourists and attracting more tourists to our country by giving great importance to personnel management in the management of tourist companies and hotels.

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