

PROMOTION AND PROSPECTS OF GREEN ECONOMY IN CENTRAL ASIA

Gaybullayeva G. M.

Teacher of the Department of Economics
Fergana Polytechnic Institute

ABSTRACT

The article discusses the comprehensive measures implemented in Uzbekistan in the field of green ecology development, aimed at deepening structural transformations, modernization and diversification of the basic sectors of the economy, and balanced socio-economic development of the territories. Research has shown that there are interrelated challenges and needs in ensuring an efficient, resource-efficient and environmentally sound economy in the face of climate change.

Keywords: "green" economy, environment, green energy, sustainable development, ecology, harmful impact, anthropogenic impact, renewable energy

INTRODUCTION

The term "green" economy was first introduced in the publication "Blueprint for a Green economy". However, at the initial stage, this area of the economy was mainly devoted to the issues of economic justification of the concept of sustainable development. But by 2008 year, a new UN Initiative for the Transition to a Global Green Economy (GGE) was formed, which is becoming generally accepted among other joint UN crisis initiatives.

After the appearance of GGE, many definitions and interpretations of the "green" economy were proposed. In addition, other terms have appeared, for example, "green growth", "greening" of the economy, "green" investment, which are now widely used to apply to the ever-increasing number of industries involved in the idea of "greening" (energy, water management, transport), individual areas (consumption) and the emergence of new economic mechanisms (polluter pays, life cycle analysis, etc.).

The "green" economy is understood in different ways, some scientists believe that these are new sectors of the economy that will improve the nature of the country, others understand this expression as new technologies, a kind of ecological systems that are designed to help and benefit nature. The "green" economy is a transition to a new stage of development, the goal of which is to create environmentally friendly products.

The "green" economy is an economy aimed at preserving the well-being of society through the efficient use of natural resources, as well as ensuring the return of end-use products to the production cycle.

The concept of a "green" economy, which has emerged over the past two decades, is designed to ensure a more harmonious alignment of the economic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable development, which would be acceptable to all groups of countries - developed, developing and countries with economies in transition.

In a broad sense, a "green" economy is an economy that leads to increased human well-being and social justice while significantly reducing environmental risks. This definition, presented

in the latest UNEP report (2011 year), is the most commonly used and is currently the most authoritative.

In particular, the "green" economy is a model of sustainable socio-economic development based on the integration of economic and environmental aspects of policy.

The report "European Environment: State and Prospects 2010 year" argues that the transition to a "green" economy depends on the implementation of two equally important tasks: maintaining the structure and functions of ecosystems and identifying ways to reduce the use of resources in production and consumption, as well as reducing the impact on the environment. It is obvious that the "green" economy is based primarily on the efficient (rational) use of natural resources

The importance of such integration is to identify new sources of opportunities for economic growth that do not have a significant harmful impact on the environment (OECD, 2011 year) [1]. The green economy is aimed at the economical consumption of those resources that are currently subject to depletion (minerals – oil, gas) and the rational use of inexhaustible resources. Priorities for the use of renewable resources and the development of renewable energy play an important role in the modern process of modernizing the economy of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Green energy development strategies are based on high-tech innovations in the use of renewable land and forest resources, renewable energy and energy storage, and green construction. The development of green energy also involves restructuring the work of the service sector in the material sphere, for example, in trade, housing and utilities, transport, education, etc.

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Research has shown that there are interrelated challenges and needs in ensuring an efficient, resourceefficient and environmentally sound economy in the face of climate change. Industrialization and population growth significantly increase the economy's demand for resources, as well as increase the negative anthropogenic impact on the environment and the growth of greenhouse gas emissions [2].

The low level of energy efficiency of the economy, the irrational consumption of natural resources, the slow renewal of technologies, the weak participation of small businesses in the implementation of innovative solutions for the development of the "green" economy hinder the achievement of the priority national goals and objectives in the field of sustainable development of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The lack of a long-term strategy does not allow us to ensure the adoption of systematic measures for the introduction of "green" technologies and the transition to a «green " economy.

According of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On approval of the strategy for the transition of the Republic of Uzbekistan on green economy for the period 2019 – 2030 year" N PP-4477, of 4 October 2019 year, the main task of the transition of the Republic of Uzbekistan on green economy, aimed at increasing the efficiency of the economy and rational utilization of natural resources through technological modernization and development of the financial mechanisms; inclusion in the priority areas of public investment and expenditure of "green" criteria, based on advanced international standards; assistance in the implementation of pilot projects in the areas of transition to a "green" economy through the development of mechanisms for state incentives, public-private partnerships and enhanced cooperation with international financial institutions; development of a system of training and retraining of personnel related to the labor market in the "green" economy, by stimulating investment in education, strengthening cooperation with leading foreign educational institutions and research centers

These measures will help mitigate the negative impact of the environmental crisis in the Aral Sea region, as well as strengthen international cooperation in the field of "green" economy, including through the conclusion of bilateral and multilateral agreements[3].

According to the strategy for the transition of the Republic of Uzbekistan to a "green" economy for the period 2019-2030, priority directions have been identified for its implementation in the following areas:

- Improving the energy efficiency of basic sectors of the economy;
- Diversification of energy consumption and development of the use of renewable energy sources;
- Adaptation and mitigation of climate change, improving the efficiency of natural resources use and preserving natural ecosystems;
- Development of financial and non-financial mechanisms to support the "green" economy

In this regard, the development of a Strategy for the transition of the Republic of Uzbekistan to a "green" economy for the period 2019 – 2030 years, aimed at integrating climate change issues into the sustainable development of the national economy, is of particular importance.

The Strategy's implementation targets include:

- Reduction of specific greenhouse gas emissions per unit of gross domestic product by 10 % from the level of 2010 year;
- Doubling the energy efficiency index and reducing the carbon intensity of the gross domestic product;
- Further development of renewable energy sources, bringing their share to more than 25 % of the total electricity generation;
- Providing access to modern, inexpensive and reliable energy supply to 100 % of the population and sectors of the economy
- Modernization of the infrastructure of industrial enterprises, ensuring their sustainability by increasing energy efficiency by at least 20 % and increasing the use of clean and environmentally friendly technologies and industrial processes;
- Expansion of the production and use of motor fuels and vehicles with improved energy efficiency and environmental friendliness, as well as the development of electric transport;
- A Significant increase water-use efficiency across all sectors of the economy, introduction of new technologies of drip irrigation on an area of 1 million hectares and increase yields up to 20 - 40 % of the cultivated crops on them;
- Achieving a neutral balance of land degradation;
- Increase to 20-25% of the average productivity of production of the main types of food agricultural products

In 2018, in Paris, on December 12, 2015 year, the Republic of Uzbekistan ratified the Paris Agreement and made a quantitative commitment to the nationally determined contribution to its implementation - to reduce by 2030 the specific greenhouse gas emissions per unit of gross domestic product by 10 % from the level of 2010 year.

Medium-term priorities for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in the framework of the implementation of the commitments of the Paris agreement are implemented in the country through a series of strategic and sectoral plans, programmer and legal acts, the reduction of energy and resource intensity of the economy, the widespread introduction in the production of energy-saving technologies, the increased use of renewable energy, overcoming the consequences of the environmental crisis in the Aral sea.

International integration is focused on the following areas:

- Strengthening the national and international transition to a green economy.

The role of Governments and international organizations is particularly important here;

- Creating new green business models;
- Support for green technologies;
- Improving standards;
- Development of financial and economic mechanisms;
- Trade;
- Information structures and resources;
- Education and upbringing.

The importance of the process is evidenced by the fact that one of the key topics of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development in 2012 year in Brazil was devoted to the development of a "green economy".

It should be noted that there is no universal recipe for implementing the transition to a green economy today. In each case it depends on many factors, including political environment, the country's level of development, resource security, environmental situation, etc.

In accordance with the recommendations of the European Commission on the environment the transition to a green economy are:

- Implementation of the concept of "green" economy/environmentally oriented growth in government strategies, policies and planning;
- Establishing a sound regulatory framework for the transition;
- Prioritize public investment and spending in areas that encourage the transformation of economic sectors into "green" ones»;
- Limiting spending in areas that deplete natural capital;
- Use of taxes and market instruments to change consumer preferences and encourage green investment and innovation;
- Investing in competence development, training and education;
- Strengthening international cooperation.

Countries have the potential to develop green economies

Stimulating measures include measures aimed at developing environmental policy and environmental legislation, improving the economic mechanisms of nature management and environmental protection. The country is taking certain steps to promote ecoinnovations in certain sectors of the economy.

The country attaches particular importance to the development of economic mechanisms for the use of natural resources and environmental protection.

The existing system of economic regulation is aimed at stimulating economic entities to reduce energy and resource consumption, and to take preventive measures to ensure environmental safety.

The economic mechanism of environmental management in the country includes planning and financing of environmental protection measures; concessional lending to environmental protection activities; collection of taxes and other payments for the use of natural resources, emissions (discharges) of pollutants into the environment; compensation for damage caused to the environment.

At the same time, economic incentives are based on the establishment of tax incentives for the introduction of low - waste, energy-and resourcesaving technologies, special equipment that reduces the harmful impact on the environment, when using waste as secondary raw materials and carrying out other environmental activities. The most important component of the economic mechanism of nature management and environmental protection is the environmental tax.

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