PRORITY DIRECTIONS AND CHALLENGES IN ENSURING ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY IN NEW UZBEKISTAN

Babadjanova Nasiba Abdullaevna
Teacher at the Republican Specialized Boarding School of Choreography
nbabadjanova346@gmail.com

Abstract. *This study examines the priority directions and existing challenges in ensuring environmental sustainability in New Uzbekistan within the framework of ongoing socio-economic reforms. The research analyzes state policies aimed at environmental protection, the transition to a green economy, and the efficient use of natural resources. Using analytical and descriptive approaches, the paper identifies key environmental issues, including industrial pollution, water resource degradation, and the ecological crisis of the Aral Sea region. The findings highlight significant progress in renewable energy development, environmental governance reforms, and large-scale ecological restoration projects.*

Keywords: *environmental sustainability, New Uzbekistan, green economy, environmental policy, ecological challenges, sustainable development.*

At the current stage of development of New Uzbekistan, ensuring environmental sustainability has become one of the key strategic priorities of state policy. As emphasized by President Sh. M. Mirziyoyev, “environmental protection is not only a matter of today but also a responsibility to future generations.” This idea is aimed at ensuring that all socio-economic reforms implemented in the country are environmentally balanced.

In recent years, the "New Uzbekistan – 2030" Development Strategy has defined specific goals and objectives to strengthen environmental sustainability. In particular, the strategy highlights the introduction of green economy principles, the enhancement of climate change adaptation measures, and the efficient use of natural resources as priority areas.

In scientific literature, the concept of environmental sustainability is interpreted as the harmonization of economic development with ecological balance. This approach is especially relevant in the context of Uzbekistan, where industrialization and urbanization processes are increasing environmental pressure.

Research findings indicate that the main sources of environmental problems in the country include industrial waste, harmful emissions from transportation, and pollution of water resources. In particular, water scarcity and inefficient water use have a negative impact on agricultural production.

The ecological crisis of the Aral Sea is recognized as a global environmental problem not only for Uzbekistan but for the entire Central Asian region. As noted by Ismailov, the environmental disaster in the Aral Sea region has had a serious impact on the health and social conditions of the local population. Therefore, measures aimed at restoring the region play a crucial role in ensuring environmental sustainability.

In recent years, millions of hectares of land have been planted with saxaul and other drought-resistant plants, contributing to environmental stabilization. Such measures help reduce dust storms, preserve biodiversity, and improve the microclimate of the region.

The transition to a green economy is considered one of the key priority directions in ensuring environmental sustainability. According to experts from the World Bank, the development of renewable energy sources can significantly reduce harmful emissions into the atmosphere in Uzbekistan. The construction

of solar and wind power plants in the country represents an important step in this direction.

At the same time, a number of challenges remain in the process of ensuring environmental sustainability. In particular, some industrial enterprises fail to comply with environmental standards, and environmental monitoring systems are not sufficiently effective in all regions. Moreover, the underdevelopment of waste sorting and recycling infrastructure increases environmental pressure.

Social factors also contribute to the deepening of environmental problems. According to Nazarov, if the level of environmental awareness among the population is low, even the most advanced environmental policies will not produce the expected results. Therefore, strengthening environmental education in the educational system and involving the public in environmental protection activities are of great importance.

In conclusion, the reforms aimed at ensuring environmental sustainability in New Uzbekistan are systematic and comprehensive in nature. However, to effectively address existing challenges, it is necessary to further improve state policies, widely introduce innovative technologies, and enhance environmental awareness in society. A scientifically grounded environmental strategy will serve as a key factor in ensuring the country's long-term sustainable development.

REFERENCES

1. President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. *New Uzbekistan – 2030 Development Strategy*. – Tashkent, 2023.
2. President of the Republic of Uzbekistan. *Decree on Measures to Improve Environmental Protection and Develop the Green Economy*. – Tashkent, 2019.
3. Ministry of Ecology, Environmental Protection and Climate Change of the Republic of Uzbekistan. *National Report on the State of the Environment in the Republic of Uzbekistan*. – Tashkent, 2022.

4. Mirziyoyev, Sh. M. *The Development Strategy of New Uzbekistan – The Path to Sustainable Development*. – Tashkent: Uzbekistan Publishing House, 2022.

5. Karimov, I. A. *Uzbekistan at the Threshold of the 21st Century: Threats to Security, Conditions for Stability and Development Prospects*. – Tashkent: Uzbekistan Publishing House, 1997.

6. Turdiyev, S. S. *Green Economy: Theoretical Foundations and Practical Mechanisms*. – Tashkent: Iqtisodiyot, 2022.

7. Abdurahmonov, Q. X. *Issues of Sustainable Development and Environmental Security*. – Tashkent: Fan Publishing House, 2020.

8. Saidov, A. X., & Qosimov, B. B. *Fundamentals of Environmental Law*. – Tashkent: Tashkent State University of Law, 2019.

9. Ismailov, B. *The Ecological Crisis of the Aral Sea and Its Social Consequences* // Journal of Social Sciences of Uzbekistan. – 2020. – No. 4.

10. Rahimov, U., & Abdullaev, A. *Climate Change and Environmental Challenges in Uzbekistan* // Central Asian Research Journal. – 2021.