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Introducing Digitalization in Agriculture of New Uzbekistan

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Abstract: *The article talks about the results achieved in the agricultural sector of Uzbekistan for a certain period. The observation of foreign organizations and their results are also mentioned. The article describes the planned implementation of digitalization in agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan and their results.*

Keywords: *agriculture, digital technologies, innovation, economy, information space, platform, production, products.*

Agriculture in Uzbekistan is one of the leading sectors of the economy, providing more than 28% of the country's gross domestic product, almost 28% of employment and producing socially significant goods - food for the population and raw materials for industry. For example, in 2017, total agricultural output was \$13.3 billion. Crop production accounts for 69%, and livestock - 31% of the output.¹ Development prospects, economic and financial condition of many industries of the republic, such as cotton-cleaning, textile, light, food, chemical industries and others. This is about half of the entire industrial potential, directly dependent on agriculture. Many researchers emphasize the importance of the development of this sector and its impact on socio-economic growth in general. So, for example, FAO researchers came to the conclusion that growth in agriculture, more than in any other sector of the economy, can reduce poverty by playing the role of a multiplier. The main objectives of the integrated development of agriculture in the Republic of Uzbekistan are: the development of deep processing of agricultural products based on innovative technologies, strengthening the wholesale procurement base and increasing export volumes.²

The head of state has repeatedly spoken about the importance of using modern technologies in agriculture, emphasizing that in the current realities, when competition in the market is growing and food security issues are becoming increasingly important, consistent implementation of innovative approaches and advanced developments, intensive and resource-saving methods is required. These tasks are reflected in the Strategy for the Development of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2020-2030, which provides for an increase in yields, an increase in livestock productivity, the use of modern agricultural methods and an increase in the scale of production. Particular attention is paid to the introduction of high technologies.

¹ <https://ifmr.uz/publications/articles-and-abstracts/agriculture>

² <https://ecfs.msu.ru/about/focus-area/respublika-uzbekistan>

There is a rapid growth in the use of digital technologies on a global scale. Agriculture is no exception. In Uzbekistan, a lot of work is also being done in this direction, a number of large projects have been initiated aimed at the radical transformation of the agricultural industry, the introduction of advanced innovative solutions. The scientific approach is of no small importance in achieving the set goals. The progress of not only one single industry, but the whole country as a whole depends on relevant and popular research. Thus, in accordance with the Decree of the President “On further improving the system of knowledge and innovation, as well as the provision of modern services in agriculture” dated February 3, 2021, in order to ensure the integration of science into production, the National Center for Knowledge and Innovation was established under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Uzbekistan in agriculture.³

In connection with the above, in the near future, a single information space platform "Digital Agriculture" will be launched using innovative technology. It includes the entire process from sowing seeds to collecting them and transferring them to producers. The main principles are to facilitate work processes, increase efficiency, and most importantly, create comfort for farmers.

"Digital agriculture" a single integration platform is not only a need, but also a necessity of today, since, first of all, it facilitates work processes, increases efficiency, and most importantly creates convenience for people. Thus, at the moment, the relevant Ministry has launched six projects, namely the information systems "Agrosubsidy", "E-ijara", "Ta'lim akis", "Rubicon water limited", "Register of agricultural machinery" and "Geoinformation system".

It is planned that these information systems will be actively used, for example, the E-ijara system is used either directly by the applicants themselves to obtain land or to obtain data on those lands that are being developed and will soon be available for participation in open electronic auctions and Ministries and departments that are involved in the process of coordinating and approving projects on land devices. To date, 420,000 dekhkan farms have received new land through this system.

Since 2023, the Agroplatform information system has started working in a test mode in order to simplify the process of issuing preferential loans for the cultivation of cotton, grain, fruits and vegetables. This system also provides an opportunity to coordinate, approve credit information, conclude contracts and other documents in the electronic service "Single Window".

The result of the implementation of this platform and systems will be the reduction of barriers to obtaining services in the agricultural sector, as well as information regarding land use, irrigation resources. Software products reduce the time spent by users, and on the other hand, provide transparent and accurate information on the requested data.

Transparent open data always facilitates operational decision-making processes, in addition, it helps to prevent risks that may be observed in the food supply of the country. A full-fledged launch of the Digital Agriculture platform is planned in the next 2 years.

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