

UDC 1174

Prospects of organizing continuous education system in Uzbekistan

**Tagaev B., head of the "Regional Economy and Management"
department, associate professor**

Salaeva U., student

*National University of Uzbekistan named after Mirzo Ulugbek
Tashkent, Uzbekistan*

Abstract:

Today, in the conditions of rapid changes in technology, economy and society, the need for continuous education is becoming increasingly important. This thesis examines the importance of continuous education for the development of the country, its impact on economic and social aspects, and ways of its implementation.

Today, it is confirmed that the development of almost all developed countries is directly related to education and human capital development. In the 21st century, it shows that the main wealth of the country depends not on material resources, but on intangible resources, that is, on the human factor. This, in turn, requires continuous improvement of human knowledge and skills and development of the continuous education system, which will bring the greatest benefit to the country and determine its future and development.

And after the pandemic, as most countries faced economic austerity, they realized the need for switching to lifelong continuous learning system. In 2021, UNESCO suggested a wider and broader approach “the right to education needs to be broadened to be lifelong and encompass the right to information, culture, science and connectivity” as well.

Today, education system in the Republic of Uzbekistan includes the following types of education:

- Pre-school education;
- General secondary, secondary special education;
- Professional education;
- Higher education;
- Post-graduate education;
- Improvement of staff qualifications and their retraining;

– Extracurricular education.

Significant work is being done in the country at all stages of these types of education. Because the attention given to this field determines the future of the state. We can see that countries with a developed education system achieve development in all areas.

Currently, more than 50 percent of the gross domestic product of developed countries is the "knowledge-based economy". On the basis of this type of economic growth, high-tech, innovative products are produced and services are provided. In the development strategy of the new Uzbekistan for the period of 2022-2026, by 2026, the coverage level of higher education in the country should reach 50%, by increasing the quality of education, ensuring the inclusion of 10 higher education institutions in the international ratings of QS and THE planned. If we turn to foreign statistics, we can see that coverage levels with higher education are high. In the Republic of Korea, this figure was 94 percent, in Japan 81 percent, in Russia 79 percent, and in Kazakhstan 46 percent. The demand for higher education in our country is great and is growing year by year. More than 50,000 of our compatriots are studying at universities in Russia alone. If we include the number of Uzbek students in other foreign countries, we can see that this figure will exceed 100,000. According to the information of the state testing center for the year 2022/2023, the number of applicants who want to study at the bachelor's degree has exceeded 1 million.

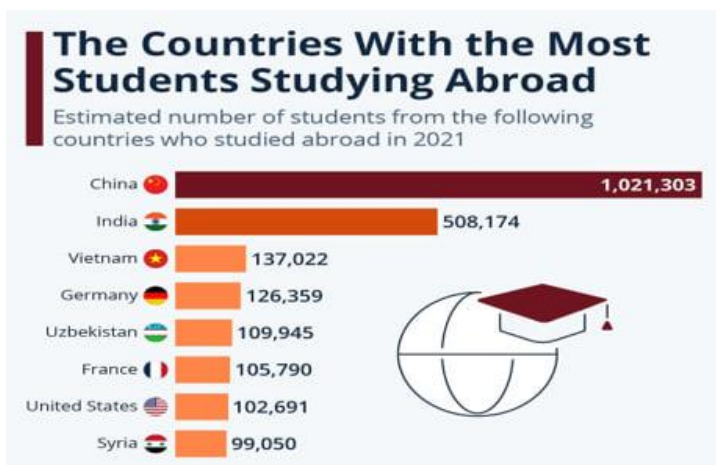


Fig. 1. The countries with the most students studying abroad (2021) [0]

Based on the data of the Ministry of Migration under the UN, it was reported that the number of students studying abroad has increased significantly in the last twenty years. In 2001, this figure was 2 million, and by 2021, it will be almost 6.5 million. China and India show the largest numbers of students studying abroad in the diagram. According to this rating, Uzbekistan took the fifth place in 2021 with the number of 109,945 students studying in foreign universities.

The decree of the President of Uzbekistan in 2022 "On measures to further accelerate work on the systematic support of families and women" called on women to be active in society and to increase the level of women's education. According to the decree, interest-free education loans for 7 years were allocated to women for paying contracts for higher education institutions, technical schools, colleges, part-time and evening education.

Also, the contract fees of women enrolled in the master's degree in state educational institutions are covered from the state budget. In addition, every year, payment contracts of orphans, orphans, and students without parental care are covered by the governorships. Every year, 300 targeted votes are allocated for women studying at the doctorate stage, their employment is ensured, and preferential loans are allocated to help them start entrepreneurship and provide housing.

The experience of highly developed countries shows that the great attention and investment in the education system pays off at least 4-5 times. For example, the share of services in the US GDP is 70 %, and the quality of human capital contributes to high creativity, innovation and the creation of new technologies [2]. Also, India, being one of the fastest developing countries, is paying great attention to improving the quality of education. In 2023, the share of the service sector in India's GDP was more than 50 % [3].

In Uzbekistan, for the sustainable development of scientific, technical and innovative activities and industries, it is an urgent issue to adapt the quality of education to world standards and to introduce a continuous education system. Lifelong learning is an educational process that continues throughout a person's life. If we turn to the experience of foreign countries that have paid much attention to continuous education, human capital and science, it can be seen that the efficiency of human potential in the USA is significantly higher than in other countries. To improve the quality of human capital in the United States, a large investment is made in the period between the ages of 3 and 22, that is, in the education of a

child. In the Republic of Korea, investments in the education system are also made from pre-school education to higher education and beyond, and are connected to the continuing education system [4].

Table 1. – State investments in education and added value created (2021) [5]

Country	Full-cycle investment in education (US\$)	Value added per worker (US\$)
USA	231 000	3,1 mln.
Republic of Korea	130 000	2,1 mln.
Uzbekistan	19 000	77 thousand

In the table above, we can see that in the USA and the Republic of Korea, the cost of creating a workforce paid off 13-17 times, and in Uzbekistan, the return on investment was only 4 times. Countries with such high economic development rates continue to improve through reforms to improve the quality of education.

The importance of strengthening the connection between school and higher education is increasing precisely because of such indicators. In the modern world, it is clear how important the field of education is. It is necessary to develop the field of education in order to keep up with world standards, to be ready for political and economic changes, and to raise a generation that meets the requirements of the state and society.

It is worth saying that continuing education helps to improve the professional skills of employees, which directly affects their productivity. Trained employees can perform tasks faster and better, innovate and offer more effective solutions. In a globalized economy, companies that pay attention to the continuous education of their employees can quickly adapt to changes in the market. This leads to the creation of new products and services that increase the competitiveness of companies and the entire country.

Also, as technology and economic conditions change, the need for new occupations and skills is emerging. Continuing education allows employees to update their knowledge and adapt to new demands, which reduces unemployment and promotes economic growth. Education is directly related to income levels and quality of life, leading to higher-skilled people finding higher-paying jobs and better living conditions.

Continuing education opens up new opportunities for professional growth and social mobility.

President assigned tasks about “School curriculum based on advanced foreign experience improvement, revision of study loads and subjects, their adaptation to international standards, improvement of the quality of textbooks and literature necessity” and “Standards of higher education based on foreign experience improvement, revision of educational directions and taught subjects the number of subjects that are not related to the specialty and the need to graduate 2 halving”. This each educational system by the Presidential Administration on the basis of assignments in the field of education in 2020 based on the current tasks ahead a complex “Roadmap” was developed for the acceleration of reforms. In paragraph 3 of this “Roadmap”, “The essence of science programs, to ensure the logical sequence and coherence of topics and the reader and the level of knowledge and skills that must be formed in students is clear the task of determining” was determined, and the Cabinet of Ministers as responsible executor the state inspection of quality control of education, Pre-school education, Ministries of public education, higher and secondary special education have been established. Interdepartmental meetings and seminars on this issue, working groups was formed. As a result of research, the following problems were identified in the current education system;

- repetition of topics (repeating topics directly or in content).
- a large amount of hours allocated to some subjects (many lesson hours are allocated to some subjects, especially theoretical exercises are taught excessively)
- inefficient use of time (inefficient use of students' and teachers' time due to repetitions and unplanned time)
- lack of coherence (lack of interaction and proportionality between educational stages due to non-introduction of continuous education) [5].

It is important to provide access to quality education for all segments of the population. The cooperation of all levels of the education sector creates an opportunity to increase the quality of education, to acquire the skills learned at higher levels relatively earlier, and to use the methods of the higher education level at the higher levels of the school. Based on this, if the relations between schools and higher education institutions are

improved, they can make appropriate demands for each other. By building such a robust system, two main problems can be solved:

- increase in the level of knowledge of graduates (future personnel);
- setting specific goals and increasing enthusiasm for learning by studying the fields they are interested in beforehand [6].

In addition, universities will have the opportunity to have a real idea of the level of preparation of modern schoolchildren, to participate in its improvement, and to receive well-prepared applicants and students. In turn, schools are interested in increasing their position in the educational market. Students can supplement their professional skills with new forms of activity and acquire new types of skills. Students also acquire research skills that meet modern requirements and standards. Through these, students are directed to the profession they are interested in and become competitive staff in line with the labor market demand.

Each system can lead to an effective outcome through transparency and feedback sharing. Continuous education serves to form an active civil society. People with educational resources are more involved in social processes, which increases the level of social responsibility and solidarity. Continuing education helps reduce social inequality. Providing access to educational programs for different groups of the population helps to increase the level of knowledge and skills among the poorer groups, which in turn helps to reduce the gap between them and more advantaged groups.

In his speech on the 29th anniversary of our Constitution, the President emphasized the reforms carried out on the basis of The Development Strategy. Among them, the ninth is the main task, and the need to develop pre-school education, schools, higher education and the field of science has been determined. The fact that 2023 has been designated as the "Year of attention to people and quality education" is proof that attention has been paid not only to the education of young people, but also to the introduction of a quality education system for the entire society [7].

If we look at the problems of the introduction of continuous education, the most important of them is to provide the entire population with compulsory, free, continuous education; accessible secondary education, including vocational secondary education; higher education available to everyone on the basis of ability; the gradual introduction of free secondary and higher education; active development of a network of schools at all levels; a satisfactory system of scholarships and the constant improvement

of the material conditions of teaching staff. Therefore, education should be oriented towards the full development of a person's personality throughout his life, have access to continuous education, advanced training, etc.

In the last five years, Uzbekistan has clearly defined the reforms to make changes in the education system and improve the entire system. Thus, the Law "On Education" was adopted in a new edition, the Concept for the Development of the System of Public and Higher Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan until 2030 was approved. By investing in the state education development organization, the country aims to provide new teaching methods, improving academic programs and advanced information and communication technologies in order to improve the quality of the teaching process. In the terms of developing education system in Uzbekistan, we should also mention that these reforms have opened a way for increasing the share of non-state education organizations in this field. To date, over 65 private universities have been registered in the Republic, which operate on the basis of a license and provide services to the population for higher education.

Recognizing the problems in the current education system, a serious, creative and modern approach to this field is necessary. In order to raise the potential of the society, to train competitive personnel, it is necessary to improve the system from the root and connect its stages. In order to quickly and effectively achieve the set goals, it is advisable to act on the basis of the following:

- equipping educational institutions with modern technologies (through this, it is possible to save the time of pedagogues and students, to make the teaching process more interesting and effective)

- drawing up a specific, targeted plan for the formation of higher education institutions' activity and quality of education in accordance with international standards, as well as for increasing the prestige of universities on an international scale;

- to encourage qualified pedagogues and modern knowledge givers with professional skills financially;

- to create conditions for establishing contacts and cooperation between all educational stages.

The state should invest in the development of educational infrastructure, including the creation of training centers, online courses and educational platforms. Continuing education is the most important

factor serving the economic and social development of the country. With rapid changes in technology and globalization, the need for continuing education has become critical. Investing in sustainable food not only increases the country's competitiveness, but also improves the quality of life of its citizens. Creating a system that supports lifelong learning is the guarantee of sustainable development and prosperity of the nation.

List of sources used

1. Uzbekistan 5th globally for students studying abroad [Electronic resource]. – 2024. – Mode of access: <https://m.kun.uz/en/news/2024/05/13/uzbek-students-ranked-5th-in-the-world-in-terms-of-number-of-tutees-studying-abroad>. – Date of access: 01.10.2024.

2. Service sector of the U.S. - statistics & facts [Electronic resource]. – 2024. – Mode of access: <http://www.statista.com/topics/7997/service-sector-of-txe-us/#topicOverview>. – Date of access: 10.10.2024.

3. The 5 Keys of South Korea's Education System [Electronic resource]. – 2023. – Mode of access: <https://additioapp.com/en/txe-5-case-of-south-coreas-education-systems>. – Date of access: 10.10.2024.

4. Inson kapitaliga e'tibor – asosiy vazifa [Electronic resource]. – 2023. – Mode of access: <https://yuz.uz/uz/news/inson-kapitaliga-etibor--asosiy-vazifa>. – Date of access: 02.10.2024.

5. Savenko, O.V., Jumayev, E.E., Abraykulov, B.I. Potential for interaction between school and university / O.V. Savenko, E.E. Jumayev, B.I. Abraykulov [Electronic resource]. – 2022. – Mode of access: <file:///C:/Users/Xπ/Downloads/potential-for-interaction-between-school-and-university.pdf>. – Date of access: 10.10.2024.

6. https://scholar.google.com/citations?view_op=view_citation&hl=ru&user=2ajBfY0AAAAJ&citation_for_view=2ajBfY0AAAAJ:KIAtU1dfN6UC

7. <https://gov.uz/oz/adliya/sections/view/2842>

8. Sobirov, B. UZLUKSIZ TA'LIM TIZIMINI RIVOJLANTIRISHDA PEDAGOGIK INNOVATSIYALAR VA INTEGATSIYAVIY YONDASHUV / B. Sobirov. – 2021. – Mode of access: <file:///C:/Users/Hp/Downloads/uzluksiz-ta-lim-tizimini-rivojlan-tirishda-pedagogik-innovatsiyalar-va-integatsiyaviy-yondashuv.pdf>. – Date of access: 15.10.2024.