



TOP-CONFERENCES

International Conference of Economics, Finance and Accounting Studies

International Conference of Economics, Finance and Accounting Studies is a double-blind peer-reviewed, open-access journal published to reach excellence on the scope. It considers scholarly, research-based articles on all aspects of economics, finance and accounting. As an international congress aimed at facilitating the global exchange of education theory, contributions from different educational systems and cultures are encouraged. It aims to provide a forum for all researchers, educators, educational policy-makers and planners to exchange invaluable ideas and resources.

The Role of Women in Enhancing Intellectual Capacity in New Uzbekistan

Nilufar D. Djuraeva

Uzbek State University of World Languages, Head of the Department of History of Uzbekistan,
Candidate of Historical Sciences, Associate Professor

ABSTRACT

New Uzbekistan is an era of great goals not only in the economic and social spheres, but also in intellectual and innovative development. The reforms carried out in the country in recent years in the field of education, science and technology are aimed at increasing intellectual potential. The active participation of women in this process is not only a matter of social equality, but also has strategic importance for the sustainable development of the state. The article analyzes the role of women in increasing intellectual potential and considers ways to enhance their contribution.

Keywords: New Uzbekistan, intellectual and innovative development, education, science and technology, intellectual potential, women, social equality, sustainable development, strategic importance.

The concept of a new Uzbekistan is associated with large-scale reforms in the country's socio-economic, cultural and educational spheres, in which women's education plays an important role. Gender equality and women's empowerment have become one of the main directions of state policy.

Education is the basis of intellectual potential. Women's education in Uzbekistan began to develop rapidly at the beginning of the last century, especially during the Soviet era. In the 1920s, large-scale campaigns were carried out as part of the "Khujum" movement to increase women's literacy. During this period, access to education was created in many girls' schools, but the quality and infrastructure of education were limited. In the years of independence, the education system began to be modernized, but the issue of gender equality did not receive sufficient attention in the early years.

During the period of New Uzbekistan, namely since 2016, large-scale reforms have been implemented in the education sector. Special attention has been paid to women's education, and the following important achievements have been made:

1. Expanding access to educational institutions: The share of girls in higher education institutions has increased significantly. As of 2024, about 45 percent of students studying in higher education institutions are girls. This figure is high compared to other countries in the region.

2. Participation of women in STEM fields: The participation of girls in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields is being encouraged. Girls are being attracted to these fields through special scholarships, grants and motivational programs. For example, special quotas have been allocated for young women scientists within the framework of the "Young Scientists" program.

3. Vocational education: The vocational education system for women has been expanded. Short-term courses in tailoring, cosmetology, IT and other fields have been organized for women living in rural areas. These programs are helping women achieve economic independence.

4. Gender equality programs: Special classes and seminars on gender equality have been introduced in educational institutions. This has not only increased girls' awareness of their rights, but also served to eliminate stereotypes in society.

It is worth noting that, despite the achievements, there are a number of problems in women's education:

- The gap between rural and urban education: The educational infrastructure in rural areas is weaker compared to cities. Limited access to the Internet and modern technologies makes it difficult for girls to take advantage of digital education.
- Social stereotypes: In some regions, girls face social opposition to pursuing higher education or working in STEM fields. Large-scale advocacy work is needed to address this problem.
- Financial barriers: Although the government has expanded free education opportunities, for some families, investing in girls' education remains a secondary issue.

The following areas are considered important for the development of women's education in the new Uzbekistan:

1. Development of digital education: Online platforms and distance learning programs will expand educational opportunities for girls living in rural areas. For example, courses in local languages can be organized in cooperation with international platforms such as Coursera.

2. Mentoring programs: Experienced female professionals can help young girls as mentors in determining their career paths. These programs are especially effective in the STEM field.

3. International cooperation: Cooperation with international organizations, such as UN Women, should be expanded to develop women's education. This can bring best practices to Uzbekistan.

In recent years, Uzbekistan has seen a significant increase in women's access to education and their enrollment in higher education institutions. According to statistics, by 2024, about 48 percent of students studying in higher education institutions will be women. This indicator reflects not only progress in gender equality, but also women's desire to obtain knowledge.

Women are actively participating in the education sector not only as students, but also as educators and researchers. For example, the majority of school teachers are women, who play an important role in educating the younger generation and providing them with knowledge. At the same time, the number of women among professors and teachers in higher education institutions is also increasing. This indicates the important contribution of women not only to obtaining knowledge, but also to its dissemination and development.

Significant progress has been made in the field of women's education in the new Uzbekistan, but much remains to be done. Through education, women's Increasing women's participation in economic, social and political life not only ensures gender equality, but also serves the sustainable development of the country. In the future, joint efforts of the state, civil society and international partners will ensure new achievements in this area.

The "New Uzbekistan" development strategy sets out the directions of socio-economic development of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2022-2026, paying special attention to the

development of human capital, ensuring gender equality and forming an innovative economy. Within the framework of this strategy, increasing the participation of women in the field of science and innovation is identified as one of the important directions of state policy. Increasing the share of women in scientific and innovative activities is necessary not only to ensure gender equality, but also to strengthen the country's sustainable development and global competitiveness.

Within the framework of the New Uzbekistan strategy, great attention is paid to the field of science and innovation. Women are also demonstrating their potential in this area. For example, according to the Uzbekistan Agency for Scientific and Technical Innovations, the number of scientific projects submitted by women has increased by 30 percent in the past five years. These projects cover areas such as natural sciences, medicine, engineering, and information technology.

In recent years, the activity of women in science and innovation has increased significantly in Uzbekistan. Currently, about 5,000 female scientists are engaged in scientific research in the country, while more than 14,000 women are involved in pedagogical and scientific activities in universities. These indicators indicate the high intellectual potential of women and their ability to achieve high results in any field when appropriate conditions are created for them.

In addition, a number of measures are being implemented within the framework of the "New Uzbekistan" strategy to attract women to scientific research and innovation. In particular, the state has introduced special benefits to ensure gender equality in education. For example, 2,000 grants have been allocated for higher education for women from needy families, which will allow them to receive high-quality education. Also, the payment and contract costs of women studying at the master's level are covered from the state budget, which encourages them to engage in scientific activities.

The participation of women in innovative activities not only enriches the scientific environment, but also creates new approaches to solving social issues. For example, healthcare startups developed by women are successfully implementing projects aimed at improving maternal and child health. At the same time, the increase in the number of women in the information technology sector (for example, in software development) is accelerating the country's transition to a digital economy.

The realization of women's intellectual potential is closely related to increasing their economic activity. In Uzbekistan, women's entrepreneurship and the active development of small businesses make a significant contribution to economic growth. For example, the number of enterprises managed by women has increased by 25 percent in recent years. These enterprises not only bring economic benefits, but also create new jobs and help solve social problems.

In addition, women's participation in social projects serves to raise the intellectual level of society. For example, non-governmental organizations established on the initiative of women are implementing important projects in areas such as education, gender equality and ecology, raising public awareness.

The "New Uzbekistan" strategy identifies the following main areas for attracting women to the field of science and innovation:

1. Creating equal opportunities for education and scientific research: Within the framework of the strategy, wide opportunities are being created for women to study in higher educational institutions. According to the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation, out of 1.3 million students studying in higher education institutions in the republic, 662 thousand are women, which is more than half of the total number of students. At the master's level, the share of women is 60 percent. These indicators reflect significant progress in achieving gender equality in education.
2. Increasing the activity of women in innovative projects: State programs such as the "One

Million Programmers” project encourage women to actively participate in the field of information technology. Within the framework of this project, the participation of girls in the study of programming and innovative technologies is particularly encouraged. Girls’ subtle imagination and creative abilities are important in developing innovative solutions in software, jewelry and other sensitive areas.

3. Support for scientific and innovative activities: The state has introduced special grants, preferential loans and other types of financial assistance to support women's scientific activities. For example, in accordance with the Presidential Decree of July 18, 2022, preferential loans are being allocated for women studying in higher educational institutions. This makes it easier for them to engage in scientific research and participate in innovative projects.

4. International cooperation and exchange of experience: Uzbekistan pays special attention to the development of women's scientific activities on an international scale. Within the framework of events such as the UN "International Day of Women in Science" (February 11), scientists of our country participate in international conferences and exchange experiences. This helps women find their place in the global scientific community.

Although the activity of women in the field of science and innovation has significantly increased within the framework of the “New Uzbekistan” strategy, much work still needs to be done in this area. Currently, the share of women in leadership positions in the scientific sphere is still insufficient. For example, the share of women in leadership positions working in the central apparatus of ministries is on average 24.7 percent. Therefore, additional measures are being taken within the framework of the strategy to promote women to leadership positions.

In addition, the “Uzbekistan - 2030” strategy aims to further increase the participation of women in scientific and innovative activities. The following goals have been set within the framework of this strategy:

- Reduce the unemployment rate among women by 2 times and train more than 700 thousand unemployed women in professions.
- Develop special programs to increase the share of women in scientific research and innovation.
- Implement international experience in ensuring gender equality and expand women's participation in global scientific projects.

The “New Uzbekistan” strategy serves to increase the country's scientific and economic potential by encouraging the active participation of women in the field of science and innovation. Measures implemented in areas such as education, financial support and international cooperation are creating the basis for women to find their place in the scientific field. In the future, the continued implementation of this strategy will play an important role in transforming Uzbekistan into one of the global innovation centers, in which the contribution of women will be of particular importance.

There are a number of obstacles to the full realization of women's intellectual potential. These include stereotypes, limited access to financial resources and family obligations. The following measures can be taken to address these issues:

Eliminate gender stereotypes: The media and education system should widely publicize women’s achievements in science, technology, and leadership.

Financial support: Special grants and credit programs should be introduced for women’s scientific and innovative projects.

Work-family balance: Flexible work schedules and an expanded network of kindergartens are needed to support women’s family responsibilities.

In conclusion, women in New Uzbekistan are emerging as the main driving force for increasing

intellectual potential. Their active participation in education, science, innovation, and socio-economic spheres is making a significant contribution to the sustainable development of the country. At the same time, cooperation between the state, society, and the private sector is important to eliminate existing problems and further realize women's potential. The knowledge, creativity, and initiative of women serve as an important factor in shaping the bright future of New Uzbekistan.

References:

1. Sharopov A. Universal guide to the history of Uzbekistan. 6th edition. - Tashkent: Akademnashr, 2021. - P. 343.
2. Gender (from the Latin "genus" - kind) is a social gender that determines a person's behavior in society and how this behavior is perceived. This is a gender role behavior that determines relationships with other people: friends, colleagues, classmates, parents, random passers-by, etc. Segregation (late Latin segregatio - separation) - a policy of forced separation of any group of the population.
3. New history of Uzbekistan. Book 2. Uzbekistan during the Soviet colonial period. Scientific editor M.Juraev. Tashkent, "Sharq", 2000.
4. The socio-economic life of Uzbekistan during the years of perestroika. arxiv.uz. Yangi O'zbekistonda xotin-qizlarning ijtimoiy-iqtisodiy faolligini oshirish yo'nalishlari. www.researchgate.net.[](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/378530825_Yangi_O%27zbekistonda_xotin-qizlarning_ijtimoiy-iqtisodiy_faolligini_oshirish_yo%27nalishlari)
5. The Purpose and Responsibilities of Women's Organizations in the Social and Economic Policy of the Soviet Power <https://inovatus.es/index.php/ejbsos/article/view/5373>
6. Priority Areas of Fundamental Reforms Aimed at Increasing the Status of Women in Society and in the New Uzbekistan