



THE IMPORTANCE OF THE DIGITAL ECONOMY IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE REGIONS OF NEW UZBEKISTAN

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Annotation

The rapid integration of the digital economy and its associated technologies, such as e-commerce and e-business, into our daily lives is transforming state and societal functions. This article provides a comprehensive analysis of the factors driving digitization, the emergence of the digital economy, and the rise of e-commerce. It delves into the technologies and methodologies supporting digital economic activities, highlighting the broad impact of digitization on various sectors such as internet commerce, digital agriculture, smart grid systems, autonomous transportation, and personalized healthcare.

Keywords

Digital economy, E-commerce, E-business, Information technologies, Communications, Digital infrastructure, E-government, Digital skills development, Digital innovation, Smart cities

Nowadays, the digital economy and a number of effective technologies related to it, including e-commerce and e-business, are rapidly entering our lives. For the same reason, in order to accelerate the development of the state and society, the leadership of our Republic made several important decisions. In particular, regarding the implementation of the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated February 19, 2018 No. PF-5349 "On measures for the further development of the field of information technologies and communications"¹, as well as for the implementation of a modern digital economy in the state management system in our Republic In order to create conditions for the rapid development of information technologies, as well as to ensure information security, the Cabinet of Ministers on August 31, 2018, which defines the goals and objectives of the digital economy, "Additional measures for the introduction and further development of the digital economy in the Republic of Uzbekistan - on activities" and included the decisions of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan PQ-87 dated 27.02.2024 "On additional measures to develop the export of services in the field of digitalization in our country" among these activities can be entered.

Based on global trends and events in foreign policy, Uzbekistan faces issues of global competitiveness and national security, with the development of a digital economy playing a crucial and decisive role in addressing these challenges. Some elements of the digital economy are already successfully functioning in our country. Currently, considering the widespread transition of documents and communications to digital means, the use of electronic signatures is being permitted, and communication with the government is also being moved to electronic platforms.

The authors of this textbook analyze the reasons for digitization, explore the causes and objectives of the emergence of the digital economy and e-commerce, and examine the methods and technologies that support the activities of the digital economy. The digitization of economic processes is becoming a comprehensive trend that encompasses not only the information and communication network but all areas of

the country's economic activities. The digital economy revolution is significantly impacting internet commerce, digital agriculture, "smart" grid systems, driverless transportation, and personalized healthcare systems.

Ultimately, the digital economy represents an innovative concept, a notion affirmed by the World Bank in its 2016 report "World Development Report 2016: Digital Dividends."

Here are the essential headlines for digital adoption and use in Uzbekistan in early 2023:

- There were **26.74 million** internet users in Uzbekistan at the start of 2023, when internet penetration stood at **76.6 percent**.
- Uzbekistan was home to **5.35 million** social media users in January 2023, equating to **15.3 percent** of the total population.
- A total of **31.84 million** cellular mobile connections were active in Uzbekistan in early 2023, with this figure equivalent to **91.2 percent** of the total population.

Digitalization plays a decisive role in the strategic development of the regions of new Uzbekistan, as it helps to develop innovation, ensure economic growth, promote effective management and increase the quality of life of the population. Some important areas of digitization in the strategic development of the regions of New Uzbekistan:

1. Digital infrastructure development: investments in digital infrastructure such as high-speed internet connectivity, data centers and smart technologies are essential to ensure the digital transformation of Regions. By building a strong digital infrastructure, regions can attract more investments, create a favorable environment for digital business and improve overall socio-economic development.
2. E-government and digital services: the implementation of e-government services can simplify administrative processes, increase transparency and increase access to public services for citizens. By digitizing public services, regions can optimize resources, reduce bureaucracy, and increase overall management efficiency.
3. Digital skills development: investing in digital skills development programs is essential to prepare the workforce for the digital economy. By providing training and improvement opportunities in areas such as data analysis, cyber security and digital marketing, regions can ensure that their population is provided with the necessary skills to develop in the digital age.
4. Digital innovation and entrepreneurship: promoting digital innovation and entrepreneurship is the key to economic growth and job creation in regions. By developing a supportive ecosystem for startups and encouraging digital businesses, regions can attract talent, encourage innovation, and provide new opportunities for the local economy.
5. Smart city development: implementing smart city initiatives such as IoT devices, AI technology and data analysis can improve the overall quality of life of the population and improve the efficiency of urban services. By developing intelligent solutions for transportation, energy management, waste management and public safety, regions can create more sustainable and livable cities.

In conclusion, digitization is an important factor in the strategic development of new Uzbekistan regions, and by focusing on digital infrastructure, e-government services, digital skills development, digital innovation and smart city development, regions can open up new opportunities for growth and prosperity in the digital age.

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