

Systematizing the level of urbanization in the region

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Abstract: The article analyzes the state of housing construction, calculated from the main indicators of the level of urbanization in the region, using the example of the Kashkadarya region. In the analysis, the housing was divided into individual and multi-storey, and the processes of growing the height of the areas were assessed on the basis of a vertical growth index. According to the results, the vertical growth index in ten areas of the province was lower than the provincial average, indicating a high inter-territorial inequality in the construction of multi-apartment housing.

Keywords: Urban expansion, population density, housing stock, construction, high-rise building, vertical growth, infrastructure costs.

Introduction: The "Uzbekistan – 2030" strategy aims to increase the urbanization level from 51% to 60% by 2030. This strategy includes plans to transform the cities of Samarkand and Namangan into "million cities," increase the number of cities and districts with populations over 300,000 to 28, and create master plans for all residential areas. Based on these objectives, specialists from the Macroeconomic and Regional Research Institute have studied the development trends of urbanization processes in the country. The increase in urbanization levels in Uzbekistan is positively influenced by the rise in household incomes, the growth of highly educated professionals, and the construction of housing. Over the past decade, the population of urban and rural areas in Uzbekistan has increased by 20.7%. During this period, the urbanization level remained between 50-51%, and excluding Tashkent, the urbanization rate in other regions was around 46-47%.

Urbanization is a global phenomenon, with more than half of the world's population currently living in cities. By 2050, it is expected that this figure will increase to 68%. The urbanization process has deeply impacted the global economy, driving economic growth and

development. It has led to the creation of new jobs and an increase in production, with cities becoming innovation centers where new ideas and technologies are developed and tested. This has resulted in the emergence of new sectors like technology and finance, which have transformed the global economy. Urbanization also led to the growth of production industries, with factories and production facilities gathering in cities to ensure the popularization of large-scale economies and transport sectors.

Literature Review

Urbanization is the process of the population moving from rural areas to cities, resulting in various social and economic changes. The level of urbanization can vary across different regions. The development of urbanization depends on the economic situation, social infrastructure, governance systems, and natural resources of each region. Systematizing the level of urbanization must be carried out through effective regional development management methods.

- Harvey, D. (1973). *Social Justice and the City* — This book discusses the process of urbanization and social justice issues related to city planning. Harvey emphasizes the importance of differentiating

urbanization levels.

- Castells, M. (1989). *The Informational City* — This work studies modern forms of urbanization, focusing on the process in relation to the global economy and technological changes. Regional development strategies play a crucial role in systematizing urbanization levels. Economic changes, industrial development, and demographic growth in each region impact urbanization differently.
- McGranahan, G., & Satterthwaite, D. (2003). *The Transition to a Predominantly Urban World and Its Underpinnings* — This article discusses the global transition to urbanization and how it is analyzed in developing regions.
- World Bank. (2009). *World Development Report 2009: Reshaping Economic Geography* — This report discusses how regional urbanization levels should be systematized and strategies to ensure regional growth and social stability.

METHODOLOGY

The main directions for improving urbanization processes in the country have been identified, focusing on activating urbanization through new housing policies. This involves the use of mechanisms such as engineering, transport, and social infrastructure, attracting financial resources from mortgage lending and business entities, and supporting investments aimed at building affordable housing for low- and middle-income families. The following measures are also emphasized:

- Guaranteeing the right for individuals and legal entities to own land under residential and non-residential buildings and structures.
- Improving the administrative system for migration processes to create conditions for the free movement of people from rural areas to cities.
- Ensuring the well-being of large cities by expanding the use of economic and industrial resources, supporting full and effective employment, and establishing technoparks in universities and research institutes.
- Utilizing the advantages of agglomerations to increase population incomes and create stable jobs, implementing international experiences in managing medium-sized cities and district centers.
- Expanding satellite cities near large cities with convenient transport connections, reducing industrial and other zones in city centers, and expanding social and business zones.

Urbanization Trends in Uzbekistan. The "Uzbekistan – 2030" strategy sets a goal to increase the urbanization

rate from 51% to 60% by 2030. This strategy includes transforming Samarkand and Namangan into "million cities," increasing the number of cities and districts with populations over 300,000 to 28, and creating master plans for all residential areas. Based on these objectives, specialists from the Macroeconomic and Regional Research Institute studied the development trends of urbanization in Uzbekistan.

Urbanization in Uzbekistan is influenced by rising incomes, an increase in highly educated professionals, and the construction of new housing. Over the past 10 years, the population of urban and rural areas has grown by 20.7%. At the same time, the urbanization rate has remained between 50-51%, and excluding Tashkent, the rate in other regions has been around 46-47%.

Due to the beauty and conditions of Tashkent city, the number of working-age people moving to the city is steadily increasing. For example, 64% of the permanent population of Tashkent is of working age, while in other regions, this figure does not exceed 54%.

Since independence, the urban population in Uzbekistan has increased by 10%. This growth was largely achieved due to administrative changes and the conversion of nearly 1,000 rural settlements into cities in 2009. According to the statement by the Ministry of Economy and Industry, in 1991, urban residents in Uzbekistan made up 40.3% of the total population, while by 2018, this figure had increased to 50.6%.

Uzbekistan's urbanization rate is relatively low globally. In the UN's international rankings, Uzbekistan ranks 155th out of 233 countries. The global average urbanization rate is 55.3%. To activate urbanization processes, President Shavkat Mirziyoyev set the strategic goal to increase the urbanization rate to 60% by 2030 in his address to the parliament.

Despite measures taken to transform large villages into townships, the current urbanization rate does not meet modern requirements for comprehensive urban development and lags significantly behind global trends. As a result, the urbanization rate remains unstable.

CONCLUSION

As noted in the research findings, increasing high-income jobs, enhancing the quality of vocational training, developing social infrastructure, and improving the quality of social services are essential for raising the urbanization rate. These measures will help improve living conditions and further develop the urbanization process.

In regions such as Andijan, Khorezm, Tashkent, Bukhara, Jizzakh, Namangan, and the Republic of

Karakalpakstan, the creation of new enterprises and jobs in the industrial and service sectors positively impacts urbanization.

Regional programs should focus on increasing the specialization of regions, improving the economic structure through the creation of industrial and special economic zones, which will contribute to the rise in urbanization levels.

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