

FACTORS AND MECHANISMS OF ECONOMIC RESILIENCE IN THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

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Annotation: This article explores the significance of economic resilience as a key factor in the long-term economic stability of Uzbekistan. It provides a theoretical overview of both classical and modern approaches to economic resilience, including the Solow model and endogenous growth theory. Special attention is given to the analysis of macroeconomic indicators of the Republic of Uzbekistan over the period from 2013 to 2023, with a focus on real GDP growth rates. The study identifies major challenges such as inflation, income inequality, investment dependency, and environmental issues. It proposes strategies to enhance the sustainability of growth through institutional reforms, support for innovation, and a transition to a green economy. The article concludes that combining quantitative indicators of growth with qualitative improvements in education, healthcare, and environmental protection is essential for achieving long-term socio-economic resilience.

Keywords: economic resilience, sustainable development, GDP, Uzbekistan, macroeconomics, investment, inflation, innovation, green economy, structural reforms.

For developing countries like Uzbekistan, which has set the goal of achieving the status of a middle-income country by 2030, maintaining stable rates of gross domestic product (GDP) growth is of paramount importance. These rates determine the potential for improving public welfare, creating new jobs, expanding the tax base, and strengthening the country's position in the international arena.

Theoretical approaches to the analysis of economic growth allow for a deeper understanding of its nature and the identification of effective management

mechanisms. In particular, R. Solow's neoclassical growth model emphasizes the interaction between capital, labor, and technological progress as the main factors of production expansion. In contrast, endogenous growth theories highlight the importance of internal factors such as innovation, education, and investment in research and development (R&D), which form the foundation for long-term sustainable development. In today's context, the concept of the green economy is becoming especially relevant, suggesting that environmental sustainability and energy efficiency can serve as new sources of economic growth.

Thus, the significance of economic growth is reflected not only in the quantitative increase of macroeconomic indicators but also in the qualitative improvement of citizens' living standards. Among the key positive effects are higher income levels, increased employment, expanded government revenues, and, consequently, enhanced capacity to finance social programs. Furthermore, sustainable growth enhances the country's international competitiveness and enables long-term investments in infrastructure, healthcare, education, and environmental protection.

Nevertheless, despite the importance and obvious benefits of economic growth, there are serious challenges to its sustainability. First, there is an uneven distribution of wealth, especially under conditions of inefficient public administration. Second, accelerated growth is often accompanied by a high dependency on external investments, increasing the economy's vulnerability to external shocks and rising debt burdens. Third, inflation remains a pressing issue: in 2022–2023, it stood at approximately 11%, negatively affecting the population's purchasing power. Lastly, environmental constraints are intensifying: with the predominance of natural gas and insufficient diversification of energy sources, there is an urgent need to transition toward sustainable and clean energy technologies.

Real GDP Growth Rates of Uzbekistan (2013–2023):

Year	GDP Growth Rate (%)
2013	7.3
2014	6.9
2015	7.2
2016	5.9
2017	4.4
2018	5.6
2019	6.8
2020	2.0
2021	7.4
2022	5.7
2023	6.3

The presented table illustrates the annual real gross domestic product (GDP) growth rates of the Republic of Uzbekistan over the period from 2013 to 2023. These data allow us to track the dynamics of the country's economic development over the past decade. The average growth rate over the decade was approximately 6%. The highest rate was recorded in 2021 (7.4%), while the sharpest decline occurred in 2020 (2.0%) due to the impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic. Since 2021, the economy has shown signs of recovery and stable growth. Additionally, GDP per capita increased from approximately \$2,440 in 2013 to around \$2,850 in 2023, indicating a gradual improvement in living standards. To ensure sustainable and inclusive economic growth, Uzbekistan must not only maintain strong quantitative performance but also implement structural reforms aimed at improving growth quality. The following are key areas of transformation:

1. Institutional environment enhancement. Effective governance and anti-corruption measures are fundamental to building trust among businesses and the population. Increasing transparency, digitizing public services, and strengthening

accountability contribute to a favorable investment climate and the development of institutions.

2. Support for innovation and technological progress. Developing an innovation ecosystem—from IT parks and startup accelerators to government R&D grant programs—plays a critical role in shaping a knowledge-based economy. This is particularly relevant in the shift from a resource-based to a technology-driven growth model.

3. Ecological diversification. Given the growing reliance on natural gas and rising climate risks, the development of renewable energy sources and the promotion of green investments are gaining strategic importance. This will help reduce carbon emissions and strengthen the long-term resilience of the economy.

4. Inflation control and financial stability. Maintaining moderate inflation through sound monetary policy enhances investor confidence and preserves the purchasing power of citizens. A reliable financial system is a cornerstone of sustainable growth.

5. Social orientation of economic policy. Inclusive growth must be reflected in targeted expenditures on healthcare, education, and social protection programs. Reducing regional and income inequality is a crucial element of social stability and the development of human capital.

In conclusion, economic growth is a necessary but insufficient condition for improving quality of life. Uzbekistan demonstrates positive momentum, with an average annual GDP growth rate of around 6% and steady growth in per capita GDP. However, to achieve its strategic objectives by 2030, the country must move from quantitative accumulation to qualitative transformation. Only by integrating institutional, financial, ecological, and innovation-focused reforms can Uzbekistan ensure genuine sustainable development and improve the well-being of its citizens.

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