

ADVANCING EDUCATIONAL SERVICES IN NEW UZBEKISTAN

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Аннотация. В статье рассмотрены сущность и значение образовательных услуг, а также их роль в росте и развитии экономики Узбекистана, их положительное влияние на деятельность образовательных учреждений. Изучена система образовательных услуг, как весомый показатель организационного уровня и эффективности деятельности высших образовательных учреждений.

Annotation. The article discusses the essence and significance of educational services, as well as their role in the growth and development of the economy of Uzbekistan, their positive impact on the activities of educational institutions. The system of educational services has been studied as a significant indicator of the organizational level and efficiency of higher educational institutions.

Ключевые слова. Образовательные услуги, инвестирование в человеческий капитал, инвестирование в будущее, квалифицированная рабочая сила, человеческий капитал, рынок труда, субъекты образовательных услуг, объекты образовательных услуг, цена труда, развитие личности, государственные образовательные учреждения, платные образовательные услуги.

Keywords. Educational services, investing in human capital, investing in the future, skilled labor, human capital, labor market, subjects of educational services, objects of educational services, price of labor, personal development, state educational institutions, paid educational services.

Education is considered a key factor in the economic development of any country. In the context of Uzbekistan, educational services play a particularly important role in shaping and modernizing the economy. The country is actively investing in education, recognizing that the knowledge and skills of modern society are the driving force for sustainable economic growth and prosperity.

Uzbekistan is implementing measures to improve the education system at all levels. The introduction of modern teaching methods, the development of digital technologies in education, and the country's active participation in international educational programs are all aimed at creating a competitive workforce capable of adapting to the changing demands of the labor market.

Let's look at some aspects of the educational system of Uzbekistan in more detail:

In the process of education, certain educational levels are achieved. Educational activities are divided by the legislator into two types:

- the first type is an activity that is carried out in accordance with educational standards (based on general education programs);
- the second type is additional educational services, in which the volume and content are regulated by state standards, but additions from the service provider are welcome.

Accordingly, the education system of the Republic of Uzbekistan itself consists of the following entities:

- ✓ state and non-state educational institutions implementing educational programs in accordance with state educational standards;
- ✓ scientific and pedagogical institutions performing research work necessary to ensure the functioning and development of the education system;
- ✓ government bodies in the field of education, as well as enterprises, institutions and organizations subordinate to them.

Considering that the education system of the Republic of Uzbekistan is unified and continuous, education takes place in stages:

- preschool education;
- general secondary education;
- secondary specialized, vocational education;
- higher education;
- postgraduate education;
- advanced training and retraining of personnel;
- out-of-school education.¹

It can also be noted that private and public educational institutions have the right to provide paid additional educational services to those who wish, such as training in additional educational programs, teaching special courses and cycles of disciplines, classes with students in in-depth study of subjects and other services in the field of education.

In recent years, the government of Uzbekistan has been actively working to modernize education, introduce innovative approaches and improve access to educational services for the population, adopting new regulatory documents in the field of development and improving the quality of education of the population. For example, “in order to develop the knowledge and skills of school students, educate them in the spirit of devotion to national and universal values, increase the authority of the teaching profession and the quality of teachers, improve textbooks and educational methodological complexes based on modern requirements, build modern models of public education institutions, meeting international standards”, the Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan “Стратегия “Узбекистан - 2030”” dated 09.11.2023 No. УП-158 was adopted.

Educational services have their own specificity, which is manifested both in traditional characteristics and in features inherent only to educational services. One of the specific features of educational services is that they belong to the category of “public goods”. Another is the impossibility of their direct monetary measurement. The

¹ <http://uzbekistan-geneva.ch/sistema-obrazovaniya-respubliki-uzbekistan.html>

price mechanism is often unable to reflect all the costs of producing educational services. This is explained by the lack of a material form and material expression of the results, their use in the course of this activity, and also the fact that they contain a useful effect in themselves. If in the material sphere they are relatively easy to measure quantitatively, for example, in pieces or kilograms per unit of production, then in relation to educational services this is difficult to achieve, i.e. services generate intangible benefits. These benefits are not subject to ownership rights: the result of the provision of educational services is the receipt of a certain level of education, which implies the paid nature of the services. Services are provided for a fee. At the same time, the educational process in state educational institutions within the framework of basic educational programs and state educational standards is free, and for the implementation of these processes an agreement on the provision of educational services is not drawn up.

In addition, there is another distinctive feature of educational services - the ambiguity of the goals set for organizations providing these services. As a rule, the activities of an educational institution are not directly aimed at achieving profit, i.e. many of their interests are related to the growth of welfare, which involves “receiving the profits necessary to ensure expanded reproduction.”

Based on some theoretical aspects of economic theory, educational services can be classified as pure private goods. The significant positive external effect of educational services also allows us to classify them as socially significant private goods.

Being one of the types of socio-economic benefits, educational services are additional in nature in a non-core educational institution, exceed the state educational standard, and the costs necessary for the production and consumption of such activities require adequate compensation. But at the same time, it is possible to increase the volume of supply of educational services by selecting qualified teachers, expanding the classroom fund, additional funding, etc.

Knowledge, abilities, skills, as well as specialties acquired in the course of providing educational services, on the one hand, are the motive for the consumer when he enters the educational services market. An individual strives, with the help of educational services, to get the opportunity to choose the most suitable niche for him in the labor market. Moreover, in conditions of competition between educational institutions, he has the opportunity to choose based on various factors. In terms of content, educational services are characterized by the knowledge, skills and abilities that the consumer of educational services acquires, as well as the specialty that he receives as a result. Factors influencing consumer motivation when choosing educational services include both the main and additional advantages of an educational organization. An important role for the consumer is played by the timing, type and form of training, the level of qualifications of teachers of the educational institution, the material resources of the educational organization, which includes classrooms for classes, their equipment with modern teaching aids, etc. In turn, to attract potential consumers of educational services, benefits such as various additional advanced training or retraining courses, diplomas, certificates, free consulting, and certain benefits are used. Thus, from an economic point of view, concepts such as “enhanced product” and “potential product” are used to attract consumers. The consumer’s desire to acquire knowledge, skills and abilities that will help him gain advantages in the labor market determines another characteristic feature of educational services. This is the mutual activity of the provider of such a service, as well as its recipient. This feature distinguishes educational services from others, in most of which the client remains a passive party.

At the same time, such paid educational activities were not considered entrepreneurial. Researchers of educational legislation highlight both positive and negative aspects of introducing the concept of “educational services” into legal acts. It is customary to highlight the following aspects as positive aspects:

1. the introduction of this concept legalized paid forms of education;

2. the use of the concept of “educational services” in educational legislation allows the use of civil law forms of regulation of public relations in the field of education;
3. the introduction of this concept contributed to the development of competition in the educational services market;
4. paid educational services made it possible to find additional non-state sources of funding for state educational institutions;
5. granting financial independence to some higher educational institutions and a number of powers of the Cabinet of Ministers and ministries, in particular, transferring the studies of foreign citizens from foreign universities to state universities of Uzbekistan and determining the internal regulations of students.²

Also, the reforms carried out in the country in the field of education include:

- modernization of training programs, in the form of the introduction of modern teaching methods and updating of educational materials in order to meet modern labor market requirements and scientific achievements;
- development of digital technologies in education, introducing information technologies into the educational process to increase its efficiency and accessibility;
- advanced training of teaching staff, training and retraining of teachers to use modern teaching methods and organize the educational process.

And also in Uzbekistan, active measures are being taken to improve the accessibility of education for all segments of the population:

- ⇒ development of educational infrastructure: Construction and modernization of schools, colleges and universities to provide comfortable learning conditions;
- ⇒ financial support: Providing government grants and scholarships to motivate students and reduce the financial barrier to education;
- ⇒ development of distance education: Introduction of online courses and distance education programs to expand access to education in remote and sparsely populated regions.

² Постановление Президента Республики Узбекистан «О мерах по предоставлению финансовой самостоятельности государственным высшим образовательным учреждениям» от 24.12.2021 г. № ППП-60.

A special role is played by the participation of Uzbekistan in international educational programs and the exchange of students and teachers with foreign institutions helps to attract the best practices and experience from other countries. This helps Uzbek students and professors expand their knowledge and skills, which ultimately affects the economic development of the country.

Based on all that has been said, we can conclude that educational services play an integral role in the development of the economy of Uzbekistan. Investments in education today are investments in the future of the country. Given the right approach to the development of education, Uzbekistan can achieve sustainable economic growth, improve the living standards of its citizens and strengthen its position on the world stage.

List of used literature:

1. Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan «Об образовании» accepted 3П 19.05.2020 y., approved by the Senate 07.08.2020y.
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4. <http://uzbekistan-geneva.ch/sistema-obrazovaniya-respubliki-uzbekistan.html>