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Development of the Cluster System in Agriculture in Uzbekistan

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Abstract: It is known from world experience that a vertically integrated system can be effective and competitive in the textile industry, this system includes the processes from growing and initial processing of cotton raw materials to its further processing in cotton mills and turning it into a finished product. In the article, in recent years in our republic an economic analysis of the development processes of the "cotton-textile clusters" system is given.

Keywords: cluster, "Cotton-textile clusters" system, economic efficiency, economic interest, competitive environment, single technological chain, added value, innovative activity.

Agriculture is considered an important branch of the economy of our republic, and in recent years, the government of the Republic has been implementing deep reforms aimed at increasing the efficiency of this sector on the basis of improving the formation of market relations in agriculture.

In particular, in 2019, the "Strategy for the development of the agricultural economy of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2020-2030" was adopted.

It includes improving the use of agricultural land, increasing the efficiency of water use, state support for agriculture and improving the system of state procurement, increasing the export potential of agriculture and increasing the volume of products with added value, creating a competitive environment in the field of agricultural services, information in agriculture. Seven priority directions have been established that will serve to ensure the authenticity of data, solve the issue of personnel, and develop science and technology through the wide introduction of technologies and complete digitization of network statistics.

It should be noted that at the heart of the changes in agriculture today, in addition to turning this sector into one of the most profitable sectors, increasing exports, increasing the potential of textiles and light industry, which are considered a leading force in providing employment to the population, especially women, and stable supply of processing enterprises with raw materials, etc. it is also necessary to solve problems closely related to the perspective of this network.

For this reason, the President of our Republic set the formation of "Clusters" as a new economic management system with a small level of integration as one of the important tasks.

The goal of forming clusters is to combine the same industry enterprises located within the city, district and region and their educational, scientific, engineering, consulting, standardization, certification, and other services in a single technological chain - to direct the creation of competitive goods based on the organization of innovative production. The important aspect of providing employment to the population also manifests itself in this.



The term "cluster" is a French word, and the Uzbek translation means "connection", "group", "gathering".

Clustering can be considered as a new economic system that fully meets the requirements of national and regional development in order to increase the competitiveness of enterprises on the basis of accelerating their innovative activities and resisting the strong influence of global competition.

The main consumer of raw cotton in Uzbekistan is the textile industry, which occupies an important place in the industrial complex of the republic. Undoubtedly, the development of textiles is directly related to the state of the cotton industry.

World experience shows that a vertically integrated system can be effective and competitive in the textile industry, starting from the cultivation and initial processing of cotton raw material, to its further processing in cotton mills and to the finished product (ie, yarn, knitwear, gauze and clothing). including processes up to conversion.

It is impossible to imagine the creation of competitive products with high added value without introducing new, modern approaches in the economy.

In this regard, based on the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers dated January 25, 2018 "On measures to introduce modern forms of organization of cotton-textile production", 13 cotton-textile clusters were established as a test. The advantage of these projects is that cotton fiber processing enterprises become directly involved in the raw material production processes themselves. This accelerates the integration of agriculture and industry, ensuring that enterprises are fully supplied with high-quality, low-cost, and most importantly, adequate fiber.

Cotton-textile cluster is a set of enterprises united in a single technological chain. This new structure is considered an important stage of the transition to an innovative economy. Because here the raw materials go through all stages of processing and become ready-made products for export.

According to estimates, if one kilogram of cotton fiber is sold, its price will be 1.5 dollars. If you sell yarn made from it, its price will reach 2.5-3 dollars. As the yarn becomes fabric, the cost adds up to \$5-7. If this fabric is used to make ready-made clothes, an additional value of 15-20 dollars will appear. Therefore, today, at the current stage of development of clusters, the main attention is paid to deep processing of raw materials. The main purpose of this is to get more profit, to increase the material interest of agricultural workers and representatives of industry.

Based on the creation and introduction of an advanced type of cluster scheme, which is new for our national economy, it is planned to establish a closed chain of "cotton raw material cultivation - processing - finished product", one hundred percent waste-free production facility.

Here we are talking not only about the traditional cultivation of raw materials by cotton farms, but also about the processing of primary cotton raw materials and cotton stalks in cotton processing, oil extraction and other enterprises to create products with high added value. In this case, secondary products produced in cotton processing and oil extraction enterprises (residues from cotton spinning, meal, shelukha, etc.) are then used in the animal husbandry complex, and the waste of the animal husbandry complex is used for the production of heat and electricity in a biogas plant, and then it is used in a modern plant for growing vegetables and greens. transferred to greenhouses.

In the country, the cluster system was introduced in Bukhara and Syrdarya regions in 2017. During the trial period, these clusters showed high results. The number of cotton-textile clusters increased to 16 in 2018, 77 in 2019, 99 in 2020, 122 in 2021, and 134 in 2022. Today, the clusters cover 100% of the available cotton fields in our country. The introduction of the cluster system in cotton cultivation has led to a 1.5-1.6 times increase in the material interests of growers and additional incentives.

One of the most reasonable ways is that the question of forming clusters in the system of textile and light industry of Uzbekistan is implemented not on the national scale, but on the basis of specific economic and social conditions in the regions and regions, based on the essence of the cluster theory.

The introduction of the system of cotton-textile clusters in our republic led to an increase in productivity in cotton production and, as a result, the efficiency of this industry. In particular, the



average cotton yield in 2018 was 20.6 quintals. In 2019, it was 25.6 and in 2020, it was 28.8 centners. In 2022, it is planned to harvest 34.0 centners per hectare of land.

The development of these cotton-textile clusters leads to the production of competitive regional products with high added value and, on this basis, to solving many problems in the regions, i.e. effective use of labor and material resources, filling the budget, expanding export opportunities, and solving social issues.

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