#### ECONOMIC DAMAGE OF DESERTIFICATION IN UZBEKISTAN AND EFFECTIVE METHODS OF ITS PREVENTION

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Abstract. This article highlights the economic damage caused by desertification to Uzbekistan, including the problem of the Gulf of Aral, which has become a global problem today. It is also planned to use effective solutions based on innovative approaches to prevent such problems.

*Key words: desertification, drought, Aralboi problem, economic problems, effective solutions, reconstruction.* 

Аннотация. В данной статье освещается экономический ущерб, нанесенный опустыниванием Узбекистану, в том числе проблема Аральского залива, ставшая сегодня глобальной проблемой. Для предотвращения подобных проблем также планируется использовать эффективные решения, основанные на инновационных подходах.

Ключевые слова: опустынивание, засуха, проблема Аралбоя, экономические проблемы, эффективные решения, реконструкция.

Annotatsiya. Ushbu maqolada Oʻzbekistonda sodir boʻlayotgan choʻllanishning insoniyatga keltirayotgan iqtisodiy zararlari, shu jumladan, bugungi kunda global muammoga aylangan Orol boʻyi muammosi yoritib berilgan. Shuningdek, bu kabi muammolarning oldini olishda innovatsion yondashuvlar asosida samarali yechimlardan foydalanish koʻzda tutilgan.

*Kalit soʻzlar:* choʻllanish, qurgʻoqchilik, Orolboʻyi muammosi, iqtisodiy muammolar, samarali yechimlar, rekonstruksiya.

It is known that in recent years significant changes in ecology and climate are causing desertification in many regions of our planet. In particular, this problem has not bypassed Uzbekistan, the desertification occurring in some regions affects the entire territory of our republic from a socio-economic point of view, that is, as a result of drought, crops, fruits and vegetables, significantly affecting the cultivation and production processes of food products, the increase in prices is causing dissatisfaction of the population.

Desertification in Uzbekistan has increased significantly since the 1990s. From 1990 to 2015, the dynamic change of the desertification area (including desert, saline-hydric land, desert and desertified land) increased from 64.66 percent to 73.16 percent, respectively. As a result of



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this, the resulting desert areas correspond mainly to the Amudarya basin and the Aral Sea region.

Light, moderate and severe desertification zones in 1990 showed a significant "increasing" trend. In the first years, it was from 15.9 thousand km2 to 21.1 thousand km2, and in 2000 it increased from 21.4 to 25.0 thousand km2. By 2015, areas of extreme desertification showed a "slowing down" trend.

In the last five years, the government of Uzbekistan has implemented many measures to improve irrigation and drainage infrastructure in order to reduce water loss and mitigate soil salinity. The government plans to rehabilitate 10,000-15,000 hectares of land annually by reconstructing the irrigation and drainage infrastructure. Construction of such objects is estimated at 2000 US dollars per hectare.

Planting salinity- and drought-tolerant cultivars in grasslands to restore desert grasslands has shown promising results in trials conducted in Uzbekistan's Kyzylkum Desert, where introduced cultivars significantly outperformed native cultivars. Replanting with native droughtand salt-tolerant legumes such as Acacia, Astralagus, Alhagi, Glycyrrhiza, Melilotus, Cicer, Vicia and Lathyrus is also promising and can sustain relatively heavy grazing.

The degree of desertification is high in the Republic of Karakalpakstan, Khorezm, Navoi, Syrdarya, Bukhara, Jizzakh and Surkhandarya and Kashkadarya regions. It is known that 9.7% of the available land resources in Uzbekistan are irrigated land, 1.7% are arable land, 3.2% are forests, 50.1% are natural pastures, and 35.3% are unused. makes up lands. In the process of desertification, factors that have a great impact on Uzbekistan, for example: 44% of pasture development is due to overgrazing of livestock, 25% is due to cutting down of bushes. The remaining factors (drought, wind erosion, industrial construction works, climate changes, anthropogenic, when substances, hydrometeorological-geographical) make up 1/3.

"Uzbekistan's mountainous, semi-desert and desert" is being developed in cooperation with the United Nations, the Global Environmental Fund and the State Committee for Earth Resources, Geodesy, Cartography, and State Cadastre.

One of them is the project on "reducing natural resource emissions" about the private exploitation of non-irrigated arid lands in their landscapes. Since it is intended for the years 2014-2018, the calculation is carried out in the Karakol district of the Bukhara region and the Zomin district of the Jizzakh region. We know that most of the Karakol district is in the desert, the climate is harsh, and in the summer, hot and humid winds often blow from the Qizilkum deserts, which affect the growth of plants.

Today, it remains an urgent task to alleviate the problems of restoration of the Aral Bay



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region, to preserve the health and gene pool of the population, to restore and protect ecosystems, and to create all the necessary conditions for the population to live a decent life. These issues will be included in the agenda of the international conference to be held at the end of October in the city of Urganch on the topic "Development of cooperation on mitigating the consequences of environmental disasters in the Aral Sea region".

In particular, significant work has been done to strengthen sandslides on the island coast, to reduce the rise of toxic aerosol dust into the air from the dry part of the island, to grow seedlings of desert-resistant and nutritious plants, and to turn the dry part of the sea into trees and shrubs. . In recent years, in cooperation with the Ministry of Emergency Situations, the State Forestry Committee and other agencies, a total of 1,769,000 hectares have been cleared in the dry areas of the Aral Sea. 1 million 244 thousand ha of forest reclamation works were carried out in the area. aviation to the field, 405 thousand ha. special equipment for the area, 19.4 thousand ha. 90,000 hectares of desert plant seeds were planted by hang glider. various seedlings were planted on the field. To date, 403 specialists-workers and 136 drilling and other special equipment have been mobilized to regions of the Republic of Karakalpakstan where there is a shortage of drinking water and running water for the population and livestock. With the help of these tools, wells were dug by drilling in 41 settlements in Moynaq, Bozatov, Karaozak and Takhtakopir districts of the Republic of Karakalpakstan. 177 artisanal wells have been prepared for the supply of local population and greening of the Orolboi region as a result of the drilling of wells with a depth of 15-500 meters at 103 points in the territory of 26 villages, and more than 10,000 people have a guaranteed water source. provided. This year, a total of 100,000 ha will be allocated for the establishment of "Green Covers" protective forests in the dry areas of the Aral Sea. planned. Extensive work is being done in this regard.

In short, the damage caused by desertification to the whole earth is very great, as a result of which pollution, food prices increase dramatically, drought, the spread of several infectious or very dangerous diseases among the population, severe damage to nature. , plant and animal species may be destroyed. In order to prevent these problems, the expansion of projects such as "Green Space" and "Abod Mahalla" will be necessary.

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