Clusters Are the Locomotive of Agricultural Development in Uzbekistan

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Abstract: This article analyzes the problems of cluster development in agricultural production of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the theoretical and practical significance of the cluster in other foreign countries, the works of foreign authors. Specific proposals are being made to further improve the agro-industrial complex of Uzbekistan, especially the cotton and textile cluster.

Keywords: cluster, region, innovation, cotton fiber, Singapore, Indorama, agrotextile

The editorial colleagues of Market, Money and Credit magazine point out that this is the most progressive approach to regional development. Clusters are leading factors influencing not only economic growth but also the competitiveness of regions and countries. And then they are a cluster - a group of interconnected services located in a specific area; infrastructure; include universities and other organizations that complement each other and enhance the competitive advantages of individual companies and the cluster as a whole.

One of the innovative ideas of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan is a system of clusters, which can have a significant impact on the welfare of the population, is widely introduced in Uzbekistan and gives good results in agriculture.

There are many factors that determine the development and strength of a country. However, peace and prosperity cannot be compared to anything. The reforms and reforms that have taken place in Uzbekistan over the past three years are now being recognized by the international community. Of course, all this was not easy. The life experience of President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, his just policy, living on the aspirations of the people - all this serves as a solid foundation for the victories achieved.

Commenting on the cluster, the Russian scientist notes that the cluster has the characteristics of mutual competition, as well as the cooperation of its participants, the formation of unique competencies in the region and the concentration of enterprises and organizations in a particular region. Mixeev A.A. In his research, he noted that the cluster development of regions is based on socio-economic development strategies, regional networks and other strategic documents. Clusters form integrated production and technology packages to make profitable investment decisions, identify priority investments, and create conditions for industry re-equipment.

The farmer still could not believe that one day he would come and live a prosperous life. This is natural, because our country was lagging behind in agriculture. Growing cotton was not easy.

However, other states made good money processing it. Today the situation has changed radically. Dozens of modern enterprises of the country produce various products from cotton fiber, which are in demand in the domestic and foreign markets.

In accordance with the Action Strategy for the five priority areas of development of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2017-2021, initiated by the President, the economy, in particular, the cotton sector of agriculture is changing radically.

The undoubted advantages of the cluster approach in the development of the region and the management of cluster initiatives include regional planning documents, which play an important role in the strategic development of the whole country and each of its regions. At the same time, the main problem of taking into account the strategic priorities of cluster development of the region is the lack of ability to define the clear boundaries of the cluster and to allocate a separate industrial site for it.

This is because, in spatial terms, a cluster is a network structure, not a specific region with clear boundaries. To solve the problem of defining the boundaries of an industrial cluster, it is necessary to take into account cluster development and the level of detail in the development of various strategic planning documents on regional development.

World experience shows the high efficiency of cluster technology in increasing the competitiveness of enterprises. The cluster approach means that none of the national economies can be considered separately from other sectors, and helps to develop close links between producers - suppliers and consumers - manufacturing sectors.

Tsixan T.V. identifies three different clusters in his work and writes in detail about the existence of three different clusters:

Industry (a group of closely related industries);

Regional (geographical association of related industries and ancillary institutions);

Innovative (Association of Enterprises for the joint creation of scientific knowledge and business ideas). In one way or another, the concept of cluster implies an association of industrial enterprises, educational institutions, research centers and capital owners to have a synergistic effect, regardless of type, and to achieve common goals.

Over the past three years, agricultural programs have been developed and road maps have been consistently implemented. The cluster method of organizing production is widely used in agriculture. In the last two years, land allocated to cotton-growing textile clusters accounted for 52 percent of agricultural land. If in the early years of independence we processed only 6-7 percent of cotton fiber, today we have the capacity to process at least 80 percent. These are not just numbers. Behind them are noble goals such as further improving the well-being and living standards of the people.

A prerequisite for the successful implementation of cluster incentive projects is the existence of a regional strategy that takes into account the overall development indicators of the region.

There are two complementary strategies: strategies to increase knowledge use in existing clusters; strategies to create new collaborative networks within clusters. Tsixan T.V. in his scientific work he analyzed the cluster development strategy and noted that clusters can be divided into the following types depending on the development strategy.

1) Infrastructure - an innovative cluster is formed around a system of guaranteed consumption of the product, the existing infrastructure is used, but implemented using completely new technological solutions.

2) The innovation cluster was formed on the basis of completely new similar infrastructure. It is not possible to calculate the guaranteed demand for a product in this cluster, and the formation of this cluster is carried out only under the state guarantee.

3) An ultra-structural or meta-industrial cluster is formed on the basis of the transformation of the existing industry, and the most advanced technologies are created, around which the necessary system of enterprises is formed.

4) The borrowed cluster is formed on the example of foreign experience in the application of technologies and is based on import-substituting technologies.

The choice of a particular cluster strategy depends on a combination of the following key features of clusters:

➢ Construction of spatial clusters of geographical and economic activity;

➢ horizontal - the connection of several networks to one large cluster;

➢ vertical - the presence of clusters of adjacent stages of the production process in determining the initiator and final executor of innovations;

➢ lateral - a combination of different sectors that provide scale savings;

➢ technological - a combination of industries using the same technology;

➢ central - an association of enterprises around a single center - an enterprise, research institute or educational institution;

➢ high quality - aimed at cooperation between firms that help suppress and protect innovation processes.

In developing the draft concept of regional economic policy of the Republic of Tatarstan, it was determined that the high competitiveness and stability of cluster economic systems are determined by factors contributing to the development of the region: - Dissemination of new technologies; the nature and structure of the interaction of science, education, funding; - public policy and industry.

Our cotton fully complies with world standards with its color, fiber length, strength and micronaire performance. This will ensure its demand in the world market. As the President said, we need to ensure our own cotton growing and access to world markets with its finished products. In this case, of course, the profit will increase several times. In addition, hundreds of types of products can be obtained from cotton, and all of them together increase the economic efficiency several times. And most importantly, new jobs will be created.

The Uzbek-British joint venture was established in Syrdarya region as an experiment in the agro-industrial sector in the form of the first cluster - Beck Cluster Limited Liability Company. This experience has spread across the country. In short, the new structure of the country's economy - cotton-textile clusters - has begun to achieve high results.

In this regard, the features of cluster systems can be highlighted:

➢ the presence of a large enterprise - the leader, which determines the long-term economic, innovative and other strategies of the whole system;

➢ Territorial localization of the main part of business entities participating in the cluster system;

➢ long-term coordination of the interaction of system participants in the framework of production programs, innovative processes of key management systems, quality control, etc .;

➢ Orientation of cluster products to export or import substitution.

It should be noted that the idea of the President of our country was supported by leading foreign companies and began cooperation in this area.

In particular, in accordance with the Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated August 8, 2018 "On measures to organize modern cotton and textile production by Indorama (Singapore) in the Republic of Uzbekistan" the company is expected to invest $ 340 million.

Karpova D.P. Examining the use of a cluster approach in the management of a regional economy reveals that the creation of clusters in a regional economic system creates a number of advantages:

➢ reduces barriers to entry into the markets of products and raw materials, labor and labor of medium and small enterprises;

➢ Increases the overall economic stability of enterprises, both inside and outside the clusters, and allows small and medium enterprises to use previously untapped financial resources;

there is infrastructure for research and development;

there are opportunities for more successful entry into foreign markets.

Mixeev A.A. in his scientific work determines that the following components are the basis for the formation of clusters in the region.

➢ Scientific laboratories for the creation of new technologies;

➢ Experimental production of industrial designs and testing of new technologies;

industrial and technological groups engaged in mass production;

➢ marketing teams for product promotion and sustainable demand formation;

➢ management systems, including the investor council, which decides on priority financing of the project;

➢ Expert council preparing for the implementation of various projects. A few words about Indorama Group. The company was founded in 1976 and is headquartered in Singapore. It is the largest producer of cotton yarn in Southeast Asia. The company's textile plants are located in Indonesia, Thailand, Turkey and Sri Lanka. The annual production of cotton yarn is 135,000 tons (26% produced in Uzbekistan). In addition to textile production, the company has a wide range of opportunities in many fields, such as petroleum, gas chemistry, polyester and synthetic fabric production, chemical fertilizers. The company is the largest polyester in the world, with a global market share of more than five percent. The company employs more than 30,000 people at 70 companies in 28 countries. The company has annual revenues of $ 10.5 billion.

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