



# STRATEGY OF DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE OF UZBEKISTAN TO INCREASE INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVENESS

**Gulyamov S.S.** Tashkent State Agrarian University, Academician,  
Professor of Agroecconomics Department,  
**Baymirzaev K.M.** Rector of the University of Business and Science, Professor,  
**Zakhidov G.E.** Director of the University Kocand, Professor,  
**Salmetova U.H.** Tashkent of the Oriental University, co-researcher

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<b>Received:</b> 11 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	<b>Accepted:</b> 10 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	Recently, after the currency liberalization of the Uzbek national currency, farmers have gained the right to directly participate in the sale of their products abroad. In order to compete in the international market it is necessary not only to find a buyer, but also to meet international ISO standards of product quality. This requires additional knowledge on product quality, for this purpose the department staff includes in the lesson plan seminars for farmers on product standardization.

**Keywords:** competitiveness, certification, international standard

The strategy of development of agriculture in Uzbekistan is aimed at increasing its international competitiveness through diversification, introduction of innovations, development of value chains, improvement of product quality and expansion of exports. Special attention is paid to the development of agribusiness climate, increasing investment attractiveness and rational use of resources.

In order to increase competitiveness in agriculture on the international market, it is necessary to focus on improving product quality, optimizing production processes, introducing innovations and effective marketing. It is also important to take into account the specificities of a particular market, to adapt your offerings and to build long-term relationships with partners.

- Assistance in promoting products on international markets:

Receive state support in finding partners, promoting products on international markets and participating in international exhibitions.

Increasing competitiveness in the international market in agriculture is a complex process that requires a systematic approach and constant work to improve all aspects of production and marketing of products.

Export of horticultural products (for January-December 2024) based on statistical data (2). Due to the government's focus on agricultural and horticultural development, the quality and volume of exported products have been increasing year after year. In particular, in January-December 2024, 2,036.2 thousand tons of horticultural products were exported, and, compared to the same period of 2023, this indicator increased by 15.8%, or 278.5 thousand tons.

Export of horticultural products (January-December 2024) The volume of export of horticultural products in the period under review amounted to USD 1,549.5 mln. The volume of export of fruit and vegetable products in the period under review amounted to USD 1,549.5 million (the growth rate, as compared to the same period of 2023, respectively, amounted to 31.2%). In the total volume, exports amounted to 5.8 %. The largest share in the export of fruit and vegetable products is peas - by 13.1 times, fresh grapes - by 2.2 times, carrots - by 81.1%, cabbage - by 68.8%, peanuts - by 64.4%, apricots - by 52.9%, peaches - by 44.2%, cherries - by 33.0%, plums - by 18.5%. According to the results of January-December 2024, the largest volume in value terms of export of fruit and vegetable products falls on Russia (40.0% of the total volume of fruit and vegetable products), which exceeds the volume of exports, for example, from the Kyrgyz Republic by 5.4 times.

Research was conducted on the country's foreign economic activity in recent years. In January-December 2024, 815.1 thousand tons of agricultural products worth USD 632.9 million were shipped to Russia. In January-December 2024, 815.1 thousand tons of agricultural products worth USD 632.9 million were shipped to Russia with a specific weight of 40.0% of the total volume of fruit and vegetable products for export. The second major consumer of agricultural products from Uzbekistan is Kazakhstan (25.6%), the third is the Kyrgyz Republic (7.4%) and the fourth is China (7.1%). These four countries act as the main markets for exports of fruit and vegetable products from Uzbekistan with a combined share of 80.1%. Geography of exports of horticultural products (for January-December 2024. )



Countries on export from the Republic of Uzbekistan by specific weight, in % , 1) Russia 40,0%, 2) Kazakhstan 25,6%, 3) Kyrgyz Republic 7,4%, 4) China 7,1%, 5) Pakistan 6,1%, 6) Afghanistan 3.3%, 7) Iraq 1.6%, 8) Turkey 1.4%, 9) Belarus 1.1%, 10) Georgia 0.9%, 11) Iran 0.7%, 12) UAE 0.6%, 13) Ukraine 0.6%, 14) Azerbaijan 0.6%, 15) Latvia 0.6%, 16) Other countries 2.3% (1).

The development strategy of Uzbekistan until 2030 plans to increase the income from one hectare of land to 5 thousand dollars per year. The total income from export of agricultural products to reach 10 billion dollars per year in the country. The total amount of investment in agriculture to reach 15 billion dollars a year in the country. To bring the total percentage of processing of agricultural products to 25%. Increase to 50% the delivery of fruit and vegetable seeds from local seeds of varieties developed by local scientists.

To create 100 logistics centers in the Republic for storage and processing of 2.5 million tons of fruits and vegetables for export of agricultural products abroad.

In the area of land use, develop legal rules for leasing land to farmers and land users.

Introduce a register of farms for fruit and vegetable seedlings, and introduce certification for them.

Organize methodological centers in each district to introduce new technologies in agricultural sectors.

For farms and clusters to introduce a system of "Agro-subsidy" to cover part of the costs of inputs under the system "one step".

In the system of agricultural products and livestock to introduce an insurance system and open a special insurance fund of 100 million dollars, and for the most efficient farms to introduce insurance up to 50%.

In the field of livestock breeding, we will strengthen the base of crop production and utilize the areas for them more efficiently.

In the field of silk farming on the basis of cluster system on an additional area of 130 thousand hectares to create an additional 1 million jobs.

The total volume of exports by 2030 throughout the country's economy will be doubled to 45 billion dollars a year, In 2017, Uzbekistan carried out currency liberalization and introduced free conversion of currency into Uzbek soum. In this regard, many Uzbek farmers were able to open a foreign currency account and directly export their products abroad.

Uzbekistan is undertaking the following measures to strengthen competitiveness

✓ Increasing exports and diversifying them (particularly in horticulture and cotton processing).

✓ Expansion of exports through the international electronic system GSP + EL properties.

✓ Reforms elimination of quotas and giving additional rights for labor

✓ Facilitation of conditions for export of agricultural products.

✓ For sustainable development, the following works should be done:

✓ Increase water use efficiency.

✓ Increase crop yields through increased mechanization of production.

✓ Make investments for research and advisory activities (AKIS).

✓ Increase investments in innovation and climate resilience.

✓ Studies conducted have shown that:

1. agricultural exports are important for the country and have great potential. Its efficiency is low due to the fact that it is exported mainly agricultural raw materials, its value in the final chain of the main is small.

2. The main export base is characterized by a low technological base of production, as well as a low degree of certification and standardization of agricultural products.

3. Many innovative technologies such as drip irrigation are used in small areas. 4. Agro-infrastructure and logistics of warehouses for agricultural products are not sufficient to increase exports, in particular storage at low temperatures, processing is not sufficiently developed in warehouses.

5. Making steps on the part of the State to support farms in reality this assistance does not reach the farms.

6. In developed countries in agriculture the most developed clusters for growing products from the beginning to the end, including the processing of products, developed cooperation of farmers for the joint sale of agricultural products and processing of products.

For example, we would like to cite the activities of one private foreign trade firm GardenCells in our country. Vegetables from Uzbekistan have long and firmly established themselves on the world export market. Uzbekistan is one of the countries which, despite the general foreign trade slump, has increased its imports to Russia. GardenCells company is engaged in growing vegetables, their storage, as well as exporting vegetables at favorable prices.

The list of exported products is very wide. These are fresh and tasty vegetables that have been grown, harvested and stored according to the international standard ISO 10-25/2009. We carry out constant production control, use special types of drying, storage and preservation of vegetables. All our products are



kept in clean rooms and all production rules are followed. And therefore, the process from growing, assembling and At the moment, we have concluded long-term partnerships with a number of countries from the CIS and Europe. We plan to expand the scope of cooperation, and we invite you to become our partner. GardenCells offers customers only quality vegetables, honesty in doing business, loyal terms and favorable prices.

**Key Findings:**

1) It is necessary to conduct training seminars for farmers to implement certification systems for fruits and vegetables products for export abroad. Integration between countries requires the introduction of international standards of product quality, for example, the quality standards of fruits and vegetables in Uzbekistan differ significantly from the European standard ISO and farmers in our country experience some difficulties in exporting their products.

2). Since international trade policies are usually implemented at borders, compliance with food safety and quality standards in national food safety systems is required, as well as food quality control at the enterprise level. This means that enabling policy making for modern agri-food trade involves not only border policies, but also policies and institutions at the national and corporate levels

3). Favorable legal environment for export diversification Components: Export diversification assessments, export value chain policy analysis and recommendations, foreign trade promotion strategies. To diversify food exports, countries should strive to create a favorable legal environment.

4) Components on plant quality: Phytosanitary and International Plant Protection Convention, food safety standards, best practices and constituent systems, sanitary and veterinary control issues, geographical indications and promotion of quality food brands.

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