



## THE ROLE OF TECHNOPARKS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF INNOVATIVE INFRASTRUCTURE IN UZBEKISTAN

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<b>Received:</b> 6 <sup>th</sup> November 2022 <b>Accepted:</b> 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2022 <b>Published:</b> 11 <sup>th</sup> January 2023	In Uzbekistan, comprehensive measures are being carried out on the wide introduction of innovations in the fields of Economics, stimulation of innovative activities, especially industrial production, large-scale establishment of the activities of technoparks, transfer centers, innovation clusters, venture organizations, business incubators. Also in the country "...The Global Innovation Index defines the task of" improving the position of the Republic of Uzbekistan and entering the top-50 countries of the rating by 2030". In this regard, it is advisable to pay special attention to research in such areas as theoretical and methodological improvement of the mechanism for assessing national innovative potential, effective formation of innovative clusters on the basis of state-specific partnerships, stimulation of innovative activities of private sectors and regions by financial means, effective organization of the mechanism for their implementation.

**Keywords:** innovation economy, national innovation system, innovation infrastructure, technopark, technopark participants, cluster, innovation commercialization.

An important component of the national innovation system is the innovative infrastructure, institutions and organizations that help transform research results into commercially attractive products. The presence of such an infrastructure is one of the most important principles for the creation of national innovative systems in all developed countries of the world. Innovation infrastructure is a set of all subsystems that allow you to easily capture various resources and provide the participants of the innovation process with services for creating innovative products, bringing them to the market. The special task of the innovation infrastructure is to support small innovation enterprises and create a convenient ecosystem.

We can separately highlight the following subsystems of the innovation infrastructure:

1. Production-technological infrastructure.
2. Financial infrastructure.
3. Expert-advisory infrastructure.

The set of institutions and organizations of each subsystem is reflected in Figure 1 below. World experience shows that in the field of production of innovations, not only large large corporations are active, but also small innovation firms. While large companies, on the one hand, have sufficient funds to carry out large –scale research work, on the other hand, they are also obliged to support research activities in order not to lose in the struggle for fierce competition in the world market[4].

Typically, small innovation firms are formed around research centers and universities, and they use new knowledge for commercial purposes. As mentioned above, in our country there is a big gap between obtaining the results of research, experimental and design work and their commercialization in comparison with the civilized countries of the world. There are several specific reasons for this. As noted in the appeal of the president of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev to the Supreme Assembly on January 24, 2020, it is important to further improve the integration of Science, Education and production. Today, it is time to further strengthen scientific cooperation with leading universities, scientific centers and academies of Sciences of the world.

It is difficult to imagine the development of our country and society at the level of modern requirements without science. Fundamental research plays an important role in the development of science. It is through them that new knowledge is assimilated and theories are formulated. A solid foundation will be laid for future applied research and innovation developments.

Among the factors that are blocking the path of innovation development in our country, we can include such as the traditional neglect of market requirements of specialists in research, experimental and design work, the obsolescence of financing mechanisms, the fact that the organization of scientific



and engineering work is still old-fashioned, and the fact that old-type offices remain in a dominant position. At the same time, the production-technological and information infrastructures are not sufficiently developed, the licensing, certification and patenting processes necessary for commercialization have been over-bureaucratized. In this regard, foreign specialists who want to work in the field of commercialization of high-tech business and technologies in Uzbekistan first of all pay attention to the following obstacles:

- \* lack of qualified managers;
  - the presence of corruption in local companies and the low level of transparency in them;
- \* customs order blocking the import and export of high-tech products;
  - failure of the level of development of infrastructure networks to the required level.

All this testifies to the fact that the transition-type innovation system, which currently combines elements of the old administrative-command system typical for countries on the path of transition to a market economy, and the new innovation system inherent in a market economy, is in force in our country. In recent years, systemic reforms have been carried out to create a national innovation system in our country, to create the necessary conditions for ensuring the full implementation of innovative processes.

But it is too early to talk about the positive effect of the reforms being carried out. In particular, in the decree of the president of the Republic of Uzbekistan "on additional measures to create conditions for the development of active entrepreneurship and innovative activities" adopted on May 5, 2018, it is emphasized that the country has a number of systemic problems that prevent further improvement of conditions for the development of active entrepreneurial and innovative activities:

**first,** a systematic analysis of the market of advanced and modern innovative developments, technological projects-startups and innovations, taking into account the existing resource base and potential of the regions, has not been established;

**secondly,** innovative projects-work on attracting investments in startups, assistance and coordination of the activities of talented entrepreneurs who actively introduce innovations in the field of production and services are not being carried out at the proper level;

**thirdly,** in the field of innovative development, especially in places, the business environment remains at a low level, as well as the

shortage of entrepreneurs with the necessary skills for the development and promotion of innovative and successful technological projects-startups;

**fourth,** there is no database of innovative ideas, developments and technologies, the practice of creating new resources and transferring experience to business structures remains undeveloped;

**fifth,** the mechanisms for supporting the market of innovative developments are developed at a slow level, coordination of effective use of innovative ideas is not established, and the quality of innovative developments does not meet the requirements of the market;

**sixth,** the sphere of innovative developments, technological projects-startups does not receive due attention to attracting graduates of technical higher educational institutions and talented youth, as well as the creation of business incubators;

**seventh,** the popularization of innovative entrepreneurship among the population is not being carried out effectively, technical and psychological barriers remain in the involvement of innovation in the development and promotion of products and services.

A number of stages of the innovation cycle today do not have the necessary level of support-financial, information and infrastructural. This applies primarily to start-up companies that are starting to commercialize the results of research and development. In addition, the development of links between the main participants in the innovation process and their commercialization remains without sufficient stimulation. As a result of this, the existing potential is not being effectively applied, and the country's technological development indicators, although slowly growing, still remain low. Despite the fact that all elements of the innovation infrastructure, according to their tasks and goals, are close to each other, there are also significant differences between them [3].

In the decree of the president of the Republic of Uzbekistan "on the establishment of technoparks in Yashnabad and Almazar districts of Tashkent City" in 2017, special emphasis was placed on the establishment of technoparks as one of the most advanced forms of Organization of innovative processes in Almazar and Yashnabad districts of Tashkent. Technopark "yashnabad" is engaged in scientific research and practical development in the following areas:

- Chemical Technology, Biotechnology, Pharmaceutical and medical biotechnology, plant protection tools;



- Materials science, metal processing technologies, seismic resistance, building materials;
- food industry;
- energy saving, production of alternative and renewable energy sources, Electronic Measuring Instruments, robotics, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering.

Due to the diversification of production of Technopark, the rapid development of high-tech business, the development of small and medium-sized businesses, local and regional budgets lead to an increase in the revenue part.

The main goal of creating these structures is to form an innovative environment in the field of innovation in support of business startups. The main tasks of the activities of these structures are as follows:

encourage companies and entrepreneurs to create innovative technologies and provide them with commercial;

- assist small and medium innovation companies to stand on their feet independently;

- ensure consistent transfer of scientific and technical products to sales markets in order to fully satisfy the needs of the markets of the region and country for this product.

The Technopark provides its residents with certain infrastructure services and facilities:

1. office buildings with all the necessary equipment, Internet, telecommunications, negotiation rooms, conference room;
2. general possibilities in the form of laboratories equipped with the necessary equipment for research and calculation;
3. large-scale buildings where residents can freely communicate. The presence of such buildings plays an important role in further increasing the synergistic effect expected from the joint activities of innovative companies, which in its essence is considered one of the main tasks of the Technopark activity [5].
4. The need for idealabs is explained by Tom Allen in his research work "technology flow management". In his opinion, the effectiveness of the relationship between two people depends on the distance between them, and if the distance exceeds 50 feet (15.2 m), the efficiency of communication does not exceed 7;
5. Exhibition Grounds;
6. printing center;
7. social infrastructure: parking, kitchen, cafes, sports and recreation centers.

Small enterprises need support, especially due to the limited number of employees and the lack of specialists in areas that are not related to the scientific and technical aspects of the project. It is envisaged that technoparks will provide a number of services for small innovation enterprises. They should provide assistance in determining the innovative potential of the concept of introducing a new product, technically implementing the idea and developing a new product, determining the readiness of a new product for practical application in industry and production. This is achieved, of course, by creating a material and technical, socio-cultural, service and financial base. Establishing the activities of technoparks at the level of universities will greatly contribute not only to strengthening the material and technical base of higher education institutions, but also to territorial development by creating innovative developments and products.

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