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THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC ESSENCE AND IMPORTANCE OF PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP IN THE EDUCATION SYSTEM

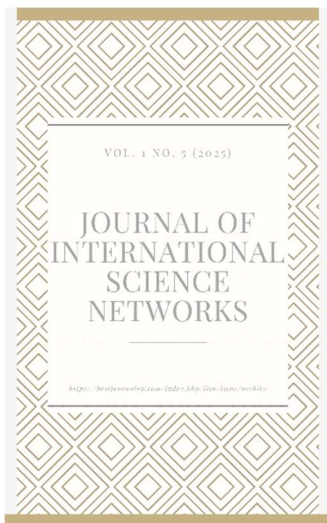
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ANNOTATION:

This article analyzes the socio-economic significance of public-private partnership (PPP) models in the education system, their theoretical foundations, and practical implementation methods. The effectiveness of cooperation between the state and the private sector in the development of the education sector, particularly the promising directions of education development in Uzbekistan, is examined.

KEYWORDS:

Public-private partnership, education system, socio-economic efficiency, investment, innovation, competitiveness, quality of education.

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Introduction

Developing a modern education system is one of the most important strategic tasks of the state. However, it is a complex task to advance the education sector solely through funds allocated from the state budget. Therefore, in many countries, PPP mechanisms are increasingly being applied to attract investments and introduce innovations into the education sector.

Public-private partnership is a special form of cooperation between the state and the private sector, within which representatives of both sectors combine their resources (financial, intellectual, labor) to provide educational services through mutually beneficial collaboration [1]. This type of partnership can be implemented in various forms and at different stages of the education system—preschool, general secondary, secondary specialized, and higher education institutions.

The Socio-Economic Essence of PPP

The PPP model ensures a range of socio-economic advantages. Firstly, private sector investments reduce the burden on the state budget and allow for the attraction of additional financial resources. Secondly, private companies often introduce new technologies, management methods, and innovative approaches, which contribute to improved education quality.

As Nikolova notes, "PPP models in the education sector not only address financial issues but also provide opportunities to enhance the overall efficiency of the education system." The economic effectiveness of PPP projects in education can be assessed through the following indicators:

1. The volume of investments allocated to the project;
2. The number of new jobs created;
3. Taxes contributed to the state budget;

4. The growth of labor productivity across various sectors of the economy as a result of improved education quality.

Main Models and Forms of PPP

Several main PPP models exist in the education sector:

1. Concession Model

In this model, the private sector is granted the right to manage a state-owned educational institution for a specific period. The private company undertakes to develop and efficiently use the infrastructure of the educational institution, although ownership remains with the state.

2. Project Financing Model

Under this model, private investors participate in financing educational projects, such as constructing new school buildings or acquiring modern equipment for educational institutions.

3. Mixed Models

In this model, the state and private sector jointly manage and finance an educational institution. These models are particularly widespread in higher education, where universities collaborate with private companies to develop research activities.

Development of PPP in Uzbekistan's Education Sector

In Uzbekistan, developing PPP mechanisms in the education sector is one of the government's priority directions. The Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Public-Private Partnership" adopted in 2019 laid the legal foundation for the implementation of PPP projects.

In 2020–2021, a number of preschool and general secondary education institutions were built and modernized based on PPP mechanisms. Within these projects, the state provides buildings and equipment, while the private sector delivers educational services.

PPP models are also evolving in the field of higher education. Several foreign university branches have been established, representing a new form of cooperation between the state and the private sector.

Ways to Increase the Effectiveness of PPP

To improve the effectiveness of PPP in the education sector, the following measures are advisable:

1. Improving the legal and regulatory framework for the implementation of PPP projects;
2. Developing financing mechanisms for PPP projects in education;
3. Studying the experience of foreign countries in implementing PPP in education;
4. Organizing specialized training and seminars on PPP for educational institution managers and private sector representatives.

Conclusion

Public-private partnership models in education are effective mechanisms for developing the education system and improving its quality. By combining the resources of the public and private sectors, PPP projects enable the introduction of innovations, the application of modern educational technologies, and the training of highly qualified personnel.

Uzbekistan has great potential for developing PPP mechanisms in the education sector. Strengthening and improving efforts in this direction will contribute to the formation of a high-quality education system in the country.

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