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## IMPROVEMENT OF LAND RELATIONS IN AGRICULTURE OF UZBEKISTAN AND INNOVATIVE APPROACHES

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### **Abstract**

The article highlights large-scale reforms carried out in Uzbekistan's agricultural sector, ensuring food security, and the rational use of land and water resources. It analyzes measures for the gradual introduction of market relations in agriculture, the development of household and dehkan farms, the widespread application of water-saving technologies, and the enhancement of export potential. In addition, the role of state policy in supporting agricultural producers, improving land relations, and increasing the population's income is emphasized. The author presents priority directions for the sustainable development of the agricultural sector under climate change, as well as mechanisms for the effective use of existing opportunities.

**Keywords:** Agriculture, food security, water resources, household farming, reforms, agrarian policy, export.

### **Introduction**

Today, the development of the agrarian sector, ensuring food security, and meeting the population's demand for high-quality fruits and vegetables are among the most important priorities worldwide. Therefore, in recent years, large-scale reforms have been implemented in our country to ensure food security, create a favorable agribusiness environment and value chains, increase investment attractiveness in sector management, and introduce scientific achievements into agriculture.



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In particular, market relations are being gradually introduced into the agrarian sector. The legal foundations of relations between entities involved in the production, processing, and sale of agricultural products have been strengthened, and investments are being widely attracted to the sector. Especially, the rational use of land and water resources, the implementation of resource-saving technologies, and the introduction of scientific approaches in the sector are increasing land productivity and crop yields.

It should be noted that for many years, without changing our attitude toward land, we left the cultivation of certain types of agricultural products to farmers and dehqan households. As a result, land productivity decreased, the uncontrolled use of chemicals in production expanded, and problems arose in providing the population with essential agricultural products.

In addition, the transfer of agricultural lands to other categories without proper analysis and the intensification of the impact of global climate change have led to a 24% reduction in irrigated land per capita, while the average annual water supply per person decreased from 3,048 cubic meters to 158.9 cubic meters.

In recent years, however, changes have been introduced in land management: assisting agricultural producers and creating necessary conditions for them, bringing additional land plots into use, as well as transferring agricultural lands to other categories are permitted only on the basis of Presidential decrees, resolutions, or decisions of the Cabinet of Ministers. In particular, the approach to the agrarian sector has been elevated to the level of state policy.

In particular, the Strategy for the Development of Agriculture for 2020–2030, the Concept for the Development of Water Management for 2020–2030, and the Program for the Development of Animal Husbandry and Its Branches for 2022–2026 have been adopted. Furthermore, in the new edition of our Constitution, it is defined that land, subsoil resources, water, flora and fauna, and other natural resources are the national wealth of the people, must be used rationally, and are under the protection of the state. Today, the agricultural sector accounts for nearly 30% of our country's gross domestic product. Almost 4 million workers and employees are engaged in the agrarian sector. Moreover, considering that half of our population lives in rural areas, the revolutionary reforms being implemented



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in the development of the sector should be regarded as an important reality that concerns the entire society.

Another important point is that over the past seven years, nearly 200 normative-legal documents have been adopted aimed at reforming the agrarian sector, encouraging agricultural production, ensuring the sustainable development of the food industry, and supporting livestock farming. As a result, a new system of state policy in the sector based on modern approaches has been established.

In order to develop the agrarian sector, ensure food security, and guarantee the rights of agricultural producers, legislative documents are being systematically improved. For example, the Law “On Household Farming” was adopted, regulating relations in the organization and development of household farms.

The law defines the rights and obligations of individuals using personal land plots for household farming, as well as the duties of republican executive authorities and management bodies in organizing and developing such farms. Household farms are granted guarantees for free and independent management, free sale of produced or processed agricultural products, independent price determination, and free realization in markets and trade outlets. At the same time, the Law “On Dehkan Farming” was adopted to regulate relations in the establishment and management of dehkan farms. This document clearly defines the procedure for organizing and registering dehkan farms either as individuals or as legal entities, the conditions of land use and water consumption, and the issues of state support for dehkan farms. It also allows dehkan farms to independently determine their specialization, types and volumes of crops, cultivation methods, and agrotechnical measures.

Improvement of land relations in the agrarian sector is also considered one of the important directions of state policy. In particular, Presidential decrees and government resolutions are being adopted on effective land management, ensuring transparency and efficiency in land allocation, rational and targeted use of land, and preserving its fertility.

The State Committee for Land Resources, Geodesy, Cartography and State Cadaster has been tasked with organizing the effective use of land resources, ensuring their protection, and developing a unified state land cadaster. In recent years, digital technologies have been widely introduced into land management.



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For example, a “Land Cadaster” information system has been created, which includes electronic maps of agricultural land plots, their size, soil composition, fertility, and other important indicators. Innovative approaches are also being applied in the agrarian sector. In particular, modern water-saving technologies are being introduced in agriculture, soil fertility is being improved, and environmentally clean agricultural products are being produced.

In recent years, drip irrigation, sprinkler systems, and other water-saving technologies have been implemented on more than 1 million hectares of land. As a result, water consumption in agriculture has decreased, while crop yields and the efficiency of land use have increased.

In addition, great attention is being paid to the development of organic agriculture and the production of eco-friendly products. For this purpose, favorable conditions are being created for farmers and dekhkan farms, and their products are being supported in entering foreign markets. Another priority direction is the development of the export potential of the agrarian sector. In recent years, the export geography of fruits and vegetables, as well as other agricultural products, has been expanding. To this end, special programs are being implemented to ensure the compliance of agricultural products with international standards, improve their quality, and increase competitiveness.

The state is providing comprehensive support to agricultural producers to increase their income, strengthen their material and technical base, and develop infrastructure in rural areas.

In conclusion, the improvement of land relations in the agrarian sector of Uzbekistan, the rational use of natural resources, the introduction of innovative approaches, and the comprehensive support of agricultural producers are yielding positive results. In the future, taking into account the challenges posed by global climate change, it is important to continue reforms in the sector, expand the use of water-saving technologies, develop organic agriculture, and further strengthen the export potential of agricultural products.



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