



THE ROLE AND DYNAMICS OF SURKHANDARYA DISTRICTS IN TERRITORIAL DEVELOPMENT PROCESSES

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Abstract

This article analyzed the role of the districts of the Surkhandarya region in territorial development processes, their socio-economic development dynamics, and interregional disparities. The study examined indicators of economic activity, production potential, agricultural and service sector development, infrastructure conditions, and employment levels at the district level. Based on statistical data, the development rates of the territories were compared, and leading as well as lagging districts were identified. Additionally, the main factors influencing territorial development and the existing challenges were revealed.

Keywords: Territorial development, Surkhandarya region, districts, socio-economic dynamics, interregional disparities, economic potential, infrastructure, employment, sustainable development

INTRODUCTION

Today, issues of territorial development are considered one of the priority directions of the country's socio-economic policy. Reducing disparities in development levels among regions, ensuring the efficient use of local resources, and achieving sustainable economic growth remain key objectives of state policy. From this perspective, an in-depth analysis of development processes at the level of individual territories and their administrative units, districts, is of particular relevance.

Surkhandarya region occupies an important place in the national territorial development system due to its geographical location, natural and climatic



conditions, agricultural potential, and transport and logistics opportunities. The districts within the region differ significantly in terms of socio-economic development levels, production volumes, employment indicators, and the degree of infrastructure provision. This indicates uneven territorial development and the presence of internal disparities.

In recent years, state programs, investment projects, and infrastructural reforms aimed at the comprehensive development of the districts of the Surkhandarya region have been implemented. However, the actual outcomes of these measures, the development dynamics of the districts, and their role in territorial development processes have not been sufficiently assessed from a scientific perspective. Therefore, analyzing development rates at the district level and identifying leading and relatively underdeveloped areas is of significant scientific and practical importance.

The main objective of this article is to study the role of the districts of Surkhandarya region in territorial development processes and their socio-economic development dynamics based on statistical and analytical approaches. The research findings are intended to contribute to the improvement of regional policy, the rational allocation of resources, and the development of scientific conclusions and practical recommendations to ensure the sustainable development of the districts of the region

METHODOLOGY

In this study, a comprehensive methodological approach was applied to assess the role of the districts of the Surkhandarya region in territorial development processes and the dynamics of their socio-economic development. The theoretical framework of the research is based on the concepts of territorial economics, regional development, and sustainable development.

During the research process, official data from the Statistics Agency of the Republic of Uzbekistan, regional and district statistical departments, state programs, regulatory and legal documents, as well as scientific literature were used as the main sources of information.



RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Currently, a total of 2,889 industrial enterprises are actively operating in the region, reflecting the diverse and dynamic nature of its industrial sector. A detailed analysis of these enterprises according to their main types of economic activity reveals notable trends in sectoral distribution. The largest proportion, comprising 731 enterprises, or 25.3% of the total, is engaged in the production of other non-metallic mineral products.

This category includes industries that manufacture construction materials, ceramics, glass, and similar products, which are essential for both local infrastructure development and broader economic activities.

Following this, 651 enterprises, accounting for 22.5% of the total, are involved in food production. This sector plays a critical role in ensuring food security, supporting agricultural value chains, and providing employment opportunities throughout the region. In addition, the manufacturing of fabricated metal products, excluding machinery and equipment, is represented by 264 enterprises, or 9.1% of the total. This sub-sector contributes to the regional economy by supplying raw and semi-finished metal products for construction, repair, and various industrial purposes.

Furthermore, furniture production accounts for 209 enterprises, representing 7.2% of the industrial base. This sector not only meets domestic demand for household and office furniture but also supports local craftsmanship and small-to medium-sized enterprises. The distribution of industrial enterprises across these key sectors highlights the region's economic diversity and underscores the importance of targeted policies to support balanced industrial development and sustainable growth (Figure 1).

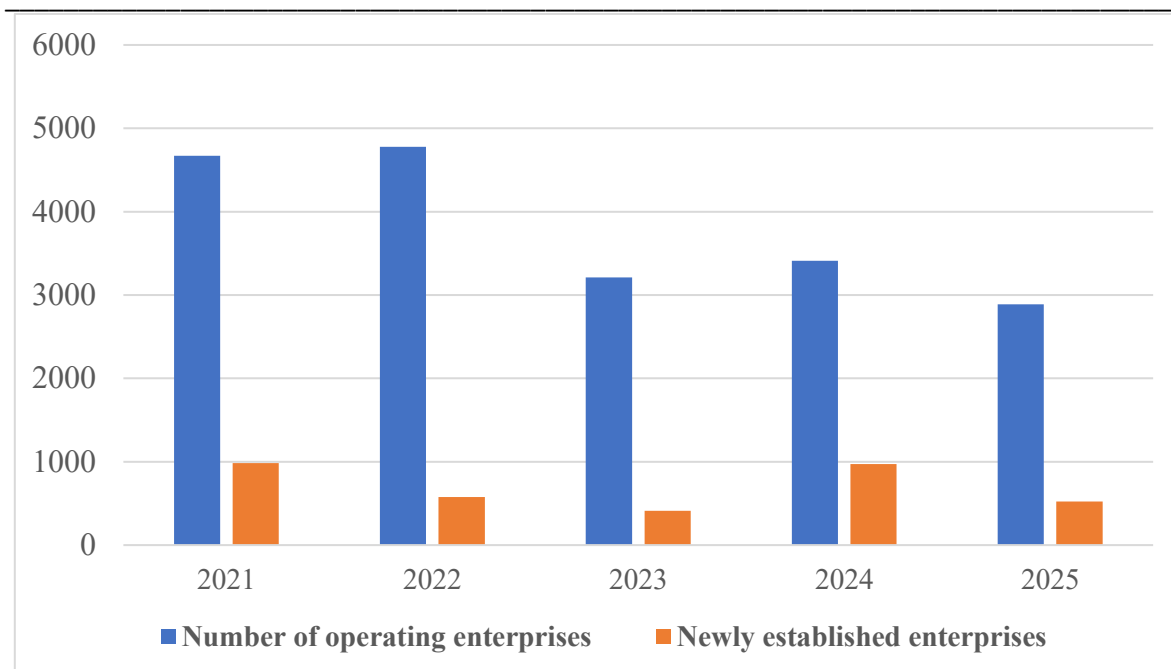


Figure 1. Number of enterprises in the Surkhandarya region¹

According to preliminary data, from January to September 2025, industrial enterprises in the region produced goods with a total value of 12,832.7 billion soms. This reflects a significant level of industrial activity and indicates sustained growth in the regional manufacturing sector. The physical volume index of industrial production during this period reached 107.9% compared to the same period in 2024, demonstrating a 7.9% increase in overall output.

This growth was driven by increased production across key industrial sectors, including food processing, non-metallic mineral products, fabricated metal goods, and furniture manufacturing. The positive dynamics suggest that regional industries are not only recovering from previous economic fluctuations but are also expanding their production capacity, contributing to the overall economic development of the region.

Moreover, this upward trend in industrial output highlights the effectiveness of local investment initiatives, modernization programs, and supportive economic

¹ www.surkhanstat.uz



policies aimed at enhancing productivity and competitiveness in the regional industrial base.

Table 1. Volume of products produced by regional enterprises²

Surkhandarya region	Volume, billion soms	Physical volume index, %
Termiz city	1417,9	106,2
Angor	520,1	110,3
Bandixon	262,5	113,4
Boysun	184,3	106,3
Denov	974,8	108,7
Jarkurgan	1050,9	104,2
Qumkurgan	614,8	108,4
Kizirik	353,1	105,4
Muzrabot	698,9	109,6
Oltinsoy	300,1	108,2
Sariosiyo	700,8	104,7
Termiz	1283,9	131,2
Uzun	362,4	109,6
Sherobod	804,6	108,4
Shurchi	806,1	111,4

The distribution of industrial production per capita, due to the presence of large industrial enterprises, shows that Termiz district (14,564.8 thousand soms), Termiz city (6,763.3 thousand soms), Muzrabot (4,425.3 thousand soms), and Jarqo'rg'on (4,275.3 thousand soms) districts have significantly higher values compared to the regional average of 3,234.6 thousand soms (*Table 1*).

In addition, the growth rate of industrial production per capita in the region reached 105.5%, while Termiz district (127.4%), Bandixon district (110.4%), Sho'rchi district (108.8%), and Angor district (107.9%) recorded significantly higher results compared to the regional average.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

The research results indicate that the districts of the Surkhandarya region occupy different positions in the process of territorial development. In the Termiz district and city, as well as in Muzrabot and Jarqkurgan districts, the volume of industrial

² Statistical report 2025



production and per capita industrial output are significantly higher than the regional average. At the same time, Bandixon, Shurchi, and Angor districts demonstrate high industrial growth rates, indicating their economic potential and development capacity. However, in other districts of the region, industrial potential and production volumes remain low, reflecting existing territorial disparities. This highlights the need for a more effective implementation of regional development policies.

Recommendations:

1. Promote investment projects and develop small and medium-sized enterprises in districts with low industrial potential to increase economic activity.
2. Organize seminars and experience-sharing programs on technology and management to apply the experience of districts with large industrial enterprises in other districts.
3. Improve infrastructure, transport, and logistics capabilities to reduce territorial disparities and enhance inter-district economic links.
4. Strengthen support measures such as special state programs and subsidies in districts with low development rates.
5. Enhance territorial development monitoring and statistical observation systems to support informed and effective management decisions at the district level.

In summary, the study demonstrates that Surkhandarya region exhibits significant disparities in territorial and socio-economic development across its districts. While some districts, such as Termiz, Muzrabot, and Jarqo'rg'on, show strong industrial output and per capita production, others lag behind, highlighting uneven development. The findings underscore the importance of targeted regional policies, investment promotion, and infrastructure improvements to balance growth, enhance economic potential, and ensure sustainable development throughout the region.



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