THE SIGNIFICANCE OF U.S. INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOCIAL LIFE OF KASHKADARYA REGION

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Abstract. *This study examines, using a historical and analytical approach, information concerning the participation of international programs funded by the United States in the development of the social life of Kashkadarya Region. The study analyzes credible evidence demonstrating that international cooperation also played an important role in the reform of the region's social sectors.*

Keywords. *Kashkadarya Region, social life, U.S. international programs, USAID, CAIP program, CHF program, PROJECT HOPE, "Healthy Family" project.*

Introduction: In the present period, as globalization processes continue to deepen, international relations in the sphere of socio-cultural development are becoming not only a distinct area of cooperation between states, but also an important factor in strategic development. In particular, international programs implemented in the regions of Uzbekistan in the early 2000s contributed to accelerating the development of social life.

Literature Review. Within the framework of this study, statistical data and materials from the periodical press were analyzed and their scholarly value was assessed. The analysis of the sources indicates that, since the beginning of the twenty-first century, the role of international programs financed by foreign countries in achieving effective outcomes in reforms of the social sectors of Kashkadarya Region has been reflected in the mass media. However, this process has not been sufficiently studied from a historical perspective. This circumstance determines the relevance of the present research.

Research Methodology. This study is aimed at examining the formation and development of international cooperation in the social life of Kashkadarya Region during the years of independence as a historical process. The research was conducted on the basis of general scientific and specialized methods characteristic of historical studies. Using a source-critical approach, materials from the periodical press and statistical data were examined through comparative analysis.

Analysis and Discussion of Results. In October 2002, a visit to the region by John Herbst, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States to the

Republic of Uzbekistan, and James Gogin, a representative of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in Uzbekistan, played an important role in establishing bilateral cooperation. During the visit, meetings were held with local government authorities and issues related to regional development were discussed. A number of projects were organized through cooperation between local organizations and the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State. With the support of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), a public Internet access and training center was established in the city of Karshi, whose primary activity was teaching the population how to use the Internet and modern information technologies. As a result, the population's level of knowledge increased and opportunities to adapt to modern economic processes expanded. Within a short period of time, the center became a winner of a competition organized by the International Research and Exchanges Board, and its activities received international recognition.

The CAIP program, funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development and implemented by CHF International and Counterpart International, began operating in Kashkadarya Region in 2002. In 2002–2003, 12 projects were implemented. During the first stage of this program, which ensured the implementation of projects aimed at improving the living standards of the population, a 1.1 km gas pipeline was laid to Choydori village in Yakkabag District, a 3.5 km gas pipeline was laid to Balandchayla and Quyi Yangiqishloq in Kamashi District, and clean drinking water was supplied to Pandiron village in Kasbi District.[1] In 2004, in Guvalak village of Koson District, the "Water" project was successfully implemented with funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)'s CHF program and with the active support and initiative of local residents, and as a result, household plots belonging to 100 households were supplied with irrigation water. For this purpose, USD 4,500 was allocated under the CHF program, while the local population contributed 1.4 million soums. Likewise, in order to implement the "Gas" project in this area, USD 4,500 was allocated under the CHF program. The local population, in turn, collected 2.5 million soums. As a result, 200 households in the area were connected to the gas supply.[2] Project HOPE and the "Healthy Family" project, supported by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), contributed to improving public health and modernizing Uzbekistan's healthcare system in the late 1990s and early 2000s. Within the framework of the project, healthcare institutions were supplied with hepatitis vaccines, medicines, medical supplies, medical instruments, and equipment.

In March 1994, a bilateral agreement on cooperation within the framework of USAID was signed in Tashkent between the United States and the Republic of

[1] Kenjayeva, D. "With Both Appeal and Investment." *Qashqadaryo* newspaper, June 4, 2003, No. 45.
[2] Pirmatov, M. "Improvement Activities in Guvalak." *Qashqadaryo* newspaper, June 23, 2004, No. 50.

Uzbekistan.[3] USAID provided economic and humanitarian assistance to the Republic of Uzbekistan through various projects. Within the framework of these projects, healthcare institutions were supplied with hepatitis vaccines, medicines, medical supplies, medical instruments, and equipment.

In particular, in 2003, humanitarian assistance with a total value of USD 2.3 million was delivered to Kashkadarya Region. The vaccines, intended for the immunization of 30,000 children against hepatitis, were supplied under the "Healthy Family" program funded by the organization. The vaccines, consisting of 90,000 doses, were distributed to children's hospitals and rural medical centers in the Kasbi, Chirakchi, and Dehkanabad districts.[4] In April 2005, during his visit to Kashkadarya Region, John Robert Purnell, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States to the Republic of Uzbekistan, also attended the opening ceremonies of the maternity complex of the Central Hospital in Kasbi District, which was operating under the "Healthy Family" project of Project HOPE, and of a sports hall constructed in the Qataghan mahalla of Yakkabag District under the investment program of the "Mahalla" movement. In 2005, a "Healthy Family" center was established in Kashkadarya under the U.S. Agency for International Development's Project HOPE and was provided with the necessary instruments, equipment, and technical facilities.[5] On September 22, 2016, within the framework of USAID's Tuberculosis Control Program, six Uzbek specialists in tuberculosis, including the heads of tuberculosis treatment institutions in the Khorezm, Bukhara, Navoi, and Kashkadarya regions, were trained in advanced practices for the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of tuberculosis at the International Tuberculosis Institute at Rutgers University in the state of New Jersey, United States.[6]

In July 2000, at the initiative of the regional branch of the Society for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, a ceremonial event dedicated to the national holidays of the United States and Canada—the Independence Day of the United States and Canada Day—was held in the city of Karshi. The event was attended by S. Umarov, head of the society's regional branch, as well as Todd and Jennifer Miller, Canadians working as English-language teachers at Karshi State University. Speaking at the event, U.S. representative Patrick Toker, head of the regional branch of the Central Asia assistance organization CAFE, provided information about the

[3] ³ Xoliqov, G'. "Uzbekistan's Cooperation with the United States in the Field of Medicine." *International Journal of Science. Scientific Bulletin.* ISSN: 306-4583, Vol. 3, Issue 2, 2025, p. 78.
[4] "Another Act of Generosity by HOPE." *Qashqadaryo* newspaper, September 6, 2003, No. 72.
[5] Raxmonov, R. "The Goal Is to Achieve the Effectiveness of Reforms." *O'zbekistonda sog'liqni saqlash* [Healthcare in Uzbekistan], June 21, 2005.
[6] Shukurzoda, M. *U.S.–Uzbekistan Cooperation in Figures (1992–2016).* Tashkent: Niso-Poligraf, 2015, p. 229.

activities directly carried out by his organization to develop relations of friendship and cooperation between the countries.[7]

Conclusion. During the years of independence, external relations emerged as an important historical factor in the social life of Kashkadarya Region, acquiring new content and scope during this period. International programs funded by the United States made a certain contribution to improving the social life of the region's population. In particular, the projects implemented in the region under the CAIP program contributed to the re-emergence of a spirit of initiative among the local population in place of attitudes of dependency. The provision of equipment important for delivering medical services to the population through USAID's humanitarian and charitable assistance had a meaningful impact on safeguarding the health of the country's citizens.

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