

ORGANIZATION OF COTTON-TEXTILE CLUSTERS: SCIENTIFIC AND THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS

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Abstract: *This article discusses the organizational and problematic aspects of clustering and the debates on how to overcome them.*

Monitoring and analysis of the changes taking place in the Uzbek economy, the reforms being carried out, show that new trends are being formed in it. Leading industries are implementing structural changes and are moving to a form of organizational management that is considered unconventional for us, called clusters. Of course, the emergence of new organizational structures can be positively assessed, but there are some aspects that need to be paid attention to in the organization and effective operation of these structures, which require in-depth factor analysis and assessment of the level of influence. In particular, there are several theoretical approaches to the organization of clusters, which differ from each other in one way or another. Each theory is effective in certain conditions, that is, it is not correct to apply them on a country-wide scale.

When conducting a clustering policy, it is advisable to take into account the real internal capabilities of the country, conduct an objective factor analysis in the process of implementation, and look at clusters across sectors from the point of view of different approaches, not exactly the same. First of all, the formation of a legal framework for the activities of these organizational structures, which are new to us, is an urgent issue. Without the necessary legal foundations, any reform will not bring the expected results. The Resolution of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PP-2687 dated December 21, 2016 "On the Program of Measures for the Development of the Textile and Garment-Knitting Industry for 2017-2021" served as the initial legal basis for launching the clustering process in the cotton-textile, garment-knitting industry. After the adoption of this Decision, several other decisions were made regarding the clustering of economic sectors, as a result of which today clusters managed to become one of the leading organizational structures of economic development.

Analysis of views on clustering allows us to divide them into the following groups:

The first, based on the ideas of Alfred Marshall, is based on the efficiency achieved as a result of the joint use of common resources as a result of agglomeration and integration. According to this theory, a cluster is a group of interconnected

industries that pursue a common goal and are formed using a common local labor market, as a result of which they achieve efficiency.

The second is based on the theory of Michael Porter (2003), which explains the high level of competitiveness of firms achieved through the interaction of production in regional industry clusters. In this concept, the geographical proximity of firms is explained by many factors: the availability of savings in agglomeration, urbanization, links in the value chain, innovations, etc. The third is the theory of industrial (technical and economic) clusters, which is based on the concepts of relationships between suppliers in the value chain, social and other factors, and technological connections between sectors.

The problems in implementing the cluster approach can be divided into two groups: general problems in implementing cluster policy and problems arising from the specifics of the socio-economic situation in a country or a specific region.

The main feature that complicates the implementation of cluster policy is the differences in the sectoral affiliation, location and organizational structure of clusters.⁴⁵

According to Lizunov, Metelev and Soloviev, at present, the goal of industry clustering and its development can be seen as ensuring competitiveness by creating certain organizational conditions. In this case, the best strategies are considered as a means of accelerating regional development.⁴⁶

Governments at various levels are trying to use the experience of "best practices" in clustering, relying on work done abroad. Therefore, an acute problem facing cluster policy developers is the dilemma of "best practices", since measures that have proven effective in developing clusters in one situation may be ineffective in another. This shows that it is necessary to assess the appropriateness of using the applied cluster policy instrument in a given situation.

In addition, the pursuit of the same goals leads to another problem - the development of the cluster in only one direction. Governments try to form innovative clusters to increase the competitiveness of the region, but the question of whether there are real opportunities for this is often left aside. It is advisable for regions to invest in technologies based on available resources and opportunities.

One of the problems with clustering is its politicization. Many regions use clusters as a modern brand. There are even cases where an industrial structure is called a cluster in order to attract attention and investment to it. It is no exaggeration to say that such clusters fall into the category of "politically supported".⁴⁷ Their activities are assessed not based on the results of in-depth economic analysis, but from the point of view of political ambitions. As a result, they do not have the economic competitive advantage that is an important condition for development today. Unfortunately, such

⁴⁵ Cheng Y., Peng J., Warehouse logistics in China at textile enterprises// IFAC-Papers OnLine. 2022. Vol. 50 (1). P. 12255–12260.

⁴⁶ Solovev A.A. Cluster and cluster strategy. Monograph. - Omsk. 2012

⁴⁷ Davlyatov B.A. Improving the organizational and economic mechanism of clustering cotton and textile enterprises. Dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Economics, 2023.

“pseudoclusters” are included in regional development programs, but their development is very uneven or does not develop at all.

In conclusion, there are many challenges that need to be addressed in the establishment of cotton-textile clusters. Their elimination should be carried out taking into account the capabilities and characteristics of each region, as well as generally accepted methods.

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