

REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

Public Administration Country Profile

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United Nations

February 2004

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UZBEKISTAN

[Click here](#) for detailed map



Source: [The World Factbook - Uzbekistan](#)

Government type

Republic

Independence

1 September 1991 (from Soviet Union)

Constitution

Adopted 8 December 1992 ([click here](#))

Legal system

Evolution of Soviet civil law

Administrative divisions

12 provinces, 1 autonomous republic (Qaraqalpog'iston Respublikasi - Nukus), and 1 city (Toshkent Shahri)

Source: [The World Factbook - Uzbekistan](#) (edited)

Mr. Karimov, former head of the Soviet Socialist Republic of Uzbekistan and head of the People's Democratic Party (former communist party), was elected President of the new republic in Dec. 1991 with 86% of the votes.

In 1995 a referendum approved the extension of President Karimov's mandate until the year 2000. The presidential election took place on 9 January 2000, re-electing President Karimov with 91.9% of the votes.

The Parliament elected in March 1990 was maintained in function until the general election of 25 Dec. 1994. At the time of the latter the candidates of the presidential majority obtained 80% of the votes. The following general election proceeded on 5 and 19 Dec. 1999 with results favourable to the ruling regime.

Source: [European Commission - Political Situation](#)

1. General Information

| 1.1 People | Uzbekistan | Kyrgyz Rep. | Tajikistan | 1 |
|--|------------------|-------------|-------------------|---|
| Population | | | | a |
| Total estimated population (,000), 2003 | 26,093 | 5,138 | 6,245 | |
| Female estimated population (,000), 2003 | 13,123 | 2,618 | 3,133 | |
| Male estimated population (,000), 2003 | 12,970 | 2,520 | 3,112 | |
| Sex ratio (males per 100 females), 2003 | 99 | 96 | 99 | |
| Average annual rate of change of pop. (%), 2000-2005 | 1.51 | 1.4 | 0.86 | |
| Youth and Elderly Population | | | | b |
| Total population under age 15 (%), 2003 | 34 | 32 | 36 | |
| Female population aged 60+ (%), 2003 | 8 | 10 | 7 | |
| Male population aged 60+ (%), 2003 | 6 | 7 | 6 | |
| Human Settlements | | | | c |
| Urban population (%), 2001 | 37 | 34 | 28 | |
| Rural population (%), 2001 | 63 | 66 | 72 | |
| Urban average annual rate of change in pop. (%), '00-'05 | 1.39 | 1.16 | 0.69 | |
| Rural average annual rate of change in pop/ (%), '00-'05 | 1.39 | 1.16 | 0.69 | |
| Education | | | | d |
| Total school life expectancy, 2000/2001 | .. | .. | 9.9 | 1 |
| Female school life expectancy, 2000/2001 | .. | .. | 9.1 | 1 |
| Male school life expectancy, 2000/2001 | .. | .. | 10.7 | 1 |
| Female estimated adult (15+) illiteracy rate (%), 1989 | 1.2 | .. | 1.2 | 2 |
| Male estimated adult (15+) illiteracy rate (%), 1989 | 0.4 | .. | 0.4 | 2 |
| Employment | | | | e |
| Unemployment rate (15+) (%), 2000 | 0.4 ⁱ | .. | 2.7 ⁱⁱ | 1 |
| Female adult (+15) economic activity rate (%), 1989 | 61 | 59 | 60 | 2 |
| Male adult (+15) economic activity rate (%), 1989 | 75 | 75 | 75 | 2 |

Notes: ⁱ 1995, Based on number of work applicants from employment office records; ⁱⁱ 1997, Based on registered unemployment from employment office records

| 1.2 Economy | Uzbekistan | Kyrgyz Rep. | Tajikistan | 2 |
|---|------------|-------------|------------|---|
| GDP | | | | a |
| GDP total (millions US\$), 2002 | 9,713 | 1,632 | 1,208 | |
| GDP per capita (US\$), 2002 | 383 | 326 | 191 | |
| PPP GDP total (millions int. US\$), 2002 | 40,915 | 7,865 | 5,788 | |
| PPP GDP per capita(int. US\$), 2002 | 1,611 | 1,572 | 916 | |
| Sectors | | | | b |
| Value added in agriculture (% of GDP), 2003 | 35.2 | 39.2 | 23.4 | |
| Value added in industry (% of GDP), 2003 | 21.7 | 23.2 | 20.2 | |
| Value added in services (% of GDP), 2003 | 43.1 | 37.6 | 56.4 | |
| Miscellaneous | | | | c |
| GDP implicit price deflator (annual % growth), 2003 | 24.2 | 3.8 | 14.2 | |
| Private consumption (% of GDP), 2003 | 56.9 | 70.8 | 73.9 | |
| Government consumption (% of GDP), 2003 | 18.8 | 17.2 | 8.3 | |

Notes:

¹ [United Nations Statistics Division](#):

^a [Statistics Division and Population Division of the UN Secretariat](#); ^b [Statistics Division and Population Division of the UN Secretariat](#); ^c [Population Division of the UN Secretariat](#); ^{d1} [UNESCO](#); ^{d2} [UNESCO](#); ^{e1} [ILO](#); ^{e2} [ILO/OECD](#)

² [World Bank - Data and Statistics](#):

^a [Quick Reference Tables](#); ^b [Data Profile Tables](#); ^c [Country at a Glance](#)

| 1.3 Public Spending | Uzbekistan | Kyrgyz Rep. | Tajikistan | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|---|
| Public expenditures | | | | 3 |
| Education (% of GNP), 1985-1987 | 9.2 ⁱ | 9.7 | .. | a |
| Education (% of GNP), 1995-1997 | 7.7 | 5.3 | 2.2 | a |
| Health (% of GDP), 1990 | 4.6 | 4.7 | 4.9 | |
| Health (% of GDP), 1998 | 3.4 | 2.2 ⁱⁱ | 5.2 | |
| Military (% of GDP), 1990 | .. | .. | .. | b |
| Military (% of GDP), 2000 | 1.7 ⁱⁱ | 1.9 | 1.2 | b |
| Total debt service (% of GDP), 1990 | .. | .. | .. | |
| Total debt service (% of GDP), 2000 | 11.7 | 13.3 | 8.8 | |

Notes: ⁱ Data refer to a year or period other than that specified; ⁱⁱ Data refer to 1999

| 1.4 Public Sector Employment and Wages | | | | | | |
|--|------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|---|---|--|
| <i>Data from the latest year available</i> | | Uzbekistan 1991-1995 | Uzbekistan 1996-2000 | Europe & Central Asia average ⁴ 1996-2000 | Central Asia & Caucasus average ⁴ 1996-2000 | Low income group average ⁴ 1996-2000 |
| Employment | | | | | | |
| Civilian Central Government ⁵ | (,000) | 84.0 | 119.0 | | | |
| | (% pop.) | 0.37 | 0.49 | 0.61 | 0.90 | 0.46 |
| Sub-national Government ⁵ | (,000) | .. | 3,533 | | | |
| | (% pop.) | .. | 14.5 | 0.61 | 0.90 | 0.46 |
| Education employees | (,000) | 1,038 | 901.0 | | | |
| | (% pop.) | 4.55 | 3.69 | 1.58 | 1.68 | 0.91 |
| Health employees | (,000) | 483.0 | 439.0 | | | |
| | (% pop.) | 2.12 | 1.80 | 1.15 | 1.23 | 0.62 |
| Police | (,000) | .. | .. | | | |
| | (% pop.) | .. | .. | 0.68 | .. | 0.30 |
| Armed forces | (,000) | .. | .. | | | |
| | (% pop.) | .. | .. | 0.87 | 0.96 | 0.33 |
| SOE Employees | (,000) | .. | .. | | | |
| | (% pop.) | .. | .. | 20.1 | 37.8 | 13.1 |
| Total Public Employment | (,000) | .. | .. | | | |
| | (% pop.) | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. |
| Wages | | | | | | |
| Total Central gov't wage bill | (% of GDP) | .. | 16.0 | 5.9 | 5.3 | 5.4 |
| Total Central gov't wage bill | (% of exp) | .. | .. | 13.1 | 11.8 | 24.7 |
| Average gov't wage | (,000 LCU) | .. | 97 | | | |
| Real ave. gov't wage ('97 price) | (,000 LCU) | .. | .. | | | |
| Average gov't wage to per capita GDP ratio | | .. | 1.1 | 6.3 | 12.1 | 4.4 |

Source: World Bank - Public Sector Employment and Wages

³ UNDP - Human Development Report 2002

^a Data refer to total public expenditure on education, including current and capital expenditures.

^b As a result of a number of limitations in the data, comparisons of military expenditure data over time and across countries should be made with caution. For detailed notes on the data see SIPRI (2001).

⁴ Averages for regions and sub regions are only generated if data is available for at least 35% of the countries in that region or sub region.

⁵ Excluding education, health and police – if available (view [Country Sources](#) for further explanations).

2. Legal Structure

The adoption of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan on 8 December 1992 created the basis for the developing legislative framework of a sovereign Uzbekistan. Section 4 of the Constitution defines the state and administrative-territorial structure of Uzbekistan, while article 11 establishes the division of powers—legislative, executive and judicial—on which the government is based.

Source: [Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative \(LGI\) - Local Government in Uzbekistan \(2001\)](#)

2.1 Legislative Branch

Unicameral Supreme Assembly or Oliy Majlis (250 seats; members elected by popular vote to serve five-year terms).⁶

Women in parliament: 18 out of 250 seats: (7%).⁷

The highest representative body of the state is the [Oliy Majlis](#), The Supreme Assembly of the Republic of Uzbekistan. This body Exercises legislative powers.

The Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan consists of deputies, elected by territorial constituencies on a multi-Party basis for a term of five years.

Oliy Majlis adopts and amends the Constitution and laws of Republic of Uzbekistan, legislatively regulate customs, currency and credit systems, problems of the administrative - territorial structure, and alteration of frontiers of the Republic of Uzbekistan and approve of the state's budget.

Oliy Majlis nominates elections to Oliy Majlis of Republic of Uzbekistan and local representative bodies, elect of the Constitutional Court, Supreme Court, Higher Arbitration Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan, ratifies of the decrees of the President on the appointment and removal of the higher officials of country, ratifies a modification of organs of state management, ratifies the international treaties and agreements and realizes other activity.

The right to initiate legislation in the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan is vested in the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Republic of Karakalpakstan through the highest body of state authority, the deputies of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Constitutional Court, the Supreme Court, the Higher Arbitration Court and the Procurator General of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan passes laws, decisions and other acts. Any law is adopted when it is passed by a majority of the total voting power of the deputies of the Oliy Majlis.

Promulgation of the laws and other normative acts is a compulsory condition for their enforcement.

Source: [World Legal Information Institute - A Guide to Uzbekistan Legal Research \(2002\)](#)

Fact box:

elections: Last held 5 December and 19 December 1999 (next to be held December 2004)
election results: Seats by party - NDP 48, Self-Sacrificers Party 34, Fatherland Progress Party 20, Adolat Social Democratic Party 11, MTP 10, citizens' groups 16, local government 110, vacant 1

⁶ Source of fact boxes if nothing else stated: [The World Factbook - Uzbekistan](#)

⁷ [Inter-Parliamentary Union - Women in National Parliaments](#)

According to the result of national voting of January 27, 2002, the decision on establishing a two-chamber parliament is accepted. The constitutional Laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Senate of *Oliy Majlis* of the Republic of Uzbekistan" and "On Legislative Chamber of *Oliy Majlis* of the Republic of Uzbekistan" will be enforced on the results of the next election (2004) to *Oliy Majlis* of the Republic of Uzbekistan and formation of the chambers

Source: [Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan](#)

The new bicameral parliament (to be elected next year) will have 100 members in the Senate (upper house) and 120 members in the Legislative (lower house).

Source: [UNDP - Common Country Assessment \(2003\)](#)

2.2 Executive Branch

cabinet: Cabinet of Ministers appointed by the president with approval of the Supreme Assembly
elections: President elected by popular vote for a seven-year term (previously was a five-year term, extended by constitutional amendment in 2002); election last held 9 January 2000 (next to be held December 2007); prime minister and deputy ministers appointed by the president

The office of the president of the Republic, first established in 1990, is the central position in state administration and the keystone in the national political system.

Presidential authority in Uzbekistan is considered a key element in the development of the new Uzbek State, a kind of warrant for stability in society and for the successful advance of Uzbekistan along the path of reforms.

According to article 89 of the Constitution, the president unites the powers of head of state and head of the executive branch. The president is therefore also chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, the highest executive body (see Appendix 1 in source for detailed structure of the Cabinet of Ministers). The president is elected for seven years, formerly five years, through universal suffrage. His executive powers are extensive. Included among them are the right to form a government, direct the government and appoint and dismiss the prime minister and cabinet ministers; to appoint and recall diplomats; to establish and dissolve ministries; to appoint and dismiss the procurator-general and his deputies; to nominate appointees to the constitutional court, supreme court and board of the central bank; to appoint and dismiss judges of regional, district, city and arbitration courts; to appoint and dismiss *hokims* for violations of the law; to suspend or repeal acts of *hokims*; to sign all laws of the *Oliy Majlis* or return them for reconsideration; to declare a state of emergency; to serve as commander-in-chief of the armed forces; to declare war; to rule on matters of citizenship; to issue amnesties and pardons; and to appoint and dismiss heads of the national security service.

Fact box:

chief of state: President Islom KARIMOV (since 24 March 1990, when he was elected president by the then Supreme Soviet)
head of government: Prime Minister Shavkat MIRZIYAYEV (since 11 December 2003)

The president also enjoys personal immunity. Parliamentary deputies also enjoy immunity from prosecution, but are subject to the sanction of the parliament. No such restriction is placed on the immunity of the president. After his state service, the president becomes a lifetime member of the constitutional court.

Beneath the president, executive agencies no longer exercise the dominant power of their predecessors in planning and distribution of functions, but instead play more the role of coordinator and regulator of economic policy. Numerous ministries have been replaced by more flexible and market oriented economic amalgamations,

associations, corporations and holding companies, while responsibility for regulating external relations is shared by such bodies as the Ministry of Foreign

Source: [Open Society Institute - Structure and Practice of State Administration in Uzbekistan \(2003\)](#)

Recently, important steps were taken to transfer more executive powers from the President to the Parliament and the Cabinet of Ministers. From 2005 the President's power to nominate members of the government will be delegated to the Prime Minister and presidential decrees will be approved by Parliament.

Source: [UNDP - Common Country Assessment \(2003\)](#)

2.3 Judiciary Branch

Supreme Court (judges are nominated by the president and confirmed by the Supreme Assembly).

The judicial system in the Republic of Uzbekistan consists of the Constitutional Court of the Republic, the Supreme Court, the Higher Economic Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan, along with the Supreme Court, and the Economic Court of the Republic of Karakalpakstan. These courts' judges have been elected for a term of five years. The judicial branch also includes regional, district, town, city, Tashkent city courts and arbitration courts appointed for a term of five years.

The Constitutional Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan hears cases relating to the Constitutionality of acts passed by the legislative and executive branches.

The Constitutional Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan judges the constitutionality of the laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan and other acts passed by the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the decrees issued by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the enactments of the government and the ordinances of local authorities, as well as obligations of the Republic of Uzbekistan under inter-state treaties and other documents; Confirm the constitutionality of the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Karakalpakstan to the Constitution and laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan; Interpret the Constitution and the laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

The Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan is the highest judicial body of civil, criminal and administrative law. The rulings of the Supreme Court are final and binding throughout the Republic of Uzbekistan. The Supreme Court of the Republic of Uzbekistan has the right to supervise the administration of justice by the Supreme Court of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, as well as by regional, city, town and district courts.

Any economic and management disputes that may arise between entrepreneurs, enterprises, institutions and organizations based on different forms of ownership, are settled by the Higher Arbitration Court and other arbitration courts within their authority.

Source: [World Legal Information Institute - A Guide to Uzbekistan Legal Research \(2002\)](#)

Despite the intensive legislative activity since independence, some contend that the judiciary still does not operate independently from the executive branch.⁸ Supreme Court judges are nominated by the President and confirmed by the Oliy Majlis (Parliament). Judges have limited terms of office, receive low salaries and are usually overloaded.

Source: [UNDP - Common Country Assessment \(2003\) \(edited\)](#)

⁸ See "Legislative Evolution in Uzbekistan (1991–2003)" in Campbell, J. and Afia, J. (2003), "Law in Transition-Focus on Central Asia", Jones Day Gouldens London and Ilkhom Azizov, Azizov & Partners Tashkent, 2003, www.ebrd.org/pubs.

2.4 Local Government

The Republic of Uzbekistan consists of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, twelve oblasts, or regions, 120 cities, 113 towns, 164 raions and 11,844 rural settlements.

The system of public administration in Uzbekistan is comprised of two tiers, central and local. Local governments are subdivided into regional, district and city administrations. In addition, community self-governments also operate locally, although they are not part of the central public administration system.

The system of local government has been established according to the Law on Local Public Administration, adopted on 2 September 1993. Local government activities are specified in the seven chapters and twenty articles of the law. Article 1 states that the local representative authorities at the regional, district and city levels are the local councils, whose full name in Uzbek is "Councils of People's Deputies." According to article 99 of the Uzbekistan Constitution, local councils at all levels are headed by a chairman, or *hokim* (deputy ruler). Regional, district and city *hokims* also act as the head of the local executive branch, or *hokimiyat*.

Local government powers are shared between local divisions of state administration and the local self-government, which itself is comprised of the local council and the *hokimiyat*. The institution of the *hokim* is the core of the new system, combining executive and representative functions. The general distribution of authority between the central and local governments is defined in the Constitution. At the macroeconomic level, the central government has the authority to establish uniform tax, loan and monetary policy (articles 122 and 123), relevant powers assigned to the President and the Cabinet of Ministers and special powers belonging to the Zhokargy Kenes (Karakalpak for "Supreme Council") and the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Karakalpakstan.

Local government in Uzbekistan is supplemented by self-governing community organizations. The Law on Community Self-government, adopted in 1993 and subsequently revised in 1999, defines community self-government as "independent activity by citizens, guaranteed by the Constitution and the Laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan, for the purpose of resolving issues of local importance according to their own interests and history, as well as to national traditions, spiritual values and local customs."

Community self-governments exist throughout Uzbekistan, based on the principle of decentralization. Different types of territorial units engaging in self-government activities include villages, *kishlaks*, *auls* and *mahallas*. According to article 10 of the Law on Naming Administrative-territorial Units, the term "village" refers to localities with over two thousand inhabitants which are located in the vicinity of industrial or construction enterprises, railway stations or other important objects.

Citizens exercise their constitutional right to self-governance through citizen assemblies. These assemblies, attended by resident citizens over the age of eighteen, are the highest body of community self-government and are entitled to represent the interests of its inhabitants and make decisions on their behalf, which are effective on the respective territory.

According to article 7 of the Law on Community Self-government, bodies of community self-government include citizen assemblies of villages, *kishlaks* and *auls*, as well as those of *mahallas* within cities, villages, *kishlaks* or *auls*. An assembly council (*kengash*) is created to implement the decisions of the citizen assembly and to carry out daily self-government activities between sessions. This council is

comprised of the chairman of the citizens' assembly, various advisors, chairmen of assembly commissions and the executive secretary.

Community self-governments are non-governmental organizations, separate from the system of central government. They enjoy the rights of legal entities, possess unique official seals and are subject to registration with local government bodies. The guiding principles of the self-governments are democracy, humanism, openness, social justice and local autonomy.

According to article 3 of the Law on Local Public Administration and article 6 of the Law on Community Self-government, central government bodies should create the necessary conditions for the development of community self-governments without interfering in their affairs and assist citizens in the execution of their right to self-governance. However, this provision is rarely fulfilled; in practice, community self-governments have thus far had limited independence.

Source: Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative (LGI) - Local Government in Uzbekistan (2001)

3. The State and Civil Society

3.1 Ombudsperson

Since 1999, as part of the implementation of the Policy Outline of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) concerning cooperation with the courts and law enforcement bodies, representatives of the Ombudsman have participated in court proceedings as observers in cases in which citizens have lodged applications. The right to lodge applications and protests in the courts is ensured through an agreement between the Council of the Uzbekistan Trade Union Federation and the Office of the Procurator-General of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Following the submission of legislative proposals on reform of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the office of the Parliamentary Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsman) will prepare proposals to refine the Ombudsman Act. These will include, provisions on cooperation with judicial bodies.

Source: [Government of Uzbekistan - Concluding Observations of the Human Rights Committee \(10/2002\)](#)

The public is increasingly learning about the Ombudsman which can be judged by the increasing number of complaints received to her office. In a report by the Ombudsman's office covering the years 1995-1999, 262 complaints were received in 1995, whereas according to the Ombudsman's report for 2000, a total of 5221 complaints were received for that year.

Source: [UNDP - Democratic Governance \(Uzbekistan\) \(edited\)](#)

Uzbek Ombudsman Sayora Rashidova reported to the Commission on the Implementation of Constitutional Rights and Freedoms on 22 April that in 2002 her office received more than 6,000 requests for help from citizens and was able to resolve 250 of them

Source: [Eurasianet - Ombudsman's Reports on 2002 Results](#)

3.2 NGOs

The number of NGOs has grown considerably since the early years of independence. According to figures released by the Uzbek Ministry of Justice, by 2000 there were 2,300 registered NGOs in Uzbekistan. This number included 62 international organizations, 225 national organizations, and 2,023 organizations registered at the local level. There are three main types of civic organizations in Uzbekistan.

The first category includes indigenous civic organizations that play a public service role endorsed by the Uzbek government. These NGOs include nationwide organizations such as the Mahalla Foundation, the Association of the Disabled, and the Veterans' Fund "Nuroniy." There are also specialized organizations that focus on key environmental and social issues. These NGOs often are organized at the government's initiative and receive special privileges.

The second category consists of so-called implementing NGOs that receive funding from international donors to carry out the work of identifying and providing financial and technical support to indigenous citizen initiatives. Implementing organizations include the Counterpart Consortium, the National Democratic Institute, the Initiative for Social Action and Renewal in Eurasia, the American Bar Association Central and East European Legal Initiative, and the International Foundation for Electoral Systems. These implementing organizations are unlikely to develop financial sustainability on the basis of own-source revenues from Central Asia. Consequently,

when donor government assistance comes to an end, the support for indigenous NGOs in Central Asia can be expected to attenuate.

The third category consists of organizations directly engaged in the promotion of group or public interests by providing goods and services to a client population. NGO activity in the past year has focused on capacity building (training and other forms of knowledge-based technical assistance) and leverage grants that provide seed capital for previously existing or incipient civic initiative organizations. These foreign-supported NGOs include legal foundations, child assistance organizations, women's rights groups, advocacy groups for the rights of under-represented portions of the population, and environmental activists.

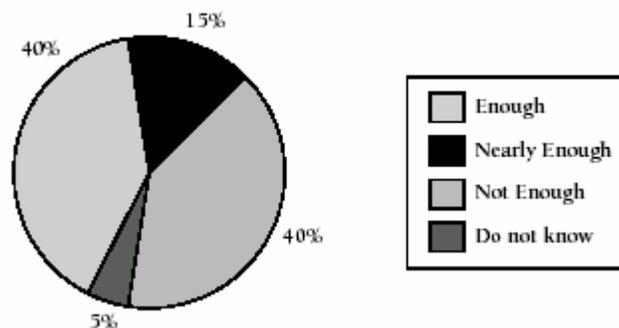
Source: [Freedom House - Nations in Transit \(2003\)](#)

3.3 Civil Society

A survey study published in "Structure and Practice of State Administration in Uzbekistan" (Open Society Institute, 2003) asked 150 experts selected after three selection stages (see [appendix 2](#)) (with 59% being representatives of Public Service) the following three questions regarding, inter alia, civil society.

One of the questions was aiming to elucidate the extent to which the public is informed about decision-making processes. The respondents were asked: "Do you receive enough information on the decision-making processes of state institutions in Uzbekistan?" There were several choices: 1. enough; 2. nearly enough; 3. not enough; 4. do not know. The survey found that 40% of respondents believe that they receive enough information on the decision-making processes of state institutions in Uzbekistan, 15% of all respondents indicated that they received nearly enough information. At the same time 40% of respondents think that they received not enough information on the decision-making processes of state institutions, and finally 5% indicated "do not know." (Figure 6)

Figure 6. The Extent to Which the Public Is Informed about the Decision-making Processes of State Institutions in Uzbekistan

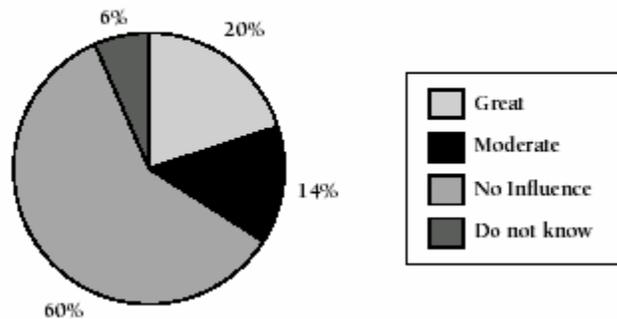


Another question of the survey study aimed to solicit the opinion of local experts about the influence of the public on the decision-making processes of state institutions. They were asked: "In your opinion does the public influence the decision-making processes of state institutions?"

There were four options: 1. greatly; 2. moderately; 3. no influence; 4. do not know. The survey study found that 20% of all respondents believe that the public strongly influenced the decision-making processes of the state institutions, 14% of all respondents indicated that such an influence is moderate, 60% of the respondents

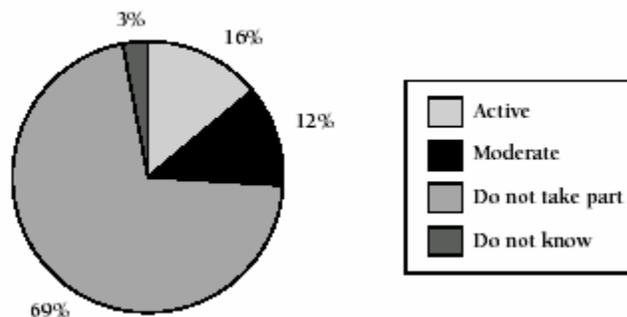
think that the public does not have an influence on the decision-making processes of state institutions in Uzbekistan. Finally, 6% of respondents indicated "do not know".

Figure 7. The Influence of the Public on the Decision-making Processes of State Institutions in Uzbekistan



The survey study also had a question aiming at evaluating the extent to which ordinary citizens take part in state management. The experts were asked: "In your opinion, do ordinary citizens participate in state management?" Again there were four options: 1. actively; 2. moderately; 3. do not take part; 4. do not know. A total of 16% said that ordinary citizens take an active part in the state management, 12% indicated that ordinary citizens take part moderately, the majority of all respondents (69%) believe that the ordinary citizens do take part in the state management, 3% indicated "do not know." (Figure 8)

Figure 8. Ordinary Citizens' Participation in the State Management of Uzbekistan



Source: Open Society Institute - Structure and Practice of State Administration in Uzbekistan (2003)

4. Civil Service

Introduction

Public sector reform is a declared key objective of the government of Uzbekistan. In 2000, public sector reform was designated a priority by President Islam Karimov. The development of a training system and the adoption of a civil service law are being considered, although little information is available on the current state of these two initiatives. Administrative reform appears to be focused on transferring functions to lower levels of government, as well as decentralizing certain social welfare functions to the community level.

Source: [World Bank - Transition Newsletter \(2001\)](#)

In May 2003, President Islam Karimov signed a decree which aimed at improving the economic management system and bringing it into line with market economy standards. It is planned to scale down the number of civil servants by an average of 30%, and it will also cut government costs required to pay civil servant's salaries.

Source: [Uzbekistan Information Directory - News from Interfax](#)

4.1 Legal basis

The Constitution of Uzbekistan proclaims the right of each citizen to work, equal employment opportunity and just labor conditions. Currently (2001) there is no special law regarding the public service system and status of government employees. Labor relations are regulated by the Labor Code of Uzbekistan, adopted on 21 December 1995, and other legislation. The legal basis for the activities of local government officials is established in the Law on Local Public Administration.

Source: [Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative \(LGI\) - Local Government in Uzbekistan \(2001\)](#)

4.2 Recruitment and Promotion

According to the World Bank, recruitment to and promotion within the public service is neither fully competitive nor based on merit.⁹

Source: [World Bank - Country Assistance Strategy \(2002\)](#)

4.3 Performance evaluation

Government employees are assessed every three to five years. Additional assessments may be conducted in certain circumstances, such as the need to restructure or downsize staff. For purposes of assessment, the employees must complete official forms, which are currently under development. In addition, an assessment commission established by a higher level of government may question the employees on politics, the economy, legislation and other subjects. At the conclusion of this process, the commission may assign one of three grades: positive, negative or conditional. If positive, the employee continues work as usual; if negative, the commission may request his or her dismissal; if conditional, the employee undergoes a probation period, typically three to six months, at the end of which a final performance review is conducted.

Source: [Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative \(LGI\) - Local Government in Uzbekistan \(2001\)](#)

⁹ [Nations in Transit \(Uzbekistan\)](#) published by Freedom House (2003) arrives at the same conclusion adding that corruption is pervasive in obtaining public service posts.

4.4 Remuneration

Government employee salaries are based on norms established by the government for budget organizations. The government periodically establishes a minimum salary, which is used as the baseline for salary calculation. Factors that determine monthly salary include the staff list, the professional grade and the category of employee, all of which depend on the level of education, experience and other qualifications. Full-time employees have the right to paid vacation. The length of working hours, paid vacation and other social guarantees are established by law.

Source: [Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative \(LGI\) - Local Government in Uzbekistan \(2001\)](#)

4.5 Training

Government employees are expected to upgrade their qualifications regularly. They may receive training at the Academy of Public Administration¹⁰ under the auspices of the Office of the President, as well as at a number of other educational institutions.

Source: [Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative \(LGI\) - Local Government in Uzbekistan \(2001\)](#)

Civil service training and development programmes in Uzbekistan are characterized by fragmented and uncoordinated management. This is partly due to a duplication of management lines and functions which, in turn, led to a confusion of authority and responsibility. Current state service training is almost entirely knowledge-based.

Training is conducted in an academic teaching style and may be characterized as forums for discussions and information workshops - which lead to an increased understanding and knowledge of the subject regulation or policy under discussion but, ultimately, only to minor behavioural changes.

Source: [EuropeAid - Evaluation of Tacis - Public Administration Reform Programmes \(10/1998\)](#)

4.6 Gender

The general approach of the Government is to promote gender equity by encouraging women to play an active role in all spheres of life. The Government has carried out its gender policy through a number of programs and decrees. A Presidential decree on Enhancing Women's Role in Social and Government Development of Uzbekistan was introduced in 1993 as was the position of Deputy Prime Minister on Women's Issues. The Government declared 1999 as a Year of Women, adopting the National Policy on Enhancing the Status of Women in Economic, Social, Political and Moral Spheres.

The payment for labor does not discriminate against gender and age. Rather, it is determined in accordance with the occupied position. Traditionally women are employed in the social and service sectors such as education and health sectors where salaries are comparatively low. Gender-positive development is mostly visible in large cities. In the urban areas, especially Tashkent, the services and financial sectors offer employment opportunities to women as well as to men. Maternity leave and special allowances are provided for female employees. However, the restructuring and privatization of state enterprises has caused weakening of the social benefits provided to employees, including women. About half of the workers officially registered in 1999 as unemployed were women.

Source: [Asian Development Bank \(ADB\) – Country Performance Assessment 2001-2003](#)

¹⁰ Also known as The Academy of State and Social Construction under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the Academy trains and upgrades civil servants in Uzbekistan ([GOPA](#) & [Council of Europe](#))

5. Ethics and Civil Service

5.1 Corruption

2003 CPI Score relates to perceptions of the degree of corruption as seen by business people and country analysts and ranges between 10 (highly clean) and 0 (highly corrupt).

| Corruption Perceptions Index | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| | | 2003 CPI Score | Surveys Used | Standard Deviation | High-Low Range | Number Inst. | 90 percent confidence range |
| Rank | Country | | | | | | |
| 1 | Highly clean | 9.7 | 8 | 0.3 | 9.2 - 10.0 | 4 | 9.5 - 9.9 |
| 100 | Uzbekistan | 2.4 | 6 | 0.5 | 2.0 - 3.3 | 6 | 2.2 - 2.8 |
| 133 | Highly corrupt | 1.3 | 8 | 0.7 | 0.3 - 2.2 | 6 | 0.9 - 1.7 |

Source: [Transparency International - Corruption Perceptions Index 2003](#)

Surveys Used: Refers to the number of surveys that were used to assess a country's performance. 17 surveys were used and at least 3 surveys were required for a country to be included in the CPI.

Standard Deviation: Indicates differences in the values of the sources. Values below 0.5 indicate agreement, values between 0.5 and c. 0.9 indicate some agreement, while values equal or larger than 1 indicate disagreement.

High-Low Range: Provides the highest and lowest values of the sources.

Number Institutions: Refers to the number of independent institutions that assessed a country's performance. Since some institutions provided more than one survey.

90 percent confidence range: Provides a range of possible values of the CPI score. With 5 percent probability the score is above this range and with another 5 percent it is below.

Official corruption within the civil service is regarded wide-spread by many. Civil service compensation is considered by many to be inadequate, and civil servants often cite the need to supplement their official salaries.

Uzbek citizens report that routine acts such as entering university, being admitted to the hospital, having a telephone installed, obtaining a business license, and applying for a passport or other official document are all subject to requests for bribes.

Source: [Freedom House - Nations in Transit \(2003\) \(edited\)](#)

5.2 Ethics

Source: [Institution - Title](#)

6. e-Government

e-Government Readiness Index:

The index refers to the generic capacity or aptitude of the public sector to use ICT for encapsulating in public services and deploying to the public, high quality information (explicit knowledge) and effective communication tools that support human development.

The index is comprised of three sub-indices: Web Measure Index, Telecommunications Infrastructure Index and Human Capital Index.

Web Measure Index:

A scale based on progressively sophisticated web services present. Coverage and sophistication of state-provided e-service and e-product availability correspond to a numerical classification.

Telecommunications Infrastructure Index:

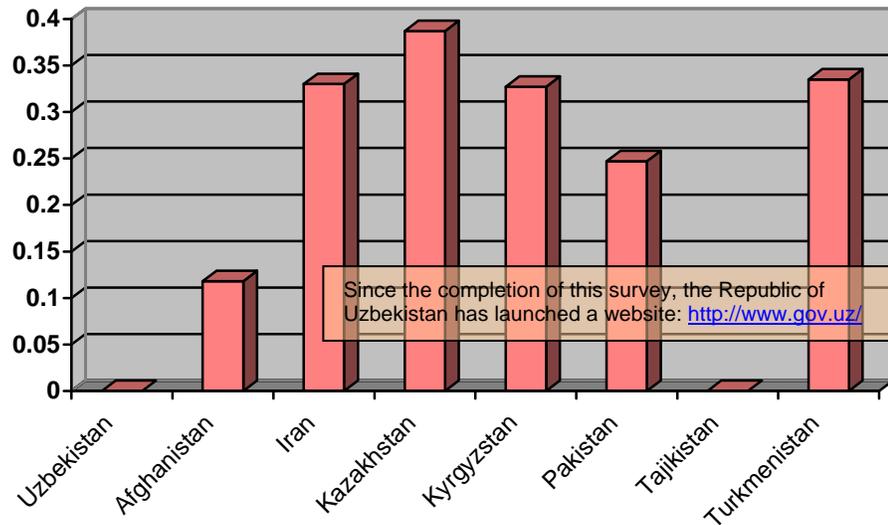
A composite, weighted average index of six primary indices, based on basic infrastructural indicators that define a country's ICT infrastructure capacity.

Primary indicators are: PC's, Internet users, online population and Mobile phones. Secondary indicators are TVs and telephone lines.

Human Capital Index:

A composite of the adult literacy rate and the combined primary, secondary and tertiary gross enrolment ratio, with two thirds of the weight given to adult literacy and one third to the gross enrolment ratio.

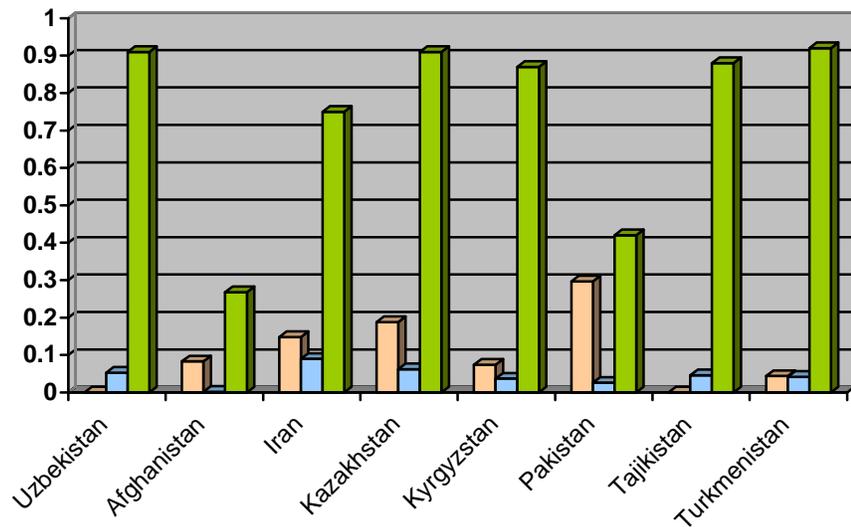
e-Government Readiness Index



Since the completion of this survey, the Republic of Uzbekistan has launched a website: <http://www.gpv.uz/>

Source: HUnited Nations – World Public Sector Report 2003H

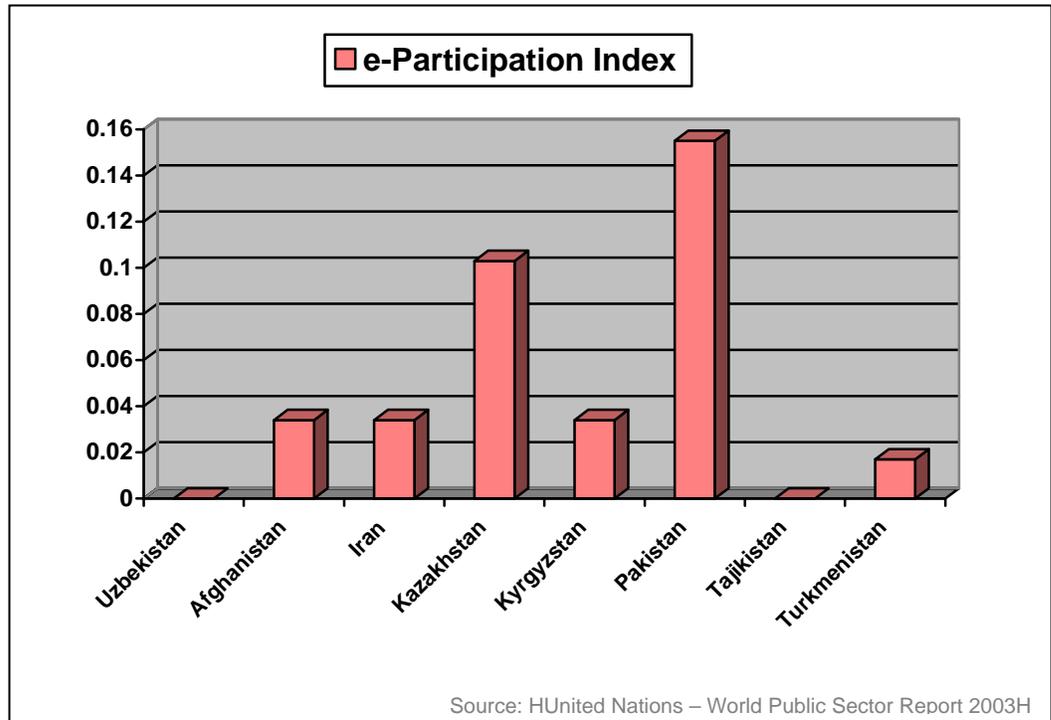
Web Measure Index Telecom. Infrastructure Index Human Capital Index



Source: HUnited Nations – World Public Sector Report 2003H

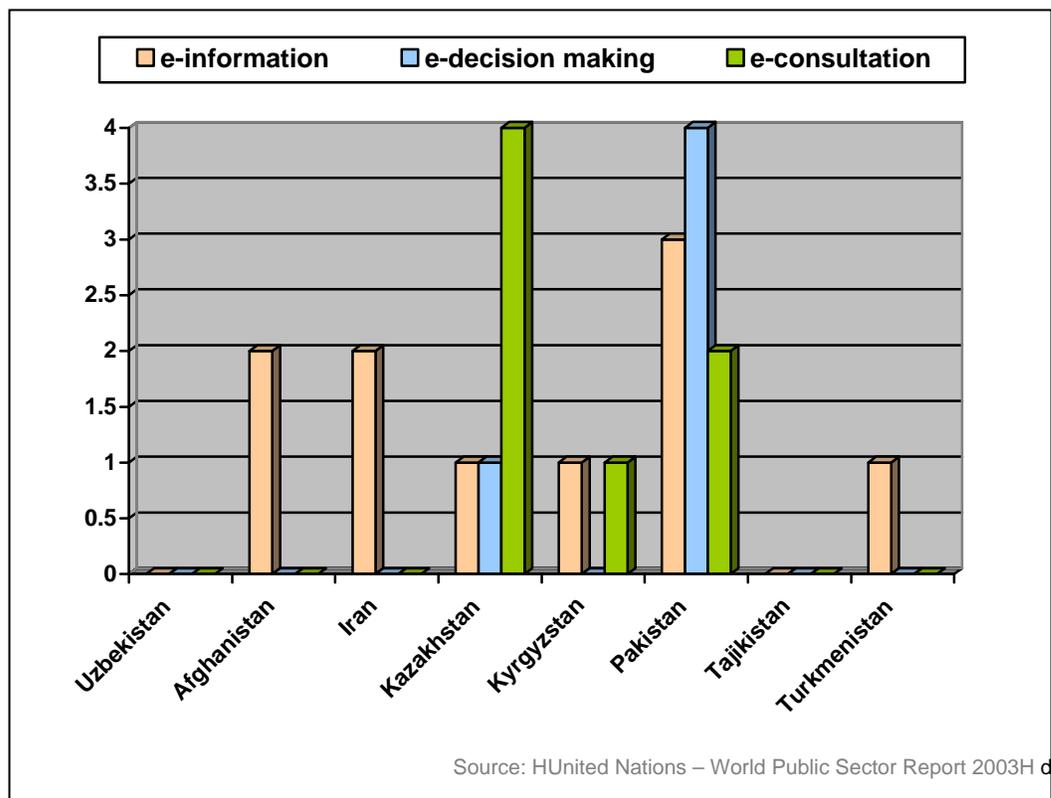
e-Participation Index:

Refers to the willingness, on the part of the government, to use ICT to provide high quality information (explicit knowledge) and effective communication tools for the specific purpose of empowering people for able participation in consultations and decision-making both in their capacity as consumers of public services and as citizens.



e-information:

The government websites offer information on policies and programs, budgets, laws and regulations, and other briefs of key public interest. Tools for disseminating of information exist for timely access and use of public information, including web forums, e-mail lists, newsgroups and chat rooms.



e-decision making:

The government indicates that it will take citizens input into account in decision making and provides actual feedback on the outcome of specific issues.

e-consultation:

The government website explains e-consultation mechanisms and tools. It offers a choice of public policy topics online for discussion with real time and archived access to audios and videos of public meetings. The government encourages citizens to participate in discussions.

7. Links

| 7.1 National sites | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Authority | Topic |
| Portal of the State of Authority | http://www.gov.uz/ |
| President | http://www.gov.uz/eng/government/president.shtml |
| Government | http://www.gov.uz/eng/government/ |
| Parliament (Oliy Majlis) | http://www.gov.uz/eng/government/oliy_majlis.shtml |
| Ministries | http://www.gov.uz/eng/ministries.shtml |
| | |
| Courts and Prosecutors | http://www.gov.uz/eng/courts/index.shtml |
| Laws of Uzbekistan | http://www.uzland.uz/fact/laws.htm |
| Legislation of Uzbekistan | http://www.spc.gov.uz/legislation/ |
| | |
| State Committee of Statistics (SCS) | http://www.stat.uz/ |

| 7.2 Miscellaneous sites | |
|---|---|
| Institution | Topic |
| Asian Development Bank (ADB) | http://www.adb.org/Uzbekistan/default.asp |
| European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) | http://www.ebrd.com/country/country/uzbe/index.htm |
| European Union (EU) | http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/uzbekistan/intro/... |
| International Labour Organization (ILO) | http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/natlex_browse.home |
| Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) | http://www.osce.org/tashkent/ |
| OSCE - Legislation | http://www.legislationline.org |
| United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) | http://www.undp.uz/ |
| UNDP - Central Asia Gateway | http://www.cagateway.org/ |
| USAID | http://www.usaid.gov/locations/europe_eurasia/car/kgpage.html |
| World Bank (WB) | http://www.worldbank.org/uz |
| | |
| Eurasianet.org | http://www.eurasianet.org/resource/uzbekistan/index.shtml |