

**DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN RURAL AREAS BASED ON  
THE PRINCIPLES OF PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP**

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**Abstract:** This article examines the current state of social infrastructure services in rural areas, focusing on the availability, accessibility, and quality of essential amenities such as health, education, transportation, and sanitation. By assessing the challenges and disparities in service delivery, this study aims to inform areas for improvement and improve the standard of living of rural residents.

**Keywords:** Social infrastructure, rural population, services, health, education, transport, quality of life.

Rural infrastructure is crucial for agriculture, agro-industrial complex and the general economic development of villages. At the same time, the basic amenities that improve the standard of living and quality of life of the population are also incorporated. However, projects related to the development of infrastructure facilities, including those in rural areas, require large initial investments, as well as projects with high capital capacity, long implementation periods, and high risk for investors due to the low rate of return on investment. is calculated. All these factors limit private sector penetration in infrastructure. As a result, projects related to the development of infrastructure around the world are mainly financed at the expense of the state budget. The use of public-private partnership mechanisms in the financing of projects related to the development of social infrastructure in the conditions of insufficient funds from the state budget makes it possible to attract extra-budgetary funds. The increase in the volume of investments in the infrastructure sector has a positive effect on the sustainable development of the economy, creates new jobs, encourages the reduction of poverty, increases labor productivity and ensures the provision of quality and timely services.

Development of social infrastructure based on public-private partnership (PPP) is a partnership between public and private companies or organizations to create, improve and maintain social facilities and services.

Such an approach allows combining the resources and expertise of the public and private sectors for effective management and development of social infrastructure. As a result of such cooperation, it is possible to achieve more rapid and high-quality development of social sphere objects and services, optimization of state expenses.

In the system of investing in rural social infrastructure, public-private partnership is the only system of financing investments in facilities that support the lifestyle of rural residents based on the principles of public-private partnership.

One of the main advantages of PPP in the development of social infrastructure is the opportunity to use innovative and technological solutions that the private sector can offer. Private companies usually have more financial resources and project management experience, which allows them to effectively implement social infrastructure development projects.

The state, in turn, can guarantee the stability of legal regulation and provide incentives that encourage the involvement of private capital in the development of social infrastructure.

Examples of PPP projects for the development of social infrastructure include the construction and repair of schools, hospitals, kindergartens, sports facilities and other social institutions. Under a PPP, the state may provide the land and finance, while a private company is responsible for the design, construction and maintenance of the facility.

At the same time, it is important to consider some risks associated with PPPs in the development of social infrastructure. For example, there may be insufficient competition in contracting, which

may lead to higher prices. There is also a risk of misallocation of benefits between the public and private sectors. Therefore, it is important to develop transparent mechanisms for managing and monitoring PPP projects.

The advantages of PPP projects for public and private enterprises in the development of social infrastructure objects, their modernization and improvement of service quality are listed in Table 3.1.

**Table 3.1**  
**Advantages of PPP in financing social infrastructure facilities**

For the state	For private enterprises
It allows financing of projects related to the development of social infrastructure by involving the private sector even in the absence of budget funds.	Strengthening the terms of cooperation with the public as part of a long-term agreement
Ability to combine different stages (design, construction and operation) within one project.	The possibility of obtaining land, forest, and water plots without trends for the purpose of implementing PPP contracts
It provides an opportunity to have services at the expense of payments, not the object, which in turn promotes the development of competition in the market of social services.	Co-financing of the project by the state, the possibility of obtaining additional guarantees (including having a minimum income)
The ability to use the resources and powers of a private partner in the provision of social infrastructure services, their quality and customer satisfaction	Opportunity to increase project revenue by leveraging new technologies to provide additional paid services and/or implement, create or operate various solutions that reduce costs in the customer satisfaction phase
Transferring some risks related to the project to a private partner	Transferring some risks related to the project to the state
Reducing state participation in the economy	To strengthen its position in the spheres belonging to the state.

In rural areas, public-private partnerships can be an effective means of social infrastructure development, as they combine the efforts of the public and private sectors and allow to achieve optimal results in the field of population welfare. However, in order to guarantee the efficient use of resources and the achievement of social benefits, it is necessary to develop mechanisms to consider risks and monitor and implement PPP agreements.

Public-private partnership (PPP) can be used in various services related to the development of rural social infrastructure. Some of them include:

- construction or reconstruction of kindergartens and schools;
- ensuring access to quality medical care, including construction and repair of hospitals and polyclinics;
- development of rural roads and transport infrastructure, including the ability to transport people and goods;
- providing clean drinking water, for example, by building wells and water supply systems;
- creation and development of sports facilities such as stadiums, playgrounds or sports halls;
- development of cultural objects such as libraries, museums, art centers.

These are just a few examples, and in practice, they can be used in any field that requires the development of rural social infrastructure on the basis of public-private partnership. It is important that cooperation between the state and the private sector serves to improve the efficiency and quality of service provision in villages.

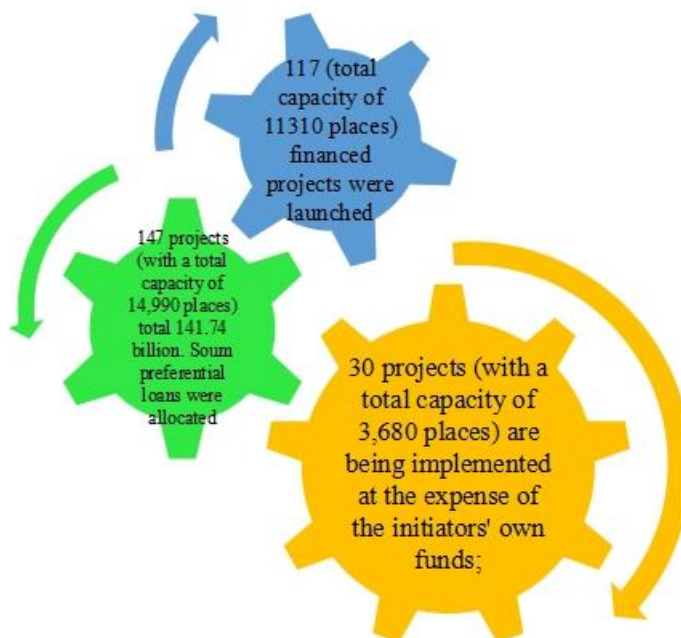
The state, in turn, can guarantee the stability of legal regulation and provide incentives that encourage the involvement of private capital in the development of social infrastructure.

In the last 5 years, a lot of attention has been paid to public-private partnership in the Republic of Uzbekistan, and a number of legal regulations have been adopted in this regard. In particular, the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. ORQ-537 of May 10, 2019 "On State Partnership", the Law of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PQ-3980 of October 20, 2018 "The State - on the first priority measures to create the legal and institutional basis for the development of private partnership" of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated December 13, 2018 No. 1009 "State under the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Uzbekistan Decisions No. 259 of April 26, 2020 "On the establishment of the activities of the private partnership development agency" "On the improvement of the procedure for the implementation of public-private partnership projects" and similar institutional regulations of public-private partnership and other normative documents forming the legal basis.

According to the Law "On Public-Private Partnership" of the Republic of Uzbekistan: "Public-private partnership is based on the pooling of resources of a public partner and a private partner for the implementation of a legally formalized public-private partnership project for a certain period of time. cooperation".

According to the adopted legal and regulatory documents, construction, repair and reconstruction of social infrastructure facilities are being carried out on the basis of public-private partnership in the territories of Kashkadarya region. In particular, 178 agreements (with a total capacity of 18,670 places) were concluded between the Ministry of Preschool Education and the initiators for the purpose of establishing non-state preschool education organizations.

Of the signed agreements, 178 with a total capacity of 18,670 in 2023 and compared to 2018 (43 with a capacity of 3,945 seats in 2018, 39 with a capacity of 3,775 seats in 2019, 21 with a capacity of 2,330 seats in 2020 In 2021, 19 NTMs with a capacity of 2,365 places, 22 with a capacity of 2,250 places in 2022, and 3 NTMs with a capacity of 325 places in 2023 began to operate.



**Figure-1. As a result of implemented projects**

14,990 non-governmental preschool educational organizations in the form of public-private partnership, 65,004 children of preschool age are admitted and educated in 2,508 family non-governmental preschool educational organizations. As a result, the level of coverage in the region has increased significantly. The total coverage is 79509 people.

In the Kashkadarya region, a total of 819 neighborhoods were inventoried, as a result, it was determined that by the end of 2022, 44 neighborhoods do not have preschool education organizations at all. Due to the opening of 32 family kindergartens in these neighborhoods, the number of neighborhoods without pre-school education organizations has decreased to 25.

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