JOURNAL OF APPLIED SCIENCE AND SOCIAL SCIENCE
eISSN 2229-3113 pISSN 2229-3205

Volume 15 Issue 11, November 2025

Impact factor: 2019: 4.679 2020: 5.015 2021: 5.436, 2022: 5.242, 2023: 6.995, 2024 7.75

THE ROLE OF KARSHI ENGINEERING-ECONOMICS INSTITUTE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

Akhmedova Dildora Normuminovna

Master's degree student, 2nd year,

Faculty of Economics and Pedagogy, University

Abstract: This article comprehensively analyzes the role of the Karshi Engineering-Economics Institute in the development of science and technology in Uzbekistan. It highlights the institute's ongoing scientific research, innovative projects, international academic collaborations, and strategic initiatives aimed at developing the potential of students and young researchers. The article also examines the institute's contribution to regional socio-economic development, efforts to train competitive specialists, and its growing academic reputation through an analytical approach.

Keywords: Karshi Engineering-Economics Institute, scientific research, innovation, young researchers, regional development, higher education, science and technology, scientific potential.

Introduction

In the era of globalization and technological advancement, the sustainable development and international competitiveness of any state largely depend on the progress of its scientific and intellectual potential. In this regard, the Republic of Uzbekistan has been actively reforming its higher education and research institutions, aligning their activities with global trends. Among these institutions, the Karshi Engineering-Economics Institute (KEEI) occupies a special place, standing out as one of the region's leading educational centers that significantly contributes to the country's scientific, technological, and socio-economic development. With its growing academic reputation, the institute has become a center for innovation, qualified specialist training, and international academic cooperation not only in Uzbekistan but also beyond its borders.

This article provides an in-depth analysis of the institute's multifaceted contribution to Uzbekistan's scientific sphere, focusing on its applied research, innovative projects, and practical solutions to pressing socio-economic challenges. In recent years, the institute has achieved remarkable results in expanding its scientific and technical capacity. Applied and innovation-oriented research projects have become one of the key priorities of the institute's activities. These projects are often formed in accordance with the needs of the Kashkadarya region and the broader national socio-economic priorities.

At KEEI, special attention is given to promoting interdisciplinary research that integrates engineering, economics, agriculture, and information technology. Scientific research centers and modern laboratories established in this field serve as important platforms for conducting experiments, creating prototype models, and analyzing statistical data. This infrastructure provides not only professors and researchers with opportunities for scientific work but also

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encourages students and young researchers to actively participate in practical activities. Through mentorship programs, scientific seminars, training sessions, and conferences, the institute fosters an intellectual environment that develops research potential.

International integration is also considered a crucial factor in strengthening scientific capacity. The Karshi Engineering-Economics Institute actively cooperates with foreign universities and research centers through joint research projects, academic exchange programs, and participation in international scientific forums. This cooperation enhances the institute's global reputation and allows professors and students to learn advanced methodologies and modern scientific approaches.

Furthermore, the institute plays an important role in forming human capital by training highly qualified and competitive specialists for various sectors of the national economy. Its educational programs are continuously updated based on the latest scientific achievements, digital technologies, and innovative teaching methods. This ensures that graduates possess the skills and knowledge required in the labor market.

The institute has also developed effective mechanisms for the practical application and commercialization of research outcomes. Through close cooperation between academia and industry, processes such as patenting, licensing, and support for startup projects are implemented. This enables the application of scientific research results in real life, fostering technological progress and regional development.

The Karshi Engineering-Economics Institute was founded in 1995 on the basis of the Karshi Agricultural-Economics Institute and the Karshi branch of the Tashkent Polytechnic Institute. Its origins trace back to 1975, when it was established as the Karshi branch of the Tashkent Institute of Irrigation and Agricultural Mechanization Engineers. Today, the institute consists of faculties of Engineering and Technology, Energy, Oil and Gas, Geology and Mining, Economics, and Electronics and Automation (some sources also mention Industrial Technologies, Agriculture, and Water Engineering faculties). Education is provided at both bachelor's and master's levels. Currently, more than 7,700 undergraduate students and over 260 master's students are enrolled, supported by a teaching staff of more than 570 professors and lecturers, including doctors of science, professors, and associate professors.

Research conducted at KEEI covers a wide range of fields such as agricultural mechanization, national economy, agronomy, oil and gas, and electronic technologies. These studies are carried out in collaboration with young scientists and doctoral students in various research centers. The institute attaches great importance to the practical application of theoretical knowledge and closely cooperates with industrial enterprises such as "Uzgeoburneftegaz," "Shurtanneftgaz," "Muborakneftgaz," and the Shurtan Gas Chemical Complex in research and practical training.

KEEI is also actively expanding international cooperation it has signed memoranda and agreements on educational and scientific exchange with more than 110 foreign educational institutions in over 25 countries, including Germany, China, Italy, and Russia. The institute

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contributes to the regional development of Kashkadarya and neighboring areas by training qualified specialists and participating in projects aimed at improving local socio-economic conditions. Examples include initiatives in horticulture, efficient resource management, and the training of professionals in various fields. The institute also participates in international projects such as Erasmus+, particularly in mechatronics and robotics, in partnership with European and Central Asian universities. KEEI's specialized centers for working with talented students, information technology, distance education, and professional training reflect a comprehensive approach to education and science.

Through its commitment to scientific excellence, innovation, international cooperation, and human capital development, the Karshi Engineering-Economics Institute plays a vital role in advancing Uzbekistan's scientific and technological progress.

Future goals and strategic priorities

The institute's long-term vision and strategic goals in the field of science and technology development emphasize enhancing innovation, promoting international scientific cooperation, and strengthening interdisciplinary research. Its future priorities include expanding research infrastructure, developing new academic programs aligned with the demands of Industry 4.0, and fostering stronger partnerships between science and industry. Incorporating these additional details provides a more complete and impactful representation of the institute's role in Uzbekistan's scientific and technological advancement.

Conclusion

The Karshi Engineering-Economics Institute (KEEI) plays a crucial role in promoting the advancement of science and technology in Uzbekistan. The institute primarily focuses on implementing applied and innovative research projects aimed at addressing the socio-economic needs of both the Kashkadarya region and the nation as a whole. It develops interdisciplinary research across engineering, economics, agriculture, and information technology, supported by specialized research centers and laboratories involving faculty members and students. To cultivate a strong academic environment, the institute organizes mentorship programs, seminars, and scientific conferences.

One of the key aspects of KEEI's strategy is international integration, manifested through joint research, exchange programs, and participation in global scientific forums. Furthermore, the institute is instrumental in training highly qualified professionals by integrating modern scientific achievements and digital technologies into its educational curricula. KEEI also supports the commercialization of research results, facilitating patenting, licensing, and entrepreneurship through established legal and institutional mechanisms. By strengthening the collaboration between academia and industry, the institute fosters technological advancement and regional development. In summary, through its commitment to scientific excellence, innovation, international cooperation, and human capital development, the Karshi Engineering-Economics Institute makes a significant contribution to Uzbekistan's scientific and technological progress.

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