Methods of increasing efficiency of the public utilities

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**Abstract**

This paper investigates the major points of the methods of increasing efficiency of the public utilities. On this way, the author developed proposals and recommendations on improving efficiency of the public utilities system, their mechanisms and factors that may influence them were analyses in this article. Finally, the major outcomes and shortcomings of the issue were found out and recommendations according to this pointed out in order to develop mentioned points.

1. **Introduction**

The main goal of the reforms being implemented in our country is to improve the welfare, living standards and quality of the population. President of our country Mirziyo Shavkat Miramonov said: "The main purpose of the reforms is to provide a decent living standard and quality for the population". they said. For this purpose the STRATEGY of priorities of the Republic of Uzbekistan has been adopted(Djanibekov, Horndige, & Ul-Hassan, 2012; Ruziev, Ghosh, & Dow, 2007).

It is obvious that the role and place of the public utility sector in the improvement of the living standards and quality of the population of our country is great. This requires special attention to the organization and efficiency of public utility services. In order to develop this sphere, a number of laws and regulations in the country, such as Housing, Town-planning Codes, Laws "On Private Housing Owners Associations", "On Consumer Rights Protection", "On Lease", "On Mortgages", " Energy ", " On Water and Water ", " On Waste ". Improving the effectiveness of public utility services by promoting these laws effectively promotes socio-economic development. Therefore, reforms in the public utility sector are an integral part of the socio-economic transformations taking place in the country.
2. Literature review

A. Sydyanin and A. Chibis. In the textbook for consumers of home-based service "Hornbook for service consumers", attention is paid to the issues of raising the literacy of consumers of communal services, their specific economic relations, and the issue of increasing the literacy of the population according to the legislation. In addition, the textbook illustrates the mechanism of utilization and management of communal services for their property and management, as well as the cost-effective utilization of communal services (Akmal, 2016; Fauziah & Aryanto, 2012; literature & 2000).

V. Yodgorov, D. Butunov "Economics and management of housing and communal services" has been studied the subject of the communal system, theoretical and practical issues, the economic mechanism of organizational structure and activity of the housing and utility sector of the Republic. The textbook focuses on the latest trends in structural reforms in housing and communal services in the Republic of Uzbekistan in the context of market economy.

B. B. Mardonov's monograph "Service and employment" reflects the theoretical basis of the development of the service industry, the crucial socio-economic role and functions of the population in providing employment. The status and trends of development of the service sector, the analysis of the factors influencing the development of the sector, and the problems of the human resources development were studied. Also, the service sector's ability to provide employment was determined and its prospects were substantiated.

3. Methodology

In the course of the research, this method was used for statistical and economic analysis, comparison, grouping, selective observation, and methods of induction and deduction, analysis and synthesis, monographic, systematic approach, scientific abstracting, and logical approach.

4. Main part

Housing and communal services system is a sophisticated economic system that meets the vital needs of the population. Housing and communal services provide enterprises with a wide range of sectors of economy, along with supplies of necessary resources such as gas, water and heat, and provides jobs for a large number of people. The peculiarity of the housing and communal services system is its diversity and its diversity of services. Housing and communal services system, consisting of many sectors and services, serves the enterprises and organizations of various production and non-production branches of the organization, which plays an important role in the organization of their activities (Crichtlow, 2018; Kreuzer, Mühlbacher, Research, & 2018, n.d.; Pratt, 2015).

Depending on the type of services rendered by the enterprises and the organizations included in the housing and communal services system, they are mainly divided into the following groups:

- Maintenance of residential complex and repair of housing fund-constructio organizations
- Heat energy supply
- Gas supply
- Electricity supply and street lighting
- Water supply and waste management
- Engineering systems and facilities maintenance facilities

The communal services system is divided into eight groups (Figure 1).

![Graph 1. Types of basic public services](image)

The living standards of the population and the social environment in our society are linked to the effective functioning of the housing and public utility sector, which has important social significance. During the years of independence, large-scale reforms have been implemented in Uzbekistan aimed at forming a modern public utility market. The consistent implementation of the structural reforms in accordance with the regulatory framework enabled the formation of a completely new system of management and utilization of the housing fund. More than 4,000 private homeowners operating in our country provide services to more than 32.4 thousand apartment houses. The scale of construction and reconstruction of housing, primarily mortgage, is expanding. Despite the steady growth of the population, this has allowed the population to increase their housing by an average of 15.2 square meters per person per 12.4 square meters in 1991. However, areas such as drinking water, heat, gas supply, sewage, water supply and sanitation are not regulated by law, but are governed by and operated more than fifty conscripts and decrees issued by the Cabinet of Ministers. In our opinion, the effective organization and conduct of activities in this area is largely dependent on the introduction of optimal economic mechanisms. For this purpose, the Strategy for Action for the Development of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2017-2021 states that "Improving access to public services, first of all, construction of new water supply networks, gradual introduction of modern and efficient technologies, substantially improve the supply; as well as the construction of new power generation facilities and improving the supply of the population with other fuel and energy resources."

In our opinion, in the current period, the effective functioning of the public utility system, it is desirable, first of all, to radically upgrade the equipment of physical and man-made equipment in the field, to introduce modern technologies and technologies. For this reason, the introduction of local and foreign investment in this sector plays an important role.

At the present time, the efficiency of public utility services is one of the important directions of the state's economic policy and a number of government programs have been developed to ensure the development of...
its sector. In particular, it is envisaged to implement 36 investment projects for the purpose of ensuring the execution of the Presidential Decree “On the Program of Complex Development and Modernization of Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Systems for 2017-2021” [4]. In order to achieve this goal, a total of 4.8 trillion UZS soums are envisaged.

The efficiency of public utility services is inextricably linked with the organization and operation of its networks. For this purpose, it is important to improve the organizational structure and performance of the agency “Uzkomunakhizmat” and its subdivisions. For this purpose, a number of measures and programs are envisaged in our country. In order to develop the public utility sector, the government is working on introducing local and foreign investment and technology to the sector. In particular, the country has built and reconstructed more than 1,400 kilometers of water wells and 1,400 water towers in major water pipelines and networks, buildings and structures, with a capacity of 13,000 kilometers in 2011-2016.

Along with the reforms being carried out in the country, the country has been implementing clean drinking water supply. In this regard, most drinking water facilities are being built to meet the needs of the population. But in recent years, the population growth, the construction of new homes, and the expansion of the living space have increased the demand for clean drinking water and the modernization of water facilities. In this regard, the implementation of the programs and projects envisaged in the resolution is underway. In particular, it is envisaged to implement major projects for the construction and reconstruction of 26 drinking water supply facilities, construction of 302 km of water supply networks in 2017-2021.

Safe drinking water supply is one of the main factors of public health. Public health is not only a country’s prosperity, but also one of the most important aspects of economic development. In our opinion, the provision of safe drinking water to the population will contribute to the effective implementation of public utility payments by raising the health of the population, increasing the efficiency of labor resources, creating favorable social conditions for the population, and introducing modern meters of clean drinking water for individuals and legal entities (Azhimetova, Sansyzbaykyzy, & Azhimetov, 2013; Rakhmamilaliev, Huneau, Le Coustumer, Motelica-Heino, & Bakiev, 2010; Rasanyagam, 2011).

In recent years, several programs have been adopted in the field of heat supply and have been operating effectively. However, there are a number of shortcomings in the heating supply system. In particular, there are shortcomings in the supply chain, such as the lack of timely payment for hot water, the heating system failing to meet the needs of the population with hot water, the inefficient operation of heat sources in some towns, and the need to repair the hot water supply system.

To overcome these shortcomings, it was decided that the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On the Program of Development of Heat Supply System for 2018-2022” [4]. The main purpose of the resolution is to provide consumers with the highest quality and sustainability of heat supply, introduction of modern, energy-efficient technologies, renewal of fixed assets of the heat supply system, modernization and effective and rational use of fuel and energy resources. Today, due to the excessive use of boiler equipment and networks, the existing heat supply system is unlikely to be utilized for the proper use of heat sources, which negatively affects the quality of heat supply, heat supply and hot water supply. Some apartment houses with centralized heat supply are usually heated by gas and electrical equipment, which are not certified and fire safety is not guaranteed (Critchlow, 2018; Kovacic & Brennan, 2011; Mantellini & Berdimuradov, 2005).

5. Results

In order to eliminate these problems, the State Budget of the Republic of Uzbekistan and a number of organizations have invested 1.7 trillion soums. It is advisable to set up a separate heating system for multi-storey houses, retraining, use of labor resources, provision of modern heating equipment and upgrading of hot water supply system for targeted investments. It is a great pleasure to see the increase in the population’s purchasing power in the country in recent years, and the increase in the volumes of household waste generated after the consumption process is one of the urgent issues in the public sector.

Communal service, road construction, waste disposal and infrastructure projects today’s application of public-private partnership mechanism status and development prospects are of great importance. According to Uzkomunakhizmat agency, 100 million tons of industrial waste and 35 million cubic meters of household waste are produced annually. As a result of lack of systemic recycling and recycling of waste, 2 billion tonnes of waste accumulated at the national level require environmental protection measures.

In our opinion, it is desirable to recycle industrial waste and to produce more raw materials for industrial sectors, to produce organic fertilizers for solid waste, and to encourage the employment of public service providers. As a result of these measures, new jobs will be created, improving the environment and sanitation environment, and strengthening the health of the population.

Conclusion

During the study, the following results were summarized:
1. Housing and communal services system, consisting of many sectors and sectors, serves enterprises and organizations in various organizational and economic forms of production and non-production, and plays an important role in organizing their activities efficiently and at the world level;
2. Implementation of structural reforms in accordance with the normative-legal framework in the area of utility services will improve the organization, management and use of the housing fund;
3. It is expedient to use effective utility systems, to radically upgrade physical and man-made equipment, introduce modern techniques and technologies, and apply modern information systems in the field.
4. It is desirable for the public service system to be efficient, to radically update the physically and morally outdated equipment, introduce modern techniques and technologies. It is important to pay particular attention to the introduction of local and foreign investment in this area;
5. The efficiency of the public utility sector is closely linked to the organization and operation of its branches, for which it is advisable to radically improve the structure of the organization and the labor activity of the “Uzkomunakhizmat” agency and all its subdivisions;
6. The provision of safe drinking water is one of the major problems in public utilities sector. The problem of its solution, in our opinion, implies the introduction of a new mechanism for technical, technological, organizational and economic issues in the field of safe drinking water supply;
7. It is necessary to develop cheap and alternative types of public utility services associated with increasing the efficiency of multi-storey housing and reducing costs; The above-mentioned cases increase the efficiency and quality of life of the population on the one hand while increasing the efficiency of the utility system.

REFERENCES


- The speech of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Sh.M.Mirziyoev at the expanded session of the Cabinet of Ministers on January 14, 2017. The Zarafshan newspaper. January 18, 2017