Current State of Investment Activity of Oil and Gas Companies of Uzbekistan and its Specific Tendencies

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ABSTRACT
In the article is considered the issues related to the assessment of the current state of investment activities of oil and gas companies in the Republic, the identification of specific tendencies in the sphere, and provided relevant conclusions.

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Introduction

In world practice, a number of scientific studies are being conducted aimed at issues such as improving the mechanism of investment activity of oil and gas enterprises, effective organization of financial support of enterprises, rational use of investments. In these studies, the theoretical and organizational foundations of investment activity, their formation, the organization of investment activity in oil and gas enterprises, its scientific-theoretical, methodological aspects and the impact on enterprise activity were studied. At the same time, current issues such as improvement of the mechanism of investment activity in oil and gas enterprises, in particular, the implementation of structural changes, digitalization, and the direct impact of factors such as management of activities with the help of artificial intelligence on increasing the efficiency of investments, have not found their scientific solution.

The adoption of Decree No. PF-5495 of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan dated August 1, 2018 "On measures to fundamentally improve the investment environment in the Republic of Uzbekistan" is aimed at creating the most favorable conditions for investment, further improving the project of unified legislation in the field of investment activities, and bringing it into life as soon as possible. reflected the need for implementation.

In the conditions of limited financial resources in Uzbekistan, achieving the continuity of investment supply, ensuring the effective use of funds, and then attracting new resources are important for oil and gas enterprises to maintain and expand their position in the market.

Analysis of the relevant literature

The role of the investment activity mechanism in the investment processes is interpreted in a relatively broad way in a number of studies aimed at forming the theoretical and organizational foundations of the investment activity mechanism. In particular, in this regard, M.V. Gracheva[2] "main stages of risk management in investment projects, certain approaches to project risk classification, qualitatively describing project risk management instruments, economic-mathematical models of risk management in investment projects, in particular, sensitivity analysis, investment activity through simulation models improvement of the organizational mechanisms of increasing efficiency" processes have been researched.

R.S.Golov, K.V.Baldin, I.I.Perederyaevs[3] "the functioning of the organizational mechanism of investment activity is to deepen the structural reforms in the economy, to further revive the investment activity of enterprises, to widen foreign investments, first of all, foreign direct investments. It is researched within a number of directions such as attracting and using them effectively, modernizing production, creating new jobs through technical and technological rearmament.

S. E. Elmirzaev[4] conducted effective research on "theoretical and practical issues of investment management, as well as ways to effectively organize tax relations in the management of investment activities."

Also, the team of authors led by E.I. Nosirov[5] researched "theoretical foundations of risk management in the process of organizing investment activity and its implementation." The types and forms of investment risks are expressed and the experience of international financial institutions in risk management is shown. Effective methods, tools and possibilities of investment risk management in Uzbekistan have been revealed.
Research methodology

Methods of logical observation, critical study of the literature, analysis and synthesis, induction and deduction, comparison, classification based on certain characteristics, SWOT analysis, modeling, system analysis, and economic analysis were used in the processing of the data obtained during the research.

Analysis and results

In oil and gas enterprises, the property of investments in the form of all forms of property and intellectual values directed to the enterprise's activities in order to obtain material or social benefits (income, efficiency) is widely used. More broadly, investment means directing capital to some work (project) with the aim of increasing it later. At the same time, the amount of capital growth as a result of investment should be at the level of covering the funds spent on consumption and organizational activities by the investor, incentive for risk and compensation for future inflationary losses.

In our opinion, the organization of investment activities of oil and gas enterprises requires, first of all, the stable operation of the financial mechanism.

At this point, it is also important to study the concept of financial mechanism of investment activity, which combines financial mechanism and investment activity in oil and gas enterprises.

The financial mechanism of investment activities of oil and gas enterprises means the influence of finance on the main economic activities, including production, finance, investment activities of the enterprise during the investment process. It is for this reason that the functions of the financial mechanism include the following: that is, the organization of financial relations, the creation of a strict system of monetary relations based on the specificity of economic activity, the rational management of cash flows and all financial resources.

According to our analysis, the main goals of the financial mechanism of investment activities of oil and gas enterprises should be:

- receiving additional income in the form of interest and dividends from previously purchased shares and bonds;
- placing temporarily idle funds in deposit accounts in order to prevent losses under various information and to obtain low-risk income;
- earning income by buying shares of partner enterprises (product suppliers, contractors and consumers), shares in the authorized capital (this is to control their activities, to integrate them in the direction of the strategic goals of the oil and gas enterprise, to have their own large reserves of raw materials, materials and components it is important that it also performs the function of a special lever);
- buying shares of related and high-profit enterprises or a share in their authorized capital, obtaining additional income by acquiring and being free from excessive competitors in the market;
- purchase of promissory notes of commercial banks and other issuers with a stable price in order to minimize financial losses in settlement with mandatory payments and taxes;
- implementation of high-level marketing research, design work and scientific and technological research.
The efficiency of oil and gas industry enterprises differs from other sectors of the economy in that it is directly related to factors such as high sensitivity to the foreign market, price changes, geopolitical situation, and climate changes.

In 2019, the factors listed above had a significant impact on the occurrence of significant changes in the rating of integrated oil and gas companies of the world (Table 1).

Table 1. "S&P Global Platts" rating of integrated oil and gas companies for 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company name</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>Earnings</th>
<th>Benefit</th>
<th>ROIC</th>
<th>Growth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Royal Dutch Shell</td>
<td>The Netherlands</td>
<td>399 194</td>
<td>388 379</td>
<td>23 352</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>13,6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exxon Mobil</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>346 196</td>
<td>279 332</td>
<td>20 840</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Лукойл</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>87 894</td>
<td>123 214</td>
<td>9 494</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>11,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gazprom</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>319 085</td>
<td>126 101</td>
<td>22 329</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>10,6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equinor ASA</td>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>112 508</td>
<td>78 556</td>
<td>7 535</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>10,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chevron Corp</td>
<td>USA</td>
<td>253 863</td>
<td>158 902</td>
<td>14 824</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total SA</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>256 762</td>
<td>184 106</td>
<td>11 446</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surgutneftegaz</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>78 747</td>
<td>23 572</td>
<td>12 138</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>15,7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosneft</td>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>163 380</td>
<td>100 541</td>
<td>6 508</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>26,6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China Petroleum Chemical Corp</td>
<td>PRC</td>
<td>230 509</td>
<td>418 384</td>
<td>8 920</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>12,7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As it can be seen from the rating, the investment profitability index belongs to the companies "Surgutneftegaz" (18) and "Lukoil" (13) of the Russian Federation, followed by the Norwegian "Equinor ASA" (11) and the USA "Exxon Mobil".

“Бутунги кунда АҚШ энергетика бозорида минглаб хусусий қидирув компаниилари фаолият олиб бораётган ба, углеводородларнан қидириш ва қазиб олиш билан боғлик жараёнлар патент тізіміңір өркап тартылалады”[6]. Энергетика бозорына киришінің таңымларыны таңымлаш арқылы монополиялар кәрірін сөседі маңылун жаңылықтары туған және осың мослашувчандығын таңымлаш имкәнінің береді.

Figure 1. Features of the development of the oil and gas market in foreign countries

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The analysis of the investment activity of the world's major oil and gas enterprises shows that it is appropriate to use previously approved methods of financial modeling and causal analysis to analyze investments, achieve their positive impact on the overall financial condition of the company, and determine the strategy of investment activity.

Today, investment processes in modern oil and gas enterprises are based on a standardized and maximally digitized mechanism of forecasting. Equally effective investment activities at all levels of oil and gas enterprises should be carried out on the basis of a well-thought-out investment development strategy based on all the characteristics of the industry.

Taking into account that speed and availability of information serve as the most important decisive factors in investment processes, as we mentioned above, standardization and digitalization of these processes is undoubtedly the most correct way to the goal.

**Conclusions and suggestions**

The effectiveness of the investment activity of enterprises operating in the oil and gas sector in the conditions of the market economy is one of the most important strategic directions for the economy. Based on the study and analysis of the investment activities of the world's major oil and gas enterprises, review the financial mechanisms of investments, research the extent to which they achieve a positive impact on the overall financial situation of the company, and use the approved methods in the research object of financial modeling and causal analysis in determining the strategy of investment activity. Application will be appropriate.

In the implementation of investment projects in oil and gas enterprises, it is possible to increase the indicator of the internal level of income by two percent and reduce the cost of capital investments as a result of carrying out and reducing the comparative analysis of the break-even point shift with the help of special software.

Determination of the optimal level of financing of investment projects in the fields of extraction and processing of oil and gas enterprises from the enterprise's own capital and debt funds, as well as the classification of potential investors will lead to a change in the nature of the project and an increase in the volume of cash flows.

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