



Center for Economic Research

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BRIEF INFORMATION ABOUT THE CENTER FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH

Center for Economic Research (CER) was established in 1999 as a joint initiative of the Government of Uzbekistan and UNDP. Over the years of its activity CER has become the leading think tank in Uzbekistan and accumulated considerable and, to certain extent, unique capacities in socio-economic policy advice. Besides UNDP CER has managed to establish strong and mutually beneficial relations with a number of TA agencies through implementation of joint research projects (World Bank, ADB, USAID, Europa House, DFID, Eurasia Foundation etc.).

To date CER has prepared more than 150 policy papers and briefs on most challenging issues including, but not limited to macroeconomic, monetary, fiscal, social, industrial, agricultural policy, knowledge based economy, ICT4D, etc. The research is conducted based on a unique modality developed and piloted on the basis of CER, which ensures high quality outputs and involves best in country and external expertise. CER has developed effective mechanisms and tools that allow influencing policy decision-making process through its policy recommendations and research products.

CER contributes to raising public awareness on key development issues through its policy papers, targeted outreach campaigns, online and offline publications, and a number of interactive web resources contributing to expanding nationwide dialogue and ensuring rights based approach in its activity.

The products of the Center serve as the primary source of analytical support to public governance bodies on the majority of tasks of socio-economic development. The "Economic Review" magazine, published by the CER with the support of UNDP has been recognized as a credible analytical media source that promulgates new ideas and opinions, policy papers and various analytical materials on development issues together with statistical evidence. CER was responsible for preparation of the National Human Development Reports 1995-2000 and 2005. CER was also directly involved in formulation of Uzbekistan's Welfare Improvement Strategy (WIS).

The current achievements of the CER are as follows:

- further strengthened position as the leading national think tank with greater visibility extent of its products and activities;
- enhanced institutional and organizational capacity in research management and coordination, pertaining to complete coverage of all research process steps, i.e. from advocacy related matters and raising public concern, up to delivery of research results, recommendations and policy options to the key target groups/recipients;
- scaling up research activities to the Central Asian region, including active involvement in regional initiatives and participation in synergy projects;
- expanded capacities for cross-sectoral analysis within economic policy framework and more general development policies;
- strengthened ability to deliver new ideas, concepts, and policy recommendations to the government and other major stakeholders;
- adequate resource mobilization level within CER's efforts to launch and implement new project and initiatives;
- extensive experience in the field of economic/business journalism both on macro and micro level, as well as in promoting policy dialogue and facilitating in-country consensus building process;
- broadened online presence through developing a number of web-resources and implementing Internet;
- active intervention into profit-oriented projects market that contributed to better cooperation with private sector;
- intensified networking with national and foreign institutions, research centers and think tanks.

More information on the activity of the CER is available at the CER corporate website, www.cer.uz