

THEORETICAL BASIS OF THE CONCEPTS OF LIVING STANDARD AND POVERTY

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Abstract. *The article presents theoretical data on poverty reduction and living standards, reflecting the Swedish model and the UN concept in analytical tables. In the article, the author presents the progress of reforms to reduce poverty in Uzbekistan and relevant statistical data. The article also describes poverty and deprivation as a result of society's activities and their consequences.*

Keywords: *poverty, living standards, Swedish model, social protection of the population.*

Аннотация. *В статье представлены теоретические данные по сокращению бедности и уровню жизни населения, отражающие шведскую модель и концепцию ООН в аналитических таблицах. В статье автор представляет ход реформ по сокращению бедности в Узбекистане и соответствующие статистические данные. В статье также описываются бедность и лишения как результат жизнедеятельности общества и их последствия.*

Ключевые слова: *бедность, уровень жизни населения, шведская модель, социальная защита населения.*

"Reducing poverty means implementing a comprehensive economic and social policy aimed at awakening the entrepreneurial spirit of the population, fully realizing the inner strength and potential of a person, and creating new jobs"⁴. Over the past 3 years, the number of recipients of social benefits in Uzbekistan has increased by 1.3 times, and the amount of benefits has doubled. However, paying social benefits and material assistance to low-income people or increasing their amounts will not completely solve this problem.

President Sh.Mirziyoyev proposed developing a poverty reduction program jointly with the World Bank, the UN Development Program and other influential international organizations. It was emphasized that it is necessary to conduct deep and comprehensive research based on international standards and create a new methodology covering the concept of "poverty", the criteria for its definition and methods of assessment. The

⁴ Message of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the Oliy Majlis dated January 29, 2020

purpose of determining and analyzing the poverty indicator is to develop targeted programs for the state and civil society for the poor and improve the standard of living of the population.

In our republic, the necessary conditions have been created to ensure social protection of the population, a gradual increase in wages and other incomes. In turn, this plays an important role in increasing the income of the population, increasing its purchasing power, expanding production and ensuring sustainable economic development of the country. Achieving a high level of material well-being, health and safety of the population and creating guarantees for their implementation are today the main directions of state social policy. This direction is implemented through the implementation of appropriate socio-economic policies aimed at ensuring a decent life and free development of each person. New approaches to solving problems related to the lifestyle of the population, labor relations at an enterprise (organization, firm, enterprise), regulation of wages, assessment of employee services, regulation of wages and social and labor relations in general, have a direct impact on reducing the so-called concept of poverty.

It has been established that knowledge of theoretical issues of income policy, methods and mechanisms of their formation at different levels and for different groups of the population can also influence the reduction of the low-income stratum of the population. The standard of living of the population is a complex and multifaceted concept, characterized by a set of established socio-economic conditions of life and activity of people. The most important aspects of studying the standard of living of the population are:

- assessment of the main qualitative characteristics of a person considered as a participant in economic activity (ability to lead a healthy lifestyle to achieve a high level of sustainability; opportunities to obtain an education, availability of sufficient funds for a decent life, acquisition of high professional qualities);
- assessment of nominal and real incomes;
- study the nature of the population's provision with housing and consumer goods intended for long-term use.

The standard of living of the population is a set of conditions and indicators characterizing the well-being of the population, the level of consumption of goods and services, the level of satisfaction of the basic vital needs of people.

There are various components of the standard of living of the population (Table 1)

Table 1. Components of the standard of living of the population⁵

Swedish Model	UN Concept
Health	Labor and working conditions
Nutrition	Economic Opportunities
Education	Political Opportunities
Employment and working conditions	School education
Housing conditions	Health and medical care use
Social Security	Social opportunities (formation of relationships, family and relatives)
Clothing	Accommodation
Leisure and recreation	Food
Human Rights	Leisure and its implementation

Vyshegorodtsev M.M. and a number of other economists defined the concept of "welfare" as follows: well-being is the provision of the population with the material, social, cultural and spiritual benefits necessary for life, that is, elements, services and conditions that satisfy human needs. A number of concepts are used to characterize the welfare of the population, including per capita income, household consumption and wealth, stratification of the population by income and consumption, the subsistence minimum, the poverty level and the standard of living taking into account social stratification.

The standard of living of the population is the most important criterion for assessing the effectiveness of the country's socio-economic policy, and its implementation is the main goal of social development. The standard of living is primarily characterized by the combination and interdependence of two components: the provision of the population with material and non-material goods and the level of their consumption.

Some economists define the concept of "standard of living" as the level of satisfaction of material, spiritual and social needs. This definition describes more the statistics of the standard of living, although the standard of living is a dynamic process that changes under the influence of many factors. The standard of living, on the one hand, is determined by the composition and size of needs for various goods that are constantly changing, and on the other hand, it is limited by the possibilities of satisfying needs, based on the state of the market for goods and services, the income of the population and the wages of workers. However, both the level of wages and the standard of living are determined by the scale and efficiency of production, scientific and technological

⁵ Q.X.Abdurahmonov, X.X.Abduramanov. Aholi turmush tarzi va daromadlari, - Toshkent - 2011

progress, the cultural and educational level of the population and its composition, national characteristics, and political power.

The standard of living is a complex socio-economic category characterized by various indicators. Among the indicators of the standard of living, an important place is occupied by a block of general economic indicators, including income, consumption and expenses. The results of human production activity form the totality of the economic wealth of society, and that part of the products of his labor that is necessary to satisfy material needs is called economic needs. In turn, production directly affects the development of man and his needs. Material goods are created that determine the level of satisfaction of people's needs and the ways of consuming these goods, thereby forming a certain composition of the consumer. Technical and technological renewal of production leads to a sharp qualitative change and renewal of the material goods it creates, the objective world in which a person actually lives, and thereby to a change and renewal of his entire way of life, which causes the emergence of new needs. The inability to fully satisfy these needs, especially by spending more than 50% of your income on basic material needs, as well as the lack of savings are indicators of poverty and destitution.

Poverty and deprivation are the result of the life activity of society. Alienation of a person from property, its products and conditions hinders self-realization and comprehensive development, leads to the impossibility of fully satisfying material needs.

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