

UZBEKISTAN-KOREA COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ELECTRONIC
GOVERNMENT AND DIGITAL ECONOMY.*Elov Farrukh Akmalovich**Lecturer of Political Science, Asian International University*

Abstract: This article attempts to reveal the historical development, practical initiatives, successes and future prospects of cooperation between Uzbekistan and South Korea in the development of "Electronic Government", which is a political field that is relevant today, aimed at facilitating and accelerating direct contacts between society and government.

Keywords: electronic government, South Korea, digital transformation, National Information Society Agency, AI, smart cities, big data, digital economy, interoperability.

Electronic government (e-government) — involves the organization of public services using information and communication technologies, digitization of legal and institutional infrastructure, automation of information exchange between citizens, businesses, and government agencies. This concept is an important tool for improving efficiency, transparency, and quality of service delivery in public administration today.

In recent years, concepts such as "Electronic government", "digital economy", "digital transformation" have become central in the Republic of Uzbekistan. South Korea is also one of the leading countries in the field of digital technologies and e-governance. Therefore, learning from the Korean experience and cooperation are of great importance for Uzbekistan. In this area,

The history and main stages of Uzbekistan - South Korea relations, documents and initiatives played an important role in the formation of cooperation:

First, December 1, 2015: Uzbekistan signed a memorandum of understanding with the National Information Society Agency (NIA) of Korea on "Development of e-government platforms". [1]
Then, on December 17, 2019: An agreement was reached between the Ministry of Public Administration and Security of the Republic of Korea and the National Project Management Agency of Uzbekistan to open a joint research center for the development of e-government and the digital economy ("Joint Center for Cooperation on E-Government and Digital Economy"). [2]

At the next stage of cooperation, on December 22, 2020, a Memorandum was signed on the establishment of an expert group between Uzbekistan and South Korea. This group was tasked with developing priority projects in the fields of e-government and the digital economy, providing advice on state policy, and ensuring information exchange. [3]

November 4, 2022: During the negotiations held in Korea, issues of implementing the joint project "Uzbekistan-Korea Center for Cooperation in the Field of Electronic Government and the Digital Economy" were discussed. Areas such as artificial intelligence, electronic government architecture and online transfer of public services, and improving digital skills were identified. [4]

In 2025, the path to cooperation with Cheongju University (South Korea) was opened, and the activities of the Uzbekistan "Interactive State Services Portal (my.gov.uz)" system, OneID, and the data center were demonstrated. [5]

The Republic of Uzbekistan has developed legal frameworks such as the Law on Electronic Government. The number and quality of interactive public services have increased: The number of electronic public services provided to the population and business entities has expanded. [6] A significant increase has been observed in the exchange of experience and the invitation of Korean experts to Uzbekistan, providing advice, and cooperation in developing strategies. [7] The development of the digital economy and artificial intelligence, digitalization strategies, and cooperation in working on the basis of AR/AI are being discussed. [8]

A number of important steps have also been taken in education and training. Examples of this include the establishment of IT centers, cooperation with Korean educational institutions, and advanced training of specialists. [9]

As with any partnership, there are challenges in developing this area and implementing projects:

1. Infrastructure constraints: Technical aspects such as internet coverage, high-speed internet, data centers, and security issues can sometimes be weak.
2. Digital literacy of citizens: Lack of knowledge and skills among the population regarding electronic document management and the use of online government services.
3. Data exchange and architecture: Issues of unified architecture, standards, information exchange, interoperability (mutual cooperation) between different agencies are problematic.
4. Security and personal data protection: Issues such as ensuring the security of electronic services and databases, protecting data security and confidentiality require constant attention.

Uzbekistan can learn several aspects from the Korean experience:

E-government ranking and international indices: Korea ranks high in rankings such as the e-Government Development Index (EGDI). This is assessed based on components such as online public services, infrastructure, and public participation.

Single identification (such as OneID) and legal identification system: Citizen identification, single login, and single identification systems make it easier for citizens to receive services.

Mobile internet and wide coverage: Internet and mobile device use is widespread in Korea, and online services are expected to work conveniently via mobile devices.

AI, "smart cities", big data: Integration of information technologies, artificial intelligence, proactive services and efficiency in public administration through big data analysis.

Security protection and transparency: Electronic signature, personal data protection, reliability of data centers, transparent monitoring systems.

For the cooperation between Uzbekistan and South Korea to be more effective, it is necessary to establish a single electronic architecture and standards - to introduce a single architecture for all government agencies and services, to establish API and data exchange standards, to increase digital literacy - to organize trainings, workshops, and online courses on digital skills for the population, especially in rural areas.

Security and privacy guarantees - to strengthen cybersecurity, improve data protection laws, strengthen control over the confidentiality of personal information, introduce technological innovations - to integrate technologies such as AI, blockchain, into e-government systems; the creation of "smart cities" and interactive services is becoming a requirement of the modern world.

In addition, monitoring and evaluation systems - to improve their position in international rankings, it is necessary to monitor the effectiveness of indices such as EGDI, based on user feedback.

Further expansion of cooperation - not only at the state level, but also expanding cooperation with universities, IT companies, international organizations, and increasing agreements on

scientific research and training with Korean universities and educational institutions - is a new stage of cooperation.

Cooperation between Uzbekistan and South Korea in the field of e-government and digital economy has developed significantly in recent years. Both sides are working together through mutual expert groups, joint centers, exchange of experience in legal frameworks, education and technical infrastructure. However, in order to achieve high results from cooperation, it is advisable to implement all the agreements reached above now.

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