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TRENDS IN THE TRAINING PROCESS OF AGRICULTURAL SPECIALISTS IN UZBEKISTAN

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Abstract: The agricultural sector plays a crucial role in Uzbekistan's economy, providing employment and contributing significantly to GDP. In recent years, the country has undertaken several reforms aimed at modernizing the training system for agricultural specialists. This article explores the current trends in the educational processes within this field, highlighting the key initiatives, challenges, and future perspectives.

Keywords:Uzbekistan, agricultural education, training trends, agrarian reform, sustainable development, digital agriculture.

1. Introduction

Agriculture has long been a backbone of Uzbekistan's socio-economic development. With over 30% of the population engaged in agricultural activities, the need for highly skilled and innovative professionals is evident. The transition to a market economy, climate change, and the need for sustainable practices have prompted significant changes in how agricultural specialists are trained.

2. Modernization of Agricultural Education

Uzbekistan has implemented a series of reforms to modernize its higher education system, including the agricultural sector. Notable trends include:

- Curriculum Reform: Universities are aligning their curricula with international standards, integrating modern subjects such as agrotechnology, agribusiness, biotechnology, and digital agriculture.

- Practice-Oriented Training: There is a growing emphasis on practical skills and internship programs in farms and agribusinesses, ensuring graduates are workforce-ready.

- International Cooperation: Partnerships with international agricultural universities and organizations are expanding, providing exchange programs, joint research, and dual degree opportunities.

3. Introduction of Digital Technologies

The use of information and communication technologies (ICT) in agriculture education is on the rise. E-learning platforms, digital laboratories, and GIS-based training modules are increasingly incorporated into the training system, enhancing student engagement and knowledge application.

4. Government Support and Strategic Initiatives

The government of Uzbekistan has introduced various state programs, such as the "Agricultural Development Strategy of Uzbekistan for 2020–2030", which outlines a clear vision for sustainable agriculture and the development of human capital. Investments are being made in rural education infrastructure and teacher training.

5. Challenges and Prospects

Despite positive developments, there remain challenges such as:

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- Shortage of qualified teaching staff in rural areas;
- Limited access to modern equipment and technologies;
- Need for improved linkages between universities and the private sector.

However, with continued policy support and international collaboration, Uzbekistan is poised to further enhance the quality and relevance of agricultural education.

6. Conclusion

The training of agricultural specialists in Uzbekistan is undergoing a dynamic transformation. By aligning educational processes with global standards and labor market demands, the country aims to cultivate a new generation of professionals capable of leading the agricultural sector into a sustainable and innovative future.

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