

## THE IMPORTANCE OF ENTREPRENEURS IN ROAD CONSTRUCTION

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### ABSTRACT

This article is devoted to a scientific analysis of the role of entrepreneurs in the field of road construction and their contribution to economic and social development. In recent years, the modernization of road and transport infrastructure in Uzbekistan, the development of international transport corridors through large investment projects has become one of the priority areas of state policy. The active participation of the non-state sector in these processes, in particular the contribution of entrepreneurs to road construction, is of great importance. The modernization of construction technologies by entrepreneurs, the involvement of modern mechanisms and innovative technical means, and the adaptation of quality standards to international requirements allow for the integrated development of road networks.

**Keywords:** entrepreneurship, road construction, infrastructure, PPP, investment, logistics, modernization, economic growth, employment.

### INTRODUCTION

Road construction is one of the most important real sectors of the economy and is the main factor determining the efficiency of the transport and communication system. The country's economic development, the strengthening of interregional relations, the activation of export-import processes largely depend on the quality of road infrastructure. In recent years, large-scale reforms have been implemented in Uzbekistan to comprehensively modernize the road and transport system. Along with the state, the role of business entities in this process is also increasing. It is actively participating in the road construction sector not only as a contractor performing construction work, but also as a supplier of equipment and mechanisms, a manufacturer

of asphalt and concrete products, and a partner introducing new technologies. In the context of the transition to a market economy, the involvement of the non-state sector in road construction provides such advantages as the efficient use of economic resources, the formation of a competitive environment, and the achievement of a balance between price and quality. Public-private partnership (PPP) mechanisms play a key role in attracting entrepreneurs to large infrastructure projects. Projects implemented on the basis of PPP in road construction increase investment flows and ensure sustainable development in this sector. The active participation of entrepreneurs enhances competition in the road construction market and contributes to the introduction of modern construction standards. The activities of small businesses are also of particular importance. They ensure the stable operation of the sector by performing small but important links necessary for road construction - the supply of building materials, technical maintenance, design work and geological surveys. In addition, the development of entrepreneurship creates many new jobs, increases the activity of the regional economy, and creates the basis for the qualitative development of logistics areas.

Analysis of scientific sources on road construction and entrepreneurship shows that infrastructure development is one of the factors that directly affects the country's economic indicators. Uzbek researchers have created many scientific works analyzing the economic efficiency of road construction, public-private partnership mechanisms, and the effectiveness of infrastructure investments. The literature studies the participation of entrepreneurs in road construction in several areas: modernization of construction technologies, production of innovative asphalt-concrete products, improvement of the logistics system, and increasing the economic efficiency of road transport networks. Some researchers focused on the economic consequences of the process, while others focused on the importance of strengthening competition in the road construction sector.

Studies conducted by Uzbek economists confirm that the contribution of entrepreneurship to road infrastructure is reflected not only in economic indicators, but

also in various aspects of social life. For example, factors such as new jobs created during road construction, regional integration, and accelerated movement of products in the domestic market are considered to be among the positive results of entrepreneurial activity.

The literature also highlights the effectiveness of the PPP mechanism. This mechanism creates additional financial opportunities for entrepreneurs and ensures stable financing of large projects. The literature also notes the problems encountered in road construction - high costs, lack of technical regulations, and the problem of training qualified personnel.

The results of the analysis show that a favorable business environment, fair competition, tax incentives and investment support systems are necessary to increase the participation of entrepreneurs in the road construction process. The general conclusion of the literature is that the broad involvement of entrepreneurs in road construction ensures the rapid development of infrastructure.

The activities of 15 business entities actively participating in road construction were studied. During the research, their investment volume, technical capabilities, use of construction technologies, supply of labor resources and the efficiency of the construction work performed were analyzed. The results obtained clearly showed how important the role of entrepreneurs is in road construction.

The technical fleet of the entities was studied. It was shown that most entrepreneurs use modern equipment such as excavators, graders, bulldozers, asphalt pavers, and road compactors. The modernity of the equipment directly affects the speed of work and the high quality of asphalt.

At the second stage, the quality of asphalt concrete products produced by entrepreneurs was analyzed. According to the results, in most cases, products produced by private enterprises meet state requirements, while in some cases further improvement of technological processes is required. The production of own products by entrepreneurs significantly reduced construction costs.

At the third stage, project management and financial activities were analyzed. The study shows that entrepreneurs participating in PPP projects have financial discipline and use resources effectively. However, small businesses have a lack of credit resources and financial restrictions on the purchase of modern technologies.

At the last stage, problems encountered in road construction were identified - rising raw material prices, shortage of personnel, high cost of technical maintenance, and relatively high tax burden. At the same time, it was noted that entrepreneurs have a high initiative in developing the industry. The problems identified during the study - lack of credit resources, in some cases obsolescence of the technical base, and a shortage of qualified specialists - were assessed as factors hindering the development of entrepreneurs. However, existing opportunities, state benefits, and the expansion of the domestic market are creating the basis for further activation of entrepreneurship in road construction.

## **CONCLUSION**

Based on the above research, it can be said that the participation of entrepreneurs in road construction plays a decisive role in the effective development of infrastructure. Construction work, modernization processes, investment activity and the introduction of innovative technologies carried out by entrepreneurs increase the quality of road networks and contribute to economic growth. The analysis shows that when entrepreneurship is properly supported, competition in road construction processes increases, the quality of service improves, and time efficiency increases.

To strengthen the role of entrepreneurs in road construction, it is important to further improve the business environment, expand tax and credit benefits, improve the personnel training system, and support PPP projects. Also, the development of small businesses specializing in road construction in the regions and the expansion of local raw material processing will increase economic efficiency.

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