DEVELOPMENT OF DIGITAL ECOSYSTEM IN UZBEKISTAN

27TH OSCE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM

“Promoting economic progress and security in the OSCE area through energy co-operation, new technologies, good governance and connectivity in the digital era”

Farkhad Ibragimov
CEO of Technology Park of Software and IT

ABOUT US

IT Park was established in January 2019 under the Ministry for Development of Information Technologies and Communications of the Republic of Uzbekistan.
World Bank project “Digital CASA”

Component 1: Regional Digital Connectivity Infrastructure
Component 2: Regional Datacenters, Digital Platforms, and Smart Solutions
Component 3: Enabling Environment for Digital Economy
Component 4: Digital innovations, entrepreneurship and skills
Component 5: Project management

Smart city initiative

Conception on Smart city integration 2019-2030
- Smart transport
- Smart education
- Smart medicine
- Smart energy system
- Smart water supply and sanitation

Safe city project, 2017-2023
Project realization stages

Implementation of organizational measures

Organization of trainings and skills upgrading programs

Technical implementation

Promotion among the population

IT PARK
AS AN INTEGRATOR OF THE PROJECT
**Human resources in Uzbekistan**

- **Population**: 33.25 million – Almost half of Central Asia’s population
- **Youth**: 27 year old
- **Literacy Rate**: 99%

**IT Universities**: 21
**Affiliate Foreign Institutions**: 14
**Annual University Graduates**: 67,000

**The Share of Females in IT Entrepreneurship**: 48%
**The Share of Women in Technical Universities**: 16%
**The Share of Female Applicants for the Start-Ups Incubation & Acceleration Programs**: 11%

**Problem**: Low female involvement in IT

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**OSCE & IT-Park Women in Tech Initiative**

**What do we need to do?**

- Create an inclusive and diverse culture
- Intentionally design programs for women and minority entrepreneurs
- Expand recruitment networks through diverse leaders and partners
- Create investment and funding platform for start-ups
- Create diverse selection committees and adjust the selection process
CREATION OF THE CENTRAL ASIAN DIGITAL SKILLS & QUALIFICATIONS COMPETENCE CENTER IN TASHKENT

Project objectives are:

- Encouraging women to start IT-professions
- Growing women entrepreneurial community in technology
- Supporting young businesses led by women through the early and fragile stages of growth
- Providing IT businesses led by women with a wide variety of resources such as mentoring, business education, networking, free office space and access to capital
- Recruiting young women with unique solutions in governance including smart city solutions and Open Governance
- Recruiting organizational partners

OSCE & IT-Park Women in Tech initiative

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

01 An Intense 6-Month Incubation Program for 170 women

02 An Intense 3-Month Acceleration Program (platform for investment and funding for start-ups) for 30 women

03 Education & Mentorship
OSCE & IT-Park Women in Tech initiative

**in 2019**

- Share of women employed in IT: 28%
- Share of female IT university students: 11%
- Share of female applicants for the IT start-up programs: 11%
- Share of businesswomen in IT: 6%

**in 2021**

- Share of women employed in IT: 37%
- Share of female IT university students: 18%
- Share of female applicants for the IT start-up programs: 34%
- Share of businesswomen in IT: 11%