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## THE INCREASE IN POVERTY IN THE WORLD AND THE NATURAL, ECONOMIC, SOCIO-GEOGRAPHICAL FACTORS AFFECTING IT

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## **Abstract**

This article examines the factors affecting poverty and their characteristics. Also, issues of increasing poverty under the influence of natural, economic-social and non-geographical factors are revealed.

**Keywords**: Poverty, natural-geographic factors, socio-economic geographic factors, inflation, climate change, poverty and environment.

## Introduction

Today, in a time when unrest persists in various parts of the world, conflicts and violence are increasing, environmental disasters and other modern threats are intensifying, poverty and deprivation are becoming a global problem. Poverty and its manifestations in different regions of the world are associated with various causes and factors.

Poverty is a characteristic of the economic situation of an individual or social group, in which they are unable to meet a certain range of minimum needs necessary for survival, maintaining their ability to work, and living.

Poverty is a relative and vague concept, which depends on the general standard of living in a given society. Poverty is the result of various and interrelated causes and factors, and is influenced by a number of factors. Among the factors that cause poverty, the geographical factor is one of the main ones. The reason is that in recent years, poverty levels have been increasing in all regions of the globe under the influence of these factors.

The data collected in this regard revealed that there is a lack of geographical research on poverty, and that there is a need for their separate study and grouping today. Therefore, it is appropriate to study the factors affecting poverty in two main groups (table 1).

The first group includes geographical factors affecting poverty. In turn, they are divided into two groups: natural and socio-economic.

The second group includes non-geographic factors affecting poverty, including economic, political, socio-medical, education and skills, as well as religious-philosophical and psychological factors.

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№	Factors	Criteria
	<u> </u>	I. Geographic factors affecting poverty
I.1. Natural-geographical factors affecting poverty		
1	Natural-geographical	Natural disasters (increase of floods, landslides, erosion, earthquakes and other processes, dust and dust winds, hurricanes).
2	Climatic	Anomalous increase in air temperature due to climate change, increase in water scarcity due to drastic decrease in rainfall and drought. Anomalous drop in air temperature in winter months. Sudden increase in rainfall and floods in some areas.
3	Ecological	Pollution of water bodies (rivers, lakes, reservoirs, underground waters), air and soil cover. Increasing amount of waste.
	I.2. Soc	cio-economic geographic factors influencing poverty
4	Socio-economic geographical	Economic and geographical disadvantage, uneven distribution of resources, urban- rural disparities, underdeveloped industrial sectors, problems in agriculture, poor transport infrastructure.
5	Demographic	High natural population growth and rapid growth. Single-parent families with many children, families with a high dependency burden. Increase in the number of disabled people. The development of false urbanization.
6	Regional-geographical	Uneven development of productive forces, large differences in the economic potential of regions, the existence of depressed mono-economic regions, subsidized regions with low economic potential, and regions dependent on centralized supplies of food and resources.
	1	I.3. Non-geographical factors affecting poverty
7	Economic	Intensification of financial and economic crises. High inflation rates. Low labor productivity, low wages and high wage discrimination, unemployment, uncompetitiveness of industries, the presence of low-paid jobs, unskilled or low-skilled labor, the survival of unprofitable enterprises.
8	Political	Disruption of existing interregional relations, ethnic and religious conflicts, military conflicts, forced migration.
9	Socio-medical	Disability, old age, poor health infrastructure, the presence of epidemics, high morbidity, as well as child neglect and homelessness, can be related to the manifestation of poverty.
10	Education and Qualifications	Low levels of education and literacy, inadequate vocational training, "lack of demand" for the education and skills offered, and the presence of demand in the regional labor market.
11	Religious-philosophical and psychological	Certain religious rules, austerity as a way of life, poverty, alcohol and drug addiction, psychological depression.

Today, geographical factors, along with non-geographical factors, are increasingly playing a role in causing poverty and increasing the number of poor people around the world, and in our country in particular..



Natural-geographical factors are of particular importance among them. Among the natural and geographical factors affecting poverty, natural disasters, including floods, mudslides, erosion, earthquakes and other processes, increase in dust and dust winds and hurricanes, are increasing year by year.

According to scientific research and observations, the number and severity of such negative natural processes have been increasing in the last decade. In particular, such natural disasters are observed in many places in the central and eastern African continent, southern and southeastern Asia, the mountainous and foothill regions of South America, and almost all regions of Europe. The floods observed in countries such as India, Bangladesh, China, the Philippines, Turkey, Libya, and Greece in 2023, the terrible earthquakes in Turkey, Syria, and Afghanistan, and the forest fires in Europe are vivid examples of this. In the first 9 months of 2023, China suffered losses equivalent to 42 billion US dollars as a result of various natural disasters. According to Chinese officials, 89 million people were affected by this. Such natural disasters have worsened the financial situation of millions of Chinese in recent years, and the number of poor people is increasing.

The role of climate and its changes in the composition of natural and geographical factors is extremely large. Especially in recent years, the acceleration of climate change has led to the seriousness of this problem.

Climate change, a 2013 World Bank report, supported by the Climate and Development Knowledge Network, found that global efforts to reduce poverty are being undermined by climate change. The report outlined the potential impacts of 2°C and 4°C warming on agricultural production, water resources, coastal ecosystems, and urban well-being in sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia, and Southeast Asia. The data suggest that the impacts of a 2°C warming:

- Sub-Saharan Africa is experiencing regular food shortages;
- Changes in rainfall patterns in South Asia have left parts of the country submerged, while others lack enough water for power generation, irrigation, or drinking.;
- Degradation and loss of reefs in Southeast Asia are leading to declining fish stocks;
- coastal villages and towns are seen as vulnerable to increasingly powerful storms.

A 2016 UN report estimated that 122 million people could be pushed into extreme poverty by 2030 due to climate change. Many scientists believe that poverty also contributes to environmental degradation. Anup Shah, a scientist at the Centre for Science and Environment in Delhi, puts it this way in his article Poverty and the Environment: "If developing countries were to consume the same amount of goods as Western countries to achieve the same standard of living, we would need two more Earths to produce the same amount of resources and process the same amount of waste.".

The negative consequences of climate change are global in scale and are clearly visible in Uzbekistan. As a result of the Aral Sea disaster alone, climate change in Central Asia is occurring twice as fast as the global average. It is manifested in such negative manifestations as the rapid melting of glaciers that form river water, the increase in the frequency and number of dust storms, land degradation, and the scarcity of water resources.



Another of the most pressing problems of our time is global climate change. Today, every country is feeling the negative impact of this process. Unfortunately, such changes pose a great threat to the economy of the Central Asian region, including the development of Uzbekistan. The problem of climate change and the fight against poverty is also receiving great attention in Uzbekistan. In his speech at the 75th session of the UN General Assembly on September 23, 2020, the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev said, among other things: "I would like to draw your attention once again to the catastrophic consequences of the drying

"I would like to draw your attention once again to the catastrophic consequences of the drying up of the Aral Sea. The Aral Sea region has become the epicenter of an ecological tragedy. We propose that the United Nations General Assembly adopt a special resolution to declare the Aral Sea region a zone of ecological innovation and technology" (1)

Sea region a zone of ecological innovation and technology" (1).

The issue of climate change remains relevant for the Republic of Uzbekistan, as climate change is becoming more pronounced every year, and climate-related hazards - heat and cold waves, as well as their duration - are increasing. All this directly affects the socio-economic infrastructure, the environment, the well-being and health of the population, often resulting in crop failure, drought and water shortages, soil erosion, and increased dust storms. As a result, poverty levels may increase.

Our planet is already experiencing global temperature changes, seasonal shifts, an increase in the number of extreme weather events, other consequences of climate change, and variable weather patterns. According to the results of UN climate change research and monitoring, adaptation to climate change is one of the most important measures among the measures to combat climate change today. The longer adaptation measures are delayed, the more difficult it will be to adequately respond to climate change, and the more financial resources will be required for this.

Climate change adaptation refers to the adaptation of natural, social, or economic systems to actual or expected climate change and its impacts. It refers to the processes, actions, or adjustments to structures that are made to reduce potential risks or take advantage of opportunities associated with climate change. In other words, countries and communities need to develop and implement adaptation measures to respond to existing climate change and prepare for its expected impacts (6).

Approaches to climate change adaptation can vary greatly depending on the situation in a particular country or region. There is no one-size-fits-all approach. Adaptation can include building flood defences, developing early warning systems for cyclones, adopting drought-resistant crops, and improving communication, business and government systems. Many countries are already taking steps to build resilience to new hazards. But to respond economically effectively, efforts in this area will need to be significantly scaled up and ambitions increased, both now and in the future.

In Uzbekistan, too, climate change adaptation should become a common and necessary component of planning at all levels of government and in all sectors of the republic's economy. National adaptation planning will help assess the vulnerability of economic sectors to the effects of climate change, take into account the risks associated with climate change, and



resolve the problems of financing adaptation measures. As a result, the standard of living of the population will increase and the problem of poverty will be solved.

Persistent unrest in various parts of the world, increasing conflict and violence, environmental disasters and other modern threats are increasing the global problems of poverty and poverty. These problems are becoming especially acute in the current climate change context. The increasingly alarming voice of poverty should alarm the entire global community, all of us. Recent UN reports predict the effects of climate warming will be "severe, widespread and irreversible".

In this regard, the comprehensive fight against climate change and the associated poverty eradication and poverty reduction are identified as one of the main topics of each session of the United Nations General Assembly, and international forums and summits dedicated to these issues are regularly held, in this regard, poverty has been defined in Uzbekistan, and measures and activities have been identified to combat it. In this regard, the study of poverty and its characteristics is an important geographical issue and requires separate research.

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