

The Role of State and Local Governments in the Implementation of the Green Economy

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Abstract: The authors note the enormous role of the country and government and local authorities in addressing issues related to the green economy. In recent years, strategic documents and programs for the further development of the country have been adopted at the government level. In turn, state bodies implement the above documents. Currently, one of the urgent tasks is to implement the concept of green economy. While some countries have recently begun paying attention to the development of a green economy just recently, Western countries began implementing this concept in 1968 with the formation of the Club of Rome. The main objectives of the Club of Rome are to review and identify current problems for the future of all humanity, conduct a comprehensive analysis of development, search for opportunities, identify problems, and propose ways to solve problems. The work on implementing a green economy in the Kyrgyz Republic has been actively carried out since 2018. The primary conceptual documents have been adopted. In implementing the green economy concept, a big role is given to ministries, committees, departments, city halls, and village councils. These bodies implement the Green Economy Concept. The responsible authorized body is the Ministry of Economy and Commerce of the Kyrgyz Republic. All state bodies (ministries, committees, services, departments, authorized representatives of the President in the regions, and local authorities) were given the task of reporting on the implementation of the action plan to the Ministry of Economy and Commerce every six months. One of the main tasks of the head of state and higher-ranking officials is to improve the standard and quality of life of the population.

Keywords: local self-government, government agencies, the concept of green economy, Club of Rome, action plan, local issues

JEL codes: R28, R58

Relevance of the research topic. An important topical issue for the Kyrgyz Republic is the implementation of the concept of green economy. The main role in implementing the green

economy concept undoubtedly belongs to state and municipal employees. The government developed a work plan based on the green economy concept for 2019–2023 (Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic, 2022).

This research aims to determine the role and importance of the Cabinet of Ministers, local authorities, mayor's offices, and village administrations in implementing the green economy concept.

The research objectives are as follows:

- To consider the role of the state apparatus, mayor's offices, and village administrations in implementing the concept of the green economy in the Kyrgyz Republic;
- To consider the adopted conceptual documents at the government level in the field of green economy;
- To make recommendations to the state apparatus and local governments for the timely and responsible implementation of the green economy.

Research Methodology

In writing the research, the authors used historical, systemic, comparative, and legal methods.

State and local authorities have the power to make decisions and influence the conditions of society. In the Kyrgyz Republic, local self-governance is the intermediary between the state and society, the body closest to the population; it is better acquainted with the people's problems. The main differences between local government and state government are as follows:

- The municipal government deals only with a specific territory: a city or ayyl aimaks, tied to a specific place. Decisions adopted by local government bodies are binding only on the territory, its citizens, officials, and organizations.;
- - According to the law, the city and ayyl keneshes (village councils) approve the local budget, make decisions, and approve the socio-economic development plans of the city or village government (ayyl aimak);
- According to the Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic, local self-government is an independent and separate power.

Local power in democratic states always coexists in parallel with the state and state administration (Nurmatova & Achikeeva, 2021). Local self-government is carried out only in a democratic system of government. It is characterized by the presence of a decentralized system. Within the limits of their competence, local self-governments have a certain autonomy in addressing issues related to a particular area.

In the legal act adopted on October 27, 2021, the issues of local importance consist of 24 items (Kyrgyz Republic, 2021), including the infrastructure issues on the territory, landscaping, garbage collection, lighting, social protection issues, etc. (Kyrgyz Republic, 2021)

There are 452 ayyl aimaks and 32 cities in the Kyrgyz Republic. In ayyl aimaks, local self-governance is carried out by the ayyl okmotus. In cities, local self-governance is represented by the mayor's office. (National Statistical Committee of the Kyrgyz Republic, 2022).

According to the State Agency for Local Government and Civil Service, out of 452 aiyl aimaks, the city of Bishkek, the Chui Region, and the city of Osh are self-sufficient and do not receive equalization grants from the government. The majority of about 80% of aiyl aimaks are on subsidies.

In recent years, strategic documents and programs for the country’s further development have been adopted at the government level. In turn, these public authorities implement the above documents. One of the urgent tasks is to implement the green economy concept.

The Kyrgyz Republic has only recently taken a course on the development of a green economy, while Western countries began paying attention to this concept back in 1968 with the formation of the Club of Rome (Chumakov & Shtark, 2019), whose members are some heads of state, UN members, leading politicians and government officials, diplomats, scientists, economists, and leaders of big business. The famous Kyrgyz writer Aitmatov was also a member of the Club of Rome. This Club brings together multibillionaires from Rockefeller, Soros, and other families. The main goals of the Club of Rome are as follows:

- To examine and identify the global problems facing humanity;
- To analyze strengths, weaknesses, and probabilities;
- To provide recommendations and find ways to solve the problems identified;
- To regularly transfer new ideas.

Since 1970, members of the Club of Rome have provided the following scientific reports and studies:

- “The Limits to Growth”;
- “Mankind at the Turning Point”;
- “ Reshaping the International Order”;
- “Beyond the Age of Waste”;
- “Energy: The Countdown” and others.

One of the members of the Club of Rome, D. Meadows, noted the expected results, which are shown in Table 1 (Meadows, Randers & Meadows, 2014).

Table 1

Scenarios for 2100

No.	Scenarios	Preliminary result by 2100
1.	Do nothing	Decline in the standard of living of the population. Shortage of food products. Hunger and poverty.
2.	Electricity restriction	Environmental pollution.
3.	Limiting investments	Poverty, unemployment.

Source: Compiled by the authors based on (Meadows et al., 2014)

The founder of the Club of Rome, A. Peccei, in his book “Human Qualities,” noted that humankind had invented wonders of technology since the 20th century. According to Peccei, new discoveries (military and nuclear inventions) subsequently led to climate change and countless disasters.

Nowadays, there are several synonyms for the green economy:

- Smart growth;
- Sustainable development;
- Green new courses;
- Great reset.

If we pay attention to the zero growth concept, the following is necessary:

- Before producing something new, it is necessary to think about its effect on nature;
- To develop new techniques and technologies to avoid harming the environment.

There was a time when many manufacturers did not think much about the consequences. The time has come to think about the consequences of manufacturers' actions.

Results

The role of the Club of Rome in solving global problems facing the population is enormous. Since the establishment of the Club to date, about 30 reports have been prepared by scientists from around the world. Some reports are dissertational in nature, dealing with proposals such as: reducing residents on the land, etc. However, many reports have gained their place in world practice. The result was the creation in 1983 of the International Commission on Environment and Development (ICED) and the adoption of the sustainable development concept.

Considering the suggestions and recommendations of the club reports, the Kyrgyz Republic started paying special attention to such issues at the state level. Since 2018, the Kyrgyz Republic has been implementing the green economy concept. The responsible authorized body is the Ministry of Economy and Commerce of the Kyrgyz Republic. Since then, the work on the implementation of the green economy in the country has been actively carried out. Various conceptual documents have been adopted, including the National Strategy 2018–2040, the Concept of the green economy, and the Action Plan for the implementation of the green economy.

All government bodies (ministries, committees, services, departments, plenipotentiary representatives of the President in the regions, and local authorities) were given the task of implementing the action plan. They are to submit a report on implementing the work plan to the Ministry of Economy and Commerce every six months. In turn, the Ministry of Economy and Commerce reports to the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic.

The main task should be to create a favorable environment for the population's life and health (Ministry of Economy and Commerce of the Kyrgyz Republic, 2018).

Article 7 of the Law of the Kyrgyz Republic "On the procedure for delegating certain state powers to local governments" outlines the responsibilities of mayors' offices and village governments in exercising delegated powers (Kyrgyz Republic, 2013). This law states that government agencies may delegate certain functions to city halls and village governments to perform.

Discussion

Table 2 presents data on the work carried out according to the action plan.

Table 2

Work carried out according to the work plan (Action Plan, 2019-2023)

No.	Tasks	Results	Responsible performers
1.	Informing the general public about the green economy concept	In 2022, many universities held scientific and practical conferences. The discipline of the green economy is included in the students' curriculum.	Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic
2.	Opening and equipping laboratories for certification of organic products according to today's requirements	Work in progress	Ministry of Agriculture of the Kyrgyz Republic
3.	Development of energy conservation and energy efficiency programs	Work in progress	Ministry of Energy of the Kyrgyz Republic
4.	Organization and repair of hydraulic structures to reduce water consumption	Work in progress	Ministry of Agriculture of the Kyrgyz Republic
5.	Providing soft loans for the introduction of green technologies in agriculture	Work in progress	Ministry of Agriculture of the Kyrgyz Republic by agreement with "Aiyl Bank"
6.	Informing farmers through the TV program "Rural Hour"	Not yet implemented	Ministry of Agriculture of the Kyrgyz Republic
7.	Acquisition and launch of new gas and electricity buses in Bishkek	Partially acquired	Bishkek mayor's office
8.	Work on the construction of bicycle lanes	Partially performed	Bishkek mayor's office

Source: Compiled by the authors based on (Cabinet of Ministers of the Kyrgyz Republic, 2022)

In addition to these issues, state agencies and local governments should responsibly address the following issues to implement the green economy concept (Supreme Council of the Kyrgyz Republic, 2018):

- Uninterrupted supply of clean water to citizens;
- Creating sewage pipes and sewage treatment plants in towns and villages;
- Timely cleaning of streets and landscaping of parks;
- Constructing and operating recreational facilities, parks, and sports clubs;
- Removing garbage and all kinds of household and industrial waste;

- Providing uninterrupted municipal vehicles with environmentally friendly fuels in the settlements;
- Determining the rules of construction and architecture;
- Assisting in the prevention of floods, mudslides, etc.;
- Providing assistance for timely veterinary, sanitary, and quarantine measures;
- Ensuring the sanitary condition of the territory;
- Participating in the implementation of the environmental protection mechanism;
- Implementing measures to protect natural objects (ecology and water bodies);
- Controlling the area of urban planning and development and settlement of residential facilities;
- Controlling municipal transport, etc.

Conclusion

Drawing conclusions, we can note that with the adoption of the green economy concept since 2018 and the adoption of the Action Plan for the implementation of a green economy in 2019, the following has been done:

- A certain part of the population is informed about the concept of a green economy through conferences;
- Round tables;
- Provision of soft loans to farmers for purchasing green technologies in agriculture;
- gas-powered buses have been purchased in Bishkek and Osh, etc.

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