



External Health Relations of Samarkand and Bukhara Regions (2013-2018)

Fazliddin E. Tuyev^{1*}

¹ Department of Social Sciences, Bukhara State Pedagogical Institute, Bukhara, Uzbekistan

* Correspondence: fazli820bek@gmail.com

Abstract: This article examines the external health relations of Samarkand and Bukhara regions from 2013 to 2018. These regions have actively engaged in international cooperation, particularly in the healthcare sector. Collaborations with foreign countries have been a significant aspect, with ongoing projects in various regions of Uzbekistan. Notably, Samarkand and Bukhara have played pivotal roles in fostering these international partnerships. These collaborations extend beyond national borders, reflecting a commitment to improving healthcare standards and fostering global health initiatives. The research sheds light on the dynamic nature of these relationships and their impact on healthcare outcomes in the regions.

Keywords: Samarkand, Bukhara, region, foreign countries, diseases, Germany, South Korea, Russia, Serbia, Czech Republic, Minsk.

1. Introduction

In the early years following independence, Uzbekistan witnessed significant socio-economic development driven by key factors such as demographic trends, sustainable enhancement of social infrastructure, and the promotion of population employment [1]. Several important elements contributed to Uzbekistan's noteworthy socio-economic gains in the early years after independence. In order to solve economic inefficiencies carried over from its Soviet history, the nation started reforming its economy in 1991 after gaining independence, moving from a command to a market-oriented system [2]. The 1990s economic reform process in Uzbekistan was marked by uneven gradualism throughout several stages, which reflected the difficulties involved in making the switch to a new economic model [3]. Uzbekistan showed a dedication to change and growth in spite of obstacles, such as slower progress in some policy reforms as compared to other nations in the area [4].

Notably, substantial efforts have been directed towards ensuring robust social protection for vulnerable segments in regions like Samarkand and Bukhara [5,6,7,8]. Health care emerges as a prominent focus area in this regard, with both regions engaging in collaborative endeavors with various foreign entities. These partnerships seek to accomplish pediatric mental health competence [9] and improve primary health care teams [10]. In addition, by utilizing their historical and architectural legacy, the areas have been investigating the possibilities of ecotourism for sustainability [11]. Due to their rich cultural heritage, the cities of Samarkand and Bukhara have drawn visitors from throughout the world, which has prompted research on the effects of destination features on travelers' intents [12].

For instance, under the "Health-3" project, supported financially by the World Bank, Samarkand region's medical institutions have undergone substantial modernization, incorporating advanced diagnostic equipment and skilled professionals [13, 14].

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Noteworthy developments include extensive reconstruction and refurbishment efforts across seven regional medical associations, the Samarkand city hospital of infectious diseases, and the clinic of the Samarkand Medical Institute. A significant investment totaling UZS 24.8496 billion facilitated these initiatives, resulting in the transformation of the Poyarik district medical association into a state-of-the-art healthcare facility. Such endeavors not only enhance the physical infrastructure but also elevate the quality of medical services accessible to the populace.

2. Method

In order to look into the external health relations of the Samarkand and Bukhara areas from 2013 to 2018, this study uses a literature review technique. The technique entails a methodical analysis and compilation of extant academic literature, papers, and publications about health-related partnerships, collaborations, and initiatives involving the areas of Samarkand and Bukhara within the designated timeframe.

Academic databases, government publications, reports from international health organizations, and peer-reviewed journals with an emphasis on international relations, public health, and regional development are examples of primary data sources. A broad range of keywords and search phrases pertaining to cross-border healthcare initiatives, international health cooperation, health diplomacy, and interregional health collaborations including Bukhara and Samarkand are included in the search strategy.

In order to collect and analyze data, pertinent materials are categorized and arranged according to themes including collaborative research projects, cross-border healthcare efforts, bilateral health agreements, and capacity-building activities. The study intends to offer insights on the nature, breadth, and efficacy of external health relations in improving health outcomes and resolving public health issues in the Samarkand and Bukhara areas during the designated time by synthesizing and assessing the literature.

3. Results and Discussion

During the nine months of 2014, more than UZS 6.2 billion worth of medical equipment was delivered to the territory of Samarkand region. As part of the "Year of a Healthy Child" State program, UZS 26.9 million construction and assembly works were carried out in 12 treatment and prevention institutions, and modern digital X-ray equipment was installed in eight district medical associations. Thanks to the work carried out on the basis of this state program, it became possible to provide high-quality medical services to the residents of the region.

In July 2015, a medical examination was conducted in the multidisciplinary children's medical center of the region in cooperation with the international charitable foundation "For a healthy generation" and the experts of the German international organization "Freundenzdorf International". Children from low-income families in the region with upper lip and hard palate, congenital defects in legs, orthopedic diseases related to neck curvature, and burn injuries were examined by German doctors [15,16].

In October 2016, a delegation from In Ha University Hospital of South Korea visited the region [17,18]. "Mutual relations between Inkha University and the Foundation were established in 2011," says Rahima Rahmonova, Head of the International Charitable Foundation "For a Healthy Generation". During the cooperation, children suffering from congenital heart defects, complications of skin burns, congenital hand-foot joints and other diagnoses were treated free of charge in Korea. Such medical examinations were carried out by Korean specialists in 2015-2016. Foreign relations are progressing from year to year, study of the experience of foreign countries in the field of health care and wide application in practice, not only Samarkand region, but also in Bukhara region in this regard, a number of works have been carried out in the field of health care: On April 22, 2017, the head of the Department of Plastic Surgery of the Sechenov Moscow Medical

Academy of the Russian Federation, Ph.D. I.V. Reshetov visited the Bukhara Regional Oncology Center, got acquainted with the activities of the Bukhara Regional Oncology Center, and gave his advice [19,20]. Bukhara regional oncology center, based on the established plan of improving the qualifications of employees in Russian and foreign clinics and calling experts from advanced foreign clinics, has been constantly interacting with foreign countries based on the plan. An international memorandum was signed between the Bukhara Regional Oncology Center and the Russian Oncology Scientific Center named after Nikolay Nikolaevich Blokhin of the Russian Federation. In addition, an international memorandum was signed between the Serbian Oncology Research Institute and the International Federation of Surgical Oncologists and RIO and RIATM. The Bukhara Regional Oncology Center is working with advanced foreign clinics to train advanced personnel in the field of oncology, as well as training young specialists in advanced foreign clinics.

In December 2017, visiting specialists from the Czech Republic installed "Terabalt" gamma therapeutic equipment and conducted training for medical specialists of the center [21,22,23]. The equipment has been put into operation since January 2018. Since January 2018, 3 specialists of the center, who have improved their skills in Minsk (Belarus) under IAEA project, have been treating patients with the newly installed distance telegammatherapeutic equipment. started, with the help of this equipment, the residents of the local and neighboring regions (Khorazm, Navoi and Kashkadaryo) are happily serving patients suffering from oncological diseases.

4. Conclusion

In the period spanning from 2013 to 2018, the regions of Samarkand and Bukhara have witnessed extensive collaboration with numerous foreign countries in the realm of healthcare. This cooperation has been instrumental in facilitating knowledge exchange and skill enhancement through the mutual sharing of experiences. Notably, partnerships with foreign entities have enabled the introduction of innovative medical practices, advanced technologies, and specialized training programs aimed at augmenting the healthcare infrastructure and service delivery capabilities in these regions.

Furthermore, the exchange of expertise and best practices has contributed to the professional development of local healthcare practitioners, fostering a culture of continuous learning and improvement within the healthcare sector. As a result of these collaborative efforts, the Samarkand and Bukhara regions have been able to leverage international partnerships to enhance the quality and accessibility of healthcare services for their respective populations, thereby promoting overall well-being and societal advancement.

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