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ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE OF COMMERCIAL BANKS IN UZBEKISTAN

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Annotation. This study examines the financial performance of commercial banks in Uzbekistan within the context of ongoing economic reforms and modernization efforts. It analyzes income sources, expense structures, risk management practices, and regulatory impacts on banking operations. The research highlights how factors such as corporate governance, financial innovation, liquidity management, capital adequacy, and customer base diversity influence profitability and stability. Emphasis is placed on the role of technological advancement and market competition in shaping banks' financial results. The analysis underscores the importance of aligning banking strategies with national economic development to ensure sustainable growth and financial sector resilience.

Keywords: commercial banks Uzbekistan financial performance analysis bank income expenses profitability credit risk corporate governance financial innovation liquidity management capital adequacy customer diversification banking reforms economic development digital banking risk management financial stability sustainable banking growth.

The analysis of financial performance of commercial banks in Uzbekistan is an essential element of understanding the overall development and stability of the country's banking sector. In recent years, the banking system of Uzbekistan has been undergoing significant reforms aimed at liberalization modernization and increasing competitiveness. As a result analyzing the financial results of banks operating in this environment becomes crucial for both local stakeholders and international investors. Commercial banks in Uzbekistan generate income primarily from interest earned on loans extended to individuals and businesses. This includes financing for agriculture industry trade and construction which are key sectors in the Uzbek economy. In addition to interest income banks also rely on non-interest revenue from services such as currency exchange international transfers card operations and account maintenance. With the growth of digital banking new sources of income such as mobile banking services and online payments are also becoming increasingly important for Uzbek banks.

Expenses in commercial banks of Uzbekistan include interest paid on customer deposits which make up a large share of the funding base. Operational costs such as salaries infrastructure

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investment IT development and compliance-related spending also form a significant part of total expenses. In the context of the country's economic reforms banks have been required to increase transparency improve risk management systems and invest in modern technologies all of which impact their cost structures.

Loan loss provisions represent another important component of expenses especially in economies where credit risk remains a key concern. Uzbek banks must allocate a portion of their earnings to cover potential defaults particularly in sectors affected by external shocks or macroeconomic volatility. The financial authorities of Uzbekistan such as the Central Bank have introduced stricter regulations and monitoring mechanisms to ensure that banks maintain sufficient reserves and minimize systemic risk. Profitability indicators such as return on assets and return on equity are widely used to evaluate the performance of commercial banks in Uzbekistan. These indicators reflect how effectively a bank uses its assets and capital to generate profit. Banks with a diversified income base strong lending portfolios and efficient cost management typically show higher profitability levels. However profitability can vary depending on the size ownership structure and strategic focus of the bank whether it is state-owned private or foreign-capital based.

Another important factor in financial performance analysis is the quality of the loan portfolio. Non-performing loans can significantly affect the profitability and stability of a bank. In Uzbekistan efforts have been made to improve credit risk assessment introduce credit scoring models and enhance the overall quality of financial intermediation. Government support programs and development finance initiatives also influence the level of credit risk and profitability. The financial performance of banks is also linked to macroeconomic conditions including inflation exchange rate fluctuations and monetary policy decisions. In Uzbekistan the move toward market-based exchange rates and liberalized interest rates has introduced new challenges but also opened up opportunities for more efficient banking practices. Banks now operate in a more competitive environment where financial discipline innovation and customer service play a larger role in success.

In recent years the Central Bank of Uzbekistan has published detailed financial statements of commercial banks and introduced a rating system to increase transparency in the sector. This enables analysts investors and the public to monitor the financial health of banks and compare their performance based on standardized metrics. Banks are also expected to comply with international financial reporting standards which improve the comparability and reliability of financial data. The privatization of state-owned banks and the entry of foreign banks into the market have added new dynamics to the banking sector. Foreign banks often bring advanced

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technologies strong corporate governance and global risk management practices which can improve the overall quality of financial services in Uzbekistan. Their performance is closely watched as a benchmark for local institutions.

Digital transformation is becoming a key driver of efficiency and growth for Uzbek banks. Investments in fintech solutions mobile banking platforms online lending and automated customer service tools contribute to reducing operational costs and expanding customer outreach. These developments directly influence financial results by increasing fee-based income and reducing dependency on traditional interest income. Understanding the financial dynamics of commercial banks in Uzbekistan also involves examining how regulatory changes and institutional reforms shape their operational results. The banking sector has been at the center of the government's economic strategy, with a clear shift from a state-dominated system toward a more diversified and competitive market. This transition has introduced both opportunities and risks that are reflected in the financial outcomes of the banks.

One notable aspect is the increasing role of corporate governance in determining financial performance. Banks that have adopted transparent structures, independent boards, and internal control systems are often more successful in attracting investment and maintaining financial discipline. Good governance reduces the likelihood of credit misallocation and enhances investor confidence, which in turn supports stronger balance sheets and more stable income flows. Financial performance is also influenced by the scale and scope of services offered. Universal banks that provide a full range of retail, corporate, investment, and digital services can diversify their income sources more effectively than specialized institutions. This helps them absorb shocks and remain profitable even during periods of economic instability. Moreover, diversified banks are better positioned to cross-sell products, reduce customer acquisition costs, and increase lifetime value per client.

Another important factor is financial innovation. Uzbek banks are increasingly adopting modern financial technologies such as artificial intelligence, blockchain, biometric verification, and real-time data analytics. These tools improve service delivery, reduce operational risk, and optimize internal processes. The introduction of contactless payments, remote identification, and instant loan approvals has changed the way banks generate revenues and interact with their clients. Financial institutions that integrate technology faster and more efficiently tend to demonstrate stronger financial metrics over time. Finally, the financial performance of commercial banks is connected to the broader economic development of Uzbekistan. As reforms in agriculture, manufacturing, energy, and trade continue, demand for banking services grows. This creates new

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business opportunities for credit products, investment advisory, and transaction banking. Banks that align their strategies with national economic goals are likely to benefit from policy support and increased market relevance.

The banking sector's evolution is not only about financial indicators but also about how institutions adapt to regulatory, technological, and demographic changes. Strong financial results are often the outcome of proactive leadership, effective risk assessment, customer-centric services, and agile innovation. In this environment, financial analysis becomes more than a backward-looking review — it becomes a strategic instrument for forecasting growth, identifying challenges, and shaping the future of the banking industry in Uzbekistan.

In summary the financial performance analysis of commercial banks in Uzbekistan involves evaluating their income structure expense management risk profile and response to economic reforms. It also considers macroeconomic influences regulatory developments and strategic initiatives taken by the banks to improve their position in a competitive and evolving financial landscape. A strong and resilient banking sector is essential for supporting the country's economic growth and attracting both domestic and foreign investment.

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