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PROBLEMS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NON-OIL SECTOR'S EXPORT POTENTIAL

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ABSTRACT

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OVERALL OVERVIEW OF THE STUDY

Relevance of research topic and degree of elaboration. In recent years, Azerbaijan has taken important steps towards creating its own economic development model and taking necessary measures in this regard. In the conditions of global challenges and in the context of emerging problems in the world economy, ensuring the dynamic development of the country's economy increasing stability against global threats are set as the main strategic tasks. On September 20, 1994, because of the implementation of the "Contract of the Century", the specialization of the national economy in the system of international division of labor was strengthened, the potential for the development of other areas of the economy was formed due to the development of the oil industry, and economic, institutional, and structural changes were made. However, since the end of 2008, due to the negative consequences of the world fiscal crisis, the dynamics of the national economy's development weakened and the volume of foreign currency funds entering the country decreased. In particular, oil prices, which are the main export item of our country, have fallen repeatedly in the world markets since the end of 2014, resulting in serious threats to the economic system, macroeconomic and macro-financial aspects. As a result, Azerbaijan's national currency, the manat, depreciated twice in 2015, financial stability weakened slightly and therefore, the development of non-oil sectors to improve the structure of the economy has become a priority.

In 2016, efforts were made to take broader measures in this direction and update the economic development goals. The country's strategic roadmaps, approved by the Presidential Decree of December 6, 2016, set priorities and goals for 11 perspective directions of the economy, considering the near, medium, and long perspectives. The processes of raising the development of the non-oil sector to a new level, ensuring development based on high technologies, creating technological parks, industrial parks, industrial zones, agricultural parks, creating a network of competitive and export-oriented enterprises have accelerated in the central cities and regions of the

country. Large-scale export-oriented production facilities were commissioned in Sumgait industrial center, and the expansion of the non-oil export structure began. The development of the agricultural sector on a scientific basis, the implementation of high technologies, including "smart" technologies in the regions, the creation of new export-oriented enterprises, the organization of trade logistics centers, the creation of an infrastructure network, and the strengthening of state support mechanisms have created serious grounds for commercial organizations to increase the export potential of the non-oil sector. It is no coincidence that the growth rate of the non-oil sector and the dynamics of non-oil exports have increased significantly in recent years.

We would like to draw attention to one more relevant and crucial factor. Thus, after the Great Karabakh Victory of the 44-day national war that began on September 27, 2020, new realities emerged. Karabakh and East Zangazur economic regions were established on the liberated territories. An extensive infrastructure network is already being created in these areas, and measures are also being taken to create the infrastructure of export-oriented economic areas. The projects are being implemented based on "smart" technologies and 17 national and international transportation projects are currently being implemented. Fuzuli and Zangilan International Airports have been put into operation, and the construction of Lachin International Airport is underway. To meet local demand, expand the structure of export-oriented products and increase the volume of production, the processes of expanding the activities of the industrial zone in Aghdam and the "Araz Valley Economic Zone" in Jabrayil region are accelerating. In the near future, the launch of the Zangazur corridor will increase the investment attractiveness of the region, create additional opportunities for the expansion of foreign economic relations and a significant increase in the non-oil export potential of our country. Moreover, the creation of renewable solar energy infrastructure has begun in the liberated areas.

We would like to touch on one issue. The diversification of the economy and the improvement of the economic development model in our country have entered a new phase in the context of the passage of a certain period since the implementation of the strategic roadmaps. Here, the goals are different and have a longer-term perspective. The main goal is the more intensive implementation of high technologies and innovative functions and the reduction of the economy's dependence on the oil and gas factor. In this context, "Azerbaijan 2030: National Priorities Socio-economic for Development", approved by the Decree of the President of the country on February 2, 2021, is significant. With the aim of systematic and planned implementation of national priorities, the "Strategy for Socio-Economic Development of the Republic of Azerbaijan 2022-2026", approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated July 22, 2022, is already in force and is being successfully implemented. In the areas of the non-oil sector, great attention is paid to the implementation of high practices, including "smart" technologies, the formation and development of the green economy, the expansion of the infrastructure of alternative energy sources and the creation of modern processing complexes. Another prominent issue is the intensive implementation of the "I State Program on the Great Return to the liberated territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan" approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan dated November 16, 2022. Thus, as the Great Return processes accelerate, opportunities for the creation of processing enterprises and the effective use of the potential of non-oil sector areas are increasing.

The factors mentioned and the issues considered make it important to conduct fundamental studies on the problems of the development of the export potential of the non-oil sector in our country. For this purpose, there is a need to open new theoretical and conceptual views on the development of the non-oil sector and the formation of export potential, to conduct macroeconomic analysis and objective assessment of the development of the non-oil sector in our country, in particular, to determine the features of the development of the export potential of the non-oil sector, to develop organizational and economic mechanisms for the use of innovations

and high technologies in increasing this potential, and finally, based on them, to identify the directions for strengthening the development of the export potential of the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan. These issues are all expressions of the relevance of the dissertation topic.

Regarding the degree of elaboration of the issue, it is possible to indicate the scientific works of research scientists of our country and foreign countries on the formation of the export potential of the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan and the identification of ways to solve the problems related to the development of the non-oil sector in general. Several Azerbaijani economists-scientists - Academician Z.A. Samadzadeh, A.F. Musayev, A.Kh.Nuriyev, A.J.Muradov, F.F. Mustafayev, A.A. Alakbarov, A.P.Babayev, A.Sh. Shakaraliyev, R.T. Hasanov, M.A. Ahmadov, B.Kh.Atashov, G.N. Manafov, U.G. Aliyev, A.G. Alirzayev, T.N. Aliyev, Sh.T. Aliyev, R.A. Balayev, K.A.Shahbazov, S.H.Purhani, F.A. Ganbarov, G.A. Azizova, N.A. Hasanov, A.D. Huseynova, V.A. Gasimli and others have studied the indicated problems, written dissertations and monographs, and continuously published scientific articles.

The founders of the classical economic school and a group of foreign scientists have written scientific works on the problems of developing economic fields, diversifying the structure of the economy, improving the structure of the country's economy by effectively using natural resources and economic diversifying added value and financial sources, as well as the problems of balanced development of other economic fields along with the potential of production areas. Relatedly, the scientific theories used by A. Smith, D. Ricardo, A. Marshall, J. Mill, J. Say, J. Stiglitz, R. Vernon, A. Weber, P. Lindert, P. Samuelson and their scientific works can be noted. In addition, scientific works of researchers-scientists. as V.Y.Ribalkin, V.K.Senchagov, R.I.Khasbulatov. N.Y.Bukhvalov, O.N.Bezverkhayab, G.A.Kolobova, A.I.Sarigulov, R.M.Shakhnovich, T.A.Chekulina, can be indicated in the direction of developing the national economy, improving its structure, studying and evaluating the potential of nonoil sector areas, involving them in economic, financial and export circulation, and increasing the export potential.

In addition to the scientific and theoretical-methodological importance and practical effectiveness of the scientific work and research work of the these researchers-scientists, there is a need to systematically take measures to diversify the structure of exports and develop new mechanisms of action in the direction of forming new scientific-theoretical views on economic development processes in our country in the conditions of global transformations, improving existing mechanisms, and increasing the export potential of the non-oil sector.

The object of research is export-oriented areas of the non-oil sector, the export policy and export operations of our country and the principles and mechanisms of the institutions responsible for increasing the export potential.

The subject of research is regulation and improvement of the export potential by determining the development problems of the export potential of the non-oil sector and their solutions.

Research goals and objectives. The aim of the thesis is to examine the problems in the development of the export potential of the non-oil sector and to identify solutions to these problems, to investigate the possibilities of increasing the export potential and to prepare effective mechanisms and reasonable proposals in this aspects. For this, the tasks determined in accordance with the nature of the work are as follows:

- Study of socio-economic theoretical approaches to the problems of development of the non-oil sector and the issues of increasing its export potential;
- Identification of methodological features of the development of the export potential of the non-oil sector in modern times;
- Review and summarization of the experience of the world countries in expanding the export potential;
- Review of organizational and economic mechanisms related to state support in the development of the non-oil sector;

- Analyzing and evaluating export activity in non-oil sector areas;
- Study of the current situation of the export potential of the nonoil sector in Azerbaijan;
- Investigating the factors and mechanisms of the necessity of increasing the export potential of the non-oil sector in the new conditions;
- Investigating the processes of applying innovative approaches and high technologies in increasing the export opportunities of the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan;
- Analyzing innovation-investment activity in the non-oil sector and taking into account the importance of pro-innovation economic mechanisms in increasing the export potential;
- Assessing the importance of the use of digital technologies in increasing the export opportunities of the non-oil sector;
- Substantiation of the legal basis for realizing the export potential of the non-oil sector in the country and improvement of customs and tariff regulations, as well as state support mechanisms;
- Identifying directions for strengthening the export potential of the non-oil sector in accordance with the areas liberated from occupation and post-pandemic challenges, etc.

Research methods. A group of economic methods and research forms were used in the research study. More economic methods such as analysis, synthesis, comparative analysis and generalization were used. Some calculations and evaluations were also made. Requests were also made to the statistical database. The works of various Azerbaijani and foreign scientists were also cited. The author's attitude towards the problems addressed has also been kept under the focus. In addition, laws and official documents, international experience and analytical studies prepared at the international level, scientific methodological materials of relevant scientific research institutions and organizations were used.

The main clauses defended are as follows:

- The creation of modern conceptual approaches to ensuring the development of the non-oil sector and increasing its export potential in the conditions of new challenges is an inevitable process;
- In the context of global economic transformations, there is a need to study and define new features of the development of the export potential of the non-oil sector;
- There is a need for more in-depth study of the international experience of development of non-oil based economic sectors in oil producing countries;
- It is necessary to conduct a macroeconomic analysis of the development of the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan in terms of objective realities and take adequate measures;
- In line with the transition of economic reforms in Azerbaijan to a new stage, the need to develop new mechanisms for solving the problems of development of the non-oil sector;
- Improvement or renewal of state support mechanisms for the development of the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan in accordance with global economic trends is delayed;
- A deeper analysis and assessment of the export activity of this sector is required for a more realistic assessment of the specifics of the export potential of the oil sector in Azerbaijan;
- Measures to study the impact of innovation-investment activity on the export potential of Azerbaijan's non-oil sector, expand pro-innovation economic mechanisms in this area, and deepen the use of digital technologies are being postponed;
- There is a demand to improve the legal framework and increase the effectiveness of regulatory measures to realize the export potential of the non-oil sector;
- Reassessing the capabilities of the logistics and trade system, improving customs tariff regulations and state support mechanisms to increase the export potential of the non-oil sector is important;

 In the post-pandemic context and taking into account the capabilities of the liberated territories, new directions for developing the export potential of the non-oil sector need to be identified, etc.

The scientific novelty of research consist of:

- A modern scientific-theoretical perspective and approaches to the problems of development of the non-oil sector and the processes of formation of non-oil exports in approaching global transformations have been formed and defined;
- Taking into account the objective realities of the current period, the substantiation of the priorities, directions and objectives of development of the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan was presented and a block diagram was developed;
- The main features of development of the export potential of the non-oil sector in modern times in accordance with the development priorities and strategic objectives of the national economy were systematized;
- The current state of the non-oil sector areas of Azerbaijan was analyzed, the SWOT analysis of the situation assessment of the development problems of these areas was carried out and the potential of the non-oil sector and prospects for its further development in modern conditions were assessed;
- In order to reduce the dependence of the economy on oil, a
 justified algorithm of state regulation mechanisms in raising the
 development of the non-oil sector to a new stage is given;
- Taking into account global threats, internal and external factors, a block diagram of factors and measures hindering the growth of the export potential of non-oil sector areas in Azerbaijan was developed;
- In the context of global challenges and based on the assessment of the existing potential, a block diagram of the impact of the new vector of economic export potential on strengthening the functional activity of all structures of the economy was developed;

- In the dynamics of the foreign trade circulation of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the principles of evaluating the export activity of the non-oil sector areas have been determined by approaching from the structure of import and export, the researches related to the export potential;
- The classification of factors shaping and conditioning the export potential of the non-oil sector has been carried out and a working block of state support mechanisms for the organization of effective use of the export potential of the non-oil sector was prepared;
- Based on the current state of innovation-investment activity in the non-oil sector and productivity problems in this area, a block diagram of productivity problems of innovationinvestment activity in the non-oil sector and approaches to their solution was developed;
- The problems of expanding the application of innovationoriented economic mechanisms in increasing the export potential of the non-oil sector areas were described, the main directions of the influence of technoparks in increasing the export potential in this area and at the regional level were identified;
- Given the problems of expanding the application of digital technologies in increasing the export potential of the non-oil sector, a block diagram of instructions for the effective organization of the use of digital technologies in the development of export potential was prepared;
- The importance of expanding the activities of the logistics and trade system to increase the export potential of the non-oil sector in accordance with the requirements of the modern era, the need to maximally improve customs tariff regulation and state support mechanisms for the development of export potential was substantiated;
- Directions for the development of the export potential of the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan were identified, taking into account

the post-pandemic factors and the goals of revitalization of the liberated territories.

The theoretical and practical significance of the research. The scientific results, mechanisms, proposals and recommendations of the research work can be used to adapt the development of the non-oil sector in our country to global challenges and the requirements of new conditions. They can also be used in the preparation of targeted state programs and a set of measures, action strategies and mechanisms, as well as in the implementation of regulatory and remedial measures from the socio-economic aspects of this area. At the same time, it can be useful to use mechanisms, criteria, methodological approaches, and recommendations and proposals in the implementation of investmentinnovation projects for the development of the non-oil sector and increasing its export potential.

Furthermore, the scientific-theoretical provisions and materials of the dissertation can be used in higher schools with an economic profile in the teaching of subjects such as "Economy of Azerbaijan", "Regulation of the Economy", "Investment-Innovation Policy of the State", "Regulation of socio-economic development of regions", "Management", "Economy and management of industrial areas", "Innovation management".

Approval and implementation. The topic of the dissertation was discussed and approved in scientific seminars, which, in accordance with the general direction of scientific research work of the Azerbaijan State University of Economics, constantly functioned as topical problems in the conditions of the new economic crisis.

The applicant's 37 articles and theses (23 articles and 14 theses) on the subject of the dissertation have been published in reputable domestic and foreign journals recommended by the Higher Attestation Commission. Theses, which contain the main provisions of the research, are: "The situation and ways of expanding foreign investments in the non-oil sectors of Azerbaijan's economy" at the "X Republican Scientific Conference of postgraduates and young researchers" (2005), "The role of foreign economic relations in the

strengthening of national statehood in the country" at the Scientific-Practical Conference dedicated to the conclusion of the budgetary scientific-research works carried out in 2007 at the Azerbaijan State University of Economics (2008), "Socio-Economic problems of the non-oil sector in modern condition" at the 37th International Scientific Conference on "Economic and social development socio economic problems of sustainable development" (2019) (co-authored with A.S. Shakaraliyev), "Issues of development of socio-economic policy in accordance with the requirements of the modern era" at the Republican Scientific Conference on "Development prospects of Azerbaijan's nonoil sector" (2019), "Strategic role of logistics infrastructure in strengthening non-oil export potential" at the Republican Scientific Conference (Sumgait State University) on "The role of Azerbaijan's transit potential in economic development" (2020), "Heydar Aliyev is the founder of Azerbaijan's economic development strategy" at the Republican Scientific-Practical Conference dedicated to the 98th anniversary of the birth of national leader Heydar Aliyev (2021), "Increasing the export potential of the non-oil sector and its role in the development of the economy of Azerbaijan" at the II International scientific and practical conference on "Global Approach to Scientific Research" (2021), "Problems of strengthening the export potential of the non-oil sector of Azerbaijan under global challenges" at the IX International Scientific and Practical Conference on "Development of science and practice in a globally changing world under risks" (2022) and "Development and assessment of Azerbaijan's non-oil sector|" at the II International scientific conference on "Reconstruction and recovery in post-conflict situations".

In addition, the candidate's articles entitled "Foreign investments and ways of increasing the efficiency of their use" (2003), "Ways of increasing the efficiency of the use of economic resources in Azerbaijan" (2018), "Directions for improving the regulation of the use of export potential in the non-oil sector" (2019), "Development trends and diversification of the Azerbaijani economy" (2019), "Tax aspects in the efficiency of using the export potential of the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan" (2020), "Non-oil sector

during the pandemic and diversification of the oil sector" (2021), "Investment in the non-oil sector and its regulation" (2021), "Current problems and issues of the development of the export potential of the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan" (2022), "Increasing the non-oil export potential in Azerbaijan strategic aspects of the logistics-trade system" (2022), "Importance of strengthening the export of non-oil products to Azerbaijan in modern conditions" (2022), "Analysis on the export potential in Azerbaijan beyond Oil Sector" (2023), "The role of the logistics system in the development of the economy in modern conditions increase" (2023) were published.

The institution where the dissertation was accomplished. The dissertation work has been carried out at Azerbaijan State University of Economics.

The total volume of the dissertation. The total volume of the dissertation, including cover and table of contents (4055 characters), introduction (20549 characters), chapter I (99321 characters), chapter II (59754 characters), chapter III (46268 characters), chapter IV (84593 characters), chapter V (78508 characters), conclusion (24692 characters) and list of references (41407 characters), is 478824 characters. The research paper consists of 421156 characters, excluding tables, figures and the list of references.

STRUCTURE OF THE DISSERTATION

Introduction

CHAPTER I. Theoretical and conceptual basis of the development of the non-oil sector and the formation of its export potential.

Conceptual approaches to socio-economic aspects of the non-oil sector.

Key features of the development of the export potential of the non-oil sector.

International experience in the development of non-oil-oriented sectors in increasing their export potential.

CHAPTER II. Macroeconomic analysis and evaluation of the development of the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan.

- 2.1. Development dynamics and macroeconomic analysis of the non-oil sector.
- 2.2. Explanation and assessment of development problems of non-oil sector areas in the conditions of economic reforms and structural changes.
- 2.3. Mechanisms of state support in raising the development of the non-oil sector to a new stage.

CHAPTER III. Features of the development of export potential of the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan and the current situation.

- 3.1. Formation of export potential in the non-oil sector areas in the country and studying the peculiarities of its development.
- 3.2. Analysis and evaluation of export activities of non-oil sector areas.
- 3.3. Problems of efficient use of export potential of the non-oil sector in the period of new challenges.

CHAPTER IV. Organizational and economic mechanisms for the use of innovations and high technologies in increasing the export potential of the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan.

- 4.1. Problems of efficiency of innovation-investment activities in the non-oil sector and analysis of the situation in this area.
- 4.2. Problems of expanding the application of pro-innovation economic mechanisms in increasing the export potential of the non-oil sector.
- 4.3. The importance of using digital technologies in increasing the export potential of the non-oil sector.

CHAPTER V. Directions for strengthening the development of the export potential of the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan.

- 5.1. Issues of strengthening the legal base and export potential of the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan.
- 5.2. Ways of regulating the logistics-trade system and customs-tariff mechanisms in increasing the export potential of the non-oil sector.
- 5.3. Directions for strengthening the export potential of the non-oil sector in the context of pandemic and post-conflict areas.

Conclusion.

List of references.

REVIEW MATERIALS ON THE SCIENTIFIC PROVISIONS OF THE DISSERTATION

1. In the conditions of new challenges, the creation of modern conceptual approaches to ensuring the development of the non-oil sector and increasing its export potential is an inevitable process.

In economics, efficiency problems of the economy in general and issues of organization of economic processes within the framework of national economic interests are of great importance. In addition, the study of the peculiarities of the development of the nonoil sector and the consideration of these issues from a socio-economic point of view requires the study of multifaceted problems, their systematization and determination of the relevant sphere of influence, as well as drawing conclusions by approaching from the general point of view the realities of the modern era. However, for this, it is also important to compare and review current problems based on the essence and basic provisions of classical economic theories. Adam Smith, the founder of classical economic theory, in his work "The Wealth of Nations", drew attention to the importance of the efficient use of national resources and wealth, considered it important to direct the use of available resources in the name of the welfare of the people and emphasized the importance of this responsibility of states and the problems of intervention in economic processes. At the same time, more attention was paid to the issues of effectively regulating the flow of available resources, including capital and goods, raw material resources, and ensuring the optimal use of productive forces¹. In the approaches of the world's leading economists P.E.Samuelson and V.D.Nordhaus, market relations in the economy, including statemarket relations, demand and supply factors, as well as socioeconomic problems and economic growth issues macroeconomic level, were especially focused on². In addition, the evaluation of superior factors in various areas of the economy and the

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¹Смит, А. Исследование о природе и причинах богатства народов. Издательская группа ЭКСМО, 2019. –С. 249.

²Самуэльсон, Пол Э., Нордхаус, Вилиам Д. Экономика: Пер. с англ. – Москва: ООО «И.Д. Вилиямс», 2012.–С. 147.

maximum and efficient use of economic resources are considered as important conditions. For instance, M. Porter believed that "systematic and planned measures should be taken to effectively utilize the existing potential of economic sectors and their superior determinants" ³. Nobel laureate P.R. Krugman noted that in ensuring the development of the country's economy, it is important to evaluate the trade factor, especially the concept of foreign trade, at a high level: "Trade and foreign trade factors perform multiplicative functions in the diversification of the national economy and the development of individual economic sectors" ⁴.

The development of the non-oil sector is capable of stimulating the solution of socio-economic problems while strengthening the country's economic potential. Diversification of the economy is ensured by increasing the efficiency of economic processes and developing the non-oil sector. Professors A.J. Muradov and E.R. Baghirzadeh rightly write: "Faced with the problems in the Azerbaijani economy after the sharp decline in oil prices since the summer of 2014, the government announced that the economy has entered the post-oil era and economic growth will be based mainly on the non-oil sector" 5. We also believe that it is possible to make additional contributions to the growth of the country's economy through the development of the non-oil sector and especially by increasing its export potential. The visualization and evaluation of the development processes of the non-oil sector in terms of today's realities reflect systematic approaches. In this regard, at the state level there are target programs of one or another format related to conceptual approaches in most directions, strategic road maps taking into account the potential of the regions, as well as known approaches to socio-economic development of the regions. Professors I.M.

³Porter, M.E. The five competitive forces that shape strategy // - Harvard: Harvard business review, - 2008, 86 (1), - P. 84.

⁴Krugman, P.R. Development, Geography and Economic Theory. The MİT Press. Cambridge, Massachusetts London, England. 1995. –P. 37.

⁵Muradov, Ə.C., Bağırzadə, E.R. Azərbaycan iqtisadiyyatı: infoqrafika, Şərq-Qərb Nəşriyyatı, – Bakı, 2021.– s.18.

Abbasov and T.N. Aliyev focused more on the potential of the nonoil sector and its socio-economic aspects⁶. Such approaches and conceptual views are based on reducing the dependence of the country's economy on the oil factor, as well as diversifying the structure of the national economy adequately to global pressures and influences. In addition, one of the main goals is to accelerate and increase the efficiency of socio-economic development processes in the country as a whole.

We would like to express our views on a number of issues by examining and assessing the socio-economic aspects of the non-oil sector from modern global challenges (see Figure 1).

Based on the main development priorities, action directions and goals of near-term importance given in Figure 1, in the current conditions, as well as in an era formed by the global impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the role and importance of the non-oil sector in our country is increasing significantly. This is primarily due to the fact that the country's demand for foreign currency resources and the problems of financial stability, the formation of the necessary resources for macroeconomic balance and the strengthening of financial security are becoming more prominent.

2. In the context of global economic transformations, there is a need to study and identify new features of the development of the export potential of the non-oil sector.

Measures to improve the regulation of the use of export potential in the non-oil sector are being expanded. In order to provide an objective analysis and evaluation of the export potential of the country's non-oil sector in the modern era, the dynamics of foreign trade turnover, the share of this sector in foreign trade and its export structure should be the main object of research. It is necessary to consider additional measures related to the improvement of the traditional state mechanisms for stimulating the export potential and determining the priorities for the expansion of the export structure.

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⁶Abbasov, İ.M., Əliyev T.N. Qeyri-neft sənayesinin iqtisadiyyatı. – Bakı: "Elm və Təhsil", – 2017. – S. 4.

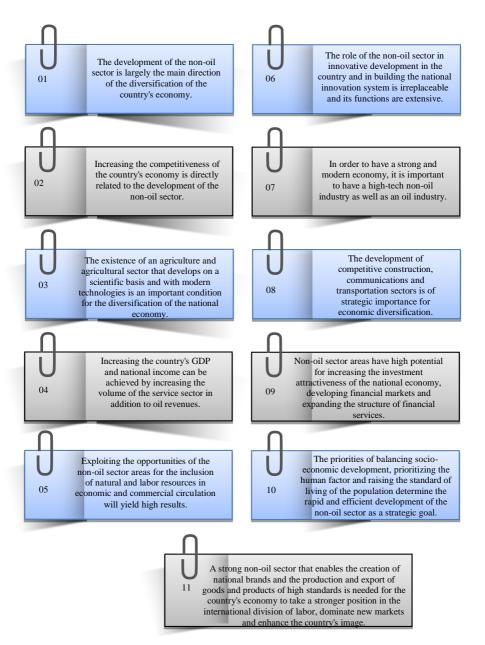


Figure 1. Block diagram of development priorities of non-oil sector areas in Azerbaijan (Source: Developed by the author)

We have developed a block diagram of the main features and principles of the development of the export potential of the non-oil sector, taking into account modern development directions and global influences, as shown in Figure 2.

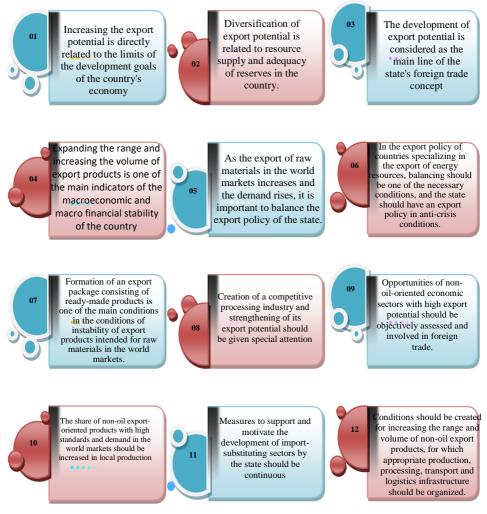


Figure 2. Block diagram of the main features and principles of the development of the export potential of the non-oil sector (Source: Developed by the author).

We believe that the development of non-oil-oriented economic sectors in our country has been achieved based on the formation of the national economic development model, but it is important to further improve this model and increase the efficiency of the export-oriented direction. A significant part of our country's export potential - more than 90% - is still related to oil and oil products - mineral fuel products. Therefore, in the structure of the country's exports, there is a need to effectively use all opportunities to increase the range and volume of non-oil-oriented export products.

3. There is a need for a more in-depth study of international experience on the development of non-oil based economic sectors in oil producing countries.

In many countries of the world, underground resources, especially oil and gas, are limited or not produced. But in some countries of the world, it was possible to increase the export potential at a high level. Due to fundamental studies on the export potential of non-oil fields and the effective organization of activities in this field, significant achievements have been made in increasing the export potential in many countries around the world.

While the oil and gas factor is one of the main reasons why we wanted to look at Saudi Arabia's economic development model as a world experience, another important factor is related to the level of development of the petrochemical complex, that is, a non-oil sector with high potential. To this end, we thought it was important to look at the production potential of petrochemical products in Saudi Arabia. First of all, we can say that public and private companies operate in this sector with the same activity. In other words, while the petrochemical sector has achieved significant development through the establishment of large companies by the state, it is noteworthy that foreign investors are actively invited to these fields. 100s of billions of dollars have been invested in petrochemical projects through 2 giant petrochemical companies, SABIC and Saudi Aramco. As a result, the average annual production of petrochemical products has reached 60-70 million tons. Japanese and Chinese investors are

also quite active in Saudi Arabia's petrochemical market and are making large investments worth 10 billion. We were interested in the characteristics of the economic development processes of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), another Asian country whose economy is based on oil, the country's achievements and approaches to the creation of an economic development model. The similarities between some features of the UAE and the economic development processes of our country are also striking.

In the post-Soviet countries of Russia and Kazakhstan, emphasis is placed on deepening the processing of oil and gas raw materials, and the activity of domestic and foreign companies in this field is quite high. The creation of large petrochemical complexes in different regions of Russia, as well as the focus on the organization of industrial clusters in this direction, has enabled the production of more competitive and export-oriented industrial products ⁷. In Kazakhstan, the state has strategic approaches to the creation of a network of oil and gas processing enterprises by foreign investors.

4. According to the macroeconomic analysis of the development of the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan, it is necessary to make an assessment in terms of objective facts and take adequate measures.

In Table 1, a number of indicators in the non-oil sector of Azerbaijan for 2015-2022 years are given.

According to the analysis of the data in Table 1, in 2015-2022, the added value in the non-oil sector increased by 85.1%, and this increase was related to the increase in product production in the non-oil industry. So, during that period, the increase in this area was 2.3 times.

⁷Хорохордин, А.Е Стратегия развития современных нефтехимических комплексов, мировой опыт и возможности для России. Дисс. к.э.н. Москва: – 2014. –C. 71.

Table 1 A number of indicators in the non-oil sector of Azerbaijan for 2015-2022

Indicators	2015	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	
Value added in the non-oil sector, billion manats	37,7	44,1	46,7	50,4	50,8	62,2	69,8	
Specific weight of value added in the non-oil sector in GDP, in %	69,3	62,8	58,5	61,7	70,1	66,7	52,2	
The share of the non-oil industry in the added value in the non-oil sector, in %	8,2	7,0	7,1	12,5	8,5	8,9	9,3	
Production in the non-oil industry, million manats	7660,3	9484,8	10047,9	11321,7	11681,0	15457,2	17576,4	
including: Compared to the previous year, in %	8,4	3,7	9,1	18,6	3,17	18,9	7,1	

Source: Ministry of Economy of th Republic of Azerbaijan - https://www.economy.gov.az

Figure 3 shows the structure of total production of the non-oil industry in Azerbaijan.

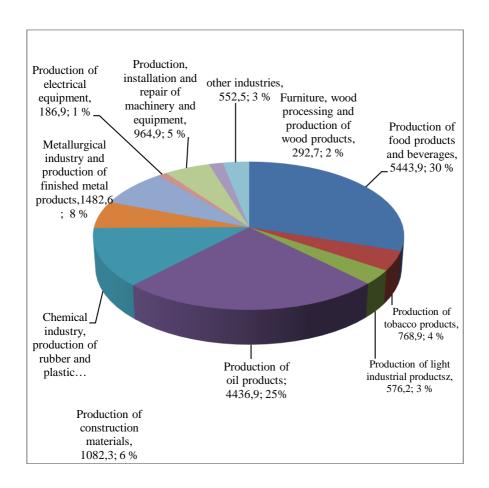


Figure 3. The structure of the total output of the non-oil industry in Azerbaijan in 2022, in million manats and percentage. Source: Developed based on the data of SSCRA – https://www.stat.gov.az/

According to Figure 3, the share of food and beverage production in the total output of the non-oil industry is 30.0%. But in this structure, there are still high possibilities of intensifying the development of the chemical industry, production of rubber and plastic mass products, as well as the metallurgical industry, which have a strong potential. The possibilities of light industry are poorly

used. We believe that a "construction boom" will soon take place in the liberated territories. There is a great potential for the growth of the production volume of construction materials and their share in the non-oil industry.

Figure 4 Shows the dynamics of manufacturing industry output in Azerbaijan in 2010-2022. In 2022, compared to 2019, the growth rate intensified and amounted to 53.6%.

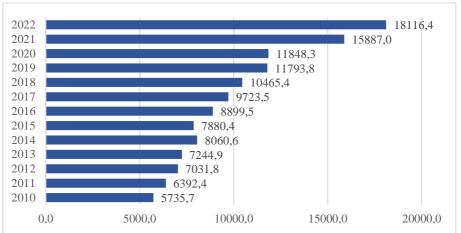


Figure 4. The dynamics of the manufacturing industry product in Azerbaijan in 2010-2022, in billion manats. Source: Developed based on the data of SSCRA – https://www.stat.gov.az/

5. With the economic reforms in Azerbaijan entering a new phase, the need to develop new mechanisms for solving the development problems of the non-oil sector has emerged.

The effective organization of economic reforms and the achievement of the expected results always determine the optimality of the state policy in this area, the reality of the set goals and the efficiency of the implemented tools of the action program. Based on the main criteria, development characteristics, current potential and future prospects of the non-oil sector, we conducted a SWOT (Strengths; Weaknesses; Opportunities; Threats) analysis of this sector (Table 2).

Table 2 SWOT analysis of development problems and assessment of the state of Azerbaijan's non-oil sector

Azerbaijan's ne						
Strengths	Weaknesses					
 Conceptual approaches to the development of the non-oil sector have been established; There are targeted government programs and strategic roadmaps in this sector; A strong network of material and technical infrastructure and infrastructure for sustainable and dynamic development of the sector has been created; It is possible to expand various processing areas along the production chain; Strong support mechanisms for the development of the sector have been identified by the state; Development of the non-oil sector is a priority in the country's major cities as well as in the regions. 	 Various areas of the non-oil sector need a modern and high-tech development model; There are few alternative sources of financing mechanisms for the sector; The experience of non-oil sector organizations in the regions in management and in entering foreign markets is weak; The study and application of world experience, which allows for intensive development of various areas of the sector, is slow; The competitiveness of the sector is not so high, etc. 					
Opportunities	Threats					
 The non-oil sector has great potential to create added value; The sector has the characteristics of self-development; Various non-oil sector areas have sufficient reserves of raw materials for the establishment of new processing plants; In different regions of the country it is possible to create non-oil processing-industrial clusters and complexes based on ore and non-ore deposits; Most of the resources to ensure the development of the non-oil sector are available - natural, economic and human resources, etc. 	 There are still problems with actively attracting foreign investment in the non-oil sector; The expected results of state support mechanisms, subsidies and subsidies provided for many years are not at the envisaged level; The level and results of effective use of the existing potential and opportunities of non-oil sector areas are not sufficient in terms of investments and available resources; Judging by the current pace of development of the non-oil sector, for many years to come the oil and gas industry will provide the basis of the economy, the source of income and a significant share of taxes. 					

Soure: SWOT analyze conducted by the author

It should be ensured that the problems of the non-oil sector are solved faster and they move to a new stage of development through productive mechanisms. Moreover, mobilizing the potential of various areas of the non-oil sector, especially areas that are currently inefficiently used, and including them in the economic, commercial, and financial circulation would allow for the formation of more alternative economic growth and financial sources. For instance, despite the strong raw material base of the light industry in Turkey, the final product structure and volume in this field is quite low. It is important to regulate the problems in this field and to create competitive enterprises based on new technology related to the development of the field. In order to increase the competitiveness of textile industry enterprises, more attention should be paid to the solution of a number of problems.

6. Improvement or renewal of state support mechanisms for the development of the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan is delayed in line with global economic trends.

In Azerbaijan, state programs on the development of the non-oil sector have been adopted on an ongoing basis and serious attention has been paid to the development of various areas of the non-oil sector on the basis of other identified state programs. Currently, the "State Program on Socio-Economic Development of the Regions of the Republic of Azerbaijan in 2019-2023", approved by the Decree of the President of the Republic dated January 29, 2019, is being implemented¹⁰. In this program, the main directions of activity include expanding the structure of the country's economy, developing non-oil sector areas, forming new sources of added value through

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⁸Həsənov, H.S. Keçid dövründə iri sahibkarlıq qurumlarının formalaşması və inkişaf problemləri. İ.e.d. Avtoreferatı. Bakı, 2010.–S. 4.

⁹Məmmədova, X.F. Azərbaycan Respublikasında toxuculuq sənayesi müəssisələrinin rəqabət qabiliyyətinin yüksəldilməsi yolları. İ.e.f.d. Avtoreferatı. / Bakı, 2016. – S. 22.

Azərbaycan Respublikası regionlarının 2019-2023-cü illərdə sosial-iqtisadi inkişafı Dövlət Proqramı. / – Azərbaycan Respublikasının Prezidentinin 29 yanvar 2019-cu il tarixli Sərəncamı ilə təsdiq edilmişdir.

efficient use of existing resources in the regions, creating a network of competitive enterprises, strengthening the economic activity of the regions and achieving more production and increasing non-oil exports is of great importance.

From the perspective of modern realities and in the context of current challenges, a block diagram of the state policy and regulatory mechanisms to elevate the development of the non-oil sector to a new stage can be illustrated in Figure 5.

Judging from the algorithm shown in Figure 5, in the near future the role of state support and regulatory mechanisms in moving the non-oil sector to a new stage of development in our country and significantly increasing non-oil exports will remain relevant.

7. For a more realistic assessment of the specifics of the export potential of the oil and gas sector in Azerbaijan, a deeper analysis and evaluation of the export activity of this sector is required.

The issues of increasing the export opportunities of the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan, the realization of the export potential within the projected and export opportunities are very topical and let's admit that there are untapped resources in this field. For instance, even under the former USSR, Azerbaijan had a strong production base and export capacity in many heavy industries. However, the processes of revitalization and modernization of these areas based on high technologies in the period after the restoration of independence have not been completed so far, and systematic measures have not yet begun in many areas.

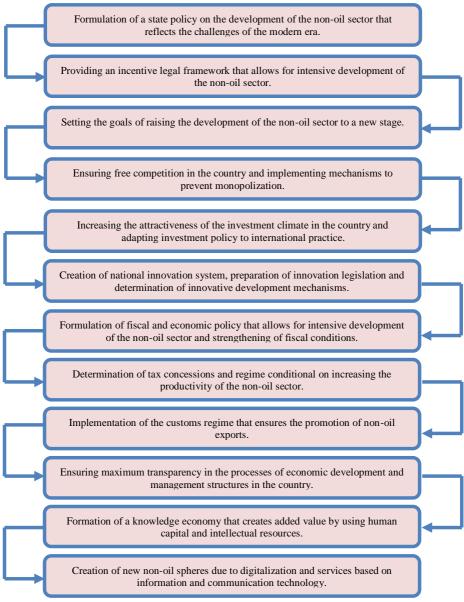


Figure 5. Algorithm - block diagram of the state policy and regulatory mechanisms in raising the development of the non-oil sector to a new stage (Source: Developed by the author).

The new economic export vector of global challenges plays an important role in restoring the functional activity of all structures and is reflected in Figure 6.

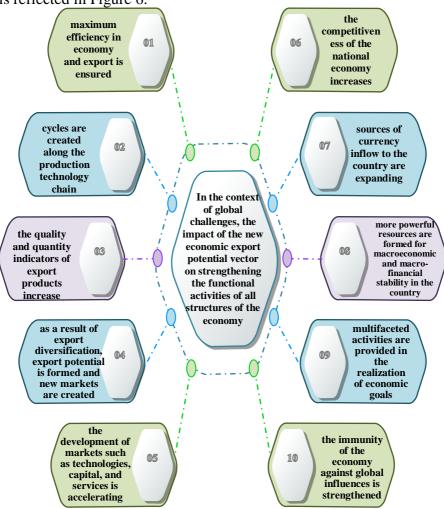


Figure 6. Block diagram of the impact of the new economic export potential vector on strengthening the functional activities of all

structures of the economy in the context of global challenges (Source: Developed by the author).

The factors and approaches related to the export potential given in Figure 6 are concluded not only by diversifying the activities of the national economy and increasing its stability, but also by expanding the export potential, the geography and efficiency of our country's foreign economic relations are significantly increased.

In 2022, the total trade turnover was 52.69 billion US dollars, which is 58.3% more than in 2019. The volume of import in 2022 was 14.5 billion, and export was at the level of 38.1 billion dollars, and the positive balance was 23.6 billion US dollars.

In Figure 7, we have analyzed the dynamics of foreign trade turnover in the Republic of Azerbaijan for 2010-2022.

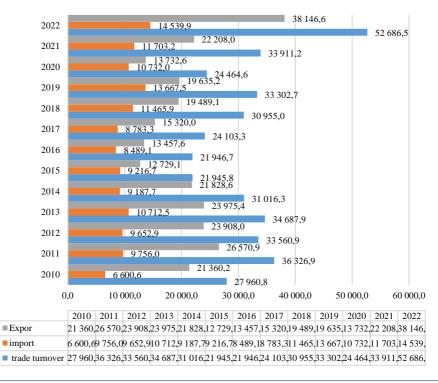


Figure 7. Dynamics of foreign trade turnover in the Republic of

Azerbaijan, billion US. Source: Developed based on the data of SSCRA by the author

According to the analysis of the data in Figure 7, the total trade turnover was unstable during the period 2010-2022. These are primarily related to changes in world market prices of oil, which is the main export product. During periods of high oil prices, exports have increased many times. For example, while the volume of exports in 2011 was 34.4 billion dollars, this indicator was 16.6 billion dollars in 2015, 19.5 billion dollars in 2019, and 38.1 billion dollars in 2022. The volume of imports almost doubled in 2010-2022 and reached 14.5 billion US dollars at the end of 2022.

Figure 8 shows the structure of exports in the Republic of Azerbaijan according to the International Standard Trade Classification for 2022.

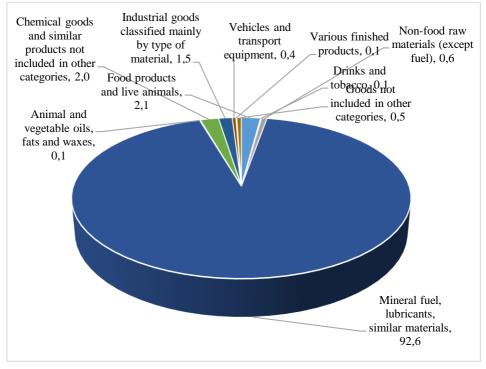


Figure 8. The structure of exports in the Republic of Azerbaijan according to the International Standard Trade Classification for 2022, in %. Source: Developed by the author based on the data of SSCRA.

According to the analysis of Figure 8, mineral resources have the main share in the structure of exports by the end of 2022, and this indicator is equal to 92.6%. The importance of productive use of the potential of non-oil export products is obvious and more effective measures are required in this field in the coming years. Considering the rich natural resource potential of our country, it is of great importance to thoroughly investigate the existing opportunities in our country and to set realistic export targets for the diversification of construction materials exports in the regions. We also believe that there is a strong potential in our country in terms of the production of new types of petrochemical products and, in particular, the organization of the production of export-oriented products that are in high demand in the world markets, and the increase of the production volume and their introduction to the world markets.

8. Measures to study the impact of innovation-investment activities in the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan on the export potential and expand pro-innovation economic mechanisms in this area, deepen the use of digital technologies postponed.

Renewal of existing mechanisms and traditional activities in the non-oil sector at the expense of innovation-investment activities, transferring them to a more efficient level, increasing the volume of export-oriented and competitive products are among the main issues in the near future. The implementation of such processes on the basis of the implementation of the national innovation system is a priority in the countries of the world¹¹. Organizing innovation-investment activities in the non-oil sector in the most efficient way is one of the important conditions, and for this purpose, necessary measures should be taken to develop innovation and technology markets, raise the level of education and ensure effective use of intellectual resources.

¹¹ Əliyev, Ş.T. Xüsusi iqtisadi zonaların tətbiqi problemləri. Bakı: Azərbaycan Respublikasının Prezidenti yanında Elmin İnkişafı Fondu, 2012. –S. 94.

In this direction, new technology parks and industrial parks created in the country are of great importance. In Sumgait, for instance, the technopark is successfully operating and the number of residents in the Sumgait Chemical Industrial Park has already reached 36. Industrial parks have also been launched in Garadagh, Balakhani and Pirallahi.

Figure 9 analyzes the dynamics of investments directed to the economy from all sources in Azerbaijan in 2010-2022. The total volume of investments declined from 2014, continued to be unstable in 2016-2022, and in 2022 an increase of about 15 percent was recorded compared to 2021.

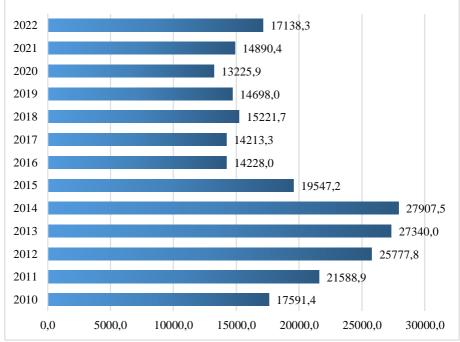


Figure 9. Investments directed to the economy from all sources in Azerbaijan,

2010-2022, billion US dollars. Source: Prepared by the author based on the data of SSCRA – https://www.stat.gov.az/.

Table 3 shows the volume of innovation products that underwent significant changes or were newly implemented in Azerbaijan in 2010-2022 by type of economic activity.

Table 3
The volume of innovative products that underwent significant changes or were newly implemented in Azerbaijan in 2010-2022 by type of economic activity, in thousand manats

Types of	2010	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
economic activity Industry - total	4384	929,7	35747	14777	28952,2	21698,1	11759,7	60977,2	72826,9
Mining industry	4364	929,7	129,6	14///	215,3	2495,7	2415,5	2843,4	3972,1
Willing moustry	-	-	129,0	-	213,3	2493,1	2413,3	2043,4	3972,1
The	4384	929,7	35617	14777	28736,9	19202,4	9344,2	58133,8	68854,8
manufacturing									
industry, of which									
Production of food			402,5	590	831,2	328,0	-	3859,2	7307,3
products		750	41.5						
Beverage production		758	41,5	-	-	-			
Textile industry			12844	_	_	_	2121,3	_	
Textile illustry			12044	-	_	-	2121,3	-	-
Clothing industry			5213	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chemical industry		13,4	522,4	1705	55,0	-	-	-	-
Production of			171,3	-	-	-	-	-	-
rubber and plastic									
products									
Production of			6586	-		-	-	-	-
construction materials									
Metallurgical			500	2176	7690,0	12560,0	2436,7	53035,2	61000,
industry			300	2170	700,0	12300,0	2430,7	33033,2	0
Manufacture of	1788		9113	_	_	_	_	_	-
finished metal			,						
products, except									
machinery and									
equipment									
Manufacture of				9990	19937,9	6073,2	4742,0	1239,4	547,5
computers and									
other electronic									
equipment Production of	1262	158,3	174,9	216	222,8	241,2	44,2	_	
machinery and	1202	130,3	1/4,9	210	222,8	241,2	44,2	-	-
equipment									
furniture	22,7			-	-	_	_	_	_
manufacturing	,,								
Installation and	1311			-	-	-	-	-	-
repair of									

machinery and					
equipment					

Source: Prepared by the author based on the data of SSCRA – https://www.stat.gov.az/.

According to Table 3, the volume of innovation output in Azerbaijan is quite low, and there is no data reflecting the innovation potential of a group of areas of the non-oil sector that differ in terms of innovation potential, that is, activity is still absent or negligible. Relative activity in 2021-2022 is noteworthy. In our opinion, taking into account the priority objectives of the recovered territories in the coming years, the processes of development of new innovations, adoption and implementation of high technologies will intensify.

Based on the research materials, it is possible to predict that in the near future in our country the application of pro-innovation economic mechanisms in increasing the export potential of the non-oil sector will become widespread. Taking this into account, we tried to put forward our views and opinions on the problems that hinder the increase of non-oil exports in this direction and the widespread application of pro-innovation economic mechanisms. These are reflected in Figure 10.

In our opinion, it is possible to accelerate the formation of a national innovation system in our country in the coming years. To this end, it is important to first deeply research the problems presented in Figure 10, take adequate measures, improve the legislative framework and tax mechanism, develop a strategy for increasing the export potential of the non-oil sector that meets the challenges of the modern era, and develop and implement innovation-oriented economic mechanisms in a more flexible and intensive manner.

"Azerbaijan 2030: National Priorities for Socio-economic Development", approved by the Presidential Decree of February 2, 2021, draws attention to the development of digital technologies,

expansion of electrification and emphasis on the application of "smart" technologies as priority approaches of strategic importance¹².

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¹²Azərbaycan 2030: sosial-iqtisadi inkişafa dair Milli Prioritetlər. / – Azərbaycan Respublikası Prezidentinin 2021-ci il 2 fevral tarixli Sərəncamı ilə təsdiq edilmişdir: [Elektron resurs] / URL: https://president.az/articles/50474.

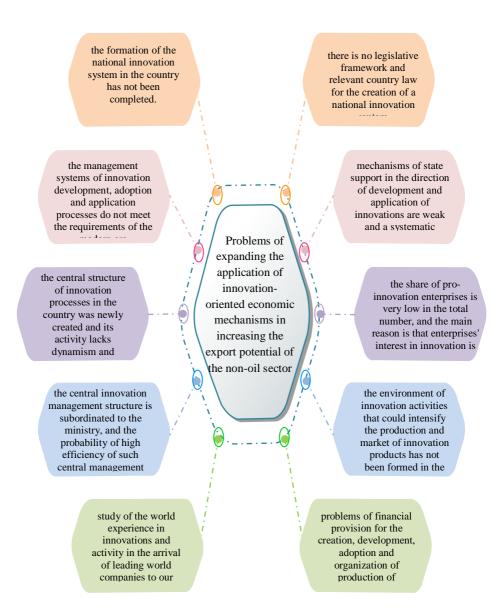


Figure 10. Problems of expanding the application of innovationoriented economic mechanisms in increasing the export potential of the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan (Source: Developed by the author).

Figure 11 shows the dynamics of the products and service launch in the ICT sector in Azerbaijan in 2005-2022.

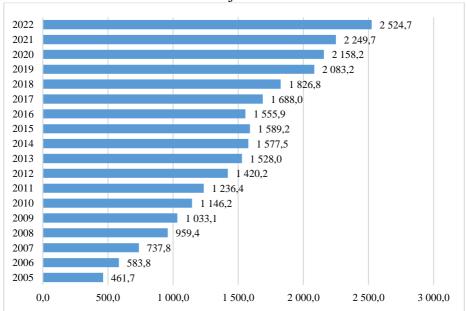


Figure 11. Product (service) launch in the ICT sector of the Republic of Azerbaijan, million manats, 2005-2022 (Developed by the author based on the data of SSCRA -

https://www.stat.gov.az/source/information_society/).

According to Figure 11, during the period 2005-2022, the production in the ICT sector increased by almost 5.5 times. This indicator was 462 million manats in 2005, and it will be 2.5 billion manats in 2022.

9. Revaluation of logistics and trade system capabilities, customs tariff regulation and improvement of state support mechanisms has a great importance in nncreasing the export potential of the non-oil sector.

The realities of the pandemic proved that despite the global nature of the processes at the world level, in anti-crisis conditions, the countries of the world do not even hesitate to take the necessary steps in the context of national interests and national security. Borders are closed, restrictions are imposed and vehicle movements are minimized.

The "Customs Code", "Law on Customs Tariff" applied in the Republic of Azerbaijan, as well as laws, decisions and regulations adopted by the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Cabinet of Ministers on the law on the transfer of goods across the border and the rates of customs duties on export-import operations, the amount of fees received for customs clearance form the legislative base for the implementation of economic regulation, which includes tariff and non-tariff regulations ¹³. According to the application direction of customs legislation used in foreign trade relations: 1) import; 2) export and 3) transit regulations. Therefore, the directions of crossing the customs border of goods in foreign trade relations are: 1) import; 2) export and 3) transit. Moreover, the realization of international trade relations under globalization conditions brings more tariff regulations than non-tariff regulations. Tariffs applied during foreign trade transactions need to be distinguished from domestic tariff regulations. Given that foreign trade relations are under the direct responsibility of customs administrations, they consider it more like customs-tariff regulation in international trade relations.

10. In the post-pandemic context and taking into account the capabilities of the liberated territories, new directions for developing the export potential of the non-oil sector need to be identified.

As the research for the dissertation intensified, we experienced the historic Great Karabakh Victory and began to look at the priorities of economic development in our country from a new perspective. Changes in economic regionalization and the creation of the Karabakh and Eastern Zangazur economic zones should be considered as new development drivers to strengthen the non-oil

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¹³Azərbaycan Respublikasının Gömrük Məcəlləsi: [Elektron resurs] / URL: http://e-qanun.az/framework/46957.

sector and export potential¹⁴. Large-scale restoration and revitalization measures are carried out in the liberated territories, a social and production infrastructure network is formed and industrial parks and free economic zones are created.

The processes of expanding the range of export-oriented industrial products and increasing the production volume do not reflect the existing potential. In these directions, there is a need to take more measures in order to attract the potential of our country to the cycle of foreign trade activities and increase the export potential. It is known that in recent years, the structure of food products, as well as agricultural products in general, in the structure of exports has expanded and the volume is increasing. At the same time, there is a need to strengthen food safety measures in the country, to reduce dependence on imports in this area, and in connection with this, to create a wider network of export-oriented food processing industrial complexes. These measures can play an important role in increasing the export potential of the non-oil sector. Despite the presence of traditional textile enterprises in Azerbaijan, the current situation in this field is quite weak. Because the product production of the field is insignificant and there is a sufficient need for the production of textiles, leather and leather products, shoes in the country, and in the conditions of the existence of the local raw material base and the possibility of obtaining semi-finished products in this field, unfortunately, stagnation in the development of these fields continues or the existing potentials are underutilized, is being In this area, the development potential of sericulture should be taken into account and its export opportunities should be evaluated more objectively. We believe that at least the textile companies of a number of countries that have strategic cooperation relations with Azerbaijan, including Italy, Turkey, and Pakistan, should be attracted to our country, it is possible to establish joint ventures, organize the activities of exportoriented textile companies, and there are real opportunities for this.

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Azərbaycan Respublikasında iqtisadi rayonların yeni bölgüsü haqqında Azərbaycan Respublikası Prezidentinin Fərmanı. Bakı şəhəri, 7 iyul 2021-ci il.

Taking into account that the investment environment is also favorable and there are state support mechanisms for the development of these areas, the development of light industrial areas in the areas freed from occupation will satisfy local demand and new sources of export potential will be formed. The chemical and metallurgical industries of and competitiveness. republic have strong potential Unfortunately, although there is an increase in the production and export of products in the chemical industry, these do not reflect the existing potential. Ensuring the development of chemical and petrochemical industries along the additional production chain has the potential to significantly increase the structure and volume of non-oil exports. In order to increase the volume of chemical and petrochemical non-oil exports, more infrastructure for the processing of oil and gas raw materials should be created and high-tech facilities should be put into operation.

Transportation and logistics infrastructure is being built in the region, which will have a significant impact on the growth of non-oil sectors and export potential. The commissioning of Fuzuli and Zangilan International Airports and the rapid construction of Lachin International Airport will significantly change the architecture and strategic importance of the region and significantly increase its investment attractiveness. In addition, there are strong resources for the development of the construction materials manufacturing industry, the mining sector, and ample opportunities for the production of export-oriented agricultural products. Accelerating the development of liberated territories will allow improving the structure of the country's economy and increasing the potential of non-oil sectors, in particular, creating enterprises producing non-oil export products based on high technologies¹⁵.

Another issue is related to the drivers of economic development in the post-Covid-19 pandemic period. Thus, the focus will be on eliminating the economic backwardness caused by the negative

¹⁵İşğaldan azad edilmiş ərazilərdə iqtisadi inkişafın sürətləndirilməsi ilə bağlı bəzi tədbirlər haqqında Azərbaycan Respublikası Prezidentinin Sərəncamı. Bakı şəhəri, 10 dekabr 2021-ci il.

consequences of this pandemic, accelerating the recovery of various economic sectors through more effective and efficient mechanisms, and preparing and implementing resilient economic development mechanisms against global risks and threats¹⁶.

In our opinion, during the implementation of the I State Program for the Great Turning, new opportunities for the development of the non-oil sector will appear, in particular, additional resources will be created to increase the export potential of the non-oil sector. This will be based on the newly built industrial facilities and industrial zones, agricultural complexes. As a result of the creation of new jobs and economic development in the liberated areas, the production and diversification of non-oil sector products will increase year by year, and it is possible to predict that non-oil exports will increase.

On the whole, taking into account the objective realities of the modern era, it is important to re-evaluate the export potential of the non-oil sector, carefully investigate prospective development drivers and take necessary measures in the directions of export potential development. At the same time, we would like to pay attention to a number of problems in the current situation, i.e. a number of points that slow down the development of non-oil sector areas and have a negative impact on the growth of non-oil export potential:

- 1. The processes of expanding the range of export-oriented industrial products and increasing the production volume do not sufficiently reflect the existing potential. In these areas, there is a need to take more measures to involve the potential of our country in the foreign trade activity cycle and to increase the export potential.
- 2. It is known that in recent years, the share structure of food products, as well as agricultural products in general, in the structure of exports has expanded and the volume is increasing. At the same time, there is a need to strengthen food safety

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¹⁶Pandemiyanın (COVID-19) dünya iqtisadiyyatına təsiri. İqtisadi İslahatların Təhlili və Kommunikasiya Mərkəzi: / 08.04.2020. URL: https://iqtisadiislahat.org/store//media/2020/Aprel/08042020 covid dunya.pdf.

- measures in the country, to reduce dependence on imports in this area, and in connection with this, to create a wider network of export-oriented food processing industrial complexes. These measures can play an important role in increasing the export potential of the non-oil sector.
- Despite the presence of traditional textile enterprises in 3. Azerbaijan, the current situation in this field is not at a satisfactory level. So, the product production of the field is at a negligible level, and there is a sufficient need for the production of textiles, leather and leather products, shoes in the country, and in the conditions of the existence of the local raw material base and the possibility of obtaining semi-finished products in this field, unfortunately, the development of these fields continues to stagnate or exceed the existing potential. In this area, the development potential of silk production should be taken into account and its export opportunities should be evaluated more objectively. We believe that the leading textile companies of a number of countries with strategic cooperation relations with Azerbaijan, including Italy, Turkey, and Pakistan, should be attracted to our country, it is possible to establish joint ventures with them, organize the activities of export-oriented textile companies, and there opportunities for this. Considering that the investment environment in our country is favorable and there are state support mechanisms for the development of these areas, as a result, thanks to the development of light industrial areas in the areas freed from occupation, along with meeting local demand, new sources of export potential will be formed.
- 4. The chemical and metallurgical industries of our republic have strong potential and competitiveness. Unfortunately, although there is an increase in the production and export of products in the chemical industry, these do not fully reflect the existing potential. Ensuring the development of chemical and petrochemical industries along the additional production chain has the potential to significantly increase the structure and

- volume of non-oil exports. For this, first of all, in order to increase the volume of chemical and petrochemical non-oil exports, more oil and gas raw material processing infrastructure should be created and high-tech facilities should be put into operation.
- The volume of production in the metallurgical industry is quite 5. low, and until now no measures have been taken to modernize the field. Currently, only aluminum, a non-ferrous metal product, is exported in raw form, and it was so during the Soviet era. It is a unfortunate that effective measures have not been taken to use the potential of the ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy industries, primarily the export potential. Although the creation of a large metallurgical cluster was talked about at different times, these issues remained in the form of intentions and were not realized. We believe that the existence of monopolies in this field for a long time has had a negative impact on the development of the field. In recent years, structural changes have been made in this field, work has been started to eliminate monopoly situations, but the measures taken are still not expressed in the actual results. In particular, the creation of enterprises capable of processing numerous ores and non-ores and the development of the mining industry in general remain unsolved.
- 6. If we look at the field structure of industrial production in Azerbaijan, the number of fields with a share of more than 1% in the total industrial production is quite small, and these facts show the large number of problems in the field, and for this reason, measures of a complex and systematic approach to the development of non-oil fields with export potential should be put in place.
- 7. In recent years, continuous measures have been taken regarding the export opportunities of agriculture and the agrarian sector as a whole, significant concessions and subsidies are given by the state to entrepreneurship and business subjects in this field, targeted investments are made by the state in the regions and

development of agriculture, capital investments are directed. All these measures are mainly financed through the state budget, have a positive effect on socio-economic development in the regions, strengthen employment, reduce poverty, and increase the income of the population. In our opinion, it is important that the similar effect is reflected in the expansion of the structure of non-oil exports and the increase in the volume of exports. Therefore, special attention should be paid to the effectiveness of targeted export-oriented activities in the indicated directions, measures should be taken to attract potential foreign investors to these areas, adequate approaches to new challenges in the organization of foreign-economic activities should be introduced, and necessary regulatory measures should be implemented, etc.

Proposals and recommendations of dissertation:

- 1. It is of strategic importance to present modern theoretical views on the development of the non-oil sector and the formation of its export potential, to update the existing approaches to the challenges of the age and to provide a systematic approach to the issues related to the development of this sector. In particular, conceptual approaches to socioeconomic aspects of the non-oil sector should be evaluated.
- 2. In terms of the socio-economic aspects of the non-oil sector, the maximum objective consideration of the economic priorities facing the country and the determination of goals should be ensured, the socio-economic factors should be evaluated as the central main line in the development processes of this sector, the human factor should be taken as the basis, the country's economic and technological development priorities along with, socio-economic welfare issues should be balanced, the development of the non-oil oriented economy should be intensified on the basis of more

- efficient mechanisms, and the real possibilities of export potential in this field should be used productively.
- 3. Development priorities, directions and objectives of the nonoil sector areas in Azerbaijan have been systematically identified. The strategic role of this sector in diversifying the country's economy is undeniable. Therefore, the development of the non-oil sector should be intensified on a scientific basis and modern technologies, and the development of competitive and export-oriented non-oil activities should be accelerated.
- 4. In terms of the main features and principles of the development of the export potential of the non-oil sector, some are more noteworthy: 1) the strategy of diversification of export potential should be developed; 2) the increase of export potential should be carried out at the level of priority objectives of the foreign trade policy of the state; 3) new specialized economic mechanisms for export should be created in the country, including a network of processing enterprises based on innovation and high technology; 4) investments aimed at the development of export destinations based on local resources should be attracted; 5) the concept of "national brand" should be maximally developed in the context of modern challenges, etc.
- 5. In the development of non-oil fields in our country, adequate work on increasing the export potential and utilization of international experience has not been sufficiently ensured. In many oil-producing countries, necessary investments have been made to increase the role of the vast infrastructure of oil processing, including the petrochemical complex, as a result of which the income from this sphere has increased many times. Despite the construction of a number of large chemical and petrochemical plants in Azerbaijan in recent years, the volume of oil processing and especially gas processing is still at a low level. Our recommendation is to double oil processing to at least 10-12 million tons and gas processing to 5 billion cubic meters in the period up to 2030. In this case,

- the export potential of the non-oil sector can increase to the level of 5-8 billion dollars at the expense of only one area the chemical and petrochemical complex, and this is possible due to the creation of new processing complexes along the additional production chain.
- 6. According to the development dynamics and macroeconomic analysis of the non-oil sector, the share of food products and beverages production in the total output structure of the non-oil industry has been increasing in recent years and is about 35%. However, the specific weight of the chemical industry and resin and plastic mass products production, which has a strong export potential, accounts for only 8-9% of the total output of the non-oil sector. Thus, Azerbaijan has a raw material base for the development of all areas of light industry, there are opportunities for the production of the main types of raw materials (cotton, wool, silk and leather). It is also possible to produce threads for synthetic fabric products on the basis of the chemical industry.
- 7. There is a serious need for measures to objectively identify and systematically solve the development problems of the non-oil sector in the context of deepening economic reforms and structural changes. Based on the SWOT analysis of the current situation of this sector, it is possible to note that there is potential for the expansion of various processing areas, as well as export-oriented areas along the production chain, at the same time, the sector has opportunities to create added value and development features, there are enough raw materials, ore and other resources for the creation of export-oriented enterprises as well as other economic and human resources are at a sufficient level.
- 8. A more objective approach to state support and regulation mechanisms should be ensured in raising the development of the non-oil sector to a new stage in accordance with global transformations. For this purpose, we have proposed an blockalgorithm diagram of state policy and regulatory mechanisms

in raising the development of the non-oil sector to a new stage. On the basis of this mechanism, increasing the stimulating features of the legislation, deepening the formation of a free competition environment in the country and eliminating monopolies, maximizing the investment attractiveness of non-oil export-oriented areas, completing the creation of the national innovation system and accelerating the processes of organizing innovation zones, especially in the regions, forming a more flexible and efficient transport-logistics system, providing practical support to exporters in entering international markets more actively, preparing a package of digital and ICT-based services, etc. has taken place.

- 9. Based on the analysis of the formation and development features of the export potential in the non-oil sector of Azerbaijan, it is necessary to identify the factors and obstacles hindering the growth of export potential and to highlight adequate measures. We consider it important to create "Analytical database of export potential" and "Export bank" in order to ensure specialization and development of non-oil sector exporting enterprises in the regions of the country.
- 10. In the context of global challenges, development of the vector of new economic export potential and determination of its impact on strengthening the functional activities of all structures of the economy, assessment of factors that have a significant impact on the growth of export potential should be ensured. In this case, increasing the export potential will increase the financial strength and competitiveness of the national economy as a whole, will allow more foreign exchange funds to be brought into the country, technologies, capital-finance, service markets will develop faster, serious foundations for macroeconomic stability will be created, the trajectory of economic activity will expand, new jobs will be opened, motivations to diversify the structure and increase the volume of domestic and competitive, as well as export-

- oriented products will increase, and it will stimulate the wide involvement of investors in non-oil sector areas.
- 11. As a result of the analysis and assessment of the export activity of the non-oil sector areas, we came to the conclusion that the situation of the export structure of the Republic of Azerbaijan according to the International Standard Classification of Trade in recent years is unacceptable. More than 90% of the country's exports consist of the export of mineral resources, of course, oil and gas. The effectiveness of measures to more efficiently use the potential of non-oil export products should be increased: 1) Measures to expand exportable production areas based on raw materials with processing potential should be accelerated; 2) A more comprehensive and efficient organization of the activities of the private sector in the field of oil and gas raw materials processing should be raised to the priority level; 3) The potential of expanding the export nomenclature of the agroindustrial complex should be seriously explored and the export strategy of agricultural products should be developed and implemented; 4) The export potential of the country's heavy industry should be assessed more objectively and the attitude towards exploiting spare opportunities in this area should be changed.
- 12. In the conditions of new challenges, the issues of regulating the use of the export potential of the non-oil sector require the preparation of a classification of the factors that form and condition the export potential of this sector as a whole, and taking this into account, a block diagram of the classification of those factors has been presented. Many factors stand out here: 1) maximum diversification of the structure of non-oil-oriented export products in the country; 2) attract targeted investments to non-oil sector areas that have more prospects in terms of increasing the export potential; 3) developing and implementing a strategy to increase the liquidity of non-oil products for export in order to adapt to the ever-increasing

- competitive environment and strengthen in potential markets; 4) it is expedient to renew measures to stimulate non-oil export by the state, to improve support mechanisms, and to give priority to export-oriented products with a "national brand" sign in this direction.
- 13. Based on the current situation, the development goals and priorities of the non-oil sector in our country, we consider it important to significantly improve the state support mechanisms in regulating the efficient use of the export potential of this sector. For this, first of all, the currently applied mechanisms should be adapted to new global challenges, effective financial and insurance guarantee mechanisms for non-oil exports should be developed, the availability of credit resources and the maximum stimulating role of tax incentives should be ensured for expanding the volume of export operations, and the non-oil export infrastructure should be strengthened to expand the structure and increase the volume of non-oil export of entrepreneurship and business entities.
- 14. To increase the export potential of the non-oil sector, in our opinion, first of all, achieving a competitive and diversified economy and increasing the role of the non-oil industry in these processes are important conditions. For this purpose, to deepen the level of transparency and accountability of activities in those areas, to develop special mechanisms for stimulating activity on the transfer of high technologies and the purchase of innovative products, the establishment of specialized industrial parks, agro-industrial complexes, industrial and tourism clusters, as well as free economic zones based on the resources of export-oriented areas of activity in the regions of the country and intensification of creation processes should be ensured.
- 15. We believe that there are many serious problems that need to be solved in terms of efficiency problems of innovationinvestment activity in the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan and

approaches to their solution: 1) There should be a national innovation system in line with world standards and experience; 2) A strong and functional legislative framework for innovation activity should be created; 3) Problems of increasing investment attractiveness of non-oil sector areas with high export potential should be solved; 4) Appropriate innovation infrastructure should be formed and innovation zones and innovation centers should be created to develop and adopt new innovations and expand the structure and volume of production of export-oriented innovative products in the country; 5) The state regulation mechanism for the production of innovation products should be implemented and special innovation-grant projects should be implemented to increase interest in the production of innovation products in general; 6) Under the current circumstances, taking into account the priority of using "smart" technologies in the liberated territories, innovation zones or specialized innovation centers and enterprises should be created in the Karabakh and East Zangazur economic regions.

- 16. According to the world experience, the important role of free economic zones should be brought to the fore in the processes of expanding the non-oil sector in Azerbaijan and deepening the application of the export-oriented innovative development model in these areas. Important work was carried out to put the Alat Economic Zone into operation. In liberated Jabrail, the process of establishing the "Araz Valley Economic Zone" is intensifying. We believe that the process of organizing free economic zones in other liberated territories, as well as in other regions of the country rich in natural and economic resources, should be accelerated.
- 17. To increase the export potential of the non-oil sector, measures should be taken to strengthen the logistics and trade system and in this context, the management function of the logistics chain should be improved.

- 18. Given the potential of the regions liberated from occupation and the challenges of the post-pandemic period, taking measures to strengthen the export potential of the non-oil sector should be seen as a strategic task of our time. We believe that there is a particular need to continue measures to support non-oil export sectors in the new circumstances caused by the impact of the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, at least for the next two years. Measures to expand and support activities in promising export-oriented non-oil sector areas should be intensified. In the liberated areas, in addition to the traditional and specific activities of those areas, the development of non-oil sector areas based on modern technologies should be given special attention, and these works have already been started.
- 19. Based on modern global turmoil and challenges, approaching from the strategic importance of new priorities and goals of the economic development model of Azerbaijan and taking into account the serious need for alternative sources of money to ensure the macroeconomic and macrofinancial stability of our country, we consider it appropriate to develop and adopt the "State Program on increasing the export potential of the non-oil sector of Azerbaijan in 2024-2030", in order to ensure the long-term complex development of promising non-oil sector areas in order to increase export potential.

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- 1. Improving customs and tariff regulation of foreign trade in the context of economic security// Scientific and practical journal "Economy. Management. Law", Moscow. 2012, No. 9 (33), pp. 26-28. 9 (original in russian)
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- 4. Directions on improving the regulation of the use of export potential in the non-oil sector// "News of ANAS" journal. Economy series, Baku. 2019, No. 5, p. 44-49. (original in azerbaijani)
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