

Sub-Program	1. Human Resource and Institutional Development for Economic Development:
Component	1-2. Management of Public Finance
Accepting University (Number of Scholars)	Ritsumeikan University (3) Graduate School of Economics -Master of Arts in Economics,
Target Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ministry of Finance ● Central Bank ● State Tax Committee ● National Bank for Foreign Economic Activities ● Banking and Finance Academy ● Institute of Forecasting and Macroeconomic Research ● Tashkent Financial Institute
Purpose of Study	
<p>Since gaining independence in 1991, Uzbekistan has been making efforts to move away from the socialist regime of the former Soviet Union. In 2007, the government formulated the final version of WISP (Full Strategy Paper for 2008-2010). According to the I-WISP, increasing national income and reducing poverty require economic policy that accelerates economic growth. Such policy involves vitalizing the private sector. Specific measures include tax reduction, restriction of the government direct intervention in the economic processes, simplification of the regulatory and legislative framework, more effective management of national financial assets, appropriate fiscal management in accordance with international standards, and achievement of conditions required to join the World Trade Organization (WTO).</p> <p>Uzbekistan's pursuit of economic policies based on the principles of a gradual transition to a market economy and the establishment of a national economy has resulted in a positive economic growth in 1996 for the first time since the country's independence in 1991. The economic contraction on the heels of independence is largely attributed to the oversupply of currency under the planned economy, the failure of the income distribution mechanism under the socialist regime, and the inability to establish a taxation system that accommodates a market economy. Although the positive economic growth has been maintained by a narrow margin to date, the policy of a gradual transition to a market economy, which proved successful immediately after the country gained independence, is now under close scrutiny. In fact, the transition is too slow in the globalized world economy that the Uzbek government is under strong pressure to change course, including the policy itself. The problem is that Uzbekistan lacks human resources in the fiscal and financial sectors who can help the government to make that change.</p> <p>Against this background, this component is designed for JDS fellows to acquire practical techniques in economic policies and economic reforms toward the overall development of the Uzbek economy. Special focus is placed on national expenditure management, public financial management, and trade management that take account of the relationships with international financial markets. It is hoped that the development of human resources capable of contributing to steady economic growth through this component will help build the foundations for private sector development in Uzbekistan.</p>	