

The Role of Women in the Geological Industry of Uzbekistan

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Abstract:

Women in Uzbekistan's geological sector significantly contribute to developing science and practical activities. In the traditional society of Central Asia, geology and related sciences developed slowly. Still, women, especially in scientific circles, gradually began to take active positions, studying and exploring the natural resources of their region. In recent years, the Uzbek government has paid great attention to issues of increasing women's role in society and gender equality. Uzbekistan was among the first countries in Central Asia to ratify CEDAW, the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Violence and Discrimination against Women. The World Bank's 2024 Country Gender Assessment report noted significant progress made by the authorities in ensuring gender equality since 2017. Recently, the number of women receiving geology education has increased. The University of Geological Sciences, under the Ministry of Mining and Geology, offers geology programs. Employees of scientific institutes under the Ministry systematically participate and become prize winners in competitions held within the framework of "Scientific Women of Uzbekistan". In recent years, more than a dozen women working in geology have been awarded government awards. Finally, women in Uzbekistan's geology play a vital role in developing the country's scientific potential and managing natural resources.