

FORMATION OF THE PMI UZBEKISTAN CHAPTER AND ITS ROLE IN THE ERA OF UZBEKISTAN'S DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

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Annotation: This article provides an analytical overview of the formation of the PMI Uzbekistan Chapter and examines its strategic importance in the context of Uzbekistan's ongoing digital transformation and the national development agenda outlined in the Uzbekistan 2030 Strategy.

It highlights the establishment of an initiative group, the completion of three out of four PMI Global Chapter Formation Phases, and the current landscape of project management professionals in the country, including the low number of PMP-certified specialists relative to a population of 40 million.

The article compares Uzbekistan with neighboring PMI Chapters (Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Turkey) and illustrates the significant potential for growth. It also outlines the role of the future PMI Uzbekistan Chapter as a catalyst for developing project management competencies, promoting project thinking, supporting transformation initiatives, and integrating Uzbekistan into the global project management ecosystem.

Keywords: PMI Uzbekistan, Project Management, Digital Transformation, PMP Certification, Uzbekistan 2030

Uzbekistan is entering a decisive phase of digital transformation driven by the goals of the Uzbekistan 2030 Development Strategy. With the rapid growth of government, infrastructure, social, and private-sector projects, the need for strong, internationally aligned project management practices is greater than ever.

In this context, the establishment of the PMI Uzbekistan Chapter becomes a strategic and timely initiative supporting the country's transition toward a modern, project-driven economy.

An Initiative Group Laying the Foundation for a National PM Community

A team of motivated and forward-thinking professionals practitioners, industry leaders, and experts passionate about promoting project management based on PMI global standards has been formed in Uzbekistan.

This initiative group functions as a community of like-minded volunteers committed to:

- promoting project management culture and project thinking;
- organizing professional development activities;
- engaging with PMI Global;

- building the foundation for the official PMI Uzbekistan Chapter.

This represents the first grassroots effort in Uzbekistan to create a national center of excellence in project management.

Formation Status: 3 Out of 4 PMI Global Phases Completed

The creation of a PMI Chapter requires successfully completing four official phases outlined by PMI Global. As of today, the Uzbekistan initiative group has successfully completed three out of the four phases, demonstrating maturity, consistency, and readiness for official chapter establishment.

Chapter Formation Process Flowchart

- Phase I: Ideation Phase;
- Phase II: Volunteer Committee Organization Phase;
- Phase III: Business Plan Development Phase;
- Phase IV: Chartering Phase (Chapter expansion and formalization);

The final phase full legal registration and formal recognition by PMI is currently underway.

Current Professional Base: Over 126 PMP-Certified Specialists

Uzbekistan currently has **over 126 PMP®-certified professionals**.

While this number may appear encouraging at first glance, it is extremely low relative to the country's demographic landscape.

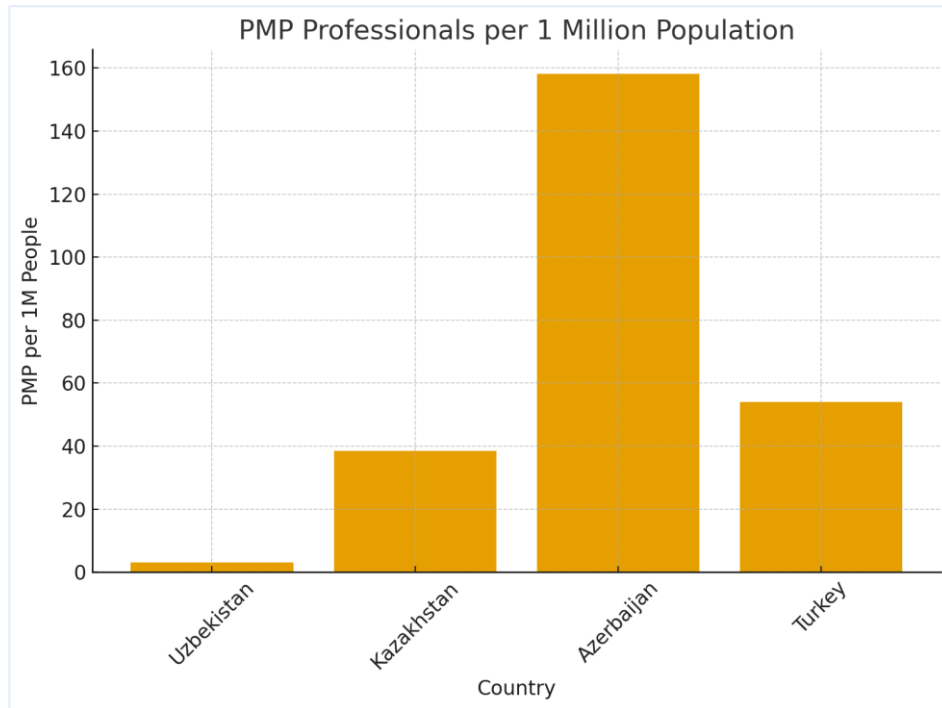
Why 126 PMP Certifications Are Not Enough for a Country of 40 Million

- Total population: ~40 million
- Youth aged 18–30: ~8 million
- Professionals aged 30–45: ~9 million
- Combined core professional audience: ~17 million people

Against this backdrop, only 126 PMP-certified specialists represent a very small proportion of the national talent pool.

This demonstrates:

- a shortage of qualified project managers;
- the urgent need to develop competencies across public and private sectors;
- the importance of standardizing project management practices;
- the necessity of a national professional platform.



PMP holders per 1M population

The PMI Uzbekistan Chapter will become a catalyst for expanding the number of competent and certified professionals in the country.

It will:

- motivate continuous professional development;
- improve access to PMI certifications;
- promote modern project thinking;
- help organizations transition to international standards.

Regional Comparison: Neighboring PMI Chapters Show Strong Growth

To understand Uzbekistan's potential, it is useful to compare with nearby countries:

PMI Kazakhstan Chapter (730 PMP-certified professionals)

- Operating for over a decade;
- Hundreds of PMP holders;
- Hosts large conferences and educational programs;

PMI Azerbaijan Chapter (1,581 PMP-certified professionals)

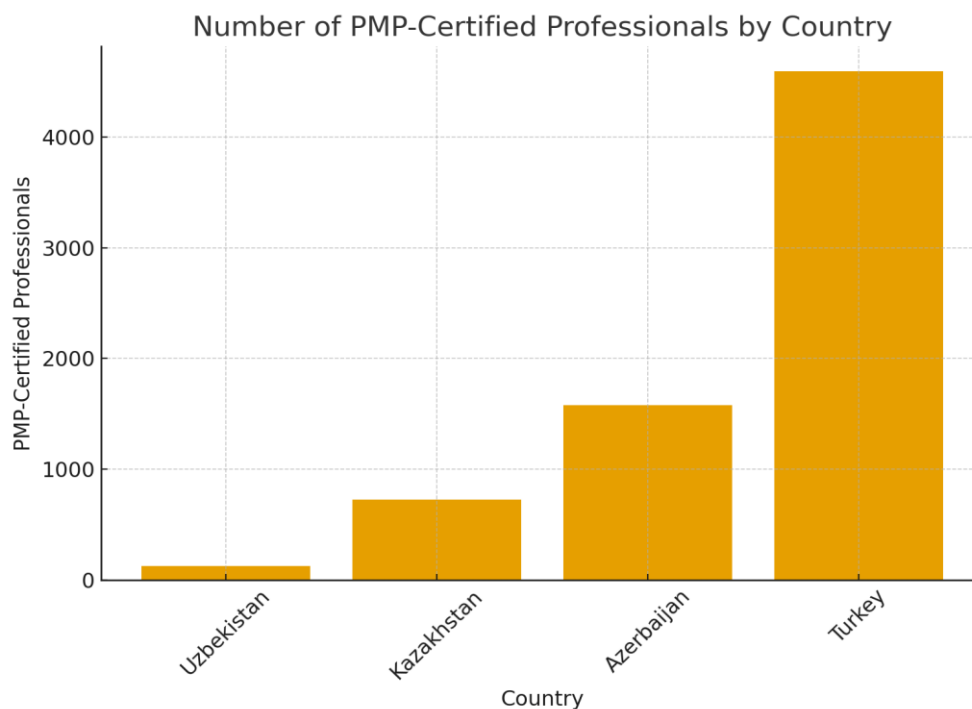
- Rapid growth in certification;
- Strong cooperation with government and enterprises;
- Recognized as a regional professional hub;

PMI Turkey Chapter (4,589 PMP-certified professionals)

- One of the largest and most active in the region;
- Hundreds of active volunteers and certified PMs;

- Significant contribution to regional PM practices;

Many of these countries have smaller populations than Uzbekistan, yet their PMI Chapters are significantly more developed. This indicates the enormous untapped potential for Uzbekistan.



Comparison of the number of PMP-certified professionals
between Uzbekistan and neighboring countries

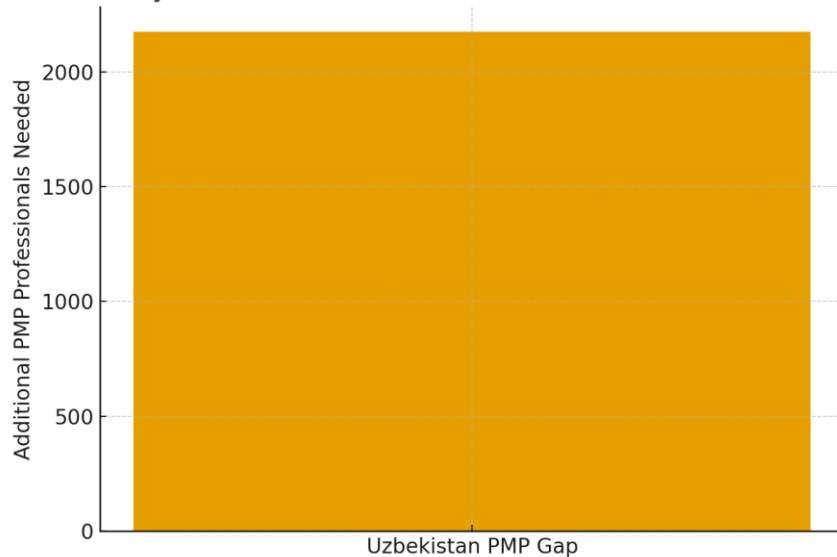
Why Uzbekistan Needs a PMI Chapter Now?

- Rapid growth in national projects;
- Digitalization of public services and industries;
- Increasing demand for transformation programs;
- Need for internationally competent PM professionals;
- Alignment with Uzbekistan 2030 strategic priorities;

A fully established PMI Uzbekistan Chapter will serve as:

- a professional community and national center for project management expertise;
- a driver of project mindset development;
- a platform for training, certification, and networking;
- a strategic partner to government and business;
- a bridge linking Uzbekistan with the global PM community.

PMP Gap: How Many PMP Professionals Uzbekistan Needs to Reach Regional Average



Uzbekistan needs approximately 2,200 additional PMP-certified professionals to reach the regional average.

Conclusion

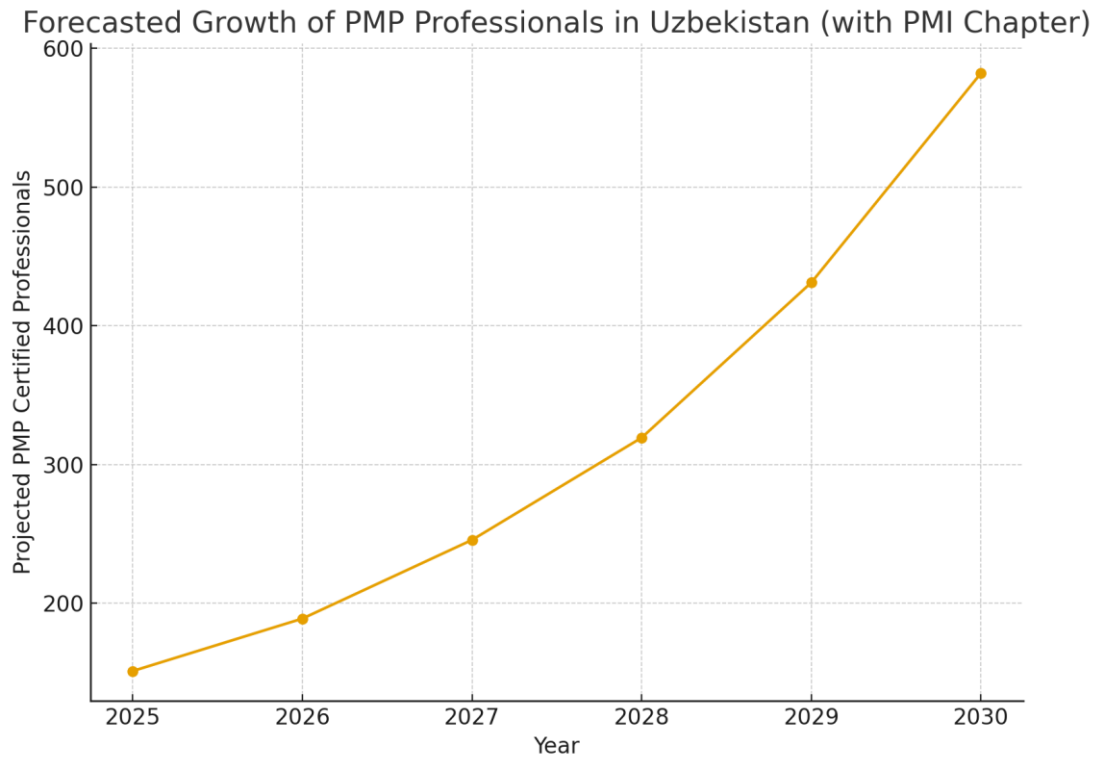
The formation of the **PMI Uzbekistan Chapter** is a critical milestone for a country undergoing rapid modernization and transformation.

As Uzbekistan implements dozens of large-scale initiatives under the Development Strategy 2030, professional project management becomes not just beneficial it becomes essential.

The PMI Uzbekistan Chapter will:

- unite professionals;
- increase the number of certified project managers;
- enhance the quality, predictability, and transparency of project delivery;
- integrate Uzbekistan into the global project management ecosystem.

This is more than the creation of a professional association
it is an investment in the future of Uzbekistan's human capital and project culture



Forecast of PMP growth in Uzbekistan through 2030, assuming the official launch of the PMI Uzbekistan Chapter.

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