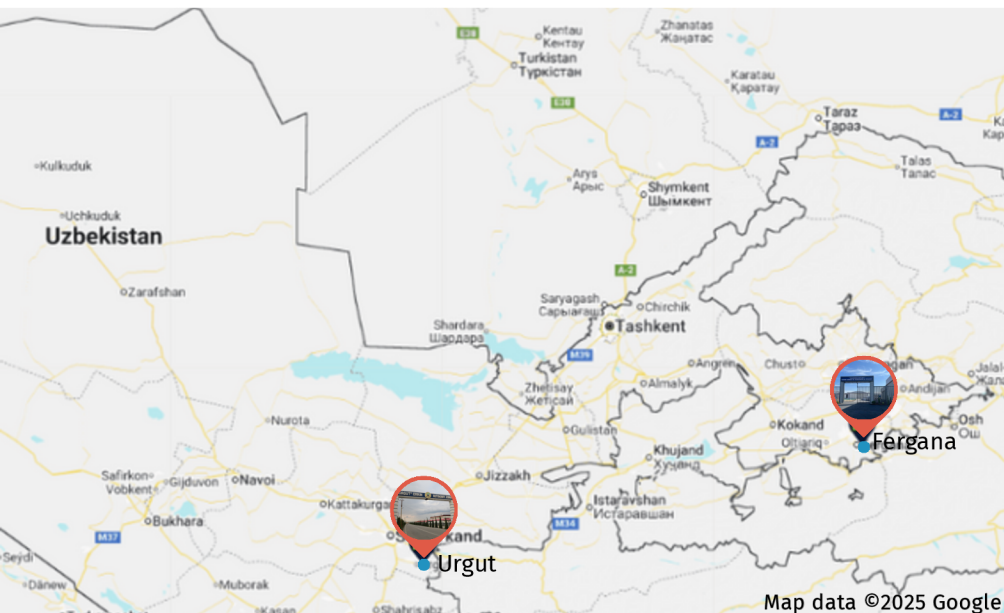


# Stakeholder Awareness & Perception of the Eco-Industrial Parks (EIPs) in Uzbekistan



The Uzbekistan **Eco-Industrial Parks (EIP) Pilot Initiative** (2024–2025) is part of the broader project “Private Sector Development and Economic Policy Advice in Uzbekistan”, funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH in Uzbekistan. It promotes sustainable industrial development in two industrial zones: Free Economic Zone (FEZ) Urgut and Small Industrial Zone (SIZ) Mechanic in Fergana region, by applying the International EIP Framework and resource-efficient and cleaner production principles.

As part of this initiative, a stakeholder awareness and perception survey has been conducted to:

- Assess the understanding of EIP concepts
- Identify knowledge gaps
- Gather views on potential benefits and challenges of EIP implementation.

The findings guide communication strategies, capacity-building activities, and policy dialogues to ensure a smooth transition towards sustainable eco-industrial models.



Map data ©2025 Google

## Key Survey Facts



**114 respondents**

including government officials, FEZ/SIZ residents, educational and other institutions



**3 awareness levels measured:**

High (16.7%), Medium (35.1%), Low (48.3%)



**50 survey questions**

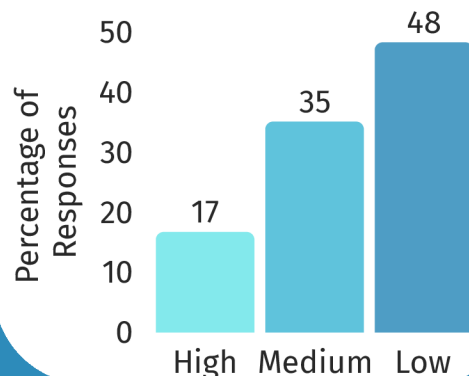
covered demographics, awareness levels, knowledge gaps, and perceptions.



**Target groups**

Government bodies, industrial park/SIZ administrations, companies, academia, and NGOs.

### Awareness of EIP concept



### Awareness & Perception of the EIP

Nearly half of the surveyed stakeholders have a low awareness of the EIP concept, indicating the need for stronger outreach and education efforts.

Nearly half of respondents believe both that special economic zones can be successfully transformed into EIPs and that the environmental benefits of such parks outweigh the costs of implementation.

### Positive Beliefs about EIPs

SIZ -> EIP Transformation possible



Benefits > Costs



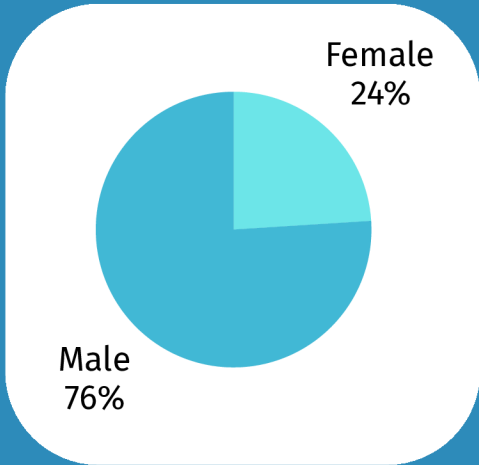
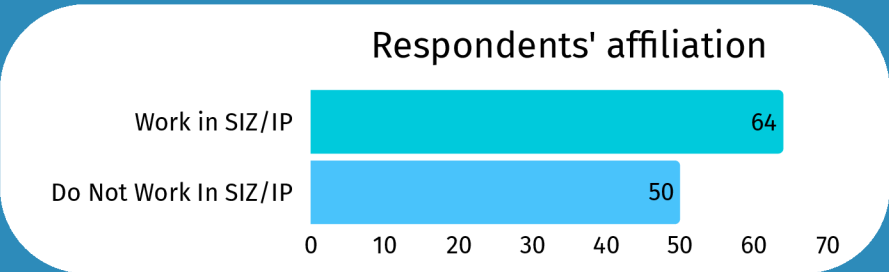
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100 110 120  
● Yes, that's right. ● It's hard for me to answer

● No, that's not true.

# Respondent Profile

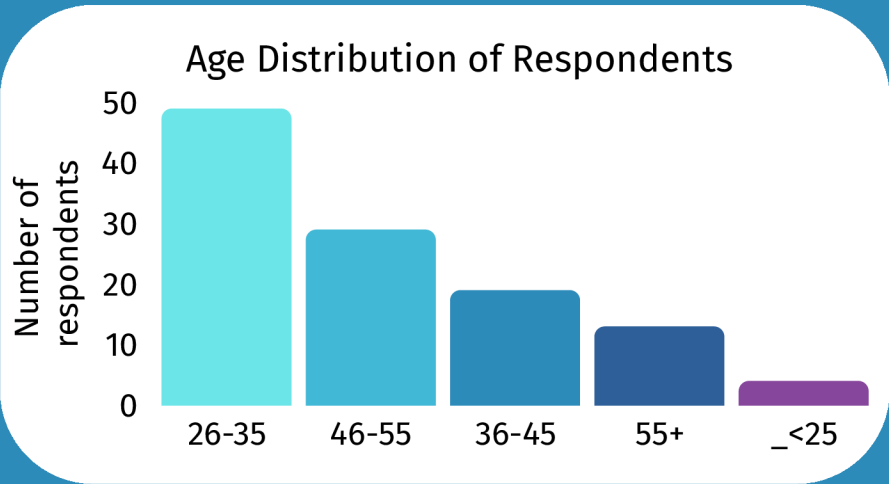
## Involvement with zones

Majority of respondents (64%) work directly in special economic or industrial zones. → target audience for EIP implementation.

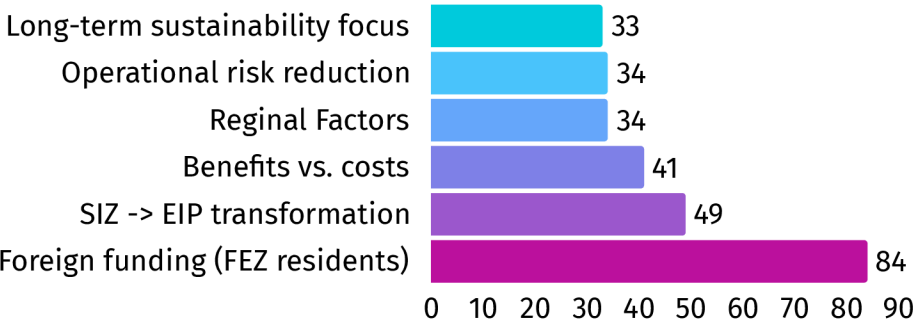


## Gender & Age Distribution

The survey included voices from both genders, with a higher representation of men (76%) compared to women (24%). Most participants: 26–35 years, followed by 46–55 years → Mix of mid-career and senior professionals



## Top areas of uncertainty



## Perceptions & Uncertainties

Many respondents felt uncertain about crucial aspects — including foreign funding opportunities, how feasible the transformation is, and whether the benefits truly outweigh the costs. These knowledge gaps point to a clear need for more focused and tailored communication

# Conclusions

**Awareness levels are uneven.** Nearly half of the surveyed stakeholders demonstrated low awareness of the EIP concept, while only a small share reported high familiarity. This shows that targeted awareness-raising and communication remain essential for broader understanding.

**Belief in benefits is present but uncertain.** Many respondents agreed that SIZs can be transformed into EIPs and that environmental benefits outweigh costs. However, a significant share expressed uncertainty, particularly on foreign funding, feasibility, and regional factors. These gaps highlight the need for clear explanations, practical examples, and success stories to build confidence.

**Action is needed to close knowledge gaps.** The results indicate that communication strategies should focus on making EIP concepts more accessible, providing cost-benefit evidence, and tailoring messages to FEZ/SIZ residents, policymakers, and local communities. Addressing these gaps will strengthen stakeholder engagement and support the successful implementation of the EIP in the country.

## Next steps:

- Simplify & localise EIP concepts for diverse audiences.
- Share case studies showing economic & environmental gains.
- Target outreach to industrial parks stakeholders.
- Link EIPs benefits to regional priorities & the SDGs.



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