



PRIORITY AREAS OF ENSURING FOOD SAFETY IN UZBEKISTAN

Nizamov Aktam Numonovich,
Yuldashev Shamsiddin Kiyamiddinovich,
Babakulov Bakhram Mamatkulovich,
Alibekova Saodat Lapasovna,
Sharifov Shuhrat Saidahmadovich,

Associate professors of the Department of Network Economics of Samarkand State University named after Sharof Rashidov., Uzbekistan

Article History Received: 27Aug 2023 Revised: 28Sept 2023 Accepted: 07Oct 2023 CC License CC-BY-NC-SA 4.0	ANNOTATION The gap between the world's rapidly growing population and the limited capacity to increase food production remains a major cause of food insecurity. The role of food security in ensuring the stability of the economy, the essence of agrarian policy and reforms, the economic role of the state in ensuring food security, achievements and experiences in ensuring it in foreign countries, and important issues of food supply in our country are covered in the article. Key words: food security, economic security, control and quality problems, agriculture, minimum living wage, standard of living of the population, poverty rate, poverty rate.
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Introduction

Ensuring food safety is one of the main strategic tasks of any country. One of the main indicators that determine the level of healthy living of the population is the provision of sufficient food.

The President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, Sh.M. Mirziyoev, in his speech at the SCO held in Samarkand on September 15-16, 2022, said: "It is necessary to develop general principles and approaches to ensure food safety, to bring closer the existing normative legal framework in this document, to conduct joint research and update It is important to envisage concrete measures for implementation" [9].

In accordance with the 1996 Rome Declaration on International Food Security, each country strives to provide its population with food products and ensure the right to avoid hunger. At this Summit, it was recognized that food problems boil down to three issues: availability of food commodities; access to food; use of food [3].

According to the FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations), 12.5% or 1 in 8 people in the world, and about 15% in developed countries, live in conditions of hunger. As in any country, we have low-income sections of the population, which make up about 12-15%[2].

Review of literature on the subject

Food safety is affected by several factors, which have been studied theoretically and the issues of practical application have been critically tested. People's access to food products in sufficient quantity and quality, food independence, water scarcity, land productivity, climate change, deterioration of the biological quality of agricultural products, genetically modified organisms,

energy-fuel problem, demographic change, natural disasters, etc. issues have always been the center of attention of economists.

Indian economist Amartya Kumar Sen, in his book "Poverty and Famine", firstly pointed out that people often face various obstacles to consuming food, not just because it is not available in the market. He says that there are different approaches to solving this problem, and technical issues need to be solved in each approach [7]. American economists Radimer K.L., Olson S.M. and S.S. Campbell tried to calculate food security on the example of a household. Based on these indicators, the state media agency recognized the need to analyze the measures taken by the state to ensure food safety and provide practical assistance to the population [6].

English scientists D. Dixon and D. Makarov stated that "food security is ensured only if people have enough physical and economic opportunities to meet their needs whenever they want to live an active and healthy life" [4].

In a study by Coates Frongillo, Hauser, Rodgers, Webba and Wilde, common indicators of food security were identified based on 22 indicators from matched ethnographic data from 15 countries [5].

Russian scientists on direct food safety Efimov A.B., Novosyolova, Belarusian scientists Rusakov V.R., Ilina Z.M., Belsky V.I., Uzbek scientists Abulkosimov H.P., Saidakhmedova N.I., Rasulov T.S., who conducted scientific research.

Decree of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan No. PF-5303 of January 16, 2018 "Measures to further ensure food security of the country" [10], No. PF-5853 of October 23, 2019 "Agricultural Development Plan of the Republic of Uzbekistan for 2020-2030 a number of regulatory documents, such as the Decree [11] on approval of the strategy of

The purpose of adopting such regulatory documents is to diversify production to ensure food security, improve land and water relations, establish maximum re-production of products, widely introduce the market mechanism, and achieve effective use of scientific achievements.

Research methodology. In the course of the research, systematic analysis of specific socio-economic interrelated processes, logic, comparative analysis, induction and deduction, statistical, economic analysis, comparative and structural analysis and other methods were used. At the same time, "What should be done to buy food products?" was based on the methodology of the research results conducted on the basis of a survey conducted to answer the question.

Analysis and results

One of the main goals of every society is to fully satisfy the population's need for food. It is an important strategic task to bring food products to the standard level not only in terms of their total volume, but also in terms of their composition.

The Economist Intelligence Unit agency develops a global index of food security every year. In 2021, 113 countries were analyzed according to 5 indicators, that is, indicators such as the availability of food, affordability, quality, safety, availability and sustainability of natural resources. This year, the overall score calculated by our national team on general food safety decreased by 0.7 points and took 7-8th place. This indicator was assessed by experts as average [8].

Article 39 of the Constitution of the Republic of Uzbekistan, including "...the amount of pensions, allowances, social assistance and other types cannot be less than the minimum amount necessary for subsistence"[1]. A number of activities are being carried out to increase the food safety rating in our country. In particular, great attention is paid to efficient use of water resources in agriculture, and innovative methods of drip and rain irrigation are being used. In order to further increase food security, special attention is paid to reducing poverty by creating new jobs.

According to the recommendation of the World Bank, the standard of poverty indicator is set at 2100 kcal of the daily consumption basket. Based on this norm, the share of the poor population in the Republic of Uzbekistan was 27.5% in 2001, and based on the reforms carried out in 2021 and the decision of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 544 of August 27, 2021, it was calculated by comparing the income of the population with the amount of minimum consumption

expenses - the poverty rate was 17% this year. The result of the 10% grouping of the income of the population of our country shows that year by year the indicators of the 1st lower decile are decreasing, and the population stratum up to the 10th upper decile is increasing [12].

Extensive reforms are being carried out in the Republic of Uzbekistan in order to join the ranks of developed countries through rapid economic development. In particular, raw materials are processed to the maximum extent, and the volume of production of finished products is increased. As a result, the share of the industrial sector in the GDP was 16.2% in 2000, 19.1% in 2015, and 27.8% in 2021[13].

The development of industry increases the income of the population and strengthens its purchasing power.

Meeting the needs of the population of our country for food products is mainly formed from three sources:

1. Through an established market. That is, food products purchased and consumed through retail and catering establishments.
2. Agricultural products grown on private homesteads of the population.
3. Import of food products through foreign trade.

The first source - according to the data of 2020, retail trade turnover in the Republic of Uzbekistan (including catering establishments) is 199518.8 billion. soums. Of this, the sales volume of food products is 80,093 billion. soums or 40.1%. When calculating the total turnover of goods per capita, this indicator is 5828.4 thousand soums, including 2337.2 thousand soums for food products[13].

The second source - the role of the agricultural sector in ensuring the food security of our country is very large. Because our economy has an agrarian character, and until today it is one of the main sources of satisfying the population's need for food.

In addition, agriculture is the main source of raw materials for industry, including the food industry. While the volume of agricultural products in the Republic of Uzbekistan is increasing year by year, its share in the gross domestic product is decreasing year by year. If this figure was 34.4% in 2000, it was 32.2% in 2016 and 26.9% in 2021. The structure of production of agricultural products is given in Table 1 below.

Table 1
Structure of production of agricultural products in the Republic of Uzbekistan[13],

(%)	2000	2010	2015	2021	2022
Total all categories of holdings	100	100	100	100	100
Total farms	5,5	36,3	30,7	29,3	21,7
Total Farmer (Private Sub-Farms)	66,7	61,6	66,9	65,5	74,6
Organizations performing total agricultural activities	27,8	2,1	2,4	5,2	3,7
Peasant farms	9,7	59,1	52,0	53,1	43,5
Farmer (private subsidiary farms)	43,9	39,4	46,4	40,0	52,1
Farmers are organizations that carry out agricultural activities	46,4	1,5	1,6	6,9	4,4
Livestock farm	1,3	3,9	3,9	5,3	5,5
Livestock farmer (personal assistant) farms	89,7	93,0	92,9	91,1	91,3
Organizations carrying out animal husbandry and agricultural activities	9,0	3,1	3,2	3,6	3,2

According to Table 1, sharp structural changes are observed, the main reason for which is the result of reforms in the agrarian sector in our country. The number of organizations that produce agricultural products is decreasing, and it is being replaced by more farmers and peasant (personal assistant) farms. If in the cultivation of plant products, peasant (personal assistant) farms occupied 52.2%, in the production of livestock products it was 91.3%.

The third source - in order to create a wide range of food resources, Uzbekistan has been importing from foreign countries. Goods imported from our foreign partners: Russia, China, Iran, Kazakhstan, Germany, France, in the amount of 19.4 billion US dollars in total. Most of these are new technologies, production tools, equipment. The volume of exports of fruits, vegetables, and other crops grown in our country is 16.7 billion US dollars[13].

According to estimates, the negative balance in the foreign trade turnover of the Republic of Uzbekistan is equal to 500 million US dollars annually, of which 60% goes to basic food products, that is, 25% to flour and wheat, 19% to vegetable oil, 17% to sugar, 9 % livestock feed, 8% meat and poultry products.

Conclusions and suggestions

One of the main goals of every society is to fully satisfy the population's needs for consumer goods and household services. Depending on the level of economic development of countries, they seek to find solutions to food problems at different stages. Currently, in many countries of the world, there are problems such as lack of supply, poverty, adequate formation of food resources, its cultivation, storage, processing, quality delivery to the population, and adaptation of food to the normative recommendations set by the medical profession. There is no country in the world that has completely solved the food problem.

In our opinion, the role of peasant (personal assistant) farms in meeting the population's need for food resources is extremely important. Currently, the report of food products purchased through the established market, that is, through retail outlets, public catering enterprises, small wholesale enterprises, subjects engaged in entrepreneurial activities, farmers' markets, is kept. However, the products grown and consumed in private subsidiary farms are not reported. According to preliminary data, 92.8% of cattle, 81.4% of sheep and goats, 76.3% of horses and 58.9% of poultry are kept by the population of our country in private auxiliary farms. In other words, 2 cattle for every 5 people, 1 cow for every 7 people, 2 cows and goats for every 3 people, 1 horse for every 136 people and 26 chickens and poultry for every 10 people are raised. Of course, if the livestock is sold to the population through an established market, it is possible to keep some kind of report on it. However, the mechanism of calculating the amount of food products produced in the family wedding marakas used in daily needs is still heavy.

In our opinion, it is necessary to carry out the following activities in order to provide the population with quality and sufficient food resources in our country:

1. Development of a targeted "food safety" program, paying special attention to the strategic importance of all links from the production of food resources to the consumer;

2. Subjects participating in the processes from the cultivation of agricultural products to their purchase, transportation, storage, processing and delivery to consumers are provided not only through the mechanism of taxes, but also through a wide range of mechanisms such as subsidies, preferential loans, exemptions from certain types of certain types of taxes, and incentives. use

3. Development of "food safety" rating in each district and region. It is appropriate to use the following formula as the main criterion for developing a food safety rating.

F (1) here,

F - the amount of food needed;

- the population;

- rational norm;

On the basis of this developed rating, it is necessary to establish trade relations with neighboring districts and regions, as well as with foreign countries, in order to form sufficient food resources in the districts, and to sell the excess amount abroad and buy the insufficient amount. It is appropriate to divide districts into "green", "yellow" and "red" zones depending on the level of supply of basic food commodity resources.

4. Improvement of its inter-link contractual relations along with the cluster method in the formation of food commodity resources.

In conclusion, in the conditions of transformation of the economy, one of the tasks of strategic importance should be to saturate the market with quality food products based on the innovative development of the agricultural sector of our country.

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