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CLUSTERS IN THE ECONOMY OF UZBEKISTAN AND THEIR ISSUES OF ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY

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ABSTRACT

The article deals with clusters in the economy of Uzbekistan and their economic efficiency. As a result of the authors' research, proposals have been developed to increase the efficiency of clusters in Uzbekistan. The development of the world market is largely related to the appearance of agricultural products. It envisages sorting, packaging, packaging and timely delivery of products to the consumer. It is no coincidence that confidence in this regard is high in the United States and Europe. Because in these areas, the state will form clusters that will plant "seedlings of trust" for small and medium-sized businesses, and will provide full support.

KEYWORDS: *Cluster, Agrocluster, Efficiency, Food, Economic, Financial, Modern, Technology, Innovation, Export, Import, Product.*

INTRODUCTION

The number of people suffering from hunger as a result of pandemics around the world will double to 1.6 billion. Among the existing risks for agriculture in Uzbekistan in 2020 are the difficulties associated with the export of local fruits and vegetables. Over the past three years, exports of these products have grown from \$ 570 million to \$ 1.3 billion. However, the purchasing power of the population in Russia and Kazakhstan, the main importers of local vegetables and fruits, is expected to decline, as well as the demand for these products due to the devaluation of their national currencies. In many cases, the sale of agricultural products imported from Uzbekistan at lower prices than those of competitors, for example, in Turkey and Chile, may lead to a relative increase in demand for fruits and vegetables grown in Uzbekistan in 2020 [1].

According to a survey conducted in the United States (109 countries participated), Uzbekistan ranked 64th in the "food security" rating. In calculating the rating, experts took into account the price, volume and quality of food products in the country. In terms of food

prices, Uzbekistan ranks 57th, which means that compared to 109 countries around the world, food prices in Uzbekistan are average and not cheap [2].

Our analysis shows that over the past five years, the share of agricultural products in world GDP is around 1% in Singapore, Switzerland, Belgium, Germany, USA, Japan, Austria, 1-2% in Sweden, France, Poland, Estonia, Italy, 3% in Russia and 5% in Kazakhstan. %, In China it is 7%, in Kyrgyzstan it is 14%, in Tajikistan it is 19%, while in Uzbekistan it is 28% on average. This indicates that our country has a wide range of opportunities and economic issues for the effective organization of agricultural production and the provision of the population with quality food products.

Only 3-4% of vegetables and 11% of fruits grown in Uzbekistan are exported. The highest exports of fruit products are in the United States, Spain and Mexico, while the highest exports of vegetables are in China, the Netherlands and Spain. Analyzing the difference between domestic consumption and export of fruits and vegetables in Uzbekistan, in recent years an average of 52.8% of legumes are exported, the rest for domestic consumption, grapes 13.2%, fruits 9.6%, vegetables 4.6%. i. 1.7% of melons are exported, the rest is directed to domestic consumption [3].

According to the data, 20 percent of grain, 40 percent of potatoes and 33 percent of vegetable products die before reaching consumers due to low labor productivity and backwardness of production culture. Due to the backwardness of the technology of storage of agricultural products in Uzbekistan, every year 20-40% of potatoes, tomatoes, cabbage, beets, carrots and other vegetables and fruits are wasted. The development of the world market is largely related to the appearance of agricultural products. It envisages sorting, packaging, packaging and timely delivery of products to the consumer.

Today, more than 80 types of agricultural products grown in the country are exported to 66 countries around the world. In 2010, cotton fiber accounted for 11.3% of exports, but by 2018 this figure had dropped to 1.6%. At the same time, the lack of effective market mechanisms in the industry, especially in the development of fruit and vegetable growing and viticulture, the lack of a scientific approach leads to underutilization of the existing potential of the industry. According to estimates, there is an opportunity to earn 7 times more from grapes, 6 times more from cherries and 5 times more from walnuts than from raw cotton grown on 1 hectare.

Although scientific research has been conducted on the socio-economic development of the agricultural sector, the organizational and economic mechanisms of the agricultural sector in the global, green and digital economy and the prospects for improving their efficiency have not been studied.

The more industrialized the agricultural sector, the greater the export potential of the state, the more jobs created in rural areas, the higher the welfare of the people. In addition, today's era, when food security is the most pressing issue, requires the rational use of natural and material resources, the widespread introduction of resource-saving (water-saving, high-efficiency) technologies, science and innovation in the industry.

In this regard, since 2017, the system of clusters - modern forms of production - is being rapidly introduced in the agricultural sector of Uzbekistan to create infrastructure based on advanced technologies. The successful establishment and operation of regional agro-clusters in the country will increase public confidence in economic policy. It is no coincidence that confidence in this regard is high in the United States and Europe. Because in these areas, the state will form clusters that will plant "seedlings of trust" for small and medium-sized businesses, and will provide full support. Eventually, their clusters have already become a source of trust and a business incubator. This idea can also be explained by the fact that they have very few, if any, barriers to accessing the cluster compared to all other places. During 2017-2021, 5 decrees, 8 resolutions and 9 Government decrees of the President of the

Republic of Uzbekistan were adopted on the introduction of market mechanisms in the agricultural sector and the creation of an effective management system in the sector. The state order in the cultivation of cotton and grain was abolished, and market principles were introduced to ensure free competition in agriculture [4].

In 2017-2021, a system of clusters will be widely introduced in all sectors, including 463 agro-clusters (122 cotton and textile, 1,033.8 thousand hectares (3 million tons 100%), 157 grain, 1,038.1 thousand hectares (7.2 million tons, 100%), 146 fruits and vegetables, 116 thousand hectares (1 million 567 thousand tons, 9%), 29 rice 21.1 thousand hectares (98.7 thousand tons 16.5%)

1,406 ha of land were attached to 9 pharmaceutical clusters).

Cotton and textile clusters alone have attracted a total of \$ 1.411 billion in investments in 2018-2020. In particular, in the field of primary processing of cotton for 27 projects worth 115 million dollars with a capacity of 1169 thousand tons, 41 yarn production projects with a capacity of 548 thousand tons for 831 million dollars, 34 fabric production and dyeing projects with a capacity of 161 thousand tons. \$ 234 million, \$ 234 million was involved in 23 knitwear (sewing) projects with a capacity of 148,000 tons.

In 18 of the existing clusters (14.7%) there are 5 stages of cotton processing, in 22 (18%) 4 stages, in 30 (24.5%) 3 stages, in 36 (29.5%) 2 stages and 16 stages (13.3%) covered 1 stage (100% share in total cotton processing).

Grain clusters produce 538 thousand tons of flour per year (18% of total flour production), 263.8 thousand tons of mixed fodder, 54.3 thousand tons of bakery products, 221.0 tons of fruit and vegetable clusters. modern refrigerated warehouses with a capacity of 68 thousand tons, processing 683.2 thousand tons (share in the total processing of fruits and vegetables 24.4%), sorting 84.0 thousand tons, packaging 44.0 thousand tons, 53.0 thousand tons product drying facilities were commissioned.

18.5% of the gross agricultural output is produced by agro-clusters. As a result of this work, more than 152,000 new jobs have been created in the regions over the past 5 years.

Particular attention was also paid to improving the income of producers by ensuring that clusters achieve high productivity through the rational use of natural and material resources.

As a result of the introduction of science, innovation and advanced technologies in the industry by clusters, in 2016-2020 the yield of cotton will increase from 26.4 ts / ha to 30 ts / ha (+ 3.6ts / ha), grain yield from 57.8 ts / ha Increased by 64.1 ts / ha (+6.3 ts / ha).

As a result of the introduction of the cluster system, the material interest of producers has increased by 1.5 times. In particular, the average monthly salary of a worker in the cultivation of raw cotton in 2017 amounted to 750-800 thousand soums, and by 2021 - 2.5 million soums. soums (2.4 times more).

In 2019-2021, 394.3 thousand hectares of land were re-used by clusters and their partners (farms). Water-saving technologies have been introduced on 256,000 hectares of land.

To improve the legal framework for regulating contractual relations between clusters and farms, we propose the following:

- In the process of reforms in the agricultural sector, first of all, priority is given to the level of ensuring the interests of farms. Today, the cooperation of clusters and farmers is organized on the basis of full market principles;
- At present, 157 grain clusters with 36.0 thousand farms cultivate grain on 957 thousand hectares of land, 122 cotton and textile clusters in 135 districts grow cotton on 864 thousand hectares with 26.8 thousand farms. , 146 fruit and vegetable clusters are working on the basis

of futures contracts for the cultivation of fruit and vegetable products on 85.5 thousand hectares of land with 10 thousand farms;

- Today, there is a need to strengthen the legal framework for the regulation of contractual relations between clusters and farms, to ensure the free operation of agro-industrial clusters and cooperatives.

Our analysis shows that there is no single approach to the organization of agro-industrial clusters in Uzbekistan, in particular, more than 10 normative legal acts do not define the legal status of agro-industrial clusters, the order of organization, its criteria, rights and obligations, grounds for liquidation.

This, in turn, leads to a sharp increase in administrative interventions (local governments) in the process of organizing and liquidating agro-industrial clusters. As a result, inadequate clusters are being set up through the intervention of local governments, or, conversely, well-functioning clusters are being shut down.

In this regard, in order to prevent administrative interference, it should be firmly established that the status of the agro-industrial cluster and the termination of the right to lease land can be carried out only on the basis of a court decision. In addition, it is necessary to ensure the free operation of farms with agro-industrial clusters, including the abolition of the practice of mandatory attachment of agricultural producers to agro-industrial clusters.

In conclusion, in order to effectively organize the activities of clusters in the economy of Uzbekistan, we recommend the following:

classification and organization of cluster activities on the basis of the study of cluster theory and its scientific and methodological improvement;

analysis of views on evaluating the effectiveness of organizational, economic and financial mechanisms of cluster activities;

improvement of organizational and economic mechanisms of state coordination of cluster activities;

Improving the system of indicators representing the financial results of clusters and the methodology of their analysis;

improvement of methods for evaluating the effectiveness of services provided by clusters;

development of a methodology for evaluating the effectiveness of cluster activities on the basis of a complex indicator.

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