



IMPROVING FOOD SAFETY MECHANISMS IN UZBEKISTAN

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Article history:	Abstract:
<p>Received: 17th August 2022 Accepted: 17th September 2022 Published: 23rd October 2022</p>	<p>This article is devoted to the issues of food safety, which is one of today's global economic problems, and the improvement of food safety mechanisms in Uzbekistan. In addition, the article reveals the extent of work carried out to ensure food safety in Uzbekistan on the basis of practical analysis, and relevant conclusions and recommendations are highlighted.</p>
<p>Keywords: Milk and milk products, food products, food safety, food industry, processing of agricultural products, livestock products, agro-industrial complex, standards of rational consumption.</p>	

INTRODUCTION

The major global food corporations are Nestle, Pepsi, Anheuser-Busch InBev, JBS, Tyson Foods, Archer Daniels Midland, Mars, Cargill, Coca-Cola, and Kraft Heinz, and these corporations include plant-derived ingredients, nutritional health products, vitamins and supplements, have defined the production of products that are alternatives to meat (meat substitutes) as strategic areas of their activities. The sustainable development of the country's economy directly depends on the adequate supply of food products to the population. It is known that the problem of shortage of food products is emerging during the rapid development of the world economy and the processes of globalization.

Also, the experience of developed countries shows that, compared to large manufacturers, private entrepreneurs producing food products require less capital expenditure, are compact, can quickly change the types of products they produce depending on the demand and supply in the market, have flexibility, and get faster and bigger profits. is characterized by the ability to use all the possibilities of production capacities and rapidly modernize them. In addition, compared to large enterprises, the management system is much simpler, the ability of employees to perform several tasks at once, the production of quality products, and the level of effectiveness of each soum spent are under the control of the entrepreneur.

ANALYZES AND METHODOLOGY

The food problem requires the whole world to develop a long-term strategy to fight hunger. The socioeconomic development strategy of our country requires, on the one hand, the development of independent principles, and on the other hand, the development of the theoretical foundations of the integration of the world economy and the formation of food markets. Also, it is necessary to study the characteristics of the food

problem at the current stage of the world, between countries and regions.

The demand and supply of food products, their practical and theoretical aspects, and their features have not been fully considered. In addition, the demand for food products has only its characteristics. Because the reason for the uniqueness of the demand in the food market is, firstly, the consumption characteristics of the population for food products, and secondly, the ability of the population to pay. However, in the available scientific literature, the study of the demand for a certain group of food products and the analysis of economic-mathematical models with hypothetical conditions of supply and demand in the food market are indicated. In overcoming these problems, according to American agricultural experts, the following factors affect the demand in the food market:

- environmental cleanliness of food products and the presence of elements useful for health;
- an ecologically clean environment that grows food that can be used for animal and plant food;
- - always and regularly supply the market with food products;
- availability of cheap and quality food products, etc.

Two main aspects of food supply should be considered. First of all, regardless of the population's area of residence, its physical access to the main types of food products is considered, and in order to satisfy the needs of the population, it means that the physical volume of food products should reach the last consumer continuously. Physical capacity is not only related to the production of a sufficient amount of food products but also provides for the solution of tasks such as the smooth delivery of these products to all regions of the country.

The volume of production of milk and milk products is also growing in the republic. The largest volume of milk production by farm category was recorded in farmers' (personal assistant) farms, 10,184.6 thousand tons or 95.1 per cent of the total production volume. In 2020,



the lowest volume was observed in organizations carrying out agricultural activities, 68.8 thousand tons or 0.6 per cent of the total production volume of dairy products were produced. Compared to 2019, in the

indicated periods, there were an increase of 15.1 per cent in farm holdings and 1.9 per cent in dehqan (personal assistant) holdings.

Table 1. Production of milk and milk products in Uzbekistan [1]

<i>Products</i>	<i>The 2010 year</i>	<i>The 2015 year</i>	<i>The 2020 year</i>	<i>2020 compared to 2010. in %</i>	<i>2020 compared to 2015. in %</i>
Milk and milk products (thousand tons)	307.2	464.5	558.2	181.7	120.2
Cheese and brinza (thousand tons)	2.6	7.5	9.0	346.2	120.0
Dry milk mixture for baby food (thousand tons)	616.9	76.2	63.6	10.3	83.5
Ice cream (thousand tons)	6.5	15.2	19.2	295.4	126.3

In 2020, the production of milk and milk products in the republic increased by 181.7% compared to 2010, and by 120.2% compared to 2015. The production of cheese and brinza increased by 346.2% in 2020 compared to 2010 and by 120.0% compared to 2015. However, the production volume of dry milk mixture for baby food in the republic has a tendency to decrease.

New high-quality brands are entering the market of Uzbekistan, including Arla cheese, Castello, Puck and others. Arla products are the few products in Europe with the "Halal" certificate. This, in turn, makes it possible for the product to be in demand in Muslim countries. Arla is currently the largest dairy company in the world. Also, the new Essi brand is widely developing in the field of dairy products. The general appearance (design) and shape of the new brand have been tried to stand out among competing products. It also applies to the natural yoghurt of the company "Panda Milky". However, there are cases where the branding practices of our local enterprises steal or imitate foreign brands. For example, "Dobroe derevenskoe utro", Nestlé Uzbekistan is one of the largest producers of milk and milk products in the market of Uzbekistan, producing milk and milk products in 2 factories in Tashkent city and Namangan region. In 2013, new dairy products began to be produced after re-equipment (Nestle SUTIMTM, with different fat levels, Nestle butter, chocolate-milk shake Nesquik began to be produced. Currently, the company "Nestle Uzbekistan" produces more than 22 types of milk and dairy products in 2019 The French company Lactalis is buying the business of Nestle Uzbekistan. Of course, such a situation creates an opportunity to enter the European market, but it is still far from becoming a national brand. These problems indicate that the marketing strategy

and branding practices in enterprises are not satisfactory.

In recent years, in global practice, the issue of providing the population with food products has been connected with food safety. It should be noted that there is no unified system of concepts of food security and its assessment specific to Uzbekistan in the current national economic literature. Because scientists conducting research within the framework of agricultural economics have different approaches to the issue of food security. Also, some of them consider the use of the concept of food security in the formation of the economy as an action not based on experience. They look at this direction as a priority policy based on the protection of the agrarian sector of the economy, not on increasing the production of food products per capita, increasing the income of the population, and not ensuring the stability of the supply of products. Some scientists, however, and on the contrary, they put forward the opinion that it is necessary to consider the issue of food security at the national level within the framework of economic-social and even political security. The issues to be resolved in this direction envisage the careful implementation of the food policy, which covers a number of the following main strategic directions:

- stimulation of agricultural development at the expense of distribution of national income;
- to carry out a socially oriented policy in order to fundamentally improve the nutritional level of all socio-demographic groups of the population.

The concept of food security was defined by the UN World Food Council as a policy that allows increasing the production of basic food products in the country,



improves supply systems, and protects consumer interests.

The experience of foreign countries shows that even economically developed countries cannot always achieve self-sufficiency in food products. For example, Japan imports large amounts of food, and despite fluctuating domestic demand, domestic production is only 50 per cent of its self-sufficiency level. However, the country does not depend on other countries for food supply, national companies engaged in buying food products from abroad and selling them in the domestic market have the opportunity to import the necessary types of food products. In addition, Japan participates in international trade as a major exporter, and its income from exports is higher than its import costs.

In recent years, the U.S. population has grown due to rising real incomes, an increase in the quality and variety of food products, and the purchase of convenient convenience foods. Also, in the US, consumers' attention to the environmental safety, freshness and price of food products has increased.

It is known that no matter how much food is produced, the population counts. Therefore, the demographic situation of the population in developed and developing countries is somewhat different. The population of developed countries (Europe, North America, Japan, Australia, Canada) reached 1.2 billion people at the end of the 20th century, and 4.9 billion people in developing countries. According to economic forecasts, the population of the first group of countries will remain

almost unchanged by 2050, while 39 of these countries - especially in Eastern Europe - may even see a decrease. On the other hand, the population in developing countries will grow to 8.2 billion [2]. The population of 48 developing countries will increase three times from 653 million to 1.8 billion. This balance shows that As a result of the active expansion and deepening of the integration processes of economic relations in food networks, the international spread of scientific, technological and managerial knowledge, the improvement of market mechanisms leads to an increase in the volume of food production. It also solves the issues of providing food products and achieving food safety. Because the population's demand for food products is satisfied not only based on their physiological requirements but also based on their ability to pay and material well-being. To meet the ever-growing needs of the population, to stimulate demand is to profit in this way. Optimizing the activity of an entrepreneur who organizes production, the interests of producers,

RESULTS

Also, the analysis of developed countries shows that in 40 years food consumption has increased by 1.1 times, while in developing countries it has increased by 1.4 times. The growth of this indicator was mainly due to Asian countries by 1.4 times and to a lesser extent by 1.2 times in South and Central America and African countries [4].

Table 2. Per capita food consumption by world region (kcal per day) [5]

<i>Regions and countries</i>	<i>1999</i>	<i>2005</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2019</i>
The world average	2433	2535	2711	2808	2898
Developing countries	2138	2288	2519	2684	2709
Developed countries	3144	3220	3320	3245	3320
Africa	2204	2288	2337	2415	2493
Asia	2119	2255	2550	2723	2833
North and Central America	2873	3051	2240	3402	3650
Latin America	2458	2651	2608	2845	2945
Europe	3212	3329	3381	3236	3200

The main goal of food security at the state and international levels is the sustainable development of the economy and the balancing of food product markets.

The main goal at the regional level is to provide all groups of the population with a level of income that guarantees the consumption of food following established standards.

At the level of social groups (families) of the population, it is necessary to ensure that food products are consumed in accordance with rational norms in terms of quantity, assortment, and quality [6-13].

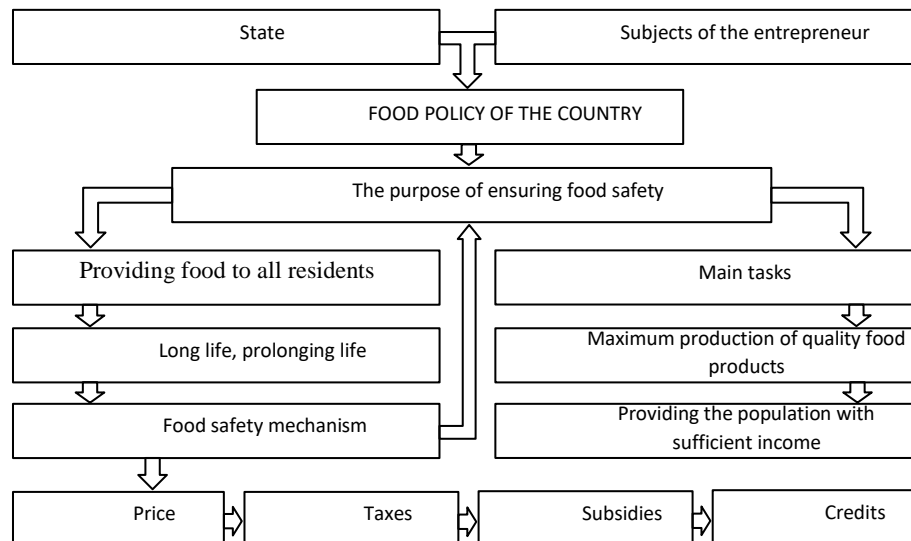


Figure 1. The policy of the state in ensuring food safety and its essential aspects

Achieving food security requires the implementation of the following important tasks by the state.

1. Creating a stable economic environment;
2. Compliance with world food safety standards by assisting business entities in technical and technological supply;

3. To solve socio-demographic issues, to ensure employment of the population, especially those living in rural areas, to reduce poverty;
4. Helping to form a local and then a national brand by ensuring competitiveness in the development of milk and milk products.

Table 3. Food safety criteria

T/r	Criteria	Description
1.	High level of food safety	Complete supply of food products, adequate reserves and capacity to export to international food markets
2.	Sustainable food security	Complete supply of basic food products, export to international food markets
3.	Food safety	Food supply is limited, with excess imported from neighbouring countries.
4.	A threat to food safety	The existence of a crisis, food security is not ensured
5.	The fatal threshold of the food supply	The country is completely dependent on imports for its food supply
6.	Disaster in the food supply	Famine situation, natural and emigration reduction of the population

Food security is an important component of national security because it ensures the sustainable production of staple foods and their availability to the population. These circumstances imply that the national brand should, first of all, meet the requirements of food safety. It is important to improve the organizational and economic mechanism of management in food industry enterprises, the conceptual foundations of effective organization of relations between state and industrial enterprises, to improve food industry enterprises based on modern management principles based on strategies to increase the competitiveness of the industry.

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