Food security as a factor of sustainable national economic development

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Abstract. Food security is constantly evolving. In the course of its development, some priority tasks are solved and new ones arise. Today, when food independence has been achieved for the most part, there is a need to assess the contribution of food security to the sustainable development of the country and identify approaches to the effective impact of measures to strengthen national food security on the development and stability of socio-economic development. To do this, the study analyzes the system of criteria for food security, substantiates its complexity nature and delineates the spheres of impact of food security on the sustainable development of the country. The analysis of food security as a system of individual security conditions is carried out and the directions of the impact of measures to ensure national food security on the integrated sustainable development of the national economy are formulated. The role of food security in ensuring the social comfort of the population is outlined.

1 Introduction

The need to ensure food security is being discussed both at the international and national levels. A culture of food security has begun to take shape within the framework of the activities of the European Union. In Russian conditions, food security has been practiced for quite a long time, even when such activities did not refer terminologically to food security. It is known that the problem of food shortages and hunger among certain segments of the population, including the peasantry and the urban population, has periodically arisen over a long historical period of time. Over time, especially since the second half of the twentieth century, the most acute threats to food security, such as hunger, were eradicated, and society began to deal with more specific issues of food security, such as providing the domestic market with domestic food products and overcoming the shortage of certain types of food in retail trade. These problems could not be solved before the transition to market relations. With the establishment of market relations, the food market as such was formed, which affected the level of efficiency of agricultural production and saturation of the retail food market.

At the same time, the stage of transition of the Russian economy to market relations has identified key pain points in food security. First of all, we are talking about the problem of ensuring national food independence, as a condition in which the population's need for key types of food is provided by 80-90 percent by national, domestic production.
adoption of the food security doctrine and the implementation of the national project for the development of the agro-industrial complex, the problem of food independence was largely solved, which increased the overall level of food security of the country.

Today we are wondering whether food security, as a secured socio-economic condition of the national economy, characterized by a certain set of indicators, can have a positive impact on the sustainable development of the country. According to the working hypothesis of this study, such an impact is possible, and consists in the complex impact of the food production sector on employment in the country (through related and service industries), in expanding export opportunities and in stabilizing the national food market in terms of food price accessibility and safety and quality.

The purpose of this study is to determine the role of food security in the sustainable economic development of the country and to identify approaches to increasing the contribution of food security to the sustainable development of the nation.

Research objectives:
- to characterize the role of food security in sustainable development;
- to substantiate the ways of further development of national food security.

2 Materials and Methods

Currently, the attitude towards food security in science is changing. The utilitarian meaning of the concept of food security is increasingly being replaced by a system-forming meaning. A relatively new concept of food security is becoming the subject of reflection from the standpoint of the role of food security in the socio-economic development of the country, ensuring positive dynamics of national economic growth and creating conditions for general economic security. Most studies focus on assessing the contribution of food security actions to the sustainable development of the agro-industrial complex. Thus, the close relationship between the level of effective demand for food and the sustainability of the development of the agro-industrial complex is emphasized [1]. The role of state support for agriculture in ensuring food security is substantiated [2]. In some studies [3], the direct contribution of food security to the sustainable development of the national economy is highlighted and the importance of measuring and managing national food security is argued.

The role of sustainability of agricultural development in solving social problems of society is investigated [4], which may indicate conclusions about the contribution of the effective functioning of the agro-industrial complex to the sustainable development of society. Food security is considered as an inseparable element of national economic security [5], which serves as a justification in favor of in-depth monitoring of food security. The contribution of food security to the health of the nation is assessed [6], which should certainly relate to the food security and its formation are also considered as an intrinsic category [7], the importance of which is unquestionable. This means that the role of food security in sustainable development is not disputed. It is of great interest to conclude that the innovative nature of the development of agro-food systems can have a positive impact on the level of socio-economic development of the country [8].

Thus, a review of scientific publications on the contribution of food security to sustainable national economic development shows that this topic is of interest to a wide range of researchers, while the prevailing trend in scientific conclusions is the statement that food security has an unconditionally positive role in the sustainable development of society. However, there is also a widespread belief that achieving food security can pursue narrower goals related to the interests of the population on the one hand and the subjects of the agro-industrial complex on the other hand. From our point of view, such a view of food security appears to be very limited and creates a natural contradiction between the interests of the ...
population (achieving social goals of food security related to physical and economic accessibility of food) and the interests of business entities of the agro-industrial complex (economic efficiency, which is based on profit from economic activity). In our opinion, the resolution of this contradiction may consist in systematizing the role of food security in the sustainable development of society and the country.

The present study is based on such methods as monographic-in terms of evaluating the published results of previously conducted studies, the method of summarizing the results of observations-in terms of considering the processes occurring in the agro-food sector and the socio-economic system as a whole, the method of assessing risks and threats-in terms of identifying factors that pose risks to sustainable socio-economic development, a method of system analysis-in terms of defining the consideration of food security as a system consisting of separate states, the totality of which determines the level of achievement of food security, the method of socio-economic design in terms of selecting approaches and ways to solve the problems of insufficient development of food security systems and creating conditions for its unhindered influence on strengthening sustainable national economic development.

3 Results and Discussion

To assess food security as a factor of sustainable national economic development, it is necessary to consider food security as a system of conditions that ultimately provides comprehensive protection against threats in the food sector. The following conditions are distinguished as elements of national food security.

1. The ability to produce food—this condition is assessed by the resource availability of the agro-industrial complex from the standpoint of land, biological, human and financial resources.

2. The ability to transform food into ready-to-eat food products is determined by the level of development of the sphere of procurement, food and processing industry, the level of innovative development of the sphere of processing agricultural products, scientific, technical and technological progress in this area, the availability of advanced achievements of scientific and technical thought to domestic economic entities.

3. The ability to ensure the availability of food in the retail trade. This is a complex, multi-vector state, depending both on the sufficient volume of food production and on the ability to process them on an industrial scale, as well as on the state of the transport system and warehouse facilities. We can confidently say that this component of food security has significantly strengthened against the background of the transition to a market economy, since it is modern trade that represents the most acceptable option for the supply system of the population with a variety of food products for every taste. At the same time, it should be borne in mind that in conditions of a critical increase in demand (hype) or a temporary decrease in supplies from the production sector, there may be interruptions in the supply of food to the retail sector, which may manifest itself in the form of a lack of certain types of food in trade (shortage) or in the form of a sharp increase in prices (acceleration of inflation). This indicates the need for further improvement of the food retail sector.

4. The price availability of food to the population is one of the most sensitive components of food security for the population, which consists in a subtle reaction of the mood of the population as a mass consumer of food to price spikes for basic food products. There are cases of price spikes for individual food products, as well as the general observed trend towards a gradual long-term increase in prices in the retail food market. This aspect is consciously or unconsciously recognized by the population as a key characteristic of the state of food security. The levers of regulation of this condition consist of such factors as the coverage of the agricultural resource base with the ability to produce food (percentage of, 0.040 (2024).
1. Food security as a condition for maximum utilization of the national agrarian resource heritage—agricultural lands, water, biological resources, rural population. In the context of the adoption by the state of systematic, comprehensive measures to ensure food security, it is possible to maximize the coverage of national food production resources, which implies achieving greater full use of the national wealth of the country.

2. Food security as a condition for the development of foreign economic activity. With optimal adjustment of the functioning of the agro-industrial complex, it is possible to saturate not only the domestic food market, but also to ensure the export of food to the world market.

3. Food security as a condition of national food comfort—terms of assortment, security and price stability of the market. By implementing measures to effectively stimulate the production of agricultural raw materials and their processing, the state can ensure the maximum level of competition in the food market, which means the highest level of food quality and safety and at the same time the highest price availability. Ultimately, food security, providing food comfort in the country, can significantly strengthen the overall social comfort in society. As a result of measures to develop food security, the State can achieve greater social stability.

4. Food security as a factor in strengthening the health of the nation and increasing the longevity of the population. By developing and promoting healthy nutrition priorities, taking measures to ensure the affordability of the safest food products that guarantee a healthy lifestyle and lifestyle, the state can achieve a significant reduction in the prevalence of alimentary-dependent diseases, reduce the burden on the health system in terms of the cost of treating diseases of an alimentary nature, and reach the target parameters of the nation's health level and the average life expectancy of the population.

4 Conclusion

Thus, as a result of the conducted research, a conclusion was formed about the significant role of food security in ensuring sustainable national economic development.
emphasized that the causal relationship under consideration is multiple in nature and assumes the impact of food security on the number of jobs in the economy, the development of industries serving the agro-industrial complex, saturation of the food market with safe and affordable goods, achieving greater social stability and strengthening the health of the nation. All these criteria for the contribution of food security to socio-economic development indicate that such a contribution is long-term in nature and, in terms of the duration of positive consequences, significantly exceeds the duration of the generational change, which, according to established practice, is approximately 20 years. This fact confirms that food security has not only a medium-term effect on the state of the socio-economic system of the country, but also leads to a sustainable long-term effect, which meets the criteria of sustainable development.

It should be recognized that in an effort to improve the effectiveness of socio-economic development management, the state should look for those factors that provide the greatest long-term effect exceeding a 20-year period. Food security fully meets this requirement, and therefore the adoption of measures to ensure food security should go beyond departmental policy, primarily beyond the interests of the national agrarian department represented by the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation. Ensuring food security is also largely the competence of those departments responsible for scientific and technological progress, innovative development, antimonopoly control, trade, transport and healthcare. With such an integrated approach, food security management can lead to the results discussed in the article – improving the effectiveness of ensuring conditions for sustainable economic development of the country.

References

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