

FARMERS COOPERATIVES IN GEORGIA AS KEY FACTOR FOR FOOD SECURITY

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INTRODUCTION

In a many countries, where agriculture makes an important and dynamic contribution in national economy, farmers creating Cooperative Organizations in order to help individual farmers and farming in General, to make it more stable, progressive and rentable. Lack of this type of stable farmers will set obstacles to other fields of economy in fully applying its potential for developing food security systems in Country. Major key role in this respect is assigned to personal initiative guaranteed by defense of human rights and by immunity of economical activities. In this case agriculture can also make its big contribution into economical growth of the country, especially considering the inevitability and absolute necessity of food security for any sovereign country. And this first is hardly possible without well organized food industry and agriculture production. In agriculture production I mean big farming and family farming, as their number was increased after state land privatization.

PURPOSE OF THE WORK

Before the breakdown of Soviet Union structure of agriculture enterprises in Georgia was distributed the following way: collective farming -41%, Soviet farming-46%, and family farming -13%. After disintegration of soviet country and applying of land reform in independent Georgia 99.8 % of agricultural enterprises comes on family farming, but not to farmer's cooperatives unfortunately. In c r eased number of farmers told on increase of their share in the whole agricultural production in the country. It is also worth to mention that unfortunately overall agricultural production was decreased in average -12 times. Level of country's self supply in food production was also decreased and for the moment it equals to 57% on basic food products: eggs-66%, milk 70.7%, meat-59%, sugar-20 %, vegetable oil-23.6%, vegetables-83%, potatoes-92%, wheat-31%, etc. Georgian Government considers agricultural development as high priority for the country. First steps in rehabilitating comprises detailed research and separate fields for identification of most important problems, after analyzing of collected data concrete activities should be planned and applied in a consistent manner.

METHODS

leading role in the whole Georgian economy puts no doubt on the essential role of farmers cooperatives to work well.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

The Association for Farmers Rights Defense, AFRD is considers creating, running and financing establishment of Farmers Cooperatives in Georgia already successfully functioning in other countries (Europe, Eastern Europe, US, Canada, Australia and South America etc). AFRD has prepared the draft-bill for Farmers Cooperatives (with USDA Experts) in Georgia, which could help to solve food security problems. Farmers Cooperatives will guarantee high availability on basic food such as cereals, roots, tubers, etc, and their nutritional components. In spite of social status of communities. Georgia is divided in 11 agro-ecological zones, which gave to local householders produce seasonal products during year 2-4 times. Food reserves is one of the important for all country especially for the developing countries, where Some positive factors could be as farmers easy access to improved inputs, increased level of seed materials, local supply availability, or farmers deciding to cultivate more land for food crops. In this summer In Georgia the Government bought from US Maize grain (hybrid) and this will meet farmer's future needs in food security. The trade and policy aspects of Georgia are very important for food availability of local communities especially for vulnerable population and people living in poverty.

Conclusions

However, availability may be quickly reduced if import will be minimized and changed conditions for import and export, which means less trade and lowered availability. It is hard to find an indicator for the policy side, but it should not be left out of the picture on food availability in our country.