



Principal Research Areas in Food Security in Central Asian Countries

Shavkat Hasanov

Head of International Department, the Samarkand Agricultural Institute

Global social and economic changes promote the responsible choice of two types of strategic development of countries in the world. On the one hand, climate changes, rise in resource shortages, rapid population growth increase the growth of global problems, the cost of life and economic problems in different countries. On the other hand, general development forces and leads to sharing of available resources, ensures efficient solutions for improvement of population health, growth of national and regional economies.

The economy of Central Asian countries is of great importance in the world because of the development in close cooperation, cultural proximity, warm and close relations, which provide opportunities for rational decision making for the sake of general development. Distortion of economic relations at the beginning of independence as well as less effective use of potential opportunities of integration could slow down the economic development of these countries. Nevertheless, the responsibility of scientists is not only to challenge national economic issues but also to find a common solution for the regional economic issues and to prepare recommendations for politicians and businessmen to raise public awareness on this issue. An electronic journal in integrated water resource management in Central Asia (IWRM-CA) has been created for that; it expands the opportunities of cooperation in Central Asia and co-working of scientists from all over the world.

Scientific researches in Central Asian countries are mainly related to the issues of food security. The main peculiarities and factors of food security are defined differently in different sources of literature. In our concept the main definitions and shaping factors of food security are as follows:

- **Edibility of food products** (local productions; volume of imports; food supplies, food aid).
- **Physical and economic access to food products** (purchasing power; household income; transport and market infrastructure).
 - **Stability of supply and access** (weather variability, price fluctuations, political and economic factors).
 - **Food products usage** (food safety, production hygiene: primary agricultural industry, storage, development of food industry, transport,

retail trade, private households; quality of diets and their diversity; satisfaction of the demand in energy, macro- and micro-elements).

Study of food security and scientific and practical application of the recommendations in the Central Asian countries, first of all, will help to ensure the high quality of food products for inhabitants of these countries. At the same time we can consider it as a benefit for manufacturers, industry and business, and, undoubtedly, it is going to be good for these areas as a collateral effect.

Therefore, the publication of scientific and research works in the journal will provide an opportunity to solve the problems of food security in the Central Asian countries. Besides, the research of the issue of food security and its results and recommendations can be published as the following results:

- improvement of food, agricultural and innovation systems, attraction of investments for research and development, adaptation of technologies, education, training, extension service and provision of successful practice in life;
- promotion of technological development and provision of incentives to solve the problem of climate variability, specific and sustainable use of resources (land and water);
- forecasts of production vulnerability and food safety in the Central Asian countries;
- efficient energy use in agriculture necessary for food production;
- increase of the capacity of the food reserve system;
- state support of effective, well-functioning mechanisms of assistance to facilities with low income in developing countries during the crisis of food prices;
- instability of prices to food products based on development and strengthening of institutions and networks for improvement of coordination and timeliness for the purpose of creating the level of expertise and achievement of conformity and coordination of policy.
- **economic assessment of drinkable water and industrial usage of water resources for food security;**
- economic and social consequences of development of supply chain ensuring food security.

We hope that such researches and recommendations will have fruitful results in Central Asian countries.

We appreciate all results of researches and expect scientific articles that will highlight most recent data related to the problems in Central Asia. Therefore, I wish success to the founders of the journal in their hard but so important work.

Thank you for your kind attention!