FOOD SECURITY IN ECONOMIC ASPECTS

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Abstract: The concept and essence of the business process

Key words: business process, efficiency, design, innovation, profit.

The Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation assesses the indicator of physical accessibility at the level of subjects of the country based on statistics. The report of the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation on the state of the Russian PB in 2013 notes that in most regions of the country at the end of the year the standards for the target indicator of physical accessibility were exceeded. The report notes that the commissioning of retail space in the Orenburg region, the Chechen Republic, and the Stavropol Territory made it possible to achieve and exceed established standards [2].

It should be noted that according to the FAO guidelines, physical access is understood as the development of transport infrastructure. The indicator criterion is the territorial availability of products, calculated by the ratio of the level of retail prices for similar groups of goods in different regions of the country.

The difference in the target indicators for assessing physical accessibility is associated with different approaches that underlie the methods [1]:

1. FAO emphasizes the importance of ensuring the region’s stable supply of food products regardless of where they are manufactured, which requires the availability of a well-developed transport infrastructure.

2. In the Doctrine of the Russian Federation, the main priority is to meet the needs of the population through local production, for which a trade infrastructure should be developed that allows food to be brought to the consumer with a minimum number of intermediaries. In this work, the analysis uses the recommendations of the Doctrine [3].

Approved by the Government of the Russian Federation, the methodology for assessing physical accessibility does not take into account the main condition for achieving it, as specified in the Doctrine, - the provision of retail space for each citizen. As a result of the assessment, the national average value of the criterion is overestimated, since its high indicators in large cities offset the low values in small towns, which requires an adjustment to the existing methodology.

The third condition for achieving food security, in accordance with the Doctrine, is to ensure the affordability of food.

The key indicator in the field of economic affordability is the share of food expenditures in the structure of consumer spending. The Minister of Agriculture of Russia, reporting at a government meeting on monitoring and the state of food security in 2017, noted that, according to the results of the year, the share of expenditures on the purchase of food products in the structure of consumer spending in the country decreased by 0.7 percentage points and amounted to 27.4%.

The Minister notes that this indicator is better than in Lithuania, where the indicator reaches 34%, but worse than in Poland (25%), Luxembourg and the United Kingdom (9% each) [4].

It should be noted that in accordance with the methodology used by the Ministry of Agriculture of the Russian Federation, the indicator is calculated as the average value for all population groups, therefore, the incomes of a rich group of the population level out part of the missing incomes of the poor group of people, as a result of which the value of the indicator is overstated. To conduct a correct assessment of economic affordability, it is necessary to develop
a methodology for calculating the indicator that eliminates the estimation error noted above.

In order to ensure economic affordability of food products by population groups with different incomes, in July 2014 the Concept for the Development of Domestic Food Aid in the Russian Federation was adopted [51] (hereinafter referred to as the Concept). In the framework of the Concept, the following ways of providing food assistance to the population were identified: the provision of funds for the purchase of food in specialized stores, the provision of free or preferential lunches for pensioners and disabled people. The amount of assistance, the conditions and the procedure for its provision are determined by state authorities of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation.

All payments within the framework of food aid are carried out at the expense of the budget of the constituent entity of the Russian Federation.

It should be noted that in accordance with the Doctrine of the Russian Federation, achieving PB means meeting the needs of every citizen of the country in rational food consumption standards, which is understood as a set of products that include food products in volumes and relationships that meet modern scientific principles of optimal nutrition, taking into account the prevailing structure and traditions nutrition of the majority of the population [6].

**Bibliography:**


