

# **Cooperation in the System of Spatial Development Management**

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Abstract. In the article, taking into account the current socio-economic situation in the country, the problems of spatial development are considered due to the extensive development of agricultural cooperation. Particular attention is paid in the article to potatoes, "second bread", the increase in production of which is largely determined by the provision of households with high-quality seeds and the possibility of selling surplus products. The article provides suggestions for strengthening the role of the state in the development of agricultural cooperation as main instrument of spatial development.

### 1. Introduction

Since the 1990s, the spatial organization of the economy of the Russian Federation has been transformed under the influence of changes in the factors of economic distribution, international trade conditions, and scientific and technological development. The most significant change in the spatial organization of the economy is the concentration of agricultural production in areas with the most favorable agro-climatic and soil conditions and an advantageous position relative to capacious consumer markets [2,5,7].

Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation dated February 13, 2019 No. 207-p approved the Spatial Development Strategy of the Russian Federation for the period up to 2025. It notes that the agro-industrial center is the territory of one or several municipal formations specializing in highly efficient agro-industrial production. Thus, agricultural production is recognized as an instrument of spatial development of the Russian Federation, as a way not only for organizing rural life, but also for industrial specialization of territories. We already noted the important role of agriculture for food security and import substitution [1,6,8].

The weakness of the market power of farmers and the growing influence of agriholdings necessitates a study of the role of the medium production unit, namely, agricultural cooperatives.

# 2. Legislation and proceedings

In accordance with the Federal Law of 08.12.1995 N 193- FZ "On Agricultural Cooperation", an agricultural cooperative is an organization established by agricultural producers and / or individuals leading private subsidiary farms on the basis of voluntary membership for joint production or other

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economic activity based on combining their property shares in order to meet the material and other needs of the members of the cooperative. Thus, an agricultural cooperative, being a legal entity, pursues the goal of uniting the labor of agricultural producers to obtain a synergistic effect and increase the efficiency of the activities of all members of the cooperative.

The specificity of the development of the agrarian sphere of Russia is that, despite long-term experiments to transform the forms of management, small forms of management remain, the stability of which is dictated by the prevailing living conditions of the rural population. And at the moment of the end of the twenty-first century of the XXI century, the share of households in the structure of production of main types of agricultural products is quite high (2017): for potatoes - 68.9%, for vegetables - 55.4%, for milk - 40, 2%, for meat - 19.1% [14, p. 369]. The hopes placed on the extensive development of farming in Russia are not yet justified due to financial difficulties, weak state support and increasing competition with large forms of business. Their share in the production of potatoes is 11.6%, vegetables - 19.0%, milk - 7.9%, meat - 3.0% [14, p. 369]. The survival of small farms and small farmers is in the formation and development of cooperation. The creation of specialized cooperatives will allow, due to the scale of production and personal interest, the quality of environmentally friendly products not only to survive in the competition, but also to contribute to the food security of the country. It is extremely difficult for farmers, individual entrepreneurs, households of the population to withstand competition in modern market conditions with agroholdings and large retail chains, which have a well-developed logistics in the trade and sales sphere. Small agricultural producers do not have enough financial capacity to integrate with networks. "Network services, according to expert estimates, can reach 20-40% of the value of the goods. Small producers, especially households and farmers, in fact, have no other way but to develop consumer cooperation "[10, p. 87]. The development of cooperation is exceptionally beneficial to small commodity producers, in fact, a guarantee of the sale of surplus agricultural products and the possibility of acquiring seeds and other material resources. The wide development of cooperation is extremely beneficial to the state, especially in the conditions of a decline in real incomes of the population. Confidence in the possibility of selling surplus agricultural products allows us to increase production volumes, mostly ecologically clean products, and secondly, a wide network of consumer cooperatives creates competition for large retail chains in terms of lower prices for everyday food products, and this is in conditions of low growth rates salaries and pensions are extremely important for stabilizing the social climate in the country, but, apparently, not from the standpoint of large retail chains that fear competition and partial the loss of profit.

#### 3. Current state

The arrival of large networks to district centers does not make life easier for small producers, the established integration of farmers and individual entrepreneurs with regional networks is falling apart, unable to compete with large networks. Large networks, as a rule, do not work with small producers, they prefer large as well as wholesale intermediaries, which allows them to offer lower prices compared to small producers.

At the same time, conditions for increasing agricultural production, as shown by the results of the 2016 All-Russian Agricultural Census, are improving: the average area of household plots increased from 40 acres in 2006 to 70 acres in 2016, and in rural areas the land area households reaches 80 acres. This creates a sustainable, (other things being equal) base for increasing the production of marketable products. In the face of rising prices and tariffs, the expected increase in unemployment will be an opportunity to attract labor resources in agriculture. It should not be forgotten that only the cultivated areas in Russia from 1990 to 2017 (inclusive) decreased by 37.7 million hectares.

A major role in creating conditions for increasing agricultural production and involving part of unoccupied land in circulation can also be played by expanding cooperative activities by assisting in marketing surplus production and providing farms with seed.

Due to the large share of potatoes and vegetables in the total production in small business forms, special attention should be paid to such a source of growth in agricultural production as seed farming



of potatoes and vegetables. To maintain the operating conditions of local producers and their outlets related to the sale of agricultural products of local farmers and households, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCI) proposes "to prohibit the entry of federal trading networks into settlements with a population of less than 100 thousand people." The fact is that "when a federal network enters a populated area and opens its stores, then around 20-30 outlets and local production facilities are closed in the district". (Ignatov O. Prodmag was surrounded. Russian newspaper. 05.15.2017).

And although the state provides some support for seed production, but judging by the results, apparently, by the residual principle. So, on the development of breeding and seed centers for 2016-2017 allocated about 300 million rubles. This is extremely small, given that the material and technical base of breeding and seed production has been undermined in the process of agricultural reform. At the same time, state support, with the proviso "in the presence of funds," is provided for, the reimbursement of direct costs incurred for the creation and modernization of potato stores and breeding and genetic centers in crop production. The amount of compensation in the presence of funds for various objects from 20 to 35% of all costs. In addition, there is a subsidy system, the limits on which are distributed by region, and the possibility of obtaining concessional loans at 5% per annum, only if there are quotas for such loans.

It should be noted that since 2017, subsidies for the purchase of elite seeds from the federal budget are carried out not in a targeted way, but as part of a single subsidy for regional producers, including in the field of seed potato production. State support is calculated on 1 hectare of sown area and takes into account the contribution of regional budgets. In 2017, the base rate per 1 ha was, according to the Ministry of Agriculture, 249.2 rubles, including 234.8 rubles from the federal budget. (94.2%), in 2016, respectively, 337.9 rubles. and 310.3 (91.8%), in 2015 493.5 and 308.3 (62.5%) [13, p. 46]. As can be seen from the above data, there is a clear tendency to reduce the size of subsidies, mainly from the federal budget. In EU countries, support for seed producers is up to 360 euros per hectare. The unified subsidy received by the regions under conditions of tension with regional budgets, being not specified, is used to purchase fuel, protection equipment, mineral fertilizers, seeds and other problems of the region, and there are quite a lot of them in conditions of low investment provision of the industry.

Taking up one of the leading places in the world in terms of potato production in the world, Russia lags significantly behind. And this is a consequence of systemic factors, among which the quality of domestic seed potatoes should be highlighted, the low share of domestic potato varieties on the Russian market. Monitoring the quality of seed potatoes, conducted in 2017 at the Rosselkhoztsentr Federal State Budgetary Institution, showed that of the total number of potatoes planted in agricultural organizations and farms of Russia, only 65.9% met the standard. It should be noted that the share of farms in the structure of the sown areas of potatoes and vegetables in 2017 was 13.7%, and agricultural enterprises - 13.8%, the majority of the sown areas (72.5%) were households where the quality of seeds is practically not controlled and their proportion is not high and it does not meet the standards. As a result, in farms of the population, potato yield is lower as compared to other forms of farming. In 2017, the State Registry approved the use of 428 potato varieties, of which 51.6% were created by domestic breeders. However, the share of varieties of domestic originators in the total volume of planted seeds was only 17.3%. Of the 10 leading varieties, 8 varieties belong to foreign originators and only two belong to the Russian selection. The high proportion of foreign originators in the seed potato market has a steady upward trend, which creates a real threat of further crowding out of the Russian variety production.

In modern conditions, a further increase in potato production requires a well-established system of providing all producers with high-quality varietal seeds of elite classes and higher reproductions. In this regard, an increase in production volumes and a cardinal improvement in the quality of seed potatoes is a key factor in the stable and profitable management of the potato industry.

But, given that the overwhelming amount of potato production is concentrated in the farms of the population, there is a very serious problem of meeting the demand of farms for high-quality seeds. The fact is that solving this problem in a short time can solve the problem of increasing production



volumes and meeting the needs of both the population and the processing industry, but along with the delivery of seeds, it is necessary to ensure the guaranteed acquisition of surplus, and essentially commercial potatoes from the population. And in solving this problem, agricultural cooperation can play a fundamental role. Lorch Potato Research Institute developed a questionnaire and conducted a survey of households engaged in potato cultivation in regions with a significant share of potato production. In the process of questioning, 194 respondents of households in the Bryansk, Kostroma, Moscow and other regions were surveyed. Of the total number of respondents surveyed, more than three quarters reacted positively to the wide development of cooperation. With further processing of the data obtained, a close relationship was found between cooperation and growth incentives for the sale of surplus potatoes in household farms. The closeness of communication was significant - 72%. No less strong relationship is observed in the interest of households in obtaining quality seeds with certain preferences. The interrelation between them was 70% and preference is given to two incentives: the first is to reduce prices for seed sold by the cooperative by 10% on the condition that they sell up to 1 ton of potatoes and lower prices to 30% when selling higher volumes of potatoes.

In the proposed questionnaire out of 194 respondents to the question "Should consumer cooperation in purchasing agricultural products be created in localities?" 78.9% responded positively, and the preference in interest in cooperation related to selling surplus and providing farms with high-quality seed material was roughly equally. The general interest in the broad development of cooperation in the countryside is very high, and here it should be noted that the decision on a broader development of cooperation is not only the field of activity of regional and municipal authorities (having a tight budget), but, above all, the federal authorities. The development of agricultural cooperation should be included in priority national projects, for its development contributes to the provision of the country's voluntary security.

In recent years, the state has begun to pay more attention to cooperation, and grants and grants have appeared for it. Subsidies are known to be centralized in the regions. The scheme of distribution of subsidies in agriculture has developed depending on the pressure of lobbyists as follows: up to 30% of their total volume settles in pig and poultry farming. The dairy industry receives about 15% of the annual volume of subsidies. At the same time, large complexes receive subsidies, and small producers and rural production cooperatives, according to the director of the Institute of Agrarian Marketing, E. Tyurina, receive "one tenth of the total amount of financing for agriculture" [12]. This is very small with their substantial numbers.

Since 2017, changes have been made to the system of obtaining grant support for agricultural credit consumer cooperatives. A one-year period has been established, the size of the cooperative is not less than 10 agricultural producers as members of a cooperative, 70% of the proceeds, which is generated through processing or marketing activities. The amount of the grant received on the development of the material and technical base of the cooperatives is up to 70 million rubles. (no more than 6%) costs for up to 18 months. In 2017, 61 constituent entities of the Russian Federation (72%) took part in the grant support of agricultural consumer cooperatives, 377.1 million rubles were allocated from regional budgets, and taking into account funds from the federal budget SKPK received 1,471.7 million rubles for grants. Differentiation of grants by region is the most significant in the cooperatives. The maximum grant in the Kursk region amounted to 47.4 million rubles. (in Moscow - 42.8 million rubles), and the minimum - in the Komi Republic (0.75 million rubles) and the Kostroma region (1.88 million rubles) [13, p. 97-100]. The average grant amount was 10.7 million rubles. Most of the funds received 45% of the recipients used for equipment for processing, 32% - for construction, for the purchase of special transport, payment of leasing and more.



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Financing	Years			2017 to
	2015	2016	2017	2015, % [13, p.90]
Support for novice farmers	3200,0	3821,0	3776,4	118,0
Support for family	3074,8	3449,9	3723,5	121,1
livestock farms				
Grant support for agricultural	400,0	900,0	1494,6	Increasing in 3,7 times
consumer				<i>3,7</i> times
cooperatives				
Reimbursement of	5098,5	2018,6	1304,1	Decreasing
interest rate on				in 2,6 times
loans to small				
business forms				
Total	11773,3	10194,5	10298,8	93,0

**Table 1.** Small agribusiness financing from the federal budget, mln rub.

Assessment the data in the table, the provision of finances for small agribusiness forms is reduced, in general, over three years by 7%. In the context of small forms for supporting beginning farmers and family livestock farms, subsidies grow by 18% and 21%, respectively. The support of agricultural consumer cooperatives in 2017 compared to 2015 is 2.6 times, and since 2016, 1.7 times has increased dramatically due to the low base for comparison. At the same time, the amounts going to reimburse interest rates for all types of loans taken by small forms of business, including cooperatives, began to decline significantly. Moreover, the decline is significant, from 5 billion rubles in 2015, up to 2 billion rubles in 2016 and 1.8 billion in 2017, which can not but affect the development of cooperation.

In conclusion, we note that cooperation is a form of combining personal and public interests, because the material support of shareholders depends on the end results of the cooperative as a whole. Cooperation has an impact on the development of the socio-cultural environment in rural areas. In external relations, the cooperation fits into the PPP mechanism, forming state-cooperative relations. Agricultural cooperation, the foundation of which is the small property of cooperatives, is characterized by elements of socialization of social relations.

It is necessary to clearly distinguish the essential foundations of production and consumer cooperation. In the Civil Code of the Russian Federation, production cooperatives were defined as commercial organizations, and consumer cooperatives as non-profit. In the amendments to the Law on Agricultural Cooperation adopted in 2006, consumer cooperatives were given the status of agricultural producers.

A production cooperative is, first of all, not a public business enterprise, it is a form of organization of the economy in the form of a cooperative. "A cooperative enterprise is not a charitable institution, not ... a political organization and not a labor union. It is an economic organization in the interests of a certain group of persons "[9, p. 68-69]. The development of agricultural consumer cooperation in modern conditions, taking into account the specialization of households of the population, owning land, leading agricultural production and receiving commodity surplus, can provide an increase in the volume of agricultural products. This concerns, first of all, potatoes and vegetables, whose share in the production of households of the population is within 70%. In increasing the production of potatoes and other products, the state is interested, which can really help in the organization and functioning of consumer agricultural cooperatives with grants, subsidies, tax concessions, and loans.

It should be emphasized once again that the fundamental point in the development of agricultural consumer cooperation on the basis of households and farmers in the conditions of market relations is the existence of land plots in ownership and this problem has been practically solved due to the reform



of agriculture. And V.Egorov is right, stating: "The factors that gave rise to agricultural cooperation in the distant past remain the necessary material basis for the growth of the cooperative sector today. As a few centuries ago, the starting points, the foundation of cooperation is the small property of farmers, sufficient to maintain their status as owners, and integration into market relations that stimulate the search for the missing resources to increase the efficiency of individual enterprises [3, p. 31].

A significant reversal of the state towards cooperation requires not only infrastructure investments and credit and tax incentives, but also the solution of legal problems. As is known, according to the Constitution of the Russian Federation (clause 8, Article 8) "In the Russian Federation, private, state, municipal and other forms of ownership are equally recognized and protected. Cooperative property is not allocated, which does not allow to consider it as an independent sector of the economy. Therefore, it is necessary to recognize the justified provision of the "Concept of development of the system of consumer cooperation for 2017–2021" that "that the separation of cooperation in a separate sector of the economy implies a legal permission of the cooperative form of ownership" [11].

In the "Concept of development of the system of consumer cooperation for 2017–2021," it is noted that "the unresolved issues of creating an integrated multi-level cooperation system" still remain. Cooperation in Russia is developing in the main areas of activity (production, consumer, insurance, credit, etc.) and taking into account industry specifics: agricultural, construction, housing, etc. This leads to difficulties in its security with tax-credit and financial-price mechanisms. As a result, the competitive conditions of consumer cooperation in market conditions are reduced.

In searching for a way out of the situation, the proposal of the Chairman of the Council of the Central Union of Consumer Societies (Tsentrosoyuz) D. Zubov, who believes that it is possible to build modern small logistics centers across the country, aimed at small agricultural producers, is interesting. Such logistics centers will conduct pre-sale preparation of potatoes for stores - wash, sort and pack it. "As soon as we resolve this issue, immediately the number of our own potatoes will grow, we will export it" [4].

The proposal is really interesting, but, given the tension with investment resources, one can hardly expect that the budget will undertake the construction of a huge number of logistics centers. It is more expedient to create numerous agricultural cooperatives with broad powers that guarantee small business management the purchase and export of excess products supplying potatoes and vegetables with seeds, fertilizers, means to combat diseases and pests, feed. Such cooperatives can take over the storage, processing and sale of agricultural products.

## 4. Conclusion

Financing of such cooperatives is based on membership fees, grants, concessional loans. Regions and municipalities are interested in creating cooperatives not only from the standpoint of increasing the production of marketable products and meeting the needs of the population, but also in terms of providing the rural population with work, preserving the social environment of the village, attracting the population and developing abandoned land. In principle, the creation of various agricultural cooperatives at the district level should play a crucial role in helping the budgets of all levels in transport, the construction of storage facilities and processing centers. It is advisable to finance this infrastructure in the Federal Target Program "Sustainable Development of Rural Areas ...". In the tax plan, cooperatives and their employees should be extended tax privileges for special socio-economic development areas. In modern market conditions, consumer cooperation is poorly supported by the state and is losing its shareholders and it needs to increase state support. It is advisable to introduce the "National Project for the Development of Agricultural Credit and Consumer Cooperation" into the system of state priorities in order to enhance its participation in ensuring the country's food security.

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