

## **POST WAR RECOVERY POLICY AND SUPPORT PROJECTS IN AGRICULTURE IN THE REPUBLIC OF ARTSAKH IN 2021**

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**Introduction.** The development of the agrarian sector is important for the development of the economy of the Republic of Artsakh. The main task of the development of agricultural production is to meet the demand of the economy for food and agricultural raw materials. In addition to a self-sufficient state, one of the priority tasks is to be able to export various agricultural products to foreign markets. The development of agriculture can have a significant impact on improving the macroeconomic situation in the country. Agriculture and village development is used all over the world, especially in our case, because rural development is a security issue for our country. According to the National Statistical Service of the Republic of Artsakh, the gross domestic product in 2019 amounted to 342.5 billion drams, and in 2020 - 270.9 billion drams. In 2019, the gross domestic product amounted to 70.6 billion drams, in 2020 - 56.5 billion drams, industrial production - 165.0 billion drams and 103.2 billion drams. Department of crop production in agricultural products in 2019 amounted to 30.7 billion drams, livestock - 39.8 billion drams, in 2020 these figures amounted to 22.2 billion drams - 34.2 billion drams. Studying the data presented in 2019 and 2020, it is not difficult to notice that in 2020 the gross domestic product (compared to 2019) decreased by 71.6 billion drams, which is conditioned by the 2020 epidemic, which reduced production, created problems in sales, as unleashed by Azerbaijan, the war on September 27, 2020. The share of agricultural products in GDP, respectively, the share of crop and livestock products has decreased. However, the development of the agricultural sector is a vital requirement, a source of survival. In 2021, the demand for many types of foods was met through imports. Taking into account the seriousness of the problems and challenges facing the country, the Government of the Republic of Artsakh has launched a number of support and development programs aimed at increasing the volume of crop and livestock products.

**Methodology.** We used methods of economic analysis, building statistic lines, conducting field research, particularly in the villages of Artsakh, as well as the method of comparative analysis and examined the economic indicators of growth in different

branches of the economy. Special attention is paid to the field of agriculture to reveal the capacity of Artsakh's economy to build and maintain proper level of food security.

**Literature review.** Considering the new realities and consequences after Azerbaijan's aggression and the 44-day war in Artsakh, including thousands of lost lives, as well as enormous material, technical, technological, financial and infrastructural damages to the economy of the country, no academic research was conducted and no scholarly articles are published on mentioned topic. Therefore, the only sources of literature and analytical data is taken from a number of sources of the Government of the Republic of Artsakh, including data from the National Statistical Service of the Republic of Artsakh, Ministry of Agriculture of the Republic of Artsakh.

**Scientific novelty.** Based on emerged post war circumstances, there is a vital need to design and use new approaches for economic development. In our study we emphasize the need of government involvement and state sponsored projects for speeding up the process of recovery and reconstruction of Artsakh's economy. From a food exporting country Artsakh is compelled to turn into a food importing republic due to the loss of the majority of agricultural lands currently being controlled by Azerbaijan. Therefore, there is a need to partially compensate the losses by increasing the productivity of work and improving the efficiency of production in agriculture. Moreover, we suggest to take required steps to establish solid and reliable industrial grounds for agriculture. This part of scientific novelty is subject to continuous research for the years to come.

**Analysis.** The 2021 programs of the agricultural crop sector in the Republic of Artsakh were aimed at the development of horticulture, greenhouses, vegetables, perennial fodder crops, tobacco cultivation. In 2021 22287.4 hectares of autumn crops were sown in the Republic under the harvest, of which wheat - 10928.5 hectares, barley - 9801.8 hectares - beech - 1557.1 hectares. 18759.9 ha of sown area was actually harvested, the gross harvest was 12861.4 c / ha average yield. The low rates are largely due to delays in sowing due to the war and then to unfavorable climatic conditions. The following measures have been taken this year within the framework of the "Comprehensive Crop Development Program in the Republic of Artsakh".

1. 168 farmers from 31 communities of the republic benefited from the measure of providing free financial assistance to persons engaged in greenhouses. The total area of the greenhouses was 47,751 square meters, of which 20,831 were heated and 26,920 were unheated. The amount of assistance in the case of a heated greenhouse was 600 drams per 1 square meter, in the case of an unheated greenhouse - 300 drams.

2. 198 farmers from 52 communities of the republic were the beneficiaries of the measure of providing free financial assistance to persons engaged in vegetable cultivation. The total area of sown areas was 410 hectares. The amount of support was 300

thousand drams per 1 hectare. It is noteworthy that the support was provided on the condition of cultivation of at least 0.25 ha.

3. In order to promote the development of horticulture, the cost of seedlings was partially subsidized in the amount of 1000 drams. Within the framework of the event, about 150 hectares of new orchards and berry orchards were established by 86 beneficiaries in 30 communities of the republic.

4. 27 beneficiaries received a surcharge of 20 drams per 1 kg for the sale of tobacco products. A total of 1131 tons of crop was procured from 158.6 hectares of tobacco fields.

5. For the cultivation of perennial fodder crops, 50 thousand drams were provided for financial support per 1 hectare. The beneficiary of the event was 74 land users, the sown areas of crops amounted to 278 hectares.

6. With the measure of providing free financial means to the persons building a new greenhouse, at least 100 sq.m. meters of area with a total area of 1 sq.m. 8000 drams per meter was provided, and the minimum was 500 sq.m. In case of establishing a greenhouse equipped with modern technologies with one complete area of 1,500 square meters, 22,000 drams per 1 meter support. The beneficiaries of the mentioned event were 82 applicants, by whom a total of 26441 square meters of new greenhouses were established, including 24079 square meters. meters in the traditional way and 2362 sq.m. modern.

In 2021 about 500,000 preventive injections were performed as part of anti-epidemic measures carried out by veterinarians in Artsakh. At the beginning of the year, cases of rabies, brucellosis, and flower epidemics were registered in the country. As a result of measures taken to prevent their spread, the epidemiological situation has stabilized in a short period of time. In the field of animal husbandry, several key programs have been implemented, aimed at compensating for the post-war losses, ensuring the growth of the livestock population, modernizing the methods of animal husbandry management, and improving the pastures. In the framework of the "Artificial insemination of agricultural animals" event, 310 heads of cattle and 100 heads of pigs were artificially inseminated. In order to improve the pedigree characteristics of the local livestock, in 2021 farmers were provided with 152 pedigree animals on preferential terms, including 10 pedigree bulls, 16 pedigree cows, 94 pedigree calves, 6 pedigree heifers, 26 pedigree pedigrees. Three agreements have been signed within the framework of the "Partial Subsidy Program for the Value of Imported Pets in the Republic of Artsakh". As a result, in 2021, 120 pedigree pregnant heifers were imported from Austria to Artsakh. As a result of the mentioned measures, as of December 1, a certain increase in the number of cattle was registered in the republic - 3.4%, including cows - 10.3%, pigs - 25.6%, small cattle - 11.7%, birds - 10.3%, bee colonies - 29%. With the help of the Hayastan All Armenian

Fund, the water supply system of a number of communities has been reconstructed, which will be a stimulus for the development of the relevant branches of agriculture.

**Conclusion.** Thus, the development of agriculture is crucial in the development of the economy of the Republic of Artsakh. This is the branch from which the socio-economic growth of the country derives - food security. In the post-war period, the state began to implement various support programs. A number of key projects have been launched in both the crop and livestock sectors, which will stimulate the development of the agricultural sector. It is difficult to reach the level we had before September 2020, but with a conscious attitude, significant success can be achieved.

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The development of agriculture and villages is important all over the world, especially in our case, because for our country the development of villages solves the problem of state security. According to the National Statistical Service of the RA, in 2019 the gross domestic product amounted to 342.5 billion AMD, and in 2020 - 270.9 billion AMD. In the gross domestic product, the share of agricultural products in 2019 amounted to 70.6 billion AMD, and in 2020 - 56.5 billion AMD. The decrease is due to the pandemic and the war in 2020. One of the options for overcoming the post-war economic crisis is support programs, serious changes in the agricultural sector, which will contribute to the development of agriculture. Undoubtedly, the development of this sector of the economy is a vital requirement, a source of survival. In 2021, the demand for many food products in the Artsakh Republic was met through imports from Armenia. Taking into account the seriousness of the problems and challenges facing the country, the Government of the Republic of Artsakh has implemented a number of measures, support and development programs aimed at increasing the volume of crop and livestock products. The 2021 development programs of the crop sector were aimed at promoting horticulture, greenhouses, vegetables, perennial fodder crops, tobacco cultivation. Success has been achieved in the field of animal husbandry. In addition to support programs, serious attention is paid to infrastructure development. With the help of the Hayastan All Armenian Fund, the water supply system of a number of communities has been reconstructed, which would be a stimulus for the development of the relevant branches of agriculture.