

FOREIGN EXPERIENCE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

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Abstract. In the context of globalization, agriculture remains a strategically important sector that ensures food security and sustainable regional development. The development of entrepreneurship in the agricultural sphere promotes innovation, increases competitiveness, and creates jobs in rural areas. This article explores international experiences in supporting and stimulating agricultural entrepreneurship, highlights key tools of public policy and private initiatives, and analyzes case studies from countries with successful practices in this field. Emphasis is placed on the applicability of these approaches in countries with transitional economies.

Key words: agricultural sector, entrepreneurship, agriculture, innovation, government support, sustainable development.

Introduction. Entrepreneurship in the agricultural sector plays a crucial role in ensuring the resilience of agri-food systems, modernizing agriculture, and increasing rural incomes. In developed countries, effective models for supporting agricultural entrepreneurs have long been established, involving a combination of financial mechanisms, institutional reforms, and digital technologies. Studying international experience allows us to identify effective tools that can be adapted to national contexts.

Agricultural entrepreneurship is characterized by high dependence on climatic conditions, seasonality, capital intensity, and relatively low profitability. Moreover, farmers and agricultural enterprises face challenges in accessing finance, markets, technologies, and educational resources. The development of agro-entrepreneurship requires comprehensive support from the state, the private sector, and international organizations.

Effective development of entrepreneurship in the agricultural sector plays a key role in improving the living standards of the rural population, ensuring sustainable employment, and increasing the volume of agricultural production. Supporting and developing small and medium-sized enterprises, individual entrepreneurs, and farming households contributes to the growth of gross value added and the profitability of agriculture. The formation of an efficient employment system, including both self-employment and hired labor, ensures social stability in rural areas and stimulates economic growth in agricultural regions.

Relevance of the study. Entrepreneurship in agriculture occupies a significant place in the economy of industrially developed countries and is one of the key elements of their market systems. It contributes to achieving an optimal economic structure, developing and implementing flexible strategies and tactics of economic management, promoting powerful economic innovation, maintaining a proper level of competition, accelerating innovation processes, shaping the social orientation of market relations, addressing employment issues, and ensuring balanced regional development across the country.

European Union. Effective development of entrepreneurship in the agricultural sector plays a key role in improving the living standards of the rural population, ensuring sustainable employment, and increasing the volume of agricultural production. Supporting and developing small and medium-sized enterprises, individual entrepreneurs, and farming households

contributes to the growth of gross value added and the profitability of agriculture. The formation of an efficient employment system, including both self-employment and hired labor, ensures social stability in rural areas and stimulates economic growth in agricultural regions.

United States. In the U.S., support programs for agribusiness exist at both federal and regional levels through:

- The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), which provides loans, insurance, and technical assistance;
- Agricultural cooperatives that strengthen the position of small producers;
- Agri-startup incubators and accelerators, supported by universities and private foundations.

China. China is actively pursuing modernization of its agricultural sector through:

- Investments in digital agriculture (e-agriculture, drones, big data);
- Development of agro-tourism and multifunctional farms;
- Microfinancing and subsidies for small agricultural enterprises in remote areas.

The Role of Innovation and Digital Technologies. Digital technologies have become a key factor in the development of agricultural entrepreneurship. The most promising directions include:

- AgTech: sensors, automation, AI-based analytics;
- Digital platforms for product sales and logistics;
- Financial technologies (FinTech) providing access to agri-loans and insurance;

In the Netherlands, agri-innovation clusters and close cooperation between science and business have created one of the most productive agro-systems in the world.

International Initiatives and Partnerships. Organizations such as FAO, IFAD, and the World Bank implement projects to support rural entrepreneurship through:

- Training and capacity-building for farmers;
- Development of value-added chains;
- Promotion of gender equality in the agricultural sector.

Conclusion. International experience demonstrates that sustainable development of agricultural entrepreneurship is possible through comprehensive support that includes public funding, innovation stimulation, and infrastructure development. Private sector involvement and international cooperation are also crucial. For countries with transitional economies, it is important to adapt best practices to local conditions, ensuring a balance between productivity, environmental sustainability, and social equity.

Foreign experience shows that sustainable development of agricultural entrepreneurship is possible under the condition of comprehensive support, including government financing, innovation stimulation, and infrastructure development. The involvement of the private sector and international organizations is of particular importance. For countries with transitional economies, it is crucial to adapt best practices taking into account local realities, ensuring a balance between productivity, environmental sustainability, and social equity.

In conclusion, fostering a resilient and competitive agricultural entrepreneurship sector requires a multi-faceted approach that integrates policy support, private sector engagement, and international cooperation. Tailoring strategies to local socio-economic and environmental conditions will enhance the effectiveness of development initiatives and contribute to long-term rural prosperity. This holistic framework is essential for achieving sustainable growth,

improving livelihoods, and addressing the complex challenges faced by the agricultural sector in transitional economies.

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