

## **Measures to mitigate the impact of the coronavirus pandemic and the global crisis on the food industry**

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**Abstract.** This thesis briefly describes the coronavirus pandemic in our country and in the world, as well as the negative effects of the global crisis. At the same time, the views expressed by several scholars were noted. The author expresses his views on mitigating the negative effects of such a global crisis.

**Key words.** Food industry, food security, coronavirus pandemic, economy, trade, products.

Today's coronavirus pandemic is affecting the global food industry as governments close down restaurants, cafes and bars to slow the spread of the virus. The daily movement of consumer food outlets around the world has declined sharply compared to the same period in 2019. The closure of food and entertainment venues has caused a surge in related industries such as food production, liqueur, wine and beer production, food and beverage transportation, fishing and agriculture. At the same time, states are helping to support economic activity in the region by supporting the private sector with temporary business loans, tax cuts or tax deferrals. The forbes.uz website also touched upon the impact of the world bank report on the country's economy and commented as follows.

The prognosis of the economic consequences of COVID-19 faces significant uncertainty. Regional growth will fall to a recession in 2020, with 44.4 and 82.8 percent held by the coronavirus pandemic, and until policy measures are introduced in 2021, world commodity prices will gradually recover and trade will increase. The report says that remittances or subsidies to the health care system to help vulnerable people and families, temporary business loans and tax breaks for businesses are crucial to mitigating the crisis and saving jobs. The spread of COVID-19 has a significant impact on the Uzbek economy and its transition to a market economy. Growth is expected to slow sharply in 2020 (1.6 percent,

according to the latest data) as a result of a significant decline in foreign trade and the domestic economic downturn. [1]

As for the impact on the food industry around the world, one of them is “Peter Alexander, a global expert on food security at the University of Edinburgh, said that the free market, which is widespread in industrialized regions, timed logistics systems are great at dealing with interruptions in one place or a sudden shortage of a single commodity, but they are more vulnerable. A systemic shock because there is no loosening in the system and no backup for return access”. [2]

In many places, panic ensued, resulting in shortages. There were interruptions in the supply chain for some products; For example, many hand pumps for hand sanitizers were imported from the U.S. and China, and they were shorter. Food retailers were "among those most affected by the coronavirus, but at least in the short term, one of the few businesses that could make a profit, according to Cheddar TV." In some places, prices have risen. [3]

In the U.S., most groceries have become the norm, but the purchase of empty shelves in a panic has prompted consumers to stock up and stock up. The U.S. food retailer group advised retailers to expedite orders and review rations to avoid empty shelves. [4]

Until January 27, Starbucks, KFC, Pizza Hut and McDonald’s closed restaurants in Wuxan or Hubei. On the eve of New Year’s Eve, the closure “came at the worst time for China,” said Jude Blanchette of the Center for Strategic and International Studies. The 2020 Lunar New Year is China’s only significant economic event, and in 2019, \$ 150 billion will be spent. The service sector accounted for 52% of China’s economy in 2020. [7]

As of March 24, Starbucks had reopened 95 percent of the 2,000 restaurants it closed, including restaurants in Wuhan. [8] [9] Starbucks announced that it expects revenue to fall to \$ 400 million or more for the second fiscal quarter due to China's closure. [8]

As for COVID-19, the virus is not transmitted through food or water. However, we do know that in some cases, infected people become infected with

diarrhea, and the samples contained the virus. Thus, there is a route of transmission through the feces through the mouth. It is important to know that the virus can be transmitted to humans if it comes in contact with the nose, eyes or mouth.

The virus appears to live for a day or two in the air, up to a week on carpets or fabrics. The data show that the virus is destroyed by bleaching and hydrogen peroxide, so the virus is not resistant to simple cleaning agents. Therefore, the impact assessment on agriculture is inaccurate and only speculative.

In similar emergencies in previous periods, it is possible to learn from restrictions on the movement of goods and people that this can have a serious impact on people's lifestyles. While these restrictions are necessary to limit the spread of the disease, they often lead to disruptions in market chains and trade in agricultural products. People's living conditions and food can also have a serious impact on development related to food security.

As a result, the local economy is often strained as businesses close and consumers stay in their homes. The biggest impact may be on private and small businesses, as the supply chain of their products is interrupted due to the length and limited movement of people. Such is the state of the coronavirus pandemic and the global crisis

It is necessary to ease the pressure on small business and pay more attention to food security, to create additional incentives for farmers to prevent the virus in rural areas, as well as to combat it. Recognizing the importance of ensuring the supply of quality and quantity of food during such emergencies, it is also important to support and guarantee the production of winter and spring food during the epidemic and in the years to come. It is advisable to develop additional measures. At a time when the issue of stopping the spread among people is being addressed today, measures need to be considered as soon as possible to minimize the impact on food systems and market chains locally and globally. Understanding the impact on the lifestyles of people in rural areas and studying the origin and occurrence of the virus in the human-animal environment is important in preventing the recurrence of such epidemics in the future.

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