

emerging economies and low- to middle-income countries. Over the coming decade, increasing food and feed demand in developing economies are projected to account for the bulk of the growth in world consumption and imports of basic agricultural commodities over the coming decade. Developing countries account for more than four-fifths of the projected increase in global demand for meat, grains, and oilseeds and most of the growth in cotton consumption. Income growth and urbanization are projected to remain strong, especially in many emerging and developing economies, giving strong impetus for sustained growth in demand and trade for agricultural products. Population growth is strongest in emerging economies, contributing to growth in agricultural trade. The impact of African Swine Fever in a number of countries, especially China, has a large impact on production, consumption, and trade projections for meat and feedstuffs in the initial years and as countries recover from this epidemic over the latter half of the projections.

Growing global demand for agricultural products, especially from low-income countries and emerging markets, is leading to an increase in global imports over the forecast period. Trade in all projected agricultural products is expected to expand. Food grains such as wheat and rice are in relatively high demand in low-and middle-income countries. Wheat, which is one of the world's most traded commodities, is projected to show trade growth of nearly 16 percent over the 10-year forecast period, reaching nearly 216 million tons by 2029/30. The countries and regions with the largest increase in wheat imports are those with strong growth in income, population, and urbanization. Many of these regions are unable to produce wheat or expand production. These regions together account for more than 83.0 percent of the projected growth in global demand for wheat imports. These include sub-Saharan Africa (25.2%, especially West Africa – 11.0%), North Africa (11.6%), the middle East (16.2%) and South-East Asia (18.9%).

A. Basai, V. Rusalovskaya

А. Басай, В. Русаловская

БГЭУ (Минск)

Научный руководитель Л.В. Бедрицкая

FINTECH: LARGE SHIFT IN THE SPHERE OF FINANCE

Финтех: большой скачок в сфере финансов

The purpose of our research is to view the scope of Fintech application and analyze the changes that it has brought to the sphere of finance.

The term Fintech refers to the synergy between finance and technology, which is used to enhance business operations and delivery of financial services. Fintech can

take the form of software, a service, or a business that provides technologically advanced ways to make financial processes more efficient by disrupting traditional methods.

Fintech now describes a variety of financial activities, such as money transfers, depositing a check with a smartphone, bypassing a bank branch to apply for credit, raising money for a business startup, or managing the investments, generally without the assistance of a person.

Up until now, financial services institutions offered a variety of services under a single umbrella. The scope of these services encompassed a broad range from traditional banking activities to mortgage and trading services. In its most basic form, Fintech unbundles these services into individual offerings. The combination of streamlined offerings with technology enables Fintech companies to be more efficient and cut down on costs associated with each transaction.

Some of the most active areas of Fintech innovation include or revolve around the following areas: cryptocurrency and digital cash, blockchain technology, a distributed ledger technology (DLT), smart contracts, open banking, insurtech, regtech, robo-advisors, cybersecurity.

The users of Fintech are B2B (Business to Business) and B2C (Business to Client).

Investments in the field of Fintech are estimated to reach \$30.8 billion – compared to the number of \$1.8 billion in 2011. The largest contributors to the development of Fintech are China and the USA, which invest the most in this area.

Fintech is actively developing in Belarus. The payment services industry is the most popular. This area is represented by the projects such as Tix, Webpay, A1 banking, Apple pay, School pay. The second popular area is still internet investment platforms, including crypto platforms. FinStore, Multy, Spatium are among the projects in this area. Crowdfunding, Robo Advisors, Online Accounting and others are also developed in Belarus. Developers of Software products for Fintech include Epam, IBA Group, ID Finance and others.

Compared to other countries, there are no foreign companies on the Fintech market in Belarus. New players are constrained mainly by the small volume of the Belarusian market. Owners and investors expect a multiple increase in the number of users and transactions, which has a direct impact on the growth of capitalization of the Fintech themselves, which is often unattainable in small countries.

It is no exaggeration to say that Fintech is literally changing people's lives and habits by making it easy to trade, bank, and exchange money without the need for physical human interaction. With big data, blockchain, AI and so many other tech advances already in use or on the horizon, business leaders are advised to seek opportunities and adopt Fintech applications in their own business models to win tomorrow's consumers.

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M. Vorobyova

М.С. Воробьева

БГЭУ (Минск)

Научный руководитель А.В. Мозоль

THE DEVELOPMENT TRENDS OF THE WORLD COARSE GRAIN TRADE

Тенденции развития мировой торговли фуражным зерном

The purpose of this research is to analyze import prospects for the global coarse grain market.

World coarse grain trade is projected to increase by 36.9 million tons (17 percent) between 2020/21 and 2029/30. Expansion of livestock production in feed-deficit countries continues to be the main driver of growth in coarse grain imports. Key growth markets are the Middle East, Africa, Southeast Asia, and Latin America (except for Argentina and Brazil). Corn trade is expected to account for about 82.5 percent of the world's coarse grain trade through 2029/30, with barley's share expected to increase slightly to 14.5 percent. By 2029/30, the world's largest coarse grain importers are Mexico, EU, Japan, China, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Vietnam, and South Korea.

China's coarse grain imports are projected to increase by 2.3 million tons by 2029/30, due to increased imports of mostly barley, and small increases of corn and sorghum. Corn imports are projected to be 6.9 million tons in 2020/21 and to rise slightly to 7.0 million tons by 2029/30, as China's feed and industrial processing demand grow while stockpiles diminish. China's corn output is limited by curbs on production in erodible and drought-prone regions, but imports are also limited by a quota. Imports of relatively lower priced sorghum and barley increase over the projection period.

Together, Africa and the Middle East account for about 40 percent of the growth in world coarse grain imports through 2029/30. Population growth and rising