

HO CHI MINH NATIONAL ACADEMY OF POLITICS

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**SERVICES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT
IN HO CHI MINH CITY**

SUMMARY OF THE DOCTORAL THESIS

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INTRODUCTION

1. The urgency of the topic

Urban agriculture is increasingly being paid attention to by many large cities in Vietnam, creating conditions for development. With limited area, agriculture in the city is often associated with modern techniques and technology, for high yields, organic farming methods, thus bringing many benefits to modern cities today. Along with the development of agriculture in the city is the emergence of service sectors for agricultural development (AD). If facilitated by the government, provided with a full range of services from start-up, production to processing, preservation, branding, product promotion and sales, urban agriculture will develop very strongly, playing an important role in the sustainable development of the city, especially in large cities with large populations. Thus, for the agricultural service industry, it is not only necessary to organize well to improve the business efficiency of that industry itself, but more importantly, it is necessary to have cohesion to contribute to improving the efficiency and sustainable development of agriculture in the city in a modern direction. This is a problem that needs to be studied theoretically, in order to have methods and models to promote services for agricultural development in the city that practice is posing for many countries around the world.

In order to develop modern urban agriculture, the city also determines that it is necessary to supplement many policies, build a service system to support economic development in the field of synchronous agriculture, and at the same time build linkage and supply chains in agriculture. With the right policy, the City's agricultural industry is gradually developing in the direction of modern urban agriculture, with labor productivity, and the average production value per 01 hectare is quite high. There are An Agricultural Hi-tech Park in Cu Chi district, A Biotechnology Center in District 12 and A High-Tech Dairy Farming Demonstration and Experimental Farm in Binh Chanh district, which have been operating effectively initially. Despite the initial achievements, agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City still has many limitations. Especially, services for agricultural development have not really developed and have not provided the best support for production and business entities. Services on high-quality livestock breeds and crops have not developed as expected, and have not replaced imported varieties. There are not many technical and technological consulting, design, and installation services for

urban agricultural production, and the price is still high. Supporting the connection to form a production and distribution chain still faces many difficulties, many products find it difficult to find a foothold in the system of supermarkets and commercial centers. Many production units are also very difficult to build and promote safe brands and products. Cooperatives and enterprises providing services for agricultural development are still limited. Tourism activities have not been strongly linked with the promotion of production, promotion and consumption of agricultural products

Therefore, the construction of a synchronous, smooth and highly effective service system, meeting the requirements of agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City, in the direction of modern urban agriculture, applying high technology, not only contributes to providing agricultural products for the city, but also contributes to creating green space, improving the living environment for urban residents, is an urgent issue that needs to be studied. In that sense, “Services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City” was chosen as the research topic of his doctoral thesis in Political Economy.

2. Research Purposes and Tasks

2.1. Research Purposes

The purpose of the thesis is to find some feasible solutions to promote services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City. Thereby, contributing to the development of Ho Chi Minh City’s agriculture in the direction of modern and sustainable urban agriculture.

2.2. Research Tasks

Firstly, systematize the theoretical and practical basis for services for agricultural development in a city. Secondly, analyze and evaluate the current situation of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City, pointing out the achieved results, limitations and main causes. Thirdly, propose specific views and solutions to contribute to solving difficulties and obstacles to promote the synchronous formation of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City in the direction of modern and sustainable urban agriculture.

3. Research Subjects and Scope

3.1. Research Subjects

The research object of the thesis topic is services for agricultural development in the city.

3.2. Research Scope

- *Content Scope:*

The thesis focuses on analyzing and evaluating a number of services that are having a direct impact on the agricultural development orientation of Ho Chi Minh City such as: agricultural extension; supply of high-yield animal breeds and crops; science - technology; incubation of high-tech agricultural enterprises; post-harvest processing and preservation; promotion, introduction and sale of products; branding, copyright registration; agricultural tourism. In order to facilitate the description of the types of services for agricultural development in the city when analyzing and evaluating, the thesis divides the above services into two groups, namely input services and output services. Services serving production activities (before and during production) are classified as input services, such as: agricultural extension; breeds of livestock and plants; science - technology; incubation of agricultural enterprises. Services serving circulation activities (including activities of continuing production during circulation) are classified into the group of output services, such as: post-harvest processing and preservation; promotion, introduction and sale of products; branding, copyright registration; agricultural tourism.

- *Spatial range:* thesis on research on services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City.

- *Time Range:* The research data was collected mainly from official documents in the period from 2018 to 2023. The proposed solutions will be implemented by 2030.

4. Theoretical Basis, Practical Basis and Research Method

4.1. Theoretical Basis

The thesis is based on Marxist-Leninist theory of the stages of the reproduction process; views, guidelines and guidelines of the Party and policies of the State of Vietnam on the synchronous formation of services to encourage modern agricultural development.

4.2. Practical Basis

The thesis is based on the experience of building and promoting services for agricultural development in two cities around the world, Shanghai – China, Bangkok – Thailand, and of two major cities in the country, Hanoi and Can Tho, especially the current situation of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City.

4.3. Research Methods

Methodology: The thesis uses the dialectical materialist and historical materialist methodologies of Marxism-Leninism.

Specific research methods: The thesis uses research methods typical of political economy science, such as abstraction of science, logic combined with history; In addition, the thesis also uses research methods of social sciences and humanities such as: analysis, synthesis, statistics, sociological surveys, and practical summaries. At the same time, the thesis presents the results of practical surveys through a number of charts and data tables to illustrate in order to clarify the problems posed in the research. The research methods are used flexibly in accordance with the specific tasks in the chapters of the thesis as follows:

- Chapter 1: The thesis uses basic methods such as scientific abstraction methods, logical methods combined with history, analysis and comparison methods, thereby synthesizing and evaluating the results of research works of many domestic and international authors, summarized the theory as well as the practice of services for agricultural development in the city.

- Chapter 2: In this chapter, the author uses methods such as: logic combined with history, methods of analysis, synthesis, systematization and combined with the results of the overview research from Chapter 1 to build a theoretical framework on services for agricultural development in the city. At the same time, use the method of presentation according to induction and then interpretation to clarify the research content.

- Chapter 3: The thesis uses methods such as analysis, synthesis, statistics, comparison and combined with questionnaire survey to study and evaluate the current situation of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City. The survey subjects include farmer households, farms, cooperatives, and enterprises benefiting from services for agricultural development [method of selecting samples and processing data see appendix]. Thereby, evaluating the results and limitations of input and output services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City; clarify the causes of limitations, serve as a basis for promoting services for the city's agricultural development.

- Chapter 4: The author continues to use methods such as analyzing, synthesizing and forecasting the trends of urban agriculture as well as the trend of services for agricultural development in a modern urban area, in the conditions of extremely strong scientific and technological development. From there, it proposes views and specific solutions to promote services for

agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City, contributing to the formation of urban, modern and sustainable agriculture.

5. *New Contributions of The Thesis*

- Firstly, on the basis of systematizing different approaches, from the perspective of political economy, the thesis has built a theoretical framework on services for agricultural development in the city in the new context, with basic contents such as: concepts, characteristics, roles, evaluation criteria and influencing factors

- Secondly, summarize, compare, analyze and evaluate the current status of types of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City in the period of 2018 - 2023, thereby clarifying the achieved results, limitations, difficulties and clearly indicating the causes.

- Thirdly, starting from the current situation and context of impacts, the thesis proposes views and solutions to promote types of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City in the direction of modern and sustainable urban agriculture.

6. *Structure of The Thesis*

In addition to the introduction, conclusion, list of references and appendices, the thesis is structured into 4 chapters, 11 sections.

CHAPTER 1

OVERVIEW OF RESEARCH RELATED TO SERVICES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE CITY

1.1. RESEARCH WORKS ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE CITY

1.1.1. Overseas research works on agricultural development in the city

Leonie J. Pearson, Linda Pearson and Craig J. Pearson (2010): "*Sustainable urban agriculture: stocktake and opportunities*"; Orsini, F. and partners (2013), "*Urban agriculture in the developing world: a review*"; Fred T. Davies and Banning Garrett (2018), "*Technology for Sustainable Urban Food Ecosystems in the Developing World: Strengthening the Nexus of Food–Water–Energy–Nutrition*"; O’Sullivan, C. A and partners (2019), "*Strategies to improve the productivity, product diversity and profitability of urban agriculture*"; Sriram Natarajan (2021): "*Urban Agriculture, Food Security and Sustainable Urban Food Systems in China*"; For Likitswat (2021), "*Urban Farming: Opportunities and Challenges of Developing Greenhouse Business in*

Băng-cốc Metropolitan Region”; Yiming Shao and partners (2022), “*The potential of urban family vertical farming: A pilot study of Shanghai*”;

1.1.2. Domestic research works on agricultural development in cities

Vu Minh Nhat (2011), “*Havana – inspiration for an authentic urban agriculture*”; Phuong Lan (2016) “*Agriculture in urban areas*”; Hoang Thi Ngoc Anh (2016), “*Discussing the economic efficiency of urban agriculture development in a sustainable direction*”; Phan Tuan Anh (2018) on “*The role and some models of urban agriculture development in the world*”; Bui Thanh Tuan (2018) on “*Agricultural development in suburban districts of Hanoi*”; Doan Thi Thu Huong (2020), “*Some policies and solutions for the development of high-tech agriculture in Hanoi City*”; Hoang Trieu Hoa (2022), “*Urban agriculture development in some countries around the world and suggestions for Vietnam*”.

1.2. RESEARCH WORKS ON SERVICES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE CITY

1.2.1. Overseas research works on services for agricultural development in cities

1.2.1.1. Input services for agricultural development in cities

Ghany and Salam (2012): “*Measuring service quality of agricultural extension centers in Assiut governorate using SERVPERF Scale*”; Bommarco Riccardo (2018), *Exploiting ecosystem services in agriculture for increased food security*; Mamun Gao and Nature (2018): “*Service quality of public and private agricultural extension service providers in Bangladesh*”; Sossou, C. H. and partners (2021), “*Agricultural services on the demand and supply for improving agricultural productivity in Benin*”.

1.2.1.2. Output services for agricultural development in cities

Scott M. Swinton, Stephen K. Hamilton, Frank Lupi, G. Philip Robertson (2007), “*Ecosystem services and agriculture: Cultivating agricultural ecosystems for diverse benefits*”; Brenda B. Lin, Stacy M. Philpott and Shalene Jha (2015), “*The future of urban agriculture and biodiversity-ecosystem services: Challenges and next steps*”; Kazuaki Tsuchiya, Yuri Hara and Danai Thaitakoo (2015), “*Linking food and land systems for sustainable peri-urban agriculture in Bangkok Metropolitan Region*”; Said Gocs (2016), “*Report about Innovative Distribution Network of Organic Products in Latvia: Agricultural Service Cooperative Society “Zaļais grozs”*”; Dang Ding,

Pingyang Liu and Neil Ravenscroft (2018), “*The new urban agricultural geography of Shanghai*”; Kanang Kanthamaturapoj and Alan Marshall (2020), “*Providing organic food to urban consumers: case studies of supermarkets in Bangkok and metropolitan area*”.

1.2.2. Domestic research works on services for agricultural development in cities

1.2.2.1. Domestic studies on input services for agricultural development in cities

Research by Mai Van Nam and Hoang Phuong Dai (2012) on “*Solutions to develop support services for agricultural enterprises in Can Tho city*”; Nguyen Van Lan (2015) on “*Development of agricultural services in the suburbs of Hanoi*”; Hoang Vu Quang and Vu Trong Binh (2017), “*The quality index of rural agricultural public services is based on the feedback of service users*”; Le Thanh Tung (2018) with the study “*Development of high-tech agriculture in Ho Chi Minh City: current situation and solutions*”; Vu Thi Bac (2019), “*Factors influencing Ho Chi Minh City's agricultural transformation*”; To Thi Thuy Trang, Tran Van Duc and Nguyen Thanh Cong (2019), “*Solutions for agricultural development High-tech in Ho Chi Minh City*”; Tang Thi Hang and Vu Tam Hoa (2020), “*Effectiveness of policies to support high-tech agriculture in some specialized farming areas of Hai Duong province*”; Nguyen Thi Thanh (2020), “*Quality of public services for the development of agricultural production in the Red River Delta*”. Dao Anh Xuan (2021), “*Production along the value chain: a new development direction for agricultural service cooperatives in Phu Yen province*”; Tran Thi Thanh Xuan (2021) on “*Services for green agriculture development in Bac Ninh province*”; Do Thi Thu Ha and Le Thi Tuyet Nhung (2023), “*Research and improve information sources and methods for calculating the production value of agricultural service activities*”.

1.2.2.2. Domestic studies on output services for agricultural development in cities

Nguyen Duy Mau (2016), “*Potential for development of high-tech agricultural tourism in the Central Highlands – Vietnam*”; Chau Phuong Uyen (2018) on “*Agricultural tourism development in the Mekong Delta*”; Nguyen Thi Ha (2019), “*Agricultural tourism development in Vietnam today*”. Ta Van Tuong and Do Kim Chung () “*Solutions to provide public services for the*

development of the pork product value chain in Hanoi"; Dao Anh Xuan (2021), *"Production along the value chain: a new development direction for agricultural service cooperatives in Phu Yen province"*; Tran Thi Thanh Xuan (2021) on *"Services for green agriculture development in Bac Ninh province"*.

1.3. OVERVIEW OF THE RESEARCH RESULTS OF THE WORKS AND THE PROBLEMS THAT NEED TO BE CONTINUED IN THE THESIS

1.3.1. Overview of research results of works

1.3.1.1. Regarding agriculture in cities

Although there are many concepts, researchers basically agree that urban agriculture refers to agriculture that takes place in urban spaces (inner-city, suburban and suburban areas) with different conditions compared to rural areas. Studies have also shown the need for agricultural development in cities in the trend of urbanization that is increasingly rapid and widespread globally. Many domestic and international research works have analyzed and clarified the opportunities of agriculture in the city, besides the challenges that agriculture in the city faces. In order to create conditions for agriculture in the city to develop, many studies propose support from the government in terms of ground, access to credit, tax exemption and reduction policies and support for varieties, technology transfer, promotion, product introduction, market development, ...

1.3.1.2. Regarding services for agricultural development in cities

Many studies both abroad and domestically have identified the important role of services for agricultural development, especially in urban areas. Some studies also suggest agricultural tourism activities, which is also a service to promote urban agricultural development. Many studies have presented and analyzed the current situation and solutions to promote the provision of services for agricultural development in the city.

In general, studies have affirmed the necessity and important role of services for agricultural development, and the limitations of providing services in both quantity and quality are making urban agriculture in many places not meet the requirements and are not compatible with development conditions. Due to the approach, content and scope of research, especially due to the rapid development of the scientific - technological revolution with many outstanding and outstanding achievements applied in agricultural development, some problems and solutions of the proposed research works are not suitable for all

localities. and are showing backwardness compared to reality. Therefore, in order to assess the current situation and propose solutions to improve services for agricultural development in the new conditions, associated with a specific city in Vietnam that is experiencing a very rapid urbanization, it is necessary to continue to study comprehensively and deeply.

1.3.2. Gaps in published works on services for agricultural development in the city and the continuing research direction of the thesis

1.3.2.1. Gaps that need to be studied

In theory, domestic and international studies have approached the topic from various perspectives, such as urban agriculture, ecosystem services, and public services - focused on analyzing specific types of services. However, no research has yet provided a comprehensive and systematic theoretical framework on services for urban agricultural development. These are the concept, characteristics, roles, contents, evaluation criteria and factors affecting services for agricultural development in the city.

In practice, many research works related to agriculture in Ho Chi Minh City, but mainly focus on analyzing, assessing the current situation and orientation of solutions for urban agricultural development, high-tech agriculture, or focusing on a certain agricultural field that has not yet been researched on the current status of input services. output for agricultural development in the city, especially in the conditions of the current strongly developed scientific and technological revolution.

From the above gaps, PhD. student asks some specific research questions as follows:

Question 1: What are the services for agricultural development in the city? What theoretical framework is used to analyze and evaluate services for agricultural development in the city?

Question 2: Services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City have achieved results in recent years, and what are the limitations? What are the causes of those results and limitations?

Question 3: In the current context, how to build a perspective on promoting services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City appropriately? What solutions should be focused on to overcome limitations and promote services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City by 2030?

1.3.2.2. Research direction of the thesis topic

Based on the above gaps along with the practical basis of the thesis topic and the research questions posed by the doctoral students, the thesis focuses on the following contents:

Firstly, systematize and supplement to build a theoretical basis for services for agricultural development in the city. Specifically, within the scope of the thesis, the topic will clarify the connotation of the concept of services for agricultural development in the city; analysis to clarify the characteristics and role of services for agricultural development in the city. Analyze to clearly overview the contents, evaluation criteria and factors affecting services for agricultural development in the city.

Secondly, to analyze, survey and evaluate the current situation of types of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City, focusing on input services such as: agricultural extension; supply of plant varieties and seedlings; consultancy and transfer of science and technology; incubation of agricultural enterprises, and output services including: post-harvest processing and preservation; promotion, introduction and sale of products; branding, copyright registration; and agricultural tourism. From the current situation of types of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City, the thesis clearly points out the achieved results, limitations and causes to serve as a basis for proposing solutions to promote the development of these types of services.

Thirdly, from the domestic and global context that affects agriculture and all types of services for agricultural development in the city, and on the basis of analyzing and evaluating the current situation of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City, the thesis develops views and proposals. analyze solutions to promote types of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City by 2030.

CHAPTER 2

THEORETICAL BASIS AND PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE OF SERVICES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE CITY

2.1. CONCEPTS, CHARACTERISTICS AND ROLE OF SERVICES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN CITIES

2.1.1. Concepts and classification of services for agricultural development

2.1.1.1. Services

From the perspective of Political Economy, services are considered an intangible good, which also has two attributes: use value and value. The value of goods and services is social labor to create services. The use value of goods and services is the satisfaction of the needs of service users.

2.1.1.2. Agricultural services

Agricultural services are all activities serving the development of the agricultural economy, including input services (supply of capital, seeds, equipment, agricultural materials, processes, technologies, agricultural extension, ...) and output services (processing, post-harvest preservation, branding, product promotion, market development, ...).

2.1.1.3. Concept of services for agricultural development in cities

Services for agricultural development in the city are the overall activities for production and circulation in agriculture, provided and used by a variety of subjects, in order to increase productivity, quality, production and business results, towards the development of modern agriculture, sustainability in the city area.

Services for agricultural development in cities refer to activities for agricultural economic development in the city, which are manifested through the forms of supply and use of agricultural services, reflecting the relationship between organizations, individuals in the process of supplying and using agricultural services, meeting the needs of agricultural production and daily life of the urban population.

2.1.1.4. Classification of services for agricultural development in cities

Services for agricultural development in cities aim to support and promote the development of modern urban agriculture and promote the application of high technology. There are many suppliers, diverse types of services and meet the stages and processes of reproduction, including production – distribution – exchange – consumption of agricultural products. From there, it is possible to classify services for agricultural development in the city according to many different criteria: *According to the providers, including:* public services, private services and social services. *According to the uses that services for agricultural development meet:* cultivation services; livestock services; post-harvest services; seed treatment services; forestry services; exploitation and aquaculture services. *According to the production process:* can

be divided into two groups of agricultural services, which are input services and output services.

2.1.2. Characteristics of services for agricultural development in cities

Services for agricultural development in the city have characteristics such as: favorable access to resources for development; associated with high techniques and technologies to meet the requirements of modern urban agriculture; to meet the needs of diverse types of agricultural production and business organizations in urban areas and surrounding areas;

2.1.3. The role of services for agricultural development in cities

Services for agricultural development in the city have basic roles such as: promoting agricultural production in the city to develop in the direction of promoting the application of high technology, increasing productivity and quality of agricultural products; closely associate the process of safe and quality agricultural production with the product consumption market in the city and export; contributing to the sustainable development of the agricultural economy in the city, adapting to global climate change.

2.2. CONTENTS, EVALUATION CRITERIA AND FACTORS AFFECTING SERVICES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE CITY

2.2.1. Contents of services for agricultural development

Within the scope of research of the thesis, the types of services are classified into two groups:

- The group of input services for agricultural development includes: agricultural extension services; high-quality livestock breeds and plant supply services; science and technology services; high-tech agricultural enterprise incubation services.
- The group of output services for agricultural development includes: post-harvest processing and preservation services; product promotion, introduction and sale services; branding services, copyright registration; agricultural tourism.

2.2.2. Criteria for evaluating services for agricultural development in cities

- Criteria reflecting the growth of types of services for agricultural development in the city. The growth of types of services for agricultural

development is the increase in the number of providers, forms of service provision and service results brought to agricultural development.

- The criteria reflect the quality of services for agricultural development in the city. There are many different views on service quality, but the basic consensus on the level of service quality provided is the level of satisfaction of customer needs. In other words, the quality of service is perceived by customers and evaluated by customers. Therefore, in order to evaluate the quality of services for agricultural development in the city, the topic refers to the RATER model (proposed by American scholars Zeithaml V.A., Parasuraman A and Leonard L.B. in 1988 and widely used in research on service quality in many fields). with 5 groups of criteria including: Reliability (**Reliability**); Warranty Assurance (**Assurance**); Tangibility (**Tangibility**); Empathy (**Empathy**); Responsibility (**Responsibility**).

- Harmony and smoothness of services in the four stages of the reproduction process for agricultural development in cities, from production – distribution – exchange – consumption.

2.2.3. Factors affecting services for agricultural development in cities

2.2.3.1. Socio-economic characteristics of the city

Agricultural production takes place in cities, where the market economy develops strongly, where the specialization in labor and production is very high, this is the basis for promoting all kinds of services that provide both input and output factors for agricultural production to develop.

2.2.3.2. The Fourth Industrial Revolution

The Fourth Industrial Revolution is setting requirements for the development of science and technology services for agricultural development in the city such as: consulting, designing, installing high-tech agricultural production models; use modern machinery and equipment in agricultural production; demand for digital services, information and communication services, ...

2.2.3.3. The process of international economic integration

In order to meet the strict requirements of large markets, especially in terms of food safety production conditions, quality, stability, processes and technology, there is a demand for using a variety of services for modern agricultural enterprises, oriented towards export.

2.2.3.4. The Party's guidelines and the State's policies

In today's modern market economy, the State always plays an important role in orienting, regulating and overcoming the limitations of the economy. It is the mechanisms, policies and tools promulgated and implemented by the State that will promote or inhibit the development of one or another sector. In Vietnam, the Party leads the State and society, therefore, the Party's guidelines and guidelines will be concretized by the State into policies and laws, which have a great impact on the development of sectors and fields, including services for agricultural development.

2.3. INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC EXPERIENCE IN SERVICES FOR THE CITY'S AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

2.3.1. Experience of Shanghai – China

In order for urban agriculture to develop faster, the city government has developed policies and always paid attention to improving services for agricultural development, especially services in finance – credit, science – technology and combining agricultural production activities with tourism activities, etc entertainment.

2.3.2. Experience of Bangkok – Thailand

It is the provision of public and private services, meeting both inputs and outputs for urban agricultural development here, which has brought great results in agriculture in the capital of Bangkok. In particular, the Government of Thailand as well as the government of Bangladesh have developed and implemented many policies to create favorable conditions for agricultural producers to access agricultural products. Input factors for modern urban agricultural development; Facilitation policies to develop output services for urban agriculture.

2.3.3. Experience of Hanoi City

In order to implement the goal of agricultural development in the direction of ecological urban agriculture, Hanoi has paid attention to and created conditions to form a service system for urban agricultural development. First of all, create conditions for mechanisms and policies to promote the formation of types of services for urban agricultural development. Secondly, to develop processing, consumption and trade promotion services for agricultural products.

2.3.4. Experience of Can Tho city

In order to promote the production and consumption of agricultural products, Can Tho city has focused on contents such as: first, policies to support

and create conditions to promote the application of modern technology to the production and consumption of agricultural products; second, develop agricultural tourism to promote the development of urban agriculture.

2.3.5. Some lessons learned in improving services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City

Support policies of governments at all levels to build and improve the service provision system for urban agricultural development; To step up the development of scientific and technological services, thereby building and developing modern and applied urban agriculture high technology; Promote the role of the collective economy in providing services for agricultural development; Develop an agricultural tourism model;

CHAPTER 3

CURRENT SITUATION OF SERVICES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN HO CHI MINH CITY

3.1. OVERVIEW OF THE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT SITUATION OF HO CHI MINH CITY IN THE PERIOD OF 2018 – 2023

3.1.1. Mechanisms and policies on agricultural development and services for agricultural development of Ho Chi Minh City in the period of 2018 – 2023

The city has determined to focus on a number of services for agricultural development such as: supplying tree seeds and seeds; services on research and application of technology in agriculture; input and output supply services form a value chain in agricultural production; tourism services associated with agricultural development. On that basis, the city has developed and promulgated many policies to support and promote the development of modern urban agriculture and related services.

3.1.2. Some results in agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City in the period of 2018 – 2023

Labor productivity in the agricultural sector of the city in the period of 2016 – 2020 increased by an average of 23%/year; the average production value per 01 hectare of agricultural land is the highest in 2020 reaching 583 million dong; the average growth rate of added value in the agricultural sector in the period 2016 – 2020 reached 4.72%/year. The agricultural economic structure continues to shift in the direction of urban agriculture and applied agriculture

High-tech, biotechnology. Regarding the production value structure of Ho Chi Minh City's agriculture, forestry and fishery sectors in recent years, there has been no sharp shift, the proportion of the agricultural sector has always been the highest and tends to decrease slightly, from 72.2% in 2016 to 67.8% in 2023; the proportion of the fishery sector increased slightly from 26.9% in 2016 to 31.9% in 2023; the proportion of the forestry sector is very small, always less than 1%. Regarding the implementation of the One Commune One Product (OCOP) Program, as of 2024, Ho Chi Minh City has 225 products recognized as OCOP products, of which 79 products meet 04-star standards and 176 products meet 03-star standards.

3.2. CURRENT STATUS OF SERVICES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN HO CHI MINH CITY 2018 – 2023

3.2.1. Status of input services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City

Agricultural Extension Services

The city's agricultural extension focuses on supporting farmers to produce and improve their income through many specific activities. Receive and transfer agricultural production technologies and technical processes from research units and enterprises and then transfer them to farmers, in order to create many new quality varieties and proactively source seeds to meet production needs. At the same time, build models of transformation from rice cultivation land and sugarcane cultivation with low economic efficiency to other crops and livestock with higher efficiency, in the direction of prioritizing key products of the industry. Along with that is a demonstration of the application of advanced technology; transfer of disease-safe and quality varieties; transfer appropriate technical processes and management methods in order to improve production efficiency and replicate for farmers, in which priority is given to supporting collective economic development.

Service of supplying high-yield animal breeds and crops

In recent years, the city has focused on researching, producing and supplying mainly plant varieties such as vegetables, flowers, ornamental plants, mushrooms, medicinal plants, forestry plants; or main livestock breeds such as dairy cows, beef cows, pigs; and aquatic breeds are mainly freshwater aquatic products, brackish saltwater, and ornamental fish breeds. In 2023, the city will have 28 units producing and trading plant varieties; 28 units producing and

trading livestock breeds; 30 units producing and supplying brackish saltwater aquatic breeds (including 18 shrimp breed domestication establishments, 12 krill seed production establishments); 90 establishments and individual households producing and domesticating freshwater aquatic breeds (31 production establishments and 59 individual households); and about 300 households and establishments producing and trading ornamental fish breeds (including several economically valuable species such as Koi (Japanese Carp), Holland, Discus, Betta, Angelfish, Tiger Barb, Red Parrot, Black Molly, Molly, and Phoenix...)

Science -technology services

Ho Chi Minh City has oriented the development of urban and modern agriculture quite early, promoting the application of High-tech. Therefore, research, application and transfer of technical and technological advances, especially agriculture High-tech are always facilitated and invested in development by the City. Institutions for research, transfer and application of science and technology are focused on investment such as: Agricultural Zone High-tech, Center for Biotechnology, Dairy Farming Demonstration and Experimental Farm are implementing the construction of the Agricultural Zone High-tech fishery industry in Can Gio district, Livestock area High-tech in Binh Chanh district. In addition, in order to further promote innovation and technology transfer activities in Ho Chi Minh City, since 2016, under the direction of the Department of Science and Technology, the Information Center has invested and upgraded *Technology and Equipment Market System* into a *Innovation and Technology Transfer Portal – Techport.vn* with more functions. The Techport.vn portal is a convenient trading environment and finding partners on the Internet, with the participation of technology supply and demand parties and intermediary service organizations.

High-tech agricultural business incubation service

With the characteristics of urban agriculture, Ho Chi Minh City has always been interested in attracting businesses, especially large enterprises to invest in agricultural production, besides promoting business incubation activities in the field of agriculture, thereby promoting the development of the city's agriculture in the direction of modernity. effective. From 2014 to now, the number of incubators/start-up support organizations in the field of

agriculture High-tech in the city has increased from 2 to 11 campuses, along with 9 universities with activities to support innovative startup projects.

3.2.2. Status of output services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City

Post-harvest processing and preservation services

For many years, the field of food production, processing, food and beverage production has been identified by the City as one of the four groups of key industries, so there is always interest in investment and development. The total number of food, food, beverage and tobacco processing enterprises increased from 1,798 enterprises in 2015 to 3,439 enterprises in 2019, in 2020 due to the impact of the Covid-19 epidemic, the number of enterprises in this field decreased to 2,758. Agricultural product processing enterprises in Ho Chi Minh City participate in the production and processing of a variety of agricultural products, including food, food, aquatic products, functional foods, beverages, and tobacco, ... In order to serve the demand for fresh food from cattle and poultry meat, Ho Chi Minh City advocates the construction and development of modern and industrial slaughterhouses. As of 2023, Ho Chi Minh City has 05 cattle slaughterhouses operating according to modern industrial slaughterhouses, with the number of slaughtered cattle about 5,500 – 5,700 heads/day (meeting over 50% of the city's pork consumption demand); 01 concentrated poultry slaughterhouse with a capacity of about 72,000 – 75,000 heads/day (meeting nearly 60% of the demand for poultry meat consumption of the people of the city) [105, p.14].

Product promotion, introduction, and sale services

Ho Chi Minh City is the city with the largest number of people living in Vietnam, the daily consumption of agricultural products here is very large. Every year, the city regularly organizes many fairs, exhibitions and festivals to promote, introduce and sell agricultural products. In addition, the distribution system of agricultural, forestry and fishery products in Ho Chi Minh City is increasing in quantity, quality and service methods. Currently, the city has 235 markets of all kinds (including 3 wholesale markets, 232 traditional markets), 240 supermarkets and more than 3,000 convenience stores selling agricultural products.

Branding and copyright registration services

In order to affirm the brand, quality and ensure safety for agricultural products, Ho Chi Minh City always focuses on implementing the fruit and vegetable traceability model. In addition to encouraging and supporting agricultural production establishments to develop in the direction of ensuring quality and safety with VietGAP or VietGAHP certifications, Ho Chi Minh City has also built the OCOP Program in the city's rural areas since 2019. In order to continue to support and contribute to the formation of strong agricultural product brands of Ho Chi Minh City, in 2022 the City People's Committee has implemented *Project to build a Ho Chi Minh City agricultural gold brand in the period of 2022 – 2030*.

Agricultural tourism services

Agricultural tourism is a type of service that is having a strong impact on agricultural development today, especially urban agriculture. Ho Chi Minh City can develop tourism associated with craft villages, including traditional craft villages such as salt village in Ly Nhon commune - Can Gio, rice paper village in Phu Hoa Dong commune - Cu Chi, or new craft villages such as golden apricot village in Binh Loi commune - Binh Chanh, salangane farming village in Tam Thon Hiep commune - Can Gio. In addition to craft villages, the city is currently implementing the OCOP Program, with 4-star and 5-star OCOP certified products will be a place to attract tourists to visit, experience the production process of products, as well as create conditions for product consumption.

3.2.3. The current situation of service quality and harmony and smoothness of services for agricultural development in the four stages of the reproduction process in Ho Chi Minh City

Survey on the quality of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City according to the RATER model (with 05 groups of criteria: reliability; assurance; tangibility; empathy; and responsibility), basically service users are rated at level 3 - normal and level 4 - satisfaction.

Types of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City over the years, contributing positively to ensuring that production, distribution, exchange and consumption are carried out smoothly.

3.3. GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF SERVICES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN HO CHI MINH CITY

3.3.1. Results achieved

Regarding the growth of types of services for agricultural development

Firstly, in terms of the number of entities providing services to agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City, there has been an increase in both the group of input services and the group of output services. Secondly, in terms of the form of providing input and output services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City, it is increasingly diverse and rich in the direction of specialization, meeting the requirements of developing modern and sustainable urban agriculture. Thirdly, in terms of operational results, services for agricultural development have made a significant contribution to increasing production value, crop and livestock productivity and labor productivity in the agricultural sector in Ho Chi Minh City.

Regarding the quality of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City has been increasingly improved, contributing to promoting the city's agriculture to develop in a sustainable direction.

Harmony and smoothness on services for agricultural development in the four stages of the reproduction process in Ho Chi Minh City. Types of services for Ho Chi Minh City Agricultural development in recent years, contributing positively to ensure that the stages of the reproduction process take place normally, stably and smoothly.

3.3.2. Some limitations and causes

Some limitations of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City

Firstly, the number of service providers in recent years, although it has increased, has increased slowly, and some fields have decreased, especially after the impact of the Covid-19 epidemic. Secondly, the quality of service is uneven, high quality has only been achieved in some models, not yet popular; service efficiency has not created a sharp change in added value as well as labor productivity in the agricultural sector. Thirdly, the comparison of input and output services shows that there is an uneven situation in quality, and there is also no uniformity in quality between the two types of services within the two groups of services. Fourthly, services in the stages from production – distribution – exchange – consumption of the reproduction process in the city's agricultural development still have difficulties and obstacles.

Causes of limitations

* *Subjective causes*

Firstly, according to the development orientation and land use planning in Ho Chi Minh City, more priority is given to urban development and non-agricultural economic sectors. Secondly, the policies have not created a breakthrough to promote the completion of services for agricultural development, and the obstacles in the process of implementing the policy are slow to be removed. Thirdly, the policy of promoting agricultural development and agricultural production support services is not synchronous, and the focus is mainly on supporting input services, and output services have not been paid enough attention. Fourthly, the main service providers are the State, private enterprises participating in business in the field of services for agricultural development are still not many, most of them are small enterprises, the capital scale is small, and the capacity to apply modern technology is still limited. Fifth, agricultural production in Ho Chi Minh City is still mostly small and backward production households, and the demand for services for agricultural development is not much.

** Objective causes*

Firstly, the business sector related to agriculture still contains more risks than other sectors, so it is not attractive for social resources to participate in investment. Secondly, due to the characteristics and conditions of socio-economic development in Ho Chi Minh City. Third, due to the impact of the global economic crisis. Therefore, in order to continue to improve services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City, it is necessary to have stronger solutions, both recovery support from the State and local authorities and adjustment and innovation from production and business entities.

CHAPTER 4

VIEWPOINTS AND SOLUTIONS TO PROMOTE SERVICES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN HO CHI MINH CITY

4.1. CONTEXT OF IMPACT AND VIEWPOINT OF PROMOTING SERVICES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN HO CHI MINH CITY TO BE 2030

4.1.1. Context affecting urban agriculture and forecasting service trends for urban agricultural development

Context affecting urban agricultural development

The process of urbanization continues to take place strongly, especially in developing countries, which has a great impact on urban agriculture; The

development of science and technology contributes to increasing the capacity of agricultural production in the city area; The complicated world situation is posing requirements for food and food autonomy for urban areas, especially large cities; Climate change has many strong impacts on traditional agricultural production, setting requirements for the development of modern urban agriculture.

Services for urban agricultural development - Forecast of development trends

Firstly, the trend of developing high-tech application services in production, business and deep specialization in the field of agriculture in the city. Secondly, the trend of developing agricultural product brand building and certification services. Third, the trend of combining agricultural development with tourism/entertainment in cities.

4.1.2. Perspectives on promoting services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City

Firstly, services for agricultural development must strongly promote the formation of modern urban agriculture of the city, and at the same time promote the development of agriculture in the region and the whole country. Secondly, to develop and effectively implement policies to support all types of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City. Thirdly, focus on prioritizing and facilitating support in many aspects to diversify the types of service provision for the city's agricultural development. Fourthly, to focus on providing services to support the application of the achievements of the Fourth Industrial Revolution to production and business in the field of agriculture. Fifth, promote the strengths of Ho Chi Minh City, promote support services for the circulation of agricultural products for the city and the whole Southern region. Sixth, linking urban agricultural development with tourism and entertainment services.

4.2. SOME SOLUTIONS TO PROMOTE SERVICES FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN HO CHI MINH CITY BY 2030

4.2.1. Group of solutions on the State's mechanisms and policies to promote services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City

Urban agriculture plays an important role in the process of sustainable development in cities around the world today. In order to develop the agricultural sector and services for agricultural development, especially in

urban areas, it is very necessary to pay attention and support from the State. For Ho Chi Minh City, in order to improve services for agricultural development, it is necessary to focus on supporting mechanisms and policies such as: financial support, production - business premises; support for science - technology; support human resource development; support in trade promotion and brand building.

4.2.2. Group of solutions on diversification of subjects and types of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City

As analyzed in the cause of the limitations, business in the field of agriculture and agriculture-related services has many potential risks, low average profit margins, and is less attractive to private or foreign investors. Therefore, in order to improve services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City, it is certainly still necessary to have strong participation from the state sector. Units under the Department of Agriculture and Agricultural development directly participate such as the Agricultural Extension Center; Center for Biotechnology; Center for Consulting and Support for Restructuring of the Industrial Economy; Center for Plant Seeds, Livestock and Fisheries. In Ho Chi Minh City, the Agricultural Zone High-tech is also a unit that has made a great contribution to supporting services for agricultural development high technology. In addition, it is necessary to promote the role of the Department of Industry and Trade, the Department of Science and Technology, the Department of Tourism, the Cooperative Alliance, and the City Farmers' Association in facilitating the supply or promoting the provision of services for urban agricultural development. Promote the role of Ho Chi Minh City state-owned enterprises operating in the field of agricultural production and related services.

Promote the collective economy to participate in the provision of services for agricultural development. Further promote the role of cooperative groups, cooperatives and cooperative unions participating in the input and output stages of agricultural production.

To create conditions for the private economy and the foreign-invested economy to participate in the provision and expansion of various types of services for agricultural development. In addition to the leading role and orientation of the state economic sector, Ho Chi Minh City also needs to create conditions to attract and develop non-state enterprises to participate in investment and business in the field of services for agricultural development in

the city. Promote the linkage in the production and consumption of agricultural products between enterprises and production households, farms and cooperatives, especially through the signing of contracts.

4.2.3. Group of solutions to improve service quality for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City

In order to improve the quality of service provision for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City in the coming years, it is necessary to have specific solutions that affect all aspects of service quality. Firstly, it is necessary to focus on fostering and training human resources in service providers for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City. Both human resources in state agencies and units, and human resources in enterprises, cooperatives, and agricultural service providers. Secondly, promote the application of science and technology, digital transformation, and improve the conditions of material and technical foundations of service providers for agricultural development. Third, mobilize more capital, expand the scale of production and business for service providers for agricultural development. Fourth, develop agricultural and rural infrastructure, create favorable conditions to complete services for urban agricultural development in a modern and sustainable direction.

CONCLUSION

Services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City over the years have been formed and become more and more perfect. With a variety of input and output services, Ho Chi Minh City's agriculture has initially developed in the direction of urban, modern and sustainable agriculture. Many agricultural models applied High-tech was born, productivity, quality and also production and business efficiency in the field of agriculture have improved. The formation of types of services also contributes to making the reproduction process in the agricultural sector in Ho Chi Minh City basically harmonious and smooth. Thereby, contributing to creating jobs, income, improving the lives of the people of the city, creating green areas, reducing carbon emissions, protecting the environment, and also creating conditions for consumers to access and use a variety of high-quality agricultural products, safe and fresh. However, services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City still have certain limitations, have not strongly supported the city's agriculture to develop in a modern and sustainable direction, and have not clearly promoted the leading

role of Ho Chi Minh City's economic locomotive in the field of agriculture and services for agricultural development.

In order to research, assess the current situation and develop solutions to promote services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City, the thesis has summarized many domestic and international studies, thereby building a research theoretical framework. On the basis of the concept, classification, characteristics and roles of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City, the thesis determines the content of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City, focusing on 08 types of services, divided into 02 groups – input and output. Thereby, developing criteria for evaluating and analyzing factors affecting services for agricultural development in the city.

Through the analysis of the trend of agricultural development and agricultural services in urban areas in the world today, on the basis of the current situation of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City, the thesis has raised five oriented views: first, services for agricultural development must strongly promote the formation of modern urban agriculture of the city; at the same time, promote the development of agriculture in the region and the whole country; secondly, to develop and effectively implement policies to support all types of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City; third, focus on prioritizing and facilitating support in many aspects to diversify types of service provision for the city's agricultural development; fourth, to promote the application of the achievements of the Fourth Industrial Revolution to production and business in the field of agriculture; fifth, promoting the strengths of Ho Chi Minh City, promoting support services for the circulation of agricultural products for the city and the whole Southern region; sixth, linking urban agricultural development with tourism and entertainment services. The thesis proposes and analyzes three groups of solutions to continue to synchronously promote the types of input and output services for the city's agricultural development, namely: first, the group of solutions on the State's mechanisms and policies to promote services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City; second, a group of solutions to diversify subjects and types of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City; third, a group of solutions to improve the quality of services for agricultural development in Ho Chi Minh City./.

**LIST OF WORKS OF THE AUTHOR
RELATED TO THE PUBLISHED THESIS**

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1. Kieu Anh Vu (2023), *Providing services for agricultural development: experiences of some countries and lessons for Ho Chi Minh City*, Journal of Financial and Accounting Research, No. 245, pp.92-96.
2. Kieu Anh Vu (2023), *The role of services for agricultural development in the city*, Journal of Financial and Accounting Research, No. 254, pp.81-84.