A third of all territories have experienced a wealth decline from 1975 to 2002 when measured adjusted for local purchasing power. Most of these territories are in Eastern Europe and the Middle East. The Ukraine, the Russian Federation, Poland and Saudi Arabia have experienced the largest decreases in Gross Domestic Product. The wealth decline in the Ukraine is more than twice that in any other territory.

In some regions no territories have experienced wealth decline. These regions are: Southern Asia, Asia Pacific, Eastern Asia, North America, Western Europe and Japan.

“...We used to have a variety of food in the shops and it was easier to take care of our children. Now we have to sell or kill what is left of our livestock ...”

Talaibek Yernazarov, 1997