SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND THEORETICAL-METHODOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

Sustainable development is a process of positive transformation that ensures economic growth, social justice and environmental protection for future generations. The development of directions for sustainable development of enterprises, territories, national and global economies should be carried out on the basis of a comprehensive analysis of the theoretical, methodological and socio-economic aspects of human interaction with the environment. This article analyzes various models and concepts of sustainable development, highlighting their key characteristics and applicability in the modern world. At the present stage, the competitiveness of modern corporations depends not only on the demand and quality of products, but also on the level of environmental responsibility of the business. Reducing the negative impact on the environment and increasing labor productivity is achieved through the introduction of innovative green technologies. This article examines the essence of green technologies, features of technology management and technology audit during their implementation. Environmental safety is one of the most important aspects of sustainable development and ensuring the quality of human life. The concept of environmental safety is closely related to the use of green technologies in all sectors of economic activity - industrial production, agriculture, energy, construction and transport. Ensuring environmental safety contributes to the conservation of biodiversity, maintaining clean air, water resources and soils, as well as reducing the level of environmental pollution. This article analyzes the impact of green technological trends on ensuring environmental safety at the regional, national and global levels.

Keywords: global levels, sustainable development environmental sustainability, public policy, partnership, environmental safety

I. Introduction

Sustainable development is a development concept that involves meeting the current needs of both modern humanity and future generations. Sustainable development involves preserving natural resources, ensuring social justice and economic growth, as well as reducing negative anthropogenic impacts on the environment.

The term "sustainable development" was first used in the World Conservation Strategy (WCS) adopted in 1980, which was the first act of uniting international efforts to preserve the planet's biological diversity and natural resources. The strategy approved the key principles and priority areas of environmental protection at the global level, contributed to increasing environmental awareness of the public and stimulated the development of national and international legislation in this area. The document also contained a concept for sustainable development of society, linking together key socio-

economic objectives and environmental protection. In October 1991, the second edition of the WSOP was published, entitled "Caring for Planet Earth - A Strategy for Sustainable Living." As part of this strategy, comprehensive research and development in the field of environmental safety began all over the world.

The concept of sustainable development was fleshed out in the framework of the report "Our Common Future" (also known as the Brundtland Report), which was prepared by the United

II. Methods

Nations Commission on Environment and Development (UNCED) in 1987. This document substantiated the need for sustainable development, in which the needs of the present must be met without compromising the ability to meet the needs of future generations.

The concept of sustainable development is the result of combining three key approaches to sustainability - economic, social and environmental (Fig. 1).

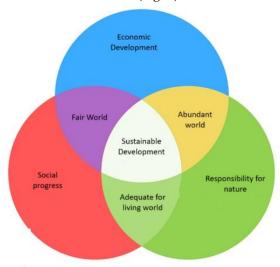


Fig. 1. Theoretical and methodological aspects of sustainable development

Economic development in this model is understood as a process of stable increase in key economic indicators of companies, industries, regions, national and global economies. An analysis of the modern world economy allows us to conclude that the level of economic development is closely connected not with the rate of economic growth, but also with a high standard of living. Due to the above, the social component of sustainable development—ensuring the well-being of the population, improving the quality of life of the current and future generations—is of fundamental importance. Social progress is a concept that describes the gradual improvement in the quality of life and well-being of society as a whole. It should be noted that the well-being of the population presupposes its provision of financial, social and spiritual benefits, as well as the implementation of various human rights, including the right to health, which is closely related to the integrity and stability of the ecosystem, as well as a high level of responsibility for the environment [1].

Environmental responsibility is a key component of sustainable development and plays an important role in ensuring the conservation of natural resources and maintaining environmental sustainability. This component requires awareness not only by individuals, but also by society as a whole, that the use of natural resources and the impact on the environment should be carried out taking into account the needs of future generations and the conservation of biological diversity. Government and international organizations should develop and implement policies and legislative measures aimed at protecting the environment, including air and water quality standards, protection of natural areas, and rational waste management. The business sector must also take responsibility for its impact on the environment, including managing waste, reducing emissions, and adopting more environmentally sustainable technologies and practices. The ecological culture of the population is also of great

importance, which involves making rational decisions and behavior aimed at reducing the negative impact on the environment, efficient use of resources, reducing emissions and waste, and supporting sustainable lifestyles.

Priorities for sustainable economic, social and environmental development for the long term, as well as specific tools for achieving them, were formulated in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This significant international document presents 17 key goals in the field of sustainable development (Fig. 2)



Fig. 2. UN Sustainable Development Goals

To assess the degree of achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, a system of indicators is used to ensure comparability of data between different countries and periods.

The concept of sustainable development was supported by all UN member states, with the most active countries in this context being Sweden, Norway, Finland, Germany, the Netherlands, Canada, New Zealand and Costa Rica. In Russia, Decree of the President of the Russian Federation of April 1, 1996 No. 440 "On the Concept of the Russian Federation's transition to sustainable development" was adopted, which predetermined the directions for the balanced use of resources, preservation of the natural environment and increasing the level of social responsibility of business and society as a whole. Of particular importance for ensuring a strategic approach in public administration in the area under study are the Decrees of the President of the Russian Federation of May 7, 2018 No. 204 and July 21, 2020 No. 474, which directly notes the need to achieve high indicators on key indicators of UN sustainable development. By order of the Government of the Russian Federation of July 14, 2021 No. 1912-r, the goals and main directions of sustainable development of the Russian Federation were approved. In accordance with this document, the country's strategic goals are to preserve, protect and improve the state of the environment, reduce harmful emissions, save energy and increase the efficiency of resource use. The actual implementation of these documents is intended to ensure the transition to a green economy and sustainable development of the Russian state [2].

The concept of sustainable development can be considered from socio-economic and theoretical and methodological positions. The theoretical and methodological aspect of sustainable development covers the conceptual foundations, methodology and approaches to the study and practical implementation of the principles of sustainable development. This aspect is based on theoretical models that help to understand the relationship between economic, social and environmental systems, as well as to develop methods for assessing and predicting the consequences of management decisions.

The sustainable development model is based on a number of modern theories and conceptual models, such as systems theory, evolutionary theory, concepts of ecological economics and others. The key aspect that unites these theories is the understanding of the interaction between humanity and the environment in the long term. To assess the effectiveness of achieving sustainable development goals, special measurement tools and methods are being developed that are used at various levels of management - from individual enterprises and communities to the world community under the auspices of the UN. When assessing the sustainability of development, economic, social and environmental indicators must be taken into account.

Ensuring sustainable development requires an integrated approach that combines knowledge and methods from various fields, such as political science, law, economics, sociology, ecology and engineering. At the same time, teams of researchers can be created that can look at sustainable development issues from different perspectives and propose innovative solutions based on relevant science. An interdisciplinary approach is implemented using the methodology of systems analysis, which allows us to comprehensively consider complex systems, identify relationships and the influence of various factors on sustainable development. Thus, the theoretical and methodological aspect of sustainable development plays a key role in the formation of conceptual foundations, development of methodology and tools necessary for the applied implementation of the principles of sustainable development.

Socio-economic aspects of sustainable development cover the relationship between social and economic factors that affect the well-being of society in the long term. Sustainable development must include all sectors of society and guarantee equal access to resources, services and opportunities for all citizens. This direction includes the fight against poverty, inequality and discrimination, as well as creating conditions for social protection and inclusion.

Sustainable development also requires efficient use of resources, stimulation of innovation and economic growth, taking into account environmental and social effects. Economic activities must be conducted in a manner that does not harm the environment and biodiversity, which includes environmental management, emissions and waste reduction, and climate change adaptation measures. The implementation of the concept of sustainability requires the active participation of civil society, the private sector and government agencies in the implementation of environmental projects. This direction involves the creation of partnerships between various stakeholders for the joint development and implementation of sustainable development strategies.

Increasing public education and awareness of environmental and social justice issues is of particular importance. Educational programs dedicated to sustainable development help citizens develop a comprehensive understanding of the problems and challenges facing society. The more informed and motivated people become, the more likely they are to engage in public dialogue, lobbying for legislative changes and environmental initiatives. Algorithms for state socio-economic management in line with the concept of sustainable development are clearly presented in Fig. 3.

Conclusion

To implement the principles of sustainable development in the Russian Federation, it seems necessary to develop new algorithms for interaction between the government system, local government bodies and civil society for the joint development of effective mechanisms for the rational use of natural resources and the country's human resources potential. It is also necessary to minimize the negative industrial impact on ecosystems, promote a more rigorous application of environmental impact assessment (EIA) models, ensure the introduction of "green" technologies and industrial development of territories taking into account the interests of local communities.

It is also of great importance to strengthen cooperation between the state, business, experts, and local communities in solving existing problems in matters of adaptation to climate change, which can be implemented through the work of public, partnership, and coordination councils working at both

the federal and local levels. It is also recommended to ensure regular monitoring of the state of ecosystems in order to further improve the system of environmental and social indicators in the field of sustainable development, as well as create a map of ecosystems that are at greatest risk. Local residents can be involved in the monitoring procedure, while at the municipal level it is necessary to ensure the ability to promptly respond to recorded changes or violations. Throughout Russia, programs to support local communities should be introduced, which may include educational trainings and seminars, support for green entrepreneurial initiatives of local residents and youth in the context of improving the quality of life and preserving the environment.

It is also proposed to identify and legislate a new category of forests—climate-regulating forests, which include forest areas undisturbed by economic activity that can prevent global climate change on the planet. At the same time, at the federal level it is necessary to develop a strategy for the development of the timber industry complex, taking into account the fundamental difference between climate-regulating forests, which are subject exclusively to protection and monitoring and are completely removed from any economic activity, and production forests.

There is also a high need for a comprehensive transformation of the national economy, including through the introduction of ESG investing - a model of priority investment of public and private financial resources in companies that conduct business in accordance with the principles of social responsibility, environmental friendliness and high quality corporate governance. The key socio-economic prerequisite for sustainable development in the Russian Federation is the implementation of the decoupling effect as a driving mechanism of the green economy," in which there is a steady excess of economic growth rates over the energy resource consumption index and the level of anthropogenic load on the environment.

Based on UNIDO/UNEP program support, Russia recommends a permanent interdisciplinary international group of experts and consultants aimed at working in the field of mitigation and adaptation to climate change. It is also necessary to establish the need to obtain new scientific knowledge in the field of environmental and climate sustainability as a mandatory part of the competencies of the management apparatus. The implementation of the proposed recommendations will contribute to the comprehensive provision of sustainable development of the Russian Federation.

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