

THE CONCEPT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF THE REGIONS

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A B S T R A C T	K E Y W O R D S
The article substantiates the theoretical foundations for applying the concept of sustainable development in the region. The object of sustainable development is formulated, the criteria for assessing sustainable development are determined.	development, education, society, globalization, state, economy.

The concept of "sustainable development" became widespread after the publication in 1987 of the International Commission on Environment and Development, headed by Norwegian Prime Minister G. H. Brundtland, the report "Our Common Future". Here, the concept of environmentally sustainable development was cited as the basis for ensuring an integrated approach to economic policy making. The report emphasized the need to change the current pattern of wasteful and inefficient development and consumption in order to achieve sustainable progress based on the harmonious interaction of nature and society, in which decisions at all levels would be made taking into account environmental factors. According to the definition of the International Commission on Environment and Development, "sustainable development is such development that meets the needs of our time, but does not jeopardize the ability of future generations to meet their needs" [4].

Basic concepts:

people's "needs" for natural resources and environmental goods;

"limitations" due to the state of technology and the organization of society in terms of the ability of the environment to meet the present and future needs of people.

The strategy of sustainable development of the world community for the new century was presented in the "Agenda for the XXI century", adopted at the UN Conference in 1992 in Rio de Janeiro [6]. The main idea of the Concept of Sustainable Development is the development of modern society, which should be organized in such a way as not to cause irreversible damage to the natural environment and not to deprive subsequent generations of people of the vital resources they need.

Satisfaction of human needs is the main task of development [5]. But for this, economic growth alone is not enough. A high level of productive activity can coexist with widespread poverty, and can be a threat to the environment. Essentially, sustainable development is a process of change in which the exploitation of resources, the direction of investment, the orientation of technological development in their harmonious integrity increase the value of the current and future potential [8].

According to many researchers, the idea of sustainable development can be considered as a further concretization of V. I. Vernadsky's concept of the noosphere [1]. He wrote that people need to realize the needs and interests, their planetary role as energy transformers and redistributors of matter on the earth's surface based on new ways of using information. A stable noospheric society multiplies benefits and wealth, primarily due to the energy of the mind, due to the effective use of information and resources. This is a new quality of development [1].

At the heart of the concept of sustainable development, we, like many other researchers, see the idea of humanism, which makes it related to the ideas of V.I. Vernadsky. It is this direction of modern economic theory that is the antipode of another current of modern economic theory - the mainstream, in which other values are embodied: individualism, the priority of private interest, social inequality, etc.

Currently, there are more than 50 definitions of sustainable development, and their number continues to grow. This indicates both the complexity of the concept itself, which includes social, economic, environmental aspects of human development, and the discrepancy between the views of representatives of different sectors of society - scientific, entrepreneurial, political.

The creation of an effective mechanism for the sustainable development of the territory implies the development of a criterion for sustainable development, which makes it possible to take into account all aspects of economic activity in the territory (economic, social, environmental) in an integrated manner. The indicators of sustainable development presented in the scientific literature and documents of international organizations are largely disparate and do not give a holistic view of the balanced development of all subsystems of the territory. The need to assess the degree of balance of various subsystems requires the definition of the basic principle for selecting a criterion for sustainable development: it must take into account the manifestations of both natural and social laws of the development of the biosphere. Its application will allow a more reasonable approach to the development of priority areas of sustainable development for various groups of territories.

In our opinion, the approach to determining the criterion of sustainable development should comply with the principles of the co-evolutionary approach, since it is this approach that allows reflecting the coordinated development of all subsystems of social development and, accordingly, all groups of relations affecting the institution of sustainable development. This criterion must meet the following requirements:

cover the entire spectrum of social relations that characterize the sustainable development of society; be described by quantitative indicators reflecting various areas of sustainable development.

Criteria and indicators are given a special place in the characteristics of sustainable development, as they allow assessing the degree of achievement of the goal. Their choice is largely determined by the methodological approach to the concept of sustainable development.

We believe that such a criterion is socio-economic efficiency. Efficiency is an economic category that expresses production relations. The starting point in determining the essence of the economic efficiency of production is the understanding of the objective interdependent relationship between the expansion of social production and labour costs for these purposes. It depends on the level of development of the scientific, technical and technological base of production, the quality of the labour force, the nature of the production relations prevailing in society, the correspondence of the system of these relations to the achieved level of development of the productive forces. Therefore, being an

expression of the total economy of labour costs, efficiency should also reflect the patterns of development of productive forces and production relations, interaction.

From these positions, we can propose the following interpretation of the category of efficiency: "Efficiency is a socio-economic category that expresses production relations regarding the all-round savings of consumed (living and materialized) and advanced labour, characterizing the connections and relationships between the results and costs that are subject to regulation in the production process at all levels in order to ensure the growth of well-being, environmental well-being and the all-round development of all members of society (in order to increase the level and quality of life of the population)". This definition emphasizes the relationship of production relations with social and environmental, which determines the sustainable development of society.

Understanding efficiency not as an account, but as an economic category, i.e. category, expressing relations of production, prompted to raise the question of the various forms of its manifestation - economic and social. In our opinion, it is not enough to say that efficiency has a social orientation. Thus, the social turns out to be something external, not immanent in efficiency. At the same time, a person is a participant in production relations and an active element of the productive forces of society, he is the most important "production resource". A person is both a producer and a consumer, and the main "resource" of the production process, and the goal for which this process is carried out. That is why there is an objective need to consider the problem of the formation of the social aspect of efficiency not as a priori in relation to the mechanism of the functioning of the economy, but as its organic element.

Modern social practice is increasingly demanding from economic science new approaches and concepts focused on the high dynamism of the current stage of development. From these positions, it is not enough to study the efficiency of production in relation only to the direct economic result of its functioning. The composition of this result should include not only material goods and services, but also improving their quality, improving working conditions, reducing the environmental burden on a particular territory, improving the state of the environment and other types of social consequences.

This approach involves a systematic analysis of all aspects arising from economic development. Under these conditions, it seems legitimate to talk not only about various forms of manifestation of efficiency - economic, social, but also about an independent form - socio-economic. It is the efficiency of production, as a socio-economic category, that ensures a balanced growth of the prerequisites for meeting the economic, social and environmental needs of a person.

A sustainable type of development is accompanied by an increase in socio-economic efficiency with an increase in the degree of rationality in the use of resources in order to preserve them for future generations, i.e. sustainability of development is associated with an increase in socio-economic efficiency, this criterion can be the basis of process management.

Unlike such a complex criterion of economic growth as a change in GDP, socio-economic efficiency covers not only the production process, but also reproduction as a whole; makes it possible to compare the results achieved with the efforts expended on them, makes it possible to take into account negative environmental and social impacts. At the same time, the understanding of the socio-economic effect in sustainable development is associated with the observance of the restrictions imposed by the laws of the natural and social nature of a person (non-destruction by a person of his natural foundation, an increase in the level and quality of life of the population, etc.). If such restrictions are not observed, the socio-economic effect decreases (this can be taken into account when calculating it), which

indicates unsustainable development. All of the above, in our opinion, indicates that this criterion can be used to assess the quality of sustainable development management.

Among researchers of the system of sustainable development, there are disagreements about the object and subject of such development [10]. Thus, a number of authors emphasize the exclusively global nature of this type of development. Such an approach, for example, is demonstrated in the report "Our Future". At the same time, many further studies, as well as the need to develop a specific mechanism for achieving sustainable development, have shown that its main (initial) objects are territories smaller than the entire world space. Thus, a sustainable global space consists of sustainable developed countries. In turn, the sustainable development of the country consists of the steadily developing territories that form it.

Let's try to define the minimum (primary) subject and object of sustainable development. A necessary condition for the transition to sustainable development is the organization of the interaction of resource subsystems. The natural arena for such interaction is the territory. Socio-economic processes, the structure of production and its specialization have a pronounced regional character. This is influenced by territorial differences in natural and climatic conditions, uneven distribution of natural resources, the established system of settlement, traditions of the economic structure, etc. [7].

We believe that in the economic system of sustainable development, the role of subjects of sustainable development should be played by reproductive structures - the authorities of the territories. To do this, however, they must not only respond to the proposals of enterprises, but lead them themselves, producing integral complexes of the environment and separate sections of the territory specially equipped for the activities of commercial enterprises. The peculiarity of this production is determined by the fact that its subjects - regional and local administrations - are, from an economic point of view: non-commercial structures oriented mainly to political goals; monopolists (one region or city cannot have two administrations).

We support those authors who believe that non-profit structures should become the leading link in the future economic system of sustainable development [7]. This contradicts the traditional market theory, which suffers from a fundamental incompleteness: it does not include a description of the activity that occupies a key position in the reproduction organization system, and the specific subject of this activity - regional and local administrations. As a result, the processes of organizing reproduction are today relegated to the periphery of economic policy and are carried out by essentially artisanal methods.

In this regard, a kind of "systemic collision" deserves to be noted, when the central governments of a number of countries are guided by the principles of liberalism and monetarism, and the regions and municipal structures included in them are guided by the ideals of the welfare state and environmental protection. environment. The recognition of regions as subjects of sustainable development requires a revision of regional policy. Its main content should be the territorial organization of the reproduction of resources. To do this, however, the territorial authorities must establish control over the use of income from the use of property [6].

The special importance of municipalities, and in particular cities as centers for the implementation of the principles of sustainable development, was emphasized at the European Conference on the Sustainable Development of Cities and Towns in Aalborg in 1994, where the Charter of European Cities was adopted for Sustainable Development. The document notes that "since no city is alike, we must all find our own paths to sustainable development. All local policies should be based on the general principles of sustainability and, taking into account the strengths of each city, develop local

strategies for sustainable development" [9]. The ideas of this document were further developed in the II Manifesto of New Urbanism [2].

Since the criterion for sustainable development, in our opinion, is an increase in the socio-economic efficiency of management, the sustainable development of a territory can be defined as a process of changes in the regional economic system in the direction of increasing the socio-economic.

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