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**ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC ASPECTS
OF GREEN ECONOMY IN RUSSIA**

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The green economy plays a special role in the social and economic processes of the development of the geo-economic stability of Russia. Environmental security is decisive for economic growth and human existence. A green economy is defined as an economy that boosts human well-being and social equity while significantly reducing environmental risks and degradation. Important features for such an economy are: efficient use of natural resources; preservation and increase of natural capital; pollution reduction; low carbon emissions; preventing the loss of ecosystem services and biodiversity; growth in income and employment.

The green economy is considered to exist in the context of combating global climate change and a promising way out of the financial and economic crisis. A priority feature of its growth is a radical increase in energy efficiency. In this regard, the term “low-carbon” economy has become widespread. At the national and local levels, many developed countries have achieved undoubted progress, sharply reducing the burden on the environment, reducing the resource intensity of economic growth. Today, the trend of increasing environmental pressure in developing countries is becoming more and clearer. For the transition to a green economy, greater participation and interest of the state in this process is needed. At the moment, a good progress in the field of environmental friendliness of production is “green” construction. The adjective “green” in this case is well-established and explains what construction is – an industry that includes the construction and operation of buildings with minimal environmental impact. The main task of this industry is to reduce the level consumption of resources throughout the life cycle of a building. In addition to bonuses for the environment, an important point is the cost of erecting such buildings. In the minds of many people, there is an idea that ecological construction is expensive. But this is a fundamentally wrong idea, since higher initial costs are compensated during operation.

It is necessary to change the views of the vast majority of politicians and scientists on the very problem of development, which is now associated with such well-established statements as “economic growth is the key to progress”, “first economic growth, and then the solution of environmental problems” and many other truths that until recently seemed unshakable.

It is becoming more and more obvious that the raw-materials export model of the economy that has been formed in Russia has exhausted itself. Salvation during the crisis of the raw material economy turned out to be very expensive and ineffective. There is now ample evidence that greening the economy does not impede the creation of wealth or jobs at all. However, the transition to a “green” economy requires the creation of new conditions, and this requires large-scale and urgent action by governments of all countries of the world. It is also often said that only rich countries can afford a green economy, or that it is something developed countries impose on developing countries to keep them forever poor. In contemporary studies, including those of international organizations, one can find many debunking examples of the transition to a green economy in various sectors of the developing world – examples that deserve to be repeated in other parts of the world. Also, studies convincingly show that the greening of the economy may not be a brake, but a new stimulus for development.

For Russia, the very concept of “green economy” is new, and it do not actually use in official documents. Perhaps it goals set by the country for the next 10–20 years largely correspond to the goals of the transition to a green economy. Promising types of settlements are eco-settlements, which are common both in Russia and around the world. They are presented as one of the new directions in which the “green economy” can develop. The settlements are actively developing environmental practices that are an integral part of a healthy lifestyle. Most settlement codes contain the ecological principles of life on earth. Residents use methods aimed at improving energy efficiency and energy saving, protecting, protecting and restoring the environment. The practices of maintaining a healthy lifestyle can be considered the most sustainable. It can be concluded that eco-settlers take into account the interdependence of personal interests and the state of the environment. Such communities of eco-settlers most clearly show the desire of society to preserve the environment. Eco-settlers spread their ideas, for example, the ideas of preserving the ecosphere are instilled in children brought up in an eco-village from childhood. Based on this, we can conclude that the world community is able to come to an environmentally friendly life, one of the components of which is the green economy.

Probably the main task of the Russian economy at the present stage, reflected in the main documents of the country’s development in the medium and long term. The transition to a “green” economy in different countries will take place in different ways, since it depends on the specifics of the natural, human and physical capital of each country, its level of development and socio-economic priorities, the ecological culture of society.

The most important goal of the green economy – increasing energy efficiency. And it is also a priority for Russia. An important feature of the new economic model should be environmental sustainability. The following factors testify to

the emerging trends of the country's unsustainable development: the depletion of natural capital as a factor in economic growth; a significant reduction in the values of macroeconomic indicators that take into account the environmental factor; underestimation of the economic value of natural resources and services; structural shifts in the economy that increase the share of nature exploiting and polluting industries; growth of environmental risks due to high physical wear and tear equipment; high level of indicators of nature intensity; natural resource nature of exports; serious impact of environmental pollution on human health, etc.

The formation of unstable development trends in Russia is largely due to the underestimation of the environmental factor in macroeconomic policy, which leads to further degradation of the environment, the depletion of natural resources.

Modernization should allow, at the expense of resource saving – while stabilizing the volume of natural resources involved in the economy – to significantly increase the final output of goods and services. The world and Russian experience of such modernization of production shows that this approach leads not only to an improvement in economic indicators, but to a significant improvement in people's living conditions. Support and dissemination of such experience is needed. To move in this direction, in addition to understanding the importance of complying with environmental requirements, both strict environmental requirements and economic interest are need, including all possible mechanisms – modernization should be profitable. Promising in this direction is the transition to a policy of using the best available technologies.

Russia today is among the countries for which ensuring sustainable development based on a green economy is especially important. This is indicated by economic growth, rich natural resources, and the question of finding the optimal path of development. The country's priorities in innovation policy, energy efficiency, and modernization of the economy in accordance with modern requirements naturally determine the movement towards sustainable development.

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