

## **GREEN ECONOMY AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

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Green economy was first mentioned in XX century by British economic scientists David Pearce, Anil Markandya and Edward Barbier in a report to the Government of the United Kingdom in 1989 which was named “Green Economy Plan”. The main idea of the Green economy is to improve the environmental situation with the help of modern technologies. It leads to a reduction of the negative impact of human economic activity on the environment and sets the main goal not economic growth, but sustainable development with minimal risks to the environment. Green economists consider the desire for economic growth unacceptable at the present time, because it contradicts the first axiom, that is, the planet’s natural resources are on the verge of depletion and further economic growth may lead to an environmental catastrophe. Each person can take part in green economy. For example, buying energy-saving light bulbs, driving electric cars or bicycles, stopping the use of plastic bags, sorting garbage.

Today there are many countries that introduce green economy into their daily lives. They are South Korea, USA, Germany, China, Sweden, Switzerland, Russia and other countries. In South Korea, payment cards help to use goods made with environmental innovations. Residents accumulate points on the card, and then spend them to pay for housing and communal services, charity. In the USA the authorities plan to switch to electric vehicles by 2030 and completely abandon hydrocarbons in 2050 years.

The green economy is connected with different spheres such as energy, agricultural industry, transport, technologies, tourism and others spheres.

Green energy is engaged in the fact that it uses alternative energy sources at the industrial and household levels. IT technologies can reduce global carbon emissions by 15 %. Manufacturers are implementing intelligent systems that monitor the status of conveyors, reactors and other equipment. They control the efficiency of the enterprise, the level of pollution and the volume of waste. Competent taxation to control the harmful effects on nature and fostering positive environmental habits is the key to success. The World Tourism Organization says that green tourism should protect natural resources, preserve cultural heritage and benefit all parties involved. Rural tourism, vegan tours, and “slow travel” fall into this category.

The green economy has not only advantages, but also disadvantages, such as the risk of reducing the competitiveness of the national economy, the growth of production costs, the strengthening of the role of the state in economic processes.

Currently, there is an active introduction of the green economy into agriculture, and it is also closely connected. Agriculture does not fully meet the modern requirements of the global world. The agricultural production system is extremely wasteful. In this regard, a new trend of modern agriculture is becoming relevant – the development of organic agriculture and animal husbandry. In developed countries, agriculture has recently been transformed into an industrial process of food production, where there are either large high-performance capitalist farms with machinery and a small amount of manual labor, or farms working under contract with large companies. These farms provide the population of developed countries with food in excess. At the same time, half of the population of these countries suffers overweight, eats incorrectly, and industrial agriculture causes significant harm to the environment through impoverishment and depletion of soils, destruction of natural biodiversity, pollution of nature with mineral fertilizers, pesticides and waste from livestock complexes. The industrial system of agricultural production is wasteful, for example, in England up to 40 % of vegetables in the garden remain uncollected due to their non-marketable appearance, and 50 % of food goes directly to waste, usually due to the end of shelf life in supermarkets.

In order to develop a “green” economy, it is necessary to increase agricultural productivity and make it sustainable. Sustainable Agriculture (SARD – Sustainable Agricultural Rural Development) is an agriculture that ensures the production of high-quality and healthy food products, maintaining a balance of renewable and non-renewable resources, and at the same time minimizes possible damage to ecosystems. The main task of sustainable agriculture and rural development is to increase the level of food production in a sustainable way and ensuring food security. Sustainable agriculture is based on social justice, that is, in order to overcome poverty, it assumes fair remuneration for the work of farmers and agricultural workers, preserves village society and rural lifestyle, observes ethical rules of attitude to animals and the natural environment. One of the sources necessary for agriculture to transmit to sustainable development is government subsidies. According to UNEP, 1 % of global GDP is spent on subsidizing unsustainable agriculture by governments (for example, the purchase of pesticides or mineral fertilizers), when just the opposite is needed – priority in subsidizing should be given to “green” technologies. For the formation and development of sustainable agriculture, special loans are required for “green” projects in agriculture and forestry, which will be aimed at preserving natural biodiversity, along with growing

monocultures on relatively large areas, maintaining natural landscapes – forests, meadows, wastelands, swamps.

In conclusion, we would like to highlight a few points about how the green economy affects agriculture:

1. Organic farming involves the production of agricultural products and their consumption on the same territory. In the global world, the transportation of food requires high costs. In this regard, the question arises: “Why not localize food production in this territory for these consumers?”. We are not talking about abandoning the division of labor in the agriculture of the global world (there is no point trying to grow dates in the Nordic countries), but the production of milk or meat may well be localized.

2. Organic farming offers the freshest product and the fastest way to deliver the product to the consumer. For this purpose, special organic food stores or departments in supermarkets are created.

3. Organic products are more beneficial for health (especially for children, pregnant women). The demand for them is growing every year, which pushes the production of biological products to develop. However, you cannot do without state support, here, as in organic agriculture, subsidies are needed.

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## **ON THE WAY TO GREEN ECONOMY IN TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN BELARUS**

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The textile and clothing industry is one of the fastest growing and most globalized industries in the world. It is traditionally a significant part of the light industry in Belarus. Today, textile and apparel production accounts for up to 3.5 % of the country's GDP. The industry employs over 80 thousand people, not including those employed in the textile and clothing retail sector. The industry has about 2,000 economic entities and occupies the top two positions in the structure of light industry in the country. The volume of textile and clothing production is constantly increasing, and more and more clothes are being bought and thrown away, which leads to increased environmental pressure in the form of greenhouse gas emissions, excessive water consumption, and more wastewater containing hazardous chemicals.

In this article we can learn about the peculiarities inherent in the supply chains of the textile and clothing industries in Belarus, such as the management of textile