

THE ROLE OF LONG-LASTING DEVELOPMENT IN THE WORLD

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Abstract. *Long-lasting development represents a national economy's ability to have equilibrium of the social, economic, technical and environmental points in the development process. According to the way long-lasting development is understood, as well as the application of the concept, there can be a long-lasting development politics where consumption and production are done by preserving the resources and qualities of the environment. In 1992, at Rio de Janeiro decided to lay the grounds of a long-lasting development commission as a UNO organism in order to implement the measures comprised by Agenda 21. Nowadays, economic growth can be achieved only as an economic-ecological growth based on a multi energetically consume and on a superior energy and material recycling, in which humans should respect nature's laws and be aware of the capacity of reproduction. A national strategy of lasting economic-social development should consider the services as a priority sector, able to develop and redress the Romanian economy in the context of its integration in the European Union. Environmental conservation strategies should be accepted on a global scale, and people should start thinking about a significant reduction in energy consumption without sacrificing comfort. In other hand, with current technology available, the global destruction of the environment could be stopped. In fact, Romania evolved from a "very poor country" until 2000 to a "poor country" until the EU accession and then to a "not so poor country" since 2007, but this achievement didn't help much in reducing widespread poverty. Last year, Romania outpaced Greece in GDP size for the first time in decades, to become the biggest economy in the Balkans. Integrating sustainable development goals at the heart of economic activities involves changing patterns of production and consumption. This change can be done through regulations, taxation, legal decisions, requests from the public.*

Keywords: *environment; healthy; pollution; government.*

Introduction

The concept of eco-development is defined as a lasting development in ecological respect. The natural environment means: the ensemble of conditions as: relief, climate, living creatures, in which the organisms live as a territorial complex which combines relief elements, geological structure and subsoil resources, waters, climate conditions, soil, vegetation and fauna. Eco-industry is not only the industry producing goods which prevent pollution, but also goods meant to measure, limit or correct equipment for water and residues treatment for example. Also, in the developed countries there is a severe legislation which imposes prevention and precaution, since any ulterior cleaning method of the does not succeed to eliminate pollution and clean it 100 %.

Long-lasting (healthy) development represents a national economy's ability to have equilibrium of the social, economic, technical and environmental points in the development process. According to the way long-lasting development is understood, as

well as the application of the concept, there can be a long-lasting development politics where consumption and production are done by preserving the resources and qualities of the environment. In 1992, at Rio de Janeiro decided to lay the grounds of a long-lasting development commission as a UNO organism in order to implement the measures comprised by Agenda 21.

The starting point and end point of economy is value as it is based on labor, use and actual existence of matter (substance, energy and information). Eco-industry is not only the industry producing goods which prevent pollution and also measure correct equipment for water and residues treatment. The long-lasting development is a continuous process of social change a global, regional and local levels with the purpose to ensure any opportunity for the present and future generations for better living standards. The minimum requirements enforced by long lasting development, which are include: preserving and increasing natural resources, maintaining the diversity of the eco systems, reorienting technology and controlling its risks, supervising the impact of the economic development on the environment, decentralizing the governmental forms, increasing the degree of participation in taking and unifying decisions concerning environment and economy. (Camasoiu, 1994, p.13)

A national strategy of lasting economic -social development should consider the services as a priority sector, able to develop and redress the Romanian economy in the context of its integration in the European Union. The humankind must create a society in which cars do not pollute the atmosphere, residues, regardless their nature (chemical or nuclear) are recycled and stored on adequate condition and energy production do not cause climate changes. On this time, a new concept has emerged, both at a practical and on theoretical level, that of eco-industry and eco-development. Eco-industry is not only the industry producing goods which prevent pollution, but also goods meant to measure, limit or correct equipment for water and residues treatment.

Dan Popescu (1997) argues that: in literature, sub-development is defined as a sum of features typical for the poor countries, among which we mention a low level of development of the main economic branches, and their weak integration in the system; the fundamental needs of the "minimum vital" are not satisfied and neither is the living cost, a low income on inhabitant that is unequally distributed; old social structures, underemployment of the labor force, low level of education etc. (Popescu, 1997).

To change the type of economic growth there is need of political and technological will and resources. Chances of success are very high. On the other hand, the environment is the support and the source of life. To pollute and destroy it equals to undermine human existence. That is why the World Health Organization came to the conclusion that maintaining health and well-being requires a good and harmonious environment in which everyone physical, psychological, social and aesthetic factors have a well-defined place. The environment will have to be in this for to be treated as a resource for the purpose of improving living and welfare conditions

In 1992 at the United Nations Conference on Environment and development, which was held at Rio de Janeiro and managed by Maurice Strong, approve the concept of long lasting development at worldwide. Starting with that time, all the authorities from all over the world have been obligated to implement local projects in partnership with the community agents involved in the long lasting development.

The minimum requirements imposed by long-lasting development include the following:

1. preserving and increasing natural resources
2. maintaining the diversity of the eco-systems
3. changing the dimensions of the economic
4. supervising the impact of the economic development on the environment
5. reorienting technology and controlling its risks
6. ensuring population number raise at an acceptable level in order to reduce
7. uncontrolled demographic growth
8. decentralizing the governmental forms, increasing the degree of participation in
9. taking and unifying decisions concerning environment and economy

The interactions and interdependencies between the branches of the national economy, between different activities and sectors, along with the economic growth, are increasing. The lasting development is a complex concept which are linked with the globalization processes, economic growth and development.

The lasting development have the following purposes:

1. reevaluation the economic growth according to resources and the focus on the quality aspect of production and services
2. eliminate poverty and the conditions for meeting basic needs for work, food, water, energy, health, dwelling
3. decentralization of government forms by increasing the degree of participation in the decisions and joining the decisions concerning environment and economy.

In fact, this concept refers to the development, which satisfies the present needs without compromising the future generations. Unfortunately, the reality is totally different and the gap between poor and rich countries is constantly growing. In September 2002, at Johannesburg, South Africa, was the World Summit on Long Lasting Development, which was attended by numerous representatives of the world governments, UN agents, NGOs, economic and social organizations and whoever was confronted with the alarming deterioration of the ecosystems. On the other hand, the long development model is an ideal theoretical model that guides the humankind, but that cannot become reality without political and social terms. Also, the Summit continued the ideas and in 1987 at Stockholm and in 1992 at Rio de Janeiro they adopted the documents.

Also, Jan S. Hagendon (1996) had introduced another concept which is more complete, about the sustainable development. Jan S. Hagendon says that "the idea of sustainable development more convincing if it is interpreted in the sense that a certain growth rate can be hard to sustain if the environment degrades itself, if the growing inequity of the income leads to revolution of if the population number gets out of hand or if the farming land is fragmented and the productivity decreases." (Hagendon, 1996, p.391)

The concept of eco-economics has been invented due to the fact that the market mechanisms do not reflect not even to a theoretical level the lack of concordance between the economic system and the planetary eco-system, also, Lester Brown (2001) tries to define this concept as it follows: "an economy which is in agreement with the

planetary ecosystem will sharply contrast with the present economy which is polluting, destructive and at the end self-destructive, wasteful, based on fossil fuel and centered on automobiles.”

In general, all human activities are helped by the environment. Thus, it has been noticed climate changes, erosions in the rural medium, growth of the quantity of chemical that affect the food and the air and water. We should be more careful with the environment, we must create a society in which cars do not pollute the atmosphere, residues, regardless their nature or chemical or nuclear are recycled and stored on adequate condition and energy production do not cause climate changes.

Therefore, big companies have been forced to introduce in their production system safer and more ecological methods and they partly reduced the pollution that has a negative impact on the environment. In the academic literature, the concept of eco-development is defined as a lasting development in ecological respect. The lasting development in ecological respect, spatial extension, takes into consideration implicitly and explicitly the environment factor. The environment can be natural, social, human, etc.

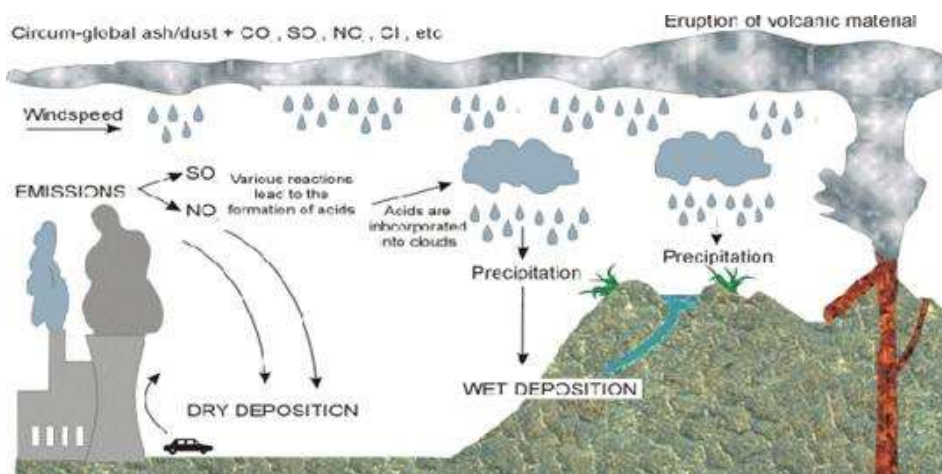


Figure 1. The effects of pollution
(Source: poluarea.wordpress.com)

The atmospheric pollution involves the release of substances harmful to living organisms in the atmosphere. The pollutants such as sulfur and nitrogen oxides, chlorofluorocarbons, carbon dioxide, carbon monoxide, and soot (coal) are the primary contributors to atmospheric pollution. The atmospheric pollution can also affect aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems, if the pollutants dissolve in water or precipitate in the form of rain.

The acid rain is a type of atmospheric pollution formed when sulfur and nitrogen oxides are combined with atmospheric vapor, as a resulting in sulfuric acids and nitric acids that can be transported away from the original site of production and can be precipitate in the form of the rain. The acid rain is currently an important subject of controversy due to its action on large areas and the possibility of spreading in areas other than the initial ones. Its harmful interactions include: erosion of structures, destruction of agricultural crops and forest plantations, threat of terrestrial but also aquatic animal

species, as few species can withstand such conditions, thus generally destroying ecosystems.

Different countries have imposed standards in legislation with preference at levels of concentration that are thought to be low enough to protect public health. Emissions Standards have also specified emission limits for pollutants in the atmosphere so that air quality standards are met. However, the nature of the problem requires the implementation of international environmental treaties, and so far 49 countries have approved in March 1985 the United Nations Convention on the Ozone Layer. The "Montreal Protocol", as it was called this renegotiated convention in 1990, called for the removal of certain chlorocarbons and fluorocarbons by the end of the century and assists with the development of countries in making these transitions. In addition, several international treaties have been signed to reduce the incidence of acid rain.

In the United States, the Clean Air Act of 1967, as amended in 1970, 1977 and 1990 is the legal basis for controlling atmospheric pollution. The Environmental Protection Agency is primarily responsible for meeting the requirements of this Act, which specifies to establish air quality standards for different substances. The global collapse of the environment is inevitable. Developed States should work alongside developing countries to ensure that the economies of these countries do not contribute to increasing pollution problems.



Figure 2. World's air pollution (Source: waqi.info)

The Waqi.info is an online portal, which has succeeded in setting up a map that updates real-world air quality in real-time. If Beijing does not see the sun ever because of the heady air, the cities in Romania seem to breathe healthier.

The global collapse of the environment is inevitable. Developed States should work alongside developing countries to ensure that the economies of these countries do not contribute to increasing pollution problems. Today's politicians should think about supporting pollution reduction programs rather than expanding industrialization as much as possible. Environmental conservation strategies should be accepted on a global scale, and people should start thinking about a significant reduction in energy consumption without sacrificing comfort. In other words, with current technology available, the global destruction of the environment could be stopped.

Direct effects are the changes that occur in the health of the population as a result of exposure to pollutants. These changes can be translated in order of severity by:

increasing mortality, increasing morbidity, developing symptoms or physio-pathological changes, occurring direct physiological changes and / or loading the body with the agent or pollutants.

The environment concept is defined in the "Dictionary of Economics", as it follows: the ensemble of factors that can influence the economic activity from the exterior. The economic environment consists of all the natural and social restrictions that must be taken into account in the economic activity. The economic environment is also defined as an ensemble of institutions, of juridical, political and economic norms that regulate and orientate the economic activity.

In Durable Development, the key issue is represented by the reconciliation between the necessity of continuing the economic and social development and the protection and improvement of environment's state.

The sustainable development is the form of economic growth, which satisfies the needs of society in terms of well-being in the short, medium and long term having to meet the present needs without, however, jeopardizing those of future generations. This notion conciliates between the environment and the economy, representing a developmental pathway that supports human progress for the whole planet and for a long-term future. This approach is pursued the interaction of the compatibility of four systems: economic, human, environmental and ecologically, so as to meet the needs of the present without compromises the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

The sustainable development strategy includes the simultaneity of progress in all four dimensions, as well, global development has as a general purpose the improvement of human life providing the necessary conditions for people to be able to achieve their full potential. Achieving this global goal requires the following objectives:

1. analyzing the present through the perspective of the future by introducing security ecological rather than maximizing profit, which is the true one purpose of sustainable development
2. changing consumer and production trends
3. establishing demographic growth
4. distributing the benefits of development to the entire population economic
5. the achievement of effective governance, i.e. the development of a political system
6. ensuring respect for human rights and freedoms
7. permanent and safe compatibility of environment created by man with the environment natural

Structural transformation is the process of shifting resource allocation to systems with high productivity so that the economy can sustain one higher living standards for the entire population, also appropriate administrative work, ensuring compliance with the law and ensuring that citizens have access to information of public interest are issues related to efficient governance.

The main objectives envisaged by the National Strategy of the Sustainable development are as follows:

1. ensuring the health of the population;
2. resizing and remodeling the economic and social structure turning it into a sustainable system;

3. developing a coherent, compatible legislative and institutional system with that of the Member States;
4. continuous monitoring and evaluation of economic performance, social and environmental protection through a system of indicators quantitative and qualitative determinants

The sustainable Development indicators are:

- be clear and statistically viable
- be obtained from the best data sources
- be harmonized from the point of view of methodology and standards international
- be comparable to those developed by the Member States of the Union European
- be timely
- be easy to review for updating

Also, proportion of land covered with forests and area of protected areas for ensuring biodiversity conservation are the two nature and environmental indicators biodiversity, indicators which protect biodiversity, prevent and reduce the desertification process by increasing the degree of desertification afforestation from 27% to 35% of the country's surface, until 2040 and through the increase of the protected areas' proportions from 2.5% of the country's surface in 1990 to 10% in 2015.

The success with which they are implemented will also depend on political leadership, institutional organization, available legal tools, financial and fiscal policies, and the accompanying plans for social transition.

The starting point and end point of economy is value as it is based on labor, use and actual existence of matter (substance, energy and information). Eco-industry is not only the industry producing goods which prevent pollution and also measure correct equipment for water and residues treatment. The long-lasting development is a continuous process of social change a global, regional and local levels with the purpose to ensure any opportunity for the present and future generations for better living standards. A national strategy of lasting economic -social development should consider the services as a priority sector (Ioncica & Stanculescu, 2004; Rabontu, 2005), able to develop and redress the Romanian economy in the context of its integration in the European Union.

The humankind must create a society in which cars do not pollute the atmosphere, residues, regardless their nature (chemical or nuclear) are recycled and stored on adequate condition and energy production do not cause climate changes. On this time, a new concept has emerged, both at a practical and on theoretical level, that of eco-industry and eco-development. Eco-industry is not only the industry producing goods which prevent pollution, but also goods meant to measure, limit or correct equipment for water and residues treatment.

The concept of sustainable development has the world's wealthy and poor countries. For developed countries, the issue of depollution, improving the quality of life is one for transformation, adaptation and modernization. To change the type of economic growth there is, here, political and technological will and resources. Chances of success are very high.

Other hand, the environment is the support and the source of life. To pollute and destroy it equals to undermine human existence. That is why the World Health Organization came to the conclusion that maintaining health and well-being requires a good and harmonious environment in which everyone physical, psychological, social and aesthetic factors have a well-defined place (OMS 1989). The environment will have to be in this for to be treated as a resource for the purpose of improving living and welfare conditions.

Today's politicians should think about supporting pollution reduction programs rather than expanding industrialization as much as possible. Environmental conservation strategies should be accepted on a global scale, and people should start thinking about a significant reduction in energy consumption without sacrificing comfort. In other hand, with current technology available, the global destruction of the environment could be stopped.

We could also contribute to fighting pollution. We could stop the energy crisis using energy in a rational way. Some of the things we can do to save energy are:

- Rare use of cars: walking, cycling or public transport
 - Welcome to buying goods that are over packed. Energy is needed to make the packaging, but also to recycle it
 - Eviting losses: what you use, reuse, instead of buying new ones, repair damaged items instead of throwing them, and recycling as much as possible. Find out what recycling facilities are available in your area. Try not to throw things if they could have another use
 - Isolate your house: look for cracks in doors, windows, and make sure the bridge is insulated enough to keep the house warm.
 - Uses household appliances that do not consume much energy: when you buy new appliances, ask which models consume less energy. Use light bulbs with low power consumption and rechargeable batteries.
 - Ecoys water: it takes a lot of energy to purify water. A damaged tap can consume about 30 liters of water per day.
 - Learn as much as possible about Earth's energy problems and the causes that determine them. Find out if there are green groups in your area that could inform you.
- This is why nowadays, economic growth ca be achieved only as an economic-ecological growth based on a multi energetically consume and on a superior energy and material recycling, in which humans should respect nature's laws and be aware of the capacity of reproduction. In literature, sub-development is defined as a sum of features typical for the poor countries, among which we mention a low level of development of the main economic branches, and their weak integration in the system; the fundamental needs of the "minimum vital" are not satisfied and neither is the living cost, a low income on inhabitant that is unequally distributed; old social structures, underemployment of the labor force, low level of education etc.

The Sustainable Development Strategy has two main objectives as: high living standard in terms of water as well as reduction emissions of air pollution and keeping pollutants below a certain threshold and in order to avoid damaging human health, ecosystems and cultural heritage.

The indicators used in this respect are:

- percentage of population with access to drinking water sources

- the number of inhabitants who have access to a centralized supply system the water-
- connecting the population to centralized water and sewerage services-
- the ability to equip streets with water
- water losses in distribution networks
- the length of the water distribution network number of treatment plants;
- urban population exposed to air pollution, indicators reached by improving and developing the centralized system infrastructure
- water supply and sewerage systems in urban and rural agglomerations.

In the field of transport, the specific objectives refer to the fact that, on medium and long term, Romania must maintain a balanced system in which rail to hold 30-35% of the transport market, by internalizing costs external transport, through equivalent support for infrastructure development road and rail transport and supporting ecological transport.

To achieve these, the following indicators are used:

- the volume of freight transported, in terms of GDP;
- the volume of passengers transported, in terms of GDP,
- freight transport by type of transport;
- transport of passengers by type of transport.

The Sustainable Development Strategy is the reference framework for facilitating decision-making when some choices are incompatible. The strategies that have succeeded are those that:

1. have clearly defined the priorities
2. enrolled in a long-term optics
3. aims to promote consistency between the different existing planning frameworks already
4. promotes proximity at local level
5. translate a commitment at national level
6. Induce the participation of the actors concerned

The failed strategies are those that focused actions on a particular aspect, as: limited to punctual and isolated initiatives and the result of downstream approaches. The strategy must also include rating mechanisms in practice of the strategy. This process must be accompanied at the very beginning the process of formulating the strategy and must, of course, continue over time.

Surveillance of processes and result indicators must be the subject of a continuous supervision in relation to the final exam and objectives strategy. Romania has become increasingly attractive to investors. This is also happening as a result of the economic development that is growing more and more visible but also as a result of improving the country rating of the agencies International. Equally important is the setting of priority areas development, areas with a certain potential that do not involve too much investment to bring important economic benefits. Also, the strategic concept sets investment priorities in infrastructure and action plan at level national development in a European context.

Objectives of territorial development, and beyond, but must be established together with the representatives of local authorities who know best the needs of their communities represent. In faced with threats of irreversible environmental degradation, lack a complete scientific understanding of the phenomena taking place cannot be an excuse to postpone the required actions. Therefore, growth is necessary sustained productivity in scientific activity.

Conclusions

In fact, Romania evolved from a “very poor country” until 2000 to a “poor country” until the EU accession and then to a “not so poor country” since 2007, but this achievement didn’t help much in reducing widespread poverty. Last year, Romania outpaced Greece in GDP size for the first time in decades, to become the biggest economy in the Balkans (Turkey excluded).

This month, the National Institute of Statistics (INS) released a flash estimate of GDP evolution in 2017, indicating a 7 percent increase compared to 2016. The first more detailed picture of the country’s GDP in 2017 will be released on March, but economists are already betting on a number close to EUR 185 billion, after EUR 169.8 billion in 2016. What is already clear is that Romania’s GDP was larger in 2017 than Greece’s GDP, estimated at around EUR 175 billion, for the first time since the 1970’s. But Romania is still the second-poorest EU country if we look at the more relevant GDP/capita index, with less than EUR 10,000 per inhabitant.

Romania proposes for the following years:

- For 2020: Achieving the current EU level of the main indicators of sustainable development;
- For 2030: Significant approximation of Romania to the average level of that year of the EU member states from the point of view of sustainable development.

Integrating sustainable development goals at the heart of economic activities involves changing patterns of production and consumption. This change can be done through regulations, taxation, legal decisions, requests from the public, etc.

The objectives of sustainable development in Romania are:

1. Government and state institutions that, following the EU model, will facilitate Business Environment access to different tools for Sustainable Production and Consumption
2. Empowering the Business Environment "pressures", both on the part of the Government and the state institutions, as well as with the civil society
3. Awareness of civil society to "demand" products and services that have been designed following Sustainable Production and Consumption.

Nowadays, economic growth ca be achieved only as an economic-ecological growth based on a multi energetically consume and on a superior energy and material recycling, in which humans should respect nature’s laws and be aware of the capacity of reproduction.

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