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REVIEW ONE

Reviewed book: Prof. dr. Dalia Štreimikienė (*Editor-in-Chief*), Prof. dr. Astrida Miceikienė, Prof. dr. Vlada Vitunskienė, Prof. hab. dr. Remigijus Čiegis, Prof. dr. Gabija Bankauskaitė-Sereikienė, Dr. Ilona Kiaušienė (*Editorial Board*) (2015), *Sustainable Development Issues And Its Solutions In Lithuania*. Kaunas: Vilnius university, Aleksandras Stulginskis university, 436 p.

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**DARNAUS VYSTYMOSI PROBLEMAS
 IR JŲ SPRENDIMAI LIETUVOJE**

Kolektyvinė monografija
 Elektroninis išteklius

Vilnius universitetas, Aleksandro Stulginskio universitetas

2015

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Title:

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND ITS SOLUTIONS IN LITHUANIA

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The collective monograph “Sustainable development issues and its solutions in Lithuania” summarizes analytic and exploratory investigations of large group of researchers working in the area of sustainable development of Lithuania.

Sustainable development is defined and legally approved in the highest political levels as the main long term strategy of development of a society, aimed to ensure pursuing current objectives of evolving economic, social and environmental protection systems without hindering ability of future generations to pursue their own forthcoming goals.

The focus on concept of sustainability allows authors of the monograph to uncover challenges emanating in the main economic sectors and to analyse the intertwined factors shaping the development of the country and its position in international context.

The goal of the monograph is to define main contemporary problems of sustainable development and present their solutions based on theoretical insights of sustainable development paradigm and results of empirical research performed in the top priority sectors of Lithuanian economy.

Main tasks leading to achieving the goal include broad spectrum of compounds shaping the sustainable development of Lithuania.

The tasks are: to analyse the impact of income inequality for sustainable development of economy based on theoretical and empirical insights; to reveal the essential mechanism of occurrence of economic crises and their formation by applying theoretical assumptions of logistical economical determinants and build new knowledge shaping new economic growth paradigm.

The authors also analyse group of tasks related to Lithuanian population structure: evaluation of dynamics of population in the context of sustainable development; determining economic and social differences among genders, evaluating quantitative parameters of participation of individuals of different genders in the labour market.

The importance of energy sector in the Lithuanian economy suggested group of research tasks on substantiating necessity for scientific multicriterial decision making methodology in the areas of energy and environmental policy which could include consideration of sustainability factors.

The attention of scientific research to the sector of agriculture can be characterized by the solving tasks of evaluating efficiency of this part of Lithuanian economy as related to the compounds of sustainability: to reveal the structure of competitive advantage in bioeconomy, to substantiate factors for formation of sustainable development of competitiveness; to reveal aspects of consuming and evaluating ecological agricultural products, to characterize tendencies of labour operations in agricultural sector, to analyse links between modernization of agricultural enterprises and other measures of implementing sustainability in rural development.

Group of tasks of monograph includes research in tourism sector, where the sustainability challenges in tourism are analysed and the aspects of sustainability evaluation are compared among sectors.

The tasks and specific objectives of the monograph are solved by applying general methodological principles of combining development of theoretical principles of sustainability with conducting empirical research in particular area of economy. The monograph can be characterized by application of wide variety of methods of empirical research, such as application of statistical and data analysis methods, including multicriterial statistics, correlation and regression analysis, linear programming, Monte Carlo simulation, PPS, COPRAS, ranking methods and sensitivity analysis. The expert evaluation was applied in the cases of qualitative analysis. The authors of monograph used multiple sources of public statistical data, provided by Lithuanian department of statistics, EUROSTAT, FAOSAT, OECD, European commission Farm Accountancy Data Network, National Commission for Prices and Energy Control (NCC), Economical research centre of US Agricultural department. Several surveys were conducted for collecting specific research data as well.

The monograph consists of introduction and four parts, which cover topics of sustainable development of economics in general and in specific priority sectors of energy, agriculture and tourism. The results achieved in each area of research are presented in conclusion section.

The first part “General aspects of sustainable development of economics” presents analysis of one of the most urgent areas influencing general understanding of sustainable development, namely income inequality. The authors analyse factors which determine economical differences among population. Important results were achieved while conducting empirical research of exploring interrelationship between inequality ratio and economic growth factors characterizing level of sustainable development such as domestic material consumption, gross inland energy consumption and municipal waste, pollution, costs of R&D, FDI, exports of goods and services, voice and accountability index. The authors concluded clearly distinctive differences among four clusters of EU countries grouped according to income per inhabitant.

The second part “Aspects of sustainable development of energetic sector”. Among the research questions was the evaluation of influences of measures applied for opening electric energy market, grounding of general policies for centralized development of heating sector in European Union and Lithuania, elaboration of methodology for evaluating heating production efficiency due to replacing gas by biofuel and define its real price structure.

The third part “Aspects of sustainable development of agriculture”. The extensive research of whole spectrum of problems related to sustainable consumption, bioeconomy, evaluation of social dimension of sustainability in Lithuanian agriculture is presented. Along to the analysis of theoretical backgrounds and development of these areas, the empirical research of Lithuanian consumer preferences, and empirical study of social sustainability state and tendencies in Lithuanian agriculture are presented.

The fourth part “Aspects of sustainable development of tourism sector” searches for specific problems and challenges emanating in sustainable development of tourism. The authors look for solutions for the main challenges of implementation of sustainable tourism goals: although they should be reached through the encouragement to choose the less aggressive tourism expansion forms having less pressure upon environment, providing higher benefits to local communities, throughout the consumption of local production or improvement of technologies and as a result decreasing pollution, the authors claim that there is no progress in the implementation of goals of environment protection dimension, and it is prognosticated that due to international inbound and outbound tourism pollution is going to increase even more. The empirical research is summarized and results of applying prototypes of business models for preparing sustainable development strategies are presented in the monograph.

The conclusions summarize the research findings and results by presenting broad evaluation of economic, social and environmental factors, their compounds and indicators influencing current status of sustainability in development of the country and its perspectives.

The monograph is a broad and important study which presents valuable research knowledge and insights based on theoretical and empirical evidence and original propositions of the authors. The monograph can be considered as very important contribution to scientific development and implementation of the ideas of sustainable development.

The presented monograph book should find interested audience among the experienced scholars, students, young researchers and practitioners, policy makers working in the main sectors of economy. It can serve as an important study leading to new research results.

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SANTRAUKA

Kolektyvinę monografiją „Darnaus vystymosi problemos ir jų sprendimai Lietuvoje“ (angl. *Sustainable Development Issues and Its Solutions in Lithuania*), skirtą darnaus vystymosi problemų tyrimams, išleido Vilniaus universitetas ir Aleksandro Stulginskio universitetas. Šios monografijos autoriai – tai gausi Lietuvos tyrėjų grupė, aktyviai dirbanti darnaus vystymosi tyrimų srityje: Remigijus Čiegis, Aidas Dilius, Stasys Girdzijauskas, Ingrida Griesienė, Miglė Sarvutytė-Gailiūnienė, Ilona Kiaušienė, Dalia Štreimikienė, Indrė Šikšnelytė, Aušra Pažeraitė, Žaneta Simanavičienė, Giedrius Žemaitis, Tomas Baležentis, Bernardas Kniūkšta, Saulius Jurgelėnas, Vlada Vitunskienė, Valerija Vinciūnienė, Vilma Atkočiūnienė, Asta Mikalauskiene, Ignas Mikalauskas, Edmundas Jasinskas, Aušra Butvilaitė, Astrida Miceikienė.

Darnaus vystymosi tyrimų krypties pasirinkimas šioje monografijoje leido sujungti ir ištirti įvairiuose ekonomikos sektoriuose sprendžiamus iššūkius, pateikti įtakos veiksnių sąveikos tyrimų metodus ir atskleisti jų poveikį šalies ekonominių sektorių raidai, jų pozicionavimui tarptautiniame kontekste.

Pasirinktas monografijos tikslas pareikalavo plataus spektro tyrimų, kadangi autoriai siekė apibrėžti šiuolaikines darnaus vystymosi galimybes ir pateikti jų sprendimo būdus, remdamiesi teorinėmis prielaidomis bei pagrindinių Lietuvos ekonominių sektorių empirinių tyrimų rezultatais. Teorinių ir empirinių tyrimų dėmė sukuria šios monografijos tyrimų pridėtinę vertę mokslo ir praktinių taikymų požiūriu.

Monografiją sudaro keturios dalys. Pirmoje monografijos dalyje yra aptarti bendrieji darnaus vystymosi klausimai, akcentuojant pajamų nelygybę, gyventojų populiacijos raidos problemas bei ekonominius skirtumus tarp gyventojų lemiančius veiksnius. Antroji monografijos dalis yra skirta energetikos sektoriaus plėtros problemoms tyrinėti. Monografijos trečioje dalyje pristatyti efektyvumo ir produktyvumo dėsningumą vertinimo Lietuvos žemės ūkyje rezultatai, pateikta darnaus konkurencinio pranašumo bioekonomikoje analizė, atskleistos darnaus vartojimo žemės ūkyje problemos. Svarbus tyrimas šioje dalyje yra socialinės dimensijos integravimas į žemės ūkio darnumo vertinimą Lietuvoje. Ketvirtoje monografijos dalyje analizuojami turizmo sektoriaus darnaus vystymosi aspektai.

Monografijoje pateikiamos išsamios tyrimų išvados ir rezultatai. Ekonominių, socialinių ir aplinkosauginių veiksnių tarpusavio sąveika ir poveikis darnios plėtros sampratos tyrimui atskleidžiamas per teorines nuostatas ir gautus empirinių tyrimų rezultatus. Pateikiamas Lietuvos ekonominio vystymosi komponentų, sektorių ir jų vertinio indikatorių apibendrinimas darnaus vystymosi kontekste.

Ši kolektyvinė monografija – tai svarbi mokslinė studija, kurioje apibendrintos žinios ir įžvalgos, grindžiamos tiek šiuolaikinėmis teorinėmis idėjomis, tiek autorių pastangomis atliktų empirinių tyrimų rezultatais. Monografija – tai vertingas indėlis į darnaus vystymosi idėjų bei mokslinių pagrindų kūrimą, jų taikymo šalies ekonomikos strateginei plėtrai galimybių analizę.

Pateikta monografija turėtų sudominti tiek mokslininkus, tiek studentus ir jaunuosius tyrėjus. Ji gali tapti svarbiu informacijos šaltiniu praktikams ir svarbiausių ekonomikos sektorių strategijos formuotojams. Monografijoje pateikti tyrimai, tikėtina, taps įkvėpimo šaltiniu mokslininkams, siekiantiems naujų mokslinių rezultatų.

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