

THE DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMICS AND DUE LEVEL OF ENVIRONMENT. ARE THEY INCOMPATIBLE?

Yulia Zubko

Sumy State University, Sumy, Ukraine

There are several points of view about development of economics and its influence on ecology. Some people think that economics helps ecology to improve its natural resources, to increase the correlation between developing prosperity of people without abatement ecological level(state) of life on the Earth; but considerable number of citizens in the world think that development of economics and due level of environment are incompatible.

The last few years have been the worst period on record for environmental disasters and experts are predicting far worse to come.

Here is how to become a disaster statistic. Move to a shanty town on an unstable hillside near a tropic coast. Crowd together as more and more people arrive. Wait for the world to get a little warmer. More evaporation means more rain, which means the slopes will get progressively more waterlogged. One day, the land will turn to mud, and the neighbourhood will begin to go downhill. Literally. And if the slope is steep enough, the landslide will accelerate to more than 200 miles an hour.

In the last decade, floods, droughts, windstorms, earthquakes, avalanches, volcanic eruptions and forests fires have become increasing common. There has been disastrous flooding in Asia, Africa, Central and South America and Oceania.

Even prosperous Europe has suffered and large areas of France, Britain and Germany have all been under water.

Storms have been getting worse everywhere too, with a growing number of hurricanes hitting the US, the Caribbean and Central America.

Drought has affected large areas of Sub-Saharan Africa for years and many other zones are becoming drier. A number of nations have already been in armed conflict over water, and drought in the West of the US has resulted in enormous forest fires.

So why is nature beginning to turn on us? One answer is overpopulation.

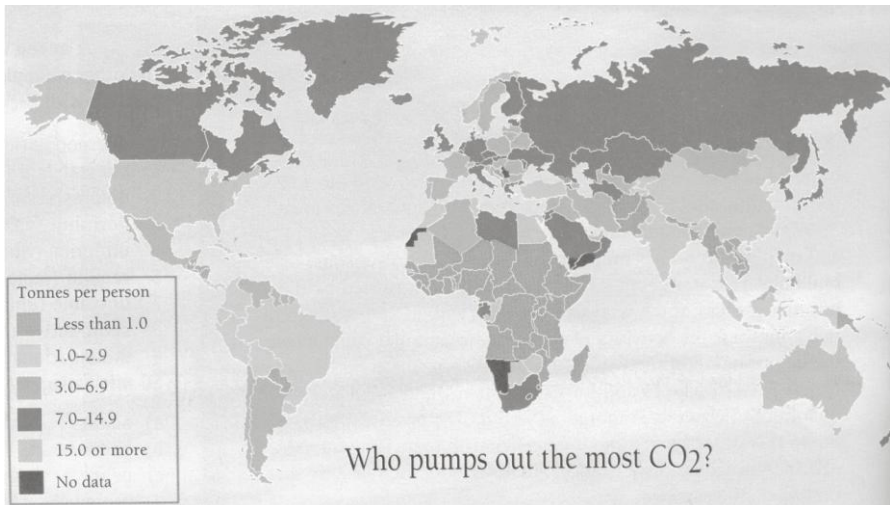
The population of the world is growing at the rate of 10000 people an hour, 240000 every day, nearly 90 million a year, with most of the growth in the developing world. People in agricultural areas, unemployed and sometimes undernourished, move to the cities, and then set up homes on poor soil, crowded into substandard buildings. This has mainly been caused by the mismanagement of the world's resources: carbon emissions from rich countries; the activities of the big multinational companies; the deforestation of the world's forests. As a result, a hotter ocean breeds fiercer cyclones and hurricanes. Atlantic hurricanes, for instance, are 40% more intense now than they were 30 years ago.

Volcanoes and earthquakes are even more dangerous than in the past as around half the world's population now lives in cities. An ever greater number live at risk, in some degree, from earthquakes which have taken a toll of more than 1,6 million lives in the last hundred years.

All the betting from the disaster professionals is that things will get worse.

Scientists warned that this would mean more pollution and a greater risk of disaster across the globe.

The globe problem of the development economics with its dreadful influence on environment is reducing emissions of carbon-based gases. The European Union agreed to cut emissions by 8%, Japan 6% and the USA 7%. Britain is one of the countries to have reduced its emissions, but critics asked if this was due to government policy or the decline in the coal industry. The EU reminded the USA (the world's biggest polluter producing 24% of the world's emissions) that it had not met its targets. The USA firmly denied it was making excuses and asked why the targets were so unrealistic (Picture 1).



Picture 1 – The Emissions of CO₂ in different countries of the world

Some government ministers reluctantly admitted that they may need to cut global emissions by up to 60% in the long-term. However, many developing countries have refused to sign any pollution agreements. They say it would harm their economic growth and insist that the developed countries lead the way and show it is possible to break the link between economic growth and rising emissions.

But as the life shows that as more our general world economics increase as our nature lost more “valuable” natural resources such as, for instance, clean water and fresh air, beautiful wood, a lot of magnificent plants and rare animals.

There is a very important and actual principles of ecocodevelopment: think globally – do locally. This means that every person on the globe must think about all people in the world, about his/her children’s life, future generation and does things according these thoughts.