

FIGHT AGAINST ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS IN THE MODERN WORLD

Introduction. We live in the time of the COVID-19 crisis, when some countries are once again using the recovery as an engine of employment, especially in rural areas where there is an urgent need for jobs. This strategy not only boosts economic growth, but also plays a key role in the fight against climate change and biodiversity loss. Nature regeneration is at the heart of the United Nations decade for ecosystem restoration, a global movement to restore land lost to human activities that is set to begin in 2021.

Main part. “Green recovery is something that simultaneously addresses climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution”, said Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the United Nations environment programme. “Some countries are already developing economic packages that support measures to protect forests, wetlands, soils, and urban greening. At the UN biodiversity summit, we saw a marked increase in political support for nature protection. But now we must step up large-scale actions to restore our degraded ecosystems”.

List of 10 countries that have included nature restoration commitments in their post-pandemic recovery plans: Pakistan, France, New Zealand, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Ethiopia, Finland, Colombia, Iceland, Kenya, Ireland.

Pakistan has attracted tens of thousands of people who lost their jobs during the COVID-19 quarantine to plant seedlings, including mulberry and acacia trees. The government, which launched the “tsunami of 10 billion trees” program in 2018, removed some restrictions from this initiative.

About one-third of France’s 100 billion Euro (\$ 120 billion) economic recovery package is aimed at accelerating the greening of the economy. Along with investments in eco-friendly buildings, industry and transport, new resources are emerging for an “agro-ecological transition” in agriculture.

As part of the recovery, New Zealand has allocated NZ \$ 1.1 billion (us \$ 750 million) to create up to 11,000 “environmental jobs” to restore wetlands, green conservation areas and protect coastal areas. It also funds measures to control imported predators, that kill native bird species, and invasive coniferous tree species.

The United Kingdom plans to invest up to 40 million pounds (us \$ 52 million) in the so-called “green recovery Fund”. This will enable environmental groups and government agencies to create or maintain up to 5,000 jobs in nature conservation and restoration, with a focus on tree planting and peatland restoration. The United Kingdom is also developing a system for assessing its natural capital to study its environment and improve management and decision-making.

This year, Ethiopia aims to plant 5 billion saplings, part of a program to double forest cover by 2030. Together with the Economic Commission for Africa, the country focused its attention on reforestation as a way to create “green” jobs, improve the health of its citizens and aid in recovery from KOVID-19. In 2019, Ethiopia has set a new world record by planting over one day, more than 350 million trees initiative of the President of Abia Ahmed “Green heritage”.

Finland’s recovery efforts include a proposal to invest 53 million euros (us \$ 63 million) in recreational development, water supply, and forest protection. Another 13.1 million euros (15.5 million us dollars) will be used to restore natural habitats, including forests, and develop natural tourism. These funds are intended for state-owned enterprises responsible for carbon management and biodiversity protection.

Colombia’s recovery plans include reforestation and support for sustainable agriculture. To reverse deforestation and climate change, the government aims to plant 180 million trees, about 50 million of which should be planted by the end of 2020. The economic package includes funds for the development of agroforestry and agro-industrial animal husbandry, agricultural methods for soil and ecosystem restoration. In order to protect the environment, the government also plans to tighten mining regulations.

As part of its economic stimulus package, Iceland has allocated 200 million Icelandic kronor (us \$ 1.5 million) for projects aimed at natural carbon sequestration, including expanding natural birch forests and restoring wetlands. As part of the fight against pollution of marine ecosystems, Iceland is also introducing the idea of banning the sale of single-use plastic (Cutlery and food containers).

Authorities in the capital, Nairobi, have already hired the poor to clean parks and canals, enabling many people to earn a living and get off the streets. City officials are already seeing environmental benefits: 1,200 tons of garbage removed and fish returned to the Nairobi river.

Ireland has announced an additional 15 million euros (us \$ 18 million) to accelerate a program to restore 33,000 hectares of peatlands degraded by development. The program is designed to increase the area of wetlands in order to protect the endangered grey partridge and Avrinia marsh butterfly, as well as reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

The United Nations decade for ecosystem restoration 2021-2030, LED by the United Nations environment Programme, the Food and agriculture organization of the United Nations and partners, aims to prevent, halt and re-

verse the loss of ecosystems around the world. This global call to action will bring together political forces, scientific research, and financial resources for large-scale recovery [1].

The sixth edition of the global environment Outlook report was presented when environment Ministers from around the world gathered in Nairobi to participate in the highest-level environmental forum. It is expected that the outcome of the negotiations at the fourth UN environment Assembly will lead to decisions that will help to address such important issues as reducing food waste, promoting electric mobility and overcoming the crisis of plastic pollution in our oceans, as well as many other pressing issues.

Forecasts for the future of our planet with a healthy humanity are based on a new way of thinking in which the model of “development — now, solving problems and consequences — after” is replaced by a virtually waste-free economy until 2050. According to the report, green investments of 2 % of countries’ GDP can provide long-term growth comparable to currently projected levels, while reducing the impact of climate change, water scarcity, and ecosystem loss.

The world is currently on track to achieve the sdgs by neither 2030 nor 2050. Urgent action must be taken immediately, as delay in the fight against climate change increases the cost of achieving the goals of the Paris agreement, and at some point may reverse the progress made or even make these goals unattainable.

The authors of the report recommend introducing diets with less meat and reducing food waste in both developed and developing countries, which will reduce the necessary increase in food production for the projected 9–10 billion people of the world in 2050 by 50 %. Today, 33 % of global food is being wasted, 56 % of which occurs in developed countries, the report said.

At a time when urbanization is occurring at an unprecedented rate globally, the report said it could be an opportunity to improve the well-being of citizens, while reducing the environmental footprint by improving governance, land-use planning, and developing green infrastructure. Moreover, strategic investments will reduce the pressure that forces people to migrate.

Scientists note progress in the collection of environmental statistics, in particular geospatial data, and emphasize the huge potential for knowledge development using big data, as well as closer collaboration in data collection between public and private partners.

According to the report’s authors, policy interventions that target entire systems, such as energy, food and waste, rather than individual problems, such as water pollution, can be much more effective.

The report says that the policies and technologies needed to create new ways of development that will avoid these risks and lead to the well — being of all mankind already exist, what is missing right Now is the political will to implement policies and technologies on the right scale and at the right speed. The fourth United Nations environment Assembly in Nairobi in March should be an occasion for decision-makers to face challenges courageously and seize opportunities to create a brighter future for all of humanity [2].

Conclusion. It is important to note that as long as the interests of nature protection and the interests of the country’s future are not placed above other interests, including short-term economic interests, the situation will not improve dramatically.

References

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UDC 378.4

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APPLICATION OF DISTANCE LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES IN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

Introduction. E-learning is increasingly being integrated into the educational system, including higher education. The nature of communication in universities today is changing, and there is a real need to use the latest remote educational technologies in the educational process, including presentations, online tests, case studies, elec-