

Summary

A chance to survive

The term sustainable development appeared and was accepted by the world society due to the forecasts of 70s (last century) concerning the coming biosphere disaster. Discussions about the crisis of modern civilization successfully moving towards its own end and the possible ways of finding the way out of this crisis haven't stopped until now and the phrase 'sustainable development' becomes more and more relevant and popular. The talk with the candidate of biological science, senior lecturer of international institute of labor and social relations, Victor Ermolenkov, is devoted to this topic.

Sustainable development of Belarus: strategy up till 2020

Nowadays it is clear that to create sustainable development in one country is impossible – the world is the one and only the joint efforts of all countries may lead to some changes. That is why the strategy plans of sustainable development at national level are given so much attention. In our country the joint project of UN Programme of development (UNDP) and the Republic of Belarus 'Development and Internalization of the National Sustainable Development Strategy' has come to the end. About aims, activities and results of this project we know from the project leader Oleg Sivograkov.

Natalia Riabova. Eco-logic of education

The concept of education for sustainable development was created for reorientation of all spheres of education including ecological one towards the aims of sustainable development. How to fulfill this reorientation? This question disturbs today both pedagogues – experts and authors of educational programs. In the article there is an example of using the program which corresponds to authors opinion to all criteria of education for sustainable development. This is the program 'Ecologik!' which has been carried out by the NGO 'Ecohome'. The program is aimed first of all at the teachers of school and extracurricular establishments and has gained a high popularity among teachers.

Kasya Gancharova. Terra inkognita or citizens employed by state

On the basis of a training 'Aarhus convention: public participation' the author of the article describes the first step of state employees on terra incognita and makes the conclusions out of the results of her practice. First of all she saw state employees as competent, talented and creative professionals but most of them are not professionally fulfilled. This is caused by the lack of corporate culture, mechanisms which could give opportunity to show initiative and creativity. Secondly, the contradiction of the positions of a state employee and a citizen. Or in other words: 'As a citizen I am totally against, but as a state employee I have to follow the orders.' And finally the author considers that there is a vast field for activity: work and training for state employees.

Svetlana Semenas. Deep ecology: short introduction into theory and practice

In the article there is the presentation of the deep ecology concept which is opposed to shallow ecological reformation which according to author's opinion struggles not with the reasons but with the consequences of ecological crisis. From the new scientific understanding of life systems point of view nature should be considered as integrated wholeness but not separate species of living beings who live in a lifeless environment. It is not a hierarchy but the network. A man is not the top of world creation, not the highest value but a mere citizen of the community as he is included in the nature circles and depends on them. Everything in the world is interrelated and a man is just a spider line in the web of life. The methods of training which are worked out by the followers of deep ecology allow participants to feel and realize the unity of all beings and own place in this world.

Natalia Riabova. Permanent culture or you are the designer of your life

Very many people after having acquainted with the concept of sustainable development ask a question: how to put these principles into life? As one of the possible instruments for this the author suggests using the system of permaculture design by Bill Mollison. Permaculture is based on the idea that a human being in his activity can learn from nature and use its laws for his benefit instead of struggling against it.

Galina Verameichyk. Education and regional development: Bavarian accent

In what case education can encourage citizens' understanding of the interdependence among environment, economy and social system? How to provide the students not only with necessary knowledge but also to encourage the awareness and development of a number of new values? How to include in the educational process not only the kids and teenagers but also adults? What forms can help to make the education more true to everyday problems and needs of individuals and members of a community? These and other questions are discussed on the pages of the article through introduction of German system of adult education, taking Bavaria as an example.

Ales' Straltzou. The role of local culture and traditions in sustainable development: Bavarian example

Bringing up of children especially during the first years of their life is closely connected to local culture, traditions and behaviour models. In the majority of cases local culture and traditions offer approaches which correspond to the concept of sustainable development. First of all it concerns the spheres of special development of a person as well as his connection with nature. If to add to it the rational usage of the potential stored during the ages it will lead to economical effect. In this article the author pays your attention to the fact how important can be the support of local culture and traditions within the context of community sustainable development.