

SUSTAINABILITY, THE ONLY CHANCE FOR HUMANITY

Marius BĂCESCU¹

Rezumat. Pornind de la concepția fostului prim ministru al Norvegiei Gro Harlem Brundland prezentată în "Dezvoltarea durabilă" (1987) și de la „Declarația de la Rio” (1992), articolul analizează atât complexitatea acestui concept cât și raportul dintre economie și mediu. Pornind de la tiparul dezvoltării durabile, este prezentată strategia acestui tip de dezvoltare ca unică șansă a evoluției umanității, care trebuie să asigure echilibrul între preservarea mediului și dezvoltarea economică.

Abstract. Starting from the conception of Norway ex Premier Gro Harlem Brundland about „Sustainability” (1987) and from „Rio statement” (1992), the paper analyzes both the complexity of this concept and economy-environment ratio. Starting from the pattern of sustainability, it is presented the strategy of this type of development, as the only chance of mankind evolution, which should assure the balance between the environment preservation and economic development.

Keywords: Sustainability, human system, environment system, pattern of sustainability, strategy of sustainability

1. Concept of sustainability (S.D.)

Sustainability (S.D.) is development corresponding to present needs without compromise for the possibility of future generations to meet their own „necessities”². This message is found as „principle 3” of Rio Declaration regarding Environment and Development (June 3 – 14, 1992) according to which „right to development should be exercised so that needs for environment and development of present and future generations should be equally met”. S.D. concept supposes interaction and compatibility of four systems (see fig. 1). S.D. concept was born from actual world reality characterized by: accelerated economic growth and accelerated demographic growth. This development should be accompanied by severe measures of environment protection and saving the resources. On the contrary, *Earth risks becoming non-habitable*.

2. Economy - environment relation

There are two main directions to approach this relation:

a) technocentrism, supposing the wide possibility to substitute the production factors;

¹Professor, Ph.D. Economist, Founding, Full member of the Academy of Romanian Scientists (e-mail: mariusbacescu@gmail.com).

²Report „Our common future” presented by Norway ex Premier *Gro Harlem Brundtland in 1987* as president of World Commission for Environment and Development.