

CONTRADICTORY NATURE OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ECONOMIC GROWTH, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

BUŞAN GABRIELA

„CONSTANTIN BRANCUSI” UNIVERSITY from Targu Jiu, 24 Victoria Street, Targu Jiu, Gorj
gabriela_busan@yahoo.com

Abstract:

The contradiction between environment and economic activity is manifested by more frequent and extensive disasters whose consequences cannot be stopped only by expensive measures to restore the integrity of national wealth. Incompatibility between the optimum economic and ecological optimum stems, inter alia, in: polluting technologies of productive system, structure and dynamics of consumption, domestic and international economic policy. The complexity of the contradiction between economic growth and the natural environment has changed over time, requiring both the adaptation of growth in volume and quality of natural resources at a time and use of natural resources and environmentally conditions in a rational manner.

Key words: economic growth, economic development, natural environment

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Over time, the contradiction between economic growth and the natural environment is influenced by several factors determining, in turn, different forms of manifestation of the contradiction.

Among the factors leading to the contradiction exists interdependence and mutual determination, making their delineation to be difficult, the criterion of split considered being the predominant element characterizing their action. The existing factors, we will examine the following groups: natural, ecological, economic, technical, social, political and military.

The natural factors. The complexity of physic-chemical factors, geological, tectonic determined in time the resource quality, degree of concentration or dissipation. Natural resources are unequally distributed on the surface of the Earth, mentioned contradiction exists both at national and international level. Each country has a particular territory and, therefore, their own natural resources, with geographical advantage of the existence of resources and resource-poor areas. If some resources are renewable or recoverable, some are non-renewable or stranded: plant and animal wealth is renewable and can even be increased through a proper productive, deposits of iron ore are limited, however, but must take into account that the scrap can be reused, in contrast, if oil fields are determined, as fuel oil consumption not allow recovery.

Natural conditions may provide less accessible resources, but rich in useful substance or easily accessible resources, but poor in useful substance, which will influence the costs for planning the operation. Full use of natural materials requires coordinated action simultaneously in three basic directions: identification of all relevant natural resources and their bringing into production; continuous growth rate of recovery of useful substance from its first mining and processing; attract the economic cycle, by recycling useful items remaining unused in the first process.

In recent decades, overexploitation of nature led to a serious degradation of soil, water, air, flora, etc., which resulted in the emergence of a crisis environment. It notes the negative effect of this contradiction, with implications for both sides, both on the

volume of natural resources and quality of environmental factors, also on economic growth.

The ecological factors. The impact of economic growth on natural resources is evident by the use from nature of such large quantities of useful substances and the discharge in the natural environment of waste and residues from production and final consumption. Dynamic inconsistency manifested in worsening conditions of human biological life, fauna and flora, any tendency to underestimate the natural environment is doomed to failure. From an environmental perspective, the survival of living organisms depends on their adaptation to environmental, adaptation involving a wide range of options and guidelines for human society. The problem is what to adapt and what is necessary to refuse to adapt, because it is not by chance that pays the price adjustment. Adapt itself can be a source of new economic growth that will require human creativity, in the final the progress of humanity.

Economic factors. The dynamic contradiction between economic growth and natural resources is determined by a number of economic factors as: prices, costs, investment, economic structure, etc. The value and utility value of the underlying prices of raw materials and energy resources can not be ignored and made subject to speculation operations of very big monopolies.

Maintaining a structure based on single production led to economic vulnerability of developing countries due to oscillation of international pricing and caused increased economic dependencies of developing countries by the big cities. Those countries have fed the natural factors of production growth of developed countries, and above all, support a model of wasteful consumption, of wealth for some and deprivation for others. Monopolize of production and export of products processed by some industrialized countries has made these products market conditions and prices are dictated by the manufacturer (of the total price paid by final consumers of those countries, the income earned by oil exporting countries and not possessing represent either 8% and the cost of extracting even 1%, accounting for substantial weights in the form of taxes, transport, processing, storage, also for the distribution of extra large oil companies).

In economic terms, it is an imbalance in the investments, those investments which can provide natural energy resources and raw materials as true offer of investment that determine the economic growth.

The technical factors. On the contradiction between economic growth and natural resources, the technical factors are acting in two directions:

- first, their action causes the materialization of some advanced technologies in exploration, exploitation and processing of natural resources (nuclear technique, spectral analysis, electronics, laser, etc.)
- second, the conclusion is that people abusing the use of technical and technological factors, decreased the reserve of natural resources, there are some dangers of their exhaustion.

Today arises increasingly common problem by replacement the common techniques with *eco-technical* more convenient both ecologically point of view, characterized by recycling through lower consumption per unit of product and almost complete reduction of waste, waste and pollution rate as economically. The eco-technical fundamental principle is to apply the natural *pattern*, in which *nothing is lost, everything becomes*.

Not everywhere, the technical factor determines the contradiction between economic growth and natural resources, due to the great technological gap between countries in the world. Thus, growth pressure on natural resources in developing countries is evident, especially in the form of consuming qualities of mining and

processing technologies, especially the developing countries of technical *poverty* limited the upgrading value of the national wealth.

Socio-political factors. The existence of unequal relationships between states of the world, contributing to the worsening global economic contradictions. The struggle to obtain cheap natural resources, outlets for manufactured goods is carried out amid the struggle of competition between large transnational companies, able to handle turnover far exceeding the gross national product dominated countries. Many economists believe that when it comes to crises of raw materials, energy, environmental crisis, should not be sought in the physical limits, but the guilty must be found in raw materials and energy policy, neo-politics, in policy of force and dictate, the policy of recruitment of brain from developing countries.

Military factors. Arms race raises special problems of growth and environment, supply of military production with some strategic materials resulting in circumvention of important raw materials and energy resources of civilian economic cycle. Conduct military operations, testing new weapons to go deep natural disturbances. Ocean, land and air space are threatened by increasingly sophisticated weapons that *human creation* does not cease to produce.

On the dynamics between the economic growth and the natural environment can influence other factors: structural, cultural, educationally, psychologically.

The implications of showing factors aimed internal and external phenomena of the development and economic growth, a close interdependence between national and international, private and generally, between macro economy and worldwide economy in resolving the global issues of natural resources.

Concrete forms of the contradiction between economic growth and the natural environment are: contradiction between economic growth and relatively limited possibilities of the natural environment to ensure the necessary natural resources and the contradiction between economic growth and its effects on the natural environment, in terms of harmfulness.

The contradiction shows that between the need for natural resources required for economic growth and the natural possibilities of ensure them are closely related. The economic and demographic growth lead to higher consumption and quantities of natural resources extracted in terms of event to limiting base of natural phenomenon. It is necessary to resolve this contradiction by removing the wasteful nature of productive and unproductive consumption and its inclusion within the limits of actual requirements and the rational use of environment and natural resources.

Industrial development in recent decades has led to a sharp increase in consumption of non-renewable mineral resources. Although mineral resources are limited and may not be renewed, there is still the possibility to replace, recycling and saving them. Some replacement materials or technology often can provide better solutions than conventional materials and technologies with their inherent limitations.

The economic growth pace, the structural changes occurring in the national economies, the population growth, increasing per capita consumption of natural resources and industry energy intensive led to a *crisis environment*. It believes that not growth itself is liable to crisis, but some expansion, a particular model of consumption and a policy of natural resources.

Regarding the settlement of contradiction, it rises the question of restructuring the production and consumption of energy and fuel, extending the geological exploitation, land and sea, move to use the shale and oil sands, improving extraction, raising the recovery factor of deposit, shift to using non-conventional energy resources, waiver the energy intensive of branches and products, reconsideration of materials processing technologies, avoiding the dissipation of heat in nature, etc.

The contradiction between economic growth and its effects on the natural environment in terms of harm has attracted attention lately, on some leading figures of social life, which attempts to delineate the implications of economic growth on the natural environment. *As long as the social production takes from nature 100 parties in order to use 3 or 4 parts, and the remaining 96 units throw them as toxic substances and waste*, the subject of studies becomes very complex. This contradiction has the economic, social and political implications and aims, first, relations between people, their activities and their carelessness in the use of nature. Manifested in land degradation, water pollution, air pollution, etc.. contradiction between economic growth and the natural environment, outstanding in time, narrows the means of subsistence, limited regeneration process of natural resources, causing an imbalance in the flow of matter and energy. Representing *resources have come to the wrong place*, causing pollution and waste of raw materials, energy, lead to environmental degradation and thus increase the cost of living expenses to be made to improve natural conditions.

It should be stressed that not the agricultural revolution and industrial development were responsible for environmental damage, but the absence of political control and the application of existing knowledge, the priority of individual interests to the detriment of social and immediate interests to the detriment of the future. The environmental quality increases and so the contradiction is attenuated with a shift to organic techniques and structure of branches is amended to the detriment of the pollutant. In capitalist developed countries, pollution is given by too much development, while in underdeveloped countries the pollution is due to poverty, of precarious living conditions. This type of pollution will disappear once the satisfaction basic needs of life. In order to prevent or eliminate pollution should not be stopped development and economic growth, but have removed the causes that make the development and economic growth to accompanied by pollution.

Growth, each company's interest to get as large profits have resulted in the degradation of nature. This was made possible by the growth of undifferentiated production and consumption, by stimulating the consumption quantity and others. Economic growth has become the central objective of Governments everywhere, while the world economy has increased incessantly in the conditions under which natural systems that supports this growth remained unchanged. The main causes of damage to the environment consists of a combination of factors such as: externalities, the lack of a correct definition of property right and the fact that the environment has the characteristics of a good public.

The problems have arisen due to the inability of Governments to take into account the indirect effects of their policies on the environment. Corrections which might apply to governmental actions are: to ensure that environmental standards are not ignored by no government structure and systematic evaluation of all externalities – positive or negative – before starting any program of the Government, be it linked to investment costs, either by the establishment of legal regulations.

New environmental conditions are less favourable for human life, whereas the continuing deterioration of its only means the destruction of ecological balance, but also the emergence of side effects of the environment on man. To the general good of humanity is absolutely necessary to adopt and the work of environmental policies primarily preventive and reactive, then to characterize by internalizing behaviour of rational and environment by attracting all social actions involved in environmental issues. The continuation of economic growth should be made provided the Declaration, through legislation, the parameters within which it can run. These parameters should define allowable damages that consumption and production may cause on the environment. The establishment of these borders becomes the major task of modern legislation. Sometimes, it involves prohibition of types of production or consumption on

the recital that the damage is greater than the benefit that society has of that product or service.

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