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## SUSTAINABLE URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN MODERN CONDITIONS

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**Abstract.** The article examines and analyzes global and national goals of sustainable urban development. The results of the First Voluntary National Review of SDG in Ukraine have been evaluated. Positive results were noted in terms of insuring the availability of housing; increasing the number of monuments of national importance included in the State Register of Immovable Monuments of Ukraine. Unsatisfactory results of the review are analyzed and ways to overcome obstacles to achievement are identified. It was found that in modern Ukrainian realities the vector of sustainable urban development is inclusion as a vector of economic development and direct participation of the population in its achievement, including decision-making on economic growth, based on full access to their rights and opportunities. In order to solve the problem of sustainable urban development on the basis of inclusion, which we have identified as fundamental, a number of measures have been proposed.

*Key words:* city, region, sustainable urban development, inclusion, global goals, population, business.

**Problem statement.** Large and medium-sized cities are identified as the centers of growth of the country in the modern world due to the high concentration of economic, infrastructural, intellectual, innovative, technological, and social potential for development. Modern cities are the centers of generation and implementation of new ideas, technologies and concepts of sustainable development, such as “smart city”, “e-city”, “green city” and others. They are testing the best practices of local government - e-government, Bank ID system, and a city resident card.

That is why the level of development of the whole country depends on the level of local development, its competitive advantages, its self-identification, creativity and innovation. So, issues related to sustainable urban development are of paramount importance in the global activities of international organizations and communities. Urban development is the subject of consideration in local governmental and intergovernmental programs and a lot of researches of domestic and foreign scientists and practitioners.

**Analysis of recent research and publications.**

The works of domestic and foreign scientists and practitioners are devoted to the study of theoretical and practical provisions of sustainable urban development in modern conditions: A. V. Demianiuk, S.V. Zelenskyi, A.A. Mozhovyi, S.V. Kapitanets, A.V. Kovalevska, O.I. Laiko, R.V. Petrova, O.B. Tsyklauri, Z. V. Chekhovych. Foreign experience of urban development is considered in the works of M.V. Voichuk, O.V. Hrihorieva, L. Polska, N.V. Khvyshchun, V. Y. Chevhanova.

**Allocation of previously unsolved parts of the problem.** Taking into consideration the significant contribution of the scientific community to the study of urban development in modern conditions, we note the insufficient level of research in the context of the complex role of socio-economic inclusion. Socio-economic inclusion is designed to identify common needs of the population, businesses and local authorities to group available resources and achieve common goals.

**The aim of the study.** The main task of this research is to identify the issue of sustainable urban development in modern conditions in order to provide proposals for its solution.

**The main material.** In 2015 the UN Summit on Sustainable Development was held as part of the 70th session of the UN General Assembly in New York and new vectors of development were selected. The final document of the Summit “Transforming our world: an agenda for sustainable development until 2030” approved 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Like other UN member states, Ukraine has also joined the global process of sustainable development and is currently undergoing a large-scale process of

implementing the SDG in line with the Ukrainian context.

Therefore, solving the problem of sustainable urban development has become one of the Global Goals both at the international level and in Ukraine (Fig. 1). However, as we can see, the adaptation of SDG 11 to the Ukrainian realities is somewhat generalized, compared to the significant and purposeful content of the global goal of sustainable urban development.

The adaptation of goals does not take into account the goal of enabling the population to use safe, economically viable, accessible, environmentally friendly transport systems, as well as their adaptation for certain categories of the population - people with disabilities, the older adults and parents with children. Taking into account that the transport infrastructure is currently in poor condition and is significantly affected by destructive phenomena in the industry due to a number of problems, we consider it necessary to include this item in the goal of sustainable development.

At the same time, the goal of sustainable urban development directly and unilaterally affects the implementation of a number of other goals, as the issues of well-being, health, ecology, education, solving social problems are implemented at the local level.

In 2020 the first Voluntary National Review of SDG in Ukraine was conducted, which is devoted to studying the issues of transformational changes in society on the way to achieving SDG. The monitoring results are shown in Table 1

Therefore, the full transformation in solving the problem of sustainable urban development was the full approval and implementation by all regions of Ukraine of regional strategies developed together with the public. However, it should be noted that this is a priority condition for allocating funds from the state fund of regional development.

In accordance with the task of ensuring affordable housing, the procedure for citizen participation in the affordable housing program, the mechanism of which was approved in 2018, has been improved. The government’s action resulted in a reduction in the borrower’s solvency ratio from 0.36 in 2015 to 0.19 in 2019. In addition, according to the Ministry of Development of Communities and Territories of Ukraine, there are programs that provide affordable housing for various categories of citizens. These programs cover 100% of the country’s regions.

A positive aspect of solving the problem of sustainable urban development is the reduction of pollutant emissions from stationary sources of air emissions to 86.1% in 2019 from the level of 2015. Ukraine’s European integration processes have led to this reduction, including the implementation of Directive 2008/50 / EU and Directive 2004/107 / EC led to approval in 2019.

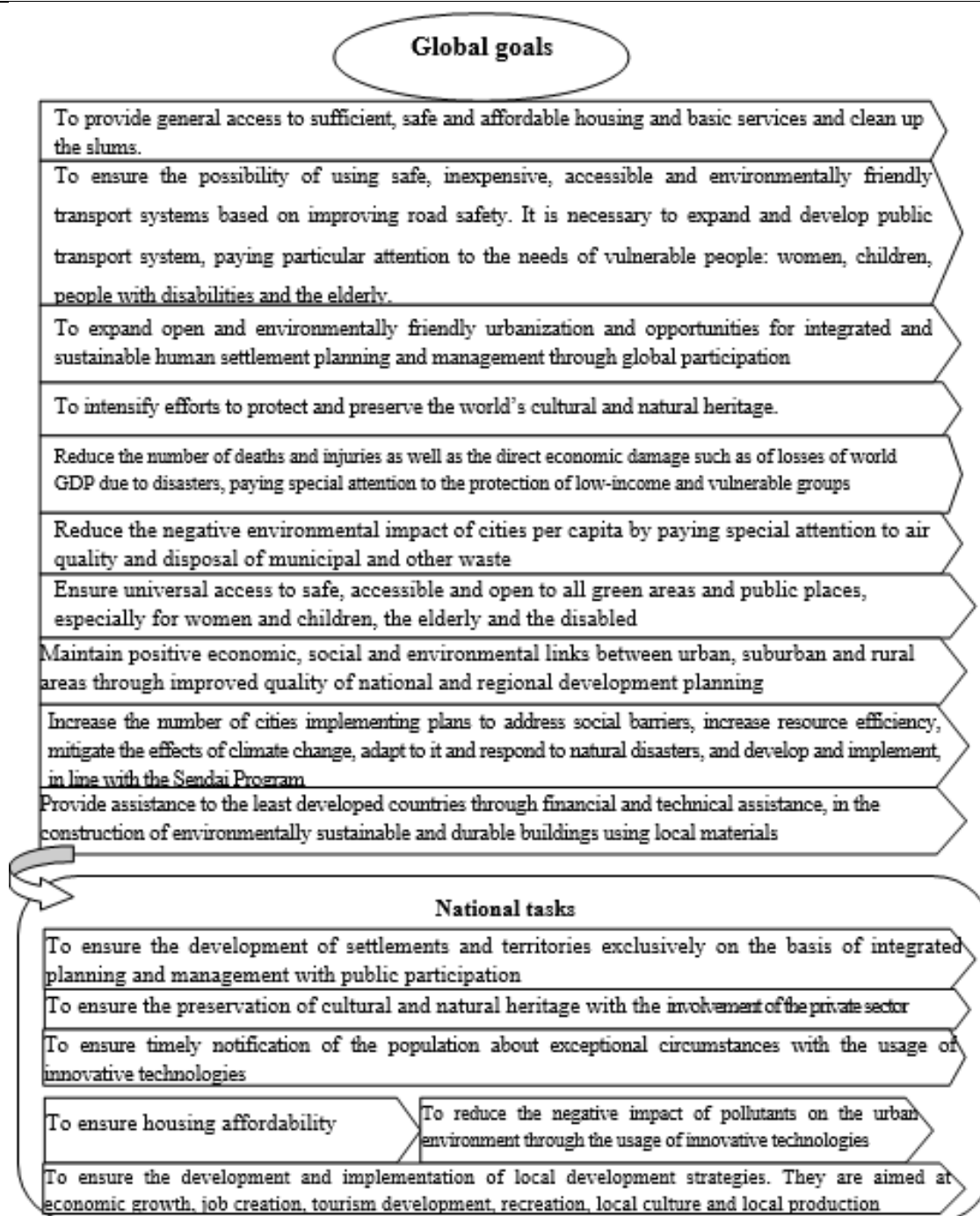


Figure. 1. Global and national goals in ensuring the implementation of sustainable development of cities and communities [1]

There is the procedure for state monitoring in the field of air protection. In addition, in accordance with the provisions of Directive 2010/75 / EU, the government has implemented the Concept for the

implementation of state policy in the field of industrial pollution for 10 years. It announces the reduction of industrial pollution as well as increased control over it.

Table 1.

**The results of monitoring the implementation of the goal  
“Sustainable development of cities and communities” [2]**

Tasks	Indicators	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020 (benchmark)	State	2025 (benchmark)	2030 (benchmark)
To ensure housing affordability	<b>Payment-to-income ratio, PTI</b> (the ratio of monthly expenses of the borrower and his/her family members to pay the debt on a soft mortgage loan obtained from the state or local budget and their total monthly income))	0,36	0,5	0,28	0,23	0,19	to be specified	Achieved	to be specified	
	Coverage of administrative units of Ukraine, programs to provide affordable housing for different categories of citizens,%	100	100	100	100	100	100		100	100
	Proportion of regions that have approved and implemented regional development strategies and action plans for their implementation, developed with public participation,%								100	100
	Regional strategy	88	100	100	100	100	100			
	Action plan for the implementation of the regional strategy (first stage)	64	96	100	-	-	-			
	Regional strategy and action plan for the implementation of the regional strategy (second stage)	0	4	64	84	92	100			
To ensure the preservation	Number of cultural and natural	7	7	7	7	7	9	Almost unattainable	11	13

of cultural and natural heritage with the involvement of the private sector	heritage sites included in the UNESCO World Heritage List, units									
	Number of monuments of national importance included in the State Register of Immovable Monuments of Ukraine, units	891	891	906	956	992	1 005	Achieved	1 155	1 305
	The area of nature reserve fund of national importance %	3,72	4,10	4,10	4,10	4,24	5,14	Low probability of achievement	7,38	8,85
To ensure timely notification of the population about exceptional circumstances with the usage of innovative technologies	Level of implementation (creation, modernization, improvement) of local automated systems of centralized notification of the population,%	0,05	0,05	0,05	0,1	0,2	to be specified	Low probability of achievement	to be specified	
To reduce the negative impact of pollutants on the environment of cities, in particular through the usage of innovative technologies	Volume of air pollutant emissions from stationary emission sources,% to the level of 2015	100,0	107,7	90,5	87,8	86,1	to be specified	Low probability of achievement	90,0	85,0
	Number of cities where the average annual concentrations of the main pollutants in the air exceed the average daily maximum concentrations, units	34	34	34	35	36	to be specified	Almost unattainable	20	15

To ensure the development and implementation of local development strategies aimed at economic growth, job creation, tourism development, recreation, local culture and local production	Number of employees in tourism entities	54 421	55 413	58 588	62 585	-	to be specified	Almost unattainable	to be specified
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Positive dynamics is also observed. An effort was being made to ensure the preservation of cultural and natural heritage with the involvement of the private sector. Thus, the number of immovable monuments of Ukraine and monuments of national importance, which are included in the State Register in 2019 compared to 2015, has increased significantly by 101 units, amounting to 11%.

Understanding and valuing the cultural heritage of the state have become a prerequisite for such result. In addition, changing approaches to accounting of immovable cultural heritage, including the introduction of electronic accounting and development of technical requirement in accordance with the information system of electronic accounting of immovable cultural heritage, has led to digitized and standardized accounting processes in the sphere of cultural heritage.

The introduction and implementation of a number of regulations concerning the creation and expansion of territories and objects of nature reserves of national importance in 2019 increased the area of nature reserves in Ukraine to 4.24% of its total territory. The situation has improved. The figure is +0.5% compared to 2015. A part of the area is UNESCO World Heritage Site.

In the organizational aspect, the preservation of cultural and natural heritage has become very important. It is significant to develop measures to improve the skills of workers in the field of cultural heritage protection and pass the mandatory certification. A significant organizational transformation is the adaptation of the provisions of the Nicosia Convention in 2017. It defines the provisions on threats to cultural heritage. Criminal liability for crimes against cultural heritage is also being introduced, as well as specialized cultural police units are being set up to protect and physically protect cultural heritage.

We see a close relationship between the tasks of ensuring the preservation of cultural and natural heritage with the involvement of the private sector and ensuring the development and implementation of local development strategies. They aimed at economic

growth, job creation, tourism development, recreation, local culture and local production. So in 2018 in the number of employees in tourism increased by 8,164 compared to 2015 due to the implementation of the Strategy for the development of tourism and resorts for the period up to 2026 and active measures of the government to support entrepreneurship in the country.

However it is worth noting the emergence in 2020 of an uncontrollable factor that had a devastating effect on tourism - the COVID-19 pandemic. We consider it necessary to introduce a number of measures in the aspect and in terms of development of tourism in Ukraine for sustainable urban development: to monitor and analyze the tourist potential of the country's regions in order to create a tourist portal; to develop a system for ensuring the safety of tourists; to develop a special program to support tourism entities (tax holidays and interest-free loans), which is aimed at financial protection of enterprises from economic threats caused by force majeure (the COVID-19 pandemic is an example).

Given a number of positive developments in sustainable urban development, socio-economic issues of global and local urban development remain unresolved. So the global problems of sustainable urban development are groups related to:

1. economic sphere of society by groups of problems - natural resources; scientific and technological; geo-economic.
2. social sphere of society by groups of problems - demographic, income;
3. geopolitical sphere of society by groups of problems - changing the model of world order; centers of forces and their regrouping and aggravation of their counteraction; international terrorism;
4. cultural sphere of society by groups of problems - change of values - Western model; intensification of organized crime;
5. ecological sphere of society by groups of problems - air pollution; climate change; depletion of resources; reduction of biological species; reduction of flora and fauna.

In fact the real threats to the socio-economic, political and environmental security of sustainable development of Ukrainian cities are lack of external financing and reduced opportunities for access to international capital markets; low rates of the world economy recovery; termination of investment plans by foreign enterprises or postponement of their implementation due to macroeconomic uncertainty; escalation of the Ukrainian-Russian conflict; insufficiently fast implementation of reforms or their purposeful inhibition; maintaining a low level of lending activity of commercial banks; growing state budget deficit and cash gaps in the Pension Fund and other state social insurance funds; strengthening of devaluation tendencies in the foreign exchange market; shortage of energy resources in the country; and social confrontation.

We believe that at the local level insufficiently safe and comfortable life in cities should be included in

the cycle of current unresolved issues; imperfect municipal self-government; unhealthy lifestyle; lack of energy efficient and energy saving usage; low investment attractiveness; inefficient budget policy of municipalities; the difficulty of obtaining administrative services; and over-regulation of business.

We believe that this is a serious number of problems that require multi-vector solutions for the implementation of sustainable urban development projects. An example is the position of the EU, which considers the city a driver of intellectual, sustainable and inclusive capacity development. In the general vision of the city of the future, the EU countries combine three concepts: “smart city”, “green city”, “inclusive city”. The dominant theory is “smart city”. In our opinion, preference should be given to the concept of “inclusive development” in Ukraine, which is considered at the international level (Fig. 2).

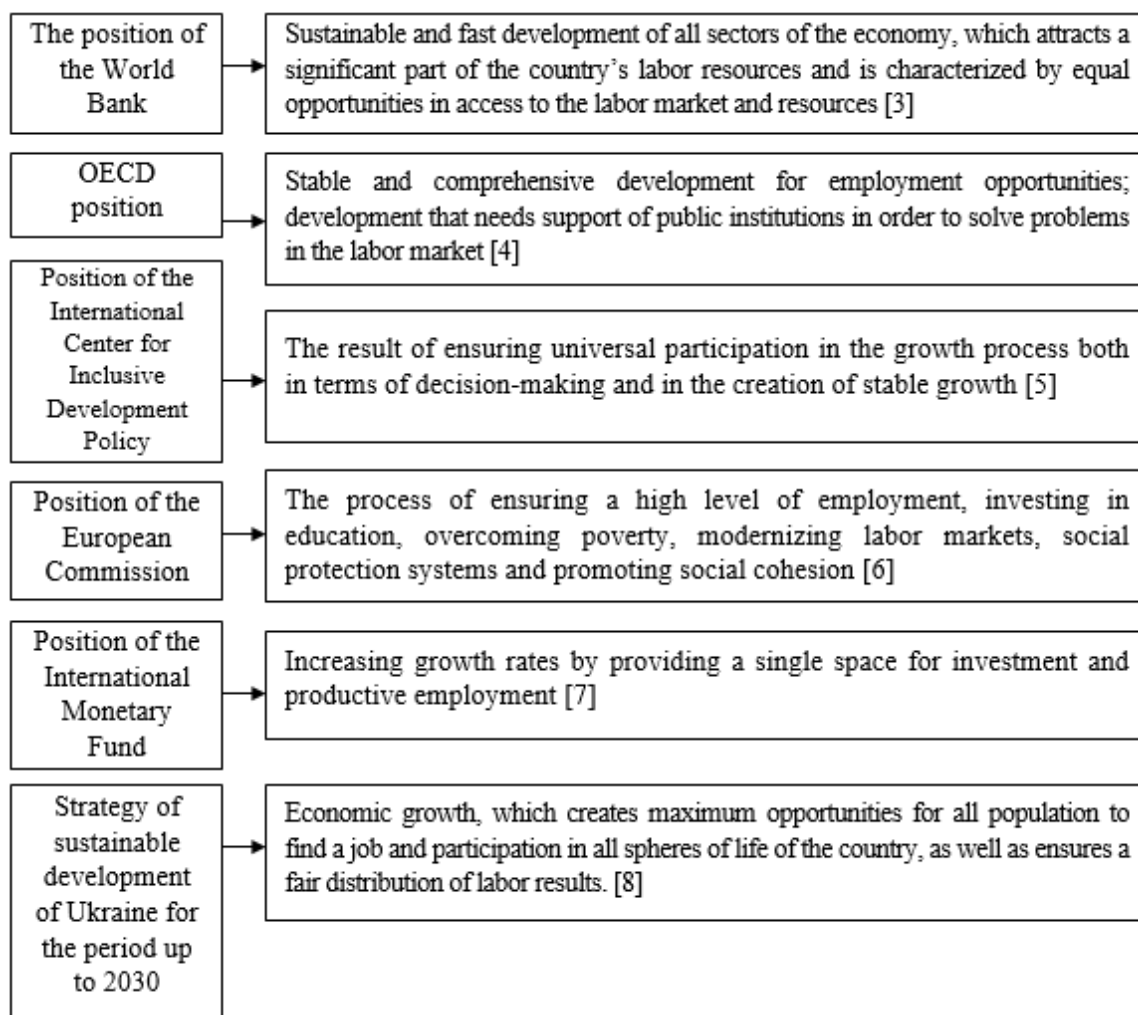


Figure 2. International definition of the category “inclusive development” in the context of sustainable urban development

Analyzing the definition of “inclusive development” in the context of sustainable urban development, provided by international organizations, we can conclude that there are two vectors: economic development and direct participation of the population in its achievement. Here it is also about including

decision-making on economic growth, on the basis of full access to the realization of their rights and opportunities.

The issue of inclusive development in the context of sustainable development of the city today is extremely important for Ukraine. It needs to be addressed as soon as

possible, because according to the Global Competitiveness Index on "Social Capital", Ukraine took a critical 118th place out of 140 which causes distrust in the society and makes sustainable development impossible.

Therefore, we consider the formation of inclusion for its inhabitants as the main vector of sustainable development of the city. Moreover, it is important to focus not only on logically defined categories - people with disabilities - physical, age or financial, who need protection, but to understand the fact that the objects and subjects of inclusion in the context of sustainable development of the city are three parties: the population of the city, business entities engaged in economic activities in the city and local governments.

We believe that sustainable development of the city is possible only with the interaction of these parties - taking into account their needs, functions and resources. Unfortunately, nowadays today the population is not involved in economic development. Business is too regulated by the state and local governments lack support and loyalty on the part of the population and entrepreneurs.

We have identified the problem of sustainable urban development as fundamental one. In order to solve the problem of sustainable urban development on the basis of inclusion we consider it necessary to provide:

- implementation of territorially oriented urban development policy, based on stimulating the development of their potential and resources;
- permanent monitoring of the implementation of approved urban development strategies based on smart specialization. This is an approach in which preference is given to regional interests in national policy through the vertical construction of priority sectors choice or areas of state support, and secondly - regional specialization is formed by pooling the resources of all actors in the region;
- support of different researches and innovative developments in the field of the creative industry and the IT field.

**Conclusions and suggestions.** Solving the problem of sustainable urban development is one of the Global Goals both at the international level and in Ukraine. However, its adaptation to Ukrainian realities is generalized. The problems of transport and transport infrastructure are not taken into account in the context of this task. We consider it necessary to include this item in the goal of sustainable development because the transport infrastructure is currently in poor condition and is significantly affected by destructive phenomena in the industry due to a number of problems.

According to the results of the First Voluntary National Survey concerning SDGs in Ukraine, positive results were noted in terms of: ensuring the availability of housing; increase the number of monuments of national importance included in the State Register of Immovable Monuments of Ukraine. Given a number of

positive developments in sustainable urban development, socio-economic issues of global and local urban development remain unresolved. So, the global problems of sustainable urban development are groups related to the economic, social, geopolitical, cultural and environmental spheres of society.

It is determined that it is necessary to focus on the implementation of the principles of inclusion during the development of the concept of sustainable development of the city. In order to solve the problem of sustainable urban development on the basis of inclusion, we propose the implementation of territorially oriented urban development policy, based on stimulating the development of their potential and resources; conducting permanent monitoring of the implementation of approved urban development strategies based on smart specialization, an approach that is given priority to regional interests in national policy through the vertical construction of the selection of priority sectors or areas of state support. Secondly, regional specialization is formed by combining the resources of all actors in the region; support for research and innovative developments in the creative industry and the field of information technology is very significant nowadays.

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