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**GREEN ECONOMY IN THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS: PRINCIPLES, FEATURES
AND PROSPECTS FOR IMPLEMENTATION****LYUBOV PIMENOVA, INGA ZENKOVA**
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The article deals with the national program documents on the green economy, the basic principles of green economy are highlighted, the features and prospects of implementation of the green economy principles in the Republic of Belarus are defined.

The concept of "green" economy has become a priority of sustainable development of many countries of the world community. The commitment of the Republic of Belarus to the principles of "green" economy is enshrined in the national policy documents, including the National strategy for sustainable social and economic development for the period up to 2030, approved at the meeting of the Presidium of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus (Protocol No. 3 of February 10, 2015). [1] In addition, the country has approved a national action plan for the development of a "green" economy in the Republic of Belarus until 2020. [2]

According to the National strategy, the main goal of the first stage of its implementation (2016 – 2020) is the transition to a quality balanced growth of the economy on the basis of its structural and institutional transformation, taking into account the principles of the "green" economy, the priority development of high-tech industries, which will become the basis for improving the competitiveness of the country and the quality of life of the population. [2]

The concept of "green" economy is considered as a system of the following principles:

- 1) Fairness and objectivity, both within and between generations;
- 2) Coherence with the principles of sustainable development;
- 3) Preventive approach to social and environmental impacts;
- 4) Assessment of natural and social capital, e.g. internationalization of external costs, green accounting, lifetime costs and management improvements;
- 5) Sustainable and efficient use of resources, consumption and production;
- 6) The need to achieve existing macroeconomic objectives through the creation of green jobs, poverty eradication, competitiveness and growth in key sectors. [3]

The implementation of the employment policy based on compliance with these principles of the "green" economy can provide not only stabilization in the labor market by creating new "green" jobs, but also reduce environmental and social risks.

The joint report of UNEP/ILO/IOE/ITUC gives a broad definition of green jobs as all jobs that meet the principles of decent work that promote the conservation and quality restoration of the environment, whether in traditional sectors such as manufacturing and construction, or in new, emerging green sectors such as renewable energy and energy efficiency. In practice, these jobs reduce energy and raw material consumption, limit pollutant emissions, minimize waste and pollution, preserve and restore ecosystems, and enable enterprises and communities to adapt to climate change. [4]

It is also worth noting that these jobs should not only be "green", but also meet the criteria of decent work, i.e. high-quality jobs that guarantee decent wages, safe working conditions, stable employment, acceptable prospects for career growth and respect for human rights.

The development of the "green" economy as one of the sources of "green" employment allows to create a huge number of additional jobs in various fields of activity. Various fields of activity are described in Figure 1.

For example, one of the achieved results of the project "Promoting the transition of the Republic of Belarus to a green economy" was the creation of 50 new green jobs and provision of 270 people with additional employment. [5] There are also opportunities for new vacancies in other areas of activity.

Much attention is paid to the development of clean energy through the use of alternative sources of its production, including wind, water, solar, biomass. Currently, the Republic of Belarus has 65 wind turbines with a total installed capacity of 56.7 MW, 50 hydroelectric power plants, the installed capacity of which is 33.5 MW, 17 biogas plants (25.7 MW), 31 solar power plants (37 MW). [1]

Electric transport is widely used. Thus, the number of electric cars in Belarus by 2025 according to the optimistic scenario will be 32.7 thousand, including 30.82 thousand passenger electric cars and 1.88 thousand

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electric buses. At the same time, the Republic of Belarus has sufficient industrial potential for the production and (or) Assembly of electric vehicles, traction motors and charging stations. [1]

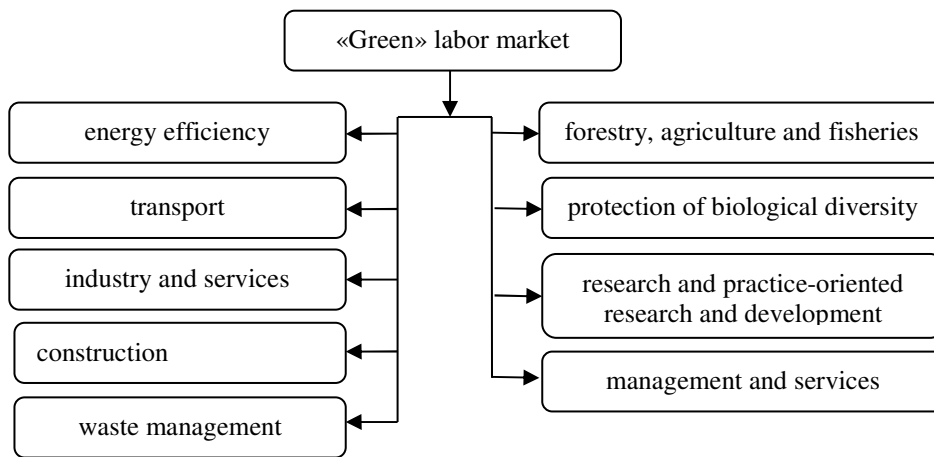


Figure 1. – Fields of activity of «green» labor market

According to expert data, there are currently 6 exporters of organic products in Belarus (export of birch juice, medicinal herbs, wild berries), about 10 producers (farms, personal subsidiary farms, educational and experimental facilities, etc.) are engaged in the production, sale of organic products (vegetables, berries, goat milk, yogurt, pond fish and cereals). [1]

In the field of construction, the reconstruction of existing facilities and the construction of new energy - and resource-saving buildings are widespread. According to the state program "housing Construction" for 2016 – 2020, approved by the resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus of April 21, 2016 № 325 (national legal Internet portal of the Republic of Belarus, 04.05.2016, 5/42009), it is provided that by 2020 multi-apartment housing will be built only in energy-efficient performance. [1]

Recycling and reuse of waste is widespread. Employment in the field of waste management and recycling is expanding simultaneously with the increase in the amount of waste caused by the growth of the population and industry. Today in the Republic of Belarus annually more than 40 million tons of waste (industrial waste and municipal solid waste) are generated. Investments in this industry will increase employment and reduce the negative impact on the environment, primarily by reducing the area of land under landfills. [1]

ILO experts say that the transition to a green economy can have a significant positive effect on the labour market. It is expected that the transition to more environmentally sustainable development will create about 60 million new jobs in the coming decades.

However, the data transition to a "green" economy will lead to the loss of jobs that do not meet the criteria of "green" jobs in other sectors of the economy.

The solution to this problem is based on the following principles:

- forecasting of changes, analysis of demand in the labor market and development of the forecast of needs in the future;
- change in the training system;
- establishment of legal protection mechanisms.

Therefore, a lot of important task is the need to transform existing jobs to the requirements of the "green" economy.

The promotion of green employment through the creation of green jobs and the transformation of existing jobs to the requirements of the green economy is one of the tools for the implementation of the main objectives of the national strategy for sustainable development aimed at creating a socially balanced economy based on knowledge and conservation of natural resources.

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