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ECOLOGIZATION OF THE ECONOMY: FOREIGN ASPECT

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The article considers the experience of developed countries in the field of ecologization the economy and specific actions aimed at protecting the environment, the results of a successful environmental policy pursued by the European Union in recent years, the influence of environmental taxation to stimulate work with alternative energy sources.

Today widespread processes of globalization and international integration have made the EU the most powerful mechanism of influence on global environmental policy. The European Union has made its own measures in the field of environmental protection in the past 50 years. Large-scale environmental activities were held, a strong legal base for the regulation and coordination of environmental activities of the Member States was created, and new approaches to the protection and improvement of the environment were developed and used.

Economically significant success has been achieved in a number of countries for the implementation of alternative energy sources. In the 1990s the mass construction of wind power plants began in France and Spain. Already hundreds of small and medium-sized cities in these countries are illuminated by "wind". Energy saving technologies are introduced actively.

The European Commission estimates by 2020 the EU will be able to create in the renewable energy industry 2,8 million workplaces. The share of the industry will account for 1.1% of GDP [1]. The share of alternative energy sources in the gross consumption is presented in Figure 1.

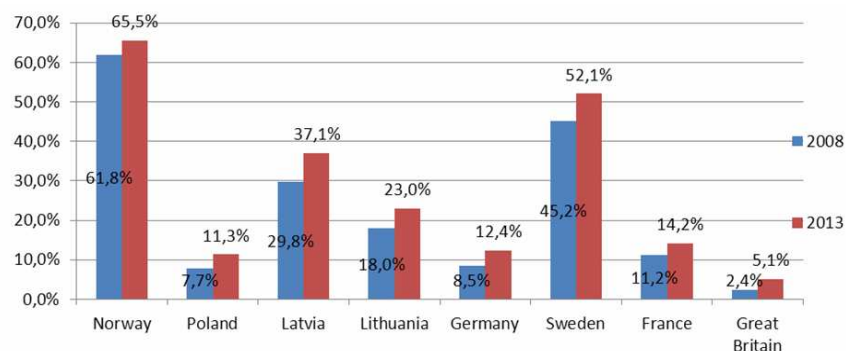


Fig. 1. The share of renewable energy sources in gross final consumption

Source: own development based on [2].

It is worth noting the high rate of renewable energy in final consumption in countries such as Lithuania and Latvia. Our neighbors have achieved truly outstanding results in the field of "green energy". Taking into account such successes of the Baltic States, the massive investment in this area of the economy is extremely attractive, and most importantly, profitable. The experience of Latvia and Lithuania can be very useful for the Republic of Belarus.

Consider the weight of the share of electricity produced from renewable energy sources.

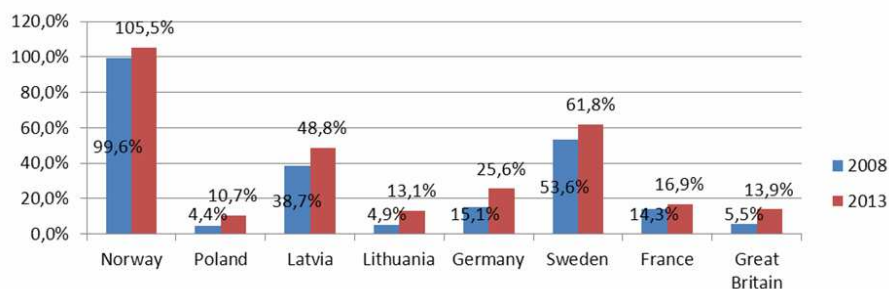


Fig. 2. Electricity from renewable sources

Source: own development based on [2].

Economics

Norway for several years is a country that fully meets the needs of the country's electricity through renewable energy sources. In the production of electricity per capita Norway ranks first place in the world. At the same time, despite the presence of large hydrocarbon reserves, 99% of electricity is generated by hydropower plants, due to the presence of significant water resources. A third of the produced electricity is consumed in Norway by metallurgical industry. Nuclear power in the country is absent. Also note again the results of Latvia. In 2013 the country is sufficient in electricity by nearly 50% and all this thanks to regenerative energy.

The growing "environmental demand" causes supply. Environmental market appeared. Among the new productions, rapidly developing in the last decade, occupies a worthy place the environmental industry: the production of water treatment plants, filter plants for disposal and recycling of industrial and domestic waste and etc. In Germany a powerful industry of environmental equipment, which are successfully operating several thousand enterprises. The turnover of the environmental business in the 1990s was estimated in billions of DM per year. The market of environmental technologies, consulting, audit and other services is rapidly growing. Every year in Germany, France, Spain and other European countries the World Fair of environmental technologies and the equipment is conducted on which the transactions are carried out on hundred millions of dollars. Systematically the network of protected areas is growing. Thanks to government programs in Denmark, a special environmental regime has a third of the territory, in Germany and Austria has a quarter. Agriculture in the developed countries has entered a new stage: the steadily declining arable land and other agricultural land; the replacement of the mechanization and the chemicalization in agricultural production it comes to ecologization. Increasing demand for organic food stimulates the development of agricultural production without the use of pesticides, fungicides and fertilizers. The most active this process is progressing in Switzerland and France, where the implementation the program of ecologization agricultural production is directed to a third of investments intended to the agricultural sector. In The UK sold a quarter of food – the so-called ecological products are grown "old-fashioned" methods. Due to the high level of ecologization the economy, beyond recognition changed once the most environmentally dirty region of Germany – the Ruhr, which is now instead of place of coal waste heaps is situated man-made forest-park zone.

In recent years environmental policy has become one of the most important direction of activity of the European Union. In this area, designed and formed, as shown, a successful system of environmental legislation, the provisions of which are implemented in practice. It should be recognized that the EU is on the right holds a leading position in the environmental policy, successfully solving many environmental problems of the continent and world as a whole. It can be noted that in developed countries considerable experience management and financing in the environmental field have been accumulated and tested on the basis of environmental taxation systems.

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