

The concept of sustainable development was first formulated in American literature in the early 1980s, primarily in the works of the Worldwatch Institute and those of Lester Brown. The World Commission on Environment and Development led by Mrs Gro Harlem Brundtland was founded upon a resolution of the UN General Assembly. The Commission was active between 1984 and 1987 and made a report on "Our Common Future". The main message of this Report was the concept of sustainable development. The essence of this concept is to shape such an economic model which does not exclude economic growth, without which it is impossible to increase production to satisfy the growing basic human needs. At the same time it suggests such methods and limits which consider the rights, interests and needs of the future generation as well. That is, sustainable development intends to realize such a utilization of the resources which serves both the present and the future. The rational utilization of renewable resources is especially emphasized. In this concept, there is a kind of integration of economic and environmental policies, but in case of conflicts the ecological interests are preferred. This concept gives hope and new perspectives for mankind, as it gives a possibility also for a population of 8 billion to satisfy their basic human needs.