

INTERDISCIPLINARITY IN THE MODELS OF ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS

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One of the greatest social challenges of the modern age lies in the solution of environmental problems, especially in the reduction of the pollution of the environment. On the one hand, the natural elements such as air, water, soil, flora and fauna suffer the most from the emission of pollutants. On the other hand, the unreasonable utilization of natural resources as well as the high rate of exploitation of nonrenewable resources compared to renewable ones is urgent economic and social problems.

After conducting an analysis of the most important approaches in environmental economics discussed in this study (the problem of public wealth, the Pigou, the Coase theorem, optimal utilization of natural resources, standard-preis theory) it can be stated that on the basis of simple models neoclassical environmental economics attempts to give explanations to complex social, human and organizational forms of behavior in the field of economics. However, its descriptions lead only to understanding of basic economic processes or certain characteristic features. They are rather of didactic character and reflect only the norms of a positive approach. The applied models, on the contrary, face theoretical obstacles that traditional economists trying to improve the theory have not been able to overcome so far.

The interdisciplinary approach examines the tasks to be solved as complex ones. It has crossed the boundaries between the disciplines and all of science has become an integral whole. Whereas in the case of a traditional approach there are strict boundaries between specific disciplines, an interdisciplinary approach unites certain branches of science and thus solves the problems that separate disciplines have failed to solve.

The change in the paradigm often mentioned and encouraged by economists is also linked with environmental economics. Although the formulation of the necessity for change of paradigm is an extremely difficult task, the establishment, acceptance and introduction of a new paradigm is even more difficult. Since the complexity of environmental problems arises from their economic, social, and cultural aspects, as well as several other factors, there is a need for so-called interdisciplinary analysis in order to establish a new economics, that is a new environmental economics paradigm. Interdisciplinary analysis means communication between various branches of science, the basis of which is provided by the methodological paradigm. The development of relationships between economics and biology is a part of this process.