**ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

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**ABSTRACT**

Sustainable development is an approach to the economic development of a country without affecting the quality of the environment for future generations. Environmental economics has an important role in protecting environment from the environmental problems and achieving sustainability. The main types of environmental problems that influence the sustainable development are air and water pollution, climate change, soil degradation, over-exploitation of natural resources, deforestation, ocean acidification and biodiversity loss. Irresponsible planning and environmental degradation through exploitation of resources generates waste and pollutants that damages ecosystems. Such practices are not sustainable within the long term. This article discusses the benefits of environmental economics to gain the sustainable development by preventing the environmental problems. Efficient use of natural resources by minimizing the impacts on environment is essential for sustained economic growth.

Keywords: Environmental Economics, Sustainable development, Problems, Benefits, Natural resources.