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The creation of economy that is based only on increasing income and reducing losses has caused such consequences as degradation of the natural, social and spiritual environment. Environmental problems, serious problems such as climate change, as well as social and gender differences are only a small part of what people faced at the beginning of the 21st century. All this has led to an awareness of the importance of sustainable development.

Today's perception of sustainable development was formed in 1983, when the United Nations convened the World Commission on Environment and Development, named after the Brundtland Commission (according to the surname of the chairman). The term "sustainable development" adopted by the commission, as well as its explanation, is still widely used [1].

Sustainable development is a set of actions aimed at meeting the current needs of a person without harming the environment, in other words, so that the development of the current generation does not run counter to the interests of the future. Sustainable development probably depends on the balance of three key components: economic growth, social responsibility and environmental balance [1].

In 2015, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was approved. However, some tasks developed on the basis of previously concluded international agreements are expected to be solved even before the end of 2030, in which seventeen Sustainable Development Goals are fixed. Not all of them are identically important for different parts of the world, but their full result will make it possible to improve the quality of life of modern as well as future generations. This is a global initiative that is expected to be implemented within the framework of a multilateral partnership.

The 2020 Sustainable Development Goals Report collected data that showed us that progress remained uneven and we are far from achieving these goals by 2030 [2]. Some successes were obvious: the proportion of children and young people who are unable to attend school has decreased; the incidence of many infectious infections has decreased; access to safe drinking water has improved; the proportion of women working in leadership positions has increased.

At the same time, the number of people suffering from food insecurity was on the rise, and the state of the natural environment continued to deteriorate at an alarmingly rapid rate. And because of the COVID-19 pandemic, achieving goals has become even more difficult. Health systems in many countries are on the verge of collapse. The financial situation of half of the world's workforce has seriously deteriorated.

Governments and businesses should take into account the lessons learned from this situation in order to formulate the types of transition processes needed to build a healthier, more resilient and sustainable world. The central place in such transitions is occupied by timely statistical data, on the basis of which effective and fair measures and policies can be formed.

The concept of sustainable development, despite all its abstractness, encourages large companies to think not only about profits, but also about other important aspects. According to experts, a business cannot be called socially responsible if employees plant two hundred trees every day, but at the same time the company's emissions are off the scale, it produces a low-quality product or violates the rights of indigenous peoples. Sustainable development is a balance in everything [2].

As a result, the term sustainable development means the future desired quality of life for people, and humanity strives to create all conditions for it

### **References**

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