

Kazakhstan model of sustainable development management: view from the environmental Governance perspective

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Abstract. Sustainable development management includes three major components: environmental, social, economic. This paper is focused on environmental part. The article discusses result-oriented budgeting approach in the analysis of environmental governance in the Republic of Kazakhstan on the way to sustainable development. With this paper we attempt to estimate the environmental governance in the Republic of Kazakhstan based on this new for Kazakhstan approach. We find that according to the Strategic plan of Ministry of environment and water resources in Kazakhstan for 2014-2018 key indicators are difficult to estimate as they are not adequate. There is lack of sufficient and precise indicators which need to be implemented in Strategic documents and programmes of development on regional and country levels in Kazakhstan.

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Introduction

For the first time the term "sustainable development" was used in 1972 at the First World Conference on the Environment in Stockholm. In 1992, during the UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro, this term was used "as the title of a new concept of the existence of all mankind". The concept of sustainable development was formulated as a way of overcoming the main modern civilization environmental threat that existed in a kind of a theoretically sound risk perceived by relatively narrow circle of scientists and politicians associated with overpopulation, irreplaceable natural resources and expenditure of pollution". [1]

However, E. Loguntsev notes that "this concept does not exist yet. There are certain ideas that are generally accepted and documented in formal political decisions. Not even a universally accepted definition of the term. Actions of the international community are aimed at developing the basic elements of the concept, including the formulation of the conceptual apparatus". [1] A new development agenda needs to be truly global, relevant to all, and realistic in assigning responsibilities. [2] The Republic of Kazakhstan adopted the Concept of Sustainable Development for the period 2007-2024 in 2006 in order to specify the main directions of further development. Also, each Ministry in the Republic of Kazakhstan has a plan of development of relevant industries in the coming years in order to achieve sustainable development goals. Scope of our paper is

the Ministry of Environment and Water Resources of the Republic of Kazakhstan, as, in our opinion, the environmental dimension of sustainability is the foundation of the "green" economy and welfare. [3]

In this connection it is necessary to develop a model of sustainable development (with identifying the role of subjects in the process of management) to monitor this development. [4] In the process of management we faced not only with certain complexity due to the "universality" of the term "sustainable development", which includes many components, but also with indicators of sustainable development, which are used to assess the level of development of the country in the framework of "sustainable development." But often, in practice, these indicators are difficult to measure, and they are not amenable to quantitative analysis.

The paper consists of the following parts: introduction, materials and methods, main part, conclusion and references.

Materials and methods

In order to estimate the environmental governance in the Republic of Kazakhstan and reveal the model of sustainable development management we use Strategic Plan of Ministry of environment and water resources in the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2014-2018 years. Major aims and indicators in the sphere of environmental governance, as well as strategic priorities on the way to sustainable

development in the Republic of Kazakhstan were represented in this Programme document.

Also we have done complex analyses of environmental problems in Kazakhstan according to the statistics of the Agency of Statistics of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Main part

According to the Strategic plan of Ministry of environment and water resources in the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2014-2018 Kazakhstan clearly identifies its strategic priorities in the sphere of environmental governance. Strategic plan should show the current situation and tendencies of further development in corresponding areas.

We try to analyze the main strategic plan's articles and indicators in order to show the direction of sustainable development management in the Republic of Kazakhstan.

There are main priorities in natural resources usage in Kazakhstan:

1. Air pollution, including the "greenhouse effect";
2. Desertification;
3. Rational use of water resources;
4. Accumulation and disposal of solid waste;
5. Switching to renewable energy sources. [5]

These priorities define the vector of further development in the Republic of Kazakhstan in the ecological sphere and the model of sustainable development.

Model of sustainable development management consists of several elements: subjects of management, objects of management, and key

measurable indicators in certain areas (economic, ecology and social sphere), strategic documents and programmes of development.

Strategic plan being a long-term development document includes mission, vision, main tasks, strategic directions, benchmarks, goals, and planned activities in order to achieve aims, major problems and indicators. It is the significant tool in the process of sustainable development management.

We start to analyze this Plan from the first element - Mission. According to business dictionary "Mission statement" is a written declaration of an organization's core purpose and focus that normally remains unchanged over time. "Properly crafted mission statements: serve as filters to separate what is important from what is not; clearly state which markets will be served and how; and communicate a sense of intended direction to the entire organization". [6]

The mission statement of the Ministry of environment and water resources in the Republic of Kazakhstan is not clearly defined. We proposed another option of mission statement for the Strategic Plan of the Ministry. It will be represented at the table 1.

Another key element of the Strategy is vision. It should reflect the supervised by public authorities the areas and branches in the nearest future. Though, in fact it is too wide.

The following table shows some of the analyzed articles of the Strategic Plan of the Ministry of environment and water resources in the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2014-2018 years, as well as existing problems in the sphere of environmental governance.

Table 1. Some key elements of the Strategic plan of the Ministry of environment and water resources in the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2014-2018 years

№	Element of the Strategy	Content
1	Mission	Mission - to create conditions for the conservation, rehabilitation and improvement of the environment, taking into account trends in climate change, biodiversity, water supply sectors of the economy and the environment, ensuring Kazakhstan's transition to low-carbon development and 'green' economy to improve the living standards of the population in minimize the burden on the environment and degradation of natural resources through the integration of economic, social and environmental aspects.
2		Proposed variant of mission: The Ministry of environment and water resources in the Republic of Kazakhstan – state authority which contributes to the improvement of environmental quality and ensure the transition of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the "green" economy and sustainable development.
	Vision	Vision is a favorable environment, careful and rational use of natural resources for present and future generations, ensuring environmental safety for human life and health, the economy itself.

3	Analysis of current situation and development trend of the respective spheres of activity	<p>Indicators for analysis:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emissions into the environment (air condition, surface water quality, soil contamination). 2. Wastes. <p>Analysis of current situation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — increase of natural resources emissions and discharges of pollutants into the environment; — the lack of separate collection of household waste; — increased consumption of energy and the increase in greenhouse gases; — possible problems of "market readiness" in trading system of emission in Kazakhstan; <p>Development trends:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Kazakhstan's transition to low-carbon development and "green" economy. — Use of renewable energy sources.
<p align="center">1. STRATEGIC ORIENTATION</p> <p align="center">1. Stabilization and improvement of the environment</p>		
	The main parameters of the sphere development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — emissions into the environment; — Waste; — Hydro meteorological monitoring; — Environmental Monitoring; — Kazakhstan's transition to low-carbon development and "green" economy; — Renewable energy.
	Analysis of the main problems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> — Emissions into the environment (increase in emissions of greenhouse gases and other elements); — Increase the amount of waste; — Lack of qualified personnel in the system of hydro meteorological monitoring, as well as lack of funding from the national budget; — Environmental Monitoring (insufficient number of weather stations and equipment); — Problems of interaction with the public; — Problems "market readiness" in trading of emission in Kazakhstan.
<p align="center">STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS, GOALS, OBJECTIVES, TARGET INDICATORS</p> <p align="center">ACTIVITIES AND INDICATORS OF RESULTS</p>		
<p align="center">Goal 1.1 Creating conditions for the conservation and restoration of ecosystems and ensuring compliance with environmental legislation.</p>		
	Target codes (benchmarks)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Volumes of set values of standards for emissions of pollutants which should not exceed 5 million tons (yearly till 2020) 2. Volumes of set values for discharge standards of pollutants which should not exceed 5 million tons (yearly till 2020) 3. Proportion of waste production to its formation 4. Volume of municipal waste sent for recycling 5. Proportion of recycled waste to the total amount of hard domestic waste
<p align="center">Goal 1.2 Improving Hydro meteorological and Environmental Monitoring</p>		
	Task 1.2.1.	Improving the quality of hydro meteorological information for state security and the population
	Activities for achieving direct results indicators	<p>There are a number of activities for achieving the direct results indicators in the Strategic Plan.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> — The annual increase in headcount of Hydro meteorological Service having computer skills will be 1% in 2014; — The share of workers in Hydro meteorological and Environmental Services who has had a refresher course from the total number of employees, 10%.

	Goal 1.3 Expanding spheres of interaction with the public and strengthening international cooperation	
	Target codes (benchmarks)	Among other benchmarks there are given such benchmarks as “Improving position of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the ranking of the Global Competitiveness Index of the World Economic Forum on the following indicators "Transparency of decisions made by public authorities"; "Favoritism in decisions of government officials"; "Public trust of politicians"”.
	Goal 1.4 Creating the conditions for the transition of the Republic of Kazakhstan to low-carbon development and 'green' economy	
	Target codes	— Creation of legal framework for “green” economy

Source: made by the author according to [7, 8, 9]

As you can see from the Table 1 target codes (benchmarks) should characterize the level of main aims and sub aims achievement. According to the analyzed Strategic plan it is challenging to evaluate the level of achievement in Goal 1.1 “Creating conditions for the conservation and restoration of ecosystems and ensuring compliance with environmental legislation”.

Thus, such benchmarks as “Proportion of waste production to its formation” and “Proportion of recycled waste to the total amount of hard domestic waste” in achieving Goal 1.1 are not able to show any trend. And these proportions are not the indicators for measuring the level of performance in this area. Proportion cannot be an indicator. It should be clear precise index for analysis.

Goal 1.3 “Expanding spheres of interaction with the public and strengthening international cooperation” has such target codes as “Improving position of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the ranking of the Global Competitiveness Index of the World Economic Forum on the following indicators "Transparency of decisions made by public authorities"; "Favoritism in decisions of government officials"; "Public trust of politicians””. In our opinion, it is rather challenging to evaluate the effectiveness of the work of the given Ministry, because this goal can be achieved based on joint efforts of different public authorities. And that is why it is not the right indicator for measuring the achievement of this goal.

And another target code “Creation of legal framework for “green” economy” is also not the key target code of the Ministry of environment and water resources in the Republic of Kazakhstan. It is target code of Ministry of Justice. Hence, it should not be in the Strategic plan of the analyzed Ministry.

Thus, as you can see, there are many omissions that should be changed if we want to define working model of sustainable development management in the Republic of Kazakhstan. There

should be clear division and role of each Ministry and other public authorities in the process of sustainable development management with measurable indexes and indicators.

Conclusion

To conclude, Kazakhstan model of sustainable development management should be based on well-structured Strategic programme of development with clear indicators and indexes which can be measurable and evaluated over time [10]. Sustainable development in the Republic of Kazakhstan is founded on ecological, economical and social components. Ecological one is one of the main and vulnerable in the Republic of Kazakhstan as we have many ecological problems.

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