

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AS THE BASIS FOR PRESERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT

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Abstract: Thus far, the concept of sustainable development has proven problematic to operationalise in a practical sense because of how it is perceived in individual disciplinary thinking. These varying perspectives about how the concept should be applied in some ecological, economic and cultural contexts implies a dichotomy; a dichotomy that is sometimes difficult to reconcile. This paper provides a brief resume of some of the different disciplinary interpretations of the concept. We conclude by offering some suggestions about how the tensions associated with the use of the concept, as a term of reference for preservation of the environment, can be reconciled.

Keywords: sustainable development; disciplinary perspectives; dichotomy