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Burkovska A. I.,

PhD in economics, Associate Professor of the Management and Marketing department, Mykolayiv National Agrarian University, Mykolayiv

SUSTAINABLE LAND USE OPTIMIZATION BASED ON THE EUROPEAN UNION EXPERIENCE

Sustainable land use has emerged as a cornerstone of global efforts to address pressing environmental challenges, including climate change, biodiversity loss, and land degradation. The European Union (EU), with its progressive policies and frameworks, has become a leading example of how to optimize land use for environmental, economic, and social benefits [1]. By examining the EU's strategies, other regions can glean insights into creating resilient and sustainable land management systems.

Central to the EU's approach is the integration of sustainability into its policy frameworks. Over the decades, the EU has crafted a legislative and regulatory environment that emphasizes the need to balance human development with ecological preservation [2]. For instance, the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) underscores the importance of sustainable farming, promoting practices that conserve biodiversity, improve soil health, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Additionally, the European Green Deal outlines a vision for transforming land use practices across agriculture, forestry, and urban planning, targeting climate neutrality by 2050 [3]. These overarching policies demonstrate the EU's commitment to long-term sustainability.

The EU's reliance on technology and data-driven approaches further distinguishes its strategies. Programs like Copernicus, the EU's Earth Observation initiative, provide high-quality data to monitor land use changes, assess environmental impacts, and guide decision-making processes. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and predictive modeling are routinely employed to evaluate the trade-offs between different land use scenarios. Such tools enable policymakers to anticipate challenges and devise solutions that align with sustainability goals [3]. The application of cutting-edge technology not only enhances planning efficiency but also fosters transparency and accountability.

Urban development within the EU reflects a conscious effort to integrate sustainability into city planning. Recognizing the pressures of urbanization on land resources, the EU has championed compact, mixed-use urban development. This strategy minimizes urban sprawl, reduces the fragmentation of agricultural and natural lands, and promotes resource efficiency. Sustainable urban planning initiatives also address the need for climate resilience, incorporating green infrastructure and nature-based solutions to mitigate the impacts of extreme weather events [2]. These practices exemplify how sustainable land use can be extended to rapidly growing urban areas.

Economic incentives have also been pivotal in the EU's land use optimization strategies. Payments for ecosystem services (PES) provide financial rewards to landowners who adopt practices that enhance ecosystem health [1]. For example, subsidies for agroforestry, wetland restoration, and rewilding projects encourage the creation of multifunctional landscapes that serve both human and ecological needs. By linking economic benefits to sustainable practices, the EU has demonstrated how market-based mechanisms can drive positive environmental outcomes.

Despite its successes, the EU's journey toward sustainable land use has not been without challenges. Striking a balance between competing land use demands - such as agriculture, infrastructure, and conservation - remains a complex task. Additionally, managing cross-border resources like rivers and forests requires consistent coordination among member states [2]. The impacts of climate change,

including shifting growing seasons and increased flooding, further complicate land use planning. However, these challenges have prompted the EU to adopt adaptive strategies, ensuring that its policies remain flexible in the face of uncertainty.

The EU's experience offers valuable lessons for regions beyond its borders. One key takeaway is the importance of establishing clear, actionable policies that align with sustainability objectives. Investing in technology and capacity-building initiatives is equally crucial, as it enables informed decision-making and fosters equitable participation [3]. Furthermore, the EU's emphasis on collaboration highlights the need to engage all stakeholders in the planning process, ensuring that land use strategies reflect the diverse needs of society.

In conclusion, sustainable land use optimization is a dynamic and multifaceted endeavor, as demonstrated by the European Union's experience. By integrating comprehensive policies, leveraging technology, and fostering collaboration, the EU has created a model for balancing development and conservation. While challenges persist, the EU's adaptive and inclusive approach underscores the potential for land use systems to contribute to a more sustainable and resilient future. For other regions, adopting and contextualizing these strategies can pave the way for a harmonious relationship between people and the planet.

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Husenko Angela

senior lecturer at the department of public management and administration and international economy, Mykolaiv national agrarian university, Ukraine

**ПРАВОВІ АСПЕКТИ ВПРОВАДЖЕННЯ ЄВРОПЕЙСЬКИХ
СТАНДАРТІВ ЗЕМЛЕКОРИСТУВАННЯ В УКРАЇНІ
LEGAL ASPECTS OF IMPLEMENTING EUROPEAN LAND USE
STANDARDS IN UKRAINE**

Пріоритетним напрямом розвитку аграрного законодавства України є його приведення у відповідність з законодавством ЄС та гармонізація з правовими нормами європейських країн, що відповідає положенням Закону України від 18 березня 2004 року «Про Загальнодержавну програму адаптації законодавства України до законодавства ЄС». Адаптація національного законодавства до європейських норм є ключовим елементом процесу інтеграції України до Європейського Союзу [1].

Орієнтуючись на досвід законодавчої діяльності країн Європейського Союзу, важливо максимально визначити й імплементувати правові норми та принципи національної правової системи з урахуванням стандартів європейського права. Згідно зі стратегією євроінтеграції України, адаптація національного законодавства до європейських норм передбачає зближення українського законодавства з сучасною європейською правовою системою. Це сприятиме розвитку політичної, підприємницької, соціальної та культурної активності громадян, економічному розвитку держави в рамках ЄС і поступовому підвищенню рівня життя населення [2].

Україна зобов'язалася інтегрувати екологічні норми ЄС відповідно до Угоди про асоціацію між Україною та ЄС. Зокрема, це передбачає імплементацию положень таких ключових директив ЄС:

- Директива про охорону ґрунтів (Soil Thematic Strategy);