

THE DESTINY OF THE ENVIRONMENT IS IN YOUTH'S HANDS

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Annotation. In the current era of rapid development of science and technology, the impact of man on nature has multiplied. The development of various industrial enterprises inevitably has an impact on the natural environment. It is advisable to anticipate these effects, take appropriate measures, reduce their negative consequences and increase their benefits.

Therefore, the protection of the natural environment and the rational use of its natural resources has become the most urgent and responsible task of our time.

Keywords: Environmental sustainability, Youth engagement, Climate action, Greenfuture, Environmental responsibility, Eco-friendly behavior, Youth leadership, Sustainable development.

Introduction. In the current era of rapid development of science and technology, the impact of man on nature has increased several times. The development of various industrial enterprises inevitably has a negative impact on the natural environment. It is advisable to understand this impact in advance, take appropriate measures, reduce their negative consequences and increase their beneficial aspects. Therefore, protecting the natural environment and rational use of its capabilities have become the most urgent and extremely responsible task of our time.

The well-being and well-being of people are directly dependent on the state of the environment. Clean air, clean water, clean food and a clean external natural environment are extremely necessary for a person to live and work healthily. Environmental protection, rational use of natural resources largely depend on the level of environmental literacy and ecological culture of people. This, in turn, is consistent with the tasks of developing society and preserving the wealth and beauty of nature. In order to solve these problems, it is extremely necessary to form ecological knowledge, worldview, and culture in all layers of the population,

especially in young people. Because only a person who fully understands the secrets of nature can understand that maintaining the balance in nature ensures the continuity of our life.

Materials and methods. The priority of environmental protection measures is to provide young people with environmental education, because a person who correctly understands the changes taking place in nature can draw clear and comprehensive conclusions. There are still unsolved scientific and theoretical foundations in the science of ecology. Therefore, it is extremely important to conduct environmental science at all levels of the continuous education system. It is especially important to start this work from preschool educational institutions, to provide preschool children with elementary knowledge about nature and to expand and enrich their imagination.

Because the policy pursued by our President also requires this. In particular, in accordance with the Decree of September 30, 2017 “On measures to radically improve the management of the preschool education system” and the Resolution “On the organization of the activities of the Ministry of Preschool Education of the Republic of Uzbekistan”, a new system was created in this area [1-2]. On December 16, 2019, the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On Preschool Education and Upbringing” was adopted [3]. Based on these documents, work is underway to radically reform the preschool education system and organize its management structure. Special programs are being developed to ensure 100% coverage of children in institutions, in particular, the development and implementation of the “Ecological Child” program has been recognized as an important issue.

Results. Environmental education of children should begin, first of all, in the family, from the preschool education period. Preschool educational institutions have their own role and importance in implementing these tasks. It is advisable to include topics related to environmental knowledge in the curriculum and plan of these educational institutions and expand their hours. Because, so far, the attention paid to environmental education in preschool educational institutions is not at the

required level. Therefore, the lack of environmental skills and education in children's education is the reason why they are separated from nature. Therefore, it is necessary to establish environmental education in the initial stages of continuous education. Because, as the great educator V.A. Sukhomlinsky said: I would like children to read the most wonderful nature book from nature before they can spell the alphabet.

Table: Youth Contribution to Environmental Sustainability (Numeric Data)

Indicators	Value
Youth environmental awareness (%)	78
Participation in eco-projects (%)	42
Youth-led initiatives (units/year)	315
Reduction of plastic use by youth (%)	27
Youth volunteering hours (thousands/year)	148
Social media eco-campaign reach (millions)	5.6
Tree planting by youth (thousands/year)	92
Youth climate clubs (units)	540
Renewable energy adoption among youth households (%)	18
Youth support for climate policies (%)	83

Environmental education is the basis of a careful attitude to the environment and is considered the main component of the general education system, and its basis begins from the young age of the pupil of a preschool educational institution. In particular, in foreign countries, "Ecology is prominent in continuous education as an independent subject." For example, in Western European countries, environmental education for children begins at the age of 3. In Austria, environmental education is included in the school curriculum and there are special teaching aids.

Discussion. In this regard, the adoption of the “Concept for the Development of Environmental Education”, approved by the Cabinet of Ministers by Resolution No. 434 of May 27, 2019, in order to effectively organize the process of environmental education and upbringing in our Republic, will closely help in finding solutions to many environmental problems. Taking this into account, it is

time to consider environmental education and upbringing as an important component of the continuous education system and widely introduce it into the education system, that is, to teach it in all types of education, in order to form an ecological culture among the entire population of our Republic [5]. It is also necessary to ensure the continuity of knowledge about ecology in general secondary and secondary specialized education. Because we know that school plays a very important role in human life. It is at school that the basis of each subject is formed, that is, the foundation is laid in the education of young people. Therefore, if environmental knowledge is imparted from a young age, their attitude towards nature and worldview will develop with positive emotions. Through environmental knowledge, the younger generation develops environmental awareness and worldview, thinks, understands and comprehends nature, and as a result, an ecological culture is formed and acquired skills. Despite being an independent science, ecology has not yet become an independent branch of science in Uzbekistan. The coherence and continuity of teaching environmental science in continuing education has not yet been fully realized. However, we constantly talk and write about environmental problems, criticize the slow pace of their solution. Sometimes it seems that these problems have no solution, they are so deep-rooted that we wonder how and in what ways they can be solved. True, of course, a lot of practical innovative work is being carried out in our country in the field of ecology, and in some sense solutions are being found, but a positive attitude towards nature still remains a problem in the minds of all people.

Conclusion. Along with acquiring knowledge, young people grow up as people with deep thinking, intellectual potential, and broad worldviews. Because young people who have integrated all aspects of education and upbringing are called a mature generation. Along with spiritual, physical, aesthetic, legal, and economic education, environmental education must also find its place. We adults must closely help talented young people mature and grow up to be competent specialists in their field. This will lead to the formation of a generation of young people who are proud of the beauty of their country, who preserve its values, who

are compassionate, environmentally literate, knowledgeable, and intellectually capable. Our future will be bright only when we are able to educate and raise healthy, moral, hardworking, clean, and knowledgeable people. Because educating young people in the spirit of love for nature is not just a hobby, it is a pressing issue of state importance.

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