

It is now evident that the current ecological crisis rise from the western approach to what is considered to be a “development”. Increasing production and consumption of all kinds of material goods has been considered as a proof of prospering and happy society for several last centuries.

The approach was established during the period of the European Enlightenment which gave birth to the belief of human exceptionality. No more God or natural powers but a man and his interests have ruled the world since then.

Social sciences adored the conception of never ending progress until the 20th century. But increasing population and its needs started to endanger the environment and a stability of world ecosystems around that time. The ecological crisis was suddenly reflected among both natural and social sciences and it was obvious that we needed a brand new approach which would substitute the idea of economical progress in a way.

The sustainable development concept has taken this part since 70's. It emphasizes non-materialistic values such as shared responsibility, solidarity, tolerance or equality.

These values become even more up to date nowadays during the financial crisis.