This diploma thesis deals with administrative and economic instruments of environmental protection, which represent the most important groups of instruments of environmental protection. Administrative and economic instruments are means and methods that affect human behavior in relation to environment.

The thesis is systematically divided into two main parts and each of them is subdivided into chapters and subchapters. The first part of the thesis is focused generally and provides overview of individual types of administrative and economic instruments with regard to their attributes, functions and effects. The first chapter of the first part deals with individual groups of instruments of environmental protection in general and defines their basic division and brief characteristics. The second and the third chapter deal with more detailed analysis of administrative and economic instruments of environmental protection, their attributes and functions. The fourth chapter contains summary of previous chapters, states the advantages and disadvantages of administrative and economic instruments and shows the mutual relation between these instruments.

The second part of the thesis illustrates how administrative and economic instruments work in practice on the example of soil protection. The first chapter contains a brief introduction to the issue of soil protection. The second chapter deals with regional planning as an important instrument of soil protection which is closely related to some administrative and economic instruments. The third and the fourth chapter describe principal administrative and economic instruments of protection of ecologically most important soil types which are agricultural land resources and land designated for forestry. The fifth chapter contains the summarization.

The aim of the thesis is to show the role and the importance of administrative and economic instruments in the protection of environment, to provide an overview of individual administrative and economic instruments and to analyze their attributes, functions and effects. Furthermore the diploma thesis aims to lay down advantages and disadvantages of administrative and economic instruments and show their mutual relation. The purpose of the thesis is also to demonstrate the use of administrative and economic instruments in the area of soil protection.