ORIGINAL PAPER

DOI: 10.26794/2220-6469-2025-19-3-47-60
UDC 330.341.4,334.021(045)
JEL G18, H40, O38, Q01

Opportunities and Prospects for the Transformation of the Russian Economy Based on the Sustainable Development Goals

D.M. Sakharov
Financial University under the Government of the Russian Federation, Moscow, Russian Federation

ABSTRACT

The **aim of this article** is to identify key directions for the transformation of the Russian economy and to develop policy recommendations for implementing the sustainable development agenda. The author employs **methods** of comparison, deduction, induction, analysis, synthesis, and analogy. The study identifies essential factors for the successful transformation of the economy and proposes financial instruments and mechanisms to advance the sustainable development agenda. Recommendations are formulated to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Russian economy through the development of creative industries, the expansion of sustainable finance markets, the use of public financial policy instruments, and the strengthening of cooperation between the state and business sectors. Promising areas of cooperation with BRICS countries in the field of sustainable development are also outlined. The **theoretical and practical significance** of the research lies in its identification of key success factors for economic development under new conditions and the proposed recommendations for transforming the Russian economy in line with the principles of sustainable development. **Future research** will focus on assessing the role of social and environmental capital in shaping a sustainable development economy.

Keywords: structural transformation of the Russian economy; BRICS sustainable development agenda; carbon market; human capital; sustainability bonds; financial market; corporate social responsibility; innovative development; creative economy; Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

***For citation*: Sakharov D.M. Opportunities and prospects for the transformation of the Russian economy based on the sustainable development goals. *The World of the New Economy*. 2025;19(3):47-60. DOI: 10.26794/2220-6469-2025-19-3-47-60**

INTRODUCTION

The current state of the global economy and financial markets is characterized by a high degree of uncertainty, primarily driven by rising geopolitical tensions. A serious challenge complicating international cooperation in achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is the imposition of sanctions by developed countries. However, despite the contradictory nature of relations between states, the importance of sustainable development issues continues to grow for all major economies. Successful economic development under present conditions depends on the greening of production and the reduction of harmful emissions, the advancement of culture and education, and the introduction of innovative technologies in key industries.

The transformation of the largest developed and emerging economies in line with the principles of sustainable development is manifested in the following trends:

- pursuit of carbon neutrality;
- adaptation of corporate business models to ESG factors;
- increasing capitalization of markets for green and social financial instruments;
- integration of sustainability considerations into investors' financial strategies;
- development of systems for disclosing non-financial information on sustainable development goals;
- introduction of regulatory requirements in this sphere.

Both Russian and international scholars have examined conceptual as well as specific issues of sustainable development that require resolution. Researchers generally agree that the transition of the economy to a new trajectory enhances corporate competitiveness, fosters a more comfortable living environment, and promotes the creative potential of citizens. In the long term, adherence to ESG principles reduces social and environmental risks associated with business operations, improves the quality of corporate governance, and creates new opportunities for economic actors — including access to financing, higher energy efficiency, and the adoption of creative ideas and innovations.

One of the studies emphasizes the importance of achieving climate objectives within the global sustainable development agenda [1]. The authors conclude that a significant increase in spending on these goals is necessary: according to their estimates, an additional 3.8% of global GDP may be required by 2030.

Another study demonstrates the complex interrelationship between various sustainable development goals and highlights the need to account for country-specific conditions, as well as to strengthen international cooperation in policy implementation within this domain [2].

In a study devoted to assessing the impact of sustainable development factors on the value of Russian companies, it is emphasized that progress in this area enhances firms' investment attractiveness and increases their market capitalization by reducing business risks and lowering the cost of borrowed capital [3]. A study by Chinese scholars confirms the importance of integrating sustainable development principles into the operations of companies in the People's Republic of China. It highlights the positive relationship between a company's innovative activity and its commitment to these principles [4].

Examining organizations operating in the field of art, Russian researchers conclude that the creative industries[1] play an important role in the economies of the country's regions and that it is essential to make full use of their creative potential [5].

The study focusing on human capital assesses different stages in the development of the Russian economy from this perspective and notes the complexity of the ongoing transformation processes [6].

ENSURING LONG-TERM ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY IN THE NEW ENVIRONMENT

When formulating economic policy, it is essential to take into account both the Sustainable Development Goals defined by the United Nations General

[1] The creative economy includes sectors whose development is based on the use of employees' creative abilities and innovative technologies..

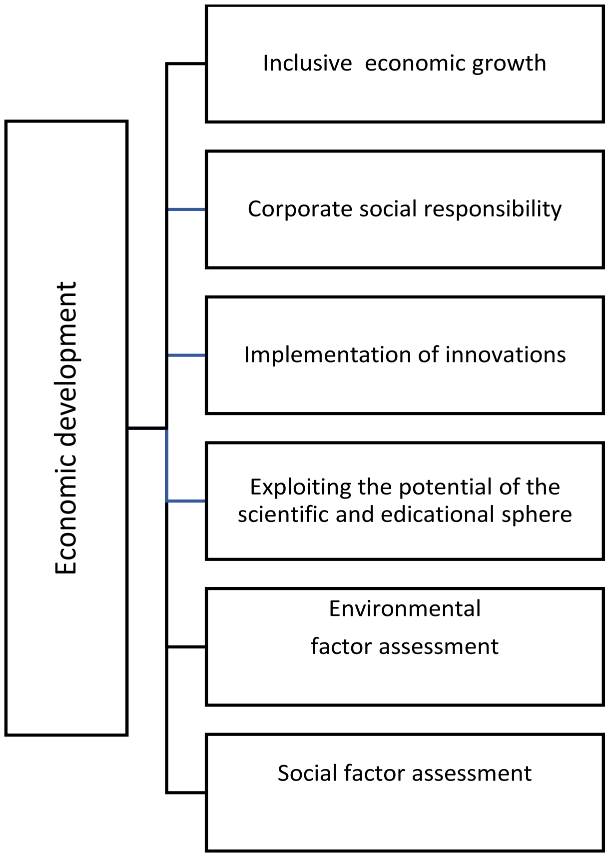

Fig. 1. **Key Factors for Successful Economic Development**

Source: compiled by the author.

Assembly[2] and the national priorities determined by the country's specific challenges. Ensuring the long-term sustainability of the economy requires the development of a new model aimed at improving quality of life and human capital (see *Fig. 1*).

The significant growth of instruments related to the sustainable development agenda, along with increased attention from issuers, investors, and regulatory authorities, indicates the formation of a new segment — the sustainable finance market, which is closely integrated with the global financial system [7].

In 2024, the issuance of bonds within this segment exceeded USD 1.1 trillion, while the total volume of all outstanding issues reached USD 6.2 trillion (see *Fig. 2*). As of the end of 2024, the average annual amount of sustainable lending and the total volume of loans issued over the period 2022–2024 amounted to $ 790 billion and $ 3 trillion,[3] respectively.

The growth in capitalization and development of this segment create new opportunities for attracting private investors to projects and expanding the number of market participants, enabling them to improve management systems in terms of environmental and reputational risk. Sustainable finance markets are particularly important for developing countries [8], as they provide:

- conditions for integrating sustainable development principles into corporate business models;
- engagement of credit institutions in implementing the sustainable development agenda;
- informational transparency and the establishment of disclosure standards in this field;
- regulatory incentives to increase the number of projects that take sustainable development goals into account.

The domestic financial market is characterized by a wide variety of sustainable finance instruments, including bonds, loans, and credit products that meet established criteria, as well as carbon units [9]. For the Russian economy, loans and

According to the rating agency Expert RA, as of July 1, 2024, the volume of sustainable development lending amounted to 5.5 trillion rubles and continues to grow. The majority of this volume was accounted for by loans linked to sustainable development performance indicators (49.6%) and "green" loans (41.5%).

The bond market used to finance sustainable development also maintains a positive growth trend (see *Fig. 4*). However, its overall volume remains relatively small due to internal factors — such as the high key interest rate set by the Bank of Russia and the shortage of long-term funding among credit institutions — as well as external constraints limiting access to international capital markets. The key participants in this segment are state-owned banks and development institutions, which act as both arrangers and investors.

In the context of adverse external and internal factors, the need to support the sustainable

[2] URL: https://undocs.org/en/A/RES/70/1

[3] URL: https://efdata.org

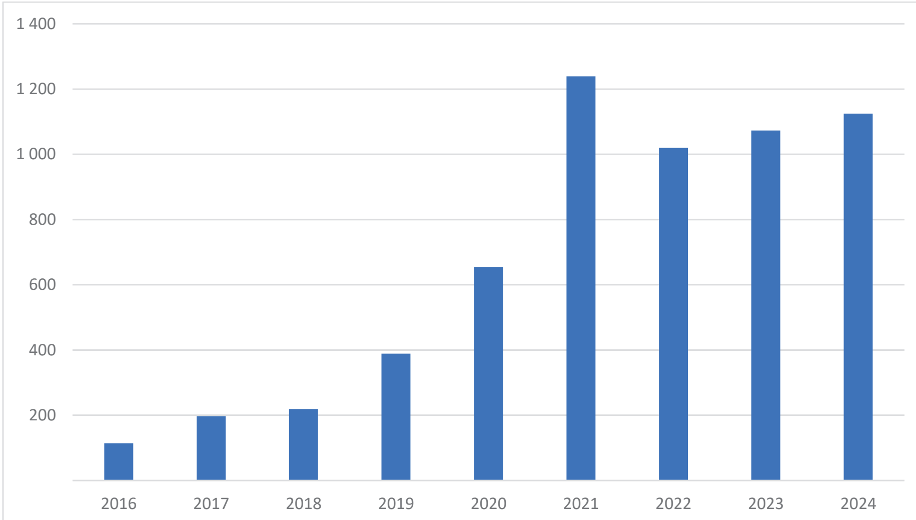

Fig. 2. **Issuance of Bonds within the Global Sustainable Finance Market, USD Billion**

Source: compiled by the author based on: URL: https://thedocs.worldbank.org/en/doc/cd82b4033281dab2cb1a1c71eeb691e4–0340012025/original/Labeled-Bond-Quarterly-Newsletter-Issue-No-10.pdf

development segment is becoming increasingly important. The Bank of Russia is capable of creating regulatory incentives to achieve sustainable development goals and emphasizes the importance of utilizing market participants' potential to finance sustainable development projects.[4] Regulation of credit institutions is essential for involving them in the financing of sustainable projects and for developing markets for instruments related to this agenda.

Prudential regulatory measures play a key role in addressing these objectives and have a positive effect on the growth rate of green lending [10]. Lower risk weights applied to relevant loans and bonds reduce the capital burden on banks [11].

Currently, the Bank of Russia implements incentive-based regulatory measures for projects aimed at achieving technological sovereignty and adapting the economy to new conditions. According to its estimates, the effect of these measures may amount to between 10% and 70% of the standard credit risk level for a loan.[5]

Applying reduced risk weights to loans and bonds issued to attract long-term financing for sustainable projects will increase their attractiveness for credit institutions and create additional incentives for new participants to enter the market. Prudential regulation, combined with general fiscal policy measures and targeted state support instruments, will strengthen the overall stimulative impact of the measures being implemented.

An important area of support for the structural transformation of the Russian economy is state subsidization of interest rates on loans and bonds within the sustainable development segment. This mechanism will provide companies with additional incentives to develop their businesses on the basis of sustainable finance and will mitigate the negative impact of external and internal factors on sustainable development instruments for both issuers and investors.

A key stage in issuing such instruments is their independent verification, which confirms the compliance of projects with international and Russian sustainable development principles. National rating agencies act as verifiers. Government compensation of expenses associated with this procedure would help attract issuers and facilitate the implementation of new projects.

It is crucial to ensure transparency and accessibility of non-financial information on sustainable development [12]. This will enable creditors, shareholders, consumers, and regulatory authori-

[4] URL: https://www.cbr.ru/Crosscut/LawActs/File/6233

[5] URL: https://www.cbr.ru/Content/Document/File/160494/dbra_20240417.pdf

Loans and credit products

- Green lending is a form of targeted financing provided through loans, credit lines, and other credit products aimed at implementing projects in the fields of ecology, environmental protection, and climate change mitigation. The compliance of such loans with green finance principles is independently verified in accordance with Russian and international standards
- Social lending is intended to finance social projects that meet Russian and international criteria. Its key features are the targeted nature of funding and the requirement for independent verification of the relevant projects
- Adaptation lending is a mechanism for attracting targeted financing in the form of loans and credit products for projects that contribute to the achievement of sustainable development goals and are recognized as adaptation projects according to Russian standards. Compliance of adaptation loans with established requirements is confirmed through independent assessment
- Sustainable development lending facilitates the mobilization of credit resources based on independent verification and targeted financing for projects that pursue both environmental and social objectives, in line with Russian and international standards
- Sustainability-linked lending is not targeted; it is provided to borrowers to achieve sustainable development indicators, allowing them to improve lending terms based on achieved results

Bonds

- Green bonds are issued to raise financing for green projects. They serve as a financial instrument to address environmental and ecological challenges. The issuance of these bonds requires independent verification and ensures that the funds are used for their intended purpose
- Social bonds are issued to finance projects related to the development of the social sphere and public life. Their issuance involves independent verification in accordance with Russian and international standards
- Sustainable development bonds are financial instruments that provide targeted financing for projects addressing environmental and social issues in accordance with established criteria
- Adaptation bonds raise funds that are used exclusively for adaptation projects contributing to the achievement of sustainable development goals, in accordance with criteria established by the Government of Russia

Fig. 3. **Main Financial Instruments for Sustainable Development on the Russian Financial Market**

Source: compiled by the author.

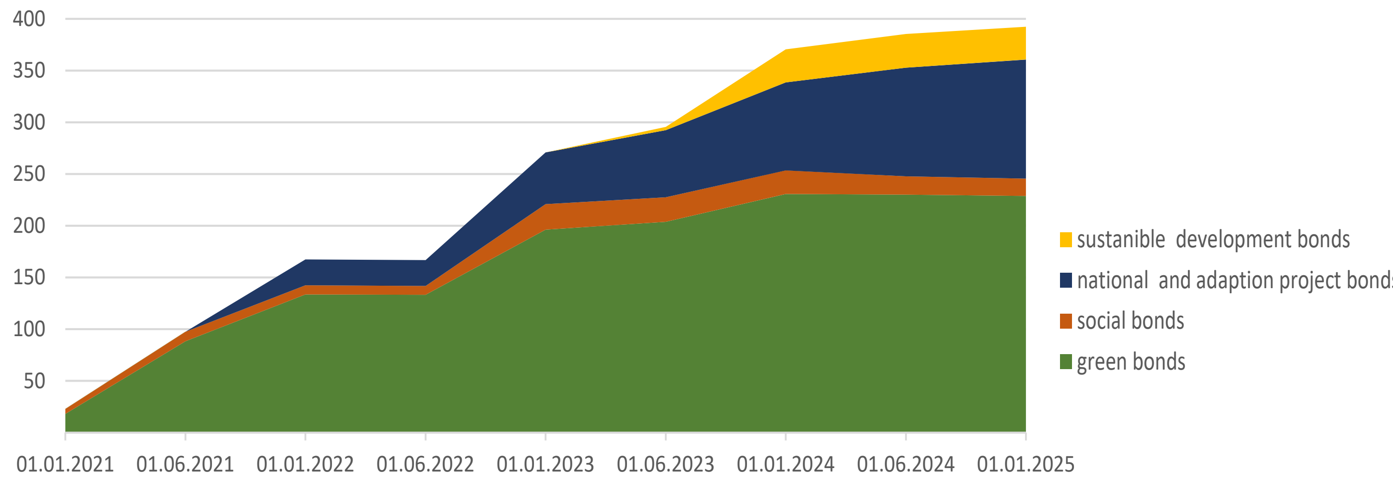

Fig. 4. **Volume and Structure of the Russian Market for Bonds Supporting Sustainable Development, RUB Billion**

Source: compiled by the author based on Bank of Russia data URL: https://www.cbr.ru/vfs/statistics/debt_securities/71-debt_securities.xlsx

ties to gain a comprehensive understanding of a company's activities and development prospects, thereby contributing to the attraction of external financing. Improving the quality and availability of non-financial information is also important for integrating sustainable development goals into the business models of Russian companies. The timely disclosure of such reports will allow market participants to better assess borrowers' risks and compare them when making investment decisions.

Non-financial information in the field of sustainable development is also essential for the pricing of loans and bonds linked to these goals. It helps assess companies' contributions to social development and environmental protection and ensures the effective functioning of financial markets [13].

The system for disclosing non-financial information in Russia, the content of which is currently determined by issuers, is still under development. The Moscow Exchange has established requirements for companies whose shares are included in the First and Second Listing Tiers. The Bank of Russia has developed recommendations regarding the disclosure of non-financial information by credit institutions and their clients in relation to the achievement of sustainable development goals.

To expand the ability of financial market participants to account for sustainable development objectives, it is necessary to adopt a mandatory standard for non-financial information disclosure. This is important so that participants can evaluate companies' performance in this area and identify risks associated with environmental and social factors. Ensuring the reliability of disclosed information requires its certification by auditing firms.

Trust is crucial for investment horizons and for attracting private investors to projects that consider sustainable development goals [14]. The adoption of a Russian standard for non-financial information disclosure will help strengthen trust in companies among investors, clients, employees, and other stakeholders. Non-financial information certified by auditing firms is one of the key conditions for ensuring transparency in the use of state support mechanisms and the participation of development institutions in projects.

An important element of regulation in the field of sustainable development is the system for accounting and trading Russian carbon units[6]: the number of such units within a project allows the

[6] Carbon units refer to verified decreases in carbon emissions resulting from environmental projects.

company's contribution to the structural transformation of the Russian economy to be assessed.

Carbon markets represent a mechanism of sustainable finance that motivates economic actors to reduce carbon emissions and finance "green" projects [15]. Companies implementing green projects generate carbon units, which can be sold to market participants responsible for carbon emissions.

Based on current regulatory practices in developed and developing countries, carbon markets can be divided into regulated and voluntary segments (see *Fig. 5*). At present, these segments are weakly interconnected, as organizations that purchase carbon units on voluntary markets are unable to use them to offset mandatory payments to the state for exceeding carbon emission limits.

The voluntary carbon market established in Russia allows economic actors to conduct transactions with carbon units, while companies can acquire them to implement policies aligned with sustainable development goals. The registry of JSC Kontur currently lists 40 climate projects and over 32 million carbon units in circulation.[7]

At present, Russia is in the process of creating a mandatory carbon market based on an experimental program,[8] which aims to achieve carbon neutrality in the Sakhalin region by the end of 2025. Expanding this experience to other regions and sectors will involve setting quotas and introducing a carbon tax for companies responsible for emissions.

The theoretical foundation of carbon taxation is provided by A. Pigou, who justified its necessity in relation to activities that generate negative externalities, including environmental pollution [16]. A carbon tax, taking into account country-specific conditions, is an important tool for achieving carbon neutrality and improving environmental outcomes. Carbon taxation, combined with innovation and digitalization, contributes to the achievement of sustainable development goals by reducing harmful emissions [17].

The carbon regulation system also serves as a source of financing for environmental programs. By the end of 2023, the total global volume of payments

The launch of this system will increase demand for carbon units and create additional incentives for the implementation of green projects, while state support measures will facilitate the generation of carbon units.

Public-private partnership mechanisms can accelerate the structural transformation of the Russian economy in line with the sustainable development agenda and expand the investor base for projects that consider social and environmental priorities. The experience gained through such partnerships will help improve the effectiveness of state support instruments. A crucial condition for attracting private investors to projects is ensuring the stability of regulatory and financial conditions in place at the time of transaction, as well as expanding the use of state guarantees.

Incorporating social factors at both the governmental and corporate levels will create favorable conditions for developing an inclusive economic model and provide Russian companies with new competitive advantages by enhancing the management of reputational risks and expanding cooperation with regulatory authorities.

The creative industries play a key role in the social dimension of sustainable development, acting as an important driver of human capital growth, export potential, and employment. Their main characteristic is the production of innovative and intellectual products based on the creative potential of employees [18]. The implementation of creative projects simultaneously generates consumer-demanded creative products and creates synergistic effects within the economy.

The transformation of the Russian economy based on sustainable development goals entails increasing its scientific and educational potential. In this context, the creative industries become a public good, as many products they produce for individual consumers are also accessible to other economic actors without additional costs.

The expansion of digital platform businesses is one of the most important trends in the develop-

[7] URL: https://carbonreg.ru/ru/

[8] URL: https://www.consultant.ru/document/cons_doc_LAW_411051/

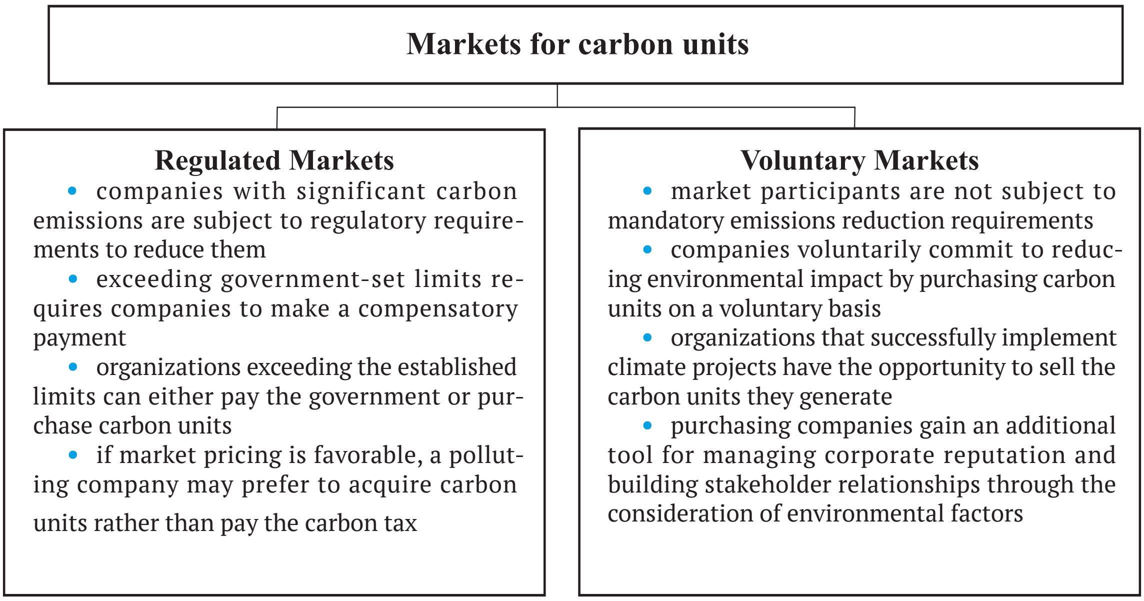

Fig. 5. **Structure of Carbon Unit Markets**

Source: compiled by the author.

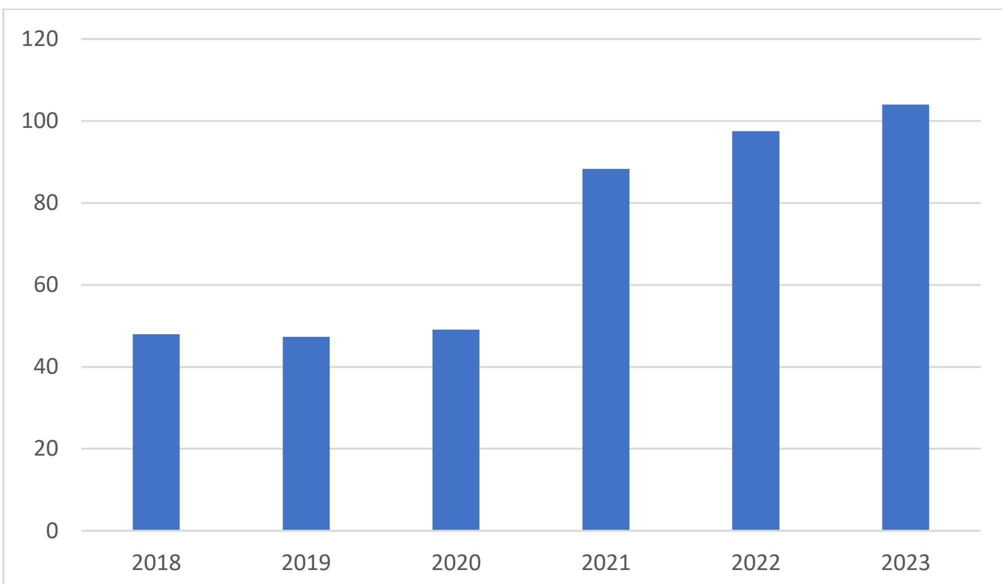

Fig. 6. **Volume of Carbon Emissions Payments, USD Billion**

Source: compiled by the author based on: URL: https://carbonpricingdashboard.worldbank.org/compliance/revenue

ment of the Russian economy, as they create new opportunities for promoting products and services of credit institutions, while creative content helps attract new clients to these platforms. In this way, they complement each other and generate synergistic effects.

The development of creative industries allows for the creation of new jobs and the implementation of innovations, which is particularly important for the growth of small and medium-sized enterprises, linking the social sphere, business, and government.

The creative economy possesses significant innovative potential and the capacity to produce intellectual products with high added value. Creative industries also have substantial opportunities to expand exports, which does not require major infrastructure investments, since many products

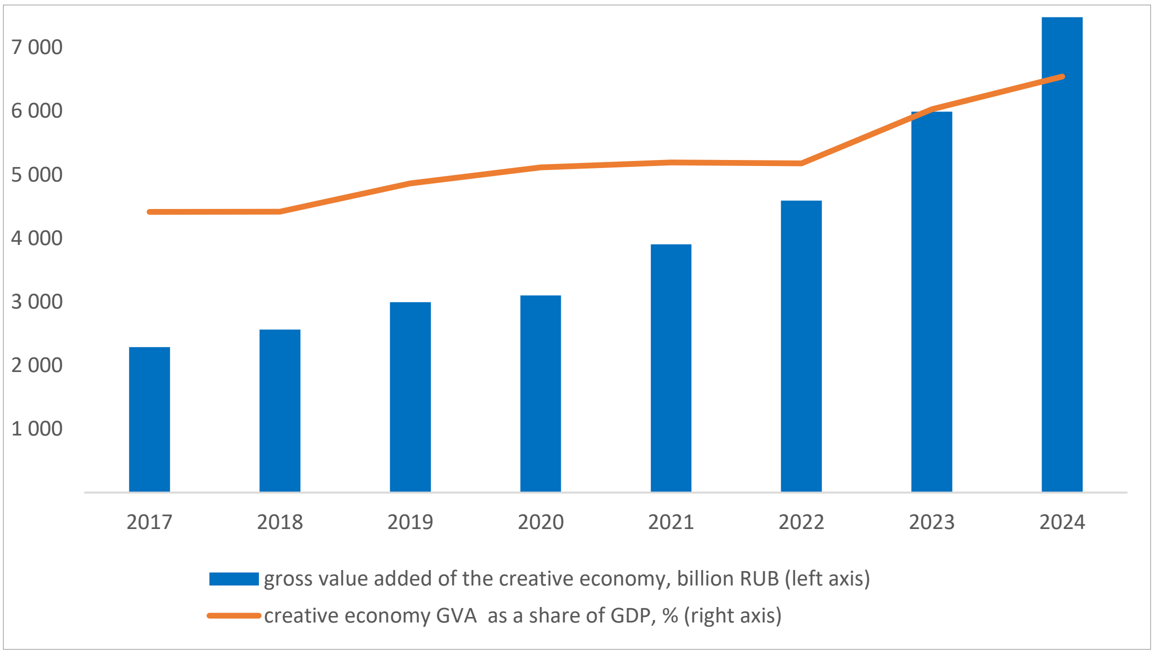

Fig. 7. **Development of the Creative Economy in Russia**

Source: compiled by the author based on: URL: https://rosstat.gov.ru/storage/mediabank/VDS_ce-OKVED2_VVP.xlsx

are created in digital format and can be distributed through remote sales channels. At the same time, there are prospects for further development, which necessitate strengthened cooperation among the government, business, and cultural, scientific, and educational institutions (see *Fig. 7*).

Domestic companies possess significant potential for implementing digital technologies necessary for the development and promotion of the outputs of creative industries, which, however, still require state support in the context of a substantial increase in interest rates in the Russian credit market and the limited lending capacity of banks.

Support measures implemented at the federal and regional levels should help eliminate barriers that hinder the development of the creative economy, including:

- insufficient financial resources at the early stages of creative companies' operations;
- infrastructure limitations;
- a shortage of skilled personnel;
- difficulties in promoting creative products;
- underutilization of existing human capital [19].

Addressing these challenges requires both general fiscal policy measures (such as further increases in budget spending on education, science, and culture) and targeted instruments of state support. Budgetary financing should ensure the training of personnel for the creative economy and the development of specialists' creative potential.

Currently, investment in research and development (R&D) does not correspond to the objectives of transforming the Russian economy toward sustainable development and enhancing the potential of creative industries (see *Fig. 8*). Based on the experience of developed countries, it is important to increase R&D expenditures to 3% of GDP through improved mechanisms of cooperation between the state and business [20], which is necessary due to the high level of state involvement in the Russian economy and the limited capacity of private companies under adverse external and internal conditions.

Targeted support measures for the creative economy within the framework of sustainable development should help overcome institutional and infrastructural constraints in this sector. To achieve this, it is important to activate mechanisms at the federal and regional levels for providing grant support to creative teams at the

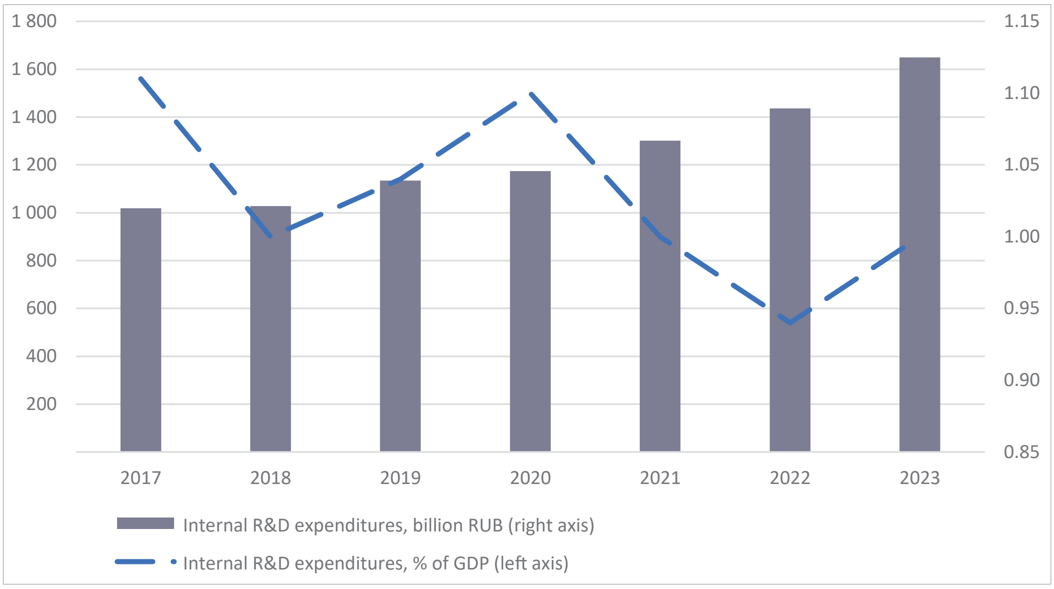

Fig. 8. **Domestic R&D Expenditures in Russia [in RUB Billion and % of GDP)**

Source: compiled by the author based on: URL: https://rosstat.gov.ru/storage/mediabank/nauka_5.xlsx

early stages of their activities. In particular, the following instruments appear to be appropriate:

- provision of grants, which will help alleviate challenges related to accessing financing;
- consideration of the specific characteristics of creative companies when developing support programs for small and medium-sized enterprises;
- creation of conditions for the promotion and sale of creative products through state compensation of expenses associated with participation in exhibitions and promotion on platforms and ecosystems;
- use of preferential lending programs and partial compensation of costs for acquiring equipment necessary for producing creative products;
- establishment of incentives to strengthen cooperation between educational institutions and the creative sector;
- partial compensation of training costs for employees of creative companies.

The creation of new infrastructural opportunities for the development of creative companies requires the coordinated efforts of businesses, regional authorities, and federal government bodies to establish new clusters based on public-private partnerships. Such partnerships involve attracting private investors, financing projects through development institutions, and utilizing co-financing mechanisms provided by the state.

A key role in consolidating the efforts of market participants is played by the state corporation VEB.RF, which ensures the coordination and management of Russian development institutions to create favorable conditions for economic growth, the implementation of innovations, infrastructure projects, increased exports, the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, and the promotion of the sustainable development agenda.

VEB.RF possesses financial products crucial for the development of the sustainable creative economy, including instruments for supporting small and medium-sized enterprises, Russian exports, and public-private partnership projects, as well as preferential lending programs.

Creative clusters are complexes in which companies in this sector conduct their activities. Expanding the network of such clusters will enhance the efficiency of interaction among scientific and educational institutions, creative companies, the state, and consumers. In the context of accelerated innovation, mechanisms for cooperation among the government, society, and the corporate sector are of key importance for economic transformation [21].

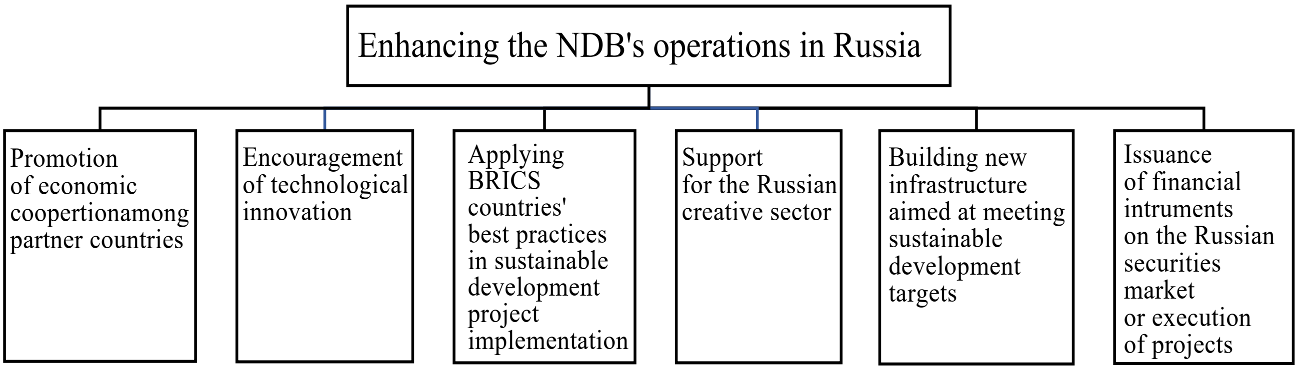

Fig. 9. **Utilizing the Potential of the BRICS NDB for the Sustainable Transformation of the Russian Economy**

Source: compiled by the author.

State investments in the creation of creative clusters will contribute to the formation of new value chains and attract additional participants to the sector. The development of creative clusters is also important for adapting state support instruments to remove informational barriers, organize creative spaces, develop high value-added innovative products, foster the emergence of new high-tech companies, and increase the export potential of innovative industries.

Given the vital role of the creative sector in transforming the economy toward sustainable development, it is important to establish a governmental body responsible for interdepartmental cooperation and coordination of efforts among the Russian Government, regional authorities, and development institutions.

FORMING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA WITHIN BRICS

Expanding cooperation with BRICS countries in the field of sustainable development will allow Russian companies to attract additional investment, enter new markets, and implement joint projects in this area. The formation of a common agenda will be facilitated by mutual recognition of sustainability ratings (currently, differences in methodologies hinder their comparability and use), creating additional opportunities for Russian companies to access BRICS markets.

To align the sustainable development policies of member countries, coordination of approaches in assessing climate risks and regulating the issuance of necessary debt instruments is essential. Attracting investors from friendly countries to the Russian financial market will support the mutual recognition of sustainability reporting by issuers of sustainable bonds.

Leveraging the opportunities provided by the New Development Bank (NDB) of BRICS is important for creating conditions for the growth of the Russian economy within a sustainable development model (see *Fig. 9*). NDB investments will help consolidate the efforts of Russian companies, banks, and organizations from friendly countries to finance projects in renewable energy, environmental protection, digital transformation, and social infrastructure. Expanding the NDB's activities in Russia will increase demand for the Russian financial market and raise the volume of sustainable development instruments in circulation.

The development of a unified BRICS taxonomy for sustainable development projects and the mutual recognition of national taxonomies in this field will create conditions for attracting investment to the Russian economy and improve the quality of project evaluation and their impact on environmental and social outcomes. China, Russia, and South Africa have adopted corresponding taxonomies, while India and Brazil are in the process of approval.

A unified taxonomy is also important for regulators to provide state support based on compliance with sustainability criteria. In its development, it is necessary to consider the successful experience of project implementation in BRICS countries and harmonize approaches to non-financial information disclosure. This will enhance the transparency of sustainable finance and increase the potential for attracting private investment.

An important area of cooperation within BRICS is the harmonization of carbon markets, which are still in the early stages of development. China is the leader in this area, using its carbon market as one of the tools for achieving carbon neutrality. Differences in approaches prevent economic actors from fully exploiting opportunities for cooperation in this field, resulting in the inability to trade carbon units due to the lack of mechanisms for mutual recognition.

A common agenda will enable the creation of a unified BRICS carbon market. Russian companies have significant capabilities in generating carbon units, experience in issuing them in accordance with Russian standards, and in trading with foreign buyers. Consequently, their sale to organizations in member countries will promote the development of sustainable finance and attract funding for new projects.

The financial infrastructure of the BRICS carbon market should be based on the use of national currencies for settlements, which will reduce the adverse impact of geopolitical factors on the development of sustainable finance. Another important area is the possibility of using highly liquid crypto-assets, particularly Bitcoin and Ethereum, for transactions. In the medium term, the issuance of central bank digital currencies by BRICS countries will allow their use in settlements. The application of digital technologies will enhance the resilience, transparency, and security of the financial infrastructure.

Significant opportunities for BRICS countries to jointly promote the sustainable development agenda lie within the creative economy. Collaborative projects among economic actors from member states will help establish value creation chains in key sectors of the economy from a sustainable development perspective, as well as create new opportunities for cooperation in culture, environmental protection, science, and education.

A key task is state support for the cooperation of Russian creative clusters with counterparts in the creative economies of BRICS countries. The foundation for this development is the exchange of experience in successfully operating creative businesses that align with sustainable development goals. Strengthening collaboration in this area involves the implementation of joint scientific, educational, and project initiatives, facilitated by financing from the NDB and Russian development institutions.

The development of creative industries implies enhancing their export potential and ensuring the long-term presence of Russian companies in the markets of friendly countries. This requires extending existing state support measures for Russian exports to companies in the creative sector. The growth of the Russian economy in this area will increase its attractiveness to investors from friendly countries and expand companies' export opportunities. In the longer term, the creation of joint products will help form a shared BRICS creative space based on innovation, utilization of scientific and educational potential, knowledge exchange, creation and preservation of cultural values, and addressing environmental challenges.

CONCLUSION

The structural transformation of the Russian economy entails the formation of a new model of sustainable economic development, based on responsible business practices, innovation, social equity, the development of citizens' creative potential, and the preservation of a favorable environmental situation.

A crucial condition for the transition of the Russian economy to a sustainable development model is the accelerated growth of creative industries. This requires both general fiscal policy measures and targeted support instruments for creative companies. The study emphasizes the importance of consolidating the efforts of the state, business, and scientific and educational institutions.

Accelerating the structural transformation of the Russian economy in line with sustainable development goals involves the use of financial support mechanisms, including the application of reduced risk weights for loans and bonds, as determined by the Bank of Russia; subsidization of interest rates on loans and bonds; and compensation of expenses for project verification in this field. The expansion of state support practices entails linking them to achieved results, sustainability ratings, and credit ratings, as well as ensuring informational transparency through the implementation of Russian standards for non-financial information disclosure in this area. The use of public-private partnership mechanisms will attract private investors to projects and help achieve social and environmental objectives in their implementation.

The carbon regulation system is a key element of the emerging sustainable development economy in Russia. The launch of a mandatory carbon market segment and the introduction of a carbon tax will facilitate investment in green projects.

The formation of a common BRICS sustainable development agenda will be supported by the mutual recognition of sustainability ratings and national taxonomies in this field, the adoption of a unified taxonomy for sustainable development projects, and the harmonization of approaches to managing climate risks and regulating bond markets. In this context, the participation of the NDB in Russian projects is crucial for fostering cooperation with friendly countries.

The improvement of the national carbon market and its harmonization with the markets of BRICS member countries will contribute to the structural transformation of the Russian economy based on sustainable development goals. A key task is the recognition of Russian carbon units in BRICS countries and the possibility of their sale to counterparties in friendly states. The financial infrastructure of the carbon markets in member countries should be built on a broad set of settlement options, including traditional mechanisms using national currencies, private crypto-assets, and central bank digital currencies of the Union.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This article is based on research funded by the state assignment to the Financial University.

REFERENCES

1. Aggarwal R., Carapella P., Mogues T., Pico-Mejía J. Accounting for climate risks in costing the sustainable development goals. IMF Working Paper. 2024;(49). DOI: 10.5089/9798400264061.001
2. Laumann F., et al. Complex interlinkages, key objectives, and nexuses among the Sustainable Development Goals and climate change: A network analysis. *The Lancet Planetary Health*. 2022;6(5):422–430. DOI: 10.1016/S 2542-5196(22)00070-5
3. Belik I.S., Dutsinin A.S., Nikulina N.L. The managerial aspect of accounting ESG factors in assessing the value of a company. *Finance: Theory and Practice*. 2023;27(6):161–172. DOI: 10.26794/2587-5671-2023-27-6-161-172
4. Sun X., Xiong X. ESG performance and corporate innovation. *Research in International Business and Finance*. 2025;76:102817. DOI: 10.1016/j.ribaf.2025.102817
5. Burakov N.A., Slavinskaya O.A. Creative industries: Economic growth and labor markets. *Zhurnal Novoi ekonomicheskoi assotsiatsii = Journal of the New Economic Association*. 2022;(2):234–242. (In Russ.). DOI: 10.31737/2221-2264-2022-54-2-15
6. Avdeeva D. The contribution of human capital to economic growth in Russia. *Ekonomicheskii zhurnal Vysshei shkoly ekonomiki = HSE Economic Journal*. 2024;28(1):9–43. (In Russ.). DOI: 10.17323/1813-8691-2024-28-1-9-43
7. Krinichansky K.V., Rubtsov B.B. Methodological issues in analyzing financial development in the context of ESG. *Finance: Theory and Practice*. 2024;28(6):210–222. DOI: 10.26794/2587-5671-2024-28-6-210-222
8. Goel R., et al. Sustainable finance in emerging markets: Evolution, challenges, and policy priorities. IMF Working Paper. 2022;(182). DOI: 10.5089/9798400218101.001
9. Klyuchnikov I.K., Sigova M.V., Klyuchnikov O.I. Sustainable financial instruments: Their current state and prospects. *Ekonomicheskaya politika = Economic Policy*. 2023;18(4):78–107. (In Russ.). DOI: 10.18288/1994-5124-2023-4-78-107

10. Xing X., et al. The interactive impact of green supporting factors on bank credit creation: An agent-based stock-flow consistent approach. *The North American Journal of Economics and Finance*. 2024;69B:101994. DOI: 10.1016/j.najef.2023.101994
11. Miroshnichenko O.S., Brand N.A. Banks financing the green economy: A review of current research. *Finance: Theory and Practice*. 2021;25(2):76–95. DOI: 10.26794/2587-5671-2021-25-2-76-95
12. Chernysheva T.K. European approaches to the development of conceptual frameworks for ESG policy. *Kontury global'nykh transformatsii: politika, ekonomika, pravo = Outlines of Global Transformations: Politics, Economics, Law*. 2024;17(1):136–155. (In Russ.). DOI: 10.31249/kgt/2024.01.08
13. Aramonte S., Packer F. Information governance in sustainable finance. BIS Paper. 2022;(132). URL: https://www.bis.org/publ/bppdf/bispap132.pdf
14. Danilov Yu.A. Building long-term trust in sustainable finance. *Ekonomicheskaya politika = Economic Policy*. 2023;18(5):122–147. (In Russ.). DOI: 10.18288/1994-5124-2023-5-122-147
15. MacDonald M., Parry I. Policy options for climate change mitigation: Emissions trading schemes in Asia-Pacific. IMF Working Paper. 2024;(155). DOI: 10.5089/9798400282188.001
16. Pigou A.C. The economics of welfare. 4th ed. London: Macmillan and Co., Ltd; 1932. 983 p. URL: http://pombo.free.fr/pigou1920.pdf
17. Rahman Z.U., Khan W., Hussain D. The role of carbon taxing and green innovation in achieving decarbonization goals in global South. *Journal of Tax Reform*. 2024;10(3):524–538. DOI: 10.15826/jtr.2024.10.3.182
18. Abankina T.V. Creative economy in Russia: New trends. *Zhurnal Novoi ekonomicheskoi assotsiatsii = Journal of the New Economic Association*. 2022;(2):221–228. (In Russ.). DOI: 10.31737/2221-2264-2022-54-2-13
19. Auzan A.A., Bakhtigaraeva A.I., Bryzgalin V.A. Development of Russia's creative economy in the context of modern challenges. *Zhurnal Novoi ekonomicheskoi assotsiatsii = Journal of the New Economic Association*. 2022;(2):213–220. (In Russ.). DOI: 10.31737/2221-2264-2022-54-2-12
20. Shirov A.A. Development of the Russian economy in the medium term: Risks and opportunities. *Studies on Russian Economic Development*. 2023;34(2):159–166. (In Russ.: *Problemy prognozirovaniya.* 2023;(2):3–17. DOI: 10.47711/0868-6351-197-6-17).
21. Margolin A.M., Vyakina I.V. Risks, threats and mechanisms of management systems ESG-transformation. *MIR (Modernizatsiya. Innovatsii. Razvitie) = MIR (Modernization. Innovation. Research)*. 2022;13(3):352–368. (In Russ.). DOI: 10.18184/2079–4665.2022.13.3.352-368

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dmitry M. Sakharov — Cand. Sci. (Econ.), Associate Professor at the Department of World Economy and Global Finance, Financial University under the Government of the Russian Federation, Moscow, Russian Federation
https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0628-0133
dmsakharov@fa.ru

Conflicts of Interest Statement: The author has no conflicts of interest to declare.

The article was received on 17.01.2025; revised on 03.02.2025 and accepted for publication on 20.03.2025. The author read and approved the final version of the manuscript.