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## TERMINOLOGICAL ACTIVITY OF THE LEXEME “SUSTAINABLE” IN THE UZBEK ECOLOGICAL DISCOURSE

Ismoilova Sevinch Nurulla kizi

Student of Shakhrisabz State Pedagogical Institute

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### Abstract

This article examines the terminological activity of the lexeme “sustainable” in Uzbek ecological discourse. It explores its semantic expansion, its role in forming terminological combinations, and its functions in modern communication from linguistic, discursive, and conceptual perspectives.

**Keywords:** Regulative concept, collocation possibility, terminological centralization, legitimation, valence, intertextual feature, regulative concept

### Introduction

With the development of ecological discourse in the modern Uzbek language, some lexemes are gaining special terminological activity. One such unit is the lexeme “sustainable”, which has become one of the main semantic elements widely used in environmental, economic and social contexts. This lexeme appears as an important tool in expressing global problems and development concepts related to ecology. The initial dictionary meaning of the lexeme “stable” refers to such concepts as “firm”, “continuous”, “maintained in a stable state”. However, in the ecological discourse, its semantic volume has expanded and acquired new conceptual content. Especially through the combination of “sustainable development”, this lexeme has been formed as an important term on a global scale. This situation shows the growing terminological activity of the lexeme.

### Literature review

Linguistically, the lexeme “sustainable” actively participates in various terminological combinations. It determines the semantic direction of the main



concept as a defining component. For example, in units such as sustainable economy, sustainable energy, sustainable environment, this lexeme serves as a means of clarifying the main concept. This shows that he has a high combinatory ability. From the discursive point of view, the lexeme “sustainable” is actively used in political, scientific and journalistic speech. In political discourse it is used to justify development strategies, and in scientific discourse it is used as a specific term. In the media discourse, it affects the audience as a positive evaluative unit. Therefore, this lexeme is communicatively multifunctional. Based on the cognitive approach, the lexeme “sustainable” forms certain conceptual structures in the human mind. These structures include ideas such as balance, continuity, rational use of resources, and future-proofing. This process is explained within the framework of cognitive linguistics and shows that language units are inextricably linked with thinking. The semantic properties of the lexeme “sustainable” are characterized by the fact that it has an evaluative component. Concepts expressed by this lexeme usually have a positive connotation and are supported by society. Therefore, it is widely used in advertising and social communication. The active use of the lexeme “sustainable” in ecological discourse also shows its connection with international terminology.

### **Research Methodology**

Michael Halliday is a famous British linguist and one of the founders of the theory of functional linguistics. He interpreted language as a social semiotic system and deeply researched the issues of discourse and communication. His views serve as an important methodological basis for analyzing the communicative function of the lexeme “sustainable” in ecological discourse [2]. Norman Fairclough is one of the leading representatives of critical discourse analysis. The scientist studied the connection between language and power and highlighted the ideological features of the discourse [3].

### **Analysis and Results**

As the Uzbek equivalent of the English term “sustainable”, this lexeme has become an integral part of the global discourse. This process reflects the nationalization of acquired concepts in the language system. Also, the lexeme



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“sustainable” acquires a different semantic load in different styles. In scientific texts, it is used in a clear and strict sense, while in journalistic texts, it has a broader and more emotional meaning. In colloquial speech, it is used as a unit expressing a general positive assessment. This shows his stylistic flexibility. As a result, the lexeme “sustainable” is formed as one of the central terminological units in the Uzbek ecological discourse and it is determined that it has a high level of linguistic, semantic and discursive activity. It plays an important role in creating new terms in the language system, expressing conceptual content and forming social consciousness. To better understand the terminological activity of the lexeme “sustainable”, it is important to analyze its collocational possibilities. This lexeme is combined with various nouns in ecological discourse, forming strong terminological units. Among these compounds, constructions such as “sustainable development”, “sustainable resource management”, “sustainable energy system” stand out. Such collocations are strengthened as a term and semantically standardized as a result of their high frequency of use in the language system.

Another important aspect of the lexeme “sustainable” is its grammatical flexibility. As an adjective, it actively participates in various syntactic constructions and performs the function of a determiner in the structure of a sentence. At the same time, in some cases it undergoes the process of substantivization and is used as an independent semantic unit. This shows its functional breadth in the language system. The terminological centralization of the lexeme “sustainable” is also observed in the ecological discourse. That is, the units formed on the basis of this lexeme form the core of a whole semantic field. Other terms are placed around this field and they create a semantic relationship between them. For example, units such as “sustainability”, “sustainable system”, “sustainable strategy” function as complementary elements. Discursively, the lexeme “sustainable” is often used as a means of legitimation. In political and official discourse, certain decisions or projects are presented positively through this lexeme. For example, phrases such as “sustainable development agenda” increase the importance of initiatives and create the basis for their support by society. This shows the mechanism of social influence of language. The process of abstraction plays an important role in the semantic development of the lexeme



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“sustainable”. This unit, which originally expressed a specific situation, now has a broader and generalized meaning. It means not only ecological balance, but also stability of economic and social systems. This shows that the conceptual size of the lexeme has expanded. From a cognitive point of view, the lexeme “sustainable” is understood based on the metaphor of balance in the human mind. That is, the concept of stability is connected with the fact that the system is in balance and does not undergo excessive changes. This situation is explained by conceptual metaphor within the framework of cognitive semantics.

Also, the interdiscursive nature of the lexeme “sustainable” deserves attention. It is actively used in ecological, economic, political and social discourses at the same time. In each discourse, it has its own semantic and pragmatic color. This shows the universality and wide functional possibilities of the lexeme. Another important aspect of the lexeme “sustainable” is its degree of standardization. This unit is currently not only a scientific term, but also an active element of the national lexicon. This process is related to its high frequency of use and wide social acceptance. The use of the lexeme “sustainable” in ecological discourse is also explained by its evaluative and axiological function. Concepts expressed by this lexeme are usually evaluated positively and certain values are promoted through them. This shows that language units are closely related to the system of social values. As a result, the lexeme “sustainable” has a high level of terminological activity in the Uzbek ecological discourse, and it is manifested as a complex and multifaceted phenomenon linguistically, cognitively and discursively. Its in-depth analysis makes it possible to make important scientific results in modern linguistics and shows how ecological consciousness is formed through language. Of course, the following is a new, completely unrepeatable and scientifically more in-depth continuation of your article: it is important to consider the diachronic development of the lexeme “sustainable” in order to reveal more deeply its activity in the ecological discourse. Initially, this lexeme represented physical or social stability as a universal unit, but over time it became the central term of the ecological and global development paradigm. This process shows the development of existing units in the language system by acquiring a new semantic load.



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Also, the mechanism of calking plays an important role in the terminological activity of the lexeme “sustainable”. As a result of the translation of the English term “sustainable” into the Uzbek language in the form of “sustainable”, new terminological combinations have emerged. This reflects the process of adaptation of concepts in the global discourse to the national language. Linguistically, the valence characteristics of the lexeme “sustainable” are also worthy of attention. It has the ability to combine freely with words belonging to different semantic groups and create new terms. For example, it is combined with words such as economy, energy, development, environment, politics and creates terminological units related to different fields. This shows its high combinatory potential. The pragmatic power of the lexeme “sustainable” is also of particular importance in ecological discourse. When this lexeme is used in speech, it not only provides information, but also expresses a certain social position. For example, the phrase “sustainable policy” means not only a political strategy, but also that it is positive and promising. This shows the evaluative and effective function of language units.

Cognitively, the lexeme “sustainable” forms a pattern of systematicity and continuity in the human mind. In this model, the concept of stability is connected with the long-term equilibrium of the system. This process is explained through the cognitive model, that is, complex knowledge structures are created in the human mind through language units. A broader analysis of the discursive functions of the lexeme “sustainable”, which also serves as an agenda-shaping tool. George Lakoff is an American cognitive linguist who made a great contribution to the development of metaphor theory. He proved that human thinking is formed through a metaphorical system [5]. Lakoff’s views serve as a scientific basis for explaining the connection between the concept of “sustainability” and the metaphors of balance and continuity. Einar Haugen is a linguist who brought the concept of “language ecology” into scientific circulation. He studied the interaction of language with society, culture and environment [6].

In the media and political speech, certain issues are shown as important and brought to the public’s attention through this lexeme. This strengthens its role in the communicative strategy. Also important is the intertextual nature of the



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lexeme “sustainable”. It is used repeatedly in various texts, documents and speech genres, forming a common semantic field. This serves to strengthen it as a term and provides a single understanding. The use of the lexeme “sustainable” in ecological discourse combines its normative and ideological functions. On the one hand, it has a clear meaning as a scientific term, and on the other hand, it is used as an ideological unit representing a certain system of values. This shows the inextricable connection between language and ideology. Another important aspect is the transnational nature of the lexeme “sustainable”. It is a form of a globally used concept adapted to a national language, and is used in different languages with a similar semantic load. This shows its universality and importance in international terminology. As a result, the lexeme “sustainable” has a high level of terminological activity in the Uzbek ecological discourse, and it forms a complex system linguistically, cognitively, pragmatically and discursively. A comprehensive analysis of this lexeme allows to draw important scientific conclusions in modern linguistics and provides a deeper understanding of how ecological concepts are expressed through language.

Of course, below is a completely new, unreplicated and more in-depth scientific analysis for your article. This part does not repeat previous material and expands the topic in new directions. In order to shed more light on the terminological activity of the lexeme “sustainable” in the environmental discourse, it is important to analyze its chain of derivational expansion. Based on this lexeme, not only simple combinations, but also complex terminological structures are formed. For example, multi-component units such as “sustainable development strategy”, “sustainable management system”, “sustainable energy transformation” show that this lexeme has become an expanding center in the terminological system. This leads to the emergence of complex terminological constructions in the language system. Semantic prototyping of the lexeme “sustainable” is also observed in ecological discourse. That is, the concepts expressed by this lexeme are perceived on the basis of a specific prototype. This prototype usually includes features such as “balanced system”, “long-term development” and “break-free operation”. As a result, new terms are understood and interpreted on the basis of this prototype. Also, the activity of the lexeme “sustainable” in the ecological discourse is related to its semiotic expansion. Ruth



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Wodak is a renowned scholar of discourse analysis and political communication. He deeply studied the pragmatic and communicative aspects of discourse [4]. Wodak's scientific approach is useful in analyzing the usage characteristics of the lexeme "sustainable" in different discourses. Nizamiddin Makhmudov is one of the most mature representatives of Uzbek linguistics and authored important scientific works on the relationship between language and thought. He highlighted the connection of language with human thinking and social consciousness [10]. This lexeme is often used not only in language units, but also in visual symbols, logos and brand names. This shows that it is moving beyond the linguistic boundary and entering a wider communicative system.

Another important aspect of the lexeme "sustainable" is its role in argumentative discourse. This lexeme is often used as a key concept in the process of proof. For example, the concept of "sustainability" is cited as a central argument in the justification of environmental policy. This increases his logical and persuasive power in speech. From the linguistic point of view, the colligative features of the lexeme "sustainable" are also worthy of attention. It not only combines with certain words, but also has an advantage in certain grammatical constructions. For example, constructions such as "ensuring sustainable development", "creating a sustainable system" show its active syntactic participation. Normative-pragmatic balance of the lexeme "sustainable" is also an important issue in ecological discourse. On the one hand, it should have a clear meaning as a scientific term, and on the other hand, it should be understandable and effective for a wide audience. Therefore, this lexeme provides a balance between scientific accuracy and communicative efficiency. Cognitively, the lexeme "sustainable" appears as a regulatory concept in human thinking. That is, it acts as a normative concept that directs human activity in a certain direction. This process is explained on the basis of cognitive theory and shows the role of language in social management.

In the discursive activity of the lexeme "sustainable", its rhetorical potential is also important. This lexeme creates a positive background in the speech, helps to convince the audience and encourages them to accept certain ideas. Therefore, it is often used in political and social discourse. Terminological clustering of the lexeme "sustainable" is also observed. That is, a set of interconnected terms is



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formed around this lexeme. These clusters form the structural basis of ecological discourse and serve to systematize knowledge. As a result, the lexeme “sustainable” is formed as a versatile and highly active terminological unit in the Uzbek ecological discourse, performing important functions at different levels of the language system. Its in-depth analysis creates an important scientific basis for modern linguistic research and allows for a clearer understanding of how environmental concepts are expressed through language. Its corpus and statistical analysis are of great importance in further revealing the activity of the lexeme “sustainable” in the ecological discourse. In modern linguistic studies, the frequency of use of this lexeme, its combination model and contextual environments are determined based on the base of various texts. Such an analysis shows that the lexeme “sustainable” has increased dramatically in recent years, especially in political and journalistic discourse, and this indicates an increase in its terminological activity. Semantic differentiation of the lexeme “sustainable” is also observed. That is, it expresses different nuances of meaning in different contexts. In ecological discourse, it means more rational use of resources and balance, while in economic discourse it means long-term development and sustainable growth. This shows the breadth of the semantic scope of the lexeme. Another important aspect of the lexeme “sustainable” in ecological discourse is its ability to form a terminological network. The units formed on the basis of this lexeme form an interconnected system. For example, units such as sustainable development, sustainable politics, sustainable energy operate in a single conceptual space. This indicates the formation of a new terminological microsystem in the language system. Discursively, the lexeme “sustainable” is also used as a reputational and image-building tool. Organizations, states and companies use this lexeme widely to show their activities in a positive way. For example, phrases like “sustainable development policy” or “sustainable project” create a positive image. This once again confirms the role of language in strategic communication. From a cognitive point of view, the lexeme “sustainable” forms a future-oriented concept in human thinking. Through it, a person understands ideas such as taking into account long-term results, saving resources and maintaining balance. This process is explained on the basis of the future model within the framework of cognitive linguistics. Another aspect of the lexeme



“sustainable” is its level of terminological standardization. This lexeme is currently widely used in scientific literature, official documents and international materials, and has been established as a stable term. This strengthens its normative status in the language system. In addition, the linguistic and cultural characteristics of the lexeme “sustainable” are also important. Through it, the ecological values, cultural views and development strategies of the society are expressed. This shows the inextricable connection between language and culture. As a result, the lexeme “sustainable” has a high level of terminological activity in the Uzbek ecological discourse, and it appears as a complex linguistic unit operating at different levels of the language system.

### **Conclusion/Recommendations**

In the Uzbek ecological discourse, the lexeme “sustainable” was formed as one of the central terminological units of the modern language system. Although this lexeme initially had a general dictionary meaning, today it is actively used as an important term in the ecological, economic and social spheres. Linguistically, the lexeme “sustainable” has a high combinatory potential and plays an important role in the formation of various terminological combinations. Semantically, it has a multi-layered meaning and expresses different subtleties of meaning in different discourses. Discursively, this lexeme is used as an important communicative tool in political, scientific and media discourse. Through it, social ideas are promoted, strategies are based, and a positive image is created. Cognitively, the lexeme “sustainable” forms the concepts of balance, continuity and future provision in human thinking. Therefore, it plays an important role in the development of environmental awareness. In general, the lexeme “sustainable” has a high level of terminological activity in the Uzbek ecological discourse, and it is manifested as a linguistic, cognitive and discursive complex phenomenon.

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