

Special issue "Global Environment: Approaches from the Perspective of Economics"

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Editorial

This special issue of DDNS contains papers unified by the one general topic "Global Environment: Approaches from the Perspective of Economics," which is the main topic of research of the CRUGE (Chuo University Research Unit for Global Environment), headed by Professor Hirofumi Uzawa. The guest editors of this volume are senior researchers of the CRUGE. In this issue nine scientific papers are presented by researchers from Germany, United States, Singapore, Sweden, Austria, England, Israel and Japan.. The main purpose of the issue is to investigate the following question: what can economics say now about the environmental problems. All papers deal with the same problem of global environment in the different approaches. In particular, the papers consider a wide variety of economic models; a model on environmental policies in less developing countries, a model on sustainable growth with resource constraints, a growth model with endogenous technology and environmental change, a dynamic model on capital accumulation and changes in environmental quality, and a model on a small island economy. The papers are united by the topic of "dynamics" (in many cases within the framework of the discrete space-time dynamics), but economic theories used in the papers covers a wide range from the input-output analysis, optimal growth theory, and endogenous growth theory to nonlinear dynamics involving chaos theory and catastrophe theory. The papers make a scientific as well as intellectual contribution to analysis of global environment. The results presented and methods provided are useful to make policy proposals on the environmental issues.

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