

‘Russian approaches to the concept of Sustainable Development’,

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**Abstract**

This presentation explores key aspects of Russia’s understanding of the concept of Sustainable Development. The presentation begins by outlining official interpretations of the concept as detailed in recent legislative and policy documents. It is argued that while much of the associated rhetoric has overlap with Anglo-American interpretations of Sustainable Development, the official documentation also reflects elements specific to the Russian Federation. The presentation proceeds to examine the evident gap between policy and practice drawing attention to conceptual weaknesses and ongoing practical difficulties. The concluding section reviews these shortcomings in order to advance possible remedial activity over the short- medium-term.