



Sustainability and the Environmental Kuznets Curve Conjecture

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Message from the Guest Editor

The Environmental Kuznets Curve (EKC) hypothesis implies the existence of an inverted U-shaped relation between environmental damage (generally represented by emission or concentration of various pollutants) and economic development (generally represented by per capita income). If true, this would imply that higher levels of economic growth might lead to environmental improvement and enhance sustainability. However, such a relation between environment and development remains a conjecture, and the virtuous path of sustainable growth is far from being proved.

First, knowing that environmental regulations in developed countries might further encourage displacement of polluting activities toward developing countries, is that Pollution Haven Hypothesis (PHH) visible in specific countries? Additionally, what is the sustainability impact of trade, economic policies or environmental policies?





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