

# SREDSTVA ŽIVOTNE POLISE ZA ZAŠTITU ŽIVOTNE SREDINE

## TOOLS OF ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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### Summary

The objective of the contribution is to point out the broad range of environmental policy tools, which can be used to protect environment. These tools include: standards, financial and economic tools having the form of environmental payments, emissions trading and voluntary agreements. Differences in implemented tools generate different economic efficiency and environmental effectiveness.

Environmental taxes stimulate polluters to reduce emissions in cases when costs of their reduction are lower than the environmental tax they are obliged to pay. The stimulative function of environmental taxes needs to be continuously evaluated so that it does not prevent the flexibility of polluters in looking for cost-effective ways of reduction of the burden on environment. The practice of environmental policy tools implementation confirms that environmental protection solely in the form of environmental taxes is rare. Environmental taxes are normally enforced in combination with other environmental policy tools, which include standards, custom duties as well as voluntary tools. Voluntary tools are characterised as voluntary activities of polluters. They include environmental management systems and others.

**Keywords:** environmental policy, environmental effectiveness, environmental taxes, economic tools, voluntary tools

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