Chapter 1
Systemic Factors and Prerequisites for the Inclusive Growth of the Russian Economy

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Abstract The chapter provides the conditions for the transition of the Russian economy and society to inclusive systemic growth. The essential systemic components of the socio-economic space of Russia are determined. The transformation of these components is necessary for the transition to systemic inclusive growth. Two points of view on the socio-economic space of Russia are considered, which are of particular importance for the change to inclusive growth. The first is a system-wide point of view wherein the Russian economy is represented in the form of four systemic sectors interacting with each other in a chain: "the object sector—the environment sector—the process sector—the project sector." The second point of view represents society in the form of four relatively independent macro-entities. The interaction between these entities is also carried out along the chain: "state—society—economy—business." Taken together, the study of the two above-mentioned structures makes it possible to determine the directions of the systemic transformation of society, ensuring movement toward inclusive growth.

1.1 Introduction

The concept of inclusive growth as a target function of socio-economic development entered public discourse in the early 2010s. Usually, inclusive growth is understood as "long-term sustainable growth in productivity and employment, opportunities for a wide range of firms and households" [1]. The concept of inclusive growth is often reduced to the even distribution of income among different population segments [2].

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In our opinion, the increasing complexity of the socio-economic and administrative-political space structure, which is rapidly covering Russia and most of the world's developed countries, requires a transition to a more accurate perception of inclusive growth. It should be considered as a coherent and synchronous development of all significant society components, not just firms and households. To determine the main activities that support inclusive economic growth, one should analyze the structure of society, highlighting the elements and connections in it that are essential for social growth, and determine the conditions for their inclusive development. If the integral concept of economic growth does not require such structuring in the general case, then inclusive growth is bound to rely on such structuring.

The problem of inclusive growth is of particular importance for the Russian economy and society. Over the past decades, the Russian economy has alternately transitioned from crisis to stagnation. At the same time, both the crisis and stagnation affected various segments of the population, various industries, and territories of the country in different ways. The economic downturn affected the population's poorest segments to the greatest extent. In contrast, economic growth led to additional enrichment for the upper class, which is already characterized by high incomes. According to BCG, less than 0.0001% of the adult population in Russia (about 500 "super-rich" citizens) own 40% of all financial assets of Russians, or more than $ 600 billion [3]. Therefore, it is not just growth that is important for Russia but also the inclusive and systemic growth of the economy and society. But, unfortunately, a similar phenomenon of uneven development occurs in almost all economic components: the economic theory, economic policy, system and methods of economic management, and national economy. In each area and the relationship between them, systemic problems have emerged that require systemic solutions. Moreover, serious tensions permeate Russian society as well. Relations between people, organizations, and social groups are increasingly acquiring the character of mutual bitterness. Meanwhile, the principal attention of the leaders of both government agencies and organizations and business structures at all economic levels is concentrated mainly on formulating and solving immediate local tasks. Many of these tasks are purely bureaucratic and are associated with the achievement of secondary formal indicators. Therefore, it is necessary to move from traditional methods and one-sided approaches to managing social production to meaningful conceptual criteria and systemic means of ensuring socio-economic development.

In this chapter, we identify the essential systemic components of the socio-economic space of Russia, the transformation of which is necessary for the transition to systemic inclusive growth. The main strategic goals, which should become guidelines on the chosen path, are substantiated. Two points of view on the socio-economic space of Russia are considered, which are of particular importance for the change to inclusive growth. The first is a system-wide point of view wherein the Russian economy is represented in the form of four systemic sectors interacting with each other in a chain: "the object sector—the environment sector—the process sector—the project sector." The second point of view represents society in the form of four relatively independent macro-entities. The interaction between these entities is also carried out along the chain: "state—society—economy—business." Taken

together, the study of the two above-mentioned structures makes it possible to determine the directions of the systemic transformation of society, ensuring movement toward inclusive growth.

1.2 Methodology

We proceed from the assumption that the concept of inclusive growth should be based on one or another theoretical paradigm that determines the vision of the structure of social development. This chapter adopts a systemic paradigm as a scientific basis for the study, which considers society as a set of interacting and transforming socio-economic systems [4, 5]. Analysis of the structure of such systems' internal content and external environment allows one to determine the components, the development of which is critical for inclusive growth [6]. Thus, it is systemic inclusive growth that should act as the general goal of social development. Note that only in the simplest cases, the system's growth is the sum of the growth of its components. In more complex cases, the result is a complex function of the constituents. In this case, it is crucial to distinguish between integral growth and systemic growth. In the latter case, we should talk about the growth of components ("summands") and the transformation of connections between these components. When this is the case, genuinely systemic, inclusive growth emerges.

1.3 Inclusive Growth: A Systemic View

The systems paradigm underlying this study presents each country's economy as a "system of systems" [7, 8].

Here is the information necessary to further present the features and classification of socio-economic systems [9]. A system is understood as a relatively stable in space and time part of the economic space–time, accessible to observation. Systems differ in their location in space and time. For the primary identification of these differences, attributes of the presence/absence of subsystem's clear boundaries in space and the presence/absence of such limitations in time are used. The corresponding grouping gives four classes (types) of subsystems of the economy:

1. *Objects* are systems with known boundaries in space and indefinite boundaries in time (example: an enterprise).
2. *Processes* are systems with indefinite boundaries in space and definite boundaries in time (example: dissemination of important information through television or radio transmission).
3. *Projects* (events) are systems with certain boundaries in space and time (example: building construction).

4. *Environments* are systems with indefinite boundaries in space and time (example: the Internet).

Thus, there are object, process, project, and environment sectors of the economy. All combined, they can be considered as components of a four-sector division of the economy.

Object-type systems (objects) have access to unlimited resources of time (T). The use of space resources thus demonstrates the inherent ability to use the available space (an intensive ability I) efficiently. Process-type systems (processes) provide unrestricted access to spatial resources S, limited reserves of time T of their functioning "without rebooting," and have an inherent ability to use it efficiently (activity abilities A). Environment-type systems (environments) have certain unambiguous spatial time boundaries, provided with unlimited access to the resources of space S and time T, but are not endowed with sufficient capabilities I, A for the efficient use of these resources. Project-type systems (projects) have limited reserves of time T and space S and sufficient capabilities A, I for the efficient use of these resources.

For the stable functioning of each subsystem, all four types of resources and abilities (S, T, A, I) are required. Uneven distribution of resources by system types leads to groupings in which systems exchange resources/abilities in abundance. Thus, the so-called tetrads appear. Tetrads are complexes consisting of four types of systems (object, process, environment, and project) that interact with each other stably [9]. In this case, the basis for the stable functioning of the tetrad is the interaction of its subsystems for the joint use of resources/abilities S, T, A, I (Fig. 1.1).

The structure of interaction of systemic sectors of the economy can be presented similarly. Let us illustrate this with the example of system analysis of production and reproduction and planning and financial cycles, i.e., the circulation of the economy's planning, production, and sale of goods and services. As a set of object systems, the object sector transfers the potential for intensive economic space use to the environment. The real bearer of this potential is the flow of goods and services that

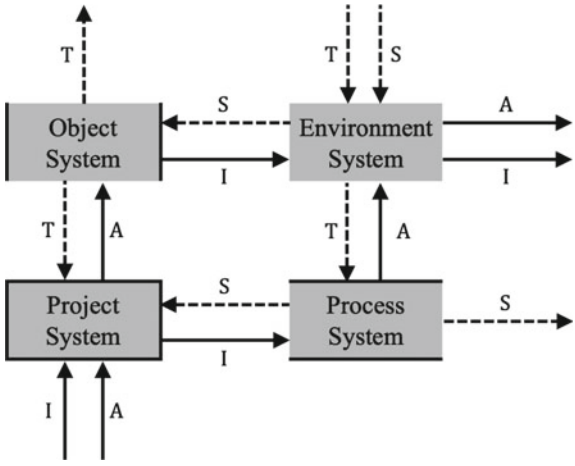


Fig. 1.1 The structure and function of the tetrad. *Source* [9]

are produced by autonomous objects and enter the environment sector for sale. The environment sector, in turn, carries out the transfer of the part of the space to the object sector. This part of space is necessary to place the results of the objects' activities outside their spatial boundaries.

Each of the projects that make up the project sector of the economy, within the framework of the corresponding tetrad, carries out activities to change the state of the object included in this tetrad. In particular, equipment is being modernized or replaced, measures are being taken to improve production technologies, and new units of equipment, raw materials, components, and labor resources are involved in production. As part of this activity, the transition to the release of new products is being carried out. Thanks to this, the object is able to use every period effectively and continue to operate indefinitely. In turn, the object provides the project with the ability to function during its life established for the project. It is due to the object's need for the project's activity results during its life and is shown in Fig. 1.1 in the form of a vertical arrow T from object to project.

The interaction of the project and process sectors is organized in the same way. Since the process does not have the inherent ability to use space efficiently, these functions are carried out through interaction with the project. On the other hand, since the functioning of the process-type system in relation to space is extensive, the processes need external sources of intensive use of each space unit. It is achieved through communication with the project sector (horizontal arrow I). In turn, the process sector provides the project space resource S for functioning. The interaction of the environment and the process sector is also carried out in two directions. The environment sector provides the process time resource T for the functioning of the processes included in the sector. The process sector also contributes an environment resource for activity A. In the context of the production and reproduction cycle, the sale of products produced by one of the elements of the object sector is included in the trading and intermediary environment within the environment sector, where the process of product sales takes place. As a result, conditions are created to complete this cycle by implementing a set of projects that support the object sector by acquiring new units of resources for simple or expanded reproduction.

The relationship between the sectors can be characterized as follows, based on the premise that the main product of the object and project sectors is goods, and the environment and process sectors is a service. These relationships are carried out using the following two chains. The first chain consists of elements: goods in the form of a material object (thing) (object sector—environment sector), a service in the form of provision of time's resource (environment sector—process sector), a service in the form of provision of space's resource (process sector—project sector), goods in the form of a material object (thing) (project sector—object sector). This chain reflects the formation of a commodity supply in the economy. In Fig. 1.1, the chain is represented by horizontal and vertical arrows, the sequence of which indicates clockwise movement. The second chain reflects the formation of demand for the goods of the object sector. The identification of individual needs for goods and services of the object sector is carried out within the framework of the project sector of the economy, after which the identified needs go through the processes of aggregation

and financing, implemented by the process sector based on the environment sector. Here, the aggregate demand for the goods of the object sector is determined in the next production and reproduction cycle, which is reflected in the level of the spatial resource that is provided by the environment sector to the object sector under the generated demand. This chain consists of movement along with the horizontal and vertical arrows in Fig. 1.1 counterclockwise. In general, both chains reflect, in a systemic context, the formation, and interaction of supply and demand in the context of production and reproduction and planning and financial economic cycles.

In accordance with the above information about the features of economic systems and systemic sectors of the economy, we conclude that inclusive systemic growth is possible if the following conditions are met:

(1) coordinated development of four sectors of the economy: object, project, process, and environment;
(2) parallel development of intersectoral interactions in the form of transfer (delivery) of space and time resources, as well as the ability to intensively use the space resource and actively use the time resource;
(3) creating a system for effectively distributing these resources and abilities, including planning and financial mechanisms and mechanisms for the accumulation and transfer of information and intellectual resources (abilities).

Obviously, for the implementation of these conditions of inclusive growth, a significant restructuring of the organization of management of the economy, the creation of modern information and consultative complexes that monitor the development of systemic sectors of the economy and the links between them, and systems of indicative planning and decision-making are required.

1.4 Inclusive Growth: The Macro-Entity View

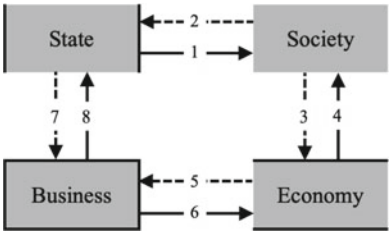
Traditionally, when structuring society's socio-economic and administrative-political space at the macro level, there are three main relatively independent macro-entities: state, society, and business. An in-depth analysis of the components of such a structure reveals a significant heterogeneity of business as a subsystem that carries out the vital activity of the economy. The concept of "business" (in a broad sense) includes such diverse activities and events as the creation and liquidation of economic entities; investment, support of financial relationships between them; work with securities; accumulation of investment funds and aggregation of investment sources; production of products using equipment, buildings, and structures; preparation of production programs; marketing and sales of manufactured products; implementation of innovations; attraction and placement of personnel and others. Studies show that this activity area consists of two qualitatively different, more or less internally homogeneous subsystems. First is the business itself as a sphere of accumulating financial resources and investment in various investment projects and securities. Second is the economy itself as a sphere of production using the means of production, labor

resources, and production knowledge. Thus, the subject area of business (in the narrow sense) is various investment projects, while the subject area of the economy (in the narrow sense) is the production and economic processes. With this approach, the following relatively independent structural components of public space are found:

- the *state* as a political system organizing the economic, social, and political life of entities located or registered in the territory of a given country;
- *society* as a population of citizens, structured with the help of various kinds of social movements and organizations located on the territory of a given country;
- the *business* as a sphere of accumulating financial resources and investing them in socio-economic projects and processes;
- the *economy* as a sphere of implementation of production processes and circulation of goods that ensure the vital activity of other components.

These four components of public space have the properties of the four types of socio-economic systems specified earlier. Namely, the state is one of the object systems; society is the number of environmental systems; the economy is process systems; the business is project systems [10]. The most significant relationships between macro-entities are shown in Fig. 1.2 [11].

With such a socio-economic space configuration, inclusive growth is ensured, on the one hand, due to the development of macro-entities of society, on the other hand, due to the institution strengthening and developing of interaction between them (arrows 1–8, Fig. 1.2).



Legend:

1 – creation of conditions for safe life and development of society;

2 – delegation of power to the state by society;

3 – provision of labor resources to the economy by society;

4 – transfer to society of material benefits necessary for its life;

5 – providing businesses with opportunities (economic niches) to finance business projects;

6 – transfer of capital resources for economic development;

7 – creating conditions for a safe life and business development;

8 – payment of taxes based on the results of business activities.

Fig. 1.2 Macro-entity structure of society. *Source* [12]

In current conditions, the inclusive development of the state involves the implementation of the following main functions.

Integration function. It consists of the organization in space and time of the activities of social, economic, and administrative-political entities and systems to ensure the unlimited continuation of the country's functioning. It includes the function of producing public goods, the function of reproduction of the resources and conditions of activity used in this case, and other subfunctions that ensure the functioning of society, the economy, and the state itself. Note that economic modernization as a whole refers in this context to the reproductive function of the state. At the same time, the reproduction function belongs to the prerogatives of the state, while the production function is the prerogative of the economy (mainly).

Institutional function. We are talking about the role of the state in the creation (borrowing, transfer, transplantation, etc.) and consolidation of institutions—formal and informal laws, rules, and norms of public life. In this case, the norm is understood as a regulation, standard, and average characteristic of a phenomenon.

Benchmarking function. The state should promote the creation or fixation of the best models of behavior (functioning) of objects of material, intellectual or artistic culture, and determine the methodology and criteria for comparison, according to which certain artifacts are exemplary. This activity presupposes, in particular, the formation of various (formal and informal, explicit, and implicit) ratings in different areas of activity. In addition, government benchmarking should be carried out concerning in-country phenomena and cross-country comparisons.

Protective function. This function aims to ensure the protection and security of territories, maintaining law and order, control over strategic material, financial, energy, information resources, and the rights of social entities (individuals) and economic entities (enterprises), including the rights to livelihoods and others.

The state, society, economy, and business interact in a fairly complicated way [12, 13] (Fig. 1.2). Economic policy mechanisms that support outsiders and "pull" them up to the basic level of development established in society must be implemented to ensure the inclusive growth of macro-entities. Public authorities should have the power to choose a strategy for socio-economic development and adjust it to ensure society's life and preserve its integrity. Citizens as subjects of society can count on a certain subsistence minimum or unconditional income, equal access to education systems, health care, etc. Business entities should be able to find reliable partners to meet the socio-economic needs of the population. Business innovation and investment projects must be ensured with equal access to finance. At present, in Russia, the state occupies a commanding position; business is relegated to second place, the economy to the third, and society to the fourth.

Ideally, the interaction structure between the state, society, economy, and business should be balanced. Four components of this structure in the course of reconstruction should a) strengthen the statuses of relatively independent macro-subjects of society; b) institutionalize specific missions related to ensuring the crisis-free current and future development of society; c) build a system of the most important relationships between macro-entities (following Fig. 1.2), ensuring equal representation of the

interests of each of the entities in the governing bodies and decision-making in the country [13].

In a normal socio-economic situation, these macro-entities are characterized by specific strategic goals or principles of behavior:

- goal of the state is sustainable unrestricted socio-economic development of society on the territory of the state;
- goal of society is ensuring well-being for us, our families, children, and grandchildren, regardless of where we live;
- goal of the economy is to combine production resources to meet the economic needs of social and economic entities;
- goal of the business is to obtain a financial result (profit) here and now.

Taken together, these attitudes ensure the implementation of consistent socio-economic development of the country within its territory on an unlimited time horizon. Disproportions in the scale and "negotiating power" of macro-entities violate this principle in spatial or temporal terms. Thus, the subordinate position of society concerning the state, the economy, and business leads to social inequality, a decrease in labor productivity, and the rejection of many creative, innovative solutions.

The inclusive systemic growth of society presupposes self-sustaining development, mutual coherence, and the absence of imbalances in the state, society, economy, and business development. Therefore, in the case of a lag in any macro-entities development, other macro-entities should contribute to their inclusion in the processes of mutual exchange of resources and support their performance of basic functions.

One of the directions of movement toward inclusive growth of the Russian economy and society should be the creation of a system that realizes the representation of the interests of these macro-entities both at the highest level of the management hierarchy and at the level of management of meso- and microeconomic systems [11, 13].

1.5 Conclusion

By now, conditions and imperatives have emerged for the Russian economy's multidimensional and multilevel systemic transformation. The fight against the consequences of the new coronavirus infection required the effective mobilization of economic resources and the ability of leaders to plan and implement socio-economic measures aimed at suppressing the pandemic and preserving essential components of the economy and business. As a result, a system of national projects has been developed, which determines the critical directions for developing the economy and society. At the same time, the content of these projects (1) does not cover all levels, and therefore, the entire volume of the Russian economy; (2) does not apply to the long term; (3) does not always answer questions about the possibility of joining some projects with each other.

In this regard, it seems that at this stage of development of the Russian economy, the priority should be not the project approach, which is now widely spread at all levels of government and often leads to an increase in the fragmentation of the economy, but the ecosystem approach focused on increasing the interdependence of various components of the economy and the degree of its integration.

In these conditions, it seems reasonable to prepare the economic doctrine of Russia as a scientific and applied document designed to form a reliable foundation for comprehensive long-term inclusive growth. Such a document should reflect the primary principles of economic policy and its implementation at basic levels of management (macro-, meso-, and microeconomic levels) to overcome the current socio-economic crisis, solve systemic problems of the economy, and enter the path of systemic inclusive growth. Therefore, the economic doctrine should reflect measures for the development of the structural components of the socio-economic space of Russia both in the general system context and in the macro-subject aspect. Such measures, as shown above, should allow, on the one hand, the provision of opportunities for the relatively independent development of the elements of these structures, provided they are balanced in terms of the volume and quality of attracted resources. On the other hand, the coordination of these structures functions to preserve the integrity of the economy and society as necessary conditions for inclusive growth.

The principle that can be called the principle of the ecosystem worldview should become fundamental in developing the economic doctrine [14]. By ecosystem, we mean "a spatially localized complex of organizations, business processes, innovative projects and infrastructure systems interacting with each other in the course of the creation and circulation of material and symbolic goods and values, capable of long-term independent functioning due to the circulation of these goods and systems and free from strictly centralized control" [15]. In accordance with the systems approach, a full-fledged ecosystem is a tetrad and includes organizational, infrastructural, communication, logistics, and innovation components. The cluster as an object subsystem represents the first component; the platform as an environment subsystem—the second component; the network as a process subsystem—the third component; and, finally, the business incubator as a project subsystem—the fourth component. Therefore, the ecosystem model in the form of a tetrad is an effective tool for studying the behavior and structure of ecosystems, determining the most efficient ways of distribution and consumption of the main types of ecosystem resources.

The economic doctrine should include sections devoted to forming and implementing policies for organizing and regulating the economy at the meso-level and, consequently, organizing and regulating socio-economic ecosystems. Despite the widespread development of the cluster, network, platform, and incubation approaches as independent areas of organization and regulation of the economy at the micro-level, experience in the formation of attitudes of coherent and co-evolutionary development of these microeconomic formations is still insufficient.

The center of gravity of economic management at all levels should be shifted to the development of ecosystems as independent socio-economic entities that demonstrate relative stability in space and time and accumulate the ability to conduct economic activities effectively [16]. As part of the management of ecosystems themselves and

their relationship with the outside world, ensuring the S, T, A, I balance is critical for ensuring the resilience of ecosystems.

The connection of clusters, platforms, networks, and business incubators under the "umbrella" of ecosystems is the implementation of the principles of a circular economy since the initial components for each subsystem operation are the results of the activity of one of these subsystems. It can be assumed that such integration is in line with the development of the fourth industrial revolution, associated with an increase in the integration of socio-economic space–time. Therefore, expanding the population of ecosystems will help to increase the degree of integration of the economy, facilitate the process of creating innovations (innovation incubators), diffusion of innovations (network structures and information and logistics environments), implementation of innovations (clusters), and, as a result, inclusive growth [17].

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