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## **Eco-innovation Index in Slovakia and Eu Countries: Progress and Future Perspectives**

**Dominika ?eryová , Zuzana Kapsdorferová , Matej ?ereš**

*Slovak University Of Agriculture In Nitra, Institute Of Economics And Management, Tr. A. Hlinku 2, 949 76, Nitra, Slovakia*

### **Abstract**

Eco-innovation encompasses a broad spectrum of activities, all aimed at reducing environmental impact and promoting resource efficiency, and it plays a crucial role in supporting sustainability. This paper focuses on the development of the eco-innovation index between 2015 and 2024, analyzing countries that were among the leaders during this period as well as countries with values below the EU average. The results show an increase in the implementation of eco-innovation in Slovakia, although there is still potential for improvement compared to EU leaders. One section is devoted to the development of the Slovak Republic's eco-innovation index in comparison with the EU average, examining the five basic dimensions of this index: eco-innovation inputs, eco-innovation activities, eco-innovation outputs, resource efficiency outcomes, and socio-economic outcomes. The assessment shows significant differences between Slovakia and the EU average, with Slovakia falling significantly below the EU average in some areas. The last part of the paper focuses on the food industry in the Slovak Republic, which is an important sector of the national economy, characterized by dynamic growth and increasing implementation of eco-innovation. Key future trends in the Slovak food industry in the context of eco-innovation include next-generation consumer influence, technological evolution, sustainability achievement, and economic impact. The paper provides an overview of the current state and perspectives of eco-innovation and identifies areas with potential for improvement and growth.

**Keywords:** Challenges; Development; Food Industry; Sustainability; Trends