Features of the sustainable rural development of Ukraine of economic and social character are discussed in the article. On the one hand, the sustainable development of rural areas characterizes major natural resource constraints that shape the distant future and, on the other hand, determines the possibility of social and economic development of rural communities, development of economic entities, and improvement of nature.

External and internal factors of influence for the formation of sustainable rural development are indicated. Some factors may contribute to or, otherwise, hinder the formation of sustainable rural development. The current situation in Ukraine requires new approaches to reform and policy. In terms of continuing national crisis of village, it is becoming increasingly clear that it is impossible to ensure its efficient development, relying only on agriculture. Therefore, even though all the importance of sectoral planning, it should not replace territorial one, which subjects in a general sense is the economic and social development of certain parts of the country (provinces, cities, and administrative districts), taken as a whole, regardless of affiliation businesses and organizations.

The role of government regulation in their sustainable development is investigated. The formation and implementation of the state policy and mechanism of government regulation for the sustainable development of rural areas should be carried out separately, with the assistance of appropriate resources and ensuring responsibility for the results on the part of bodies that will realize it. It is the isolation of issues of rural development in a separate branch of the state policy that will help generate a clear, balanced, science-based, comprehensive, and systematic mechanism of governance of this object that will take into account its specific features and ensure the achievement of the expected results.