



Welcoming Address of the Leontief Centre President

Dear colleagues!

We would like to offer you the first issue of the Leontief Centre Newsletter, which will draw your attention on the most relevant events, carried out with participation of the Leontief Centre and its partners and will announce forthcoming events.

We tried to make our bulletin short and succinct by putting links on Internet resources to get more detailed information. We are planning to release our bulletin regularly (once every three

months) and to e-mail it to our colleagues and partners.

If you would like to unsubscribe from the Leontief Centre Newsletter, please, write to pr-department@leontief.spb.su. Still I hope that this information will be interesting and useful for you and will strengthen our business relations.

*With best wishes,
Irina Karelina*

NEWSLETTER N1 April-June 2005

Announcements

The registration of participants of the Fourth All-Russia Forum of Strategic Planning Leaders, which will be carried out on the 20th-21st of October 2005 in St. Petersburg, **has been started**. You could find additional information on the web site Strategic Planning in Cities and Regions of Russia: www.citystrategy.leontief.ru

Anders Blom, Chairman of the Board Eurofacts Oy, was awarded with Honorary Veteran Diploma of the international relations of the Leontief Centre. [Details...](#)

An **Annual Report for 2004** is placed on the Leontief Centre web site www.leontief.ru (section About)

Global Development Network – Leontief Centre’s partner in preparing the Seventh Annual Global Development Conference to be held in Saint Petersburg on January 2006, has prepared and published the book Globalization and Equity: Perspectives from the Developing World. **To request or purchase the book, please contact [Edward Elgar Publishing](#)**

Wassily W. Leontief Centenary

Leontief Centre jointly with its partners from the Organizing Committee on Preparation to Celebration of Wassily Leontief Centenary is preparing series of events towards the jubilee of a great scientist, Nobel Prize Winner in Economics (1973), Leontief Centre’ founder, which will be held in 2006 (you could find the detailed information on the web site

www.wassily.leontief.net , which was opened and supported by the Leontief Centre).

Seventh “Annual Global Development Conference Institutions and Development: At the Nexus of Global Change” (St. Petersburg, January 18-23, 2006), will open official jubilee cycle of celebratory activities devoted to Celebration of Wassily Leontief Centenary. It will

become major event of this year. One of the Conference plenary sessions “Evolution of Institutions and Russia’s Economy” will be devoted to the Wassily Leontief Centenary. The Conference web site:

http://www.gdnet.org/activities/annual_conferences/seventh_annual_conference/

Projects

Support of Kaliningrad Oblast Development (EuropeAid Project

implemented by Consortium including the Leontief Centre) – the international conference “Competitiveness and Attracting Investments to Kaliningrad Oblast: Priorities, Instruments, Practice” (May 12, 2005) was carried out in the framework of this Project. B.S. Zhikharevich, Head of Territorial Strategic Planning Department, participated as moderator in the plenary session “How to Increase Competitiveness of Kaliningrad Oblast”.

On the 24-27 of May 2005 in the framework of the same Project Kaliningrad Administration and City Council carried out the problem-search seminar concerning renewal of the Concept and Strategic Plan for Kaliningrad Development. B.S. Zhikharevich also participated at the seminar as an invited speaker.

Neighborhood Program between South-Eastern Finland and Russia for 2005-206 years

(one of the INTERREG III A Program established by European Commission on December 27th 2001). Main aim of the Program is to stimulate cross-border development between South-Eastern Finland and Russia as a bridge between East and West. The Task Force **on preparation of the cooperation strategy between South-Eastern Finland and St. Petersburg and Leningrad Oblast** was organized in the framework of implementation of this Program. The regular Task Force meeting was carried out in Lappeenranta (Finland).

Representatives of authority bodies and municipalities, research and expert organizations of regions and cities of South-Eastern Finland, St. Petersburg and Leningrad Oblast are included into the membership of the Task Force. Leontief Centre was presented by its lead researcher A. Batchaev. The Task Force Group defines the priority directions and selects projects presenting mutual interest both for Finland and Russia. On the base of this work the Strategy for Cooperation Development up to 2013 year (Vision 2013) will be prepared. The priority directions of cooperation as well as preliminary list of joint projects and programs were determined as a result of the meeting. You could find detailed information on the web site <http://leontief.ru/rnsc/>

Economic Policy at Municipal Level During Reform of Federative Relations: New Opportunities and Restrictions (Moscow Public Scientific Foundation Project

in the framework of Support for Russian Economic Think Tanks Program)

On the 24th-27th of May representatives of the Leontief Centre N.B. Zhunda and O.V. Rusetskaya in the framework of this Project carried out the training for leaders of the Primorsky Krai municipalities concerning Modern Technologies of Territorial Strategic Planning (Vladivostok City)

On the 30th-1st of June Leontief Centre’s representatives L.E. Limonov, N.B. Zhunda and O.V. Rusetskaya carried out the similar training in Novosibirsk. The discussions and series of interviews with leaders of Oblast Administration to reveal problems concerning implementation of local economic policy after enactment of the Federal Law on Common Principals of Local Self-Government Organization in the Russian Federation were undertaken.

Analysis of the Practice of Cooperation between Public and Private Sectors in the Framework of Territorial Strategic Planning

(Moscow Public Scientific Foundation Project) – on the 15th of June B.S. Zhikharevich made a report based on the results of this Project during the Conference “Public-Private Partnership as Instrument to Attract Investment”, which was held in the framework of the 9th St. Petersburg International Economic Forum.

E-Skills for Russian SMEs (EuropeAid Project with Leontief Centre participation)

The Project has been implementing since Autumn 2004. It aims at enhancing the competitiveness of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in the North Western district of Russia by supporting the upgrade of their computer based operations, and by creating local consultancy capacity. The project is being carried out by the ‘NW Russia Center for SME Development’ in close co-operation with European experts. The beneficiaries of the project are the Russian SMEs whose ICT (information and communication technologies) applications in business processes will be examined and benchmarked, will finally receive advice on how to optimize them. Other beneficiaries are the local consulting firms whose staff will be trained on state-of-the-art ICT business applications. This project will contribute to improving the business environment and opportunities for cross-border business initiatives and investments. Project duration – 2 years

You could find detailed information on the web site: www.e-skills.spb.ru

On the 25th of June the **Urban and City Management Distance Learning Program** organized by the World Bank Institute jointly with the Leontief Centre, was completed.

The course aims to advance the participants' analytical and professional skills in the area of urban and municipal management first of all for representatives of municipal and regional authorities. The course material is presented in 10 stand-alone subject modules (including lectures, analysis of cases and discussions). During the course, special attention is given to social problems of urban settlements, their impact on urban form and quality, and methods of interventions. The course applies different learning tools in order to

equip the participants with instruments and ideas that enable them to design right policies and carry out responsibilities in the selected areas of urban governance and administration. The course also designed for consultants, lecturers of lead high schools, and representatives of non-for-profit organizations.

For the first time the Urban and City Management Distance Learning Course was carried out in January-May 2004 for participants from Russia, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. In 2006 it is planned to turn into module learning program with the purpose to give the opportunity to select the most interesting modules for each participant.

Partners and Networks

On the 18th of April in the RF Ministry on Regional Development the first meeting of the **Task Force on methodic and instrumental support of the Strategy for Regional Social and Economic Development of the Russian Federation**. B.S. Zhikharevich, Head of Territorial Strategic Planning Department, participated in the meeting as a member of the Task Force

On the 23rd of May Irina A. Karelina, Leontief Centre President, as Russian National Sub-Committee Responsible Secretary, participated in the **BSR INTERREG III B National Sub-Committees meeting, which took place in Vilnius (Lithuania)**. Irina Karelina prepared [presentation concerning RNSC activities](#).

On the 23rd-24th of May the **Fourth Partner Search Forum (PSF) of BSR INTERREG III B Program was carried out in Vilnius, Lithuania**. Irina A. Karelina, Leontief Centre President, participated in the Forum as Russian National Sub-Committee of the BSR INTERREG III B Program Responsible Secretary. Leontief Centre as RNSC Secretariat provided information and organization support to the authors of projects ideas from North-West Region of Russia as well as informed RNSC members concerning Forum results

You could find detailed information on the web site:

<http://www.bsrinterreg.net/projects.html>

Conferences, Seminars

Leontief Centre and Sociological Institute of the Russian Academy of Science (RAS) Interdisciplinary Seminar "The Actual Problems of Social Sphere Transformation" (regularly since 2002)

Famous sociologists, philosophers, economists, historians, lead journalists, deputies of the State Duma and St. Petersburg Legislative Assembly take part in the meetings. Two seminars were held during April and June 2005:

- Official and Shadow Differentiation of Incomes of St. Petersburg Households (speaker: A.A. Veikher, Head of Analytical Department of St. Petersburg Legislative Assembly)
- City. Development or Changes? (speaker: I.I. Travin, Head of Sector of RAS Sociological Institute)

On the 15th of April the **Second International SME Capacity Building Forum in the North-West Federal Region was carried out in St. Petersburg**.

Forum Organizers: Office of the Plenipotentiary of the RF President in the North-West Federal Region, Delegation of the European Commission to Russia, Ministry of Economical Development and Trade of the Russian Federation, North-West Center for

SME Support, Academy of National Economy under the Government of the Russian Federation, ICSEER Leontief Centre, TACIS projects. Forum main objective was to discuss support priorities and enhance SMEs competitiveness in the North-West Federal Region according to the State Policy Concept for SME Development. Marc Franco, Head of European Commission Delegation to Russia, addressed to participants during Forum opening.

[Details...](#)

On the 26th of April a Seminar **St. Petersburg Functions in Geoeconomy of Russia and Europe** was carried out in the Center for Strategic Research: North-West. Seminar organizers: ICSEER Leontief Centre and Center for Strategic Research: North-West.

[Details...](#)

On the 22nd-26th of April Leontief Centre jointly with the Ecole Supérieure de Commerce de Paris (Paris Higher Commerce School) **carried out a seminar for top and medium managers of 12 countries attending course Developing Projects in**

Emerging Countries (in the framework of MBA Programme).

Specialists and experts of the Leontief Centre as well as representatives of business and non-commercial organizations demonstrated to seminar participants investment conditions in St. Petersburg, approved programmes and plans for city development, characteristics of city economic policy and exemplified successfully implemented projects in St. Petersburg

On the 23rd of June the **presentation of the annual World Bank Development Report 2005: "A Better Investment Climate For Everyone"** was held in St. Petersburg.

Presentation of the World Development Report 2005 was carried out in two central Russian cities: Moscow and St. Petersburg. The World Bank

Representative Office in Russia in cooperation with the International Centre for Social and Economic Research Leontief Centre and information support of information agency RosBalt organized this event in St. Petersburg. [Details...](#)

On the 22nd-24th of June the Forum **"Strategic Planning in Cities and Regions of Far East Russia: Reply on Global and Local Challenges"** was held in Vladivostok.

Far East Centre for Economic Development, International Centre for Social and Economic Research Leontief Centre in cooperation with the Moscow Public Scientific Foundation organized the Forum

[Details...](#)

Publications

Medium-Term Financial Planning in Regions and Municipalities: Manual, Practical Recommendations/ series Financial Planning Project. – St. Petersburg, ICSE Leontief Centre, 2005. – 240 p..



The first part contains a training course on financial planning at local and regional levels. The manual was prepared on the basis of analytical, normative and methodical materials developed during implementation of Financial Planning Project, carried out by the Leontief Centre in 2002-2004. The materials of the final Project Seminar, which took place in November 2004 in St. Petersburg, are presented in the second part of the brochure.

Budget of St. Petersburg for 2005. Summary/ ICSE Leontief Centre, 2005, 60 p. Edition – 600 copies in Russian, 300 copies in English



Committee for Finance of St. Petersburg Administration in cooperation with the International Centre for Social and Economic Research Leontief Centre prepared this annual. Main parameters of city budget, revenues and expenditures structure, public debt, characteristic of relations between St. Petersburg budget and federal budget are presented briefly in this annual. Full version of the collection is presented on the web site of the Committee for Finance: www.fincom.spb.ru

The Socio-Economic Situation in St. Petersburg/ An information bulletin in Russian and English. St. Petersburg: Leontief Centre, №74, March-April, 26 p.



This bulletin has been published by the Leontief Centre bi-monthly since 1992. It is available by subscription. The overview features statistics and information and analytic data covering St. Petersburg's city management, employment, revenues and expenditures of St. Petersburg population, industry, finances, city's privatization process, real estate market, banks and investment projects.

You could subscribe to this information bulletin on the web site: <http://www.leontief.ru> , Publications section

www.leontief.ru

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