



## **NEWSLETTER N2** **July-September 2005**

In August 2005 the Leontief Centre issued the first **Newsletter** to inform partners about the most relevant events. The Newsletter is to be published quarterly both in Russian and English languages.

### **Announcements**

On October 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, 2005 the **Fourth All-Russia Forum of Strategic Planning Leaders** 'Strategic Planning In Cities and Regions of Russia: Measuring Results' will be held in St. Petersburg. You could find the detailed information on the web site 'Strategic Planning in Cities and Regions of Russia' — [www.citystrategy.leontief.ru](http://www.citystrategy.leontief.ru)

The preparation to the **Seventh Annual Global Development Conference 'Institutions and Development: At the Nexus of Global Change'** (St. Petersburg, January 18-23, 2006), which will be carried out by the international non-commercial organization Global Development Network with organizational support of the Leontief Centre has been going on. The special **Statement №1310 of St. Petersburg Government** (from September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2005) is devoted to the Conference preparation and carrying out. According to this Statement the Organizing Committee on Preparation to the Conference headed by M.E. Oseevsky, St. Petersburg Vice-Governor, was established. I.A. Karelina, Leontief Centre President, also is a member of the Organizing Committee. Leontief Centre jointly with the Committee for Foreign Affairs and Tourism was assigned to prepare and carry out the Conference.

[Details...](#)

It is opened the subscription to the third pilot **Urban and City Management Distance Learning Program** aimed to advance the participants' analytical and professional skills in the area of urban and municipal management for representatives of municipal and regional authorities. During the course including lectures, case studies, assignments, discussion forums the participants will be provided with tools and fresh ideas to enable them to prepare new policies and carry out responsibilities in selected areas of urban governance and administration. The distance learning program consist 12 modules, grouped into 3 courses: Urban Governance and Strategy, Financial Management, Sectoral Issues of Urban Development. The Program also designed for consultants, lecturers of lead high schools, and representatives of non-for-profit organizations. More detailed information will be soon presented on the Leontief Centre web site.

### **Wassily W. Leontief Centenary**

**The web portal devoted to Wassily Leontief** was filled up with new materials: sections Biography, Scientific Heritage, and Publications - [www.wassily.leontief.net](http://www.wassily.leontief.net)

In the framework of the **Seventh Annual Global Development Conference 'Institutions and Development: At the Nexus of Global Change'** (St. Petersburg, January 18-23, 2006), the official jubilee cycle of celebratory activities devoted to Celebration of Wassily Leontief Centenary will be opened. One of the Conference plenary sessions **'Evolution of Institutions and Russia's Economy'** is devoted to this date. The session will be presided by Dr. **Sergey Vasiliev**, Chairman of the Committee on Financial Markets and Currency Circulation under the Council of

Federation of RF Federal Assembly and Chairman of the Academic Board of the Leontief Centre. Following speakers confirmed their participation on this session: **Egor Gaidar**, Director of the Institute for the Economy in Transition with the report 'Russia Contemporary Economic History in the Frame of Global Economic Tendencies'; **Vladimir Mau**, Director of the Academy of National Economy under the Government of the Russian Federation with the report 'Evolution of Modernization Concepts and Economic Growth'; **Anders Aslund** (Carnegie Endowment for International Peace) and **Johannes Linn** (The Brookings Institution) as main discussants.

The Conference web site:

[http://www.gdnet.org/activities/annual\\_conferences/seventh\\_annual\\_conference/](http://www.gdnet.org/activities/annual_conferences/seventh_annual_conference/)

## Projects

In August 2005 the **Financial Planning Project**, (2002-2005) which was implemented by the Consortium of consultants with the leading role of the Leontief Centre, was completed. The Customer: Non-Commercial Foundation for Enterprise Restructuring and Financial Institutions Development (FER).

Regions-participants of this Project: Vologda Oblast, Chelyabinsk Oblast and Republic of Chuvashiya. In the framework of the Project the Consultants has implemented following activities: analysis of existing financial planning system, development of the Concept and standards of medium-term financial planning, preparation of typical instructions, regulating medium-term financial planning, development of the Best Practice Planning Code, as well as elaboration of recommendations for each region-participant on development of the system of medium-term financial planning.

In the framework of the Project the trainings for representatives of financial authority bodies at regional and municipal levels were carried out as well as dissemination of the achieved results on the basis of the series of publications, seminars and final conference (St. Petersburg, November 2004).

Project materials were published in the series of editions:

- Regional Financial Planning: Review of Russian and International Best Practice/Series Financial Planning Project. – St. Petersburg: ICSE Leontief Centre, 2003. – 104 p.
- Methodology of Medium-Term Financial Planning in Regions and Municipalities/Series Financial Planning Project. – St. Petersburg: ICSE Leontief Centre, 2004. – 191 p.
- Medium-Term Financial Planning in Regions and Municipalities: Manual, Practical Recommendations /Series Financial Planning Project. – St. Petersburg: ICSE Leontief Centre, 2004. – 240 p.

*You could find the detailed information on the [Leontief Centre web site](#), Publications section*

**Support of Kaliningrad Oblast Development** - EuropeAid Project implemented by the Consortium including the Leontief Centre. In August 2005 the Complex Action Plan of Kaliningrad Oblast Administration for 2005-2007 on Implementation of the Strategy for Kaliningrad Oblast Social and Economic Development as the Cooperation Region up to 2010 (Indicative Plan 2005-2007) was approved. The Governor of Kaliningrad Oblast appreciated B.S. Zhikharevich, Lead Expert of the Project, Head of Territorial Strategic Planning Department of the Leontief Centre, for scientific and methodological support of the Action Plan development.

**Support of Public Administration Reform in the North-West Federal Region of Russia** – the joint Project of the World Bank and Department for Economic Development of Arkhangelsk Oblast Administration in the framework of the World Bank Program « **Support of Public Administration Reform in the North-West Federal Region of Russia**». Main aim of the first stage was to develop the system of indicators demonstrating execution of public functions by regional authority bodies for subsequent extensive discussions and solution of the problems of

improvement of public administration effectiveness. Leontief Centre representatives – L.E. Limonov, Director-Coordinator of Research Programs, and B.S. Zhikharevich, Head of Territorial Strategic Planning Department – participated in this stage of the Project. On July 21<sup>st</sup> a working seminar on discussion of developed set of indicators was carried out with participation of mentioned above experts.

During the further Project implementation on September 22<sup>nd</sup> the meeting devoted to the problems of elaboration of the set of targets for social and economic Arkhangelsk Oblast development and indicators for its achievement was carried out in the Department for Economic Development of Arkhangelsk Oblast Administration. L.E. Limonov, Director-Coordinator of Research Programmes, participated in the meeting as the Project expert. Hereafter in the framework of the Project Leontief Centre' experts will participate in elaboration of recommendations on turning to the performance budgeting system in Arkhangelsk Oblast.

**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. On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2005 the Conference 'How to Become an Electronic Company' was held in St. Petersburg. During the Conference main outcomes of realization of the Project first stage as well as perspectives of project development on the basis of enlargement of participants capacity and strengthening of cooperation between SMEs and consultants during implementation of the ICT progressive methods. Elena Belova, Head of Development Department of the Leontief Centre and Tatiana Khabarina, Leontief Centre Consultant, made presentations during the Conference.

*You could find the detailed information on the web site: <http://www.e-skills.spb.ru>*

**Cross-Border Cooperation Program «Developing EXcellence-DEX. Excellence Centres' Network for Sustainable Development in the Baltic Sea Region».**

This Project is the integrated part of the Project East-West Spatial Planning Forum for Sustainable Development in the Baltic Sea Region, which was initiated by the Russian National Sub-Committee of the Baltic Sea Region INTERREG III B Neighborhood Program.

On September 26<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> the first kick-off meeting of main Project partners and participants took place in Jyväskylä (Finland) with the purpose to discuss main Project aims, tasks and activities directed to the expanding of cooperation between authority bodies of the Central Finland and North-West of Russia in the sphere of development and implementation

of regional strategies and programs of SME support on the basis of effective using of New EU Instruments – Neighborhood Programs. Elena Belova, Academic Secretary, and Olga Rusetskaya, Head of Investment Planning Department presented Leontief Centre.

In the framework of the Project the creation of the Centers of Excellence on the base of existing SME support infrastructure, which will support authority bodies in developing and promoting of cooperation projects on Neighborhood Programmes in five regions: Leningrad Oblast, Murmansk Oblast, Pskov Oblast, Republic of Karelia and St. Petersburg has been envisaged. At present time the Leontief Centre is completing the complex study on characteristics of Leningrad Oblast social and economic development.

## Partners and Networks

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2005 I.A. Karelina, Leontief Centre President, and E.G. Belova, Academic Secretary, Head of Development Department, participated in the meeting with senior management and key experts of the **EuropeAid Project Regional Capacity Building Initiative (RCBI)** aimed to support participation of cross-border areas of Russia, Byelorussia, Ukraine and Moldova in Neighborhood Programs with EU members. The meeting was devoted to the discussion of the Action Plan. I. A. Karelina as Russian National Sub-Committee Responsible Secretary proposed her suggestions into the Action Plan according to the requirements of the North-West regions in information support of their participation in the framework of this Program.

On July 13<sup>th</sup> an **informal meeting of the members of Association of Russian Economic Think Tanks** with the purpose to discuss the problems of further development, analysis of common experience and opportunities of joint actions took place in Moscow. Representatives of Russian Economic Developers Association (ASSET), Association of Managers, Russian Venture Capital Association, International Union of Economists, Association of European Business, Institute of National Project 'Public Agreement', National Association of Equities Market Members (NAUFOR) participated in the meeting. Irina Karelina, Leontief Centre President and as well Deputy Chairman of the Managing Board of Russian Economic Developers Association, participated in the meeting with presentation of main directions of ASSET activities.

On July 26<sup>th</sup> the first meeting of the **World Bank Consultative Board** was carried out in World Bank Russian Country Office (Moscow). By the invitation of Kristalina Georgieva, Director and World Bank Permanent Representative in Russia, I.A. Karelina, Leontief Centre President, participated in the meeting and became a member of the Consultative Board.

On September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2005 the Information Seminar devoted to the **Baltic Sea Region INTERREG IIB Neighborhood Programme and Baltic Sea Region INTERREG IIB Programme IIIA Priority North**

Activities include the study and estimation of resource potential and development of oblast production forces, analysis of social and economic policy, economic mechanism of investment attraction and features of management system providing economic growth. The perspectives and main trends of oblast development are also considered, a medium-term forecast is provided on the base of macroeconomic model building.

The study is implemented **in cooperation with Ust-Luga Company, BaltransServis, AK TRASNEFT, Web Invest Bank.**

Results of the study will be published in the generalized monograph (approximately in the first quarter of 2006).

**(Estonia-Latvia-Russia)** and organized by St. Petersburg Tacis Local Support Office Project Support to Local Capacity Building through Local Support Offices (Technical Offices) in the Russian Federation and by the Central Office of Regional Capacity Building Initiative (RCBI) Project, was held in Smolny. I.A. Karelina, Leontief Centre President, and E.G. Belova, Head of Development Department of the Leontief Centre, Academic Secretary, made the reports during the Seminar.

*You could find the detailed information on the [Russian National Sub-Committee web site](#), News section.*

**On September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2005** the Sixth Conference of Ministers *Responsible for Spatial Planning and Development in the Countries of the Baltic Sea Region* **was held in Gdansk (Poland)**. Leontief Centre President Irina Karelina, as a member of CSD VASAB 2010 Committee and official representative of the RF Ministry for Regional Development participated in the Conference.

On September 28<sup>th</sup> the Task Force meeting of **St. Petersburg Public Council** on discussion of the Project **Concept for St. Petersburg Social and Economic Long-Term Development** was carried out. Leontief Centre representatives – B.S. Zhikharevich, Head of Territorial Strategic Planning Department; Director of the Resource Centre on Strategic Planning, and A.R. Batchaev, Senior Researcher – participated in the meeting.

B.S. Zhikharevich made a report concerning the development procedures and main statements of the Project Concept for St. Petersburg Social and Economic Long-Term Development.

The Public Council was established according to the resolution of St. Petersburg Governor of 18.10.2000 № 1114-p. One of main aims of the Council is a conducting of complex analysis and public expertise of the most relevant for St. Petersburg projects of legal acts, plans and programs.

## Conferences, Seminars

On July 26<sup>th</sup> the discussion of the report 'Trends of East Baltic Development', which was prepared by the Institute of Energy and Finance for the 10<sup>th</sup> Baltic Forum (Riga, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2005) was carried out. I.A. Karelina, Leontief Centre President, made her comments about the necessity of taking into consideration the additional opportunities, which will be opened for Russia in the framework of participation in Projects and development of the New Baltic Sea Region INTERREG Program.

You could find the detailed information on the [Leontief Centre web site](#), News Archive section

On September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2005 the training seminar **Enhancement of Accounting, Financial Reporting and Audit in the Public Administration Sector** was carried out in St. Petersburg. [FBK Company](#) organized the Seminar in cooperation with the RF Ministry for Finance jointly with the IC SER Leontief Centre. The Seminar was carried out in the framework of Subproject Budget Accounting, Reporting and Audit of the Project 'Technical Assistance for Budget Reform at the Regional Level'.

Main Seminar aim was to discuss the 2005 reform of budget accounting and reporting, budget classification, recommendations on turning to new documentation in the sphere of accounting and financial reporting developed in the framework of the Project as well as recommendations on organization of the accountancy process in the budgetary institutions, trainings in the sphere of international standards of accounting, financial reporting and audit in the public administration sector.

[Details...](#)

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2005 in the framework of the Project 'Economy Deregulation and Removal of Administrative Barriers in the Russian Federation' (EuropeAid Programme) a seminar **Development of the Deregulation Policy and Removal of Administrative Barriers at Regional Level**

**(experience of the North-West regions)** was carried out. The Seminar was held by the Consortium of consultants including: IMC Consulting (Great Britain), ANO ICC Business-Thesaurus (Russia), Euroconsultants S.A. (Greece), EOTC - European Organization for Conformity Assessment (Belgium) with organizational support of the IC SER Leontief Centre.

Main aim of the Seminar was the discussion of problems concerned with deregulation policy development and removal of administrative barriers at regional level in the North-West Region. Representatives of authority bodies, business society, expert and research organizations participated in the discussion. As a result of the seminar the suggestions on elaboration of the state policy in the sphere of deregulation and removal of administrative barriers at regional level in the Russian Federation particularly, at the level of the North-West Region were developed.

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> the Seventh International Workshop **'Public Sector Reform: Searching of Ways to Improve Effectiveness'** was held in St. Petersburg. The Conference was held by the Association for Studies in Public Economics jointly with St. Petersburg State University (School of Management) in the framework of the annual meeting of the Association members. Leontief Centre representatives actively participated in this Conference. L.E. Limonov, Director-Coordinator of Research Programmes, made a report 'Strategic Planning as a Precondition of Budget and Administrative Reforms'.

You could find more detailed information under following link:

<http://som.pu.ru/research/conference/reform>.

## Publications



**St. Petersburg. 2004-2005/** St. Petersburg: Leontief Centre, 2004. – 84 p., Russian, English.

Leontief Centre jointly with St. Petersburg Committee for Finance has been publishing this annual report since 1996 year. The report contains statistics and analytical materials on city economy, actions of St. Petersburg Administration, report about city budget and local budgets of St. Petersburg municipalities performance in 2004, St. Petersburg state debt, interbudgetary relations, and main indicators of St. Petersburg budget for 2005.

The annual report was prepared on the basis of information provided by the Committee for Finance, Federal State Statistic Service (territorial body on St. Petersburg and Leningrad Oblast), web sites of St. Petersburg Legislative Assembly and St. Petersburg Administration as well as other official resources.

**Information Bulletin 'The Socio-Economic Situation in St. Petersburg' №76 (July-August 2005).**

An information bulletin 'The Socio-Economic Situation in St. Petersburg' been published by the Leontief Centre bi-monthly since 1992 and is available by subscription. Each issue (in Russian and English, 25-35pp.) overviews statistic and information materials (including results of the original research) covering St. Petersburg industry, infrastructure, budget, privatization process, real estate market, living standards and employment.

The subscription order form is placed on the Leontief Centre web site [www.leontief.ru](http://www.leontief.ru), Publications section



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International Centre for Social and Economic Research Leontief Centre  
6 per. Antonenko, St. Petersburg, 190000, Russia  
tel.: (812) 314 41 19  
fax: (812) 319 98 14

[pr-department@leontief.spb.su](mailto:pr-department@leontief.spb.su)

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