



Newsletter № 6 July - September 2006

Announcements

September 30th, 2006 Leontief Centre celebrated its 15th Anniversary in the Peter and Paul Fortress in Saint-Petersburg.

The Fifth All-Russia Forum of Strategic Planning Leaders was held on October 19th-20th, 2006. Information about the Forum will be presented in the next Newsletter. Information about the Forum is available at <http://www.citystrategy.leontief.ru>

Since April 24th, 2006 Leontief Centre **telephone numbers** starting with 319-9... **have been changed** to 570-3...

The working plan for Interdisciplinary seminars **'The Actual Problems of Social Sphere Transformation'** hosted jointly by Leontief Center and Sociological Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences for the following 6 month-period is forming. This plan will be available at the Leontief Centre's web-site, in [Conferences](#) section.

Wassily Leontief's Centenary

Conference of International Input-Output Association took place on July 26th-28th 2006 in Sendai, Japan. In the framework of the Conference, Masaaki Kuboniwa Professor of Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University (Japan), member of Organizing Committee on Preparation to Celebration of Wassily Leontief Centenary made a presentation on materials of Leontief Centre of main events and actions of Wassily Leontief Centenary Celebration Programme in Russia. Also the English version of the documentary film about Wassily Leontief was spread.

5th of August 2006 is the date of the outstanding economist, Nobel Prize winner **Wassily Leontief Centenary**. Leontief Centre initiated [series of publications in mass-media](#) including radio and television. See details at www.wassily.leontief.net

[The exhibition "Econometrics Founder"](#) from the series "Russian Intellectuals: Nobel Prize Winners" devoted to the Centenary of outstanding economist, Nobel Prize winner 1973 Wassily Leontief was opened in the service department of Sakhalin Regional Universal Library on 3rd of August 2006. Detailed information at <http://www.libsakh.ru>

The exhibition devoted to the **Centenary of Wassily Leontief** was launched in July in the Central State Archive of Saint Petersburg. The exhibition represents archive materials, pictures of Leontief in various periods. [Details](#)

September 18th, 2006 in the Main Building of Russian National Library an exhibition of books and illustrations "Wassily Leontief. Economist. To the Centenary" was opened. The exhibition presents Leontief's most famous scientific works on economy, devoted to research in the field of economic analysis, and other materials expressing the contribution of the scientist to development of economic theory.

September 29th-30th 2006 the Central event of the Programme for Leontief Centenary Celebration took place – **the sixth Annual Conference Leontief Readings** (see "Conference" section below)

In the framework of Leontief Readings Conference on 30th of September a Solemn Session devoted to Wassily Leontief Centenary was held, which included:

- ✓ Ceremony of awarding with International Leontief medal in nomination for "Contribution to Economic Reforms" of nominees 2006 (see details at "Awards" section below);
- ✓ Presentation of Wassily Leontief Web Portal (www.wassily.leontief.net);
- ✓ Report of the Organizing Committee on Preparation to Celebration of Wassily Leontief Centenary.

One of the section meetings “Wassily Leontief’s Works and Modern Mathematical Economics” was timed to Wassily Leontief’s Centenary (it was organized by Leontief Centre jointly with Russian Academy of Science Institute for Mathematical Economics). This section was devoted to discussion of modern trends of economic and mathematical modeling and mathematical instruments of relevant economic research. Wassily Leontief’s Input-Output Models and his contribution to economic science in general were viewed from the positions of neoclassical theory and modern modeling of regional economic development. At the section the summarizing reports about results and new attitudes to the implementation of mathematical methods in

economic research, including quality assessment of institutes and their influence on economic development were made.

September 28th, 2006 on the threshold of Leontief Readings Conference by the joint initiative of A. Margolis, Director General of The Charitable Foundation for the Renaissance of St. Petersburg-Leningrad and Leontief Centre the **memorial plaque** (by architect Oznobishina) was installed on the facade of Leontief’s house on Zhdanovskaya Street, 43 where the scientist lived in 1906-1925. The charity support for this action was generously provided by Vneshtorgbank Ltd. The opening ceremony of the memorial plaque will be held soon.

Projects

Trainings for Regional and Municipal Financial Officers in the framework of Municipal Reform Implementation and separation of responsibilities.

The Project is a part of the Program ‘Technical Aid for Budget Reform at the Regional Level’ implemented by RF Ministry of Finance in cooperation with the World Bank. The project is implemented by the consortium of consultants, which includes the International Centre for Social and Economic Research Leontief Centre and “RBC-Centre” Ltd.

The second stage of work was finalized in August, during this stage the system of evaluation for the received knowledge and a version of programme for average financial officers of regional and municipal levels in the format of distant learning course were worked out.

The second pilot programme for average financial officers training is being prepared, which will be implemented in Saint Petersburg on the base of North-West Academy of State Service in November 2006.

Urban and City Management – joint distant learning Program of the World Bank Institute and Leontief Centre. In July 2006 the education under the Course 3 “City Development in Certain Fields” of the distance learning program was completed. Representatives of public and local authority bodies, consultants, researches and teachers of lead high schools, representatives of non-for-profit organizations from Russian cities – 15 participants successfully passed full course and were awarded with certificates. More detailed information about Urban and City Management Distant Learning Program is available under the following link: www.distant.leontief.net

“Strategy of Socio-Economic Development of Eco-Resort Region Caucasian Mineral Waters”.

The project has been implemented by Institute RosNIPUrbastic and Leontief Centre since June 1st 2006. The work on the project involves following main stages: strategic analysis of the region, formulating of strategic alternatives and defining criteria for evaluation of strategic choice, strategic choice and forming of the strategy, conduction of top-priority activities in the implementation of the strategy.

September 5th in Essentuky the **Task Force Meeting** at the General Council of Strategic Planning of Caucasian Mineral Waters region was held, during the meeting results of the second stage of work were discussed. On behalf of Leontief Centre B.Zhikharevich, co-director of the project made a report.

Management of Sub-National Public Finance, Russian Federation Europe.

The project is aimed to perfection of statutory and regulating acts and implementation of best practices on the different levels of budget system in Tver Oblast. The project’s customer is European Commission (Taxis Programme), beneficiaries – RF Ministry of Finance and Tver Oblast Administration, the project is carried out by DAI (UK) – the lead partner, ICSEER Leontief Centre (Russia), Arcadis BMB (Netherlands), Research Budgetary Center (Russia) and Local Government Denmark (Denmark).

The project covers following aspects: interbudget relations, financial planning, dept management, budgeting, budget accounting and reporting, financial management and control of infrastructure investments. The project experts prepared review of main statutory and regulating acts of Tver Oblast including municipalities. The results of the analysis were presented and discussed on a seminar where the governor of Tver Oblast, representatives of administration and municipalities participated. Furthermore, the further tasks of budget system perfection were defined. In the future, it is suggested to enlarge the sphere of project implementation to other subjects of RF Central Federal Region.

“Elaboration of Offers for Creation of Stimulus for Tourist Infrastructure Development in Baikal Lake Region”.

The project’s employer is RF Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, RF Federal Agency for Tourism, Administrations of Irkutsk Oblast and Republic of Buryatia. The project is carried out by the consortium of consultants: the International Centre for Social and Economic Research Leontief Centre (lead partner), Deloitte Corporate Finance (Austria), Baikal Institute of Nature Management of Siberian Branch of Russian Academy of Science, Irkutsk Institute of International Tourism.

The project is aimed to solution of the following tasks: assessment of conditions and opportunities of tourism sphere development in Baikal Region, marketing of regional attractiveness for home and foreign customers of tourism services, development of Conception of Tourism

Development and Programme for tourism industry development in the region. Furthermore, in the framework of the project the preparation of suggestions and technical-economic basis for creation of free economic zones of tourist-resort type in the Baikal region is held.

Conferences and Seminars

September 7th-9th in Kislovodsk **Investment Forum of Russian South** took place. In its framework B. Zhikharevich, director of Recourse Center on Strategic Planning presented a report "Caucasian Mineral Waters Region Development Strategy to 2020: New Quality of Investments in National Health Strengthening"

September 17th-21st, 2006 in the framework of Partner Project of Leontief Centre, ASSET and IEDC (International Economic Development Centre), B. Zhikharevich Strategic and Spatial Planning Department head and L. Limonov Director-Coordinator for Research Programmes took part in the **Annual IEDC Conference in New York**.

September 28th, 2006 in Saint Petersburg, in the framework Interdisciplinary seminars '**The Actual Problems of Social Sphere Transformation**' hosted jointly by Leontief Center and Sociological Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences, the discussion "Knots of Economic Policy" of Moscow Association of Russian Economic Think Tanks dispute-club took place. The suggested theme of the discussion was "Social Contract in Russia: Predestination or Variability?" A. Auzan, president of Scientific Research Centre «Social Compact» (Moscow) and A. Zaostrovsev, Leontief Centre lead researcher (Saint Petersburg) took part in the discussion. The working plan for Interdisciplinary seminars for the following 6 month-period is forming.

September 29th-30th, 2006 the [sixth Annual Conference Leontief Readings](#) "Problems of Economic Theory and Policy" was held.

The Conference from the cycle "Leontief Readings" was held in the year of Centenary of Nobel Prize winner, creator of system of inter-branch analysis of economic systems, Leontief Centre Founder, Wassily Leontief. The Conference became one of the major events of the Programme for Leontief Centenary Celebration.

The Conference was organized by ISCER Leontief Centre, Saint Petersburg Government, RAO UES of Russia, Russian Academy of Science Institute for Mathematical Economics and Association of Russian Economic Think Tanks.

The plenary session of the Conference was devoted to discussion of long-term perspectives of world economy development and issues of Russian economic renaissance in the context of world economic development trends. The Programme included four parallel section meetings: "Economic Policy", "Demographic Transition and Social Policy", "Wassily Leontief's Works and Modern Mathematical Economics" and "Transformation of Institutions".

Leading Russian and foreign politicians, scientists, businessmen, representatives of mass-media were invited to the Conference as participants and key-note speakers. About 200 participants took part in the conference.

In the view of jubilee nature of the Sixth Annual Conference "Leontief Readings", its Programme included festive events and actions, including **Ceremony of awarding with International Leontief medal in nomination for "Contribution to Economic Reforms"** (see details at "Awards" section below).

By the end of this year a book with final materials of the Conference will be published. (editor in charge- A.Zaostrovsev).

Partners and Networks

July 2006 ICSEER Leontief Centre had conducted an agreement with **Saint Petersburg Branch of State University Higher School of Economics** about university practice of students from the newly-created section of applied political science at the department of management (the section head is A. Sungurov, Saint-Petersburg Center for Humanities and Political Studies "Strategy" president).

July 19, 2006 in St. Petersburg enlarged **Task Force Meeting for Neighborhood Programme in the Baltic Sea Region for 2007-2013** took place. On the meeting the questions concerning preparation of new ENPI programme in the Baltic Sea region were discussed. The representatives of RF Ministry for Regional

Development, Administrations of St. Petersburg, Novgorod, Pskov and Leningrad Oblast, BSR INTERREG III B NP St. Petersburg Info Point, Tacis Local Support Office and RCBI project experts took part in the meeting.

August 28-29 2006 in St. Petersburg in the office of RCBI project the **Task Force Meeting for Neighborhood Programme in the Baltic Sea Region for 2007-2013** took place. The meeting was organized by RCBI project and Leontief Centre as Russian National Sub-Committee Secretariat. Representatives of North-West regions authorities, RF Ministry for Foreign Affairs and RF Ministry for Regional Development took part in the meeting. Issues of Baltic Sea Region Neighborhood and Partnership

programme 2007-2013 preparation were discussed at the seminar.

The meeting of I. Karelina Leontief Centre Director General, N.Oding Head of Leontief Centre Research Department with **Benjamin Wolhauer Consul General of General Consulate of USA in Saint-Petersburg** and A. Gorodeckiy Assistant to Consul for economic issues took place on 31 of August 2006. Issues of Saint Petersburg and North-West region economic conditions and Leontief Centre's activities were discussed at the meeting.

Leontief Centre jointly with Baltic Sea INTERREG III B Joint Secretariat organised two 2-days seminars in Saint-Petersburg and Kaliningrad for the potential applicants who intend to apply for funding in **the Baltic Sea Region INTERREG III B Neighbourhood Programme 9th Call**.

The events took place on the 11-12 of September in St. Petersburg, Russia and on the 18-19 of September in Kaliningrad, Russia.

During the first day of the seminar the information on programme priorities, available

funding, programme requirements etc was presented. On the second day the applicants had

the possibility to attend individual project consultations. About 130 representatives of administrative bodies and NGOs of Kaliningrad, Leningrad Oblast and St. Petersburg took part in the work of seminars.

The meeting of I.Karelina Leontief Centre Director General, E.Belova Head of Leontief Centre Development Department and **Eitvydas Bajarunas Consul General of Republic of Lithuania** took place on 6th of September. Cooperation of North-West regions and Republic of Lithuania and other Baltic Sea region countries, EU cooperation Programmes and main fields of Leontief Centre activities were discussed at the meeting.

Meeting devoted to **"Zmeinka" 20th Anniversary** took place in Pavlovsk on the 1st of October 2006. The meeting was devoted to the date when companions and like-minded persons, who later became the founders of Russian economic reforms had met for first time.

Awards

The Public Committee on awarding at Leontief Centre established the **International Leontief medal in nomination for "Contribution to Economic Reforms"** in commemoration of Wassily Leontief Centenary. According to the Award Statement the medal is given to outstanding Russian and International scholars and specialists who contribute personally to the development of economic science, creation of effective institutions of market economy and conditions for sustainable economic growth.

In the framework of **Leontief Readings Conference** on 30th of September 2006 the **Ceremony of awarding with International Leontief medal in nomination for "Contribution to Economic Reforms"** of nominees 2006 was held. Laureates 2006:

- ✓ Egor Gaidar, Director of Institute for the Economy in Transition
- ✓ Alexey Kudrin, Minister of Finance of the Russian Federation
- ✓ Boris Firsov, Honored Rector of the European University in St. Petersburg
- ✓ Lawrence Klein, Honored professor of Benjamin Franklin University of Pennsylvania, Nobel Prize winner

- ✓ Robert M. Solow, Honored professor of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Nobel Prize winner
- ✓ Shuntaro Shishido, Director of Research Institute of Japan - US and World Modeling and Analysis
- ✓ Thijs ten Raa, Associate Professor of Tilburg University, the Netherlands, member of Council of the International Input-Output Association

After the ceremony the laureate lectures were made by:

- Masaaki Kuboniva, Professor, Director of the Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University, Medal Laureate 2004
 - Alexey Kudrin, Minister of Finance of the Russian Federation Medal Laureate 2006
 - Boris Firsov, Honored Rector of the European University in St. Petersburg Medal Laureate 2006
- [Details...](#)

Publications



Leontief's Collection: Life, Teachers, Ideas. – St.Petersburg.: Publishing House Nestor-Istoria, 2006 /edit.: I. Eliseeva RAS member-correspondent, A.Dmitriev, PhD
With organizational support of Leontief Centre

The collected materials offer articles and archive materials, expressing life of Wassily Leontief and his relatives; essays about his teachers- the leading professors of Pertograd University. Furthermore, the collection contains articles, in which the ideas of the scientist are evolved and implemented.

The collection is aimed to readers, interested in history of science, and specialists in the field of mathematical economics.

The publication became possible with the generous support of Vneshtorgbank Ltd.



St. Petersburg. 2005-2006 / St. Petersburg: Leontief Centre, 2006. – 74 p., Russian, English

An annual financial report published by Leontief Centre jointly with St. Petersburg Committee on Finances. The report contains of statistics, information and analytical materials concerning city economy, actions of St. Petersburg Administration, report about budget performance in 2005, St. Petersburg state debt, information about local budgets performance of St. Petersburg municipalities, characteristics of cooperation between St. Petersburg budget and federal budget and main indicators of St. Petersburg budget for 2006. The annual report was prepared on the base of information provided by the Committee on Finances, Goskomstat, St. Petersburg Legislative Assembly and St. Petersburg Administration as well as other official resources. www.fincom.spb.ru



The Socio-Economic Situation in St. Petersburg. №81 (May-June 2006) An information bulletin in Russian and English. St. Petersburg: Leontief Centre (International Centre for Social and Economic Research), 1992-2006. – 25-35pp. This bulletin has been published by the Leontief Centre bi-monthly since 1992. Available by subscription, the Overview features statistics and analyses covering St. Petersburg industry, infrastructure, budget, city's privatization process, its real estate market, living standards and employment.

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