



## Newsletter № N 7 October- December 2006

### Announcements

**The International Input–Output Association** is pleased to announce new competition for Leontief Memorial Prize for the best conference paper of young authors, which will be awarded during the **Sixth International Input–Output Conference** on July 2<sup>nd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>, 2007. [More detail...](#)

**The Forth International Forum on SME Support in the North-West Federal Region** is scheduled on the first half of April 2007. The Forum is organized by the North-West Centre for SME Support jointly with ICSE "Leontief Centre". More detailed information about the Forums is available at the [North-West Portal on SME Support](#).

The date of the **6<sup>th</sup> All-Russia Forum of Strategic Planning Leaders** is defined. The Forum will be held on October 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>, 2007 in Saint-Petersburg. Detailed information about the Forum and participation will be available at <http://www.citystrategy.leontief.ru>

The **7<sup>th</sup> Leontief Readings Conference** will take place in the beginning of October 2007.

### Wassily Leontief's Centenary

In October 2006 all the materials were collected and information was prepared about the passed main **events and actions of Wassily Leontief Centenary Celebration Programme**, including information about the Central event of the Programme – the VI Annual Conference Leontief Readings "Problems of Economic Theory and Policy". The materials are available at:

- The official Leontief Center Web Site, in the specialized section "[Leontief Readings](#)"- "2006",
- Wassily Leontief Web-portal in "[Centenary](#)" and "[Medals](#)" sections.

A convenient system of links is created, enabling users to get across easily among the existing resources and thematically connected sections.

On 20<sup>th</sup> of October 2006 in St. Petersburg the "**Glamour and Poverty**" of Quantitative Methods of Planning" (devoted to Wassily Leontief's Centenary) session was organized by Leontief Centre in the framework of the Fifth All-Russia Forum of Strategic Planning Leaders: "Strategic Planning in Cities and Regions of Russia: Implementation of National Priority Projects on Regional and Municipal Levels".

The session was chaired by: I.Eliseeva, Sociological Institute at Russian Academy of Science, Head;

L. Limonov, Director-Coordinator for Research Programmes of Leontief Centre.

During the session the reports were presented by:

- ✓ I.Eliseeva, The Sociological Institute at Russian Academy of Science, Head

*Can We Rely on Modern Russian Statistics?*

- ✓ S.Stekhina, Stavropol Krai Administration, Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, Department on Macroeconomics and Financial Balances, Head

[Main Problems of Perfection Financial Economic Models in Strategic Planning](#)

- ✓ V.Chistyakov, Adviser of Mayor of Novosibirsk [Experience of Usage of Quantitative Methods in Elaboration of a Strategy for a Big City](#)

- ✓ A.Vorontsovsky, Professor of Economic Faculty of Saint Petersburg State University *Mathematic Models and Economic Outcomes: Proportion, Interconnections, Influence*

- ✓ A.Velichko, Economist of Far-Eastern Centre of Economic Development *Implementation of Quantitative methods in Elaboration of Strategy for Artyom City*

- ✓ Abramov, Far-Eastern Centre of Economic Development Director General [Implementation of Quantitative methods in Elaboration of Strategy for Arrangement of a trade Network in a City](#)

November 2006, 400 copies of **English version of Russian documentary film about Wassily Leontief** were produced for dissemination among the International Input–Output Association members. The action is carried out by Masaaki Kuboniwa, Professor of the Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University, Japan, Member of Organizing Committee on Preparation to Celebration of Wassily Leontief Centenary.

December 2006, International Leontief medal in nomination for "Contribution to Economic Reforms" laureate 2006, Professor **Lawrence Klein**, Honored professor of Benjamin Franklin University of Pennsylvania, Nobel Prize winner presented his laureate lecture "**Some Significant Uses of Input–Output Accounts**". The full version of the lecture will be presented in the "[Medals](#)" section of Wassily Leontief Web-portal.

## 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.

In the framework of the project, November 27<sup>th</sup>-December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006 a pilot programme for regional and municipal financial officers from North-West Federal Region was implemented in Saint Petersburg on the base of North-West Academy of State Service. The participants of the learning course were 77 representatives of financial bodies from Saint Petersburg, Leningrad, Murmansk, Archangelsk, Vologda Oblast and Republic of Karelia. All the participants had successfully finished the course and were awarded with diploma of state standard. During 2007 the learning courses for officers of public and municipal financial bodies will be held in all Federal Regions of Russian Federation.

**Urban and City Management** – joint distant learning Program of the World Bank Institute and Leontief Centre. November 2006 the admission of applications to the distant learning programme was completed and the study group for the period January-June 2007 was formed. More detailed information about Urban and City Management Distant Learning Program and its modules is available under the following link: [www.distant.leontief.net](http://www.distant.leontief.net)

**"Strategy of Socio-Economic Development of Eco-Resort Region Caucasian Mineral Waters".** The project has been implemented by Institute RosNIPIUrbanistic and Leontief Centre since June 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

The strategy draft was approved and highly evaluated on the final meeting of the General Council on Strategic Planning of Caucasian Mineral Waters which was held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of December 2006 in Essentuki.

**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 employer is European Commission (Tacis Programme), beneficiaries – RF Ministry of Finance and Tver Oblast Administration, the project is carried out by DAI (UK) – the lead partner, ICSE Leontief Centre (Russia), Arcadis BMB (Netherlands), Research Budgetary Center (Russia) and Local Government Denmark (Denmark).

During the reported period the draft of standard agreement about the separation of powers between municipal regions and municipal settlements was created. During business trips to Tver these

materials were discussed with the representatives of regional administration.

**"Regional Mechanisms for Support of Affordable Housing Market"**, the project is implemented with support of Moscow Public Science Foundation. During the project realization the following actions took place: seminar "Problems of organization of effective land tenders: St. Petersburg experience", round table "Regional Mechanisms for Support of Affordable Housing Market". The activities were attended by experts, representative of regional and city administrative bodies. In December 2006 the first analytical report to the project was assembled and approved by Moscow Public Science Foundation.

**"Developing EXcellence-DEX. Excellence Centres' Network for Sustainable Development in the Baltic Sea Region" Neighbourhood programme** – Tacis project. October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2006 a working Seminar of DEX project "Innovative Instruments of Regional and Municipal Development and SME Support: Best Practices of Central Finland and North West Regions of Russia" took place in the framework of The Fifth All-Russia Forum of Strategic Planning Leaders. Representatives of Saint Petersburg and North-West of Russia Administrations, heads of excellence centres and Regional Development Company Jykes Ltd, experts of Leontief Centre, World Bank Institute and representatives of Tacis projects on e-skills and innovations in North-West Federal region took part in the seminar.

**"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 was aimed to solution of four main 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, assessment of practicability of creation of free economic zones of tourist-resort type in the Baikal region. The work under this project is finalized and received the approval of Ministry of Economic Development and Trade.

**Republic of Chuvashia: Investment Program Elaboration**, the customer of this project is the World Bank of Reconstruction and Development. The work under this project includes preparation of guidelines for elaboration of regional program of capital investment, evaluation and selection of project methodology, consulting and expert support of programme for 2007-2009 creation process and coordination of the programme with the middle-term financial plan.

## Conferences and Seminars

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, three seminars were held in the reported period:

October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006 "Will reduction of prices on oil lead to the crisis in Russia?"

Speaker: Mikhail Dmitriev (President of "Centre of Strategic Research", Moscow);

October 26<sup>th</sup>, 2006 "Why party democracy is impossible in Russia?"

Speaker: Alexey Shustov (political psychologist, head of Socio-political technologies department "AMP SPb");

December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2006 "Discrimination in the labor market in Russian Federation: costs and benefits".

Speaker: Pavel Lukichev (Baltic State Technical University, St.Petersburg).

October 16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>, 2006 Leontief Centre staff member Z.Ivanova took part in the organization and realization of the **Netherlands Trade and Transport Mission's** activities, which were held in the framework of project on **Regional Distributive Council** creation. Project developers (NEA, HIDC and Leontief Centre) jointly with project beneficiary (Committee on transport-transit policy of Saint-Petersburg Administration and RDC), with support of Committee for external relations and the Netherlands Consulate-General in Saint-Petersburg participated in the organization of Dutch transport and logistic companies managers visit. The programme of mission provided arrival of Dutch transport, logistic and port companies representatives to Saint Petersburg, excursion to the port, visit of logistic/distributive centres (Shushary, Gorelovo, Predportovaya, Parnas), individual visits to enterprises and MATCHMAKING event.

October 19<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006 in Saint-Petersburg the **Fifth All-Russia Forum of Strategic Planning Leaders: "Strategic Planning in Cities and Regions of Russia: Implementation of National Priority Projects on Regional and Municipal Levels"** was held. During the Forum along with traditional exchange of experience between Russian cities and regions - Strategic Planning Leaders, the following themes were discussed:

- Increasing of regional strategies number (reasons and consequences);
- Methodological documents for strategic planning;
- Strategy realization problems;
- Quantitative methods of planning;
- Strategic planning in cities- millionaires.

The following themes were discussed during the plenary sessions:

- Implementation of national priority projects on regional and municipal levels;
- Strategy realization instruments;
- On the way to the global cities;
- Opportunities of donor organizations in support of strategic planning and regional development, best international practice.

The questions discussed during the round tables and section meetings rouse high interest among the participants:

- Balanced system of Indicators – Instruments for implementation of Municipal Strategic Planes, city's Indicators;
- Strategic Planning in the Coastal and Crossborder Regions;
- Glamour and Poverty of Quantitative Methods of Planning (devoted to Wassily Leontief's Centenary);
- Regional Mechanisms for Development and Support of Affordable Housing Market.

190 participants took part in the work of the Forum:

- Representatives of 57 RF municipal and regional administrations;
- Representatives of federal authorities – Council of Federation and State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, RF Ministry of Economic Development and Trade;
- Staff members and experts of strategic research centres and other consulting, educational, research and international donor organizations.

During six plenary sessions, two section meetings and two round tables 61 keynote speakers made their reports.

The Forum recommendations, reports and presentations are available at the web site of Resource Centre on Strategic Planning at Leontief Centre.

The Forum materials are to be published in a separate edition in January 2007.

The Sixth All-Russia Forum of Strategic Planning Leaders is scheduled on October 2007.

October 23<sup>d</sup>, 2006 in Moscow Conference **"Economic Agenda of New Political Cycle"** was held in the Institute of World Economy and Foreign Affairs. The conference was organized by Association of Russian Economic Think Tanks. Irina Karelina, Director General of Leontief Centre and Leonid Limonov, Director-Coordinator for Research Programmes of Leontief Centre took part in the conference. The presentation "Regional Policy" made by Mr. Limonov during the conference is available at the web-site [www.aret.ru](http://www.aret.ru)

December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006 the research and practical conference **"Traffic Jams in Megapoli: Modern Solution Technologies"** took place in the House of Scientists. The conference was carried out in the framework of scientific research work «Possibility of Paid Entry for Traffic Jams Prevention in the Central Part of Saint-Petersburg» and was devoted to discussion of ways of complex solution of traffic problems in the central part of the city, as well as discussion of main principles and possibilities of entry limitation system usage and corresponding compensation measures taking into account all groups of interest among population and business. The Conference organizers: St. Petersburg Administration Committee on Transport, State organization "Direction on Road Traffic Organization", Profile Planning Commission at Saint-

Petersburg Legislative Assembly, Regional public Foundation «Association for support of Saint-Petersburg City-planning Development», jointly with ICSEER “Leontief Centre”.

As a result of the conference work in December 2006 a new web site was added to the system of Internet sites of Leontief Centre (Leontief.net): Traffic Jams in Megapolises: Modern Solution Technologies (<http://www.probki.leontief.ru>). The web site contains detailed materials of the conference, including its programme, list of participants, reports and presentations, photo report, Media materials about the Conference.

December 7th, 2006 N.Oding Research department Head made a report “City Development Strategy and socio-economic reforms in Saint-Petersburg” on a plenary session of “**Social Petersburg: New Solutions. 2006**” Forum, which was organized by Non-for-Profit Organizations Development Centre (St.Petersburg).

December, 14<sup>th</sup> N.Oding Leontief Centre Research department Head took part in the work of round table “**Poverty in Russia: Ways to Overcome**”, which was organized by “Nevskoe Vremya” newspaper.

N.Oding, Leontief Centre Research department Head participated in a round table session in the Consulate General of the United States of America in Saint Petersburg “**Real Estate and Implementation of National Priority Project “Affordable Accommodation” in Saint Petersburg**”.

November 10<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> Boris Zhikharevich, Director of Resource Centre on Strategic Planning at Leontief Centre made a report “Ten years of Strategic planning in Russia” in Novosibirsk, in the framework of **All-Russia Intermunicipal Forum devoted to 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Association of Siberian and Far East cities**.

### Partners and Networks

October 23, 2006 in Moscow the general meeting of **Association of Russian Economic Think Tanks (ARETT)** took place. Irina Karelina, Director General of Leontief Centre and Leonid Limonov, Director-Coordinator for Research Programmes of Leontief Centre participated in the meeting. One of the main issues of agenda was ARETT governmental board election for 2007. Irina Karelina was elected again.

November 6<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>, 2006 Irina Karelina, Director General of Leontief Centre took part in the Conference “**Future of our Baltic Europe Territory. The Contribution of the Baltic Sea Region to Rotterdam Process and Long-term Perspectives of Baltic sea Region Spatial Development**” in Warsaw (Poland). The Conference materials are available at: [VASAB](#) Committee web site.

November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006 in Warsaw (Poland) Irina Karelina, Director General of Leontief Centre as a member of Committee for Spatial Development of the Baltic Sea Region (CSD/BSR) took part in **XLI meeting of VASAB 2010 (Vision and Strategies Around the Baltic 2010)**. Please, see details at the RNSC website [in the “News” section](#).

November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006 in Warsaw (Poland) Irina Karelina, Director General of Leontief Centre as a Russian National BSR Interreg III B NP Sub-Committee secretary took part in the meeting of **Steering Committee of BSR Interreg III B NP**. During the meeting the projects of the 9<sup>th</sup> call of proposals for BSR Interreg III B NP were discussed. See details at the Russian National BSR Interreg III B NP Sub-Committee [web site](#).

### Awards

In regard of decade of strategic Plan of Saint Petersburg elaboration, Leontief Centre created a memorable sign “**Decade of Strategic Plan of Saint Petersburg**”, which is awarded to the most active participants of elaboration and realization of the first strategic plan of a city in Russia. The sign was given

to the members of General and Expert Councils of Strategic Plan of Saint Petersburg, co-chairs and experts-coordinators of thematic commissions, heads of Project bureau “Strategic Plan for Saint Petersburg”.

### Publications



**St. Petersburg. 2005-2006** / St. Petersburg: Leontief Centre, 2006. – 74 p., 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 and other materials. 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](http://www.fincom.spb.ru)



**Problems of Economic Theory and Policy/** Edited by A. Zaostrovtshev

– International Centre for Social and Economic Research Leontief Centre, 2006.- 484 p., 300 copies.

The collection of materials is prepared on the base of reports of the VI Annual Conference Leontief Readings “Problems of Economic Theory and Policy”, which took place in St. Petersburg on 29th-30th of September 2006. The conference was devoted to the Centenary of the outstanding scientist, Nobel prize Winner in economy Wassily Leontief. During the Conference prominent Russian and foreign scientists discussed relevant problems of economic theory and contemporary Russian transformation, including questions of economic policy, demography, modern mathematical economics methodology and its implementation in economic analysis, evolution of political and socio-economic institutions in Russia.

This book might be interesting for scientific workers, teachers of socio-economic disciplines, students and postgraduates dealing with social sciences, journalists, and other readers interested in the modern state of Russian economy.

The publication became possible with the generous support Saint Petersburg Government.



**The Socio-Economic Situation in St. Petersburg. #82 and #83 (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.

To subscribe, please contact Elena Chetvergova ([chetv@leontief.spb.su](mailto:chetv@leontief.spb.su)).

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