



Newsletter № 5 April – June 2006

Announcements

The sixth Annual Conference **Leontief Readings** is scheduled on September 29th-30th, 2006.

The **Fifth Forum of Strategic Planning Leaders** will be held on October 19th -21st, 2006. The information about 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...

Wassily Leontief's Centenary

On the **W. Leontief's web site** www.wassily.leontief.net in the 'Biography' section new rubric "Archival documents" was created where some archival documents connected to W. Leontief's Russian period of life are stored: Birth-Certificate, Extract from the house-register, Certificate of student's acceptance, Test books and others.

New rubric "Library stock" is added to the "Bibliography" section. Here works of W. Leontief, which are deposited in libraries of St.-Petersburg, Moscow, Bryansk, Voronezh, Vladivostok, Nizhniy Novgorod, Petrozavodsk, Pskov, Samara, Tomsk and Uzhno-Sakhalinsk are posted.

Leontief Centre continues preparation of **the sixth Annual Conference Leontief Readings** which will take place on September 29th-30th, 2006 and is one of the major events in the framework of Program for celebration of Wassily Leontief's Centenary.

By now the concept and draft program of the event are worked out. The central plenary session will be devoted to discussion of long term perspectives of world economy development, issues of Russian economic development in the scope of world trends. Among key-note speakers of the session are: Mikhail Dmitriev, Center of Strategic Research

president, with report "Long-term Perspectives of World Economy Development", Evgeny Yasin, State University Higher School of Economics scientific advisor, Kristalina Georgieva, World Bank Office in Moscow director. During the conference four parallel section meetings will be held: "Economic Policy", "Demographic transition and social policy", "Wassily Leontief's works and modern mathematical economics" and "Transformation of Institutions".

The section meeting "Wassily Leontief's works and modern mathematical economics" is timed to Wassily Leontief's Centenary and is organized by Leontief Centre jointly with Russian Academy of Science Institute for Mathematical Economics. This section will be devoted to discussion of modern trends of economic and mathematical modeling and mathematical instruments of relevant economic research.

The official part of the conference will be closed by the Ceremonial session devoted to Wassily Leontief's Centenary. During this session the Ceremony of Rewarding with the medals in name of Wassily Leontief "For achievements in economy" 2006 will take place.

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. RF Ministry of Finance selected the consortium of consultants, which includes the international Centre for Social and Economic Research Leontief Centre and "RBC-Centre" Ltd, basing on the results of international tender. The first stage of work was finalized in May, and it resulted in preparation of special programs for

learning and professional development for various categories of financial officers of regional and municipal levels (top-managers, average employees). The training programs are devoted to issues of public finance administration, separation of responsibilities between levels of budget system and carrying out of municipal reform.

June 20th – 30th in Novosibirsk the first pilot learning program for employees of regional and municipal financial authorities of Siberian Federal District was held on the base of Inter-regional Center for professional development of Siberian Academy of State Service. 52 participants took part in the program.

Republic of Chuvashia: Investment Program – the World Bank Project. The project is on the implementation stage. On the first stage of the project the information was gathered, the program documents were studied: the forecasts of socio-economic development, address investment programs for previous years, federal and republican action programmes, programs of Ministry of Urban Development and development of public infrastructure of Chuvashia, sectoral development programs. Share of projects started in previous years in total amount of funding of republican investment program was studied. The analysis of condition of main republican funds and infrastructure of major branches of public sector and review of system of state purchases in Chuvashia republic was held. "Guidelines for forming middle-term regional program of capital investment" were worked out and presented for the discussion in the region.

Management of Sub-National Public Finance, Russian Federation Europe. The project is carried out by Bannock Consulting Ltd (UK) in cooperation with Arcadis BMB (Netherlands), Research Budgetary Center (Russia), ICSE Leontief Centre (Russia) and Local Government Denmark (Denmark).

The work on the project started with organization and realization of meeting in Tver (April 20th), mobilizing representatives of region and municipal administrations, key experts of the project, representatives of Ministry of Finance, Tacis, European Union.

On the first stage of work, the experts of the project prepared review of main statutory and regulating acts in the sphere of regional finance management. The request for main regional and municipal documentation was arranged and the materials were gathered. 2 working meetings of representatives of regional and municipal administrations, as well as interviews with employees of relevant committees were held.

Urban and City Management – joint distant learning Program of the World Bank Institute and Leontief Centre. In May 2006 the education under the Course 2 "Financial Management" of the distance learning program was completed. The participants – representatives of public and local authority bodies, consultants, researchers and teachers of lead high schools,

representatives of non-for-profit organizations from Russian cities – successfully passed full course and will be awarded with certificates. More detailed information about Urban and City Management Distant Learning Program is available under the following link: www.distant.leontief.net

"Developing EXcellence-DEX. Excellence Centres' network for sustainable development in the Baltic Sea Region" Neighbourhood programme. This Project is a part of "East-West Forum: Sustainable Development of the Baltic Sea Region" initiated by the Russian National Sub-Committee of the BSR INTERREG III B Neighbourhood Program. Developing EXcellence – DEX places a high importance on cross-border cooperation and its aim is to build capacity of the North-West Russian regions to fully participate in opportunities created by the new Neighbourhood instrument.

April 6–8, 2006 in Jyväskylä, Finland the regular training program "Spatial Planning and Regional Development – Past, Present and Future" was held. One of the major topics of the program was discussion of European Regional politics tools and Neighborhood politics for years 2007–2013. Also Enterprise 2006 fair was included in the framework of the training program. The fair offered tools and ideas for developing business and entrepreneurship, during its program exhibitions, seminars and info flashes on actual themes were organized. In the training program representatives from Leontief Centre, regional and municipal SME support organizations took part (22 Russian participants).

24 April 2006 in Leningrad Oblast Government working meeting of DEX project participants "How to use the gained knowledge and experience in future work on development of SME support services (including international projects)" took place.

And on the 25th of April 2006, in Leningrad Oblast Government seminar "Successful municipal development policy: good practice of Central Finland and perspectives of cooperation in EU TACIS programs" was held. The representative from Jyväskylä, Finland, Leningrad Oblast, Leontief Centre (Academic secretary Elena Belova) participated.

13th June 2006 in Petrozavodsk seminar "Development of excellence centres network for transnational business cooperation in Baltic Sea region" took place. In the seminar representatives of regional and municipal authorities, SME support organizations, managers and coordinators of projects took part. The Leontief Centre was represented by Elena Belova. Similar seminar was held on the 27th of June 2006 in Murmansk.

"E-skills for Russian SMEs". The EuropeAid Project has been implemented since autumn

2004 in cooperation with Leontief Centre. 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 June 9th in the framework of the Third International Forum on SME Support in the North-West Federal Region the closing conference of the project "**E-skills for Russian SMEs**" with the organizational-methodological support of Leontief Centre took place.

"Strategy of Socio-Economic Development of Eco-Resort Region Caucasian Mineral

Conferences and Seminars

Interdisciplinary seminars '**The Actual Problems of Social Sphere Transformation**' hosted jointly by Leontief Center and Sociological Institute of Russian Academy of Science (RAS):

April 21st, 2006 Theme of the seminar: Russia of Putin: Transformation of the Regime after 2003, speaker: Dmitry Travin (Deputy Chief Editor of Delo newspaper);

May 11th, 2006 Theme of the seminar: Sketches of Russian Social Consciousness in Orange, White-Blue and Green Colors, speaker: Leonid Keselman;

May, 30th, 2006, seminar "Municipal Government in Modern Russia and Neoliberal Ideology", speaker: Nadir Kinosyan, Cardiff school of City and Regional Planning (Wales, UK);

June 13th, seminar "Demography Problems: Solutions Existing and Necessity", speaker: Yuri Francuz.

The full texts and records of the seminars are available at: <http://www.leontief.ru/conf>

On March 31st – April 1st, 2006 the seminar "**Economic Styles and Eastern Enlargement of the EU**" was held. Head of Leontief Centre Research Department Mrs. Oding made a report "The Approach of Entrepreneurs towards the Extended Order: Case Study Russia" during the seminar. The Seminar was held in Hamburg Institute of International Economics (HWWA).

In April–May 2006 in the framework of the **Presidential Program of Public Officers Retraining** implemented on the base of the School of Management (St. Petersburg State University) Leontief Centre representatives Mr. Limonov, Mr. Zhikharevich and Mrs. Rusetskaya delivered two cycles of lectures: Territorial Strategic Planning and Local Economic Policy: Analyses of Best Practices. The Program audience were specialists of St. Petersburg executive bodies: Committee on Economic Policy, Industry and Trade, Committee on Finance, Committee on City Property Management, Committee on Power Systems and Engineering Support, Committee on Youth

Waters". The project has been implemented by Institute RosNIPIUrbanistic 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.

June 14th – 23d in Administration of Caucasian Mineral Waters in Essentuky the launching conference was held and meetings of 7 thematic commissions took place. The project will be finalized in December 2006.

Policy, Committee on External Affairs and Tourism, Committee on Housing Policy, Vice-Governor office as well as district administrations.

May 16th – 17th 2006 in Malmö (Sweden) **The Baltic Sea INTERREG III B Project Conference** – Setting Regions in Motion was held. Results achieved through transnational cooperation illustrated the added value of INTERREG III B to Baltic Sea Region. At the same time participants were up-dated on the future transnational programme in the Baltic Sea area starting in 2007.

More than 300 participants from projects, programmes stakeholders, pan-Baltic organizations and the European commission got together in Malmö. Interactive workshops and a project exhibition were competed. I. Karelina as the secretary of Russian national sub-committee, E. Belova, Leontief Centre development department head and N. Oding, Leontief Centre research department head participated in the conference.

May 17th – 19th Lion, France Mr. Zhikharevich, Territorial Strategic Planning Department head represented Leontief Centre at the **international forum for urban decision-makers GLOBAL CITY**. There were more than 1000 participants from all continents. The main subjects of the forum were ecology, environment protection, city transport infrastructure, economical potential and strategies of city development and the rising of living standards (social tasks solutions).

June 6th – 7th, St.Petersburg the annual all-Russia seminar–consultation for financial bodies heads "**Interbudget relations 2007**" was held, among the participants were representatives of RF Ministry of Finance, federal authorities, finance bodies of RF subjects heads (total amount of participants – 130). The seminar was organized by RF Ministry of Finance, the host organization and co-organizer was St.Petersburg Committee on Finance. The seminar was held with technical support of the Leontief Centre. The following issues were discussed during the seminar:

- interaction between tax administration bodies and financial bodies or RF subjects and local administrations,
- facilitating regional and municipal authorities with statistic information,
- issues of tax legislation improvement in Russian Federation in 2007,
- financial aspects of municipal government reform,
- issues of RF subjects' participation in competition for regional finance reforming, etc.

Director-Coordinator of Leontief Centre Research Programs Mr. Limonov took part in the seminar and made a report.

On June, 5, 2006 in Dombai, Mr. Zhikharevich conducted one-day training for strategic planning technology. The training was conducted for South Federal District experts in the framework of World Bank seminar **“Strategic Planning, Management by Program Principles and Estimating Consequences of Policy and Programs”**.

June 13th, 2006: O. Rusetskaya head of Leontief Centre Investment Planning Department participated in experts meeting in Astana. In the thematic scope of the meeting were retraining issues connected to realization of **Territorial Development Strategy of Kazakhstan Republic by 2015**.

Partners and Networks

Information conference for the 4th INTERREG III A Call for Proposals in St.Petersburg

Information conference for the 4th INTERREG III A Call for Proposals was held on April 12th-13th, 2006 in St. Petersburg Government, Smolny. More than 100 participants from St. Petersburg and Leningrad Region participated in the Conference. Key representatives from St. Petersburg and Leningrad Region Governments, St. Petersburg Tacis Local Support Office, RCBI Project, South Finland – Russia NP Programme were involved in the work of the Conference. During the second day experts from the Local Support Office were involved in consultations; RCBI expert delivered presentations on the Tacis requirements. During the 13th of April, 2006 24 consultations with potential Project applicants were held by Riga Secretariat and St. Petersburg info point experts jointly with experts from St. Petersburg Tacis Local Support Office.

Meetings of the working and consulting groups of the **Joint Programming Committee on Baltic Sea Region Program for 2007–2013** were held on April 20th–21st, 2006 in Berlin (Germany). Leontief Centre President Irina Karelina participated in the meeting as Responsible Secretary of the Russian National Sub-Committee of the BSR INTERREG III B NP. The groups are actively preparing proposals on new Program for transnational cooperation in the Baltic Sea Region for 2007-2013.

On April 24–25, 2006 in Parnu (Estonia) Head of Research Department Mrs. Oding participated in the ESPON ECP – COBALT Seminar **Territorial Cohesion & Coordination in the Baltic Sea Region** as well as in the **VASAB 2010 Seminar**, which was devoted to the long-term perspectives of the Baltic Sea Region spatial development. During this seminar Mrs. Oding made a report “Russian Approach to the Long-Term Perspectives of Spatial Development”.

On April 26–28, 2006 the Seminar **Strategic Planning at Local and Regional Levels** was held in Leontief Centre Conference-Hall. The Seminar was organized in the framework of

partnership Project of the Leontief Centre, Russian Economic Developers Association (ASSET), and International Economic Development Council (USA). Representatives of 10 Russian cities and regions participated in the seminar.

Seminar organizers: Ed Bee, CecD, President of the consulting company Tamerica Management Company, Jon Roberts, CecD, Director of consulting company TIP STRATEGIES and Boris Zhikharevich, Director of the Resource Centre on Strategic Planning.

Meeting of the Joint Programming Committee on Baltic Sea Region Program for 2007–2013

with participation of working groups took place on May 15th, 2006 in Malmo, Sweden. Mrs. Irina Karelina participated in the meeting as Responsible Secretary of the Russian National Sub-Committee of the BSR INTERREG IIIB NP Program. Mrs. Belova also participated in the JPC meeting. Groups are now preparing proposals on new transnational cooperation program in the Baltic Sea Region for 2007–2013. (details about work of Russian national Sub-Committee at www.rnsc.leontief.ru)

On May 16th, 2006 Director-Coordinator of Leontief Centre Research Programs Mr. Limonov participated in the meeting of the working group on methodic and instrumental support of the **RF Strategy for Regional Social and Economic Development**, which was organized by the RF Ministry for Regional Development in the framework of preparation of Russian Regions Strategies for Social and Economic Development. The draft requirements (technical standards) for Russian Regions Strategies for Social and Economic Development were discussed during the meeting.

The 40th meeting of the Committee for Spatial Development of the Baltic Sea Region

– VASAB 2010 (Vision and Strategies Around the Baltic 2010) was held on May 17th–18th, 2006 in Malmo (Sweden). Representative of St.Petersburg Mrs. Irina Karelina, Leontief Centre President and RNSC Responsible Secretary, participated in the meeting. During this meeting following

problems were discussed: further perspectives of spatial planning development in the Baltic Sea Region including the discussion of Parnu Seminar results, discussion of activities of the **Joint Programming Committee and Spatial Planning Conference**, VASAB Secretariat activities in 2007–2010

On 8th of June in Straszyn, Poland, the 12th **meeting of the BSR Interreg III B NP Steering Committee** took place. Decision has been taken: the 9th call for project applications will be launched on 17 July 2006 and will be closed on 16th October. The 9th call is opened for projects that will be submitted under Measures 3.1 and 3.2 only and they must have a special focus on the partner countries (Russia and/or Byelorussia). Besides, not only new projects can apply, but also additional projects to existing ones. Decision on projects approval will be made by the Steering Committee in December 2006.

Third International Forum for SME Support in the North-West Federal District was held in St.Petersburg on the 9th of June. Final Conference of project Electronic Skills for Russian SME was held here also. Forum Organizers: Machinery of the Plenipotentiary Representative of the President in the North-West Federal District, Representatives of the Europe Commission in Russia, Tacis Project Electronic Skills for Russian SME, Ministry of the Economic Development and Trade, North-West SME Support Centre, Academy of National Economy under the Russian Federation Government, World Bank Institute, ICSEF Leontief Centre.

Main Task of the forum was the discussion of priority tendencies and basis skills for State and International support of the rising competitive capacity of North-West Russian SME. Moreover, the totals and perspectives of realizing Tacis Project Electronic Skills for Russian SME were discussed also.

In the context of Forum Federal Competition for selection of the Russians Federals Subjects for granting in 2006 totals were discussed. Russians Federals Subjects Budgets will granting for actions in the context of state support of SME by the North-West Federal District Subjects:

- SME support infrastructure creation and development (business incubators);

- Support of SME subjects which make goods (works, services) for export;
- SME credit system development;
- Creation and development of scientific and technical SME support infrastructure.

General EU projects realizing in the North-West Federal District were presented at the Forum:

- Interactive services of electronic government in the North-West developing;
- Electronic Karelia;
- Export-oriented innovation small enterprises support;
- Regional potential – RCBI – developing assistance;
- Tacis-DEX cross-border cooperation project: excellence centres for cross-border business cooperation in the Baltic Sea region network development

Opportunities for data results applications in all RF subjects were discussed also. In work of the Forum took part: Machinery of the Plenipotentiary Representative of the President in the North-West Federal District; Representatives of the North-West Federal District Subject's Administrations; Representatives of federal ministries and agencies; Representatives of St.Petersburg State University and other High Schools and research organizations; Officials and experts of Tacis projects and International Donor Organizations; Representatives of Russian Cumber of Commerce and Industry and Russian Agency of SME Support (central administration and North-West agencies) etc.

During last months the preparation to the **Fifth Forum of Strategic Planning Leaders** is going on, the Forum is scheduled for 19th – 20th October 2006 in St.Petersburg. The Forum is aimed to discuss main directions and problems of localization of National projects, one of which is available habitation project. In the framework of the Forum the special session dedicated to this issue of strategic importance will be held. In the framework of the Forum an application to MPSF for additional funding of the project “Regional mechanisms for support of regional markets of available habitation” was developed and submitted in order to organize wider discussion of main results of the projects with the Forum participants.

Awards

On April 14th, 2006 an official **ceremony of rewarding of recipients 2005 with premiums in name of professor Boris Ovsievich** was held in St. Petersburg, House of Scientists.

The ceremony was organized by Science centre of Russian Academy of Science, St-Petersburg Economic and Mathematical Institute of Russian Academy of Science, Foundation for Support of Science and Education (Alferov Foundation) and Leontief Centre.

Premiums in name of professor Boris Ovsievich are founded by St-Petersburg Economic and Mathematical Institute of Russian Academy of Science, which founder and first director was professor Boris Ovsievich, for support of talented young Russian scientists. The premiums are rewarded for fundamental economic and mathematical research, undertaken in Russia. The initiator of the premium awarding was professor Ovsievich's follower PhD A.Kokh. The

amount and quantity of premiums are defined annually by the Council of the Premium by the results of competition. Leontief Centre is represented in the Council by PhD L. Limonov, director-coordinator of Research Programmes.

In 2005 there were 4 thematic directions for research works: theoretic economics (macro and micro economics), theory of games and operations analysis, mathematical methods of economic process analysis, theory of optimization. 11 applications were presented for the competition. By the results of the competition and the Council's decision the winners are:

- ✓ Julia Vymyatina – II premium (for economic research of monetary policy of Central Bank of RF);
- ✓ Aleksey Savateev – II premium (for work on the mathematical modeling of corruption, connected to deviation of paying taxes);
- ✓ Albert Bakhtizin – III premium (for work on creation of series of computable models of general economic balance for Russian economy);
- ✓ Julia Sosina – III premium (for research of new theoretical and play models of political competition and models of forming of political structures in society).

Publications



Information bulletin “The Socio–Economic Situation in St.Petersburg” № 80 (March – April 2006). An information bulletin “The Socio–Economic Situation in St.Petersburg” has been published by the Leontief Centre since 1992, 6 issues per year, available by subscription. Each issue (25–35pp. in Russian and English) contains an overview features statistics and analyses (including original research by LC experts) covering St. Petersburg’s industry, infrastructure, budget, city’s privatization process, its real estate market, living standards and employment.

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