



Third International SME Capacity Building Forum in the North-West of Russia

Office of the Plenipotentiary of the RF President in the North-West Federal Region
Delegation of the European Commission to Russia
E-Skills for Russian SMEs Tacis Project
Ministry of Economic Development and Trade of the Russian Federation
World Bank Institute
Academy of National Economy under the Government of the Russian Federation
North-West Centre for SME Support
ICSER Leontief Centre

INNOVATION INSTRUMENTS AND TECHNOLOGIES FOR SME COMPETITIVENESS IMPROVEMENT

on the Results of Implementation of federal Competition and
E-Skills for Russian SMEs Tacis Project

JUNE 9TH, 2006,

St. Petersburg, Smolny, Lepnoy Hall

PROGRAM

9.30-10.00 REGISTRATION OF FORUM PARTICIPANTS

10.00-10.20 FORUM OPENING, WELCOMING ADDRESSES

Valentin Antipin, Lead Adviser of the RF President in the North-West Federal Region

10.20-12.00 **SESSION 1. PRIORITIES AND INSTRUMENTS FOR SME DEVELOPMENT: OUTCOMES OF THE FEDERAL COMPETITION AND EU PROJECTS**

Priorities of State Policy and Outcomes of the Federal Competition

Viktor Ermakov, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation, Committee on Private Enterprise and SME Development, Chairman; Russian Agency for Small and Medium Business Support, General Director

Leningrad Oblast Experience in Implementation of Activities Directed to Promotion of Subsidies from the Federal Budget on Providing of State Support to SME Subjects

Natalia Smirnova, Leningrad Oblast Government, Committee on SME and Consumer Market Development, Chairman

Programs of Innovation Sector Support in the Field of St. Petersburg SMEs

Sergey Zimin, St. Petersburg Committee on Economic Development, Industrial Policy and Trade, Deputy Chairman

Implementation of EU Projects for SME Support in the North-West of Russia

Sergey Balanov, North-West Foundation for SME Development, General Director

Questions and Presentations of Representatives of Administrations and Infrastructure Organizations on SME Support from Leningrad Oblast, Novgorod Oblast, Pskov Oblast, Vologda Oblast, Murmansk Oblast, Republic of Komi and St. Petersburg

Results of E-Skills for Russian SMEs Tacis Project

- **Gerard Bonnevey**, E-skills for Russian SMEs Tacis Project, Team Leader
- **Misak Vartanov**, Academy of National Economy under the Government of the RF
Place of the Project Training Program in the Russian Education System

12.00-12.30 Coffee break

12.30-15.00 SESSION 2. E-SKILLS FOR RUSSIAN SMES: MAIN INSTRUMENTS AND PERSPECTIVES OF PROJECT ENLARGEMENT

Project Achievements and Perspectives in Novgorod Oblast

Vladislav Alekseev, Novgorod Oblast Administration, Economic Committee, SME Support and Development Department, Head

Self-Assessment Instrument as a Base of New Skills Suggested

Alexander Bikkulov, St. Petersburg State University, Lecturer; Project Expert

- **Success Stories**

Method of Active Trainings and Consulting of Attendees

Vladimir Golovanov, Project Training Programs, Director

- **Success Stories**

Second Stage of E-Skills for Russian SMEs Tacis Project

Sergey Balanov, North-West Foundation for SME Development, General Director

Main Cooperation Trends between EU Tacis Projects E-Karelia and Development of Internet Based Interactive Government to Business in the North-West of Russia

- **Werner Willeke**, E-Karelia Tacis Project, Team Leader
- **Jean-Jacques Kudela**, Development of Internet Based Interactive Government to Business in the North-West of Russia, Team Leader

Questions and Presentations of Representatives of Administrations and Infrastructure Organizations on SME Support from Leningrad Oblast, Novgorod Oblast, Pskov Oblast, Vologda Oblast, Murmansk Oblast, Republic of Komi and St. Petersburg

15.00-16.00 **Lunch**

16.00-17.40 ROUND TABLES.

ROUND TABLE 1. How to Use New EU Instrument – Neighborhood Programs in Order to Increase SMEs Competitiveness and to Enhance Business Cooperation

- **Regional Capacity Building Initiative – RCBI, Tacis Project**
- **EU Neighborhood Programs in the Baltic Sea Region: INTERREG IIIA and INTERREG IIIB**
- **Developing Excellence – DEX. Excellence Centre’s Network for Sustainable Development in the Baltic Sea Region**
- **Cooperation Program between EU and Russia: Opportunities for SME Development**

Discussion

ROUND TABLE 2. How to Use Effectively the Results of E-Skills for Russian SMEs EU Tacis Project

- **Benchmarking Instruments**
- **Self-Assessment Instruments**
- **Methods of Active Training**

Discussion

17.40-18.00 FORUM OUTCOMES AND MEMORANDUM ON STRENGTHENING OF THE NORTH-WEST FEDERAL REGION ROLE IN DEVELOPING OF THE PROFESSIONAL STATE POLICY FOR SME AND INNOVATION SUPPORT

Viktor Ermakov, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of the Russian Federation, Committee on Private Enterprise and SME Development, Chairman; Russian Agency for Small and Medium Business Support, General Director

Sergey Balanov, North-West Foundation for SME Development, General Director

18.00-19.00 **WELCOME RECEPTION**