



NEWSLETTER № 11

October – December 2007

ANNOUNCEMENTS

St.Petersburg Science Centre of Russian Academy of Sciences, St.Petersburg Economics & Mathematics Centre of Russian Academy of Sciences, Education and Science Support Foundation (Alferov Foundation) declare **competition on the premium in name of professor Boris Ovsievich** for the fundamental economic-mathematical researches executed in Russia. In May, 2008 in St.-Petersburg the ceremony of rewarding with premiums will take place. Information about the competition is available at http://emi.nw.ru/konkurs/premia_Ovs.htm and www.alferov-fond.ru.

From the 10th of December, 2007 starts registration on Distance Learning programme for raising the level of professional skill Management of Regional and Municipal Finance, that is led by Leontief Centre jointly with state higher educational institution North-West Academy of Public Administration. The certificate of raising competency is given with learning completed.

Experts of Finance bodies and other organization departments of local authorities and government executive boards of RF subjects are welcome. Besides, instructors in social studies, interested in further teaching of that programme are invited to take part.

RESEARCH & 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 last quarter of 2007 there were held three training programmes for officers of public and municipal financial bodies.

On October 1 – 11, 2007, on the basis of State Educational Institution of Higher Professional Education "Academy of Budget and Treasury" (ABiK) (extension courses ABiK, Kaluga) the training program for officers of public and municipal financial bodies was held. 88 specialists successfully completed education.

On October 22 – November, 2, 67 persons took part and received certificates in raising the competency in the programme, carried out in the Pyatigorsk branch North Caucasian Academy for State Service.

On December, 3 – 14, on the basis of Chelyabinsk Institute (branch) of the Ural State Service Academy the training was successfully completed by 44 representatives of Ural Federal District financial institutions.

On November, 20-29, in Moscow on the basis of the State Educational Institution of Higher Professional Education "Academy of National

Economy under the Government of the Russian Federation" the training program for officers of public and municipal financial bodies of RF subjects and municipalities was held. 60 leading employees have successfully passed their training.

Management of Sub-National Public Finance in the Russian Federation - is a project, aimed at 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, ICSER "Leontief Centre" (Russia), Arcadis BMB (Netherlands), Research Budgetary Center (Russia) and Local Government Denmark (Denmark).

On 4-10 of November 2007 in the framework of project realization, Leonid Limonov participated in the training trip to the Great Britain (County Kent). Being the leading adviser, he was fulfilling functions of a team manager of Financial employees representing the RF Ministry of Finance, administrations of Tver, Ivanovo, Yaroslavl and Kostroma regions, and also heads of municipalities and heads of financial services of some regions municipalities.

British experience in the sphere of financial planning, budgeting, focused on result, interbudgetary relations, external and internal audit, and also estimation of efficiency of government authority activities and budgetary provisioning to the population was studied during the trip.



Development of Materials for Orsk City Social and Economic Planning (Orenburg Oblast).

The project embodies development of three basic documents: City's Development Concept to 2030, Orsk Development Strategy to 2015, Programme of Complex Social and Economic Development for 2008–2010. The project is implemented jointly with Russian Economic Developers Association.

On 9 of October 2007 in Orsk (Orenburg Oblast) the Third City Scientific-Practical Conference "Orsk Development Strategy: Strategic Choice" took place. In the framework of the Conference the projects of two scheduled documents – Orsk Development Concept till 2030 and Orsk Development Strategy till 2015 were approved. Boris Zhikharevich has made speech on the Conference.

Updating of the Living Standards in St.-Petersburg.

The project is carried out under orders of the St.Petersburg Committee for Economic Development, Industrial Policy and Trade.

In the framework of the project the optimization of the Living Standards was led, and the corresponding legal and organizational framework was prepared as long as the coordination and agreement on the Updating Living Standard's List with all executive City bodies. The work is implemented in close cooperation with St.Petersburg Committee for Economic Development, Industrial Policy and Trade, with all executive bodies of the city government and scientific community of St.-Petersburg. The final variant of the Living Standard's List for 2008-2011 was approved by the Government of Saint-Petersburg **on 25 of December, 2007**.

Development of the Social and Economic Development Program of St.Petersburg for 2009-2011.

Customer - St.Petersburg Committee for Economic Development, Industrial Policy and Trade. In December 2007 the working on this Programme has been completed. As the result of the work Saint-Petersburg Government decreed the following projects:

- Project of Saint-Petersburg government regulation "On the Program of social and economic development of Saint-Petersburg in 2008-2011 years";
- "On measures in organization of executive public authorities activity in the field of the state planning of socio-economic development in Saint-Petersburg.

On December, 25, 2007, the government of Saint-Petersburg has considered and taken these

decrees. Thereby the government has approved a legislation "On the Program of social and economic development of Saint-Petersburg in 2008-2011 years", which will be introduced in the Legislative Assembly of Saint-Petersburg. Besides, it has endorsed the tasks of social and economic development of Saint-Petersburg in 2008-2011 years", the provision on monitoring of socio-economic development in Saint-Petersburg, Tasks of social and economic development and Living Standards in St.-Petersburg.

Carrying out a monitoring of financial and economic activity of small business (the project was accomplished on the instructions of Committee for economic development, industrial policy and trade).

Results of research:

- According to the annual statistics and accounting reporting, calculations of the basic financial and economic activity figures of more than 2000 small enterprises of St.-Petersburg in 2004 - 2006 were performed;
- According to the interrogation of SME: the estimation of a financial and economic condition and the general financial load on SME in 2007 alongside with the analysis of external factors influence (including changes in the terms of taxation, tariff policy, rent costs, charges on crediting, etc.) on expenses structure and financial status of SME; the estimation of business activity changes of SME in a context of larger views of activities in 2007 along with the forecast on business activity for 2008 is lead; the operative information necessary for a substantiation of decisions concerning realization of the St.-Petersburg Government policy in the field of small business development is received.

East-West Window – is a project of TACIS, where research organizations from Baltic region countries take part. The project will last till June, 2009 and will include the analysis of spatial aspects in development of the economy, based on knowledge, for different type of territories (large metropolitan agglomerations, small and average cities, systems of settling). In the framework of the project sociological polls of innovative activity participants are also planned. According to the results of the project there will be drawn up recommendations on the development of regional cooperation in the sphere of innovations and economy based on knowledge; long-term vision of development in the Baltic Sea region is offered.



CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

Three interdisciplinary seminars took place, hosted jointly by the Leontief Centre and Sociological Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS) [Social Space Transformation: Key Issues.](#)

October, 23 - topic of the seminar: **Social Recognition in the field of Modern Russian Literature.** Speakers: Vadim Semenov and Marina Rabzhaeva (St.Petersburg State University)

November, 6 - topic of the seminar: **Current Situation in the View of Mass and Elite.** Speaker: Boris Dubin, Levada Centre, Moscow.

December, 18 - topic of the seminar: **Economic Theory of Dictatorship.** Speaker: Andrey Zaosrovtshev, candidate of economic science

On October 1-2 in Vorkuta Leontief Centre and Russian Economic Developers Association (ASSET) experts have held a search seminar **Modern Technologies of Planning of City Social and Economic Development: the Project for Vorkuta.** In the seminar have participated 25 persons - the representatives of business, public organizations of Vorkuta and City Administration and Republic of Komi. The basic attention has been given to approaches to partner development of programs and plans for city development, formation of the schedule and organizational frameworks process of planning.

[The VIIth Annual Conference from the series of Leontief Readings: Economic Theory and History](#) took place **on October, 5-6, 2007** in Saint-Petersburg (St.Petersburg, A.S. Popov Central Museum of Communications). On the first day there took place:

- Two Plenary Sessions: Russia on the Eve of the New Century: Break-troughs and Failures of Economic Reforms and Property and Authority: Large Transformation at the Beginning of the XXI Century.
- Three Sectional Sessions, led during the conference, were united by common subject Economic Reforms: Plans and Results and devoted to the discussion of the mainstreams and primary results of reforms, carried out in the key fields of national economy. Subjects of the Sectional Sessions are:
 - Economic Reforms: Plans And Results,
 - Whether The Natural Monopolies are Being Reformed?
 - Social Package: The Issues of Reforming Social Sector.
 - Presentation of the multi-author book of the Independent Institute for Social Policy (IISP) "Review of the Social Policy in Russia. The Beginning of the 2000's".

The work of the second conference day was opened by the Round Table Session Economic Thought and Economic History was held in the

framework of the conference. With the end of the conference there was held the Ceremony of Rewarding Laureates 2007 with the International Leontief Medal **For Contribution to Economic Reforms.**

Representatives of the Russian and international leading scientific, research and educational institutions, members of public authority, international donor organizations, journalists and experts from the leading Mass media took part in the conference.

On October 11-12, in Kaliningrad, Irina Karelina, Director General of Leontief Centre as the RNSC Responsible Secretary has participated in the III Annual International Conference **Cross-Border Cooperation: Russian Federation, European Union and Norway**, where made a presentation "[Baltic Sea Programme 2007-2013](#)".

[The VIth All-Russian Forum of Leaders in Strategic Planning. Strategic Planning in Cities and Regions of Russia: Integrating World Innovations Practice](#) was held **on October 18-19, 2007** in St. Petersburg. Forum organizers: Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, RF Ministry for Economic Development and Trade, RF Ministry for Regional Development, ICSE Leontief Centre, Russian Economic Developers Association (ASSET).

On the plenary sessions of the Forum there have been discussed the following themes

- Innovations in the strategies of countries, regions, cities: European union experience and Russian practice
- Support of innovations on the municipal level
- Innovations in the strategic planning of territories
- Theoretical footings and context of strategic planning
- Strategic Plan for St. Petersburg: 10 years later
- Abilities of the donor organizations in support of strategic planning, regional development and innovations
- Tools of innovative territorial development
- Elaboration and realization tools of strategic plans. Success stories.

Forum has gathered a record-breaking amount of participants (264) and became the next step towards the broadening of dialogue and interchange of experience between the key participants of the strategic planning – authorities, consultants, donors, NKO.

IV Forum of Strategic Planning Leaders has reached a serious international level. On Forum there arrived speakers of the profile ministries of spatial planning and regional development in countries of the Baltic sea region – Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Norway, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia. 62 foreign participants took part in the work of the Forum, as well as



representatives of international organizations – European Union, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Committee for Spatial Development of the Baltic Sea Region (CSD/BSR), BSR INTERREG III B Joint Secretariat, South-East Finland - Russia Neighbourhood Programme.

During the eight plenary sessions, one section session, round table, three seminars-trainings and one discussion 107 persons took the floor.

On November, 19-20 in Korolev (near Moscow) there was held the seminar **Analysis of Key Development Problems of Local Government in RF Subjects**, organized in the framework of the joint meeting preparation of RF Public Chamber Commission on Regional Development and Local Self-Government and Public Council at RF Ministry for Regional Development. Boris Zhikharevich, Head of Territorial Strategic Planning Department of Leontief Centre took part in the seminar.

On November, 21-22 in St.Petersburg there was held a Final Conference of the European Union Project **E-Skills for Russian SMEs – Phase II**. All project participants of RF North-West region and also all EC project experts participated in the Conference.

Conference organizers: European Union Project 'E-Skills for Russian SMEs – Phase II', North-West Center for SME Support, ICSE "Leontief Centre". On the first Conference day there were held parallel working sessions of the project partners and participants as long as a briefing with the participation of the North-West Russia Mass Media Association.

At the State Reception, on the occasion of the end of the project, participants were presented the awards according to the competition results «2007 E-SKILLS AWARD» on the following nominations:

- The first region that developed its ICT strategy
- The best ICT Center of excellence
- The best ICT adviser
- The best regional SME

The North-West Center for SME Support was admitted in European Association of Regional Development Agencies (EURADA). The second Conference day was devoted to the total discussion on project results. On the official session, there were speaking: Hans VAN VLIET, Counselor of the Delegation of the European Commission in Moscow, Eugenie LUKYANOV, Deputy of the Plenipotentiary of the President of the Russian Federation in the North-West Federal District, Dmitry BYKOV, Deputy of the Chairman of the Committee for Saint-Petersburg economic development, industrial policy and trade, Christian SAUBLENS, Director of EURADA, the European Association of Regional Development Agencies, Brussels, Belgium.

For more information, please visit [E-skills project web site](#).

On 21 of November 2007 in Yaroslavl in the framework of TACIS project **Management of Sub-National Public Finance in the Russian Federation**, carried out in consortium with DAI (Great Britain), Arcadis (Netherlands), KL (Denmark), Research Budgetary Centre (Moscow), ICSE "Leontief Centre" (St.Petersburg), there took place a seminar on capital investments planning and debt management for Tver, Ivanovo, Yaroslavl and Kostroma region authorities as long as for the municipalities of these regions. Leonid Limonov, Director-coordinator of Research programmes of Leontief Centre and Nicolay Zhunda, leading researcher participated in the seminar as speakers and moderators.

On 27 of November in the RF Ministry for Regional Development the joint meeting of RF Public Chamber Commission on Regional Development and Local Self-Government and Public Council at RF Ministry for Regional Development took place. Theme of the meeting was **Key Development Problems of Local Government in RF**.

Boris Zhikharevich, Director of Resource Centre on Strategic Planning under Leontief Centre, Expert Council Chairman of Russian Economic Developers Association (ASSET) in his presentation [Municipalities in Institution Development System](#) proposed several initiatives on institutional building and capacity of local-self governments in the process of development plan elaboration and realization on the national and regional levels.

On December, 6-7 Leonid Limonov, Director-coordinator of Research programmes of Leontief Centre and Nina Oding, Head of the Research Department participated in the workshop on TACIS project **East-West Window** (Riga). There were discussed methodical approaches to the analysis of innovative economy and economic development cooperation in the Baltic Sea region.

On December, 4, 2007 in Tver in the framework of TACIS project **Management of Sub-National Public Finance in the Russian Federation**, carried out in consortium with DAI (Great Britain), Arcadis (Netherlands), KL (Denmark), Research Budgetary Centre (Moscow), ICSE "Leontief Centre" (St.Petersburg), there was held a meeting with V.B. Toloko, the First Governor of Tver region with participation of economy and finance department heads, municipality heads and finance service heads of Tver region. At the meeting there were considered intermediate project results, that have received high estimation from Tver region government, and plans on project realization in 2008 were discussed. The representatives of Leontief Centre –Leonid Limonov, Director-coordinator of Research programmes participated in the meeting and Nina Oding, Head of the Research Department.



PARTNERS AND NETWORKS

On October, 9 in Brussels Director General of Leontief Centre, Irina Karelina, took part in the international event **Open Days - European Week of Regions and Cities**, organised by the EU Committee of the Regions and the European Commission's DG for Regional Policy, in partnership with 212 regions and cities from 33 countries. These days several actions came about: Saint-Petersburg presentation, conference **Regions of Europe** and a seminar **Saint-Petersburg - Finland**. In the framework of Open days there were business meetings with European Union experts and Brussels business circles. For the first time this year European week of Cities and Regions reviewed international aspects of regional policy. Within the limits of a special section experts from Russia, China and Brazil along with international organizations discussed approaches of EU and other parts of the world to the growth of convergence and competitiveness of regions.

On October, 17 Director General of Leontief Centre took part in the regular meeting of Committee for Spatial Development of the Baltic Sea Region (CSD/BSR) VASAB 2010 - **Vision and Strategies around the Baltic Sea 2010**, which was held in St. Petersburg Committee for External Relations.

For more information, please visit www.vasab.org

On October, 19 in St. Petersburg Irina Karelina, Director General of ICSE Leontief Centre in the working meeting of **Russian National Sub-Committee BSR Interreg III B NP** took part. The meeting was held in the framework of VI All-Russian Forum of Strategic Planning Leaders. For more information please visit the [RNSC web site](http://RNSC.web.site)

On October, 30, 2007 Nina Oding, Head of the Research Department of Leontief Centre took part in the regular Session of Constituency Club BMG - 2007 (Baltic Media Group), which was held in press-centre of Baltic Information Agency (BIA). Theme of Session: **Rise in Prices in St. Petersburg - what to do?**

On November 2 and 23, Igor Uljanov, Director for Administration and Financing of Leontief Centre took part in working group sessions of Committee for Saint-Petersburg Economic Development, Industrial Policy and Trade on elaboration of St. Petersburg Law **On SME Development in St. Petersburg**

As Vice-President of Public Council for SME support under the St. Petersburg Governor, Igor Uljanov analyzed and summarized proposals on Law project of Public Council members and entrepreneurs. On basis of received proposals, Igor Uljanov presented alternative variant of Law project, which was discussed at working group session.

On November, 2 in St. Petersburg at Leontief Centre there was a meeting with **Consulate General of Sweden in St. Petersburg** representatives and members of the **Board of Fund for Baltic and East European Research**, founded by the Government of Sweden in 1994. The representatives of Leontief Centre - Irina Karelina, Director General and Leonid Limonov, Director-coordinator of Research programmes participated in the meeting. The questions of current situation in the field of socio-economic development and acquaintance with Leontief Centre were discussed at the meeting.

On November, 7-8 in Rostock (Germany) Irina Karelina, Director General of Leontief Centre took part in the Task Force meeting on **Programme Manual of the BSR Programme 2007-2013**.

Both days were dedicated to reflect on comments submitted by participating countries, discussions and JTS responses to the Programme Manual. Furthermore, the following questions were discussed at the meeting: project partnership and project management, programme rules and budget lines, tools and measures to support project development, application and selection procedures, 1st level control issues and status of quo of integration of ENPI and ERDF/Norway procedures.

There was a common understanding that Programme Manual should be user friendly, targeted and include harmonized procedures for both ENPI and ERDF/Norwegian funding. The next amended version of Programme Manual will be sent to participating countries.

On November, 16 in St. Petersburg, Irina Karelina, Director General of Leontief Centre and Elena Belova, Academic Secretary participated in the Public Hearings on the Cross-Border Cooperation **Programme "Estonia-Latvia-Russia" of European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument 2007-2013**.

Elena Belova has made presentation "Basic Results of Neighbourhood Programme Estonia-Latvia-Russia in 2004-2006 Realization".

On November 26-27, BSR INTERREG III B Joint Secretariat (JS) and the Delegation to the European Commission to Russia jointly with ICSE "Leontief Centre" organized a Quality Workshop for project proposals approved in the 2-5th application round within **Baltic Sea Region INTERREG III B Neighbourhood Programme INTERREG IIIA Priorities North (Estonia - Latvia - Russia) and South (Latvia-Lithuania-Belarus)**.

The objective of the Workshop:

- Distribution of the most successful experience in project activity among the participants of the Baltic sea region Neighbourhood Programme.



- Training on application of the Management on visual representation of projects by following the rules of Tacis;
- Review of modern PR-techniques in promotion of projects' results.

For more information, please, visit [BSR INTERREG IIIA web site](#).

On November, 28 in St.Petersburg at Leontief Centre there was held the working meeting of BSR INTERREG III B Joint Secretariat representatives and RNSC working group with participation of Belarus representatives.

ENPI implementation issues for further Programme Manual development for the period 2007-2013 with an allowance for requests and regulations of European Neighborhood Partnership Instrument were discussed on a meeting. The representatives of Leontief Centre – Irina Karelina, Director General and Elena Belova, Academic Secretary participated in the meeting.

On December, 3 in Moscow Irina Karelina, Director General of ICSE Leontief Centre took part in Board session of **Association of Russian**

Economic Think Tank. There has been discussed the current activity of ARETT, elaboration of the ARETT activity program 2008, work plan of the ARETT Debate of club for the first half-year of 2008.

For more information please visit [ARETT web site](#).

On December, 25 Leontief Centre was one of the participants of the traditional Christmas presentation of annual edition **St. Petersburg 2008. Calendar of Events**, provided by Committee for Culture of St.-Petersburg and Institute of Cultural Programs. Given publication is developed with the assistance of Leontief Centre that has placed on Committee for Culture website a full calendar of events in St.-Petersburg for 2008. The calendar presents: festivals and competitions, exhibitions of art and trade fairs, sports and scientific events.

Detailed information please find on website <http://www.spbculture.ru/Events.html>

AWARDS

On October 4th, there took place the ceremony of opening the **memorial plaque** on the facade of the house on Zhdanovskaya Street 43, where Wassily Leontief, Nobel Prize Winner, the originator of the ramified theory of input-output analysis, has lived during 1906 – 1925. The decision on installation of a memorial plaque was taken in September 2006 in the framework of carrying out of Centenary Programme of Wassily Leontief Centenary Celebration. The Ceremony of opening the memorial plaque is timed to the VII Annual Leontief Conference «Economic Theory and History». Ceremony is organized by International Charitable Foundation for the Renaissance of St. Petersburg-Leningrad, Committee for Culture and Committee on City Planning and Architecture of the St.-Petersburg Government, ICSE "Leontief Centre" with support of Vneshtorgbank Ltd.

On October, 4 Director-coordinator of Research programmes Leonid Limonov and Head of the Research Department of the Leontief Centre Nina Oding were given the honorary insignia of the Saint-Petersburg **Committee on Finances** for conscientious work in Advisory committee on problems of reformation of the budgetary sphere

and budgetary process, connected with application of new project creation methods, as well as for the services in strengthening legality, formation of constitutional state and long fruitful activity.(Order of the Saint-Petersburg **Committee on Finances** № 214 of the 03.09.2007)

On October, 6, 2007 in the framework of the VII Annual Leontief Conference Economic Theory and History / Leontief Readings there was held a solemn Ceremony of Rewarding Laureates 2007 with the **International Leontief Medal "For Contribution to Economic Reforms"**.

Rewarding Laureates 2007:

- Eugeny Yasin, State University - Higher School of Economics, Academic Supervisor
- Leonid Limonov, ICSE "Leontief Centre", Director-Coordinator for Research Programmes
- Anders Aslund, Senior fellow of Peterson Institute for International Economics, USA

PUBLICATIONS

Interrelations of State Property Management Organizations with Legal Entities and Physical Persons on the Questions of Real Estate and State Property Management: St. Petersburg: International Centre for Social and Economic Research Leontief Centre, 2007. – 640 p., edition – 1000 copies. The handbook is prepared by request of the Committee on City Property Management. The general edition is carried out by L. Fridgant.

Present edition appeals to help in getting necessary legal information on the order of interaction of the public authorities, organizations and private persons in solving the problems of state property management and disposal.



Economic Theory and History/ Under the general editorship of A.P. Zaostrovtshev – International Centre for Social and Economic Research Leontief Centre.– St. Petersburg: ICSEER Leontief Centre, 2007 – 320 p., 300 copies.

The publication was prepared on the base of participants' reports from the VIIth Conference **Leontief Readings – Economic Theory and History** that came about on October 5-6, 2007. During the conference there were discussed plans and results of economic reforms in Russia, modern economic concepts and socio-economic history of Russia. This publication can be useful for research officers, teachers of social and economic disciplines, post-graduates and students of public sciences, journalists and all those willing to take a closer look at the results of economic reforms in post-socialist Russia along with the present-day economic theories.



The Social and Economic Situation in St. Petersburg. № 89 (September-October 2007)

An information bulletin in Russian and English. St. Petersburg: Leontief Centre (International Centre for Social and Economic Research), 1992–2007.

This bulletin has been published by the Leontief Centre bi-monthly since 1992, available by subscription. Each edition (25-30 pages) features statistics and analyses materials (including results of Leontief Centre's experts findings), covering Saint-Petersburg industry, infrastructure, budget, city's privatization process, its real estate market, living standards and employment.

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