



NEWSLETTER № 12

January – March 2008

ANNOUNCEMENTS

On October, 20-21, 2008 in St.Petersburg the **VII Annual Forum of Strategic Planning Leaders** "Strategic Planning in Cities and Regions of Russia: Partnerships for Sustainable Development" will be held. Permanent Forum Organizers: Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, RF Ministry for Economic Development and Trade, RF Ministry for Regional Development, Committee for Spatial Development of the Baltic Sea Region (CSD/BSR), ICSEER Leontief Centre, Russian Economic Developers Association (ASSET). Registration form and conditions of participation are on the web site <http://www.citystrategy.leontief.ru/>

In May – June, 2008 Leontief Centre will move to another office and change it's legal and actual address. The new address: 25, Krasnoarmeyskaya str. 7, St.Petersburg, 190005, Russia (Underground station Tekhnologicheskii Institut). Information about phone numbers modification will be published on the Leontief Centre web site <http://www.leontief.ru/>

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 RFTAP program 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 first quarter of 2008 there were held three training programmes for officers of public and municipal financial bodies.

On February, 1-29, on the basis of State Higher Educational Institution North-West Academy of Public Administration the distant learning programme was successfully completed by 181 specialists, including 38 lecturers.

On February, 4-15, 79 persons took part and received certificates in raising the competency in the programme, carried out in the Volgo-Vyatsk Academy of State Service (Nizhniy Novgorod).

On February, 18-29, 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. 113 specialists of regional and municipal financial bodies and also 14 lecturers on public finance disciplines, successfully completed education.

Texts of manuals "Management of Sub-National and Municipal Public Finance" for the different categories of financial officers have been prepared.

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 (Takis 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).

In March, 2008, during Project realization, experts of Leontief Centre have participated in consulting trips to regions:

- Leonid Limonov, Director-Coordinator of Research Programmes and Lev Savulkin, Senior Researcher participated in consultation trips to Ivanovo and Kostroma Oblast. During the meetings with supervisory and experts of Oblast Finance Departments and administrations of municipalities, following issues were discussed: public finance reforming, performance budgeting, financial planning, perfection of interbudget relations, intermunicipal cooperation.
- Nina Oding, Head of the Research Department and Denis Kadochnikov, Senior Researcher participated in the seminar "Effective management of the budget", which was organized in the framework of the Project on March, 28, in Kostroma. The experts made the reports "Perspectives of Interbudgetary Relations Development on the Regional and Municipal Level" and "Financial Planning, Three-Year Budgeting and Budgeting Focused on Result".



Besides, Nina Oding took part in the training trip to the Great Britain (County Kent), which was held in the framework of the Project.

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 March, 20, 2008, the Governor of St.Petersburg signed the St.Petersburg Law, which approves the St.Petersburg Socio-Economic Development Programme 2008-2011. Adoption of this Law finalized wide effort on elaborating of aims, tasks and planned indicators, which define the development of St.Petersburg in medium-term perspective. ICSE Leontief Centre experts took an active part in carrying out these tasks.

In the framework of Leontief Centre activities under supervision of Committee for Economic Development, Industrial policy and Trade of St.Petersburg, generating of Programme content and its coordination with state public authorities, business, scientific and public organizations of St.Petersburg have been provided.

The Programme is the compact document, which main aim and aims of socio-economic development of St.Petersburg are specified and also ways of their achievement are defined.

In each aim the system of target parameters is specified with quantitative value for every year of planning period.

Programme regulations and parameters are concretized in Tasks of socio-economic development of St.Petersburg and Standards of Living in St.Petersburg for 2008-2011, which are confirmed by St.Petersburg Government from 25.12.2007 № 1659.

In order to implement the Programme aims, Leontief Centre experts have prepared the **draft Plan of measures on Programme realization.**

After its concordance with executive authorities of St.Petersburg, this document will be submitted for consideration to St.Petersburg Government.

East-West Window – Customer – EU Commission (TACIS Programme), Lead Partner – Latvian Ministry of Regional Development and Local Government

In the project research organizations from Baltic region countries take part. Leontief Centre experts are invited to participation in the project by the Russian Partner - Russian Economic Developers Association (ASSET). The Project includes 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). According to the project results the recommendations on the development of regional cooperation in the sphere of innovations and economy based on knowledge will be prepared; long-term vision of Baltic Sea region development will be elaborated.

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

Two interdisciplinary seminars took place, hosted jointly by the Leontief Centre and Sociological Institute of Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS) "Actual Problems of Social Space Transformation".

February, 19 - topic of the seminar: **Hate Crimes in the Modern World.**

Speaker: Professor J. Gilinskiy, Ph.D. in law (Institute of Sociology of RAS)

March, 18 - topic of the seminar: **Does Russia have enough places for two capitals?**

Speaker: Sergey Shelin (All-Russian State Television and Radio Company)

On February, 5, Lev Savulkin, Senior Researcher of the Leontief Centre Research Department took part in the round table discussion **Reasonable Dwelling**, carried out by the Baltic Media Group. On the meeting questions of the housing market functioning, mortgage lending features in the city were discussed. The analysis of the system of grants, provided by the municipal authorities to

the citizens in the need of housing improvement has been made.

Participants of the round table discussion: A. Vakhmistrov, vice-governor, D. Lukmanov chairman of Committee on Housing Policy.

On February, 11 at the Mariinskiy Palace Irina Karelina, Director General of the Leontief Centre and Boris Zhikharevich, Head of the Strategic and Spatial Planning Department participated in the round table, where the Concept of Saint-Petersburg Development through to 2025, accepted in July 2007, was discussed. Boris Zhikharevich has introduced technical approaches to renovation of the Concept according to the adoption of the Russia's Development Strategy on federal level through to 2020.

On February, 12 Boris Zhikharevich, Head of Territorial Strategic Planning Department took part in the round table, organized by the St. Petersburg Committee for Economic Development, Industrial Policy and Trade on the subject



Qualitative and Quantitative Criteria in Attribution of Organizations to the Innovation Type and Figures of Innovation Development.

On February, 12-13, in Berlin (Germany), Irina Karelina, Director General ICSE "Leontief Centre" took part in the Forum **"Managing a Sustainable Future Cities and Regions"**.

More details on the Forum Web Site <http://www.iclei-europe.org/berlinforum>

On February, 14-15 the session of the Committee for Spatial Planning of the Union of Baltic Cities (UBC) on a subject "Visual Cities" took place. Boris Zhikharevich and Elena Belova participated in the session. Boris Zhikharevich made the presentation "System of the Planning of Saint-Petersburg Development"; Elena Belova made report "Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007-2013: New Opportunities of Cooperation with Russia".

On March, 11-13, in St.-Petersburg the **IX International Environmental Forum "Baltic Sea Day"** was held.

One of the major themes of Forum was the implementation of an ambitious HELCOM Baltic Sea Action Plan to restore the good ecological status of the Baltic marine environment by 2021,

which was adopted on November, 15, 2007 at a HELCOM Ministerial Meeting in Krakow, Poland.

This event usually holds under the aegis of Ministry of National Resources and annually gets together about 500 participants from the Baltics and the Europe.

Among participants of the Forum-2008 the high level of representation from HELCOM, European Commission and countries of region of Baltic Sea is expected.

On the Forum, Elena Belova, Academic Secretary ICSE "Leontief Centre" made presentation **"Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007-2013: New Opportunities for Russia"**.

On March, 20, in Novgorod Oblast Administration the Information Seminar for Potential Partners **on the Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007-2013** was held. In the framework of the seminar, Elena Belova, Academic Secretary, St.Petersburg Info Point of Joint Secretariat made reports on the results of the Baltic Sea Neighbourhood Programme realization and priorities of New Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007-2013. 44 representatives from the committees and administrations, educational centers and nonprofit organizations of Novgorod Oblast have participated in the seminar.

PARTNERS AND NETWORKS

On January, 31 in Riga (Latvia), Irina Karelina, Director General of ICSE "Leontief Centre" took part in working group meeting of Committee for Spatial Development of the Baltic Sea Region (CSD/BSR) VASAB 2010 - «Vision and Strategies around the Baltic Sea 2010». On the meeting the long-term perspectives document on spatial development in Baltic Sea region for next Conference of Ministers responsible for spatial planning preparation were discussed.

On March, 14 in Liepaja (Latvia) the recurrent meeting with the same agenda was held. Irina Karelina, Director General of ICSE Leontief Centre and Leonid Limonov, Director-coordinator of Research programmes participated in the meeting. For more information, please visit www.vasab.org

On February, 14-15 of in Rostock (Germany), Irina Karelina, Director General ICSE "Leontief Centre" as RNSC Responsible Secretary and Russian representative took part in the first Monitoring Committee meeting of Baltic Sea Region Programme 2007-2013.

More information on [RNSC Web Site](#)

On February, 20 in Moscow Irina Karelina, Director General of ICSE Leontief Centre took part in session of General Meeting of Association of Russian Economic Think Tanks (ARETT). More information on [ARETT Web Site](#).

On March, 12 in Moscow Irina Karelina, Director General of ICSE Leontief Centre took part in Council session of Fund "Center of Strategic Research – Region".

PUBLICATIONS



Budget of St. Petersburg for 2008 and for the 2009-2010 planning period.

Summary/ ICSE Leontief Centre, 2008, 76 p, edition – 600 copies in Russian, 300 copies in English.

The annual edition was prepared by St. Petersburg Finance Committee in cooperation with the International Centre for Social and Economic Research "Leontief Centre". It briefly represents the main parameters of city budget, receipts and expenditures structure, public debt, description of St. Petersburg budget and federal budget relations. The welcoming address to the readers is signed by Valentina Matvienko, the Governor of St. Petersburg. Full version is posted on the Finance Committee web site www.fincom.spb.ru



Projects of EU and Russia Cooperation Programme (TACIS, St. Petersburg, 2005-2009). Committee on External Relations of St. Petersburg, - SPb, 2008. Edition – 500 copies.

The brochure continues a series of editions of Committee on External Relations of St. Petersburg, devoted to the European Union and Russia Cooperation Programme. EU Cooperation Projects which are realized in St.-Petersburg, since second half of 2005 and are not presented in the previous editions are presented in this brochure. Information of projects includes information about budget, partners in Russian Federation and European Union, basic goals and contents of project activities. The special place is allocated to EU Neighbourhood Programmes projects - "South East Finland - Russia", "Baltic Sea Region", "Estonia-Latvia-Russia". Neighbourhood Programme projects information "Baltic Sea Region" and "Estonia-Latvia-Russia" is published for the first time. Leontief Centre participated in preparation of materials for the brochure.



Strategic Planning in Cities and Regions of Russia: Integrating World Innovation Practice and Policies - Reports of Participants of the VI All-Russia Forum of Strategic Planning Leaders, October 18-19, 2007. Editor: B.S. Zhikharevich. – St. Petersburg: ICSE Leontief Centre, 2008. – 152 p., 700 copies.

The publication reviews conditions of territorial strategic planning in Russia at the end of 2007, represented in the reports of participants of the VI All-Russia Forum of Strategic Planning Leaders. All materials are divided into 5 groups. In the first chapter public authority representatives share practical experience in strategic planning. Second section concerns innovative strategies and support of innovations. The third and the fourth chapters are generated on a basis of geographical indications, one of which is a question of peculiarities in seaside territories planning, and another is a matter of strategic planning experience in Republic of Karelia. In the fifth chapter reports of scientists, experts and advisers, devoted to novelties in the theory and technology of strategic and financial planning prevail. Moreover the collection includes the Forum program, list of participants and recommendations. The book is recommended to practitioners of strategic planning, students and lecturers. All additional information is available under following link:

www.citystrategy.leontief.net



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.

To subscribe, please contact Elena Chetvergova (chetv@leontief.spb.su).



www.leontief.ru

International Centre for Social and Economic Research Leontief Centre

6 per. Antonenko, St. Petersburg, 190000, Russia

Phone: (812) 314-41-19

Fax: (812) 570-38-14

pr@leontief.spb.su

To unsubscribe Leontief Centre Newsletter, please send an e-mail to:

pr@leontief.spb.su