



St. Petersburg
International
Innovation
Forum



ICSER Leontief Centre



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Nordic Council of Ministers'
Information Office in St. Petersburg

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NEW CITY LANDSCAPE: Green solutions and technologies of success in Nordic countries



29 September, Saint Petersburg

NEW CITY LANDSCAPE: GREEN SOLUTIONS AND TECHNOLOGIES OF SUCCESS IN NORDIC COUNTRIES

On 29 September 2010, 16.00-19.00, a seminar-dialogue "New city landscape: green solutions and technologies of success in Nordic countries" took place in St.Petersburg in frames of two big events – Nordic Week in St.Petersburg and 3rd International Innovation Forum.

St.Petersburg International Innovation Forum was held on 29 September – 1 October 2010. The Forum is organized by the Government of St. Petersburg and supported by various business and innovation institutions. It considers to be a long term instrument to exchange knowledge and learn more on innovation potentials at the international level. More information: <http://enforum.spbinno.ru/>

The Nordic Week in St.Petersburg (25 September - 10 October 2010) was organized in cooperation between the Information office of the Nordic Council of Ministers in St. Petersburg and the Consulates General of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden in Saint Petersburg, Embassy of Iceland to Russia, Nordic cultural institutes in order to promote Nordic-Russian cooperation. More information: www.nordicweek.ru

Organisers and partners of the seminar-dialogue:

- Nordic Council of Ministers
- Government of St.Petersburg, Committee on the Economic Development, Industrial Policy and Trade
- Government of St.Petersburg, Committee on IT and Communication
- Government of St.Petersburg, Committee for External Relations
- International Centre for Social and Economic Research "Leontief centre"
- Finnish-Russian Innovation Centre in St.Petersburg
- NP "Saint-Petersburg - London 2003"

More than **150 participants** - Nordic and Russian representatives of government, business, universities, public sector, international financial institutions and innovation centers – took part in the seminar-dialogue. Among them – Nordic and Russian participants of the Nordic Council of Ministers’ “The Emerging Innovation in the Northern Europe Programme” which is administered by Nordregio (www.ip.leontief-centre.ru).



The work of the seminar-dialogue was presented in a form of **three panel discussions**:

- **GREEN CITIES:** Ecological solutions and innovations in city planning
- **SMART CITIES:** Information and communication technologies in urban management
- **SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS HUB:** Innovation Networks and Resources for Sustainable Development

RESOLUTION

Saint Petersburg is a centre supporting and implementing green solutions. The city has an interest to active cooperation in this area with Nordic countries – a leading knowledge and innovation region. The seminar-dialogue has demonstrated that a new meeting platform has been formed – a meeting point of representatives of cities, leading in development and implementation of modern resource saving technologies and innovative planning and controlling methods on the basis of partnership with business and public sectors.

The high level of Nordic speakers and their inspiring presentations showed the Nordic countries are eager to further cooperation with Russia. A strong interest of Russian participants to the reports, presented at the seminar, proved that green solutions in urban development – it is not only a scientific problem or a “tribute to fashion”. The participants were able to learn from Finland, Norway and Sweden in the field of urban planning, innovative solutions of waste management and environmental education. How to make the city convenient, environmentally safe and attractive for everyday life – that is an issue that not only megalopolis face but also small towns.

Russian cities and municipalities are increasingly becoming aware of the need of utilizing green solutions in order to be more competitive in the globalized world and more attractive for citizens and businesses. Both authorities and citizens have to understand their responsibility to future generations for saving environment and efficient use of natural resources. Green solutions for businesses are not philanthropy but conscious awareness. Eco-friendly technologies and smart approaches give opportunities for cost savings, positive image of enterprises and products, and as a result – contribute to business development and social responsibility. The pacing conditions for shaping of new city landscape have been created in Russia, and there are decision-makers who are interested in practical implementing of these opportunities. Establishing networking with Nordic capitals and towns, including cooperation to be developed within the programmes of the Nordic Council of Ministers, will contribute process of sustainable development of Russian cities. It will as well have a positive influence on the new landscape of St.Petersburg, and on the overall situation in the Baltic Sea Region. In addition, harmonic planning of urban territories and reasonable use of resources are the important steps in preventing climate change – a problem faced both by Russia and Nordic countries, and the globalized world as a whole.

The useful contacts were established during the seminar, there are both Nordic and Russian participants who showed interest for further cooperation.

APPENDIX 1. SPEAKERS AND PRESENTATIONS AT THE SEMINAR

Opening. Welcome Addresses

Mika Boedeker, Director of Nordic Council of Ministers' Information Office in St. Petersburg
Kim Luotonen, Government of Finland, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Chief of the Secretariat for Nordic Cooperation, representative of Finland in the Nordic Committee for Co-operation of Nordic Council of Ministers. *Finland holds the Presidency in the Nordic Council of Ministers in 2011.*

Panel Session 1. GREEN CITIES: Ecological Solutions and Innovations in City Planning

MODERATOR: **Irina Karelina**, Director-General of "Leontief centre"

SPEAKERS:

Per Unckel, Governor of Stockholm County. **"Stockholm - European Green Capital"**

Ilmar Reepalu, Mayor of Malmö. **"Malmö – the Transformation of a City"**

Kaarin Taipale, Ph.D. (Urban Studies), Visiting Researcher, Center for Knowledge and Innovation Research / The Aalto University School of Economics. **"A Sustainable City - and how to get there"**

Erik Freudenthal, Head of Communications of GlashusEtt, Hammarby Sjöstad – Stockholm Vatten AB. **"Hammarby Sjöstad – New Cities with Emphasis on Water and Ecology"**

Seppo Miettinen, Mayor of Lappeenranta. **"Green Lappeenranta - Foremost in Energy Research, Sustainable Development & Environment Protection"**

Panel Session 2. SMART CITIES: Information and Communication Technologies in Urban Management

MODERATOR: **Grigory Rozhkov**, General Director of NP «Saint Petersburg – London 2003»

SPEAKERS:

Ellen Karin Toft Larsen, Special Advisor of the Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities. **"Smart Cities - Better E-Services for Citizens and Businesses"**

Peter Finnegan, Director of Office of International Relations and Research, Dublin City Council. **"Dublin City of Open Innovation"**

John Donovan, Dublin Institute of Technology, co-coordinator of Project ICING. **"Project ICING – Innovative Cities for the Next Generation"**

James Callaghan, Associate Director Research & Innovation, Trinity College

Noel Crawford, International Relationships Manager IBM Global Innovation Campus Dublin. **"Building Ecosystems of Value. Lets Build a Smarter Planet"**

Panel Session 3. SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS HUB: Innovation Networks and Resources for Sustainable Development

MODERATOR: **Irina Karelina**, Director-General of "Leontief centre"

SPEAKERS:

Carlos S. Sandskär, Project Executive of Sustainable Business Hub, GreenTech Cluster. **"SBHUB and Business Development within the Swedish GreenTech Sector"**

Jimmy Sjöblom, Senior Advisor of the Natural Step International. **"Strategic Sustainable Development"**

Igor Kovtun, General Representative in Russia of Nordic Investment Bank. **"NIB – Promoting Sustainable Growth"**

Anastasia Baboshkina, Manager of PPP Programs Planning and interaction with IFO, PPP Centre, State Corporation "Bank for Development and Foreign Economic Affairs" (Vnesheconombank).

"Vnesheconombank's PPP Center: Driving Forward Regional PPP Projects Market in Russia"

Sophie Fyrk, Programme Manager of Nordregio – Nordic Centre for Spatial Development. **"Emerging Innovation in Northern Europe Programme"**



Mika Boedeker, Kim Luotonen



Per Unckel



Ilmar Reepalu



Seppo Miettinen