



**Resolution of the first international seminar of the IB_JEP -26038-2005 project
“Training, Networking and Capacity Building for Sustainable forestry in Povolgie”
of the European Union TEMPUS program**

**Yoshkar-Ola, Russia
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On the seminar, held in Mari State Technical University (MarSTU), consortium members from MarSTU, Moscow, Helsinki and Dresden universities participated. From 15 to 19 January, Finnish and German partners have been acquainted with departments, teachers and curriculums of the “Forestry and ecology” faculty. During the seminar the roundtables with representatives of forestry enterprises concerning the problems of Povolgie forestry, as well as planning of forthcoming events in the framework of the project took place.

Based on the seminar findings participants of the seminar highlighted following conclusions:

- Faculty of forestry and ecology of MarSTU has high professional teaching staff, sufficient experimental forest base, good traditions of Povolgie forestry school and experience for multilevel preparation of specialists (bachelor, master, post graduate and doctorate) for the development and approbation of the project.
- Participants of the project from the consortium Universities meet the representatives of Povolgie forestry enterprises, who will have training in MarSTU and EU. Consortium finds that invited persons to the seminar correspond to the criterias of the project.
- The project will be accomplished in the conditions of significant reforms of forest sector in RF with regard to the newly accepted “Forest code”. For the specialists will be very important to learn about experience of EU sustainable forest management during the transition to the new forms of relationship in Russian forest sector, which could promote the decentralization process of the management from federal to regional level, to increase the investments to the forest sector, to develop effectiveness of the forest management.
- The representatives were from different regions of Povolgie: Kirovskaya, Yaroslavskaya, Ulyanovskaya and Pensenskaya oblasts; Republics of Mari El, Tatarstan, Mordovia and Chuvashia. They represent teachers of the colleges and Universities; directors, foresters and maters of forestry enterprises, authorities of the forestry ministers.
- The participants of the conference from the forestry organizations expressed their interest in acquaintance with foreign experience during the project in the following fields: efficiency of the allowable annual cut, complex use and processing of the wood, use of the new technologies during creation of forest cultures and reforestation activities, utilization methods of less valuable broadleaf tree species, the ways of stimulation of forestry work in the companies, forestry seed stations and forest regeneration, market pricing on the wood in EU, interrelation between forestry colleges and Universities in EU, mechanisms of delegating authority from federal to regional levels, protection from forest fires, the ways of use of poor quality wood, forest protection from insects and diseases, forest management on protected lands, flood lands and experimental forests (belonging to the Universities, scientific Institutions).
- During the seminar participants of the project from the University of Helsinki presented materials about “Lifelong learning in Finland and EU”, “Palmenia Centre for Continuing Education” and “Examples of the Environmental Projects of the Palmenia Centre for Continuing Education,

University of Helsinki”. Experience of the Palmenia centre will be useful for the consortium with respect to organization of the Institute of additional professional education in MarSTU.

- German colleagues from Dresden University of Technology presented papers about: «Forest Service Enterprises versus Departments of Technique in the German State Forests», «Fuelwood utilization in Germany and options for extension of supply», «Standards of cleaning and thinning in German forests», «Service orientation and sustainability – implications to silvicultural concepts».
- Experts from Moscow presented materials concerning latest tendencies in the field of sustainable development and renewable sources of energy to be used in forestry.

With the aim of better implementation of the project the consortium plans to fulfill following activities:

- Since other participants couldn't join the consortium at this seminar, it's plan to held second training session at MarSTU in April 2007.
- Presented materials stimulated participants to study more of the touched issues. Therefore the presentations will be installed on the web page of the project, which allow specialists from the forestry enterprises to learn more about the studied problems. Accessibility of the seminar presentations for the wider audience will promote the long term objectives of the project on dissemination and introduction of the knowledge of sustainable forest management to practice.
- First visit of the group of forestry specialists and teachers from Russia to EU has been planned on 10-23 September 2007 to the Dresden University of Technology.
- During the first seminar professional network of foresters and environmentalists has been established. The consortium plans to extend the network with respect to disseminate its results and ideas. Information about the network will be continuously updated on the project's web page.
- For the remote education and holding of the distance videoconferences among project participants it is necessary to speed up the organization of the videoconference class in MarSTU.
- Project partners express their agreement on the comprehensive cooperation in the realization of the project by the interpenetrating of the accumulated experience in the universities of Russia and EU during the preparation and retraining of forest specialists, as well as by the exchange of graduate students.

Project participants
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