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# Green Belarus News & Events in Belarus

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## THIS ISSUE:

Recommendations on sustainable ecosystem management proposed for Novogrudok District ..... 1

Construction of power grid linkup for Belarusian nuclear station to begin in Q2 2014 ..... 1

Grodnoenergo to build solar power plant in 2014..... 2

Belzarubezhstroy to build battery recycling facility in Venezuela by 2015 ..... 2

Volkovysk District to implement Neolithic Village tourist project ..... 2

Unique factory to process used oils in Belarus..... 2

Belarus Red Cross announces contest of climate change initiatives ..... 2

Third Belarusian-German Energy Forum in Minsk in 2014 ..... 3

Main operations at Vitebsk hydropower plant construction site to begin in May ..... 3

Recommendations on sustainable ecosystem management proposed for Novogrudok District ..... 3

Number of agro-eco-tourists up by 50% in Grodno Oblast in 2013..... 3

Belorusneft busy taking seismic measurements in Western Siberia ..... 3

Belarus-Japan radiation safety cooperation aims for new heights ..... 4

Belarus, Poland, Ukraine launch Shtetl Routes project ..... 4

New Belarusian-German projects sought by German government ..... 4

## RECOMMENDATIONS ON SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROPOSED FOR NOVOGRUDOK DISTRICT

The nature reserves Vydritsa, Kozyansky and Prip'yatsky Scientists from Belarus, Sweden, Finland, Norway, Latvia, Poland and Estonia have developed recommendations for sustainable management of ecosystems in the basin of the Neman River in Novogrudok District, lecturer of the Department of Tourism and Nature Management of the Belarusian State Technological University Nikolai Yushkevich said at the final seminar of the EU international project, Baltic Landscape in change - innovative approaches towards sustainable forested landscapes, on 26 February, BelTA has learned.

Scientists have revealed problems in the Neman River basin that hinder sustainable management of ecosystems in the area. "For instance, sustainable forest management means the use of forests and wooded lands at the level that guarantees the conservation of their biodiversity, regenerative capability and vital capacity," Nikolai Yushkevich said. Only thus forests will continue delighting the eyes of local people and guests of the region.

"The scientists have worked out more than 20 recommendations which implementation will help the stakeholders (local authorities, the public and educational establishments) to use these territories more wisely from the ecological point of view," the specialist said. The recommendations will help avoid problems that can emerge during the construction of dams on the Neman.

Besides, a list of essential habitats has been compiled for the basin of the river. "Scientists have developed estimation techniques for this part of the recreation activity. They have also formed eco-friendly infrastructure development principles," Nikolai Yushkevich said.

"The implementation of the project let coordinate the activities of the Novogrudok District companies as well as those of the local authorities and people for environmental protection measures," the coordinator of the project said. In his words, there has been no cooperation between different agencies before. Each of them was guided by their own interests. As a result they lacked unity in actions and received little from investment, concurrently causing damage to the ecology of the region.

The participants of the project plan to continue their work on the territories of the Baltic landscape which will include research into the climate change reasons. "A strong international team of experts has been formed during the implementation of the project," Nikolai Yushkevich said.

The project will be officially completed on 31 March 2014. Its results, however, have been reviewed already today, on 26 February. The implementation of the project was launched in Belarus in 2012. The project was initiated by

European environmental and economic organizations. Participating in the project was Belarus, Sweden, Finland, Norway, Latvia, Poland, Estonia and 15 partners (of them three partners were from Belarus - the Belarusian State Technological University, Belgosles and Novogrudok Forestry). The project aimed the development of the Baltic Landscape in the Neman river-valley in Novogrudok District - a new, democratic and efficient model of governance in landscape. A network of such landscapes has been developed alongside water bodies in Finland, Poland, and Sweden. The EU allocated about €500,000 to Belarus for the implementation of the project.

*belta.by,  
26.02.2014*



## CONSTRUCTION OF POWER GRID LINKUP FOR BELARUSIAN NUCLEAR STATION TO BEGIN IN Q2 2014



The construction of the system to collect the electricity the Belarusian nuclear power plant will generate and connect the power plant with the national power grid is supposed to begin in Q2 2014, BelTA learned from Vladimir Shaternik, Grodnoenergo Director

General, during the media tour arranged for central state mass media and regional ones on 20 February.

The executive said that as the customer of the construction project the Grodno Oblast electrical company Grodnoenergo will begin implementing the project in Q2 2014. It is the most important project after building the power-generating units of the nuclear power plant. Plans have been made to build over 1,000km of 330kV overhead high-voltage power lines in Minsk Oblast, Grodno Oblast, and Vitebsk Oblast. As much as 600km of high-voltage power lines will be reconstructed and 890km of fiber optic cables will be laid. Divided into 23 stages, the large-scale

construction process will be in progress virtually all over the country. More than 1,000 Chinese specialists will arrive in Belarus in order to get it done, said Vladimir Shaternik.

The project also envisages the construction of a 330kV transformer substation in Postavy, Vitebsk Oblast. Four 330kV substations in Ross and Smorgon, Grodno Oblast will be reconstructed in addition to a 220kV substation in Stolbtsy, Minsk Oblast, and a 330kV open-type bus-and-switch arrangement at cogeneration plant No.4.

The presentation of the construction project will take place in Minsk on 3 March. North China Power Engineering Company (NCPE) has been chosen to be the general contractor for the project. The company will unveil details of the project and its participation.

The construction of the power collection and delivery system will cost \$340 million, including \$110 million for buying the necessary equipment and materials. A credit line from the Export-Import Bank of China to the tune of \$323.8 million will cover 95% of the costs initially. The share of participation of Belarusian construction and installation companies in the construction project will be at least 45%.

*belta.by,  
20.02.2014*

## GRODNOENERGO TO BUILD SOLAR POWER PLANT IN 2014

The Grodno Oblast electrical company Grodnoenergo intends to build a solar power plant near the Grodno hydro-power plant in 2014, BelTA learned from Vladimir Shaternik, Grodnoenergo Director General, during the media tour arranged for central state mass media and regional ones on 20 February.



The executive said: "It is a pilot project. It is interesting for us regardless of economic considerations. It is known that the terms offered to private companies are much more profitable for now as far as the construction of renewable energy sources is concerned. But from the point of view of saving organic fuel resources and the environmental effect the development of solar power engineering looks very promising. Our power plant will be small, but its construction will allow assessing whether such investments can be effective. Although it is obvious that the prime cost of solar energy is way lower than the energy generated by a cogeneration plant — \$0.06 per 1kWh against \$0.09-0.0095 per 1kWh. As a matter of principle, solar power

plants have to be large, those are much more effective," said the Director General.

The pilot solar power plant will be located at premises of the hydro-power plant near the former construction camp and will occupy 0.8ha. The designed output capacity is expected to reach 300kW. Grodnoenergo has already signed the contract for designing the power plant with the Belarusian Heat and Power Institute (BELTEI). The technical and economic feasibility studies will be prepared this year. Tenders to buy the necessary equipment will be held.

The project is supposed to return investments within 5-6 years while the service life of solar cells can be as long as 25 years. The power plant will require roughly Br1.2 billion to build. It will be the first project of the kind for Grodnoenergo. The company intends to implement it using its own resources.

belta.by,  
20.02.2014

## Belzarubezhstroy to build battery recycling facility in Venezuela by 2015

Belzarubezhstroy will commission a facility to recycle used rechargeable batteries in the Venezuelan state of Carabobo by 2015. The design capacity of the facility is 12,000 tonnes of recycled batteries per year, BelTA learnt from the press service of the Belarusian company.



As of December last year, 43 Belarusian and 56 Venezuelan specialists were involved in the design and construction of the facility. The enterprise will be fitted with cutting-edge equipment. Its commissioning will allow employing up to 50 Venezuelans on the first stage of the project.

Belzarubezhstroy built and commissioned Latin America's biggest factory to produce ceramic blocks in the city of Guatire (the state of Miranda), located 40km from Caracas. The facility boasts the annual output of 25 million ceramic blocks. "The second line to produce ceramic blocks for flooring is in progress here. The total output will increase by 60% and will make up 40 million ceramic blocks per year," the press service of the company informed.

More than that, three assembly plants built by Belarusian specialists in the state of Barinas have produced over 1,300 tractors for the agricultural sector and 750 MAZ trucks.

Belzarubezhstroy is Belarus' leading exporter of construction services, works and goods to Venezuela. The company runs joint projects in design and construction with Germany, Austria, France, Russia, Lithuania, South Korea, the United Arab Emirates and other countries. It also runs a number of large-scale projects to design, construct and renovate Belarusian industrial, agricultural companies, civil and administrative buildings.

belta.by,  
14.03.2014

## Volkovysk District to implement Neolithic Village tourist project

Volkovysk District is planning to build a tourist Neolithic village, BelTA learnt from Denis Vakanov, the coordinator and member of the Trail of Miners initiative group.

The Ecotour of Ross project, which incorporates the Neolithic village project, participated in the small grant program of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Local Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (LEED) Project implemented in Belarus by the United Nations Development Program. This initiative is part of the larger tourism development strategy in Volkovysk District called as the Trail of Miners.

According to Denis Vakanov, the first phase suggests creating the landscaped camping site for 200 places. The project funding (a small grant of \$15,000) will be used to develop a business plan and project-estimate documentation. The camping site will be located in the area of the Ross oldest chalk deposit. About 8 hectares of land will be allocated for future tourist sites.

The site for the village will be prepared at the first phase. The water reservoir will be cleaned from garbage and several information boards will be installed. At the second phase the project developers suggest creating the camping site and a tourist complex which will feature an interactive recreational area, well-equipped beach, sauna, and sport and tourist equipment rentals. The camping site will be equipped with barrier-free access for persons with disabilities and people with limited mobility, and also will have water and electricity supply. Accord-



ing to the initiative group, the camping is projected to generate a \$60,000 in revenue per month in the summer period even if it is utilized by 30%.

In the future, a Neolithic Village hotel compound will be built near the camping site. The village will include all kinds of dwelling, a sanctuary place, a stone processing workshop and a boat workshop. The village will be fitted with interactive animation programs. Tourists will be able to experience the atmosphere of primitive villages, live in huts, try to make ancient weapons and make a fire. The guests will also have a chance to try their hand at archery, javelin throw, pottery and weaving.

Now the initiative group is looking for the investor. According to preliminary estimates, it would take about \$400,000 to turn the ambitious ideas into reality. The expected profit for the season (May-September) will be around \$300,000. The project is to pay off in two seasons.

belta.by,  
18.02.2014

## UNIQUE FACTORY TO PROCESS USED OILS IN BELARUS

A unique enterprise will be established in Belarus to process used oils. The information was released by Dmitry Cherkover, managing partner of the company IOOO DVCh Management, at the roundtable session held on 19 February to discuss waste processing, BelTA has learned.

The first stage of the enterprise with the processing capacity of 10,000 tonnes of used oils per annum will be opened in the town of Krupki this year. Two more stages are supposed to be built after that to raise the processing capacity up to 30,000 tonnes.

Dmitry Cherkover underlined that the company he represents boasts extensive experience of recycling used oil products and operates several similar enterprises abroad. Belarus has been chosen for the investment project because, the businessman believes, it offers good conditions. "We have received serious support from the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Ministry and the Belarus government as a whole. We have signed an investment contract with the Ministry. The right steps to enhance the legal base are made in the country," he remarked. Apart from that, Belarus is attractive from the logistics point of view because it is part of the Customs Union and borders on the European Union at the same time.

According to the source, the future enterprise will be unique in the ex-USSR area. "We have decided to invest the entire bulk of our cutting-edge knowledge and technologies in here, the best specialists of our mother concern have arrived to work here upon the invitation of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Ministry," explained Dmitry Cherkover.

The enterprise occupies 14ha and is located near the M1 motorway close to a railroad not far from Minsk. It is a significant project

for the region because the enterprise has already created 30 jobs and will gradually increase the number up to 100. About \$9 million has already been invested in the enterprise, primarily in the infrastructure. The construction of the other two stages will raise the investments to about \$15 million. The company is ready to invest another \$20 million in the processing of used chemicals, vegetable and animal oils and other kinds of waste that contain hydrocarbons such as plastics, rubber and so on. A facility with this size and infrastructure can grow rapidly, noted the businessman.

Speaking about details of the project for processing used oils, Dmitry Cherkover said that the key purpose is to recycle petroleum and synthetic oils, which have been polluted and are no longer fit to serve their initial purpose or have lost their qualities

due to other reasons. Two daughter enterprises have been set up already. One takes care of collecting and transporting the waste while the other one focuses on processing it. The equipment is in the tuning phase. It will reach its designed capacity within a month or two. Unique multiple-section vehicles have been bought to deliver used oils to the processing site without any environmental damage or the possibility of an explosion. A chain of outlets is being deployed to collect secondary resources, with special tanks being installed. As a result of the recycling process 75% of the final product will be able to substitute expensive petroleum imports.

Dmitry Cherkover underlined that one should not forget about the environmental value of the project. The data collected during the market research phase indicates that an overwhelming majority of used oils in Belarus are just thrown away or are burnt, resulting in potent cancer-producing substances.

belta.by,  
19.02.2013

## BELARUS RED CROSS ANNOUNCES CONTEST OF CLIMATE CHANGE INITIATIVES



The Belarusian Red Cross Society (BRCS) has announced a competition of mini initiatives on climate change, BelTA learned from BRCS chief specialist for PR Elena Sveshnikova.

The project will be launched on 15 February as part of the international project, Climate Forum East. The main goal of the competition is to support development of programs aimed at the creation of the public awareness campaign in what regards global warming and its consequences.

As part of the project the Belarusian Red Cross Society will support 20 best

initiatives.

The international project, which the Belarusian Red Cross Society takes part in, is implemented in six countries: Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Armenia. Climate Forum East is aimed at addressing global warming issues and taking steps to adapt to climate change. Every participating state proposes its project.

Belarus has joined the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The country has worked out the national program for the mitigation of climate change consequences for 2013-2020.

belta.by,  
14.02.2014

## Third Belarusian-German Energy Forum in Minsk in 2014



The Third Belarusian-German Energy Forum in 2014 will take place in Minsk. Preparations for the event were discussed among other matters at the meeting between Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Belarus to Germany Andrei Giro and Chairman of the Board of the German Energy Agency (DENA) Stephan Kohler in Berlin, representatives of the Belarusian Foreign Ministry told BelTA.

The negotiations took place in the DENA HQ. The talks touched upon opportunities for Belarusian-German institutional interaction in energy matters in 2014, including within the framework of the bilateral working group for trade and investments. In particular, the sides agreed that DENA will participate in the Third Belarusian-German Energy Forum during the 19th Belarusian Energy and Ecology Congress. A seminar on biogas matters within the framework of the international specialized expo Belagro 2014 will be held as well.

belta.by,  
04.02.2014

## MAIN OPERATIONS AT VITEBSK HYDROPOWER PLANT CONSTRUCTION SITE TO BEGIN IN MAY

The main operations at the construction site of the Vitebsk hydropower plant will begin in May, BelTA learned from Ivan Pugachev, head of the Vitebsk hydropower plant construction office of the Vitebsk Oblast electrical company Vitebskenergo.

In his words, the construction workers have finished building the main access road of about 2km long. It is located along the right bank of the Zapadnaya Dvina River and will stay in place after the hydropower plant is built. The construction of the premises for construction workers is over. The premises include halls of residence, a canteen, and manufacturing installations. The bypass channel to reroute the Zapadnaya Dvina River once the upper and lower earth dams are in place is nearly over.

Apart from that, contracts have been signed for designing a waterworks facility and construction operations at the bottom of the water storage reservoir. Speaking about the latter, Ivan Pugachev noted that documents will be issued as soon as they are ready in order to rule out any delays.

All in all, the construction progress is slightly behind the schedule due to winter among

other reasons. Yet the contractor — China National Electric Engineering Company (CNEEC) — guarantees that the Vitebsk hydropower plant will be commissioned on time in early 2017.

The hydropower plant costs over \$100 million. It will be able to generate 40MW of electricity to satisfy one third of Vitebsk District's demand. In spring about 800 construction workers from China will be employed to build it. In line with the contract services of Belarusian enterprises and Belarusian materials are supposed to cost 30% of the sum. The customer RUP Vitebskenergo will oversee the implementation of the contract.

The concept of Belarus' energy security till 2020 envisages the construction of four hydropower plants along the Zapadnaya Dvina River: the Polotsk one, the Vitebsk one, the Beshenkovich one, and the Verkhnedvinsk one. Their total capacity will be 125-130MW. A Turkish company has contracted to build the Beshenkovich and Verkhnedvinsk hydropower plants. The company will own the facilities for 30 years. After that the ownership will be transferred to Belarus.

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## RECOMMENDATIONS ON SUSTAINABLE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROPOSED FOR NOVOGRUDOK DISTRICT

Scientists from Belarus, Sweden, Finland, Norway, Latvia, Poland and Estonia have developed recommendations for sustainable management of ecosystems in the basin of the Neman River in Novogrudok District, lecturer of the Department of Tourism and Nature Management of the Belarusian State Technological University Nikolai Yushkevich said at the final seminar of the EU international project, Baltic Landscape in change - innovative approaches towards sustainable forested landscapes has learned.

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## Number of agro-eco-tourists up by 50% in Grodno Oblast in 2013

In 2013 the number of tourists vacationing at rural tourism estates of Grodno Oblast increased by more than 50% to make up about 55,500 people, BelTA learnt from the Grodno Oblast Office of the Ministry of Taxes and Duties.



Rural tourism estates are getting increasingly popular with domestic tourists. About 51,000 Belarusians vacationed there in 2013. About 3,000 Russians, 500 Poles and about 400 Lithuanians visited local rural tourism estates the same year.

Tourists paid over Br9 billion for their stay, up by Br3.4 billion compared to the previous year.

Rural tourism estates are sprouting all over the region, which is due to the simplified registration (individuals can start this business without state registration as individual entrepreneurs), tax benefits and a possibility to apply for soft loans.

Some 246 rural tourism estates were registered in Grodno Oblast in 2013, including 242 individuals and four farms. In 2010 there number was 180.

belta.by,  
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## Belarusneft busy taking seismic measurements in Western Siberia



The Belarusian industrial group Belarusneft has started taking seismic measurements in Russia's Western Siberia.

The work is part of the contract signed with the Russian company Geoseis Technology. The Russian company is part of the holding company Geoseis and performs geological prospecting, geophysical and geochemical research concerning the exploration and reproduction of mineral resources.

The Belarusian professionals are expected to take 3D measurements in Khanty-Mansiysk District and Nadym District as well as 2D measurements in Nizhnevartovsk Dis-

trict. Two teams of specialists of the company's field seismic exploration division are involved in the work. The work is supposed to be completed in April 2013.

Seismic exploration services abroad represent an important part of Belarusneft's operation. At present Belarusneft specialists are busy studying subsurface resources in Venezuela and Ecuador for the sake of prospecting hydrocarbon deposits in these countries.

The Belarusian industrial group Belarusneft was founded in 1966. The company specializes in the surveying, prospecting and development of oil fields, well drilling, oil and associated petroleum gas extraction in Belarus and other countries, including Russia, Ukraine, Venezuela and Ecuador.

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03.02.2013



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## BELARUS-JAPAN radiation safety cooperation aims for new heights



Cooperation between scientists and specialists of Belarus and Japan in matters concerning radiation safety after emergencies at nuclear power plants will soon reach a higher level, BeTA learned from Nikolai Vasilkov, Head of the Healthcare Office of the Gomel Oblast Executive Committee.

In Hiroshima the city's university and the Belarusian national science to practice center for radiation medicine and human ecology signed an agreement on joint research efforts that will allow studying effects of small doses of radiation on humans in detail.

Detailed studies into the influence of small radiation doses on humans are of great importance for both countries. "We have no immediate evidence testifying that, for instance, in Gomel Oblast radiation has caused an increase in the number of cardiovascular and oncological diseases. However, these matters are poorly researched for now. We cannot rule out that the influence of small doses will be registered at the gene level or the high-molecular level. There is no doubt that research efforts will secure truth when married to technical capabilities. Results of these researches will be interesting for the entire mankind because nuclear power engineering continues developing," said the official.

According to Nikolai Vasilkov, interaction between Belarusian and Japanese medics began shortly after the Chernobyl disaster. "Keeping in mind the sorrowful experience of the aftermath of nuclear bombing in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the Japanese willingly shared the information they had accumulated and came up with recommendations concerning population protection," he noted. Besides, various charity foundations and healthcare institutions have helped a lot with equipping Gomel Oblast's healthcare institutions and with examining the people, who live in the most affected areas.

New aspects of cooperation evolved due to the need to deal with the aftermath of the Fukushima nuclear power plant disaster that happened in March 2011. "Over the last two years seven delegations from Japan have visited Gomel. They were interested in purely medical aspects of the effect that radiation has on human bodies. This time we are the ones to share our research and recommendations that have accumulated for more than 25 years since the Chernobyl disaster," said Nikolai Vasilkov.

[belta.by/](http://belta.by/)  
13.02.2013

## BELARUS, POLAND, UKRAINE LAUNCH SHTETL ROUTES PROJECT

The international technical aid project "Shtetl Routes: Vestiges of Jewish Cultural Heritage in Transborder Tourism" has started in the Belarus-Poland-Ukraine borderland, BeTA learnt from Head of the Branch Office of the Joint Technical Secretariat of the Cross-Border Cooperation Program Poland-Belarus-Ukraine 2007-2013 Maxim Aldanov.



The participating countries will develop one internal route each. Each of the routes will encompass 20 shtetls (shtetl is a Yiddish word for a small Jewish settlement) associated with the history and culture of Jewish people. After that, five most interesting settlements will be selected and included into the common cross-border tourist route. In Belarus these will be Zheludok, Novogrudok, Mir, Ruzhany, Pinsk and Motol. The internal route will go through Brest Oblast, Grodno Oblast and Minsk Oblast and will also include Stolín, David-Gorodok, Pruzhany, Kobrin, Gorodishche, Radun, Indura, Ostrino, Oshmyany, Lunna, Ivie, Dyatlovo, Slonim and Volozhin.

"The major objective of the project is to show the shtetl culture that is now gone. However, the settlement itself should be alive and developing. Therefore, we included the communities where Jewish heritage sites survive and the places that are of interest to this very day," Director of the Museum of History and Regional Studies in Novogrudok Tamara Vershitskaya. The museum is one of the partner institutions and recipients of the international technical aid.

The project is expected to make the region more appealing to tourists. The Belarus-Poland-Ukraine borderland is the place where Jewish culture once flourished. This region is the birthplace of many outstanding and famous Jews. Therefore, the cross-border route might be interesting for people who fancy sentimental or nostalgic tourism that is getting increasingly popular worldwide.

The project also envisages the development of a multi-language Internet tourist portal "Shtetl Routes: Jewish cultural heritage in Eastern European towns", creation of a database of Jewish heritage sites, publication of a guidebook to the Jewish heritage sites in five languages and arranging training sessions for guides. Specialists from Israel have already offered their assistance in arranging training sessions.

The international technical aid project "Shtetl Routes: Vestiges of Jewish Cultural Heritage in Transborder Tourism" is financed by the European Commission and is set to run for two years. The overall budget of the project exceeds €460,000. Belarus will receive €80,000 of this amount. The partner institutions in Belarus are the Yanka Kupala Grodno State University and the Museum of History and Regional Studies in Novogrudok. The project is led by the Brama Grodzka (Town Gate) Theater NN Center in Lublin, Poland.

[belta.by/](http://belta.by/)  
18.02.2014

## NEW BELARUSIAN-GERMAN PROJECTS SOUGHT BY GERMAN GOVERNMENT

The German government's program to support Belarus will announce a new tender for Belarusian-German projects in spring 2014. Winners of the tender will be financed, BeTA learned from Dmitry Karpiyevich, the coordinator of the regional process of the program, in Grodno on 11 February.

In his words, the sixth phase of the program meant to support Belarus will be completed in several months. It has been decided that the next phase will begin in June to run in 2014-2016. Plans have been made to support Belarusian-German joint projects in various areas. Applications for the tender will be accepted in May-June 2014. The list of priority areas for the projects includes social innovations, energy saving, education, ecology, sustainable development of the regions, including tourism. Winners will be financed for up to €100,000. The total budget of the program has yet to be finalized. During the previous phase over 30 projects out of 60 nominees were okayed.

A national science to practice seminar on tourism was scheduled to take place in Grodno on 11 February with assistance of the German government's program for supporting Belarus. The seminar was primarily dedicated to the promotion of event tourism in Belarus as a factor conducive to the sustainable development of territories. Representatives of educational and cultural institutions, tourism organizations, owners of farm tourism estates, members of initiative groups of Grodno Oblast's tourist destinations took part in the seminar. During the seminar the participants were expected to discuss prospects and problems of event tourism develop-

ment in Belarus. They were made familiar with Belarusian and foreign experience of the creation of event tourism products and brands.

Dmitry Karpiyevich told BeTA that event tourism is a very effective instrument for developing the regions and for raising living standards. Belarus is already home to a multitude of various events.

Every year their number rises, with each event contributing to Belarus' positive image as a tourist destination. "It is now important to understand how the existing brand projects can be used to the best of their ability and how new projects should be created. The new projects should be most effective, should pay their way and attract as many tourists as possible. We are convinced that event tourism can be an effective instrument and a factor in the sustainable development of Belarus' regions," he said.

Dmitry Karpiyevich also mentioned several positive examples of event tourism in Belarus. In particular, he referred to the international cooking festival Motalskiya Prysmaki in Ivanovo District, Brest Oblast, the Annensky Kirmash fair in Zelva District, Grodno Oblast, and the Bard Music & Fishing Festival in Mogilev Oblast. He said he believes event tourism projects should be promoted in the regions. The projects should attract the attention of Belarusian and foreign tourists towards the countryside. While doing so, it is necessary to lobby one's own brand, stage quality awareness campaigns, and create interactive calendars of the tourism events that the regions offer.

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