In course of our participation in the project we have realized the need to introduce the underlying methodology of the Bologna educational process in universities of our country, aimed at the free choice of disciplines. We also need to enhance access of students to the international scientific databases and to disseminate credit system, allowing flexibility to choose subjects.

JĀNIS ZALOKSNIS ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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University of Latvia is implementing Norwegian Financial Mechanism project “Development of environmental science study content and study materials”.

The main success of the project are elaboration and approval of the study course “Environment and Sustainable development (2 and 4 credit points) content as well as produced textbooks to be used at universities in English and Latvian, 300 and 330 pages, respectively. These books, as well as the implementation of the aforesaid project, have been discussed at the International conference held in Riga, at the University of Latvia on October, 2010. This conference assemble together over 130 participants from 12 universities of Latvia and 11 universities from Baltic Sea region countries, secondary schools, environmental education institutions, and local authorities of Latvia.

Now University of Latvia together with colleagues from other universities and research institutions are working on preparation and publishing other academic, more specialized thematic textbooks in Latvian – “Environmental Pollution”, “Environmental Technology”, “Ecology”, “Nature Conservation”, “Environment and Economy” and “Environmental Management”. These books will constitute a basic library on environmental issues. Each book will contain approx. 200–250 pages and will be distributed to universities in Latvia.

As part of the project, together with our partner – Uppsala University, teaching aids and environmental simulation games “Management of the National Park” and “Pyramid” will be modified for students use. Home page for environmental education of the University of Latvia will be improved to ensure access to issues, publications, and videos (based
Other valuable outcomes of the project are the strengthening and broadening of the Latvia’s universities network, improved teaching of environmental issues and education for sustainable development. Active participant universities are state budget supported Universities as well as some private universities and higher education establishments.

Latvia’s universities network for environmental education has a great potential as it unites a set of people who understand the urgent need for changes to implement sustainable development – rectors, vice-rectors, deans, scientists, researchers, professors, lecturers, and students. Our mentioned conference emphasizes that through its motto: “Bridges to future – education for sustainable development as a challenge for the university education reform”.

Our aim is to share outcomes of the project in international auditorium and initiated Universities of the Republic of Belarus for future cooperation in the Baltic Sea region and fulfillment tasks of the UN Decade “Education for sustainable development”.

АГАФОНЕНКО В, МЕХЕДКО В, ПРУДНИКОВА Т. УСТОЙЧИВОЕ РАЗВИТИЕ УНИВЕРСИТЕТА И КАЧЕСТВО ОБУЧЕНИЯ: ОПЫТ МИНСКОГО ФИЛИАЛА МЭСИ

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В последние десятилетия процессы глобализации охватывают все больше сферы жизни, в том числе и сферу образования. Одним из таких процессов является совместная интеграция Европейских стран в общее Европейское образовательное пространство – Болонский процесс. Болонская декларация предусматривает повышение конкурентоспособности европейской системы высшего образования на мировом рынке образовательных услуг.

Декада ООН по образованию для устойчивого развития (2005–2014 гг.) связывает образование в области окружающей среды и образование в области прав человека, при этом подчеркивается, что образование необходимо людям для приобретения