National Research Programme
"Innovative Materials and Smart Technologies for Environmental Safety"
assessment for the Period 2
by member of the Scientific Committee
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The National Research Programme "Innovative Materials and Smart Technologies for Environmental Safety" (IMATEH) is aimed at contributing to the creation of world class knowledge base, which would be wide and deep enough for innovation-based economic development involving innovative materials, smart technologies and safe human living environment.

This programme has a practical orientation and involves six projects, which contribute to the important sectors of the Latvian economy - Construction, Transport, Material Processing. The planned tasks of the programme for Period 2 are completed and the main results obtained.

The exceptional usefulness of this programme should be stressed with regard to the involvement of students and young scientists in research that focuses on the development of the respective sectors of the national economy. 11 young scientists and 15 doctoral students are involved in the programme. Two PhD students who were involved in IMATEH defended the doctoral thesis and obtained PhD in engineering in 2015.
For example, among the planned performance indicators 11 defended bachelor thesis were planned in Period 2. According to the scientific report, 31 thesis have been defended, including 13 masters theses and 18 bachelor theses. 56th Scientific and Technical Conference for Students, 28.04.2015. and Concrete Contest for students were organised to increase interest of students on engineering science.

Two Popular-science publications were published to inform society and stockholders on activities of IMATEH:

1. Paeglītis A. Koka tilti Latvijā – vēsture un perspektīvas (Timber bridges in Latvia – history and perspective), Būvinženieris, 2015.gada decembris, Volume 47, 156-163;
2. Bajare D., Cate A., Radina L. Innovative materials and smart technologies for environmental safety, IMATEH, "Safety and security", Riga Technical University, Volume 4, 10-12.

Among other scientific achievement it can be noted that:

- 25 papers have been published.
- Project participants have participated in 32 international conferences organised in 2015 with oral or poster presentations.
- 14 abstracts or full length papers have been accepted for publishing on 2016.
- Five new methods have been elaborated and two patents have been submitted.
- International conferences IMST „Innovative Materials, Structures and Technologies" 2015 was organised.

The project leaders from the various institutes of the Riga Technical University (RTU) have demonstrated their capacity to utilize scientific knowledge to support the programme objectives.

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2016 03 23