

Activities of the Cuban Centre for World Economy Studies

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The Centre for World Economy Studies (CIEM) was created in November 1979 as an academic institution recognised and supported by the Cuban government and it is recognised as a centre of reference for the Latin American and Caribbean region. During the last 24 years, the CIEM has studied the main trends in the world economy, with particular reference to the problems affecting the developing countries.

The main topics of research of the CIEM include:

- globalisation of world economy,
- international trade and finance,
- regional economic integration,
- main economic trends by regions (North America, Latin America, Europe, Africa and Asia).
- international co-operation for development.
- science and technology,
- sustainable human development,
- energy, environment and development.

With 13 full-time researchers, in 2003 the CIEM has carried out several projects of academic collaboration with international institutions, such as:

- *National Report on Science, Technology and Human Development (to be concluded in 2004)*, sponsored by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).
- Collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) (since 1999).
- Collaboration activities with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). One expert of the CIEM was elected as member of the IPCC Bureau during the term of the Third Assessment Report (TAR) of the IPCC (1997-2002), and was recently re-elected for that position.
- Collaboration agreements with universities: Institute of Economic Research, National Autonomous University of México (UNAM); & Autonomous University of Puebla (Mexico) (since 1980s).

The CIEM also advises and collaborates with several national institutions, such as the Ministry for Science, Technology and Environment, Ministry of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Economics and Planning, Ministry for Foreign Investment and Economic Collaboration, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Central Bank of Cuba. This collaboration is particularly important in the preparatory process of national official delegations to international meetings/conferences, such as: Ibero-american Summits, Summits of the Non Aligned Movement and UN Conferences (including UNCED, Rio de Janeiro, 1992 & UNSSD, Johannesburg, 2002). The CIEM also supports the preparation of relevant international meetings held in Cuba, including the annual *International Meetings on Globalisation and Development*, organised by the Association of Cuban Economists since 1999.

The National Group of Collaborators of CIEM includes around 100 national experts. This group meets at least three times a year, for discussing relevant topics related to main trends in the world economy. Around 10 members of the National Group of Collaborators of CIEM are involved in R&D on the energy sector (national or international perspectives).

In the last few years, some international workshops dealing with environment and development have been co-organized by CIEM, such as:

- *IPCC Regional Meeting on Development, Equity, and Sustainability in the Context of Climate Change Response Strategies*, Havana, 23-25 February 2000 (40 participants, including 30 foreign experts).
- *IPCC Outreach Meeting on Climate Change Mitigation*, Havana, 23-24 September 2002 (71 participants, including 13 foreign experts). The electronic version of the Proceedings is available at: www.onu.org.cu/havanarisk/eventos/cchange4/evento.html

The CIEM electronic journal "*Temas de Economía Mundial*" (in Spanish only) is available at the web site of the Network on World Economy (based in Puebla, Mexico): www.redem.buap.mx

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