

In Havana, on 26, 27 and 28 June 2017, the Training Workshop on European Educational Systems, Quality and Accreditation for Internationalization at strategic level was carried out. It was the first task developed in the framework of Work Package 2 of the FORINT Project.

PhD. Gustavo Cobreiro Suárez, Rector of the University of Havana welcomed the 37 participants (26 Cubans, 8 Panamanians and 3 European professors representing EFMD) at this university *campus*. The working sessions of two and a half days of extraordinary interest were developed. The presentations developed focused on the Erasmus + programs by Carlos Pérez Padilla, Representative of the Delegation of the European Union in Cuba; Education Systems in Europe, given by PhD. Christophe Terrasse, Director of International Projects, EFMD and the Quality and Accreditation of Management Education: EFMD experience by PhD Julio Urgel, Director of Cuban Development Projects, EFMD.

These interventions allowed to analyse the evolution of the European Higher Education setting, the Bologna Agreements and their relationship with the increase in quality. Hence, Julio Urgel referred to the Quality Services Portfolio and the EFMD's mission "to promote and enhance excellence in management development internationally". He highlighted the membership of the Cuban universities participating in the project and the new opportunities to continue advancing in the accreditation and quality systems.

The presentations on Quality Systems in Cuba, by PhD Marcia Esther Noda Hernández, Executive Secretary of the National Accreditation Board of the Republic of Cuba and Director of Accreditation and Quality of the Ministry of Higher Education (MES), PhD. Maria Irene Balbín Arias, Communication Director of the MES on Educational Systems in Cuba allowed high-level discussions between the Cuban and Panamanian delegation on the transformations of Cuban higher education. It will contribute directly to the improvement of the management system of the university students comprehensive training, with the purpose of ensuring that they are developed with quality and relevance. It was emphasized that evaluation and accreditation of programs and institutions promote academic excellence, comprehensive relevance, innovation, as well as the production of significant impacts for the human and sustainable socio-economic development of the country.

The workshop culminated in an exercise where the participants expressed the lessons learned and the commitment to socialize with their colleagues. They highlighted the high preparation and communicative ability of the European and Cuban speakers. The synergy between the Cuban and Panamanian universities were added value for the execution of joint academic programs where these good practices are evidenced.

During the conclusion, PhD Julio Urgel, PhD Christophe Terrasse, Mr. Jean Baptiste Maillard (Manager of the project, EFMD), MSc. María Victoria Villavicencio Plasencia (Director of International Relations, MES) and PhD Mabelin Armenteros Amaya (Cuban Director of the FORINT Project and Internationalization Director of the Agrarian University of Havana), as well as representatives of the University of Panama and Specialized University of the Americas expressed the importance of the workshop and explained a space for the production and dissemination of knowledge.