



**JOINT STATEMENT ON COOPERATION BETWEEN ITALY AND CUBA ON  
BIOMASS EXPLOITATION**  
Technical Committee Meeting  
INDIO HATUEY  
24 February 2015

Experts from CRA ING Italy, Indio Hatuey Experimental Station and CubaEnergia meet from 23 to 24 February 2015 with the scope to discuss potential areas of mutually beneficial cooperation and to define a roadmap of joint future activities. Seven main sectors were examined:

- 1) **Energy Crops production from non-edible vegetal oil and lignocellulosic feedstock**
- 2) **Agricultural and forestry sub products utilization**
- 3) **Optimization of steam using in sugar cane factories**
- 4) **Energy production from biogas and biofertilizers utilization**
- 5) **Technologies for gasification transformation of biomasses**
- 6) **Second generation ethanol production**
- 7) **Food security, climate change and intelligent land uses**

The meeting was highly successful due to participation by technically qualified experts from both parties, which made it possible to start a detailed discussion on the areas of cooperation. Several possible joint activities have been identified for each sector. The two parties have agreed to follow up the discussion on such activities in the near future in order to get to the definition of a detailed roadmap to be presented to funders and policies makers.

The two parties have identified a number of ongoing projects in each country where synergies may be activated to avoid duplication of efforts and costs and to maximize the results. It is important therefore to organize mutual visits of the experts in the research centers appearing to be at present leading entities in agricultural engineering area, either in Italy or in Cuba. A Workshop in Italy will organized soon.

The parties agree that the knowledge management, including education and training, is currently an issue and is of fundamental importance to support exchanges of knowledge.

In this frame a program will be developed that will include:

- Experts technical visit of the research Labs and join research activities
- Exchange of doctoral, post-doctoral and expert fellows between universities and R&D institutions for research programs and training. Join scientific publications will be favourite. Sources of funds will have to be identified.
- The institution of an International Italian-Cuba Master in Agro Energy Sciences with lessons online

**List of Delegation Participants**

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