

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES ON CUBA / UNESCO COOPERATION

I. COUNTRY PROFILE

Political system

- Cuba has had a communist political system since 1959 based on the “one state – one party” principle. Executive power is exercised by the Government, which is represented by the Council of State and the Council of Ministers. Legislative power is exercised through the unicameral National Assembly of People's Power, which is constituted as the maximum authority of the state.
- President: H.E. Mr Miguel DÍAZ-CANEL.
- Prime Minister: H.E. Mr Manuel MARRERO CRUZ.
- Minister of Foreign Relations: H.E. Mr Bruno Eduardo RODRÍGUEZ PARRILLA.

Statistical data (source: UNDP Human Development Report 2019)

- | | |
|--|------------------|
| • Population, total (millions): | 11.3 |
| • Human Development Index: | 0.778 / Rank: 72 |
| • Life expectancy at birth (years): | 78.7 |
| • Expected years of schooling (years): | 14.4 |
| • Gross national income per capita (2011 PPP\$): | 7,811 |
| • Internet users (% of population): | 57.1 |
| • Carbon dioxide emissions per capita (tons): | 2.1 |

Education (source: UNESCO Institute of Statistics)

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| • Compulsory education: | 9 years (from age 6 to 14) |
| • Net enrolment rate in primary education: | 96.93% |
| • Net enrolment rate in secondary education: | 86.67% |
| • Government expenditure on education (% of GDP) | 12.84% |

(Map of Cuba attached)

II. CUBA/UNESCO COOPERATION

1. **Membership of UNESCO:** since 29 August 1947

2. **Membership on the Executive Board:** Yes (2017-2021). Previous terms: 9 times to date

3. **Membership to Intergovernmental Committees and Commissions:** 5

- 2023: Intergovernmental Council of the “Management of Social Transformations” Programme
- 2023: Intergovernmental Committee for Physical Education and Sport (CIGEPS)
- 2021: Intergovernmental Council of the International Programme for the Development of Communication
- 2020: Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage
- Permanent Membership: Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission

4. **Director-General's visits to Cuba:** 1 (4-8 December 2019)

5. Previous Director-General's visits to Cuba: 3 (in 2017, 2015 and in 2012)

6. Permanent Delegation to UNESCO:

- H.E. Ms Yahima Esquivel Moynelo, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegate (since 13 January 2020)
- Previous Permanent Delegate: H.E. Ms Dulce María Buergo Rodríguez, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Delegate (March 2015-December 2019)

7. UNESCO Office in Cuba:

- Establishment: 24 February 24 1950 (Regional Office for Culture in Latin American and the Caribbean)
- Director: Ms Saadia Sanchez Vegas, DIR/UNESCO Kingston and OIC a.i. since January 2021, pending the recruitment of a new Director.

8. National Commission for UNESCO:

- Establishment: 17 November 1947
- President: Ms Dulce María Buergo Rodríguez (since 2021)

9. Personalities linked to UNESCO's activities:

- 1997: Silvio Rodríguez, Artist for Peace (until 2020)

10. UNESCO Chairs: 13

- 2019: Chair on Local Development Management, Universidad de Camagüey Ignacio Agramonte Loynaz
- 2017: Chair on Intercultural Dialogue, Casa de las Américas
- 2015: Chair on Agroecology and Sustainable Development, the Agrarian University of Havana
- 2014: Chair "Felipe Poey y Aloy" on the Promotion of a Scientific Culture, Universidad Central "Marta Abreu" de Las Villas
- 2014: Chair on Agricultural Biotechnology for Local Development, University of Granma, Bayamo
- 2012: Chair in Environment and Development, Higher Institute of Applied Science and Technology
- 2002: Chair in Culture and Development, Centro Nacional de Superación por la Cultura, La Habana
- 1998: Chaire internationale UNESCO / Réseau UNITWIN MEDEURAMÉRICA pour un développement humain durable, Universidad de La Habana y Universidad de Girona
- 1998: Chaire de biomatériels, Universidad de La Habana
- 1995: Chaire en sciences de la conservation des biens culturels, CENCREM, La Habana
- 1994: Chaire en sciences de l'éducation, Instituto Pedagógico Latinoamericano y Caribeño, La Habana
- 1993: Chaire de gestion universitaire, Universidad de La Habana
- 1993: Chaire en gestion de l'information dans les organisations, Universidad de La Habana, Universidad de Murcia, Espagne (dans le cadre du groupe Santander)

11. Associated Schools Network (ASPnet): 79

- 1 Pre-primary, 55 Primary, 1 Primary/Secondary, 19 Secondary, 2 Teacher Trainning Institution, and 1 Vocational and Technical Institution
- Cuba joined the ASPnet in 1983

12. Category 2 Institutes and Centres: none

13. Biosphere Reserves: 6

- 2000: Buenavista
- 2000: Ciénaga de Zapata
- 1987: Cuchillas del Toa
- 1987: Península de Guanahacabibes
- 1987: Baconao
- 1984: Sierra del Rosario

14. UNESCO Global Geoparks: none (nomination in progress)

15. World Heritage Sites: 9 sites (7 Cultural and 2 Natural)

Cultural:

- 2008: Historic Centre of Camagüey
- 2005: Urban Historic Centre of Cienfuegos
- 2000: Archaeological Landscape of the First Coffee Plantations in the South-East of Cuba
- 1999: Viñales Valley
- 1997: San Pedro de la Roca Castle, Santiago de Cuba
- 1982: Old Havana and its Fortification System
- 1988: Trinidad and the Valley de los Ingenios

Natural:

- 2001: Alejandro de Humboldt National Park
- 1999: Desembarco del Granma National Park

16. Tentative List: 3 (in 2003)

- National Schools of Art, Cubanacán
- Ciénaga de Zapata National Park
- Reef System in the Cuban Caribbean

17. Intangible Heritage: 4 elements on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity

- 2018: Festivity of Las Parrandas in the center of Cuba
- 2017: Punto
- 2016: Cuban rumba
- 2008: La Tumba Francesa

18. Memory of the World Register: 3 elements

- 2005: José Martí Pérez Fonds
- 2009: Original Negative of the Noticiero ICAIC Latino Americano
- 2013: Documentary Collection “Life and Works of Ernesto Che Guevara: from the originals manuscripts of its adolescence and youth to the campaign Diary in Bolivia”

19. Creative Cities Network: 2

- 2019: Cuba – City of Music
- 2019: Trinidad – City of Crafts and Folk Art

20. Legal Instruments: 19 ratified; 21 not ratified

Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict with Regulations for the Execution of the Convention. The Hague, 14 May 1954.	26/11/1957	Ratification
Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. The Hague, 14 May 1954.	26/11/1957	Ratification
Convention against Discrimination in Education. Paris, 14 December 1960.	02/11/1962	Ratification
Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property. Paris, 14 November 1970.	30/01/1980	Ratification
Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage. Paris, 17 October 2003.	29/05/2007	Ratification
Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions. Paris, 20 October 2005	29/05/2007	Ratification
Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage. Paris, 2 November 2001.	26/05/2008	Ratification

21. Anniversaries associated with UNESCO in 2020-2021: 2

- 100th anniversary of Cintio Vitier, poet (1921 - 2009) (Cuba with the support of Dominican Republic and Uruguay)
- 200th anniversary of the birth of Rafael María de Mendive, poet (1821 - 1886) (Cuba with the support of Ecuador and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela)

Previous anniversaries associated with UNESCO:

- 2018-2019: 500th anniversary of the foundation of Havana (1519) (with the support of Ecuador and Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela)
- 2016-2017: 150th anniversary of the birth of the poet Ruben Dario (1867-1916) and 100th anniversary of his death (presented by Nicaragua with the support of Cuba and Ecuador)
- 2016-2017: 200th anniversary of the birth of Francisco de Albear y Fernández de Lara, engineer and scientist (1816-1887) (presented by Cuba with the support of Nicaragua and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela)
- 2016-2017: 100th anniversary of the publication of the book The black slaves by Fernando Ortiz Fernández (1916) (presented by Cuba with the support of Nicaragua and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela)

22. Participation Programme:

- For 2020-2021 biennium, Cuba submitted four national requests and one regional request. The Director-General approved the four national requests for a total of US\$77,000 and the regional request for US\$38,000. In addition, DG approved an emergency assistance request (US\$50,000) to repair roofs of educational centers following destructions caused by Tropical Storm Laura in August 2020. Thus, the total of funds allocated to Cuba for this biennium, under the Participation Programme, amounts to US\$165,000.
- 2018-2019: 4 requests approved for a total amount of US\$ 108,900, as follows:
 - 3 national requests approved for a total amount of US\$ 70,900.
 - 1 regional request approved for a total amount of US\$ 38,000.
- 2016-2017: 4 project approved for a total amount of US\$74.500.

23. **UNESCO Fellowships Programme:** since 2010, 42 fellowships for a total amount of USD 1 272 342.

24. **Non-Governmental Organisations:** 1 with consultative status (Organización Continental Latinoamericana y Caribeña de Estudiantes – OCLAE)

25. **Payment of assessed membership fees (as at 10 June 2021):**

- Assessment rate: 0.103 %

26. **Representation in the Secretariat:** normally represented with 4 professional staff in geographical positions (Max: 4; Min: 2).

- International Professional Staff at Headquarters (Geographical Posts): 1
- International Professional Staff in the Field (Geographical Posts): 3

27. **Map of the country**

