



## 12th International Meeting on Agroecology, Organic and Sustainable Agriculture

May 29 - June 7, 2018

Havana, Cuba & surrounding provinces

*Coordinating Support for U.S. Delegation provided by:*



February 23, 2018

Thank you for your interest in participating in the 12th International Meeting on Agroecology, Organic and Sustainable Agriculture, hosted by Cuba's Association of Agricultural and Forestry Technicians (ACTAF). *Please note that VCI / CUSAN is not organizing this conference.* As a US-based nonprofit, we work to build bridges between people, movements and institutions in Cuba and the US on agroecology and environmental issues. One of the ways we do this is to help promote relevant conferences organized by our Cuban partners. As such, we are able to advise and support US delegates' participation with the following:

- Getting you in touch with the right people in Cuba to register
- Providing you with information about how to pay
- Advising on visa and airline purchase if necessary
- Sharing information about US regulations on travel to Cuba
- Sharing information on what to expect/bring on a trip to Cuba (i.e. cash only, etc.)
- Other questions you may have, as they arise
- A VCI representative may or may not be attending the conference, but there will be support on the ground from the Cuban partners

Please review this letter and the attached documents for more information.

Sincerely,

Margarita Fernandez

Executive Director, VT Caribbean Institute (VCI)

Coordinator, Cuba-US Agroecology Network (CUSAN)

[margarita@vtcaribbean.org](mailto:margarita@vtcaribbean.org)

## **Event Descriptions**

These events will provide a space for reflection and exchange of ideas through thematic symposiums. The event will take place as Cuba begins to implement its intersecting national strategies on "Confronting Climate Change" ("Life Task", or, "Tarea Vida", in Spanish) and Agricultural Development 2030. There will be three separate events and you are invited to attend any or all events, as your schedule permits. Please see the attached PDFs for more details on each event.

- **International workshop:** *"Agroecology, the road to a prosperous and sustainable agriculture."*
  - *Dates:* May 29th - 31st
  - *Location:* Martin Luther King Memorial Center, Havana, Cuba
  - *Lead Instructors:* PhD Nilda Pérez Consuegra and PhD Luís Vázquez Moreno
  - *Objective:* To share the focus and experiences of Cuba in the construction of sustainable agrifood systems
  - *Registration deadline:* April 30, 2018
  
- **Pre-event tour:** *"Agro-ecological Cuba, at the reach of your hands."*
  - *Dates:* June 2nd - 4th
  - *Location:* Havana, Artemisa & Mayabeque provinces
  - *Tour Coordinator:* Dr.C. Fernando Funes Aguilar
  - *Registration deadline:* April 30, 2018
  
- **Main event:** *12th Meeting on Agroecology, Organic & Sustainable Agriculture*
  - *Dates:* June 4th - 7th
  - *Location:* ANAP Training Center Campus, Güira de Melena, Artemisa province
  - *Thematic symposia:*
    - Climate change, adaptation and resilience
    - Education for sustainable agriculture
    - Sustainable Forest Management
    - Gender equity, youth, family and social justice in sustainable agriculture
    - Post-harvest, marketing and food security
    - Research and innovation for sustainable agriculture on agroecological bases
  - *Call for papers:* See attached PDF "Symposia Descriptions" for guidelines
  - *Deadline to submit papers:* March 31st, 2018
  - *Registration deadline:* April 30, 2018

## **Summary of Activities and Costs**

<b>EVENT &amp; Dates</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Costs</b>	<b>Details</b>
<b>PRE-EVENT WORKSHOP</b> May 29, 8am - May 31 2pm	Martin Luther King Memorial Center, Havana	150 CUC <i>(approx. \$170 USD)</i>	<u>Includes:</u> papers, certificate, coffee breaks and lunch <u>Does not include:</u> accommodation, breakfast and dinner*

<b>PRE-EVENT TOUR</b> June 2, 8am - June 4, 4pm	Havana, Mayabeque & Artemisa provinces ( <i>will return          to Havana each night</i> )	120 CUC  <i>(approx.          \$136 USD)</i>	<u>Includes:</u> transportation & technical guides <u>Does not include:</u> accommodation and meals*
<b>MAIN EVENT</b> Departs Havana at 4pm June 4 - June 7, 3pm	ANAP Training Center Campus, Güira de Melena	350 CUC  <i>(approx.          \$395 USD)</i>	<u>Includes:</u> papers, certificate, meals and accommodation in triple-occupancy rooms**  <i>Departure on June 4th and return on June 7th will be          at a central meeting point in Havana</i>

\*Accommodation and meals can be arranged through the Martin Luther King Center or at private *casas particulares* (Bed & Breakfasts) in the neighborhood. Estimated daily cost: 30 CUC (approx. \$34 USD).

\*\*If you prefer a single-occupancy or double-occupancy room, the Organizing Committee can assist you in finding accommodation nearby in the community of Güira de Melena. Estimated daily cost: 80-100 CUC (approx. \$90-113 USD).

### **To Register**

Please note that **the deadline to register for all events is April 30, 2018**. Please fill out the attached registration form, and submit it to Arilia García López and Roberto Caballero from ACTAF. Their email address is: [eventos@actaf.co.cu](mailto:eventos@actaf.co.cu).

Feel free to reach out to us at [info@vtcaribbean.org](mailto:info@vtcaribbean.org) for further support.

### **A note about US citizen travel to Cuba**

US citizens are permitted to travel to Cuba under a general license from the US Treasury Department, provided their trip qualifies under one of [twelve approved categories](#). Participating in the ACTAF Conference qualifies under the “Professional Research and Meetings” category: **Section 515.564(a)(1)**. There is no need to apply for a license. You simply sign an electronic affidavit that the airline will provide for you when you purchase your ticket. The airline will also provide you with a tourist card/visa that you will use to enter Cuba. Tourist cards cost \$50, and some airlines charge an additional service fee.

Once you are registered, we will follow up with more detailed information.