

SEPLs in two Cuban Man and Biosphere Reserves (UNESCO/ MaB)

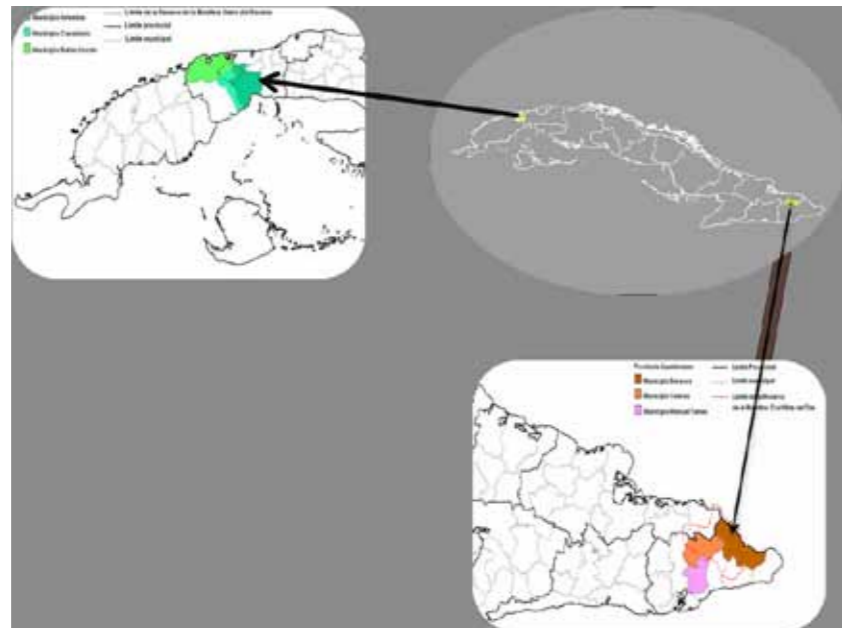
Yanis bell Sánchez¹ (yanisbel@inifat.c o.cu)

(Leonor Castiñeiras¹, Odalys Barrios¹, Alejandro González¹, Maribel González-Chávez¹, Gerardo Begué² y Dalila de Armas¹)

¹Instituto de Investigaciones Fundamentales en Agricultura Tropical “Alejandro de Humboldt” (INIFAT)

²Unidad de Servicios Ambientales de Guantánamo (USAG)

Location and features of Man and Biosphere Reserve



Area	Sierra del Rosario Biosphere Reserve	Cuchillas del Toa Biosphere Reserve
Massif	Cordillera de Guaniguanico	Nipe-Sagua-Baracoa
Annual rainfall	2000-2013 mm	1200-2448 mm
Annual temperature	23-24 °C	16-23 °C
Soils	4 types	3 types
Economical Activities	Ecological tourism and coffee production	Wood and coffee production

A Cuban traditional system



- ✓ Combine crops (grains, vegetable, fruits) and animals (poultry, pigs, horses, sheep)
- ✓ 80% of seeds is produced on farms
- ✓ High diversity and intra-specific variability
- ✓ Plants use for medicine, ornamentals and magical-religious purposes
- ✓ Convert by-products of livestock in organic fertilizer for crops

Management practices



- ✓ Multi-cropping use
- ✓ Use of animal traction
- ✓ No irrigation and use of organic fertilizer
- ✓ Agro-ecological techniques to soil conservation

Traditional Knowledge



Products made by women using local variability



Knowledge transmission to the next generation



Workshop

The Cuban farmers easily accommodate new technologies, species or varieties, in relationship with their traditional knowledge Management practices



Botanical insecticide



Capsicum annuum cv. Español L-16

Ecosystem resilience

The high diversity found in Cuban traditional systems supports adaptative capacity to build resilience



Rebuilding agro-ecosystem damages after climate event

Contributions to local economy and social well being of communities



Environmental education



Agro-ecoturism



Farmer fairs

