

**IANAS**  
**WOMEN FOR SCIENCE PROGRAM**

**CUBA REPORT**  
**August 2018**

**Dr. Olga Fernández Ríos**  
**Focal Point**



## *General Information*

**The Republic of Cuba allocates 2% of the Gross National Product (GNP) to science, technology and innovation.**

**There are:**

- **The Ministry of Science, Technology and Environment (CITMA), with delegations in the 15 provinces of the country**
- **More than 60 universities and higher education centers where science and research is a priority**
- **132 specialized research centers**
- **Networks of regular collaborative actions and coordination. (Some of them are called “Scientific Poles”)**
- **Networks of Scientific Associations. (Many of them are under the attention of the Cuban Academy of Sciences)**

# *General Information*

**In Cuba women amount to 53.2% of the Cuban scientists**

## **WOMEN ALSO AMOUNT TO:**

- ✓ **46.4% of the professors with academic teaching categories.**
- ✓ **40.5% of the researchers with scientific categories**
- ✓ **More than 40% of the professionals with scientific degrees (PhD)**
- ✓ **66,6% of the technical-professional labor force**
- ✓ **48.7% of the participants in projects which are national priorities in the fields of science and technology.**
  
- **More than 50% of university students are women**

# ***THE CUBAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES***

- **This is an official institution with a national scope, independent and consultative nature in science**
- **Amongst other functions, the Academy plays an important advisory role to the Ministry of Science, Technology and the Environment and to other ministries and institutions**
- **The Full Members are elected every six years. The nomination is carried out by scientific research institutions, universities, and scientific societies**

## **THE ACADEMY HAS FIVE SECTIONS:**

- **Agrarian and Fisheries Sciences**
- **Biomedical Sciences,**
- **Exact and Natural Sciences**
- **Social Sciences and Humanities**
- **Technical Sciences**

# **MEMBERS OF THE CUBAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES (April 2018)**

➤ Academic of Merit .....	114	
➤ Full Members .....	177	
➤ Young Associates.....	63	
➤ Academic of Honor .....	13	<b>TOTAL 367</b>

## **Women in Cuban Academy of Sciences**

**2012-2018 .... 28 %**

**2018-2024 ..... MORE THAN 34% = 125 WOMEN**

### **CURRENTLY**

- **Two of the three Vice-presidents of the Cuban Academy of Science are women**
- **The heads of three of the five sections are women**
- **Had been ratified the OWSD National Chapter and the CYTED Network (incorporating Cuban scientific women members of the Academy and also those not belonging to the Academy)**

## **“COMMISSION OF ACADEMIC WOMEN”**

**(established in 1999, ratified in April 2018)**

- **The Commission works for the permanent attention to the presence of women in all scenarios of the Cuban Academy of Sciences:**
  - **In the membership**
  - **In the executive board**
  - **In temporal and permanent commissions**
  - **In the system of awards**
  
- **Together with the Education Commission, is supporting several scientific-technical women’s workshops**
- **Relations have been reinforce with Women’s Cathedras in different universities and with the “Center for Woman Studies”, a research institution focusing on the current situation of Cuban women and the gender relationships**
- **Together with them is planning to promote more analysis on scientific women, their achievements and challenges**

•

## **“COMMISSION OF ACADEMIC WOMEN”**

- **The Commission permanently works for recognizing and awarding the merits of women scientists**
- ✓ **Since 2002 the Cuban Commission of TWAS established the National Prize for Scientific Women.**
- ✓ **Since 2016 out of the main authors who received the Annual Prize of the Cuban Academy of Sciences for their scientific results, more than 39% were women**
- ✓ **In the last fifteen years, the best works in the category of Basic Sciences selected from the Annual Award of the Cuban Academy of Sciences are awarded with three prizes every two years by the *Kovalievskaja Foundation* through the OWSDS’s Cuban and the Academy of Sciences.**

# **THE ACADEMY HAS TEN INTERDISCIPLINARY COMMISSIONS WITH AN ACTIVE FEMALE PARTICIPATION. THE FOLLOWING STAND OUT**

## **Commission on Food and Nutrition Security**

The main coordinator and 11 of the 38 co-authors of the Cuban chapter of the book *“Challenges and Opportunities for Food and Nutrition Security in The Americas: The View of the Academies of Sciences”*, are women. The book was presented in April. This Commission was reactivated and now more than 50% of its members are women

## **Commission on education and culture for science**

The coordinator and about 50% of its members are women. In 2017-2018 the following activities were carried out:

- Advising the Ministry of Education on the publication of textbooks
- Conducting workshops and seminars with teachers and students
- "Symposium of scientific culture and teaching of science through non-formal or non-scholarized channels". February 2018
- Meetings with authorities of the Ministry of Education on the deployment of the new strategic lines related to education for science.



## **OTHER ACTIONS IN THE RECENT PERIOD THAT CONTRIBUTED TO THE PROMOTION OF WOMEN SCIENTISTS**

- **Panels and discussions have been developed, amongst others:  
To honor women scientists and other women workers in the Science, Technology and Innovation sector. March 6  
Colloquium of women scientists: Panel about life stories. March 8**
- **The Commission of Academic Women is working in a new book project named "*Biographies of Cuban women scientists*" with stories portraying the lives of both young and experienced women.**
- **Media provided fairly good coverage and promotion of women scientists. Three good examples are the magazines "Bohemia", "Juventud Técnica" and "Women". Also several newspapers are working in that direction.**
- **Three new spaces have been created in television programs dedicated to science, technology and innovation. They are led by women and promote the participation of women**
- **"Open Doors Academy" is the name of a new project. The Academy opens its rooms to science lovers in a monthly cycle of conferences that will take place on the last Thursday of each month.**



- 
- 

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH**