Main contributions of the Professional English Training for ICT (PETICT) group to English education in Cuba

Network Program "Strengthening of the Role of ICT in Cuban Universities for the Development of the Society"
(2013-2023)

Working areas

- Creation of the PETICT Expert Committee
- Needs analysis for trainers (PETICT members) and ICT-related professionals in the programme
- Framework for training ICT professionals
- Training of PETICT members in Cuba and Belgium (and/or other European countries)
- Cascading to other PETICT members and teachers of English from all universities
- Training in Cuba of ICT-related professionals
- Cascading the knowledge to English teachers at all educational levels
- Cascading knowledge to professionals of other sciences

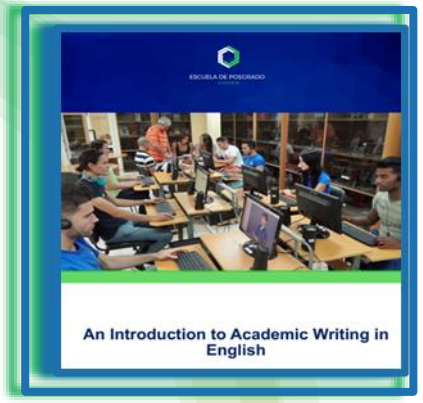
Principles

- Contextualised CEFR frame of reference
- Training trainers as the basis
- Certification based on demonstrated competencies, not on courses taken
- Autonomous learning with extensive use of ICT supervised by PETCIT group
- Support for all programme projects

Training Programme ICT professionals

Principles:

- Individual responsibility, and learning autonomy
- Training through the use of information and communication technologies
- Cooperation and interaction in networks
- Responsibility of each member university PETICT team



Curriculum design (face-to-face and online)

English CEFR Level A1

English CEFR Level A2

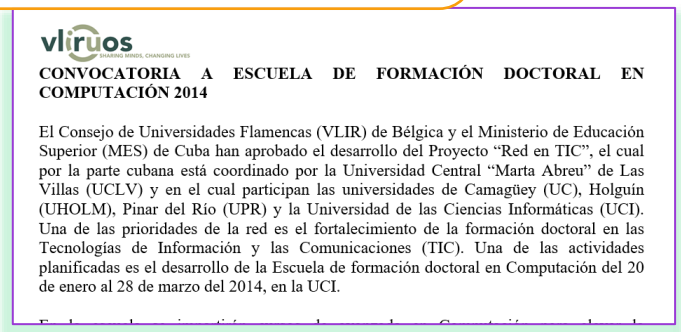
English CEFR Level B1 with elements of EAP and EPP

English CEFR Level B2 with EPP

Training Programme ICT professionals

Three kinds of training were implemented:

- Training system for their Network member ICT specialists and programme management
- Customised face-to-face and/or online training for researchers and developers in preparation for internships or Ph.D. stays abroad
- Direct training by Flemish experts and PETICT members in doctoral schools



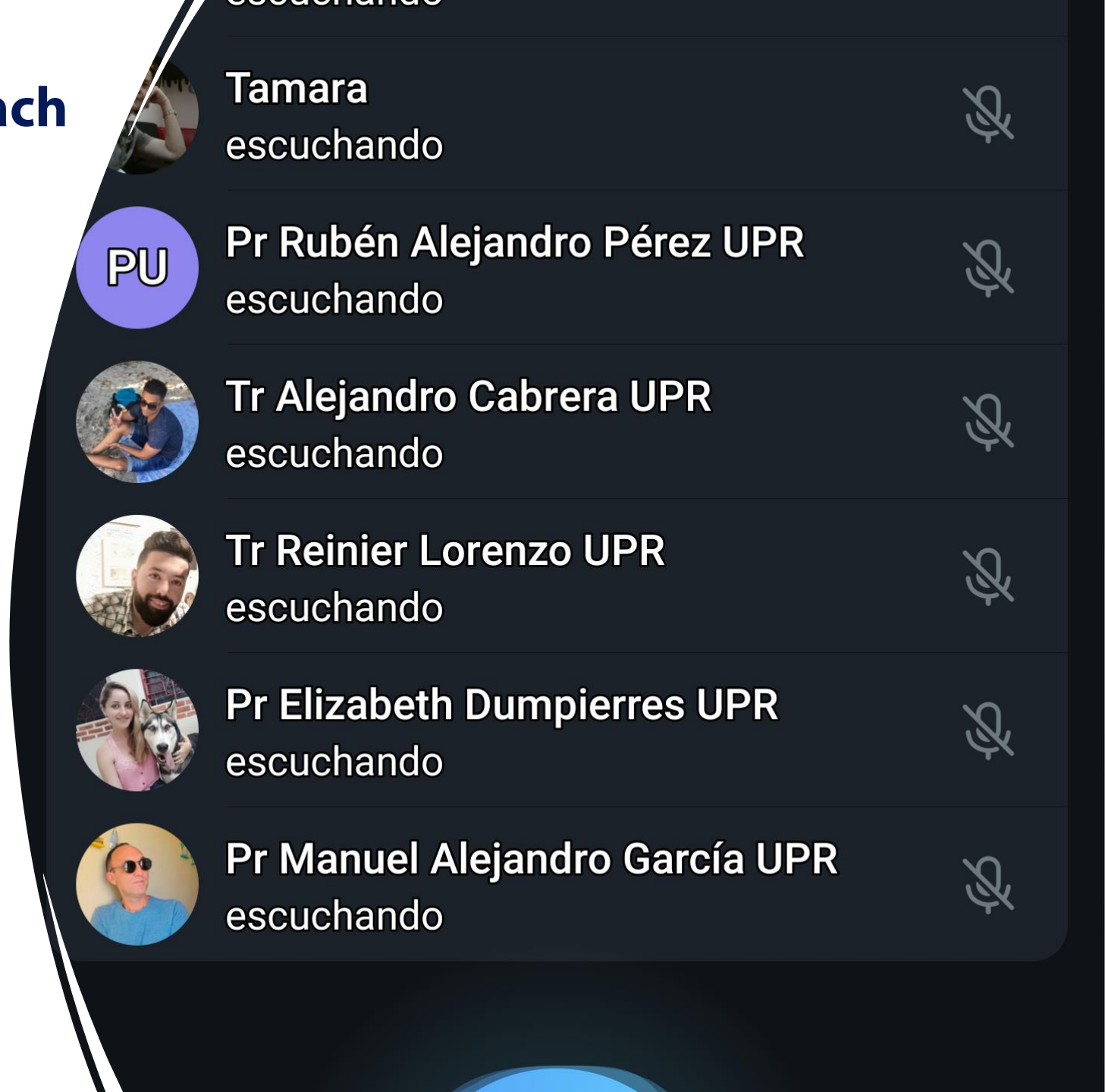
vliruos

CONVOCATORIA A ESCUELA DE FORMACIÓN DOCTORAL EN COMPUTACIÓN 2014

El Consejo de Universidades Flamencas (VLIR) de Bélgica y el Ministerio de Educación Superior (MES) de Cuba han aprobado el desarrollo del Proyecto "Red en TIC", el cual por la parte cubana está coordinado por la Universidad Central "Marta Abreu" de Las Villas (UCLV) y en el cual participan las universidades de Camagüey (UC), Holguín (UHOLM), Pinar del Río (UPR) y la Universidad de las Ciencias Informáticas (UCI). Una de las prioridades de la red es el fortalecimiento de la formación doctoral en las Tecnologías de Información y las Comunicaciones (TIC). Una de las actividades planificadas es el desarrollo de la Escuela de formación doctoral en Computación del 20 de enero al 28 de marzo del 2014, en la UCI.

PETICT. Training and outreach or ICT professionals

- Massive training for software developers in EPP (March-April 2021). Hybrid mode
- Trainers:
  - Professors Eric Caers y Eva Cordery, Antwerp University (online English café)
  - PETICT teams in each member university



Training Programme PETICT Team

- CEFR and other reference frameworks
- The use of ICT in language teaching and learning
- Didactics of languages
- Curriculum development
- Language skills
- Materials development and adaptation
- Language assessment
- Corpus linguistics
- EMI: English as a Medium of Instruction (added in second phase)
- Learning sustainability (added in the second phase)
- Instructional design (added in the second phase)
- RDM: Research Data Management (added in the second phase)

Principles

1. Integration	Experts from other countries
	Other funding sources (British Council, University of Bremen, ILTA, EALTA, and LAALTA).
2. Outreach	Ministry of Higher Education
	Ministry of Education
	Cuban associations of English teachers (APCELI, ALGELI)

Cuban Language Assessment Network (CLAN) with English teachers from all Cuban universities

Training PETICT members

Three management planning and training workshops (2014 and 2015)

Lecture *Computer-Assisted Language Learning: Using Technology to Prepare Lifelong Language Learners* (Prof. Ana Gimeno, Universidad de Valencia, 2015)

Workshop Corpus Linguistics (Prof. Lut Baten and Prof. Ann Bertels, KULeuven, 2015)

Workshop *E-assessment for academic purposes* (Prof. Maryam Asoodar, KULeuven, 2016)

Workshop *Academic Writing and Scientific Communication* (Prof. Eric Caers, UHasselt, 2017)

Two workshops on *the use of ICT for ELT* (cascaded by Cuban PETICT team, universities of Holguín and Camagüey, 2018)

Ten workshops on *Language Assessment* (Prof. Claudia Harsch, UniBremen, 2017-2023)

Training PETICT members

- WEFAP 2022: Writing in English for Academic Purposes Workshop

- Professors Eric Caers and Eva Cordery (Hasselt University).
- Hybrid course for greater outreach

Training abroad PETICT

Internships at Flemish universities 2015 (VUB & UHasselt), 2016 (UGent), and 2022 (UHasselt, UAntwerp, and KULeuven)
Internship at the University of Bremen, Germany (2019)

- The use of ICT in language teaching and learning
- Language assessment
- Management of language centres
- Materials development and adaptation
- Curriculum development
- English as a Medium of Instruction (EMI)
- Learning sustainability
- Instructional Design
- RDM: Research Data Management

Sponsorship of online invited symposium on ***The use of the CEFR in teaching and assessment in Latin America***

Shared sponsorship with the British Council and EALTA

58 participants from Cuban universities

15 European experts

PETICT Outcomes

Bank of materials for ELT that amounts to almost 300 provided to all Cuban universities

Knowledge transfer to more than 900 teachers of English, more than 15 on-site workshops, and more than 10 online courses.

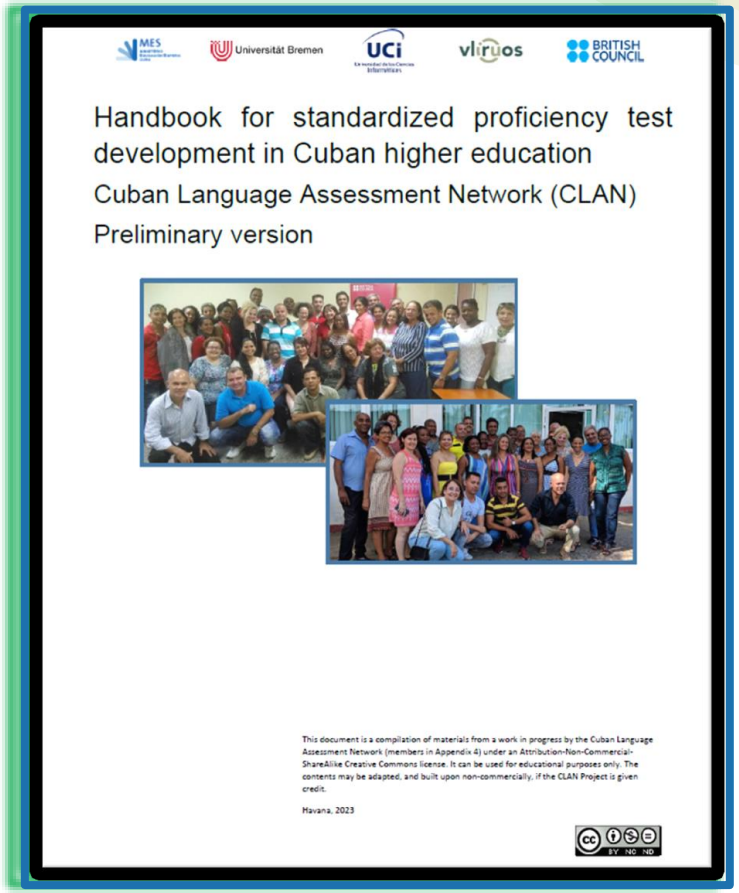
Outstanding contribution to designing and implementing the MES English language training policy.

A framework for EAP and EPP training for universities. More than 200 professionals reached.

Several publications in national and international journals
National and international conference presentations of results.

Completion of the first phase of the English proficiency assessment system for the Cuban higher education project, with the publication of results.

In application for more than 4 years in higher education.



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