RECENSIÓN

Workbook on climate change impact; assessment in agriculture

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At present it is projected that the global warming has a significant impact which will affect agriculture, product of the increase of the temperature, increase of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere, increment of thaw, changes in the rate of precipitations and the interaction between all of these elements, which will limit the capacity of the biosphere to produce sufficient food for all the living beings.

The confrontation and adaptation to the climatic change are a complex task, on which few records and experiences exist in the world, concretely in the poorest regions.

Precisely, on the topics related to the vulnerability and adaptation to the climate change in the agricultural sector, a book of 148 pages was published recently, titled, "Workbook on Climate Change Impact Assessments in Agriculture: Basic knowledge, tools and methodologies". The book has as author, the outstanding scientist from Camagüey, BSc. Roger Rivero Vega and was published in English language by the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) and the Institute of Meteorology (INSMET) in Cuba, with sponsorship from the Commonwealth Secretariat.

In the manual are published, for the first time, methodologies developed in Cuba and different examples of their application that constitute scientific results obtained in the country by experts in charge of this work, allowing the described procedures to be comprehended better.

The book structured in 9 chapters and 3 appendices, include topics relating to water resources, agriculture and food production, human settlements, coastal ecosystems and human health, which are considered to be the most vulnerable to the negative impact of the climate change.

It is, indeed, a tool of great value for those who should face the task to assess the negative impacts of the climate change on food production and to design strategies of adaptation to these, seeing that it integrates validated methods in the scientific investigation. Although it only analyzes those scenarios in that the impacts of the climate change will be negative, the book does not cease to have a monographic reach in the topic addressed.

For being written in English, the book will carry out, without doubts, an important contribution to socialize among the Anglophone investigators, the experience obtained by Cuba in this field. However, it also constitutes an added value to the effects of its use as an educational text (especially in the context of the Master Program in Environmental Education, to whose professors' team the author belongs), because it will allow the students that speak other languages, to exercise the reading and compression of highly specialized texts, in the language that more frequently is used in the international academic debate on the topic.

WORKBOOK ON CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN AGRICULTURE

BASIC KNOWLEDGE, METHODOLOGIES AND TOOLS

PREPARED BY Roger E. Rivero Vega April 2008

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