Summary: objectives and outcomes

5th Meeting of the Central American Community of Practice in Curriculum Development – Regional Workshop on “competency-based curriculum design and evaluation” (San José, Costa Rica, 17-19 October 2007)

The main objectives of the workshop were to: (i) contribute to capacity building on processes of curriculum development in Basic Education and on competency-based curriculum design and evaluation; (ii) discuss and agree upon regional and national plans that can continue to be implemented within the Central American Community of Practice in Curriculum Development and; (iii) define the future activities of the cooperation agreement CECC-IBE. The CECC is the Central American Education and Cultural Council (an inter-governmental body).

29 educators and curriculum specialists from the Ministries of Belize, El Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Panama as well as representatives from UNESCO Offices OREALC and Cluster San Jose, the Spanish Cooperation (AECI) and the National University and the University of Costa Rica, attended the workshop.

The main outcomes were as follows: (i) the effective consolidation of the Central American Community of Practice in Curriculum Development as a main tool for fostering processes of curriculum change in the region; (ii) the continuation of the implementation of training workshops centered on competency-based curriculum design; (iii) the sharing of profuse documentation on orientations on curriculum design and on competency-based approaches; (iv) the presentation of the publication “Pedagogía de la Integración: Competencias e integración de los conocimientos en la enseñanza” (author Xavier Roegiers) and; (v) the implementation of the first year activity of the cooperation agreement CECC and IBE (signed in November 2006) towards educators of the seven Central American countries with the participation of UNESCO Offices Cluster San Jose and Guatemala.

Several follow-up activities have been agreed upon such as: (i) co-organizing, with the CECC and with the support of the Spanish Cooperation, the 6th Meeting of the Central American Community of Practice in Curriculum Development; (ii) elaborating several proposals for supporting curriculum development processes at the national levels and (iii) sharing learning resources to support curriculum changes in Basic and Youth Education.