



Summary: objectives and outcomes

Workshop on “competencies-based approaches and orientations for curricular design” (Panama City, Panama, 25-26 October 2007)

The main objectives of the workshop were to: (i) discuss about competency-based approaches by sharing visions and practices, and (ii) provide orientations of curriculum design for Secondary Education.

National Directors of Educational Divisions, supervisors, staff from the National Division of Curriculum and Educational Technology, and Evaluation, and representatives from the University of Panama and from teachers' unions and ministerial staff attended the workshop. The Vice Minister of Education of Panama, Ms. Sonia Smith inaugurated the event.

The main outcomes were as follows: (i) 40 participants – National Directors of Educational Divisions, supervisors, staff from the National Division of Curriculum and Educational Technology and Evaluation, and representatives from the Universities of Panama and from teachers' unions and ministerial staff – were trained on principles and contents of competency-based curriculum design linked to Secondary Education; (ii) a series of guidelines and recommendations on curricular objectives, structures and contents to support the design of the new curricular proposal of Higher Secondary Education were provided; (iii) we discussed and agreed with the Ministerial staff on areas where IBE can support the current process of curriculum change (design and carry out capacity building activities, participate in the capacity-building training workshops of regional directors, supervisors, principals and teachers who will participate in the pilot experience of the new curricula for years 10 to 12 and design and carry out capacity-building workshops on processes of competency-based curriculum change and development towards the core group in charge of the curriculum change)

We plan to work on the coordination and implementation of the series of activities jointly defined with the Vice Minister, Ms. Sonia Smith, and her ministerial team. This process can entail similar features to the one initiated in Guatemala in 2006.