

# *Cuba Looks forwards to a Decentralized Socialist Model*

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The update of the Cuban economic model experienced advancement in 2013 on the firm grounds and in search of local solutions to domestic problems and to the effects of the world financial crisis that have an impact on the efforts aimed at increasing efficiency.

A series of measures stipulated by the social and economic guidelines adopted by the Cuban Communist Party were implemented last year, as the threshold of other more complex steps to come in 2014.

The economic update aims at developing and empowering productive forces and at implementing structural and functional transformations to achieve progress based on rationality.

The combination of the state entrepreneurial sector and the private initiative was a task implemented in 2013 towards economic growth. The non-state sector, including all modalities, was joined by over 440 thousand Cubans, with many of them incorporated to non-agricultural cooperatives, which is a modality that tends to consolidate.

Cooperatives constitute a major variant in the economic update, since the modality preserves the social ownership of fundamental production means, which stands for the preservation of the socialist system while implementing market laws.

Cuba has also kept on the way to effective decentralization of the role and decisions of state companies, which constitute the base of national entrepreneurial management. In order to precisely improve the entrepreneurial and the productive sector, new regulations made the performance of state companies more autonomous. With this in mind, certain conditions were created for a group of state companies in the production, trade and service areas gained autonomy this year through an experimental project.

Along with the new entrepreneurial project to take place in 2014, Cuban economy experts are working in order to base the economic update on concepts instead of improvisation. The theoretical support puts out all kind of reforms as those implemented in Europe, because in Cuban transformations are well-thought on the grounds of expanding the local economy according to efficiency and sustainable development.

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