




First steps for the CaribErasmus Green Paper

Interim Seminar

11 May 2011
Kingston, Jamaica









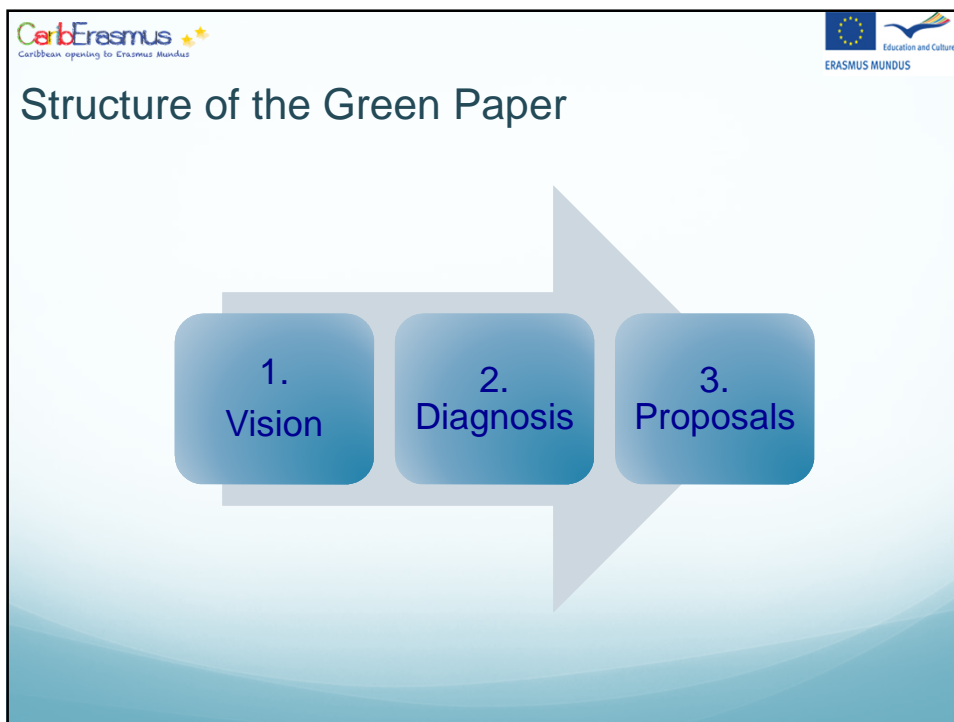
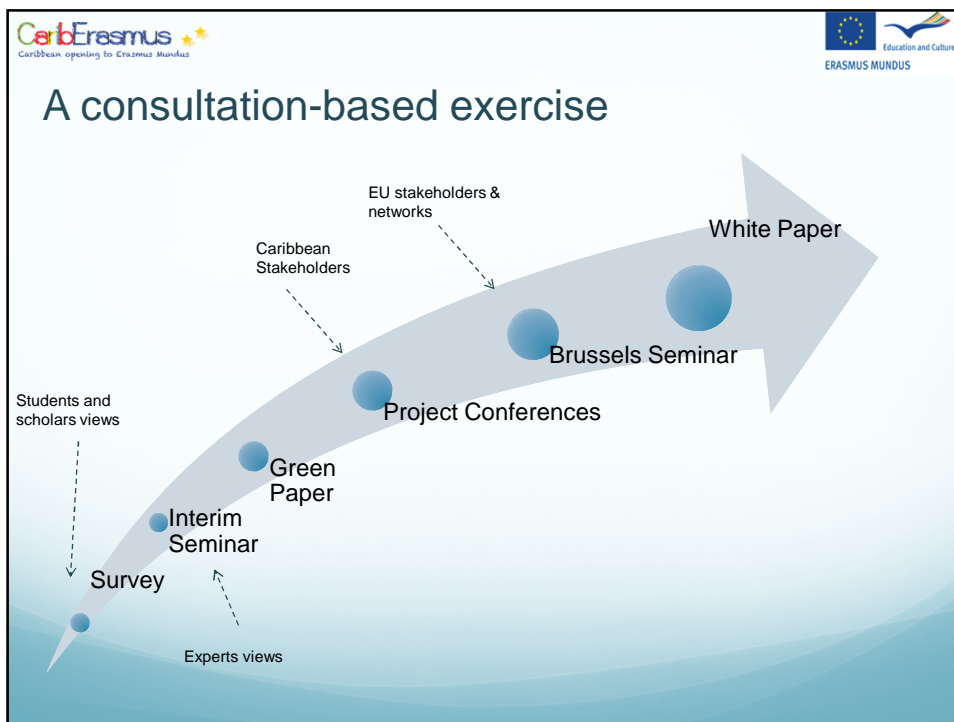


Why a Green Paper?

To stimulate consultation and reflection among relevant stakeholders and, in particular, decision and policy-makers from Europe and the Caribbean on **strategies to enhance cooperation** between the two regions in the field of Higher Education.

Having an impact on:

- Reducing fragmentation
- Articulation between multilateral and bilateral level
- Improve capacity to monitor cooperation progresses
- Respond to the need for persistence/continuity/sustainability
- Facilitate benchlearning among Caribbean countries








The Vision


EU-Caribbean HE cooperation should...

1. **articulate the many ongoing initiatives** in both regions;
2. involve **all possible levels of society**, starting from academics and universities and including companies, cultural associations and other civil society bodies:
3. **go beyond the promotion of European universities**, towards an inclusive Higher Education area across EU and the Caribbean.
4. take into account **new ways of collaboration** such as: E-Learning, Virtual Mobility, Partnerships in research and teaching, including mutual use of infrastructure
5. be based on both the attitudes, opinions and expectations of Caribbean Higher Education stakeholders towards the European Union **viceversa**.



Diagnosis: key issues

- Absence of HE as a priority in general policy dialogue
- Two frameworks of cooperation (LAC and ACP)
- Strong bilateral cooperation links with some EU countries
- Low participation of some countries in mobility (EM)
- Fragmented interregional cooperation
- Two regional universities (UWI, UAG)
- Strong diaspora of professors and researchers
- The specific case of Cuba
- Multilinguism/Multiculturalism
- French and NL Caribbean: a bridge to Europe?
- The poorest LAC country: Haiti
- ...

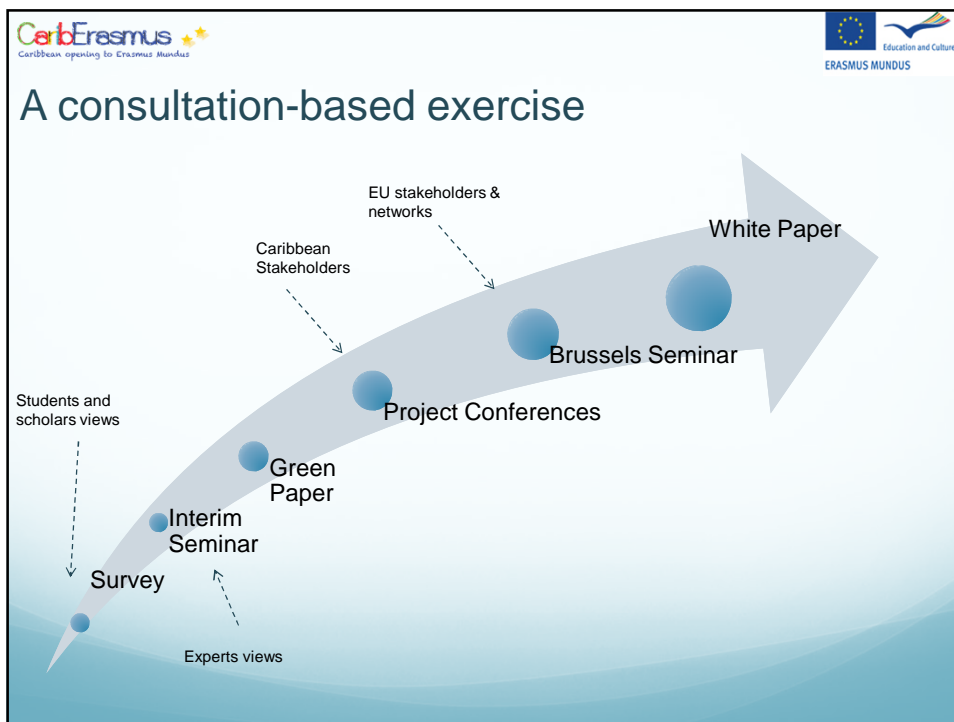
Critical issues for discussion/action

1. The approach of the EU towards the Caribbean
The specificities of the region should be taken into account when planning cooperation programmes. Whenever possible, specific calls for proposal shall be planned for EU-Caribbean proposals.
2. Inter-regional collaboration as a way to respond to the international collaboration challenges
Further support the existing efforts in terms of regional academic portals and networks and regional university programmes.
3. Local support to international collaboration
Local capacity to cooperate with Europe and to Enjoy EU opportunities should be built within the Caribbean
4. International collaboration and the diaspora problem/opportunity
Use EU mobility schemes to facilitate the work of diaspora researchers coming back to the region, even for limited periods. Set up and support a network of "Caribbean students/researchers abroad"
5. Fostering articulation among the existing collaboration schemes
Plan the collection, coordination and distribution of best practices information, which could constitute a permanent helpdesk source for beginners and actors who need to contact Caribbean initiatives.

Who should be involved in the consultation?

- European Commission
- CARICOM
- ACP Secretariat
- UNESCO
- HE Networks
 - ACTI - Association of Caribbean Tertiary Level Instituios
 - EURASHE
 - EUA
 - Universia
- HE stakeholders
 - ESU (European Students Union)
- Caribbean Ministries of education
 - Ministerio de Educacion Superior de Cuba
 - MESCYT, Dominican Republic UNIBE
 - ...



Thank you!

Fabio Nascimbeni
The MENON Network
fabio.nascimbeni@menon.org