

**Existing Resources in Convergent Technologies in Venezuela.
The case of Nanotechnologies**

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This exploratory study about human and institutional capabilities in Venezuela in the nanoscale field, aims to contribute to inform about the resources that are available to the country for handling the risks and opportunities emerging in this new front of technological growth. In order to identify individuals and groups in this incipient field in the local context a research strategy was devised, starting with the application of a search engine to the combined use of two main sources: the archives of the Venezuelan Program for the Promotion of the Researcher (PPI) and the Science Citation Index. A detailed study is made of individual and institutional recognition, and of domestic and international collaboration through co-authorships and networks construction. The project includes consideration of the efforts made by the Venezuelan state through the design of public policies for the development of new technologies, and the training and fellowship programs of individuals who eventually would come to choose the nanoscale as research field. An analysis is also made of patents solicited in the country for the use of nanotechnologies by multinational firms.