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Dr. Leonel Fernández
Honorary President.

...these projects have given the country international visibility, have educated national and international audiences, and have created a sense of pride among Dominicans at home and abroad.
It is with great satisfaction that we share with you this annual report presenting the accomplishments achieved by the Global Foundation for Democracy and Development (GFDD) during 2009-2010.

The role of the GFDD in the international arena has been consolidated with new partnerships and alliances with the most prominent institutions in the US and other countries, while reinforcing already existing ones. The Foundation has expanded into new areas and brought to the Dominican Republic solid programs and activities conducive to the improvement of skills and resources of many individuals and groups, raising the human capacity of the country. Many have benefited from grants and internships abroad, experiences that will contribute positively to their personal and professional development. Domestic and international networks have formed and developed in areas pivotal to the social and economic advancement of the country, and the participation of Dominican representatives in international fora is now an expected contribution to the ongoing discussion of international issues affecting our globalized world.

This trend of bringing to the Dominican Republic the best projects, programs and speakers from universities, think tanks and other organizations, has been complemented with the GFDD’s work to promote the understanding and the awareness of the Dominican national heritage and values abroad through initiatives like the fast growing portal Dominicanaonline.org, the expanding online Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment, the first edition of the book “New Perspectives: Dominican Republic”, and the touring photo exhibit developed after the book. All these projects have given the country international visibility, have educated national and international audiences, and have created a sense of pride among Dominicans at home and abroad.

The areas of Democracy, International Affairs, Economic Development, Health, Environment, Education, Technology and Innovation, Communication and Culture continue to be at the forefront of the Foundation’s agenda, and we are looking forward to a growing number of initiatives in those fields in the years to come.

The labor conducted by the GFDD has been fruitful and effective, and has inspired organizations and individuals in the Dominican Republic to become active elements in their communities and areas of endeavor, has enhanced their role in the productive world, and has motivated their search for excellence and pride in their performance.

We are grateful for the ability to contribute to the socio-economic development of the country while elevating the professional and personal development of its people, and we are excited about all the opportunities to persist in our endeavors with sustained passion and dedication. We hope to go on inspiring others as we have been inspired by many remarkable organizations and individuals. Let’s continue the good work!

Leonel Fernández
Honorary President
...how a “small” idea can turn into a powerful project that so beautifully, and so true to our mission, brings together education, public awareness, professional training, economic and social development, culture as well as enjoyment.

Natasha Despotovic
GFDD Executive Director.
We are delighted to share with our beneficiaries, audiences, partners and friends the summary of our work over the past two years.

DR Global Film Festival has become a recognized national and international phenomenon; its role in promoting the film industry in the Dominican Republic as an engine for economic development and job creation has been broadly acknowledged. It is just another example of how a “small” idea can turn into a powerful project that so beautifully, and so true to our mission, brings together education, public awareness, professional training, economic and social development, culture as well as enjoyment.

Global Media Arts Institute successfully continued its journey of educating in audiovisual arts, supporting and inspiring budding talents and helping practicing professionals to reach higher levels of performance, simultaneously connecting colleagues from around the world, while contributing to the enhancement of the industry here.

InteRDom has increased its portfolio of collaborating institutions in the United States and the Dominican Republic, has tailored specific programs for university groups and individuals, and has expanded its mission and scope by incubating a Fellowship Program for graduate students and professionals.

The Foundation has deepened and strengthened its collaboration with the Organization of the American States (OAS) and the United Nations (UN), by producing important research inputs and new hemispheric initiatives.

Virtual Educa and Partners in Learning (PIL) are able to claim thousands of beneficiaries among Dominican teachers and other education professionals.

GFDD is proud to promote the knowledge about often unrevealed beauties and riches of the Dominican Republic. The first edition of the book “New Perspectives: Dominican Republic” has been exhausted as we prepare for the second one. The itinerant photo exhibit, inspired by the book, has brought the little known scenes and landscapes of this Caribbean jewel to national and international audiences. The online version of the Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment spearheads educational efforts and supports high-level scientific research in that important area, as the Foundation prepares its printed edition.

We continue to forge partnerships with inspiring institutions and individuals, taking the cutting edge research and expertise to Dominican audiences and projecting the best of the Dominican Republic onto the global scene.

We have enjoyed our work enormously. We hope that our enthusiasm and dedication have infected our collaborators and audiences at large, as well as permeated our outreach and results. We are looking forward to expanding and deepening the existing programs as well as initiating new ones, always in full belief and trust that collaboration and exchange of knowledge, expertise and experiences create vibrant countries, advancing populations and fulfilled individuals.

I invite you to review with us the road we have traveled and join us with your ideas and contributions in the new, exciting programs and activities that are about to be born!

Natasha Despotovic
Executive Director
• DR Global Film Festival continued its expansion in 2009/2010: 270 Film Industry guests, 82 international films, 43 thematic panels, 33 professional panels.

• DR Global Film Festival in 2010 reached beyond its boundaries and included the neighboring country of Haiti by screening films in Port Au Prince.

• DR Global Film Festival 2010 drew from the creativity of the Haitian film director Raoul Peck to honor its neighbor country.

• DR Global Film Festival 2010 included showcases of different countries, like France and Australia, in an effort to expand its educational component and appreciation for cinematography.

• GMAI, in association with One Race Film Foundation, continued offering quality training in television and filmmaking to hundreds of professionals and students.

• Thousands of Dominican teachers have been trained in the use of technology in the classroom through the Partners in Learning Program developed in association with Microsoft, reaching the magical figure to 18,000 during the 2009-2010 period.

• GFDD and FUNGLODE partnered with national and international institutions to coordinate forums on matters impacting the DR and the Global Community, developing networks and alliances around essential issues.

• GFDD and FUNGLODE, as NGO members with a consultative status to the ECOSOC, strengthened their commitment to the United Nations by submitting 7 expert reports on public health and transport to the United Nations Economic and Social Council.
• Active partnership among GFDD, OAS, IADB and Virtual Educa culminated in the creation of a hemispheric-wide program, the Multilateral Education Initiative for Human Development (IMEDH).

• GFDD, FUNGLODE and UNA-DR crossed the Atlantic to launch the first Dominican-European Model UN in Paris.

• Professional Externship for Professors and Administrators debuted as an effective networking tool for the academic and internship program, InteRDom.

• InteRDom expanded its roster of partners with 8 new universities and colleges in the US; it recruited 35 new interns and added 30 organizations from the public, private and NGO sector in the Dominican Republic.

• A Fellows Program was created as a vehicle for an academic exchange on a graduate and practitioner level and as a platform for high-level research and international development.

• The first-ever Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment was launched online.

• New Perspectives Photo Exhibit expanded its reach on local and international levels: Santo Domingo, Santiago, Puerto Plata (Dominican Republic); the OAS in Washington DC, and the United Nations in New York (United States).

• Five thousand copies of the New Perspectives: Dominican Republic book were distributed to national and international audiences.

• GFDD/FUNGLODE’s longstanding collaboration with Virtual Educa reached a high note with the celebration of the annual meeting in the Dominican Republic: Virtual Educa Santo Domingo 2010, gathering almost 3,000 education professionals.

• GFDD/FUNGLODE’s close collaboration with the OAS was reinforced with the four Dominican young professionals interning with different departments of the Organization during the summer of 2009.

• The impact of GFDD/FUNGLODE Awards grew as it became a coveted prize among the increasing play, fiction, non-fiction and poetry writers from the homeland and the diaspora competing for the award.
The following pages illustrate the many ways by which GFDD, in collaboration with its partner institutions, implements its vision to promote sustainable social, economic and democratic development.
GFDD is the sister organization in the US of Fundación Global Democracia y Desarrollo (FUNGLODE) headquartered in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. Dr. Leonel Fernández created FUNGLODE in 2000, upon completing his first presidential mandate. When he resumed his duties as President of the Dominican Republic in August 2004, Dr. Fernández became the Foundation’s Honorary President. GFDD was incorporated under US law in 2002, with the purpose of raising and widening the international visibility and presence of FUNGLODE, and of strengthening collaboration and exchange with US institutions. A Board of Directors oversees the overall management of the institution, while day-to-day operations are governed by Executive Director Natasha Despotovic.

FUNGLODE and GFDD were created to fulfil Dr. Leonel Fernández’s desire to contribute to the social, economic and democratic development of his home country and the region, particularly through promoting international collaboration and exchange to raise the level of public debate, encourage better informed public opinion, train greater numbers of qualified human resources and achieve sounder public policies.

GFDD Headquarters are located in Washington, DC, with a branch office in New York City. The organization is private, not-for-profit and non-partisan, dedicated to promoting collaboration between respected international institutions and the Dominican Republic. GFDD raises awareness and understanding of crucial issues by conducting strategic research and producing analyses to strengthen policy development. The Foundation provides educational and training programs and exchange opportunities in an effort to promote social, economic and democratic progress in the Dominican Republic, the Caribbean and Latin America.

**OUR MISSION**

GFDD’s mission is to develop alliances with international partners to formulate and implement initiatives that promote sustainable social, economic and democratic development in the Dominican Republic and Latin America. GFDD develops, builds and reinforces collaboration and exchange between institutions, the Dominican public, the Diaspora and the international community.

**OUR VISION**

Our vision is to support the rule of law and full sustainable social and economic development in the Dominican Republic and Latin America, and to help the country and the region to face the challenges of the twenty-first century.
Developing a community of scholars

Fellows Program is looking for students interested in researching topics related to development in the Dominican Republic. Exemplary work will be presented before the United Nations community on behalf of GFDD / FUNGLODE.
The Fellows Program offers M.S., M.A. and Ph. D. candidates the opportunity to generate scholarship on issues related to sustainable development in the Dominican Republic and to present their findings before the UN community.

June 1, 2009

The GFDD and FUNGLODE Fellows Program, was developed and officially launched in 2009 to respond to the Foundations’ desires to develop a community of scholars that contributes to their growing body of research on matters of international concern that directly impact the Dominican Republic, complementing GFDD and FUNGLODE’s overall mission to promote academic exchange, generate scholarship and influence the creation of public policy related to economic and social development, both at the national and international level. Through the Fellows Program, GFDD and FUNGLODE seek to develop scholarship on issues at the forefront of the United Nations’ agenda in order to give voice to national and regional concerns and to offer viable solutions to domestic and international challenges.

Fellows that carry-out exemplary work have the opportunity to present their findings before the United Nations community on behalf of GFDD and FUNGLODE. Harvard Kennedy School M.A. Candidate Carl Allen was the first student to participate in the Program. During the summer of 2009, Mr. Allen conducted research under the guidance of his Fellows Research Advisor, Leonel Carrasco, Sub-Director of OPRET, the Office for the Reorganization of Transportation. As part of his fellowship, Mr. Allen interviewed key people in the area of transportation and conducted survey studies of Santo Domingo’s ridership. The outcome of his research is an extensive report on the effects of the metro on the nation’s urban development, which includes recommendations for maximizing societal benefits.
FELLOWS PROGRAM MAKES IMPORTANT STRIDES IN THE AREA OF PUBLIC HEALTH

July 19, 2010

In 2010, Dr. Albert Fiallo Billini, Advisor to President Fernández, becomes the Fellows Program’s official advisor in the area of public health.

Columbia University Student Yosmayra Reyes joined the Fellows Program in the summer of 2010 as an investigator in the area of mental health care. Her investigation assesses the implementation and awareness of national legislature related to mental health, particularly in the nation’s rural areas. Her study will identify existing challenges within the field of mental health, including early detection at the primary care level. In addition to evaluating the impact of health care policy on mental health services nationally, Ms. Reyes’ research also looks specifically at how mental health assessment is integrated within primary care in Monte Plata, Dominican Republic.

In 2010 Dr. Alberto Fiallo Billini became the InteRDom Fellows Program Advisor in the area of Public Health. Dr. Fiallo Billini has extensive experience heading governmental, non-governmental and academic entities. He is presently the Advisor on Public Health to President Leonel Fernández and the Director of the Center for Public Health Studies of GFDD and FUNGLODE. He also serves on the Advisory Boards for the following Commissions: the National Health Insurance Plan, the National Program for Essential Medicines, the Teachers Health Insurance Plan, and the National Council on Health.
FELLOWS PROGRAM BRIDGES GAPS IN LANGUAGE LEARNING AND INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

September 5, 2010

M.A. Candidate at Columbia University’s Teacher School, Latonja Taylor, arrived to the Dominican Republic in September to commence research related to integration of mobile technology within teaching and learning processes. Her dynamic plan of research has included close interaction and exchange with Professor of Innovation and Educational Technology at Universidad del Caribe, Fabricio Cabrera, as well as with representatives from the Ministry of Education, the Presidential Office for Information and Communications Technology (OPTIC), local high schools and other private enterprises. Ms. Taylor’s fellowship will culminate in the implementation of a pilot program, in which high school students studying English as a foreign language will use mobile technology to carry-out assignments on vocabulary learning.

PANEL ON SCIENCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AT CUNY

November 6, 2010

GFDD and FUNGLODE, in collaboration with the CUNY Dominican Studies Institute and The Grove School of Engineering, co-sponsored the panel: “The Role of Science in the Economic Development of the Dominican Republic.”

The panel featured presentations by 2009 GFDD / FUNGLODE Fellow and Harvard Kennedy School Graduate, Carl Allen; Dr. Jorge E. González, N.O.A.A. - C.R.E.S.T. Professor, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering, The Grove School of Engineering, CUNY; Dr. Yolanda M. León, Professor, Laboratorio de Percepción Remota, Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC); and Dr. Margaret A. Winslow, Professor of Structural and Engineering Geology, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, The Grove School of Engineering, CUNY.

GFDD was represented during the panel by New York Office Director Yamile Eusebio.

The panel offered the Fellows Program the invaluable opportunity to showcase the important research findings that its students are discovering during their fellowship experiences.
// DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
GLOBAL FILM FESTIVAL
GLOBAL ISSUES, PERSONAL STORIES

DRGFF 2009: 150 FILM INDUSTRY GUESTS, 32 INTERNATIONAL FILMS,
21 THEMATIC PANELS, 19 PROFESSIONAL PANELS

DRGFF 2010: 120 FILM INDUSTRY GUESTS, 50 INTERNATIONAL FILMS,
22 THEMATIC PANELS, 14 PROFESSIONAL PANELS
GFDD and FUNGLODE recognize the role of cinematic arts in the development of the country’s economy and culture and are proud and pleased that the Ministry of Culture, Legislators and the President approved the new Dominican Film Law in 2010, which recognizes the industry’s potential as an economic catalyst and gives it solid governmental support. President Leonel Fernández has been a long proponent of the law. The newly enacted legislation is unquestionably a big step forward for local cinematographers and foreign investors and producers alike.

The law will allow for the establishment of a fund that will finance local productions and educational opportunities in cinematography within the country. The legal measure will also provide fiscal incentives for foreign filmmakers, custom fee immunity for the transport of film equipment, and the abolishment of filming permits.

GFDD and FUNGLODE believe that the exciting developments currently taking place in the country’s film industry represent critical opportunities for national social, cultural and economic advancement, and that the Global Media Arts Institute (GMAI) and the Dominican Republic Global Film Festival (DRGFF) serve as critical vehicles for such progress.

DRGFF seeks to bring together renowned local and international film professionals, talented artists, international leaders and a broad variety of audiences with the purposes of cultivating the appreciation of the art of cinema in the Dominican Republic, stimulating and enriching local film culture, and developing a thriving filmmakers’ community.

The Festival seeks to promote the motion picture industry in the Dominican Republic and contribute to national economic growth. It aspires to be a mechanism for social, cultural and economic development. In doing so, DRGFF has successfully fostered relationships with many of the world’s prestigious international film festivals, in order to attract interest in the Dominican Republic from some of the most distinguished names in film and television.
2009 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC GLOBAL FILM FESTIVAL
// NOVEMBER 18-22, 2009

III Dominican Republic Global Film Festival
Global Issues, Personal Stories

Save the Date! November 18 - 22, 2009

A real Caribbean fiesta celebrating international filmmaking...
Stay tuned at: www.drglobalfilmfestival.org
In 2009, the Festival welcomed 150 distinguished film industry guests and participants, representing over 30 countries, to the third annual Dominican Republic Global Film Festival, which screened a program selection of 32 international award winning films, upholding its theme “Global Issues, Personal Stories.” They participated in screenings, panels and cultural activities throughout the course of the event.

The Opening Night featured the film Touched. For the closing night, DRGFF screened the documentary Sol Caribe, accompanied afterwards by a live performance starring the film’s stellar cast. This combination proved to be a fan favorite. Both productions were either filmed on the island or starred local actors and musicians – a testament to the burgeoning film industry in the Dominican Republic.

DRGFF paid tribute to Academy Award nominated actor and screen legend, Omar Sharif, honoring him for his achievements in film. It also enjoyed the presence and support of Hollywood greats Michael Madsen and Mikhail Baryshnikov.

The Festival hosted nineteen professional industry panels providing local filmmakers and students a forum for practical knowledge and advice from a prominent group of national and international programmers, filmmakers and other practitioners, thus facilitating highly appreciated networking opportunities for both young Dominican filmmakers and more seasoned professionals.

Additionally, twenty-one thematic panel discussions by local and international experts served to raise awareness and understanding of issues highlighted in the films.

The Festival’s continuing appeal is founded upon nurturing strong partnerships and upon support from the many sponsors and volunteers who make it all possible. Their support acknowledges that DRGFF’s presentation of quality films and associated activities consolidate and play a crucial role in the future development of the Dominican Republic’s cultural, economic and social progress.
IV Dominican Republic Global Film Festival

Global Issues, Personal Stories

Save the Date! November 16 - 22, 2010

A real Caribbean fiesta celebrating international filmmaking

Stay tuned at: www.drglobalfilmfestival.org
This year’s Festival screened over fifty movies and eleven Dominican-made short films in six venues around the country and in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, as part of the Foundation efforts to create and develop programs with Haitian institutions, and transfer knowledge and experiences with its citizens. DRGFF hosted filmmakers, actors, directors, writers, journalists and film industry guests from around the world who sat alongside enthusiastic Dominican audiences to view some of the best of world cinema. Film retrospectives from France, Haiti and Australia also garnered special attention from the many film aficionados who attended the 2010 Festival.

In addition to movies, there were thematic panels, industry workshops and round-table discussions before and after many film presentations. Dominican professionals and students received advice, encouragement and practical training from professionals from around the world in areas like digital 3D, film history, acting, make-up and special effects, and documentary filmmaking. All workshops were free of charge and open to the public. A special feature of this year’s Festival was an exploration of the implications of the new Film Law for the future of the industry.

The 2010 program of films presented opportunities for interesting exchanges on both cinematography and thematic topics. The documentary on the Nuremberg: its lesson for today (the schulberg and waletzy restoration) trials entailed not only the art of restoration but the issue of genocide. A documentary on microcredit in New York led to discussion on how to make documentaries and how to financially empower poor people. Naturally, with the Festival being in the Dominican Republic, the documentary Buscón, an expose of talent scouts from the US looking for baseball talent, led to one of the most vigorous discussions of all, with the President himself in attendance and a galaxy of local baseball stars contributing to the debate.

The film, Mother and Daughter, by director Rodrigo García, opened the Festival and received accolades from the spectators in attendance. The film is a look at the often complex emotions of motherhood and the close ties that bind mothers and daughters.

The Festival closed with the 100% Dominican 3 to the Rescue (3 al Rescate). The premiere of the Republic’s first ever 3D animation film was met with pure delight on the part of the mostly youthful audience, and satisfaction on the part of DRGFF organizers, as it showcased the talent and skills that had been waiting to be unleashed by the Dominican cinematographic industry.

To help with the enormous task of organization and preparation, over 300 Dominican young adults volunteered in all areas of the festival, in different locales across the country. DRGFF organizers thank these dedicated volunteers and look forward to working with them again next year.
In an act of solidarity with Haiti and its film industry, DRGFF 2010 presented films in two locations in Port-au-Prince. Omar de la Cruz, DRGFF Director, led the coordinating team involved in the preparation for film screenings and educational activities. “Films Under the Moonlight” took place in the Parc Historique de la Canne à Sucre and the Kiosque Occyde Jeanty du Champs de Mars.

**RUMBO AL FESTIVAL**

September 16 - November 16, 2010

The weekly one-hour show ran from Thursday, September 16 to the opening of the Festival on Digital Channel 15 and CTN. Taína Rodríguez and Manuel Amézquita hosted the show which featured reports, interviews and news about guests and stars, the training activities and films to be shown during DRGFF. It also broadcasted news and commentaries about the film industry of the Dominican Republic.

**“FILMS UNDER THE MOONLIGHT” IN HAITI**

November 18, 2010

In an act of solidarity with Haiti and its film industry, DRGFF 2010 presented films in two locations in Port-au-Prince. Omar de la Cruz, DRGFF Director, led the coordinating team involved in the preparation for film screenings and educational activities. “Films Under the Moonlight” took place in the Parc Historique de la Canne à Sucre and the Kiosque Occyde Jeanty du Champs de Mars.
NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS
November 18, 2010

**2010 Career Achievement Award bestowed upon Arturo Rodríguez, film critic, writer and producer.**

Rounding off the Festival was the newly created National Achievement Award to celebrate the best of the Dominican film community. The National Achievement Award joins the Career Achievement Award in recognizing those who have contributed to world cinema. This year the Festival honored the life and work of Arturo Rodríguez, film critic, writer, producer and President for twelve consecutive years of the *Muestra de Cine de Santo Domingo*. His contribution to the appreciation of quality cinema has made a difference in the country. DRGFF presented this award to Mr. Rodríguez in memoriam, after his untimely passing in April of this year.

European actress, Claudia Cardinale won the Lifetime Achievement Tribute and Spanish actress Victoria Abril was given the National Award for Professional Trajectory. Puerto Rican actor Benicio del Toro also received an acting achievement award and actress Eileen Ryan received recognition as well for her role in *Mother and Child*. President Leonel Fernández also presented them with the Juan Pablo Duarte National Medal of Honor in a separate ceremony at the Presidential Palace where he also inducted into the Order of Christopher Columbus Liza Minelli, Claudia Cardinale, Victoria Abril, Bruce Logan and Benicio del Toro.

ACTOR’S WORKSHOP WITH JIMMY JEAN LOUIS
November 21, 2010

Haitian Hollywood star Jimmy Jean Louis spoke to an enthralled audience of film world colleagues and fans, describing the Film Festival as “great for the Dominican Republic and with strong potential to become one of the great film festivals of the world.” He described his road to stardom as difficult, referring to the barriers of race and nationality that he had to overcome. He advised the aspiring actors in the audience that perseverance is critical to success, stating that only two percent of aspiring actors make it in Hollywood.
FUNDRAISING CONCERT WITH LIZA MINNELLI

November 22, 2010

The Film Festival ended on a high note with a fundraising concert by star of stage and screen Liza Minnelli. President Leonel Fernández that afternoon added “Officer of the Heraldic Order of Christopher Columbus” (Orden Heráldica de Cristóbal Colón en el Grado de Oficial) to her three Tony Awards, an Oscar, an Emmy, two Golden Globes and a Grammy Legend Award.

Two standing ovations and an encore, with the appropriate and emotional Every Time We Say Goodbye, brought the Festival to a triumphant close. The funds raised by this event will help ensure the success of the Fifth Dominican Republic Global Film Festival next year.
DRGFF paid tribute to Academy Award nominated actor and screen legend, Omar Sharif.

Barbara Boyle, Archie Purvis, Asuncion Sanz, and Margaret Hayward at DRGFF Opening Night Cocktail in 2009.

DRGFF screened the documentary Sol Caribe, accompanied afterwards by a live performance starring the film’s stellar cast.

The cast of the film “Touched”. Shirly Brener, Olivier Rossman, Shalim Ortiz, Holiston Coleman, Jackie Watson, Sevy Di Cion.

DRGFF 2010
Special guests Victoria Abril and Claudia Cardinale.
In 2009 and 2010, GMAI helped over 1,000 aspiring industry professionals become closer to achieving their professional goals.
GFDD and FUNGLODE established the Global Media Arts Institute (GMAI) in 2006 to complement the activities of the Dominican Republic Global Film Festival, by providing up-and-coming professionals in the television and film industry with comprehensive instruction in the latest trends in audiovisual production. The Institute organizes a wide range of cross-cultural exchanges, activities, film screenings, panels and workshops with artists and technicians.

GMAI has extended its programming to include unique and previously unexplored areas in the Dominican Republic. During 2009 and 2010 more than 80 workshops, conducted by tens of experts helped over 1,000 students in their professional development. Workshops covered many interesting areas from cinematographic scriptwriting, photography and cinematography to documentary film creation and moving image techniques in 2D animation.

GMAI’s unique and innovative programming has undoubtedly contributed to the Dominican Republic’s economic competitiveness and modernization by assisting in the development of a well-qualified local work force in the booming global communications industry. It has trained and improved the qualifications of its first generation of students, helping them find better employment opportunities and inspiring the creation of several new local television stations and production companies and the development of new projects.

Internationally, GMAI works in partnership with other prestigious institutions such as New York University’s Opportunity Programs, One Race Films, the University of California at Riverside, the International School of Film and TV (EICT) in Cuba and other organizations and institutions in the US, Latin America and elsewhere. GMAI continually strives to develop new partnerships and alliances in order to better serve its beneficiaries.
GMAI SPONSORS DOMINICAN STUDENTS TO TAKE COURSES AT NYU

August 13, 2009

GMAI sponsored six Dominican students to take a six-week course offered by New York University’s Opportunity Program and One Race Film Foundation. Students completed three projects throughout the semester, focusing on sequence, dramatization and short film production. In total, students produced 18 different projects.

IN SCHOOL FILM PROGRAM

September 12-13, 2009

GMAI, along with One Race Film Foundation, are entering high schools and teaching young people and educators about television and film production.

In 2009, GMAI also launched its “In School Film Program” in association with the One Race Film Foundation, to introduce high school students to the diverse aspects of cinematography.

This first pilot program in the Dominican Republic was in Santo Domingo at the Mauricio Báez High School. During the program, students and teachers received training on: writing and research strategies for film and television; interviewing techniques; the use of video, sound and light equipment; editing; tone; and partial and impartial reporting. The two day-long workshop culminated in the production of investigative reports featuring interviews with university students, volunteers from the Mauricio Báez High School and members of the community on themes related to domestic violence and child labor.

One of the main objectives of the program is for the team of trained instructors to provide training to other teachers, so as to constantly expand the reach of the program. The program will also include online follow-up with One Race Film Foundation personnel.
GMAI PROVIDES SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AT EICTV IN CUBA

February 23, 2009

GMAI has afforded seven promising Dominican students full scholarships to attend EICTV.

GMAI has a fruitful working relationship with Escuela Internacional de Cine y Televisión (EICTV) of Cuba. GFDD and FUNGLODE signed an agreement in December 2006 to cooperate with EICTV in the fields of education and training. The scope of this agreement includes full scholarships for selected candidates. From 2006 to 2009, GFDD and FUNGLODE provided scholarship opportunities to seven promising Dominican students.

EICTV is a creation of Fundación del Nuevo Cine Latinoamericano (Foundation for New Latin American Film), based in Havana, Cuba. The school was inaugurated in December, 1986, by the Latin American Film Makers Committee, which has been headed by acclaimed Colombian writer, Gabriel García Marquéz, since its inception. It is the only school in the world to have received the Cannes Film Festival’s distinguished Roberto Rossellini Award, which recognizes outstanding achievement in the areas of progress, generosity and humanity.

CINEFORUM

December 1, 2009

GMAI, in coordination with the US Embassy’s Franklin Center and Centro Universitario Regional de Nagua (CURNA), presented the first of a series of cineforums celebrated during 2010.

Its inauguration of this program was celebrated at CURNA in commemoration of World AIDS Day and featured the screening of the film Philadelphia, which highlights the life of a young lawyer who embarks on a battle over rights after having been let-go by his employer after he had been diagnosed with AIDS. The screening was followed by a colloquium on HIV led by Samuel Martínez, Director of the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Robin Busse of the Franklin Center, Taina Rodríguez of FUNGLODE and Julián Guzmán, Director of the Office of the Ministry of Culture in Nagua, also took part in the event.
Nine members of the FUNGLODE Audiovisual Department spent a week in Bogotá at the Universidad Javeriana attending training workshops.

FUNGLODE specialists in the areas of design, animation and editing, Jenniver Caraballo, Carlos Pérez, José Paulino and Marta Tapia, realized an introductory course on the use of the editorial program Smoke Software. Course work focused on various editing techniques including work flow editing, color correction and final touches. Training also touched upon media management.

FUNGLODE production specialists, Dianelba Dipres, Jesús Frias, Sandra Cadavid, Wandro Quiroz and Braudin Eusebio, meanwhile participated in a practical workshop on television production centred on developing skills and talent for the creative conceptualization, creation and production of television programs.

Training workshops were instructed by experts from Universidad Javeriana’s Centro Ático, experts such as César Tulio Ossa, Alejandro García, Dimas Llanos, Diana Díaz, José Maria Ángel and Jaime González.
GMAI WORKS TO CULTIVATE APPRECIATION OF THE SEVENTH ART.
ACTING WORKSHOP WITH ROGER GUENEVER SMITH


GMAI presented a workshop on acting with Obie Award winning writer, actor and director, Roger Guenveur Smith. Twenty aspiring actors took part in the workshop, which emphasized improvisation and coordination of voice and movement.

Roger Guenveur Smith has written for both theater and film and has starred and staged performances and has acted in numerous films and television programs. He wrote the Obie Award winning play 0 (1995), in which he also performs. The play was later adapted to a film directed by Spike Lee.

SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION TO STUDY AT EICTV

January 14, 2010

In 2010, GMAI launched a scholarship competition for young Dominicans twenty-two to twenty-nine years of age interested in studying at Escuela Internacional de Cine y Televisión (EICTV) in Cuba for a period of three years, 2010-2013. Throughout the course of their studies, students will complete an intense and complex study plan, divided into three cycles: Multi-tasking -- Basic Training, Year I; Specialty – Directing Fiction and Directing Documentaries, Sound, Assembling, Direction in Photography, Script and Production, Year II; and Thesis, Year III.

Scholarships in the areas of direction, production, scriptwriting, documentary filmmaking, photography, sound and editing were offered.
GMAI in partnership with Escuela Internacional de Cine y Televisión organized a workshop on Art Direction at FUNGLODE Headquarters. Course instruction was practical and theoretical. Key components emphasized included: the function of art direction within cinematographic production; the history of art direction as an aesthetic; production design; and contemporary visual arts. The workshop covered all aspects of visual effects from set design and special affects to costume creation and hair and makeup. Instruction was provided by Corina Mestre, Professor of Art Direction at Escuela Internacional de Cine y Televisión and Instituto Superior de Arte.
ARAB FILM WEEK
February 19-25, 2010

GMAI, in coordination with the Ministry of Culture, the Dominican Cinematheque and the Arab House, organized the film series “Urban Cartography: The City in Contemporary Arab Film.” The six films shown were “Waiting for Happiness,” “Chronicle of a Disappearance,” “The Chaos?,” “Viva Algeria,” “Falafel” and “WWW. What a Wonderful World.”

GMAI invited all film aficionados to come and enjoy the movies and experience how the film industry has evolved in the contemporary Arab world.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH
February 23, 2010

During the US’s Black History Month in February, GMAI organized screenings of “Driving Miss Daisy” and “Do the Right Thing” presented in partnership with the United States Embassy and the Fulbright Program. The screening was followed by a question and answer session with representatives from the United States Embassy and the Fulbright Program.
By way of these initiatives, GFDD wants to raise awareness, provide bona fide information from the most reputable sources and inform the public opinion in the Dominican Republic and thereby raise the level of discussion.
GFDD and FUNGLODE champion collaboration between academic bodies, governmental and non-governmental organizations to develop policies and programs to improve the environment and promote sustainable development, by way of conferences, professional development, training, and scientific research.

By way of these initiatives, GFDD wants to raise awareness, provide bona fide information from the most reputable sources and inform the public opinion in the Dominican Republic and thereby raise the level of discussion.

The development and implementation of these programs entails raising awareness amongst stakeholders, training, and identification of financial resources. Local community involvement in these programs elevates understanding of the value of the environment, resulting in the participation of a more educated and responsive citizenry.
JUDICIAL TRAINING FOR THE PROTECTION OF BIODIVERSITY IN JAMAICA, HAITI AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

April 21-23, 2009

GFDD and FUNGLODE’s Judicial Training Pilot Program for Biodiversity Protection gains strength, training more than 50 new judges.

GFDD and FUNGLODE hosted the second meeting of the Judicial Training Pilot Program for the Protection of Biodiversity in Jamaica, Haiti and the Dominican Republic in Santo Domingo. This program, financed through a donation from the McArthur Foundation, was introduced to the country by GFDD and the Environmental Law Institute of Washington, DC in collaboration with the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and local partners in each country, including the Dominican Republic’s National Judicial College, the Konbit Pou Ayiti (KONPAY) Organization in Haiti, and the Norman Manley School of Law in Jamaica.

The course is designed to train and strengthen the capacity of the legal community in Jamaica, Haiti and the Dominican Republic in environmental issues through a curriculum that reinforces the legal bases regarding the protection of biodiversity, conservation management, forestry, land use and pollution control in each country.

The team of expert trainers included a dynamic mix of presentations and interactive methodologies using hypothetical examples, problem solving and discussions. In total, more than 50 judges from Jamaica, Haiti and the Dominican Republic (20 from the Dominican Republic) took part in the pilot workshop. The trainee judges accepted a commitment to take the curriculum back to their respective countries, to help establish sustained judicial education programs that will help judges ensure that existing laws protecting biodiversity be understood, applied and maintained.

Trainee judges will help to ensure that laws on biodiversity be upheld.

Government representatives successfully complete training on payments for ecosystem services.
Panel Discussion on Payment for Ecological Services

August 18, 2009

GFDD and FUNGLODE, in collaboration with the Organization of the American States’ Department of Sustainable Development (DDS/OAS), organized a Panel Discussion on Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) in Latin America and the Caribbean at FUNGLODE Headquarters in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

The innovative and promising instrument for the conservation and protection of the environment, consisting of payment for the ecological benefits generated by a natural resource, was discussed at length by panelists: Professor Jose Rafael Almonte, Vice-Minister for Planning and Development, Dominican Ministry of Environment; Dr. Oscar Mena Tamayo, Chief Advisor for Natural Resources Management and Protection Program, German Technical Development Agency in the Dominican Republic; and Rodrigo Martinez, Environmental Economist, Department of Sustainable Development, Organization of American States. The discussion was moderated by Omar Ramírez, Director of the FUNGLODE Center for Environmental and Sustainable Development Studies.

Vice-Minister Almonte began the conversation by discussing the initial attempts to develop a Payment for Ecological Services (PES) program in the Dominican Republic back in 2001 and the progress achieved seven years later with a full-fledged project in the Northern Yaque River Basin and other projects in the works, such as the conservation of habitat of a migrant bird, Bicknell’s Thrush, a species that breeds in the summer in Vermont, but spends most of the year in the Dominican Republic.

A detailed description of the process from conceptualization, to the creation of a legal framework, and of the drafting of the law presently being discussed in Congress was presented. The legislation pertains to the creation of a national system of compensation for ecological services.

Workshops on Payment for Ecological Services

Payment for Ecosystem Services is a promising mechanism for environmental conservation and protection.

November 6, 2010

Following on from the work in 2009, GFDD and FUNGLODE and the Department of Sustainable Development of the Organization of American States (OAS) held workshops in Santo Domingo on “Design and Implementation of Schemes of Payments for Ecosystem Services (PES): Training for Civil Servants of Government.”

The seminar’s intention was to equip Latin American diplomats with theoretical and practical knowledge on PES and useful decision-making tools for the conservation of natural resources, and additionally sought to contribute to economic and social development in rural areas.

Case studies evaluated appropriate use of PES as a market instrument. Representatives of UNDP, the OAS and the GTZ, the German Development Agency, took part along with academics and Dominican officials.
In partnership with Asesoria Ambiental y Tecnologia Maritima (ATEMAR), GFDD and FUNGLODE organized the National Meeting on Marine Mammals to assess the current state of marine mammals in the Dominican Republic and delineate steps in the areas of research, conservation and protection to ensure the survival of whale, dolphin and manatee populations living in the country’s territorial waters.

The meeting, held at FUNGLODE Headquarters in Santo Domingo, united a large number of national and international experts on marine mammal conservation who represented organizations that have conducted research, conservation and protection throughout the last twenty-three years in the Dominican Republic. They included: Dr. Phil Clapham, US National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
(NOAA); Dr. John Reynolds, Chairman of the Marine Marine Commission; Dr. Chris Clark, Director of the Bio-Acoustics in the Neurology and Behavior Science Department at Cornell University; Dr. Danielle Cholewiak, Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary; Professor David Mattila, Coordinator of the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary; Eleuterio Martínez, Deputy Minister for Protected Areas and Biodiversity of the Environment and Natural Resources Ministry; Omar Ramírez, Director of the National Commission for Climate Change; Dr. Idelisa Bonnelly de Calventi, Director of the Marine Biology Research Center (CIBIMA) of the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo and President of the Dominican Foundation for Marine Research (FUNDEMAR); as well as representatives from Ecomar and The Nature Conservancy.

The meeting made clear the key role the Dominican Republic plays as a world leader in the conservation of these species, as it was the first in the region to establish the Silver Bank Humpback Whale Sanctuary in 1986, in order to protect the mating, calving and nursery grounds of humpback whales (Megaptera novaeangliae). Since then the country has continued as a global pioneer, establishing the first “sister sanctuary” arrangement between the NOAA Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary off the coast of Massachusetts and the Dominican Republic’s Marine Mammal Sanctuary, two marine protected areas 1,500 miles apart that provide conservation programs for the North Atlantic humpback whale population at both ends of its range. It is estimated that the Dominican Republic’s Sanctuary, which presently covers a 19,438-square-mile area including Navidad Bank and part of Samaná Bay, hosts an estimated 17,000 humpback whales per year, making it the area of highest density of this species of whales in the world.
The Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment is an A-Z guide on the environment and natural resources of the Dominican Republic.

The Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment contains the most up-to-date and comprehensive information on the environment and natural resources of the Dominican Republic, and offers insights into the current state of the environment and how it impacts the long term development of the country.

By bringing together information on diverse areas such as terrestrial and aquatic habitats, coastal zones, natural resources, environmental legislation, biodiversity, pollution, urbanization, sustainable development and watershed systems, the Encyclopedic Dictionary provides an excellent forum for promoting multidisciplinary interaction, disseminating scientific information and promoting awareness of and concern for the environment.

The project is dedicated to international as well as national audiences and is the result of four years of intense work realized by a diverse team, working abroad and in the country, composed of the biologists, researchers, photographers, writers, editors and graphic designers, and developed with the support of the Dominican environmental community.

The online source promotes respect, care and concern for the natural environment, and increased awareness of the importance of biodiversity conservation for the functioning of natural systems and human well-being. The Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment seeks to provide a point of departure for better stewardship of our environment and improved land usage.

Efforts are currently underway to produce a print version to compliment the online publication.
El Diccionario Enciclopédico Dominicano de Medio Ambiente presenta la información más actualizada y completa sobre el ambiente y recursos naturales de la República Dominicana. El Diccionario ofrece información dividida en tres secciones principales: la primera contiene artículos en foco y definiciones de términos de A a Z; la segunda proporciona un mapa del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas (SINAP); y la tercera es un directorio que lista los nombres de organizaciones ambientales, instituciones y agencias gubernamentales pertinentes en el país.
INTERDOM: INTERNSHIPS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

INTERDOM: Internships in the Dominican Republic has become the leading internship and academic study program in the Dominican Republic.
Since its establishment in 2005, InteRDom: Internships in the Dominican Republic has become the leading internship and academic study program in the Dominican Republic.

InteRDom is a competitive internship and academic study program that promotes professional, academic and cultural exchange between students, universities, scholars, professionals, businesses and non-governmental organizations on a national and international scale. The Program provides spaces for personal and professional growth, research and international and multicultural exchange, while at the same time contributing to the social and economic development of the country and the advancement of academic research.

InteRDom offers internship and research opportunities to both undergraduate, graduate and gap-year students in a diversity of fields. The Program is unique in that it allows students to tailor their experiences with any combination of internship, research, university course work and/or cultural excursions and activities.

Through InteRDom, students have the ability to network with important Dominican professionals. InteRDom’s seminars as well as daily activities, conferences and workshops at FUNGLODE Headquarters create spaces for students and interns to meet important Dominican and international leaders, executives, academics and political figures. Via excursions and social and cultural activities, participants are able to interact with key societal actors, get a taste of local culture and experience the country’s natural beauty and cultural wealth.

The Program’s conferences, publications and public awareness campaigns improve understanding among employers about the important role that internships play in providing unique perspectives that help stimulate innovative prospects for improving productivity.

To date, the InteRDom has worked with approximately 100 students from 36 of universities, and has developed a database of over 500 affiliated national and international public and private institutions and multilateral organizations.
InteRDom helped to facilitate the national and international promotion and execution of the 3rd National Dominican Student Conference at the City College of New York, which attracted some 400 students from the Dominican Diaspora from across the United States.

InteRDom strongly supported the 2009 theme, “Transitioning from a Student to a Professional,” which focused on providing students with tools to combat stereotypes and learn business norms and etiquette to facilitate the interviewing process and the subsequent transition into the workforce after college. Alicia Alonzo, InteRDom Manager, was one of the speakers sharing her experiences in an April 11 workshop on “Business Etiquette.”

The 2009 conference was organized by DominiCUNY, a joint intellectual effort between the current Dominican student leaders and alumni of the City University of New York (CUNY). The student and alumni organizers represent many colleges within the CUNY system, including Lehman College, Baruch College, Hunter College and Bronx Community College. CUNY has graduated more students of Dominican descent than any other university in the United States.
FOURTH ANNUAL INTERDOM CONFERENCE
April 23-24, 2009

Fourth Annual InteRDom Conference promotes global trends in management, training and professional development.

InteRDom celebrated its fourth Annual Conference at FUNGLODE Headquarters in Santo Domingo. The event gathered national and international institutions headquartered in the Dominican Republic and the United States. The Conference is a yearly event that promotes debate on global trends related to management, training and professional development in the area of human resources. The Conference forms part of a complete program of activities that InteRDom implements throughout the year as part of its mission to partner with Dominican corporations and their human resource departments to develop internship programs that meet international standards of excellence.

The InteRDom Conference’s primary aim is to involve corporations and organizations in the process of helping young people to transition into the workforce, and present internships as beneficial opportunities for institutions. It is an annual event that promotes debate on global trends related to management, training and professional development in the area of human resources.

In addition to the participation of national experts, the 2009 conference featured international expert Gizem Eren-Baig, Voice Secondment Program Coordinator for The World Bank in the United States. Ms. Eren-Baig spoke about the role that internship programs play in the economic development of nations.

During the event, participating corporations and organizations were able to affiliate with the InteRDom Program and to participate in the “Certification of Monitors Program,” which also took place at FUNGLODE Headquarters. Through the certification program, affiliated institutions learned how to implement and improve their own internship programs.
SUMMER SEMINAR:  
“DOING BUSINESS IN LATIN AMERICA”  
June 30 – July 1, 2009

InteRDom students examined how social and political phenomena in the Dominican Republic are helping to foster positive economic conditions during the Summer Seminar “Doing Business in Latin America.”

As part of its 2009 summer academic program, InteRDom presented the seminar “Doing Business in Latin America,” in partnership with The World Bank group “Doing Business.”

“Doing Business” ranks the Dominican Republic as the country that has undergone the greatest number of economic reforms during the period of 2007-2008. The purpose of the seminar was to give insight into the type of economic development that has taken place in the country and to analyze how related social and political phenomenon are transforming Dominican society.

The program placed particular emphasis on economic growth in the Dominican Republic and offered various tools with which they could assess economic conditions in the country and identify best business practices.
FALL 2009 INTERNS GET ACQUAINTED WITH DOMINICAN CULTURE

September 7, 2009

FUNGLODE Headquarters in Santo Domingo hosted an official welcome for InteRDom’s Fall 2009 interns, who arrived from the United States and France to realize an academic program and internship in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

The students were greeted with a week-long orientation program, designed to help them adapt to their new environments and to adjust to and understand Dominican culture. The orientation week activities included an opening presentation and tour of the Foundation’s facilities, a tutorial on business etiquette in the Dominican Republic, an introduction to cultural norms and differences, a tour of InteRDom’s partner university Universidad Ibero-americana (UNIBE), a welcome lunch and a tutorial on how to use public transportation safely.

The week concluded with the group’s first cultural excursion of the year to the Mirabal Sisters’ Museum in Salcedo and to the Centro León Cultural Center in Santiago. The excursion was guided by one of InteRDom’s experienced partners, who shared the regional history and culture of the Dominican Republic.
INTERDOM FIRST ANNUAL CERTIFICATION SEMINAR FOR INTERNSHIP SUPERVISORS

December 5, 2009

Executives and human resource representatives learn how to maximize the role of interns in their institutions during InteRDom’s First Annual Certification Seminar.

InteRDom successfully completed its first “Certification of Internship Coordinators and Monitors,” overseen by Joaquín Salazar, expert in internships and human resources at FUNGLODE Headquarters.

The Certification of Internship Coordinators and Monitors is a two-part training program offered by InteRDom, which allows participating organizations to identify their internal needs and to turn them into learning opportunities by taking maximum advantage of the valuable resources provided by an internship program. The seminar is especially geared toward human resources specialists, managers and directors who are interested in implementing an internship program or improving the existing ones in their organizations and companies.

Executives and human resource representatives learned how to maximize the role of interns in their institutions during InteRDom’s First Annual Certification Seminar.

As a result of this seminar, the Dominican Republic now has its first ever group of leaders and personnel duly qualified and trained to manage intern programs in their respective companies. InteRDom intends to continue offering this important certification to organizations and businesses in the Dominican Republic on a biannual basis.
The InteRDom team had its fullest travel agenda to date in spring 2010, with campus visits scheduled at eight universities throughout the New York, Boston, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania areas. These trips to Career Fairs and information sessions are important in that they make it possible for InteRDom to reach out to students and get to know potential applicants personally, in an effort to cater closely to their internship needs. InteRDom is on Facebook and Twitter for interns to check opportunities.

The 2010 Conference attracted close to 300 students to attend the workshops, activities and presentations that revolved around the theme, “Taking Dominicans Back to Their Roots.” During the forum, Yamile Eusebio, Director of the GFDD New York Office, participated in the workshop entitled “Moving Mountains,” during which she provided helpful tips on career development and transitioning from the student to the working world.
Annual InterDom PRO: Professional Externship for Professors and Administrators

October 20-24, 2010

Eight representatives from United States colleges, universities and educational foundations traveled to the Dominican Republic to participate in InteRDom’s first annual InteRDom PRO: Professional Externship for Professors and Administrators.

During the four-day conference, the representatives took part in a number of activities designed to introduce them to the city of Santo Domingo, the InteRDom program and the facilities and programs of GFDD and FUNGLODE. They learned about the services and programs offered to international students and researchers through InteRDom, as well as why the Dominican Republic is an important destination for students interested in developing their professional and academic capacities.

The participants were a diverse group of professors, researchers, international programs coordinators and career services advisors representing a wide variety of public and private institutions of higher learning, as well as the Historical Black Colleges and Universities of North Carolina, with which InteRDom has recently formed a special partnership. The universities and organizations represented were: University of Rochester, City College of New York, Elizabeth City State University, CUNY Graduate Center, George Washington University, Livingstone College, University of Oregon and the IERC Education Foundation. The CUNY Dominican Studies Institute was also an important collaborator and contributor for the event.

InteRDom PRO was highly successful in that it established new bridges for recruitment between the InteRDom program and the students that PRO participants serve.
Some of the activities organized for InteRDOM
VEC encourages the creation of national and international networks and alliances.
Virtual Educa Caribe (VEC) is the Regional Chapter of the Ibero-American Virtual Educa, an initiative that is affiliated with the Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government.

VEC is an annual forum that promotes knowledge transfer and the development of projects that integrate the use of new technologies in higher education and professional training. The forum assembles experts in education, training and technological innovation and community, non-profit and private sector representatives from Ibero-America to exchange information and lessons learned in human resource capacity in order to foster the exchange of best practices and proven results concerning improvements in labor force capacity.

VEC encourage the creation of national and international networks and alliances that share and replicate satisfactory training models that incorporate new technological tools.

The intention of both fora is to promote discussion and encourage the use of new technology in the development and training of citizens, so as to advance sustainable community development and levels of national competitiveness in the region.
June 21, 2010

Over 2,400 political leaders and experts in education and technology from 20 nations attended the 2010 Virtual Educa Summit in Santo Domingo.

GFDD and FUNGLODE hosted the Virtual Educa Summit in Santo Domingo, drawing over 2,400 experts, of which 450 represented nineteen countries other than the Dominican Republic. President Fernández formally opened the foremost annual event on education and technology in Latin America, setting the stage for discussion on the 2010 theme: “A New Education for a New Era.”

José María Antón, Secretary-General of Virtual Educa and Yamile Eusebio, VEC Coordinator and Director of GFDD’s New York office, welcomed an array of the world’s foremost decision-makers in education and technology, among them distinguished Dominican political leaders such as President Leonel Fernández; Vice President Rafael Albuquergue; Ligia Amada Melo de Cardona, Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology; Melanio Paredes, Minister of Education; and Carlos Morales Troncoso, Minister of Foreign Relations.

Participants addressed the issue of models of good practices in education and training.

Proposals have already been made to host Virtual Educa in Dominican Republic again in the year 2020.

March 4, 2009

Representatives from the public, private and NGO sectors from Latin America met in the Dominican Republic at FUNGLODE Headquarters in March to participate in Virtual Educa Caribe 2009, the fourth such regional meeting organized by GFDD and FUNGLODE. The Latin American Forum on new technologies focused on training, innovation, corporate social responsibility and sustainable development.

Alfredo Rojas of the National Office of Programming, Leadership in Education OREALC/UNESCO, headquartered in Santiago, Chile, delivered the keynote address on “Free Technology Platforms and E-Learning: Possibilities, Limitations and Risks: Lessons learned in the Leadership Network of the OREALC/UNESCO.”

Participants also took part in two workshops: “Creating Blogs” and “Design and Editing Virtual Publications.”
MULTILATERAL INITIATIVE ON EDUCATION FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

August 14, 2010

GFDD and FUNGLODE launch an exciting new initiative in partnership with Virtual Educa, the OAS and the IADB.

The four-day Assembly coordinated by GFDD and FUNGLODE consisted of an integrated set of seminars and forums organized by specialized institutions such as the Organization of American States, (OAS); the Inter American Development Bank( IADB); The Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLAC); the Association of Latin American Parliamentarian; the Korea Education and Research Information Service (KERIS), all affiliated with Virtual Educa, representing diverse perspectives. Representatives from the following entities participated in the forum: GFDD and FUNGLODE, Telefónica Foundation, Cisneros Foundation, Education Academy, University of Haiti, Quisqueya University, INDOTEL, Tech de Monterrey, Open University of Catalonia, the University of the West Indies, UWI. They all presented their line of work, experiences and projections associated with the use of technologies for education for human development.

During the Forum, an Agreement of Cooperation of the Multilateral Initiative of Education for Human Development (IMEDH) was signed by several institutions, and witnessed by high ranking Dominican Ministry Officials, Professor Melanio Paredes and Doña Ligia Amada Melo.

The Multilateral Education Initiative for Human Development is a joint project of GFDD and FUNGLODE, Virtual Educa, the Organization of American States (OAS), and the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB). IMEDH seeks to realize projects in the region related to professional and technical training, higher education, information and knowledge management. Preliminary planning for the Initiative’s project “Teachers for the Digital Era” will commence January 2011. The project is aimed at developing innovative strategies that will improve teaching and learning processes.
EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY

Since 2004, over 18,000 Dominican teachers have benefited from PIL.
EDUCATION AND TECHNOLOGY

PARTNERS IN LEARNING

For the last six years GFDD/FUNGLODE have been the local partners in the DR with Microsoft, for their program Partners in Learning (PIL).

During this initiative more than 18,000 teachers have sharpened their skills with training programs, workshops, discussions, seminars, conferences. PIL does not train teachers in the use of technology itself, but supports training in the use of technological tools integrated in the school curriculum with the goal of facilitating the learning process of the students.

Partners in Learning is a long-term commitment from Microsoft to work with governments, local NGOs, schools, teachers and partners to establish a sustainable foundation for continued advances in the teaching/learning process with the use of technology as a tool in the classroom.

One of the goals of the program consists of providing continued education for teachers and all of the programs such as; “Learning Neuroscience”, “Peer to Peer” and “The Importance of Leadership in Education” motivate teachers to engage in a permanent state of learning.

During 2009-2010, a total of 11 teachers from NY helped in the training of 240 Dominican teachers.

iEARN

Three Forests, One World Program is an international, collaborative, science-based exchange program that empowers students and teachers to lead their schools in new research, analyze data, and take responsible environmental action. Forty U.S. and 20 Dominican teachers were trained in forest ecology including soil testing and analysis, gaining practical skills to pass on to their students. Four educators and 16 students from the U.S. visited the Dominican Republic for a 3-week exchange in the winter of 2010, and equal number Dominican participants visited New York and Washington DC for three weeks in the spring of 2010. The 16-month Internet and exchange project is made possible through a $385,000 grant from the Office of Citizen Exchanges within the Bureau of Education and Cultural Affairs of the US Department of State.

iEARN-USA (International Education and Resource Network) and its partners, the Center for Innovation in Engineering and Science Education (CIESE) at the Stevens Institute of Technology, AMNH, and GFDD/FUNGLODE led the program.

SUMMER WORKSHOPS FOR TEACHERS

New York Schools, known for their excellence, bring their teachers to the Dominican Republic to share their techniques and experiences with local teachers.
GFDD and FUNGLODE have developed joint programs and projects with different OAS departments and secretariats that benefit the Dominican Republic.
GFDD and FUNGLODE are active supporters of the objectives of the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Summit of the Americas and effective partners of the organization in the Dominican Republic. They are also dynamic participants in the Civil Society of the OAS, where the most instrumental NGOs and civic associations and organizations of the Western Hemisphere are represented. The purpose of this group is to support and assist the organization in realizing its aims and goals.

Thanks to a long standing partnership with the international regional organization, GFDD and FUNGLODE have developed joint programs and projects with different OAS departments and secretariats that benefit the Dominican Republic. A number of joint initiatives have been developed with the Inter-American Commission for the Control of Drug Abuse (CICAD), the Department of Education, the Department of Sustainable Development and the Columbus Library, amongst others.
As part of a continued effort to strengthen collaboration between the Dominican Republic and the OAS, the Foundations offered four young Dominican professionals the opportunity to intern with various OAS departments. The four professionals selected, Eva Hiraldo, Braudin Eusebio, Roselina Pérez and Evelyn Hernández, were carefully chosen for their interest in international relations.

Internship for Dominican professionals help to reinforce the Foundations’ support of OAS goals and objectives and to strengthen partnership between the institutions.

OAS interns meet with Dominican Ambassador to the OAS, Ambassador Virgilio Alcántara, and Embassy staff.
Eva Hiraldo worked with the Chief Librarian of the Columbus Memorial Library on metadata, digitalizing already existing graphic material related to the Dominican Republic, such as photos of OAS events held in the country dating back to the 1930s, historical photos of public celebrations from the Trujillo era, and other more recent documents. This project not only demonstrates the Foundations’ commitment to OAS objectives, it also contributes to reinforcing Dominican national identity and highlights the important role the country plays in hemispheric affairs. The resulting historical data will be accessible on the Dominicanaonline.org website.

Braudin Eusebio and Roselina Pérez worked for the Department of External Relations of the OAS, where they used their skills in the areas of television and film production. The agreement between the Foundations and the OAS facilitated GFDD and FUNGLODE’s access to valuable audiovisual material that can be used for footage in the production of regular television programs like “Juventud Global” and other documentary projects realized by the Global Media Arts Institute (GMAI).

With the Education Department, Evelyne Hernández conducted essential research for a joint GFDD/FUNGLODE-OAS project proposal called “Teacher To Teacher” (TTT). The project will provide training on multiculturalism to Dominican and Haitian teachers, both in the classroom and online. A total of 80 teachers will participate in this pilot program, which reflects advanced educational and anthropological inputs. The primary goals of the training are to develop solidarity amongst Dominican and Haitian teachers and provide educators with resources and skills that can be used to facilitate teaching about diversity.
XXXIX OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN HONDURAS

June 5-6, 2009

GFDD and FUNGLODE fulfill their commitment to the OAS by participating in the Annual General Assembly. The XXXIX OAS General Assembly in San Pedro Sula, Honduras was dedicated to the theme of non-violence. Discussions centered on hemispheric reports from the permanent Councils on the Democratic Inter-American Chart; the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanisms on Drug Abuse Control, Hemispheric Free Trade and Investment Commission; the hemispheric response and preparation to the AH1N1 type influenza; Inter-American support for total prohibition of nuclear testing; and the question of the Malvinas Islands.

OAS YOUTH SUMMIT IN TRINIDAD

April 15-16, 2009

InterRDom takes center stage at the OAS Youth Summit in Trinidad.

Asuncion Sanz led the GFDD/FUNGLODE delegation in Trinidad at the 2009 Summit of the Americas which was preceded by a special youth summit that recognized the vital role of young people in hemispheric development. The overall theme of the forum was “Securing our Citizens Future by Promoting Human Prosperity, Energy Security and Environmental Sustainability.”

GFDD and FUNGLODE’s InterRDom Program took an active role in the Youth Forum Agenda, which addressed vital issues such as training, access to jobs, capital, entrepreneurship, immigration, technology and crime and its effects on younger generations. During a panel on “Business Ethics and Youth Entrepreneurship,” Alicia Alonzo, InterRDom Manager, presented the program’s objectives and impact on the labor force in the Dominican Republic. Ms. Alonzo emphasized how young professionals fuel the labor market and stimulate change and competitiveness.

The pioneering Youth Forum, organized by the OAS Young Americas Business Trust (YABT), is the result of four years of hard work developing regional dialogues that have included the voices of the 70,000 young people living in the Americas. Participation in the forum provided GFDD and FUNGLODE the opportunity to network and build relations with likeminded organizations across the hemisphere.
YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE REGION GATHERED IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO FOR THE FIFTH SUMMIT OF THE AMERICAS.
Participants learn about effective methods to encourage creativity amongst students through arts and culture.
**XL OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN PERU**

June 6-8, 2010

GFDD and FUNGLODE, represented by Asunció Sanz, Director of the GFDD Washington DC Office, were among 150 or so other Civil Society NGOs from the member countries of the OAS that participated in a dialogue with Heads of Delegations attending the 40th OAS General Assembly in Lima, Peru.

The role and presence of Civil Society and NGOs like GFDD and FUNGLODE in OAS procedures has dramatically increased during the last decade. This input augments both the quality of debate, the provision of accountability and furtherance of transparency for the decisions made. It also assists in ensuring a better outcome via the multiplicity of views expressed by the informed experiences of the representatives.

Workshop participants shared their knowledge of new and effective methods for encouraging the development of skills and creativity in students through the introduction of art and culture in academic curriculum. They discussed the role of the arts and media in generating and promoting a democratic citizenry. The need for youth to be nurtured in a way that assists them to become artistic creators and producers, not solely consumers, was one of the many points underscored.

**WORKSHOP ON CULTURE AND EDUCATION**

July 20, 2010

In 2010 the Foundations continued their close collaboration with the OAS. They had the honor of hosting the three-day Inter-American workshop “The Role of the Arts and Communications Media in the Education of a Democratic Citizenry.”

The event, which took place at FUNGLODE Headquarters in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, was coordinated by Asuncion Sanz, Director of the GFDD Washington DC Office, and was attended by 86 professionals from the education and culture sectors of 26 Member States of the OAS, including José Rafael Lantigua, Minister of Culture of the Dominican Republic, and Adalberto Martínez, Vice Minister of Education of the Dominican Republic; Eleston Adams, Minister of Culture of Antigua and Barbuda; and Gaspard Charlegamgn, Minister of Education and Culture of Saint Lucia. Also present was Ambassador Aníbal Enrique Quiñónez Abarca, OAS representative to the Dominican Republic, among other eminent government officials.

Workshop participants shared their knowledge of new and effective methods for encouraging the development of skills and creativity in students through the introduction of art and culture in academic curriculum. They discussed the role of the arts and media in generating and promoting a democratic citizenry. The need for youth to be nurtured in a way that assists them to become artistic creators and producers, not solely consumers, was one of the many points underscored.
GFDD and FUNGLODE submitted 7 expert reports on public health and transport to the commissions of the United Nations Economic and Social Council.
GFDD and FUNGLODE are dedicated to promoting and advancing issues at the forefront of the United Nations agenda.

Since 2004, the Foundations have had consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, the Conference on Trade and Development, the Department of Public Information, the Global Compact Office, the Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Summit on Information Society.

Through their involvement in many of the United Nations councils and commissions, GFDD and FUNGLODE strive to give voice to national and regional concerns and share best practices and challenges. Likewise, they are committed to transmitting the lessons and recommendations endorsed by the United Nations to the Dominican populace, as part of their mission to further the diffusion of knowledge.

As institutions with consultative status, it is the goal of GFDD and FUNGLODE to generate research and organize international conferences and panel discussion on topics given priority by the UN bodies with which they are affiliated, in particular: sustainable economic and social development; education; science; technology and innovation; environment; trade and public health.

In 2009 and 2010, GFDD and FUNGLODE worked in a concerted manner to increase their contributions to the United Nations program of work. These inputs include panel discussions at the United Nations Headquarters in New York and at FUNGLODE Headquarters in Santo Domingo, as well as the preparation and submission of reports on the thematic topics of sustainable transport and public health.

During the 2009-2010 period, the Foundations participated in over twenty high-level forums coordinated by the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), the Commission on Population and Development (CPD), the Department of Financing for Development, the Department of Public Information (DPI) and the United Nations University (UNU).

As a demonstration of their commitment to advancing the goals of the United Nations, in 2009, via their InteRDom Program, GFDD and FUNGLODE created the Fellows Program, an initiative that generates research on topics related to social and economic development within the context of the Dominican Republic.

GFDD and FUNGLODE look forward to their ongoing involvement with the councils and committees of the United Nations and seek to continue to develop innovative methods of participation.
GFDD AND FUNGLODE SUBMIT REPORT ON MASS TRANSIT SYSTEM OF SANTO DOMINGO TO ECOSOC.
In an effort to share knowledge and best practices related to public health in the Dominican Republic, GFDD and FUNGLODE developed six high-level reports prepared by Dr. Alberto Fiallo Billini, Director of the GFDD/FUNGLODE Center for Public Health Studies, and Advisor on Public Health to President Leonel Fernández, and Center for Public Health Studies personnel.

The in-depth reports provide a thorough overview of the country’s progress in achieving the health-related Millennium Development Goals and also cover topics such as health inequities and universal health care.

In order to actively contribute to the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development’s 2010/2011 Programme of Work, devoted to the thematic areas of transport, chemicals, waste management, mining and sustainable production and consumption, GFDD and FUNGLODE submitted a report on the mass transit system of Santo Domingo. The report, prepared by GFDD/FUNGLODE Fellow Carl Allen, assesses the impacts of the Santo Domingo Metro System on sustainable development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

Mr. Allen’s comprehensive study is an analysis of the potential impact of the metro in Santo Domingo on poverty alleviation, congestion, pollution reduction and social and educational development. The report takes a close look at the effects of the metro on the nation’s urban development and includes recommendations on how to maximize societal benefits.
During the framework of the Eighteenth Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), GFDD and FUNGLODE organized the panel “A Multidimensional Approach to Sustainable Development and the Millennium Development Goals: The Santo Domingo Metro System as a Model for Mass Sustainable Transport” at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City.

The forum presented how the new Santo Domingo Metro System in the Dominican Republic constitutes a multidimensional solution toward advancing the country’s sustainable development and achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

The panel featured presentations by: Omar Ramírez, Executive Vice-President of the National Commission on Climate Change and the Clean Development Mechanism for the Government of the Dominican Republic, Director of the FUNGLODE Center for Environmental and Sustainable Development Studies, and former Secretary of Environment, Dominican Republic; Leonel Carrasco, Sub-Director of the Transport Reform Office (OPRET) of the Dominican Republic; Oneximo González, Project Manager of Transvial S.A., General Manager of Bunkermym S.A., and Honorary Advisor to the Transport Reform Office (OPRET) of the Dominican Republic; and Carl Allen, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs Fellow and Public Policy & Urban Planning Ph.D. Candidate at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government and Graduate School of Design and GFDD/FUNGLODE Fellow.

The event included remarks by Ambassador Francis Lorenzo of the Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations; Yamile Eusebio, GFDD New York Branch Director; and Kerry Stefancyk, GFDD/FUNGLODE Representative to the United Nations.

During the event, panelists examined the social, environmental, educational and economic benefits of the metro that are already being felt. Presentations outline gains associated with pollution control, congestion, time savings, public safety, poverty alleviation, commerce and education, and the importance of mainstreaming sustainable transport within overall national development plans.

GFDD and FUNGLODE believe that the lessons learned and the experiences gained from the planning and construction of the Santo Domingo metro-rail system can be of value for the Commission on Sustainable Development, government representatives of developing countries and civil society entities invested in the areas of sustainable transport and urban development.

The panel was made possible thanks to co-sponsorship by the UN Global Compact, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation, and the Columbia Consortium for Risk Management (CCRM) of Columbia University.
Panelists Carl Allen and Omar Ramírez.
Model UN delegates arrived to the United Nations General Assembly ready to represent their respective countries and UN bodies.
GFDD, FUNGLODE and UNA-DR, in collaboration with the Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations, coordinated the panel “Empowerment of Young Women through the Youth Delegates to the United Nations Programme: Fostering Active Participation in Decision Making Bodies,” during the framework of the High-level Meeting of ECOSOC on gender equality and the empowerment of women.

The panel featured presentations by Anik Kohli, Advisor to the Permanent Mission of Switzerland to the UN and former Youth Delegate, and Fruzsina Molnar Straus, Communications and Programs Officer for the World Federation for the United Nations Association (WFUNA). Opening remarks were provided by H.E. Ambassador Federico Cuello, Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations. Closing remarks were provided by Yamile Eusebio, Director of the GFDD New York Office and Director of Formative Activities for FUNGLODE. The event was moderated by Kerry Stefancyk, GFDD/FUNGLODE Representative to the United Nations.

Ambassador Federico Cuello commenced the panel, calling attention to the importance of integrating youth in the work carried-out by UN bodies and commending President Leonel Fernández for giving priority to the UN Youth Delegates Programme.

Anik Kohli spoke about her experience as a Youth Delegate and discussed the implementation of the program by the Mission of Switzerland. Fruzsina Molnar Straus highlighted the importance of Youth Delegate Programs worldwide. This year the United Nations is celebrating the International Year for Youth. In September 2010, WFUNA will release a Youth Delegate Handbook that will help nations develop Youth Programs and opportunities for delegates to lobby with their governments. Yamile Eusebio expressed her gratitude to the panelists for their participation in the event and underscored the importance of the youth involvement in UN processes.

The impetus behind the organization of the event was the successful implementation of the Youth Delegates Program by the Dominican Republic, which was spearheaded by the United Nations Association of the Dominican Republic.
Conference on Population Dynamics and Climate Change in Partnership with UNFPA

August 11, 2010

Speaker discuss important linkages between demographic trends and climate change.


The event featured presentations by the book’s contributors José Miguel Guzmán (Chief, Population and Development Branch, UNFPA), George Martine (Consultant, UNFPA), Mark Montgomery (Senior Associate, Poverty, Gender and Youth Program, Population Council), and Deborah Balk (Associate Professor, Baruch School of Public Affairs and Associate Director, Institute of Demographic Research, CUNY). The forum was moderated by Omar Ramírez, Director of the Center for Environmental and Sustainable Development Studies, FUNGLODE; Executive Vice-President of
the National Commission on Climate Change and the Clean Development Mechanism for the Government of the Dominican Republic; and former Secretary of Environment of the Dominican Republic.

Speakers discussed the critical linkages between demographic trends and climate change and provided recommendations on how to integrate population data within climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies and policies. Key areas of discussion included: the relationship between population growth and greenhouse gas emissions; family planning as a mitigation strategy; urbanization and sustainable land-use; shifts in demography; identification of at-risk populations; the use of population census data for environmental and climate change analysis.

George Martine, Consultant for UNFPA.
UNA-DR has designed and implemented simulations and national, regional and international forums, involving over 60,000 youth from the Dominican Republic and twenty-five other countries.
The United Nations Association of the Dominican Republic (UNA-DR) is a nonprofit, non-governmental organization dedicated to supporting the work of the United Nations. It coordinates educational and cultural initiatives to raise awareness and encourage participation in UN-related activities. Since it was founded in 2001 with the support of the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA), UNA-DR has designed and implemented simulations and national, regional and international forums, involving over 60,000 youth from the Dominican Republic and twenty-five other countries.

In early 2002, UNA-DR signed a partnership agreement with FUNGLODE, establishing the institution as its main local partner, to provide all operational and logistical support. In 2003, GFDD joined the partnership and has since been providing significant support from its offices in Washington, DC and New York City. President Leonel Fernández serves as the Association’s Honorary President.

UNA-DR works with educational entities, NGOs, public and private sector and international organizations in support of United Nations efforts and for sustainable human development; the principles and practices of democracy; respect for human rights; governance; and educational prosperity for the Dominican people in the country and abroad.

UNA-DR contributes to the development agenda of United Nations through awareness campaigns, workshops, seminars, lectures, panel discussions and publications.

Youth delegates debate international concerns during DEUROMUN in Paris

Dominican student represents Jordan during NYDRMUN
SEVENTH ANNUAL MODEL UNITED NATIONS IN NYC

April 2-4, 2009

More than 400 Dominican students attended the 2009 New York Dominican Republic Model United Nations (NYDRMUN), at the Millennium Plaza Hotel and UN Headquarters in New York City.

This was the seventh occasion that UNA-DR organized this gathering. The Model seeks to provide a platform in which students can engage in discussion about the principal challenges that presently confront the international community in order to devise possible solutions. It gives opportunities for Dominican students and students from across the region to formulate resolutions and proposals that correspond to the UN’s agenda. Participating in NYDRMUN offers students an inside look into the work conducted by diplomatic representatives at the United Nations.

This initiative was organized in collaboration with the Mission of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations and with support from Turinter L’Alianxa.

YOUTH OF THE AMERICAS FORUM FOR HAITI

Second Haitian Model United Nations promotes cultivation of new partnerships to spur action.

August 13-15, 2009

GFDD and FUNGLODE and UNA-DR, in partnership with Haiti Action, sponsored the Youth of the Americas Forum for Haiti (YAFH) and its subsequent Community Service Week (CSW), as part of their institutional Commitment to Action with the Clinton Global Initiative University (CGIU). The Youth of the Americas Forum for Haiti (YAFH) united youth from the Dominican Republic, Haiti and across the world to foster the exchange of best practices and promote dialogue aimed at shaping the design and implementation of development projects in Haiti. More than 70 young leaders from the Western Hemisphere joined their Haitian peers to address multiple challenges impacting Haiti.

The Forum took place within the framework of the Second Haitian Model United Nations Conference (SIMHANU 2009), which was held August 13-15, 2009 at the Karibe Convention Center in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. Community Service Week activities, in different locations of the capital city promoted partnerships to cultivate the next generation of action in Haiti.
GFDD and FUNGLODE and UNA-DR participated in the Clinton Global Initiative University (CGI U) 2009 Meeting in Austin, Texas. Approximately 1,000 students representing 318 schools, nearly 60 countries, and all 50 states attended the CGI U Meeting, along with nearly 80 university presidents and administrators and almost 70 leaders of National Youth Organizations.

More than 1,700 CGI U commitments to date have been made through CGI U to address pressing global affairs.

In keeping with GFDD, FUNGLODE and UNA-DR's commitment to increasing collaboration between Dominican and Haitian youth, the commitment put forth by the institutions was heavily focused on improving the situation in Haiti.

The student group sponsored by GFDD, FUNGLODE and UNA-DR included twenty-nine students from seven different universities in the Dominican Republic. Six Haitian students were also part of the group.

The Dominican - Haitian delegation, was instrumental in the development of a truly thorough and comprehensive Commitment proposal.

The potential for a future in which Haitian youth is more involved in partnerships and joint initiatives to improve their situation was proven by their determination and active participation in different working sessions. Dominican and Haitian students have manifested their eagerness to work together in an exemplary manner, going beyond words and actually working together to act on their convictions.

February 12, 2009

GFDD, FUNGLODE and UNA-DR commit to increasing collaboration between Dominican and Haitian youth.
GFDD, FUNGLODE and UNA-DR, in association with the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA), coordinated the 2009 International Conference of the Americas (CILA), which convened over 1,500 youth from around the world. Students worked together in an environment of diplomacy to seek solutions to challenges facing the international community.

Participants simulated fourteen different commissions and organs of the United Nations and other multilateral, regional and international institutions. The event offered students opportunities to partake in seminars, conferences, workshops, activities and exhibitions related to the United Nations Millennium Goals.

CILA 2010
October 27-October 31, 2010

More than 1,500 young people from the Dominican Republic, Latin America and other countries participated in the fourth edition of the International Conference of the Americas (CILA) organized by UNA-DR, GFDD and FUNGLODE.

Student delegates debated a wide array of issues of international concern with the intention or reaching consensus, participating in seminars, workshops, exhibitions and social cultural activities related to the United Nations Development Goals.

An important highlight of the 2010 conference included the commitment by the University of Hult International Business School and Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey to provide scholarships to their prestigious institutions.
YOUNG UNA-DR VOLUNTEERS AND DOMINICAN AND HAITIAN STUDENTS DURING THE COMMUNITY SERVICE WEEK.
DOMINICAN STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN DOMINICAN-EUROPEAN MODEL UN FOR THE FIRST TIME.
NEW YORK-DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MODEL UN

March 3, April 3, 2010

UNA-DR, once again, in partnership with the Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations and the Institute of Dominican Studies of City College, coordinated the eighth session of the “New York-Dominican Republic Model United Nations” (NYDRMUN 2010), which involved the active participation of more than 500 students from the Dominican Republic and other countries.

NYDRMUN covered pressing issues currently being confronted by the United Nations, such as the protection of the world’s environment, reform of the UN Security Council, poverty reduction and sustainable development.

DOMINICAN-EUROPEAN MODEL UN CONFERENCE

July 20, 2010

GFDD, FUNGLODE and UNA-DR cross the Atlantic to launch first Dominican-European Model United Nations in Paris.

In July, GFDD, FUNGLODE and UNA-DR crossed the Atlantic to launch the first Dominican-European Model UN Conference (DEUROMUN 2010) at the Sorbonne in Paris, France.

During the Model, Yamile Eusebio, FUNGLODE Coordinator of Formative Activities and Director of the GFDD New York Office, called on the young people to continue being part of these models, which encourage and help them to acquire the tools necessary to be global citizens and tomorrow’s leaders.

PANEL ON YOUTH DELEGATES PROGRAM

March 31, 2010

The Dominican Republic’s Youth Delegates to the United Nations General Assembly, Ms. Cristina Zapata and Ms. Pamela Martinez, with Youth delegates from Botswana, co-hosted a Side Event on “Youth Activism – Global Perspectives” at the Permanent Mission of Dominican Republic to the United Nations. Youth Delegates from over 20 countries took part.
GFDD and FUNGLODE partner with international institutions to coordinate forums on matters impacting the Dominican Republic and the global community.
Experts discussed how investment in technology and science in Brazil has led to economic and social advancement, in particular, increases in gross domestic product, reduced inflation and expansion of the internal market. They spoke specifically of the country’s expertise in the fields of aircraft manufacturing, tropical agriculture and the production of sugarcane-based bioethanol.

Discussion also centered around the challenges facing universities to prepare professionals to enter fields and use technologies that have yet to be invented, in order to produce competitive specialists proficient in the latest tendencies. The need for greater allocation of government resources in university education and the science and technology sectors was also espoused.

João Solano Carneiro da Cunha, Ambassador of Brazil to the Dominican Republic, Ligia Amada Melo, Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology, and Monseñor Agripino Núñez Collado, Rector of Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra (PUCMMM) were amongst the high-level officials in attendance.
YOUNG ARTISTS AND MORE SEASONED PROFESSIONALS SEIZE THEIR CHANCES
AT WINNING CASH PRIZES, PRESTIGE AND PUBLIC RECOGNITION WITH THE
GFDD/FUNGLODE AWARDS.
GFDD/FUNGLODE Awards were created with the purpose of stimulating the creativity among Dominicans in the Dominican Republic and overseas. The Awards categories are divided in two groups, Audiovisual (photography and documentary) and Literary (short stories, non-fiction, novel, poetry and journalism). This effort integrates and stresses the artistic capabilities and achievements of Dominicans.

Minister of Culture, José Rafael Lantigua with the 2010 winner Rubén Sánchez Feliz, a Dominican living in New York, winner of three categories, non-fiction, short story, and novel, with GFDD/ FUNGLODE Awards Coordinator, Catherine Florentino.
Five thousand copies of the “New Perspectives: Dominican Republic” book have been sold and distributed to national and international audiences.
GFDD and FUNGLODE utilize information and communications technologies to give Dominican nationals and the wider international public access to the latest information on the progress of their programs and other items of importance and significance.

The Foundations use all types of media to promulgate their mission of democratization and development, recognizing the importance of effective imagery in all facets of publication, via exhibitions, lectures, film, print and Internet.

Bilingual English-Spanish initiatives are realized by an international, multi-disciplinary team of professionals. Through their publications and multimedia projects, GFDD and FUNGLODE seek to serve as a point of reference concerning democratization and sustainable development in the Dominican Republic and the region.
BUY THE BOOK:
WWW.NEWPERSPECTIVESDOMINICANREPUBLIC.COM
New Perspectives: Dominican Republic Photo Exhibit organized by the Foundations, demonstrated a whole new way to experience the Dominican Republic, taking visitors far away from the beaches and package resorts that tend to shape their perception of the tropical country. Many of the thousands of people who visited the exhibits were impressed by the breathtaking vistas of all of Dominican Republic’s thirty-three provinces.

The photographs that make up the Photo Exhibit come from a richly-illustrated photo album of the same name, *New Perspectives: Dominican Republic*, published in 2007. The book was produced by an international interdisciplinary team led by Natasha Despotovic, Project Director and Editor-in-Chief. The photos featured in the book are by photographer Anne Casale. Public reaction to the elegantly compiled 400 aerial images was so strong, that plans to reach a wider audience naturally followed. The photo exhibition began in Barcelona, Spain, at the Dominican Consulate in 2008, then went to Santo Domingo’s Independence Park in May 2009, then travelled to Santiago’s main park soon thereafter. Later in the year, it moved to Washington DC, and New York. The Photo Book and Exhibit both form part of the Foundations’ overall goal to promote the Dominican Republic, disseminate information about the country, and strengthen appreciation of the country’s history, culture, ecology and contemporary life.

Following the success of Photo Exhibits in both Santo Domingo and Santiago in 2009, the “New Perspectives: Dominican Republic” exhibition moved to the US in 2010. GFDD and FUNGLODE in collaboration with the OAS Department of Cultural Affairs and the Art Museum of the Americas, displayed over 30 photographs of the country’s beautiful and varied landscapes. GFDD Director, Asuncion Sanz opened the Washington Exhibition.

H.E. Roberto B. Saladín, Ambassador of the Dominican Republic to the United States and the permanent Ambassador of the Dominican Republic at the OAS Virgilio Alcántara also endorsed the project.

After Washington, the display moved to Puerto Plata in July and to the UN headquarters in New York where it received support from the Mission of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations to coincide with the opening of the UN General Assembly.
GFDD ANNUAL CALENDAR

The Foundation’s annual English-Spanish calendars includes the dates of both Dominican and US holidays. Each month features pictures of the stunning variation of landscapes and vegetation indigenous to a selection of the country’s 33 provinces. In addition to awe-inspiring images, photographs showcase the immense biological diversity of the Dominican Republic. Each year the calendar aims to promote different aspects of the country.

DR ON THE WORLDWIDE WEB

Dominicanaonline.org was created in 2005 by GFDD and FUNGLODE with the purpose of presenting the Dominican Republic to a national and international audience. The Portal is an on-going project that responds to the informational needs of Dominicans in the country and abroad, and seeks to positively contribute to the international visibility of the nation. It is a one-stop-site for all information related to the geography, history, economy, education, environment, culture and ecology of the Dominican Republic. Dominicanaonline.org is continuing to expand, with the successful addition last year of the literary works module and audio site. The site has truly created an international virtual community that has developed into a much appreciated arena for creative and educational purposes, facilitating forums for discussion, chats, blogs, and the like.

PRESENTATION OF PORTAL AT SANTO DOMINGO INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR

April 22, 2009

The site was presented at the Foundations’ pavilion during the 2009 Santo Domingo International Book Fair. Semiramis de Miranda, Projects and ICT Director, presented the Portal, highlighting the important roles played by the entire staff in ensuring that a varied selection of materials is posted in a timely manner. In addition to news stories, the site features audiovisual materials, statistical data, interactive maps and discussion forums that present the diverse facets of the Dominican Republic. The Dominicanaonline.org team only utilizes articles and audiovisual materials from reliable and accredited sources in order to assure that students, professors, scholars, tourists, investors, visitors and Dominican residents living abroad are able to access quality information about the country.
PHOTOS REPRESENT ALL THIRTY-THREE PROVINCES OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
The GFDD Fundraising Golf Tournament offers opportunities to network with high-ranking officials, business executives, industry leaders and celebrities.
GFDD hosted its 1st Annual Golf Tournament on the picturesque grounds of Saint Andrew’s Golf Club, America’s oldest golf club (1888) in Hastings-on-Hudson, New York.

The fund-raising tournament helped support the numerous initiatives realized by the Foundation, emulating the tradition of COPA FUNGLODE, the annual fund-raising event of GFDD’s sister institution in the Dominican Republic. The GFDD Golf Tournament offers opportunities to network with high-ranking officials, business executives, industry leaders and celebrities. Major League Baseball Legend, Juan Marichal, was amongst the celebrities in attendance.

The funds raised will help GFDD to continue to advance the scope and reach of its diverse and on-going projects and programs.
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