



Global Foundation for Democracy and Development

YEAR IN REVIEW 2007



GFDD

GLOBAL FOUNDATION
FOR DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT



**Global Foundation for
Democracy and Development**
Year in Review 2007

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In the year 2007, Global Foundation for Democracy and Development and its wide range of initiatives brought enriching experiences and professional development opportunities to Dominican and international audiences, contributed to heightening public awareness of critical issues, and supported the visibility and appreciation of the Dominican Republic and its patrimony worldwide.

Great numbers of students and experts received training in areas crucial to economic, social and democratic development, such as information technology, education, media arts and environmental protection.

We can undoubtedly affirm that the Foundation's Global Media Arts Institute (GMAI) has asserted itself as the country's premier center for audiovisual arts. The Institute's graduates constitute a vital force for the advancement of national multimedia industry and its contribution to the country's economic development.

Practitioners and scholars in the area of information technology and education had access to sought-after skills, practices and studies through various activities organized by Virtual Educa, Virtual Educa Caribe, Partners in Learning Program and other training and networking initiatives that took place regularly throughout the year.

The Foundation has worked to enhance the visibility of the Dominican Republic and the appreciation for its heritage and natural wealth by means of digital and print publications and through its InterDom program.

The Portal Dominicanaonline.org, the book *New Perspectives: Dominican Republic*, and collaboration with the National Geographic Society to produce the first Dominican Republic Adventure Map are some of the steps in that direction.

InterDom students came to the Dominican Republic as ambassadors of their countries and left as Dominican ambassadors to the world, enriched with valuable life experiences, leaving an enduring impact on their work environments.

GFDD also facilitated conferences, panels and discussions on critical issues in the area of international development, democracy, foreign affairs, environmental management, sustainable development and global governance. These activities contributed to a wider and stronger awareness among general audiences, while creating opportunities for the forging of new international institutional and professional alliances whose results will impact the Dominican and international community for years to come.

Users of Dominicanaonline.org, readers of *New Perspectives: Dominican Republic*, teachers attending Virtual Educa, visitors using the DR Adventure Map, newly recruited GMAI graduates, InterDom program associates and audiences attending conferences on democratic processes are some of the members of the large Dominican and international community that has grown out of GFDD's efforts and have benefited from them.

May we witness an unstoppable progress of these endeavors and an even greater expansion of that community in the years to come! May all our efforts come together to build a society of informed, well-educated, skill proficient and responsible citizens that contribute to national and international progress and prosperity!

Leonel Fernández

Honorary President, Global Foundation for Democracy and Development
President of the Dominican Republic





The year 2007 has really been a year to remember. GFDD flagship programs have grown and consolidated in such an impressive way that it is almost unbelievable that they are being led and managed by a small group of multitaskers.

The Global Media Arts Institute (GMAI) has carried out workshops, panel discussions, seminars and screenings on a monthly basis and, around its solid and substantial offerings, a community of young talents and seasoned professionals has grown. Its bilingual website launched in August supports communication and timely information sharing among these enthusiasts while reaching out to new audiences.

InterRDom has launched its bilingual website as well. Thanks to its constantly updated content and user friendly format, around three hundred students are its active registered users. Currently, the program works with 60 universities in the United States and 100 organizations in the Dominican Republic.

Portal Dominicanaonline.org was launched in English, thereby concluding a two year endeavor realized by a hardworking international team. It added a free of charge, open access Virtual Library of key Dominican literary works to its reserve of valuable resources; launched a discussion blog; opened special sections on carnival and Dominicans in the Major Leagues; and developed its mobile phone platform.

Although the DR Global Film Festival was cancelled just days before its starting date, due to the devastating effects of Hurricane Noel, the experience and widened international contacts as well as alliances established on a national level are extremely valuable assets that will positively impact the quality and scope of future film festivals.

Virtual Educa, an Ibero-American platform for exchange of knowledge, experiences and practices in the field of education and technology and its regional chapter Virtual Educa Caribe, led by GFDD/FUNGLODE, surged in content and attendance in the year 2007.

A wide range of initiatives that promote the use of ICTs in education, better understanding and awareness of democratic processes and international affairs, environmental protection and sustainable development practices, as well as sustained and mutually enriching collaborative projects with the Organization of American States and the United Nations system complete this creative energy infused mosaic of transformational activities.

By continuing these remarkable efforts and striving to combine GFDD's accumulated institutional knowledge and experience with its partners' strengths and expertise, the Foundation will persist with its work promoting personal and professional development, international understanding and social and economic progress.

Natasha Despotovic

Executive Director

Global Foundation for Democracy and Development (GFDD)



Global Foundation for Democracy and Development (GFDD) is a private, not-for-profit and non-partisan institution, dedicated to promoting collaboration between international institutions and the Dominican Republic. GFDD conducts research and analysis, raises the level of understanding and public opinion, designs strategies and public policies. The Foundation provides educational and training programs, and implements development and exchange activities in areas critical for the social, economic and democratic development of the Dominican Republic, the Caribbean Region, and Latin America.

History

Global Foundation for Democracy and Development (GFDD) is a sister institution of Fundación Global Democracia y Desarrollo (FUNGLODE), headquartered in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

FUNGLODE was created by Dr. Leonel Fernández in the year 2000, at the end of his first term as Head of State.

GFDD was incorporated under U.S. laws in 2002 with the purpose of raising and widening the international visibility and presence of FUNGLODE and strengthening collaboration and exchange with U.S. institutions.

FUNGLODE and GFDD were created by President Fernández to contribute to the social, economic and democratic development of the Dominican Republic and the Caribbean Region at large, from a nonpartisan platform, with an innovative vocation and international scope. Dr. Fernández became Honorary President of both institutions when he took office as President of the Dominican Republic in 2004.

Mission

The mission of GFDD is to develop alliances with international partners to formulate and implement initiatives promoting sustainable socio-economic development and the strengthening of democracy in the Dominican Republic and Latin America. GFDD develops, builds, and reinforces collaboration and exchange among institutions and the Dominican general public, the Dominican Diaspora and the rest of the Western Hemisphere.

Vision

Our vision is to support the rule of law and full sustainable socio-economic development in the Dominican Republic and Latin America, and contribute to enabling the country and the region to face successfully the challenges of the XXI century.





2007: A Year to Remember

FEBRUARY 19 Conference on New Political Context in the Americas. The forum featured presentations by four internationally recognized experts in democratic affairs. [p 5](#)

MARCH 13 InterDom Annual Review. The conference provided an opportunity to assess the possible work experiences available for interns with national and international institutions in the Dominican Republic. [p 6](#)

MARCH 19 - 21 Virtual Educa Caribe. International specialists in education and technology identified new technologies and methods of incorporating them into school and university curriculums. [p 8](#)

APRIL 13 The DRGFF website was nominated for Oscars of the Internet. DRGFF website was nominated for the 11th Annual Webby Awards in the category of Events and Live Broadcasts. Over 8,000 entries were considered in over 100 categories. [p 7](#)

APRIL 18 - 22 Dominican Republic Model UN in NYC. 550 students and professors participated in this event which included student debates and the development of conflict resolution proposals. [p 9](#)

MAY 11 Launch of New GFDD Website. GFDD's new digitally remastered website includes new features such as an online donation system, "Tell-a-Friend" and "E-cards." [p 10](#)

MAY 21 - 24 International Week on Climate Change. The week-long forum featured presentations by international experts on sea-level rise, extreme weather, human health epidemics, food security, national security risks, mitigation and adaptation, as well as documentary film screenings and the launch of a climate change awareness program for educators and students. [p 23](#)

MAY 22 GMAI Summer Course. Students learned about all aspects of production. By the end of the course, students produced four 10-15 minute films. [p 28](#)

JUNE 4 InterDom Summer Students Arrive. Students enrolled in academic courses and conducted internships with prestigious national and international institutions such as the American Chamber of Commerce, La Escuela Nacional de la Judicatura (National School for Judiciary Studies) and the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW). [p 30](#)

JUNE 18 - 22 VIII Virtual Educa Brazil Conference.

During the conference, GFDD Executive Director and FUNGLODE Vice President, Natasha Despotovic, presented the initiatives realized by GMAI and DRGFF. **p 35**

JULY 9 - AUGUST 19 GMAI Awards Scholarships to

Dominican Students. Six Dominican students were granted scholarships to participate in a television and film production program in New York City. **p 38**

AUGUST 14 Launch of GMAI Website.

The site's user-friendly format allows visitors to access information on courses, workshops, conferences and other activities offered by the Institute, as well as resumes of course instructors, reference materials and short films and commercials produced by GMAI students. **p 40**

AUGUST 22 - 24 Second Climate Change Seminar.

The conference assembled climate change specialists to assess regional capacity in order to better manage the impacts of climate change in the Dominican Republic. **p 45**

AUGUST 24 Launch of Dominicanaonline.org in English.

The interactive website provides users with information concerning citizen services, accurate and up-to-date news stories, statistical data, interactive maps, schedules of cultural activities, e-cards and music videos of Dominican artists. **p 50**

SEPTEMBER 17 - 20 Dominican Week in the US.

During the Dominican Week in the US, GFDD facilitated and co-sponsored several activities in the Washington DC area featuring presentations by President Leonel Fernandez. **p 55**

SEPTEMBER 28 Launch of InteRDom Website in English and Spanish.

The bilingual site features up-to-date news articles and listings of new internship position openings, in addition to intern testimonials. **p 56**

OCTOBER 9 GFDD and FUNGLODE Awards.

GFDD and FUNGLODE awarded monetary prizes for excellence in the areas of photography, documentary film, short film, journalism, poetry, essay and short story. **p 58**

OCTOBER 10 - 14 International Conference on the

Americas (CILA). More than 1,500 students participated in seminars, workshops and fairs related to the UN Millennium Goals, child labor and corporate social responsibility, among other topics. **p 59**

NOVEMBER 28 Publication of Book, *Dominican Republic: New Perspectives*.

The 300 page publication contains close to 400 aerial images that depict the history, culture, ecology and contemporary life of the Dominican Republic. **p 60**

2007



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The Global Media Arts Institute (GMAI) was created and developed by GFDD and FUNGLODE with the purpose of offering innovative courses and professional development programs (in coordination with Univirtual Global Dominicana) in audiovisual matters, with special emphasis on television and film production, both onsite and online.

GMAI was formally inaugurated during the 2006 Dominican Republic Global Film Festival at FUNGLODE headquarters in Santo Domingo.

The Institute is dedicated to providing up-and-coming professionals in the television and film industry with comprehensive instruction in the latest trends in audiovisual production, as part of its overall mission to expand the cinematographic industry of the Dominican Republic.

GMAI seeks to play a key role in the development of a highly qualified Dominican audiovisual industry that positively contributes to the economic development, competitiveness and modernization of the nation.

GMAI regularly offers introductory, intermediate and advanced courses in audiovisual production. The Institute also organizes cultural activities that further understanding of the audiovisual

arts, such as film screenings, panel discussions and interviews with artists and technicians.

GMAI conducts collaborative work with prestigious international institutions and programs such as New York University's Opportunity Programs, One Race Films, the Escuela Internacional de Cine y Televisión (International School of Television and Film) in Cuba and the National Association of Latino Independent Producers (NALIP).





GMAI was created with the purpose of offering innovative courses and professional development programs.



The program places special emphasis on television and film production, both onsite and online.



The Institute is dedicated to providing up-and-coming professionals with comprehensive instruction in the latest trends in audiovisual production.

Workshop on Advanced Production

January 3-13, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

During the workshop, four original scripts, ranging from 8 to 30 pages were selected to shoot under the guidance and technical support of instructors, Irving Vincent, Andrea Wong and George Argento of New York University's Opportunity Programs.

Thirty students, with and without prior experience, participated in the workshop. A production team was assembled to produce each script. Students were involved in all phases of pre-production and production, taking on the roles of Director, Producer, Art Director, Assistant Director, Director of Photography, Camera Assistant, Lighting and Sound Technician. Dominican Actress, Carlota Carretero, served as Casting Director, drawing in professional actors for casting calls.

During pre-production, students created storyboards, shoot lists and shooting schedules, scouted and secured locations, drafted permit letters and obtained props and set pieces. While the majority of students remained in Santo Domingo for production, others ventured to other areas in the Dominican Republic, like Romana and Villa Mella. All four teams produced innovative and intriguing footage.

Related links:

www.nyu.edu/op

Conference on Audiovisual Market

February 9, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

The conference, "National Film: Shared Funds, Diversity and Co-Production in the Audiovisual Market," was organized in collaboration with the Escuela Internacional de Cine y Televisión (International Film and Television School) of Cuba, and featured guest speakers: Julio García Espinosa, EICTV Director; Orlando Senna, Ministry of Culture of Brazil; and María Lourdes Cortés, CINERGIA Director.

The purpose of the seminar was to discuss strategies for developing a regional cinematographic industry. Industry experts stressed the positive affects that the development of the film and television industry in Mexico, Brazil and Argentina has had on national economic growth rates in these nations, in particular, the sector's capacity to generate meaningful employment. They also emphasized the need for the Region to promote and finance their own audiovisual productions.

Related links:

www.eictv.org

www.personal.psu.edu/users/s/a/sam50/cinergia/cinergia.htm

www.cultura.gov.br/site

Workshop on Scriptwriting

April 30 – May 4, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

The workshop, “How to Write Scripts,” instructed by Producer and Professor of Scriptwriting at the Universidad de Puerto Rico and the Universidad del Sagrado Corazón in Puerto Rico, Marel Malaret, emphasized concepts critical to scriptwriting such as: script structure, scene creation, character development, conflict, dialogue and action.

The workshop was made possible through collaboration with the Embassy of the United States of America in the Dominican Republic’s Franklin Center.

Related links:

www.usemb.gov.do/pas/franklincenter.htm

www.uprrp.edu

www.sagrado.edu

Summer Course: Introduction to Audiovisual Production: Film and Television

June 4-29, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

The objective of the course was to provide students with the training required to work in the television and film industry. During the course students acquired the skills necessary to transform their ideas into audiovisual productions.

Key areas of production covered in the class were: script writing, editing, the development of storyboards, camera usage and the employment of light and sound.

Students learned about the responsibilities associated with each component of the production process. The first week of the course, students developed a 30 second commercial or public service announcement, and then learned how to edit it using Final Cut Pro. The second week of the course, students learned about the production of live television programming at the Telecentro Studio. The third week of the course, students utilized the software, Final Draft, to produce a three page script. During the final week of the course, four 10-15 minute films were chosen to be developed. Each student played a distinct role in the production process.

Course instruction was provided by Irving Vincent, George Argento and Andrea Wong of New York University’s Opportunity Programs. The course was offered in association with New York University’s Opportunity Programs and One Race Films.

Related links:

www.nyu.edu/op

www.oneracefilms.com



Carmen Grullón, Lidia Santos, Arturo Rodríguez, Rex Moser and instructor Marel Malaret. Hay que añadir “among the students



Marel Malaret with workshop participants.



Workshop participants practicing.



Vin Diesel, Eddy Martínez and Valentino Morales.



President Fernández and Martha Méndez Iturriaga celebrate with participants their achievements.



Martha Méndez Iturriaga and participant.

Seminar on Cinematographic Production

June 23, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

The seminar “Cinematographic Production,” given by Producer, David Valdés, was directed towards producers and students of television and film production. The seminar provided participants with information concerning diverse aspects of production, from project selection, artistic vision, and the role of the producer and his/her relation with other members of the production team, to practical strategies for budgeting, negotiating with production studios, distribution, international competition and promoting the Dominican Republic. The seminar was organized in collaboration with New York University’s Opportunity Programs and One Race Films.

Related links:

www.nyu.edu/op

www.oneracefilms.com

Workshop on Art Direction

June 25-29, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

The workshop, organized in collaboration with the Escuela Internacional de Cine y Televisión (International School of Film and Television) in Cuba, consisted of theoretical and practical classes on the art of visual design. The workshop was directed towards art directors, set designers, photographers, directors of television series, and students studying film direction, aesthetic arts, and/or audiovisual communications. Throughout the course, participants developed a greater understanding of the following areas: script writing, set design, collaboration with other members of the creative team (costume, make-up, photography), collaboration with the production team (budget breakdown, selection of set location), intellectual property laws as they apply to film and television production, how to effectively market proposals to production agencies and fund solicitation.

Workshop instruction was provided by Art Director, Martha Méndez Iturriaga.

Related link:

www.eictv.org

Introduction to Audiovisual Production: Film and Television Closing Ceremony

June 29, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

During the ceremony, course participants presented the commercials and short films they developed throughout the course, and received certificates of course completion from Vince Diesel, Actor and Executive Director of One Race Films; Irving Vincent, Course Instructor and Director of New York University's Opportunity Programs; Omar de la Cruz, Director of FUNGLODE's Audiovisual Department; and Arturo Rodríguez, Director of the National Film Commission of the Dominican Republic.

The six students, awarded scholarships by the Global Media Arts Institute, New York University's Opportunity Program, and One Race Films to continue their studies in New York with New York University's Opportunity Program, were also announced. Students selected to study film and television production at New York University were selected based on interest in the audiovisual arts and academic achievement.

Related links:

www.nyu.edu/op

www.oneracefilms.com

Scholarships Awarded to Dominican Students to Carry Out Internships in NYC

July 9 - August 19, 2007

New York City

GMAI, New York University's Opportunity Programs and One Race Films awarded six Dominican students scholarships to participate in a television and film production program in New York City.

Related links:

www.nyu.edu/op

www.oneracefilms.com



Vin Diesel and Aldana Fernández.



Irving Vincent, Vin Diesel and Ramsés Jairo.



María Victoria Hernández, Omar de la Cruz, Alexander Estrella, Rainier Maldonado, Caty Cruz, Patricia Díaz and Taína Rodríguez.



Scholarship recipients engaged in discussion.

Students Begin Internships in NYC

July 9, 2007

New York City, New York

The six Dominican students that received scholarships from GMAI and New York University's Opportunity Programs began their studies in New York City. The exposure of young, aspiring filmmakers to seasoned professionals and experienced trainers is of critical importance to the development of their careers and their own creativity. Exchange and networking with other students and professionals from different schools is fundamental during the time their artistic vision and style is being developed.

Related links:

www.nyu.edu/op

Roberto Rossellini Centennial Celebration: Film Beyond Hollywood

July 16, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

The presentation to commemorate the work and memory of legendary Filmmaker, Roberto Rossellini, was given by his son, Artist and Filmmaker, Renzo Rossellini. Renzo presented the film, *Roma Ciudad Abierta*, in order to illustrate both the artistic transcendence of his progenitor and the possibility of creating quality film despite budgetary constraints.

In his keynote address: "Roberto Rossellini Centennial Celebration: Film Beyond Hollywood," Renzo emphasized the need for peace that his father strove to communicate in his film, *Roma Ciudad Abierta*, which exposed the grave rights abuses that occurred during the Italian Civil War. He spoke of the utopian ideals conveyed in his father's films: the promotion of peace in times of war, the dignity of women, and the use of film to tell historical happenings. He also highlighted his father's capacity to work within constraints and his notorious use of non-professional actors, distinct languages and dialects, and authentic costumes. The seminar was attended predominantly by students of film production and young film aficionados.



José Rafael Lantigua, President Fernández, Domingo Bermudez, Omar de la Cruz, Manuel Corripio, José Miguel Bonetti, Bill Millman, Barbara Boyle and Renzo Rossellini.



President Fernández with Barbara Boyle and Renzo Rossellini.

Workshop on Cinematographic Production within a Limited Budget

July 17 - 21, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

The workshop, "Cinematographic Production within a Limited Budget," was instructed by Producer, Renzo Rossellini, and directed towards film and television producers and students of film production and the scenic arts. Key concepts covered in the workshop included: working within budgetary restrictions, creativity and artistic sensibility, the importance of telling captivating and evocative stories, and the use of new technologies within cinematographic production.

Lecture on How to Prepare Professionals for the Film Industry of the 21st Century

July 19, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

During the presentation, Hollywood Producer and Director of the University of California Los Angeles' Department of Film, Television and Digital Media Arts, Barbara Boyle, spoke of her experience in the industry and highlighted the importance of communication in the successful realization of cinematographic projects. She articulated the need for producers, directors and investors to always have a clear concept of the creator's artistic vision, as well as the important role imagination and intuition have in determining a film's success at the box office. She also discussed how advancements in audiovisual communications are revolutionizing the media arts industry and stressed the importance of incorporating the use of new technological tools in cinematographic production.

Related link:

www.tft.ucla.edu/dof.cfm



Natasha Despotovic, Renzo Rossellini and Omar de la Cruz.



Barbara Boyle.



Barbara Boyle addressing a question from the public.



Yamile Eusebio, Carmen Grullón, Martiza Guimet and María Conchita Alonso celebrate participant achievements.



María Conchita Alonso and Arturo Rodríguez.



The film industry requires cutting-edge technological innovation and infrastructure, and highly-qualified professionals.

Workshop on Project Development

August 23 - 25, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

The workshop, “Project-a-Thon,” was designed to equip participants with the knowledge necessary to elevate their multimedia projects to the next level. Students received individualized recommendations on how to advance their projects by industry professionals: Maritza Guimet, Director, Writer and Producer; Adriana Bosch, Independent Producer; Frances Lausell, Co-Founder of Isla Films; and María Conchita Alonso, Venezuelan Actress and Singer.

Instruction targeted all facets of production, from idea conceptualization to script refinement, proposal construction, marketing and distribution. The workshop featured the following sessions: Script Writing; Conceptualizing the Story; The Importance of the Final Draft; Developing Proposals for Narrative Films, Documentaries and Television Programs; How to Attract Actors; Pitch Sessions; and New Modes of Distribution.

The workshop was organized in collaboration with the Dominican Chapter of the National Association of Latino Independent Producers (NALIP). More than 30 students and professionals in the field of audiovisual arts participated in the program.

Related link:

www.nalip.org

Panel Discussion on Ingmar Bergman and Michelangelo Antonioni

September 7, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

The panel discussion, “Homage to Two Film Greats: Ingmar Bergman and Michelangelo Antonioni” commemorated the two filmmakers’ contributions to modern film through their innovative use of thematics and narrative. The panel was comprised of industry professionals: Arturo Rodríguez, DR Film Commissioner and Film Critic; Luis Beiro, Journalist and Writer; José Vásquez, Screenwriter; and Rubén Lamarche, Journalist and Film Critic.

Related link:

www.dinac.gov.do

Scholarships Awarded to Students to Study Film in Cuba

September 25, 2007

San Antonio de los Baños, Cuba

GFDD, FUNGLODE and Ibermedia awarded three Dominican students scholarships to study film at the Escuela Internacional de Cine y Televisión (International School for Film and Television – EICTV) in San Antonio de los Baños, Cuba. Students will be enrolled in a three-year program at the university (2007-2010). They were chosen by EICTV's Selection Committee based on test scores, transcripts, practical work experience and in-person interviews.

On December 15, 2006, GFDD, FUNGLODE and EICTV signed an agreement of mutual understanding, establishing the three institutions' shared commitment to realizing collaborative training and capacity building programs.

Related link:

www.eictv.org

www.programaibermedia.com/esp/htm/home.htm

Participation in Florida Film & Media Market Conference

October 18-21, 2007

Miami Beach, Florida

GFDD and FUNGLODE participated in the Florida Media Market Conference in order to promote the Global Media Arts Institute (GMAI) and prepare for the 2007 Dominican Republic Global Film Festival (DRGFF). The international conference exposed participants to current industry trends and provided opportunities for networking. The event included workshops and panels on marketing, advertising, financing and international project management, as well as pitch sessions, project presentations by television and film producers and professional networking gatherings.

Two Dominican filmmakers were awarded scholarships by GMAI to attend the conference. The up-in-coming Dominican filmmakers were selected based on the innovative nature of the projects they developed during Project-a-Thon, a workshop presented by GMAI in collaboration with the Dominican Chapter of the National Association of Latino Independent Producers (NALIP-DR). They brought their projects to the conference, where they received encouraging feedback from industry professionals from Peru, Venezuela, Mexico and the United States.

Related links:

www.floridamediamarket.com/gc07_overview.html

<http://nalip.org/dominicanrepublic/index.htm>



Three Dominican students received scholarships to study film in Cuba.



Dominican grantees received offers for their projects.



Grantees learned about marketing, advertising, financing and international project management.

Conference on Television Culture in Ibero-America

December 4, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo



Omar de la Cruz, María Eugenia Mosquera, President Leonel Fernández, José Manuel Pérez Tornero, Iban Campo and Alberto García Ferrer.



President Leonel Fernández, José Manuel Pérez Tornero, Iban Campo and Alberto García Ferrer.



President Leonel Fernández, Avelino Stanley and Exel Baéz.

GFDD and FUNGLODE held the First Meeting on Ibero-American Television Culture. The objective of the conference was to gather experts in the areas of communication, culture and education to discuss the development of an Ibero-American Television Culture and define a series of tasks that will be accomplished to achieve the regional objective.

President Leonel Fernández participated in this conference which featured presentations by the following specialists: José Manuel Pérez Tornero, Professor and Director of the Department of Communications and Education at the Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona and Advisor to UNESCO; Jorge da Cunha Lima, President of TV Futura, Brazil; María Eugenia Mosquera, Director and Founder of VALE TV; Peter Tinoco, President of Fundación Cisneros; Alberto García Ferrer, Secretary General of Asociación de Televisión Educativa Iberoamericana (Association of Educational Ibero-American Television – ATEI), Spain; Manuel Quintero, President of the Instituto Latinoamericano de la Comunicación Educativa (Latin American Institute for Educational Communication – ILCE), Mexico; Eva Villareal, Vice Director of Production and Programing, Channel 22, Mexico; and Guenther Cyranek, Advisor in the Area of Communication and Information to UNESCO.

Discussants confronted themes such as the challenges associated with defining cultural, educational, public and state television; technological innovation; co-production; buying and distribution; sustainability mechanisms for the development of cultural and educational television; citizen participation; and differences in legal restrictions across the Region.

Related links:

www.uab.es

www.unesco.org

www.futura.org.br/main.asp

www.valetv.com

www.fundacion.cisneros.org

www.canal22.org.mx/index.html

www.atei.es/teib/pages/inicio.asp

www.sre.gob.mx/acreditadas/organismos/o_ilce.htm



2007

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MAY 21 - 24 International Climate Change Week p. 24

AUGUST 22 - 24 Second Conference on Climate Change p. 26





GFDD and FUNGLODE, in collaboration with the Universidad del Turabo in Puerto Rico and the Université Quisqueya in Haiti, created the International Center for Environmental and Sustainable Development Studies (CIEMADeS).

GFDD and FUNGLODE, in collaboration with the Universidad del Turabo in Puerto Rico and the Université Quisqueya in Haiti, created the International Center for Environmental and Sustainable Development Studies (CIEMADeS). The Center promotes collaboration among governmental, non-governmental and academic institutions, in an effort to: contribute to the improvement of the environment; promote the sustainable development of the Region through scientific research, conferences, professional and technical training; establish sustainable development programs; and promote environmental and social consciousness.

CIEMADeS' initiatives are collaborative in nature. Working groups comprised of several representatives from governmental, non-governmental and academic institutions develop work plans that are implemented by the Center.

CIEMADeS seeks to fulfill the following goals: (1) develop professional and technical training, (2) establish human resources and strategies to manage solid waste, (3) preserve and improve air and water quality, (5) use information technology for environmental management, (6) increase citizen participation in environmental preservation, and (7) reduce the impact of economic development activities on the environment. Projects initiated by CIEMADeS are carried out in a way that is environmentally sustainable and in adherence with international law pertinent to environmental management.

CIEMADeS facilitates the sharing of experiences and resources and coordinates activities among neighboring countries in order to confront common challenges and maximize the results of its efforts.



Víctor Díaz and participant.



The health of the oceans is an invaluable economic asset.



Niki Fabiancic, Víctor Díaz, Margarita Cedeño de Fernández, President Fernández and Ernesto Reyna among the audience.

Environment & International Center for Environment and Sustainable Development Studies (CIEMADeS)

NATIONAL WATER FORUM

February 20-23, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

The National Water Forum opened on February 20 with Deputy Coordinator of the United Nations system-wide World Water Assessment Program, Carlos Fernández-Jáuregui's keynote address, "The State of Water in the World."

From February 21-23, national and international experts participated in symposiums, workshops and debates in which they discussed the state of water on national, regional and global levels. The closing event on the 23rd also served to commemorate the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's Twentieth Anniversary of the International Hydrological Program (IHP). The event was led by Max Puig, Dominican Minister of Environment and Natural Resources, and Frank Rodríguez, Director of the National Institute for Hydraulic Resources.

The forum was made possible via collaboration with the Instituto Nacional de Recursos Hidráulicos (National Institute for Hydraulic Resources – INDRHI), the Corporación del Acueducto y Alcantarillado de Santo Domingo (Corporation for Aqueducts and Sewage of Santo Domingo – CAASD) and the Dominican Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources.

Related links:

<http://typo38.unesco.org/index.php?id=240>

www.unesco.org

www.indrhi.gov.do

www.caasd.gov.do

www.medioambiente.gov.do/cms

International Climate Change Week

May 21 - 24, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

GFDD and FUNGLODE, in collaboration with the Dominican Chapter of the International Center for Environmental and Sustainable Development Studies (CIEMADeS), the Dominican Ministry of Education and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), presented the week-long forum, "Climate Change: Understanding the Science and Impacts of Global Warming." The conference explored the science of global warming and emphasized the regional impacts associated with climate change and the role monitoring can play with regard to mitigation and adaptation.

The objectives of the forum were to: increase public awareness and spark individual action; enable multi-stakeholder participation and dialogue; bring together climate change professionals in order to assess and disseminate emerging lessons, proven practices and shared experiences; identify key strategies to minimize the impacts of climate change; foster debate and establish consensus concerning climate change and global warming; and promote research and monitoring of climate change in the Dominican Republic.

The conference featured presentations by international climate change experts on diverse themes such as the regional impact of climate change on sea-level rise, extreme weather phenomena, human health and epidemics, agriculture and food security, climate change as a national security risk, mitigation and adaptation, as well as the screening of three ground-breaking documentary films on the science and impacts of climate change, not previously shown in the Dominican Republic (*Too Hot Not to Handle*, HBO Documentary Film, 2005; *The Great Warming*, Stonehaven Productions, 2006; *Micro Macro Panorama: Climate Change*, TVE Productions, 2002). The week-long event culminated in the launching of the climate change awareness program, “Translating Science into Action,” a program targeted towards educators, students and environmental youth groups that seeks to formally introduce climate change awareness-raising activities in local schools and universities.

Invited international specialists that participated in the conference include: John Topping, President of the Climate Institute, Washington, DC; Johanna Mendelson-Forman of the Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington, DC; Emilio Sempris, Director of Centro de Agua del Trópico Húmedo para América Latina y el Caribe, Panama; Ana Rosa Moreno, Lead Author for the UN International Panel on Climate Change, Mexico; Graciela Magrín of the Instituto de Clima y Agua, Argentina; Luís Roberto Acosta of the Climate Institute’s International Environmental Monitoring System; Paola Tineo Narváez, President of the Ecological Student Group at the Universidad Iberoamericana.

Related links:

www.globalfoundationdd.org/seminars/climatechanges2007

<http://ciemades.suagm.edu>

www.medioambiente.gov.do/cms

www.undp.org

www.climate.org

www.csis.org

www.cathalac.org

www.intacya.org

www.unibe.edu.do



Audience members.



John Topping.



The effect of climate change on economy is everybody's concern.



The preservation of the environment is in everyone's interest.



Audience.



Jaime Echeverría.

Second Conference on Climate Change

August 22 - 24, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

GFDD and FUNGLODE, in collaboration with the Dominican Chapter of the International Center for Environmental and Sustainable Development Studies (CIEMADeS), the Dominican Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), organized the second conference on climate change, "Evidence of Global Warming in the Dominican Republic." The second conference sought to: increase public awareness and spark collective action; enable multi-stakeholder participation and dialogue; gather and systematize climate data available in the country; disseminate information to climate change professionals and policy makers; identify research gaps; bring together climate change professionals to assess regional capacity in order to better manage the impacts of climate change; and promote research and monitoring of climate change in the Dominican Republic.

The seminar featured presentations by climate change experts on a variety of subjects such as climate and economy, temperature rise and El Niño, drought, the impact of global warming on coastal and forest resources, coral bleaching, desertification, biodiversity and increased prevalence of dengue and malaria, as well as the screening of video testimonials concerning the impacts of global warming in the Dominican Republic.

Presenters included: Jaime Echeverría, Environmental Economist at the Tropical Science Center in Costa Rica; Antonio Cocco Quezada, President of ACQ y Asociados; Moisés Álvarez of the Universidad Nacional Pedro Henríquez Ureña; Caridad Pérez and Juana Sille of the National Office of Meteorology; Michela Izzo of the UNDP Small Grants Programme, the Dominican Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, and the Universidad Nacional Pedro Henríquez Ureña; Alejandro Herrera-Moreno of EcoMar; Rubén Torres of Reef Check; Frank Rodríguez of the Instituto Nacional de Recursos Hidráulicos (National Institute for Hydrolic Resources – INDRHI); Ernesto Reyna of the Dominican Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources; Alberto Sánchez of the UNDP Small Grants Programme; Lisette Gil of the Asociación Romana-Bayahibe; Sixto Inchaustegui of the UNDP; and David Joa of the Center for Tropical Diseases.

The three-day event closed with the workshop, "Workshop Consultation on the Nation's Capacity to Combat Climate Change." The event united key climate change experts in the country with the purpose of evaluating the Dominican Republic's capacity to mitigate the impacts of climate change and protect the environment. Experts participated in one of five working groups: Education, Science and Technology; Mitigation: Energy and Transportation; Legal Framework/

Finance; Investigation and Observation; and Vulnerability and Adaptation. Groups identified the strengths, opportunities and weaknesses associated with each area and devised strategies on how to best maximize advantages and minimize weaknesses.

Related links:

www.globalfoundationdd.org/seminars/cambiosclimaticosII2007

<http://ciemades.suagm.edu>

www.medioambiente.gov.do/cms

www.undp.org

www.cct.or.cr

www.acqweather.com

www.unphu.edu.do

www.ecomar.org

www.reefcheck.org

www.indrhi.gov.do



Omar Ramírez, Asunción Sanz and Jaime Echeverría.



Conference participant.



Development brings about great risks to the environment.

InterDom: Internships in the Dominican Republic

www.interdominternships.org

2007



MARCH 13 InterDom 2007 Annual Review p. 30

MARCH 13 Conference on Internships as
a Global Trend p. 30

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Student Conference at Yale University p. 31

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in the Dominican Republic p. 32

JUNE 5 InterDom Business and Volunteer
Opportunities Day p. 33

JUNE 16 Trip to Dominican - Haitian Border p. 33

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AUGUST 9 Closing Ceremony for InterDom
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of New Businesses in the Dominican Republic p. 35



InterDom, established in 2005, has gradually become the leading internship and academic study program in the Dominican Republic. It offers students the opportunity to gain professional experience by interning with Dominican organizations and businesses related to their field of study.

InterDom fosters and promotes the professional, academic, scientific, technological and cultural exchange of students and professionals in public, private and non-profit organizations of the Dominican Republic. It significantly contributes to the development of the nation's employment sector and the advancement of academic research. InterDom provides spaces for personal and professional growth, internationalization and multicultural understanding.

The program consists of 60% professional experience with a private, public or non-governmental organization and 40% academic study at the Universidad Iberoamericana (UNIBE). InterDom's academic package includes seminars specializing in themes relevant to the Region such as: DR-CAFTA, Latin American Business, Tourism in the Caribbean and Caribbean Art, among others. InterDom interns can also enroll in an intensive Spanish language course and have the

option to obtain the DELE (Diploma of Spanish as a Foreign Language).

InterDom interns experience complete cultural immersion. Via extensive excursions and social and cultural activities, students interact with key societal actors, integrate themselves within the local culture, get involved with communities and experience the nation's natural beauty and vast artistic wealth. InterDom strives to actively contribute to the modernization of the Dominican labor sector. In close collaboration with its institutional partners, InterDom develops and enhances internship programs that stimulate development and increase economic competitiveness.



Natasha Despotovic, GFDD Director and FUNGLODE Vice President, and Alicia Alonzo, InteRDom Coordinator, during the InteRDom Annual Review.



Loraine Amell, Director of International Affairs, and Odile Camilo, Academic Director at UNIBE, present an academic certificate to intern, Josef Millar of Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).



Attendants at conference, "Internships as a Global Trend."

InteRDom 2007 Annual Review

March 13, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

The InteRDom 2007 Annual Review was open to human resource administrators and project directors from InteRDom's partner institutions, as well as to representatives from businesses and non-profit organizations interested in becoming affiliated with the program. The event promoted debate regarding trends in global management, training and the development of human resources, and provided information on how to develop in-house training. It created a forum in which to explore professional opportunities with national and international institutions in the Dominican Republic. Proposals from incoming InteRDom students were presented in order to identify similar areas of interest.

Conference on Internships as a Global Trend

March 13, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

GFDD and FUNGLODE, in coordination with the Universidad Iberoamericana (UNIBE) and the Asociación Dominicana de Administradores de Gestión Humana (National Association for Human Resource Administrators – ADOARH), presented the conference, "Internships: In-House Company Training: A Global Trend." The conference sought to encourage debate concerning human resource management trends in the Dominican Republic. It also promoted the concept of "learning-by-doing" as a positive step for companies and organizations to take in order to benefit from the expertise and input of trained interns.

Guest speakers at the conference were Nafta Chaín, Head of the Human Resources Department at the Universidad Iberoamericana; Julio Parra Navarrete, Chilean Specialist and Co-author of the Guide for the Implementation of Internships for Young People; and Marta Lantigua, Human Resource Expert. All speakers addressed the advantages of offering internships to local and international talent, stressing the benefits gained by both the interns and the participating companies and organizations.

A copy of InteRDom's quarterly publication, *Pasantes Globales*, directed towards Human Resources managers, was distributed at the conference.

Related links:

www.unibe.edu.do

www.ip.com.do/adoarh

Participation in Dominican Student Conference at Yale University

April 27- 28, 2007

Yale University, Connecticut

InterDom was invited to present its academic study and internship program at the First National Dominican Student Conference at Yale University. The event was organized by Yale's Dominican Student Association, the Quisque Yalies. The association sought to raise awareness of Dominican students living in the United States and promote Dominican culture within the Yale community.

Representatives from InterDom spoke with students about the internship and study opportunities available through its program in the Dominican Republic. They also presented students with a copy of *InterDom Press*, a publication that provides students with up-to-date news on current InterDom students and existing internship opportunities.

The event brought together Dominican students from a number of US academic institutions, such as Harvard, M.I.T., New York University, Boston University and the University of Maryland.

Presenters included: Julio Cesar Valentín Jiminian, President of the Dominican Republic House of Representatives; José Santana, Executive Director of the Dominican Republic's Presidential Commission on Science and Technology; and Cid Wilson, Co-Founder of Dominicans on Wall Street. Conference attendants also had the opportunity to participate in workshops on creating change locally and abroad, and Dominicans in the media.

Related links:

www.yale.edu

www.dows.ws



More than 300 Dominican students in the United States participated in the National Dominican Student Conference at Yale University.



Victor F. Capellán, President of the Dominican American Roundtable, Yale University.



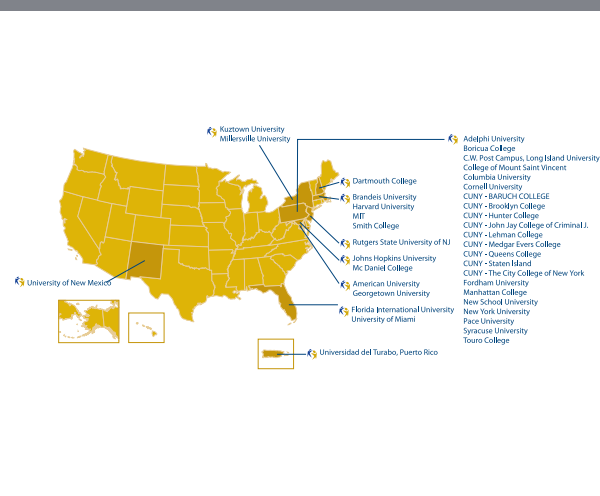
Representatives from the Dominican Republic offering support to the National Dominican Student Conference Organizing Committee.



Adam Bledsoe, Jennifer Eaglin, Natimil Abreu, Denise Nolasco and Jennifer Corrales during a visit to Lake Enriquillo.



Dedé Mirabal spoke with InterDom students at the Home of the Mirabal Sisters in Salcedo.



Organizations that participated in the 2007 InterDom summer program.

InterDom Summer Students Arrive in the Dominican Republic

June 4, 2007
Santo Domingo

The first group of summer 2007 InterDom students arrived in Santo Domingo. During the summer, the international university students conducted academic research and realized internships with reputed national and international organizations in the Dominican Republic.

During their time in the Dominican Republic, program participants took specialized language and academic courses (exclusive to InterDom) at the Universidad Iberoamericana (UNIBE). Course options included a Spanish crash course, a graduate seminar with leading specialists on the Central American Free Trade Agreement (DR-CAFTA), and a course on contemporary Caribbean culture that explores a wide range of topics from colonial history to contemporary Caribbean pop culture.

Students also partook in InterDom's summer agenda, which included excursions to an array of areas of historical and cultural importance, such as the home of the Mirabal sisters (sisters killed by ex-dictator Trujillo in 1960), the cultural center, Centro León, Enriquillo Lake, Jimaní, and workshops on Dominican music, cuisine and Taíno culture at ecological ranch, Rancho Campeche.

The following organizations in the Dominican Republic participated in the 2007 InterDom summer program: Alianza ONG (NGO Alliance); Cámara Americana de Comercio de la República Dominicana (American Chamber of Commerce of the Dominican Republic); the UNDP's Disaster Preparation and Prevention Programme; Clave Digital; La Escuela Nacional de la Judicatura (National School of Judicial Studies); the Organization of American States (OAS); the Pan-American Development Foundation (PADF); Sirve Quisqueya; the UNDP's Small Grants Programme; United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) and World Vision.

Related links:

www.centroleon.org.do
www.ranchocampeche.com
<http://amcham.org.do>
www.clavedigital.com
www.enj.org/webapps/portal/frameset.jsp
www.oas.org
www.pdf.org
www.comunicare.org.do/interfaz/contenido.asp?Ag=2
<http://sgp.undp.org>
www.un-instraw.org
www.worldvision.org

InterDom Business and Volunteer Opportunities Day

June 5, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

During this conference, leading business professionals from national and international non-governmental organizations and companies presented internship opportunities to InterDom students who were able to obtain internships related to their academic interests. The interns were introduced to areas such as business and marketing development, the impact of the Dominican Republic Central American Free Trade Agreement (DR-CAFTA), education, media, HIV/AIDS, gender, health and environmental issues. All interns had the opportunity to work closely with specialists in these fields.

InterDom supports in-house training opportunities with companies and non-governmental organizations and has been working closely with institutions to help them build their own internship and learning programs for local and international students.

Trip to Dominican – Haitian Border

June 16, 2007

Dominican – Haitian Border

InterDom students and Universidad Iberoamericana Professor of Contemporary Caribbean Culture, Pedro Cabiya, made the 15 hour bus trip to familiarize themselves with the Dominican – Haitian border. The trip was intended to supplement the students' work on Dominican – Haitian relations, both in their classes, and in their internships with organizations such as: Alianza ONG (NGO Alliance), the Pan American Development Foundation (PADF), the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and World Vision.

Related links:

www.padf.org

www.un-instraw.org

www.undp.org

www.worldvision.org



Addys Then, Executive Director, and Jared Ortiz, Planning Official for Alianza ONG (NGO Alliance) presenting during InterDom's Business Day.



Professor Charlie Poticher of Pennsylvania during the conference.



Professor Pedro Cabiya and intern, Elizabeth Polanco, during the orientation session at the Haitian border.



A group of interns with members of the FUNGLODE team at Centro Cultural León.



InterDom interns during a visit to Centro Cultural León in Santiago.



Students at Ojo de Agua (Salcedo) with Dedé Mirabal.

InterDom Students Visit Santiago

July 30, 2007

Santiago, Dominican Republic

Students visited Centro León in Santiago, one of the leading arts and cultural centers in Latin America and the Caribbean. Daniel Abreu, Special Projects Coordinator, welcomed the InterDom students to the Center and took them on a guided tour of the Caribbean and Dominican Identity, History and Culture Exhibit and the Venezuelan Colonial Art Exhibit.

Later in the afternoon, students visited the home of the Mirabal Sisters, the most famous female protagonists in Dominican history. The sisters were ordered to be killed by former dictator, Rafael Trujillo. The sisters' legacy is now commemorated on the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, which coincides with the anniversary of their death. InterDom students were fortunate to be welcomed at the museum by Dedé Mirabal, the surviving sister of Patricia Mercedes, María Argentina Minerva and Antonia María Teresa, who spoke to them about her sisters' struggle against the Trujillo dictatorship.

Related links:

www.centroleon.org.do

www.unifem.org/campaigns/vaw/facts_figures.php

Closing Ceremony for InterDom Students

August 9, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

GFDD and FUNGLODE organized a ceremony to honor the 2007 InterDom summer interns' successful completion of their internships and academic studies. Each student received a certificate of completion and a full evaluation of his or her performance by his or her supervisors.

During the ceremony, several students presented the findings of the research projects they developed over the course of the twelve weeks. InterDom interns carried out internships in a variety of areas including education, environmental studies, migration, international development, disaster management, remittances, gender issues and HIV/AIDS prevention.

Participating Dominican organizations benefited greatly from the interns' expertise and bilingual capacity.

Conference to Promote the Creation of New Businesses in the Dominican Republic

September 25, 2007

Universidad Iberoamericana, Santo Domingo

GFDD, FUNGLODE and the Universidad Iberoamericana (UNIBE) organized the conference “Taking Your Small or Medium Sized Business to the Next Level.” The program took place at UNIBE and featured presenters Charlie Poticher, Professor at Millersville University (Pennsylvania), and Eric Miller, Founder and Owner of Romero & Miller, LLC (an importer of Spanish wines), both of whom work for Empowered People United (EPU), an organization that seeks to help small and medium-sized businesses and organizations achieve economic success by providing assistance in concept development.

The conference sought to increase the number of businesses and organizations affiliated with InterRDom, create opportunities for professional exchange and develop strategic alliances with organizations that work to create new business opportunities throughout the Dominican Republic such as: Emprende, Confederación Dominicana de Pequeñas y Medianas Empresas (Dominican Confederation of Small and Medium Enterprises - CODOPYME), Programa Nacional de Incubación de Empresas (National Program for Business Incubators – PROINCUBE), Asociación Dominicana de Industrias Gráficas y Afines (Dominican Association of Graphic and Related Industries), Centro de Exportación e Inversión de la República Dominicana (Center for Export and Investment of the Dominican Republic – CEI-RD), Cámara de Comercio y Producción de Santo Domingo (Chamber of Commerce and Production of Santo Domingo – CCPSD) and Centro Nacional Para Competividad (National Center for Competitiveness – CNC).

During the conference, NGO and business representatives learned how their organizations and businesses could profit from providing internship opportunities to InterRDom interns. Additionally, InterRDom offered to help internationalize products and services generated by new Dominican businesses.

Speakers discussed strategies for avoiding stagnation, accepting and managing change and maximizing the success of business incubators. They also stressed the important role entrepreneurial activity can play in stimulating national economic growth.

Approximately 200 students participated in the conference.

Related links:

www.unibe.edu.do

www.millersville.edu

www.cedopex.gov.do/siteInvestment/English

www.camarasantodomingo.org.do



Dominican ecological group representatives attending a presentation during InterRDom's Business Day.



Daniel P. Lyons, Fordham University student and intern for the United Nations Disaster Prevention and Preparation Programme in the Dominican Republic.



Katharyn Pindar, Pace University student and 2007 summer intern for Alianza ONG (NGO Alliance).



Virtual Educa & Virtual Educa Caribe

www.globalfoundationdd.org/seminars/virtualeducacaribe

2007

MARCH 19 - 21 Virtual Educa Caribe 2008 p. 38

JUNE 18 - 22 VIII Virtual Educa Brazil Conference p. 39





Virtual Educa Caribe is an innovative initiative that provides spaces for knowledge exchange and the development of projects that integrate the use of new technologies in higher education and professional training.

Virtual Educa Caribe is the Regional Chapter of the Ibero-American Program **Virtual Educa**, an initiative that is affiliated with the Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government. The purpose of **Virtual Educa Caribe** is to gather representatives from the public, private and non-profit sectors from Ibero-America in order to share success stories and exchange proven results concerning improvement in labor force capacity. **Virtual Educa** also promotes the creation of national and international networks and alliances that share and replicate satisfactory training models that utilize new technological tools.



Natasha Despotovic and Enrique Iglesias.



Audience.



Heitor Gurgulino and Roberto Reyna with participants.

Virtual Educa Caribe 2007

March 19-21, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

GFDD and FUNGLODE hosted the second edition of Virtual Educa Caribe, "Capacity, Innovation, Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainable Development." The objective of the forum was to assemble representatives of the public, private and non-profit sectors in order to facilitate communication between members of these sectors, and identify new technologies and methods of incorporating them into school and university curriculums that will in turn contribute to the sustainable development of the Caribbean. Key themes of the conference were: Innovation as a Tool for Transforming Education; Training as an Essential Element for Social and Economic Development; and Social Corporate Responsibility and Its Impact on the Sustainable Development of the Nation.

The 2007 conference featured presentations by international specialists in education and technology, as well as workshops on open software in long-distance learning; teaching and training support portals; and the Dominican Educational Portal.

Presenters included: Aida Consuelo Hernández Bonnelly, President of Alianza ONG (NGO Alliance); Angel Gustavo Dubón Marchelli, Regional Director of Microsoft's Educational Programs for Central America and the Caribbean; Citlalli Berruecos Carranza, Director, Educa Consultores, S.A.; Felix Llorente, Professor at the Escuela Europea de Estudios Universitarios y de Negocios (European School of University Studies and Business); Jorge Rey, Executive Director of Virtual Educa Cono Sur; José María Anton, Secretary General of Virtual Educa; Juan Carlos Hernández Arroyare, Program Officer for International Youth Foundation; Juan Meléndez, Professor of Technology and Education at the Universidad de Puerto Rico; Kevin P. Manning, President of the Dominican Republic Chamber of Commerce; Llorenç Valverde García, Vice Chancellor of Technology at the Universitat de les Illes Balears; María Ignacia Arcaya, General Director of Canal cl@se (Channel cl@se); Sergio Antonio Toro, Executive Director of Agencia para el Desarrollo de la Sociedad de la Información en Bolivia (Agency for the Development of the Information Society in Bolivia); Oscar Radhames Melgen, ICT Specialist and Consultant; and Yolanda Ramos, Manager of Learning and Knowledge Management Technologies, Softec, Inc.

Related links:

www.virtualeduca.org

www.microsoft.com/education/educationprograms.msp

www.eseune.edu

www.iesevirtual.edu.ar/virtualeduca

www.iyfnet.org

www.upr.edu

<http://amcham.org.do>

www.uib.es/ca

www.adsib.gob.bo/home

www.softecinc.com

VIII Virtual Educa Brazil Conference

June 18-22, 2007

São José dos Campos, Brazil

GFDD and FUNGLODE participated in the VIII Conference of Virtual Educa Brazil, “Education, Formation, Innovation and Development: New Challenges – New Possibilities,” which assembled educators, specialists in technology and education and government officials from the Americas and Europe in order to facilitate the exchange of ideas and experiences related to the use of technology in higher education, cooperation and innovation in educational systems and technological training.

During the inaugural ceremony, Dr. Leonel Fernández, President of the Dominican Republic and Honorary President of GFDD and FUNGLODE, delivered the keynote speech, in which he stressed the need to bridge the digital divide characteristic of modern-day society. He argued that strategies for social inclusion, modernization and competitiveness must not overlook the importance of incorporating technology within national education. Mayor of Sao José dos Campos, Eduardo Cury, reaffirmed the need to incorporate the use of technological tools in school and university curriculums.

On this same day, GFDD, FUNGLODE, Virtual Educa and the IberFuturo Foundation organized a welcome luncheon for President Fernández, local authorities and high-ranking international representatives, such as Eduardo Cury; Carlos Alvarez, President of MERCOSUR’s Commission for Permanent Representatives; Jorge Pizarro, President of the Latin American Parliament (PARLATINO); Alfredo Jiménez, Technical Coordinator for Parlatino and Head of Joint Parlatino; Javier Nadal, Executive Vice President of Fundación Telefónica; and Sergio Mindlín, Director and President of Fundación Telefónica Brasil. José María Antón, Secretary General of Virtual Educa, and Natasha Despotovic, GFDD Executive Director and FUNGLODE Vice President, hosted this event.

As part of the forum: “Cultural Industry, Innovation and Education,” Natasha Despotovic discussed the diverse initiatives implemented by GFDD and FUNGLODE in the area of technology and communications. Her presentation, “The Global Media Arts Institute: Program Development, Consciousness Raising and Multimedia,” highlighted the plethora of innovative conferences, courses and workshops on audiovisual production offered by the Global Media Arts Institute (GMAI). During her second presentation, “The Dominican Republic Global Film Festival: Promoter of Culture and International Cinematography,” she outlined the Festival’s objectives, past accomplishments and future aspirations, and discussed how the Portal has become an international point of reference concerning the Dominican Republic’s growing cinematographic industry.

During the conference, GFDD and FUNGLODE also set up a stand in the Exposition Center to showcase the following current initiatives: Virtual Educa Caribe, the Portal Dominicanaonline.org, the Global Media Arts Institute (GMAI) and the Dominican Republic Global Film Festival (DRGFF).



The use of technology brings education beyond schools walls.



Natasha Despotovic, Heitor Gurgulino, President Fernández, José María Antón and Jorge Rey.



The participants stressed the need to bridge the digital divide characteristic of modern-day society.



Audience members.

The XI Virtual Educa Conference will take place in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic in the year 2010.

IberFuturo Foundation is a new initiative, presided over by President Fernández, that seeks to implement development projects throughout the Hemisphere in direct collaboration with international organisms such as the General Secretariat for Ibero-American Affairs (SEGIB), the Organization of American States (OAS) and agencies affiliated with the European Community.

Related links:

www.virtualeduca.org/brasil2007.htm

www.virtualeduca.org

www.globalfoundationdd.org/gfdd/cpo_project_2.asp?id=35

www.dominicanaonline.org

www.globalmediaarts.org

www.drglobalfilmfestival.org

www.mercosurtc.com

www.fundacion.telefonica.com



Jose Maria Anton, Heitor Gurgulino, Ligia Amada Melo, Jorge Rey and Eduardo Cury.



Increased possibilities for educators leads to improved academic success among the country's youth.



Education, ICT & Partners in Learning Program (PIL)

www.globalfoundationdd.org/gfdd/cpo_projects4.asp

2007



JANUARY 25 NGO Employees Receive Course Completion Certificates p. 44

MARCH 1 - 2 Seminar on Continuing Education and Learning Validation p. 44

APRIL 23 - MAY 1 Seventh Introductory Computer Course p. 45



MARCH 29 - 30 Training on Digital Narrative p. 45

MAY 15 - 16 Training on Web Diagramming p. 45

JUNE 13 - 15 XII Conference of the Ibero-American Association of Higher Education and Distance Learning p. 46



JULY 6 - 7 ESL Skill Building Workshop p. 47

AUGUST 1 Seminar on Educational Portals p. 48

AUGUST 13 - 17 Course on Macromedia Flash MX p. 48



AUGUST 21 - 31 Course on Windows Applications and Windows Operating Systems p. 49

OCTOBER 3 - 5 Fifth International Congress on Information, Communication and Long Distance Education Technologies p. 49



OCTOBER 3 - 5 Participation in Forum on Education and Technology in Guatemala p. 50



As part of their overall mission to promote quality education and make technological training accessible to all sectors of Dominican society, GFDD and FUNGLODE organize workshops, courses and conferences on current strategies in education and the latest trends in technological innovation with educational, governmental, non-governmental and private sector institutions.

Along with the Dominican Ministry of Education, GFDD and FUNGLODE collaborate with Microsoft's Partners in Learning program, which empowers students and teachers to realize their full potential through innovative methods of teaching and learning that encourage the use of technology in classroom instruction.

Microsoft®



GFDD and FUNGLODE organize workshops, courses and conferences on current strategies in education and the latest trends in technological innovation.



GFDD and FUNGLODE presented the conference "Practical Uses of Communication and Information Technology: Voice Over IP".



The program empowers students and teachers to realize their full potential through innovative methods of teaching and learning.

Education, ICT & Partners in Learning Program (PIL)

NGO EMPLOYEES RECEIVE COURSE COMPLETION CERTIFICATES

January 25, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

GFDD and FUNGLODE organized an awards ceremony to recognize seventy-nine non-governmental employees' successful completion of the introductory computer courses offered by GFDD and FUNGLODE, in collaboration with Alianza ONG (NGO Alliance) and the Instituto Tecnológico de las Americas (Technological Institute of the Americas -- ITLA).

During the awards ceremony, GFDD and FUNGLODE also presented the conference, "Practical Uses of Communication and Information Technology: Voice Over IP" given by Mitsuteru Nishio, Data and Internet Director of Centennial Dominicana.

Related links:

www.itla.com

www.centennialrd.com/index.html

Seminar on Continuing Education and Learning Validation

March 1-2, 2007

Hotel Gran Barcelo Lina, Santo Domingo

GFDD and FUNGLODE sponsored the seminar, "Continuing Education and Validation of Knowledge Acquired through Experiences: Challenges and Proposals for the XXI Century," organized by Universidad APEC in collaboration with the Ministry of Continuing Education, Science and Technology of the Dominican Republic.

GFDD and FUNGLODE sponsored a scholarship for one participant.

Related links:

<http://unapec.edu.do>

www.seescyt.gov.do

Seventh Introductory Computer Course

April 23 - May 1, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

GFDD and FUNGLODE, in collaboration with the Alianza ONG (NGO Alliance) and the Instituto Tecnológico de las Americas (Technological Institute of the Americas -- ITLA), offered the seventh course on introductory computer usage to non-governmental organization representatives. During the course, participants developed working knowledge of the functions of the Windows Operating Systems (Word, PowerPoint, Excel). The training program consisted of 40 hours of instruction with professors from the Instituto Tecnológico de las Americas.

Related link:

www.itla.com

Digital Narrative & Web Diagramation

March 29-30 and May 15-16

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

GFDD and FUNGLODE, in coordination with Microsoft's Partners in Learning and the Dominican Ministry of Education, offered two training sessions, "Digital Narrative" and "Web Diagramation." The purpose of the training sessions was to equip participants with the skills necessary to train other educational professionals in website design. The ultimate goal is for each trainer to then provide similar training to 20 teachers in his or her area. More than 35 teachers and professionals specializing in information technology based learning participated in the sessions.

Related links:

www.microsoft.com/education/partnersinlearning.mspx

www.see.gov.do



The program is part of GFDD's mission to promote quality education and make technological training accessible to all sectors of Dominican society.



During the course, participants developed working knowledge of the functions of the Windows Operating Systems.



The purpose of the training was to equip participants with the skills necessary to train other educational professionals in website design.



Dominican professional benefit from other international experiences.



Quality in distance higher education is an ongoing task.



The meeting assembled educators and specialists in distance education from different countries.

XII Conference of the Ibero-American Association of Higher Education and Distance Learning

June 13-15, 2007

Puerto Plata, Dominican Republic

The XII Conference of the Ibero-American Association of Higher Education and Distance Learning (*Asociación Iberoamericana de Educación Superior a Distancia*) was organized by GFDD and FUNGLODE, in association with the Instituto Tecnológico de las Americas (Technological Institute of the Americas), the Dominican Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology and the Town Council of Puerto Plata. The theme of the forum was quality distance higher education in Latin America and Europe.

The objectives of the conference were to strengthen multilateral academic cooperation, and provide a venue in which to discuss strategies for increasing the quality and accessibility of higher education and distance learning in Latin America and Europe.

During the conference, Ligia Amada Melo, Dominican Minister of Higher Education, Science and Technology, discussed the advances achieved by the Dominican Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology regarding distance learning. The meeting assembled educators and specialists in distance education from Latin America and Europe.

Related links:

www.uned.es/aiesad/Encuentro/index.html

www.uned.es/aiesad

www.itla.com

www.seescyt.gov.do

ESL Skill Building Workshop

July 6-7, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

Nine Dominican teachers and professors from both public and private institutions participated in the conference: “Best Practices for Teaching Reading and Writing,” organized by GFDD and FUNGLODE’s Global Media Arts Institute (GMAI), in collaboration with Long Island University’s Higher Education Opportunity Program and New York University’s Opportunity Programs.

The conference was the first in a series that will culminate in the production of educational videos. The purpose of the conferences was to gather instructors of English as a Second Language from both New York and the Dominican Republic in order to devise methods for teaching students how to read, write and communicate effectively in English.

The discussion centered on the following topics:

- Effective Strategies for Addressing the Reading and Writing Needs of Students in the Dominican Republic and the State of New York
- Ways in Which to Incorporate Multi-Cultural and Cross-Cultural Themes Within Reading and Writing Curriculums
- Recommendations for Improving Reading and Writing Instruction Via Online Teaching Sessions

Presentations introduced instructors to a variety of resources and tools intended to improve English language skills. Special emphasis was placed on the use of ESL software designed to address the core competencies that students need to acquire in order to develop mastery of the English language.

Representatives from the following Dominican and US institutions and organizations participated in the program: the Dominican Ministry of Education, the Dominican Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology, the New Horizons Bilingual School, the Lux Mundi School, the Saint Thomas School, Consultant LIU/NYU, New York University, Marymount Manhattan College, The New School and Long Island University.

Related links:

www.globalmediaarts.org

www.liu.edu/cwis/cwp/stuact/heop/heop.html

www.nyu.edu/op

www.see.gov.do

www.seescyt.gov.do

www.gcnewhorizons.net/gcx/site02/1001.aspx

www.nyu.edu

www.mmm.edu

www.newschool.edu



The conference was the first in a series that will culminate in the production of educational videos.



The purpose was to gather instructors of English as a Second Language from both New York and the Dominican Republic.



Special emphasis was placed on the use of ESL software designed to address the core competencies that students need to acquire in order to develop mastery of the English Language.



One of the participants.



Close to 200 Dominican educators attended the seminar.



Educators, students and professionals attended the course.

Seminar on Educational Portals

August 1, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

The seminar, organized in collaboration with Microsoft's Partners in Learning Program, sought to provide participants with an in-depth understanding of the design and management of educational portals. Seminar participants received thorough instruction concerning the functions of the educational portals created by Microsoft in conjunction with the Dominican Ministry of Education, in order to fully maximize both teaching and learning.

Seminar instruction was given by: Cristian Matías, Miliciades Ramírez, William Ortiz and Alberto Fermín of the Dominican Ministry of Education and FUNGLODE ICT and Educational Projects Coordinator, Paúl Goris. Close to 200 Dominican educators attended the seminar.

Related links:

www.microsoft.com/education/partnersinlearning.mspix

www.see.gov.do

Course on Macromedia Flash MX

August 13-17, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

GFDD and FUNGLODE, in collaboration with Microsoft's Partners in Learning Program, offered an introductory course in Macromedia Flash MX to educators, students and professionals. The objective of the program was to equip students with the skills necessary to create interactive animation and applications for Internet, video or other multimedia modes, utilizing Macromedia Flash MX. Participants were required to have a basic understanding of graphic operative systems and the creation of directories and graphic archives using programs such as Photoshop, Corel Draw and others.

The course was both theoretical and practical in nature and included instruction on basic animation, the creation of compact movies and content publication. Course instruction was provided by CD Rom and Web Developer, Milcíades C. Ramírez.

Related link:

www.microsoft.com/education/partnersinlearning.mspix

Course on Windows Applications and Windows Operating Systems

August 21-31, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

GFDD and FUNGLODE, in association with the Instituto Tecnológico de las Américas (Technological Institute of the Americas -- ITLA) offered the eighth course on Windows Applications (Word, Powerpoint, Excel) and Windows Operating Systems for non-governmental organization representatives.

The course consisted of 40 hours of instruction and was offered to the public free of charge.

Related link:

www.itla.com

Fifth International Congress on Information, Communication and Long Distance Education Technologies

October 3-5, 2007

Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo (UASD), Santo Domingo

GFDD and FUNGLODE participated in the V Congreso Internacional sobre Tecnologías de la Información, la Comunicación y la Educación a Distancia (International Congress on Information, Communication and Long Distance Education Technologies -- CITICED), "Development and Capacity Building in Distance Education."

The event, hosted by the Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo (UASD) and the Dominican Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology, gathered representatives from governmental, non-governmental, academic, civil society and private sector institutions in order to advance discussion on social inclusion and integration, and promote the use of open and distance education in achieving millennium goals in the area of higher education, in particular, the adoption of learning strategies and pedagogical evaluation systems.

Related links:

www.uasd.edu.do/CITICED

www.seescyt.gov.do



President Fernández with participants.



The use of distance education is the key factor in achieving the Millennium Development Goals.



Representatives discussed the adoption of learning strategies and pedagogical evaluation systems.



Claudia Toledo, Milcíades Ramírez, Yamile Eusebio and Paul Goris.

Participation in Forum on Education and Technology in Guatemala

October 3-5, 2007

Antigua, Guatemala

GFDD and FUNGLODE, represented by Yamile Eusebio and Paul Goris, participated in the program, "Education and Technology Forum: An Opportunity for Latin America," that took place in Antigua, Guatemala.

The forum sought to expose participants to new technologies designed to enhance educational instruction. During the conference, representatives from Microsoft and Intel presented didactic tools aimed at furthering student learning, accessible via Intel's Classmate PC.

Related links:

www.microsoft.com/latam/prensa/2007/octubre/guatemala.aspx

www.microsoft.com

www.intel.com



Milcíades Ramírez and Paul Goris.



William Ortiz and Alberto Cruz.





DOMINICANA ON LINE
El Portal de la República Dominicana

Portal Dominicanaonline.org

2007



JANUARY 15 New Section: Carnival in the Dominican Republic p. 54

FEBRUARY 13 Launch of Discussion Blog p.54

APRIL 21 New Section: Dominicans in the Major Leagues p.55

MAY 1 Dominicanaonline.org for Mobile Phones p. 55



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 interests and informational needs of Dominicans in the Dominican Republic and abroad, and seeks to positively contribute to the international visibility of the nation. It constitutes the first initiative to compile accurate and relevant information from and about the Dominican Republic in a single site.

The detailed, comprehensive and interactive website contains relevant written and audiovisual material related to the geography, history, economy, education, culture and ecology of the Dominican Republic. The Portal features articles on topics as diverse as: immigration, the Dominican system of governance, environmental law, music, art, dance and sports. Video clips pertaining to the historic and cultural centers of Santo Domingo, music, humpback whales and cigar manufacturing reflect areas of national cultural, environmental and economic importance.

The Portal is a constantly evolving project. New portal sections are created in response to national interests and matters of concern. Themes currently featured on the site include: Carnival, Baseball, Children International Dominican Republic and Climate Change.

Dominicanaonline.org provides national and international users with relevant information concerning citizen services, accurate and up-to-date news stories, statistical data, interactive maps, directories and schedules of cultural activities. Moreover, the Portal provides users access to contests, discussion forums, chat rooms, blogs, e-cards, downloadable calendars and music videos of Dominican artists.

Close collaboration with the Dominican government and non-governmental and private sector institutions allows for timely access to pertinent and diverse texts and multimedia materials.

www.dominicanaonline.org



New Section: Dominicans in the Major Leagues

April 21, 2007

In accordance with the nation's number-one pastime, GFDD and FUNGLODE created a new webpage section that contains articles on the history of Dominican baseball players in the Major Leagues, as well as editorials on Dominican players presently playing for US teams. The site includes listings of players, the teams they play for and their positions. It also features information pertaining to projects in the Dominican Republic financed by the Major Leagues such as the Baseball Tomorrow Foundation and RBI, both of which encourage youth involvement in the sport.

Related links:

www.dominicanaonline.org/Portal/espanol/grandeligas/index.asp
http://mlbplayers.mlb.com/mlb/official_info/community/btf.jsp?content=about

Dominicanaonline.org for Mobile Phones

May 1, 2007

GFDD and FUNGLODE launched Dominicanaonline.org for mobile phones. Now users can easily access all materials available on Dominicanonline.org while on the go.

Related link:

<http://dominicanaonline.org/novedades/movil.html>



International Affairs & Democracy

2007

FEBRUARY 19 Conference on New Political Context
in the Americas p. 58

MAY 25 Presentation on 2007 Latin American
Political Agenda p. 59





As part of their mission to promote awareness and understanding of democratic processes and collaboration throughout the Hemisphere, GFDD and FUNGLODE organize lectures, panels, seminars and workshops on key issues relevant to democratic stability and international affairs. This initiative brings together national and international experts, practitioners, scholars and general audiences in order to promote discussion and facilitate an exchange of experiences.



Marco Aurelio García, President Fernández, Ana María Sanjuan, Despotovic and Juan E. Pardiñas.



Audience members.



President Fernández and Natasha Despotovic.

International Affairs & Democracy

CONFERENCE ON NEW POLITICAL CONTEXT IN THE AMERICAS

February 19, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

The conference, "The New Political Context in the Americas: Relationship Perspectives between Latin America and the United States," sought to assess the political climate in Latin America after a particularly active 2006 electoral year that consisted of twelve presidential elections and revealed new perspectives, tendencies and alignments.

The seminar featured internationally recognized specialists in democratic development, Peter Hakim, Inter-American Dialogue President; Marco Aurelio García, Consultant to the President of Brazil; Ana María Sanjuan, Human Rights and Peace Center Director at Universidad Central de Venezuela (Central University of Venezuela); and Juan E. Pardiñas, Associate at Centro de Investigación para el Desarrollo A.C. (Center of Research for Development), Mexico.

Key topics addressed during the forum included: recent democratic advances in the Region, fiscal reforms, social and economic inclusion, international trade relations and the resurgence of socialist tendencies within Latin American political culture.

Related links:

www.thedialogue.org

www.presidencia.gov.br

www.ucv.ve

www.cidac.org

Presentation on 2007 Latin American Political Agenda

May 25, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

In her presentation, “Hot Topics on the 2007 Latin American Agenda,” Dr. Marifeli Pérez-Stable, Vice President of Democratic Governance for Inter-American Dialogue, discussed the shift in Latin American politics that took place during the later part of the 1990s, marked by a departure from the neoliberal social and economic policy models promoted by the Washington Consensus that had been positively regarded by Latin American administrations of the 1980s. She maintained that this philosophical divergence led to the emergence of three distinct factions, “democratic,” “populist” and “corporatist,” and outlined the ideological differences that distinguish each group. Regarding the future of leftist politics in Latin America, the Inter-American Dialogue Vice President recommended that the democratic left embrace market-driven economic policy, arguing that increases in social welfare spending cannot take place without the required fiscal resources.

Related link:

www.thedialogue.org



In her presentation, Marifeli Pérez-Stable discussed the shift in Latin American politics that took place during the later part of the 1990s.



Marifeli Pérez-Stable.



Rosa María Vicioso and Johanna Mendelson Forman with other members of the audience.



Collaboration with the Organization of American States (OAS)

2007

JUNE 3 - 5 Participation in XXXVII OAS General Assembly in Panama City p. 62

OCTOBER 1 - 2 Workshop on Culture and Economic and Social Advancement in the Americas p. 63





GFDD and FUNGLODE endorse and promote the objectives of the OAS and are active members of the OAS's Civil Society, a community of non-governmental organizations that support the organization in realizing its summits.

Participation in XXXVII OAS General Assembly in Panama City

June 3-5, 2007

Panama City, Panama

GFDD and FUNGLODE participated in the inaugural act of the XXXVII General Assembly of the Organization of American States and in all the sessions open to civil society representatives.

The Opening Ceremony featured presentations by OAS Secretary General, José Miguel Insulza; UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon; and Panamanian President, Martín Torrijos. All three speakers emphasized the economic benefits that would result from developing a strong alternative energy sector in the Region, the need to for economic gains to be experienced by all members of society, and the factors that have prevented marginalized populations from benefiting from favorable economic conditions.

Related link:

www.oas.org/37ag/english/seminar_list.asp



Asunción Sanz, José Miguel Insulza, Yamile Eusebio.



OAS Secretary General, José Miguel Insulza.



Asunción Sanz and Ban Ki-moon, Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Workshop on Culture and Economic and Social Advancement in the Americas

October 1-2, 2007

The International Workshop, “Culture as an Engine of Economic Growth and Social Inclusion in the Americas,” was organized by the OAS, in association with GFDD and FUNGLODE and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

The program gathered policy-makers and representatives from non-governmental organizations in order to encourage discussion regarding the integral role of culture in economic and social development; inform Member States of the technical and financial cooperation opportunities available to them; increase collaborations between authorities of the cultural sector, representatives of the Ministries of Finance, and regional and sub-regional financial organizations such as the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), the Banco Centroamericano de Integración Económica (Central American Bank of Economic Integration -- BCIE), the Corporación Andina de Fomento (Andean Development Corporation -- CAF), and the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB); and promote investment in cultural industries.

The conference featured presentations by OAS Secretary General, José Miguel Insulza, and IDB President, Luís Alberto Moreno. The speakers emphasized the cultural industry’s proven capacity to spur economic growth in the Americas, and discussed the importance of developing mechanisms to measure the role the industry plays in stimulating national economies.

Related links:

www.oas.org/OASpage/Events/default_ENG.asp?event_code=22

www.oas.org

www.iadb.org

www.bcie.org

www.caf.com

www.caribank.org



Alfonso Quiñonez, Luís Alberto Moreno, José Miguel Insulza and André Frenette.



José Miguel Insulza, André Frenette, Lenore García.



Alfonso Quiñonez, Luís Alberto Moreno



Collaboration with the United Nations

2007



FEBRUARY 20-23 Dominican Food Festival p. 66

**APRIL 19-20 Participation in Conference on
Climate Change and Human Health p. 66**

**JULY 31 - AUGUST 1 Participation in Debate
on Climate Change as a Global Challenge p. 67**

**SEPTEMBER 5-7 Participation in 60th DPI/NGO
Conference p. 68**



GFDD and FUNGLODE provide support to the United Nations and its different agencies in carrying out their missions and achieving their goals. In 2004, GFDD and FUNGLODE were admitted to the United Nations System as institutions with consultative status, joining the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Department of Public Information (DPI), the Global Compact Office (UNGC), the Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the World Summit on Information Society (WSIS).



National cuisine is a cultural asset.

Dominican Food Festival

February 20-23, 2007

UN Headquarters, New York City

GFDD and FUNGLODE participated in the Dominican Republic's Permanent Mission to the United Nations' Dominican Food Festival that took place in the United Nations Delegates' Dining Room and featured cuisine from the Dominican Republic. Dominican chef, Mike Mercedes, was invited by the Mission to prepare the dishes served during the festival.

Every year the United Nations hosts festivals to showcase cuisine from its member states. This was the first festival to showcase dishes from the Dominican Republic.

Related link:

www.2.un.int/public/DominicanRepublic/1/English



Participants discussed the impacts of climate change on human health.

Participation in Conference on Climate Change and Human Health

April 19-20, 2007

UN Headquarters, New York City

GFDD and FUNGLODE participated in the World Information Transfer, Inc.'s 16th International Conference: "Responding to the Climate Crisis: Asking the Right Questions" organized by World Information Transfer, Inc. (WIT), in collaboration with the Government of the Republic of Croatia, the Government of Ukraine, the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). The objective of the event was to assemble climate change experts, policy makers, educators, students and concerned citizens in order to advance discussion of the following topics: the Impact of Climate Change on Human Health; the Health Security of the Next Generation; the Legacy of Chernobyl: the Sarcophagus; Understanding Radiation-Induced Thyroid Cancer.

During the conference, presenters, Dr. Christine K. Durbak, Chair of WIT, and Dr. Daniel R. Schneider, Assistant Minister of the Ministry of Environmental Protection, Physical Planning and Construction of the Republic of Croatia, discussed how climate change is negatively affecting human health around the globe, in particular, mental health and the spread of disease, as well as the role of science in political decision making.

Related links:

www.worldinfo.org/index.php?id=53

www.worldinfo.org

www.undp.org

www.unep.org

www.unicef.org



Experts discussed the role of science in political decision making.

Participation in Debate on Climate Change as a Global Challenge

July 31 - August 1, 2007

UN Headquarters, New York City

GFDD and FUNGLODE attended the United Nations' debate, "Climate Change as a Global Challenge." The debate sought to promote discussion concerning recent scientific assessment on climate change and holistic multilateral strategies for adaptation and mitigation.

Experts discussed the importance of implementing multi-prong strategies for adaptation at the individual, national and international level. Recommendations discussed included more conservative usage of water and energy sources, biodiversity conservation, protection of mangrove forests, development that is sustainable, public awareness initiatives and legislative measures. They stressed the need for mitigation in conjunction with the adoption of adaptation strategies. They argued that decreased dependency on fossil fuel and increased dependency on clean technologies, in addition to sustainable forest management, would translate into substantial gains with regard to reducing emissions, and advocated for governments to place greater emphasis on the development of alternative energy initiatives.

Presentations were given by the following experts: John Holdren, Professor of Environmental Policy and Director of the Science, Technology and Public Policy Program at the Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University; Sir Nicholas Stern, Professor of Economics at the London School of Economics; Hervé Le Treut, Senior Researcher and Director at the Laboratory of Dynamic Meteorology, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, France; Kenrick R. Leslie, Executive Director of the Caribbean Community Climate Change Center; Sunita Narain, Director of the Centre for Science and Environment, India; Robert Socolow, Professor of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Princeton University; Anthony Olusegun Adegbulugbe, Professor of Energy Systems Planning and Management, Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria; Hasan M. Qabazard, Director of Research Division at the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries; Michael Liebreich, Founder and CEO of New Energy Finance Limited; Bjorn Stigson, President of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development; Yvo de Boer, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCC).

Related links:

www.un.org/ga/president/61/follow-up/thematic-climate.shtml
www.belfercenter.org/project/44/science_technology_and_public_policy.html
www.lse.ac.uk
www.cnrs.fr
www.cseindia.org
www.princeton.edu
www.oauife.edu.ng
www.opec.org
www.newenergyfinance.com www.wbcsd.org
<http://unfccc.int/2860.php>



Global areas of risk.



Recommendations discussed included more conservative usage of water and energy sources.



One of the principal objectives is the reduction of emissions.



Audience members.



Representatives of civil society have a role in the decision making process of the UN.



The Dominican Republic was chosen as a pilot country for the Millennium Development Goals.

Participation in 60th DPI/NGO Conference

September 5-7, 2008

United Nations Headquarters, New York

Over 2,000 non-governmental representatives from 80 countries attended the conference, which featured diverse panel discussions and 33 workshops. The objective of the program was to assess scientific evidence of climate change, particularly as it relates to water security, land use, energy policy and the relationship between climate change and the UN Millennium Development Goals. The conference also sought to facilitate the development of individual action plans aimed at mitigating the effects of global warming and its associated consequences.

Related link:

www.un.org/dpi/ngosection/annual-conf.asp



Collaboration with the United Nations Association of the Dominican Republic (UNA-DR)

www.unadr.org

2007



APRIL 18 - 22 Fifth Annual Conference of the Dominican Republic Model UN in NYC p. 72

JULY 26 First Anniversary of Global Youth: Future Leaders p. 73

OCTOBER 10 - 14 International Conference of the Americas 2007 p. 73



GFDD and FUNGLODE actively support the United Nations Association of the Dominican Republic (UNA-DR). UNA-DR is a non-profit, non-governmental organization dedicated to strengthening and promoting the work of the United Nations. The UNA-DR supports the mission of the UN by coordinating educational and cultural activities that seek to raise public awareness and motivate civic participation.



More than 500 students and professors from Dominican Republic and international institutions participated in this event.



Pilar Sandoval, Executive Director of the United Nations Association of the Dominican Republic (UNA-RD).



Delegate representing Saudi Arabia.

Fifth Annual Conference of the Dominican Republic Model UN in NYC

April 18-22, 2007

UN Headquarters and John Jay College of Criminal Justice, New York City

The Fifth Annual Conference of the Dominican Republic Model United Nations in New York City was organized in association with the UNA-DR and the John Jay College of Criminal Justice. More than 550 students and professors from Dominican and international institutions participated in this event. The objective of the event was to promote discussion between students concerning present day conflicts taking place across the globe. Student debates later culminated in the development of conflict resolution proposals.

Guests speakers at the Fifth Annual Conference included Jeremy Travis, President of the John Jay College of Criminal Justice; Ambassador Erasmo Lara, Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations; Rosemarie Maldonado, Advisor to the President at John Jay College of Criminal Justice; and Juan Carlos Brandt, Chief of the United Nations Department of Information/ Non-Governmental Organizations (DPI/NGO). Presenters emphasized the importance of involving youth in activities designed to generate discussion of pressing global issues, the role of the Dominican Republic Model United Nations in integrating the Hispanic community, and the fundamental role of the United Nations in international governance.

Related links:

[www.unadr.org/new-anudr/noticiasview.](http://www.unadr.org/new-anudr/noticiasview.php?codigo=104)

[php?codigo=104](http://www.unadr.org)

www.unadr.org

www.jjay.cuny.edu

<http://www2.un.int/public/DominicanRepublic>

www.un.org/dpi/ngosection

First Anniversary of Global Youth: Future Leaders

July 26, 2007

FUNGLODE Headquarters, Santo Domingo

GFDD, FUNGLODE and UNA-DR held a ceremony to celebrate the First Anniversary of the television program, *Global Youth: Future Leaders*. The ceremony was led by Dominican Republic President and Honorary President of GFDD, FUNGLODE and UNA-DR, Dr. Leonel Fernández, and featured an audiovisual presentation by the directors of the three organizations that highlighted the program's achievements over the first year and its aspirations for the coming year.

Global Youth: Future Leaders is a program created for youth by youth, in association with national and international organisms. The program seeks to inform young people of the work carried out by the organizations and associations within the United Nations System.

Related links:

www.unadr.org/new-anadr/noticiaslist.php?start=33

www.unadr.org

International Conference of the Americas 2007

October 10-14, 2007

Bávaro, Dominican Republic

GFDD, FUNGLODE and UNA-DR organized the 2007 Conferencia Internacional de las Américas (International Conference of the Americas -- CILA). More than 1,500 students from the Dominican Republic and the Region attended the event.

The unprecedented number of participants was divided into 13 committees that simulated the work of the United Nations and other organisms such as the UN Food and Agriculture Organization, the UN Economic Commission on Latin America and the Caribbean and the UN Committee Against Torture.

Throughout the four days, students engaged in debate and devised solutions to pressing social concerns. Students also partook in seminars, workshops and fairs related to the UN Millennium Goals, child labor and corporate social responsibility, amongst other topics.

Related links:

www.unadr.org/cila2007

www.unadr.org

www.fao.org

www.eclac.org/default.asp?idioma=IN

www.un.org/millenniumgoals



Global Youth: Future Leaders is a program created for youth by youth, in association with national and international organisms.



More than 1,500 students from the Dominican Republic and the Region attended the event.



President Leonel Fernández at CILA 2007.



Coral Gardens Project

www.globalfoundationdd.org/gfdd/cpo_project_2.asp

2007



APRIL 20-21 First Workshop on Effective Management of Sosúa Marine Park p. 76

JUNE 21-22 Second Workshop on Effective Management of Sosúa Marine Park p. 77

SEPTEMBER 19 - 20 Third Workshop on Effective Management of Sosúa Marine Park p. 78



OCTOBER 15 Workshop on Effective Management of La Caleta National Park p. 79

DECEMBER 7 Official Launch of Management Plan for Sosúa Marine Park p. 79





The Coral Gardens Project is a public-private initiative to conserve and restore coral reefs and marine habitats in the protected areas of Punta Cana, Bayahíbe, Samaná and Sosúa in the Dominican Republic.

The project is the product of a partnership between GFDD, FUNGLODE and Counterpart International. It receives support from the Dominican Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, the Dominican Ministry of Tourism, the National Geographic Society, the Punta Cana Foundation, the Bayahíbe Hotels Association and the Ecological Foundation of Sosúa Bay, among other institutions.

The **Coral Gardens Project** works to promote the development of a multi-stakeholder network invested in developing and implementing projects concerning coral reef restoration and the conservation of protected marine areas in the Dominican Republic.

In addition to reestablishing healthy populations of corals in protected areas, the project also seeks to: mitigate the impacts of land-based pollution, tourism and over-fishing on coral reefs in protected areas through the development

and implementation of educational and technical training programs associated with environmental conservation, reef ecology and coral regeneration; build a network of conservationists throughout the Dominican Republic trained in low-tech methods of coral reef restoration and the effective monitoring of such initiatives; and directly contribute to the socio-economic development of coastal settlements via the implementation and expansion of sustainable tourism initiatives.



Kelvin Guerrero with workshop participants.



The restoration and conservation of the native *acropora cervicornis* coral is possible using a very basic method.



The objective is developing and implementing projects concerning coral reef restoration and the conservation of protected marine areas in the Dominican Republic.

First Workshop on Effective Management of Sosúa Marine Park

April 20-21, 2007

Sosúa, Dominican Republic

GFDD and FUNGLODE, in collaboration with Counterpart International and the Sosúa Marine Park Patronage, organized the workshop, Participative Processes for the Effective Management of the Sosúa Marine Park.

The objectives of the workshop were to define the park's objectives; promote the effective management of the Sosúa Marine Park; identify areas for conservation; and define indicators for the planning, evaluation and monitoring of the park.

Fishermen, boaters and representatives from the following institutions attended the workshop: the Ministry for Coastal and Marine Concerns, the Ministry for Protected Areas and Biodiversity, the Sosúa Marine Park Board of Trustees, the Asociación de Vendedores y Artesanos de Sosúa (Association of Vendors and Artisans of Sosúa), the Asociación de Pescadores de Sosúa (Association of Fishermen of Sosúa), the Asociación de Hoteles y Restaurantes de Sosúa (Association of Hotels and Restaurants of Sosúa), the Asociación Dominicana de Escuela de Buceos (Association of Dominican Dive Schools), and the Cluster Turísticos de Sosúa (Sosúa Tourist Cluster).

Instruction was provided by Emy Rodríguez, GFDD Environmental Project Coordinator; Kelvin Guerrero, Counterpart International Program Facilitator; and Massimilian Scerra, Executive Director of the Sosúa Marine Park.

Related links:

www.counterpart.org

[www.ceiba.gov.do/cms/index.php?option=com_content
&task=blogcategory&id=105&Itemid=241](http://www.ceiba.gov.do/cms/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=105&Itemid=241)

[www.medioambiente.gov.do/cms/index.php?option=com_
content&task=blogcategory&id=66&Itemid=129](http://www.medioambiente.gov.do/cms/index.php?option=com_content&task=blogcategory&id=66&Itemid=129)

Second Workshop on Effective Management of Sosúa Marine Park

June 21-22, 2007

Sosúa, Dominican Republic

GFDD and FUNGLODE, in collaboration with Counterpart International and the Sosúa Marine Park Patronage, organized the Second Workshop on Participative Processes for the Effective Management of the Sosúa Marine Park. The objectives of the event were to: bring together fishermen from Bayahibe and Sosúa to share experiences and develop alternative fishing strategies; build stakeholder capacity and develop awareness of marine conservation resources; gather information from major stakeholder groups on the use of marine resources and the current management of conservation targets such as coral reefs and beach ecosystems; use information gathered as baseline data for the development of a multi-stakeholder resource management plan for the Sosúa Marine Park; and establish and delineate no-fishing and recreational areas within the park.

Fishermen, boaters and representatives from the following businesses, associations and organizations participated in the workshop: Dominican Ministry of Tourism, Fat Cat Diving, Asociación de Vendedores y Artesanos de Sosúa (Association of Vendors and Artisans of Sosúa), Northern Diving, Asociación de Pescadores de Sosúa (Association of Fishermen of Sosúa), HIPOCAMPO, Sociedad Ecológica (Ecological Society), CORAAPLATA and Aqua Center.

The workshop was facilitated by Emy Rodríguez, GFDD Environmental Project Coordinator; Kelvin Guerrero, Counterpart International Program Facilitator; Massimiliano Scerra, Executive Director of Sosúa Marine Park; and Marco Francisco, Bayahibe Fishermen Cooperative, COOPEBY.

Related links:

www.counterpart.org

www.sectur.gov.do

www.coraaplata.com.do



The project seeks to mitigate the impacts of land-based pollution, tourism and over-fishing.



Fishermen, boaters and diverse associations participated in the workshop.



Zonification of Sosúa Bay.



Coral Gardens is building a network of conservationists throughout the Dominican Republic trained in low-tech methods of coral reef restoration.



Human activity and water pollution pose a continuous threat to the endangered coral reefs.



Stakeholders in the areas are eager to learn effective park management.

Third Workshop on Effective Management of Sosúa Marine Park

September 19-20, 2007

GFDD and FUNGLODE, in collaboration with Counterpart International and the Sosúa Marine Park Patronage, held the Third Workshop on the Management of the Sosúa Marine Park. The purpose of the workshop was to introduce the proposed management plan for the park to key stakeholders; outline the plan's goals and the defined assessment indicators; reach a consensus concerning the management targets as delineated within the plan; and collect feedback from affiliates.

Fishermen, boaters and representatives from the following businesses, associations and organizations attended the workshop: Asociación de Vendedores y Artesanos de Sosúa (Association of Vendors and Artisans of Sosúa), Northern Diving, Asociación de Pescadores de Sosúa (Association of Fishermen of Sosúa), Dominican Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, Sosúa-Cabarete Hotel and Restaurant Association, Acuario Banarabo and Merlin Dive Center.

The vast majority of the stakeholders agreed to comply with the plan and indicated interest in being a part of the effective management of the park.

The conference was directed by Emy Rodríguez, GFDD Environmental Project Coordinator; Kelvin Guerrero, Counterpart International Program Facilitator; and Massimiliano Scerra, Executive Director of the Sosúa Marine Park.

Related links:

www.counterpart.org

www.medioambiente.gov.do/cms

Workshop on Effective Management of La Caleta National Park

October 15, 2007

La Caleta National Park, Dominican Republic

The workshop on the effective management of La Caleta National Park, organized in association with Counterpart International, sought to introduce the participatory planning process to key affiliates; explain the plan's goals and the defined assessment indicators; build stakeholder capacity and develop awareness of the importance of conserving marine resources; emphasize community involvement; and begin to arrive at a consensus concerning the identification of conservation goals.

Fishermen, divers, environmental police and representatives from the Dominican Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, the Dominican Coast Guard, the Peace Corps, Reef Check, the National Aquarium, AERODOM and CODACSA participated in the workshop.

The workshop was facilitated by Emy Rodríguez, GFDD Environmental Project Coordinator; Kelvin Guerrero, Counterpart International Program Facilitator; and Rubén Torres, Reef Check Coordinator.

Related links:

www.counterpart.org

www.medioambiente.gov.do/cms

www.aerodom.com

www.reefcheck.org

Official Launch of Management Plan for Sosúa Marine Park

December 7, 2007

Sosúa, Dominican Republic

During the event, GFDD, FUNGLODE, Counterpart International and the Sosúa Marine Park presented a plan for the management of the Sosúa Marine Park, based on the methodology outlined in the World Conservation Union's manual, "How is Your MPA Doing?", and elaborated upon it in workshops held throughout the year 2007 with local stakeholders.

The plan will be implemented over a period of three years. To facilitate the implementation of the plan, qualitative guidelines concerning inspection, water-quality and waste management, zoning, habitat restoration and out-reach activities were established.

Related links:

www.counterpart.org

www.iucn.org



Fishermen, divers, environmental police and representatives from different governmental and non-governmental organizations participated in the workshop.



La Caleta National Park.



Massimiliano Scerra, President of the Sosúa Marine Park's Board of Directors.



Dominican Week in the US

2007



SEPTEMBER 18 Presentation on Present Latin American Context and Perspectives p. 82

SEPTEMBER 18 Panel Discussion on Constitutional Reform p. 83

SEPTEMBER 19 Program on Education in Dominican Republic and Central America p. 84

SEPTEMBER 20 Panel on DR-CAFTA in NYC p. 85





Dominican Week in the US is designed to gather Dominican and US government officials, private sector representatives and members of the cultural arts community together with leading Dominican and US organizations, associations, universities and multilateral institutions.

The goals of **Dominican Week** are to stress the contribution the Dominican community is making to the United States; strengthen ties between Dominican professionals in both countries; support the dynamic, entrepreneurial nature of Dominican professionals; and reinforce social, economic and cultural ties between the Dominican Republic and the United States.

Key themes discussed during the presentations and panel discussions included: US – Dominican Relations, DR-CAFTA, Foreign Investment, Immobile Capital, Education and Constitutional Reform.

GFDD and FUNGLODE, in association with the Dominican Week in the US Committee, Grupo Profesionales Dominicanos (Dominican Professional Group -- GPD) of Washington DC, Goldman Sachs and Universidad APEC (UNAPEC), organized the 2007 Dominican Week in the US. The week-long series of events took place in Washington DC, September 17-18, and in New York City, September 19-20.



Audience at Georgetown University.

Presentation on Present Latin American Context and Perspectives

September 18, 2007

Georgetown University, Washington, DC

In his presentation, "Present Latin American Context and Perspectives," the two-term Dominican President maintained that despite under-going political transition, democratic regimes in the Region have not been able to produce significant social and economic outcomes. He argued that in order for Latin American administrations to adequately address the social and economic needs of their citizenry, they must implement measures that are neither purely state-centric, nor neoliberal in nature, stressing that alone, neither strategy has the capacity to achieve wide-scale socio-economic change. He stated that market-driven economies are critical to generating wealth and that state involvement is critical to ensuring that a nation's wealth reaches all echelons of society

The Dominican President argued that in order for long-term sustainable development to be realized, administrations must put in place strategies to achieve the following: democratic consolidation, increased foreign investment, the development of a strong private sector, increased investment in education, universal health care, infrastructure modernization, cultural development and comprehensive environmental policy.

The presentation was organized in association with Georgetown University's Center for Latin American Studies and the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service.

Related links:

<http://clas.georgetown.edu>

www.12.georgetown.edu/sfs



President Fernández and Arturo Valenzuela.



Roberto Alvarez, Natasha Despotovic and Semiramis de Miranda among the audience at Georgetown University.

Panel Discussion on Constitutional Reform

September 18, 2007

Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington, DC

GFDD and FUNGLODE and the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) organized a panel discussion on the recent constitutional reform taking place in the Dominican Republic.

The panel featured Dominican President and GFDD and FUNGLODE Honorary President, Leonel Fernández. The panel was moderated by Roberto Álvarez, Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic to the Organization of American States and comprised by José Miguel Insulza, Secretary General of the Organization of American States; Flavio Darío Espinal, Ambassador of the Dominican Republic to the White House; Claudio Grossman, Professor and Dean of Washington College of Law at American University; and Rosario Espinal, Professor of Sociology at Temple University.

Key themes discussed by panelists included: transparency, separation of powers, civil liberties, definitions of citizenship, international human rights norms and civic participation.

Related links:

www.csis.org

www.oas.org

www.american.edu

www.temple.edu



Luís Manuel Bonetti shaking hands with José Miguel Insulza.



Rosario Espinal addresses the audience at CSIS.



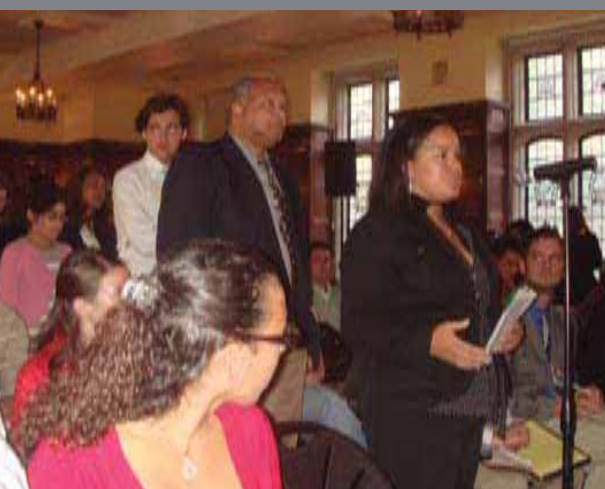
Audience at CSIS.



Mike Honda, President Fernández, Mack McLarty and Jim Puryear.



President Fernández addresses the audience.



Members of the audience posing their questions to President Fernández at Georgetown University.

Program on Education in Dominican Republic and Central America

September 19, 2007

Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC

GFDD, FUNGLODE and Inter-American Dialogue's Partnership for Educational Revitalization of the Americas (PREAL) coordinated the program: Report Card on Education in Central America and the Dominican Republic: "A Lot to Do."

The program featured a keynote address by Leonel Fernández, President of the Dominican Republic and Honorary President of GFDD and FUNGLODE, as well as presentations by prominent panelists, Inter-American Dialogue President, Peter Hakim; Virginia Democratic Congressman, Jim Moran; California Democratic Congressman, Mike Honda; PREAL Co-Director, Jim Puryear; and Kissinger McLarty Associate Partner and former White House Chief of Staff, Mack McLarty, on the implications of the findings presented in the 2007 PREAL report.

During their presentations, the distinguished speakers emphasized the need for the following: universal equal education, continued emphasis on improving enrollment rates, adherence to world class standards for reading and math, the restructuring of the teaching profession to attract the brightest and the best, and the establishment of English language and technology programs for grades K-12. They also discussed the positive change that could be achieved if the Education for All Act is passed by the United States Congress. If approved, the act would permit the United States to play a fundamental role in ensuring that children throughout the developing world have access to quality basic education by the year 2015.

The Report Card details the discrepancies emblematic of primary and secondary education systems throughout Central America and the Dominican Republic and proposes measures aimed at improving educational instruction. Based on statistical data from respected international databases, nations are evaluated in 9 basic areas: Test Scores, Enrollment, Staying in School, Equity, Authority & Accountability at the School Level, Investment in Primary & Secondary Education, Teaching Profession, Standards and Assessment Systems. Nations are scored from "very poor" to "excellent." Assessments are presented in a report card format that is comprehensive to the general public.

Related links:

www.preal.org

www.thedialogue.org

<http://www.campaignforeducationusa.org/efa2007summary>

Panel on DR-CAFTA in NYC

September 20, 2007

City University of New York, New York City

GFDD and FUNGLODE organized a panel discussion on the US, Dominican Republic and Central American Free Trade Agreement (DR-CAFTA). The purpose of the conference was to assess the impact of the agreement on US-Dominican trade since its implementation in 2006.

The panel was comprised of an impressive group of trade specialists which included Melanio Paredes, Minister of Industry and Trade; Eddy Martínez, Director of the Dominican Republic Exports and Investment Center (CEI-RD); Esther Aristy, Head of FUNGLODE's Free Trade Unit; and Andres Vanderhorst, Executive Director of Consejo Nacional de Competividad (National Council on Competitiveness -- CNC). Guest speakers discussed the economic benefits associated with the trade agreement -- increased foreign investment, commercial reciprocity, tax deductions, greater visibility within the global economy -- as well as the challenges affiliated with meeting imposed packaging, product quality and shipping requirements, and the importance of ensuring that increased economic growth rates translate into increased investment in human development (i.e. education, worker training, healthcare coverage).

Related links:

www.uschamber.com/issues/index/international/drcafta.htm

www.cuny.edu

www.cedopex.gov.do/siteInvestment/English

www.cnc.gov.do

www.cei-rd.gov.do



DR-CAFTA has introduced dramatic changes to the Dominican economy.



Constant review of trade agreements benefits their effectiveness.



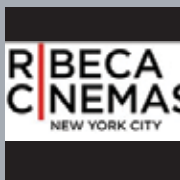
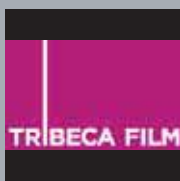
Experts debated about the importance of ensuring that increased economic growth rates translate into increased investment in human development.



Dominican Republic Global Film Festival (DRGFF)

www.drglobalfilmfestival.org

2007



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APRIL 25 - MAY 6 Tribeca Film Festival p. 86

SEPTEMBER 6 - 15 Toronto International Film Festival p. 87

OCTOBER 6 - 7 Women in Film Entertainment Forum p. 87

NOVEMBER 13 - 18 DRGFF 2007 Scheduled to Take Place p. 88



The Dominican Republic Global Film Festival (DRGFF) brings together renowned local and international film professionals, talented artists, international leaders and a broad variety of audiences with the purpose 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 catalyst for social, cultural and economic development.

DRGFF plays a leading role in nurturing and enriching film culture in the Dominican Republic by bringing the best of international narrative and documentary film to wide audiences. Under its motto, "*Global Issue, Personal Stories*," the Festival raises awareness and deepens understanding of global challenges and uses film as a modern platform for the discussion of political, social and economic issues. It supports capacity building, provides networking opportunities for Dominican professionals and fosters the development of a strong and sustainable national film industry, ultimately contributing to the economic development and competitiveness of the Dominican Republic.

DRGFF also establishes and cultivates relations with some of the World's foremost international film festivals. Through participation in such festivals, **DRGFF** establishes professional networks and learns first hand of the innovative work being developed by the international industry.



Issaka Sawadogo with Natasha Despotovic

Participation in 2007 Miami International Film Festival

March 2-11, 2007

Miami, Florida

DRGFF representatives attended the 2007 Miami International Film Festival (MIFF). MIFF provided an excellent opportunity to network with independent directors, producers and other industry professionals, and to identify potential films for the scheduled 2007 Festival. Participation in the Miami Festival also allowed DRGFF team members to become familiar with the operational challenges associated with running a large-scale film festival.

Related link:

www.miamifilmfestival.com

Participation in Tribeca Film Festival

April 25 - May 6, 2007

New York, New York

DRGFF representatives attended the 2007 Tribeca Film Festival. The festival provided an opportunity to screen potential films for DRGFF 2007 and network with other industry professionals.

The Tribeca Film Festival presents independent films that tell stories of personal and social struggle, and organizes panel discussions on themes of current industry relevance. The 2007 festival featured panels on a variety of topics including: science and stereotypes, how to become a media conglomerate, women and comedy, and depicting accounts of horror.

Related link:

www.tribecafilmfestival.org



The Tribeca Film Festival presents independent films that tell stories of personal and social struggle, and organizes panel discussions on themes of current industry relevance.



MIFF provides an excellent opportunity to network with independent directors, producers and other industry professionals.

Participation in Toronto International Film Festival

September 6-15, 2007

Toronto, Canada

DRGFF Director, Natasha Despotovic, attended the 2007 Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) in order to identify films to present during the second annual Dominican Republic Global Film Festival and establish relationships with industry professionals.

The TIFF 2007 featured programs which showcased Canadian talent, prize-winning contemporary world cinema, children's cinema, and films by emerging directors.

Related link:

<http://archives.torontointernationalfilmfestival.ca/home/default>

Participation in Women in Film Entertainment Forum

October 6-7, 2007

Los Angeles, California

In preparation for DRGFF 2007, festival representatives attended the 2007 Women in Film Entertainment Forum. The event featured panels on diverse topics such as: social issue filmmaking, digital distribution, pitching films, music supervision, personal financing, and comedy and gender. The forum exposed DRGFF organizers to current industry trends and presented an excellent opportunity for networking.

Related link:

www.wif.org/index.php



The TIFF features programs showcasing Canadian talent, prize-winning contemporary world cinema, and films by emerging directors.



Gender and social issues are recurrent topics in film today.



The forum exposed DRGFF organizers to current industry trends and presented an excellent opportunity for networking.



The Lives of Others.



The Past.



To Play and to Fight.

DRGFF 2007

November 13-18, 2007

Santo Domingo, Santiago, Puerto Plata, Higüey and Nagua, Dominican Republic

In response to the devastating effects of Tropical Storm Noel, those responsible for the Second Dominican Republic Global Film Festival decided to cancel the event, originally scheduled to take place November 13-18, in the cities of Santo Domingo, Santiago, Puerto Plata, Higüey and Nagua, out of respect for the country and the individuals and families that suffered.

Since the close of the first Dominican Republic Global Film Festival in 2006, the GFDD and FUNGLODE team and their consultants worked hard to prepare for the celebration of the second edition of the Festival. A year of intense preparation resulted in a program consisting of 29 high-quality dramatic and documentary films, 14 panel discussions on themes ranging from costume design to co-financing and co-production, a masters class on directing, professional gatherings and social events, and a guest list of more than 100 international actors and industry professionals.

Films that were to be screened:

Golden Door
Away from Her
After the Wedding
El Búfalo de la Noche (The Night Buffalo)
El Camino de San Diego (The Road to San Diego)
El Cantante
Mariposa Negra (Black Butterfly)
In the Valley of Elah
Tocar y Luchar (To Play and to Fight)
Bling: A Planet Rock
Si Le Vent Sou Leve les Sables (Sounds of Sand)
Cochochi
JC Chávez
Das Leben Der Anderen (The Lives of Others)
Oriundos de la Noche (Natives of the Night)
La Misma Luna (Under the Same Moon)
Manufactured Landscape
The Darjeeling Limited
The Man of Two Havanas
Padre Nuestro (Our Father)
Take the Bridge
Ghosts of Abu Ghraib
War/Dance
The Devil Came on Horseback
Cocalero
The Ballad of Ezequiel Hernández
El Pasado (The Past)
Shame
Ciudade dos Homens (City of Men)

Related link:

www.drglobalfilmfestival.org



The Night Buffalo.

Publications (Internet, Print & Multimedia)

2007



MARCH 1 DRGFF Magazine 2006 p. 94

APRIL 13 DRGFF Website Nominated for Oscars of the Internet p. 94

MAY 11 Launch of New GFDD Website p. 95

AUGUST 14 Launch of GMAI Website p. 95

AUGUST 24 Launch of Dominicanaonline.org's Virtual Library p. 96

MARCH 14 National Geographic Adventure Map Initiated p. 97

SEPTEMBER 28 Launch of InterDom Website in English and Spanish p. 97

MAY 11, 2007 Launch of New GFDD Website p. 98

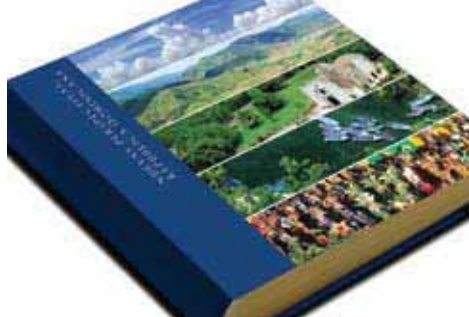
OCTOBER 31 Launch of DRGFF 2007 Website p. 98

OCTOBER 31, 2007 DRGFF Promotional Video Clip p. 99

NOVEMBER 2, 2007 Short Films Produced by GMAI p. 99

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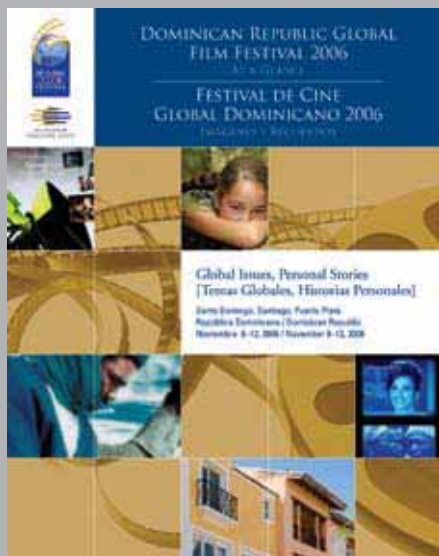
NOVEMBER 28 Publication of Book, *Dominican Republic: New Perspectives* p. 100



The development and employment of new modes of communication is fundamental to strengthening democratic institutions, improving national educational capacity, and modernizing infrastructure.

GFDD and FUNGLODE utilize information and communication technologies to provide Dominican nationals and the international community with up-to-date information on the Foundations' projects and programs as well as to disseminate contents of relevance and interest."

Bilingual English-Spanish initiatives are realized by an international, multi-disciplinary team of professionals. Through its publications and multimedia projects, the Foundation seeks to serve as a point of reference concerning democratization and sustainable development in the Dominican Republic and the Region.



DRGFF Magazine 2006

March 14, 2007

GFDD and FUNGLODE's magazine, *Dominican Republic Global Film Festival 2006: At -A-Glance*, artistically captures the excitement and dynamism of the events that took place during the 2007 Festival. The "photographic journal" provides readers with an up-close view of all festival happenings from the inaugural cocktail, red carpet opening ceremony and film screenings, to the panel discussions, the launching of the Global Media Arts Institute and the closing night event. It features festival highlights and contains over 190 pictures of international celebrities and audience members. The publication also includes a list of all the movies premiered and the names of the industry professionals that represented each film.

For more information on DRGFF, please see page 86.

DRGFF Website Nominated for Oscars of the Internet

April 13, 2007

The 2006 Dominican Global Film Festival website was nominated for the 11th Annual Webby Awards and the 11th Annual Webby People's Voice Awards, in the category of Events and Live Broadcasts. DRGFF represented one of five nominees in the category. Over 8,000 entries were considered for nominations in over 100 categories.

The Webby Awards, recognized by the New York Times as the "Oscars of the Internet," are international awards that acknowledge excellence in interactive media projects in the areas of: Website, Interactive Advertising, Online Film & Video and Mobile Websites. The Webby Awards are determined by the Academy of Digital Arts and Science. The Webby People's Voice Awards are determined by the online public. Previous award winners include: The New York Times, BBC News, CNN, Google and ESPN.

The Dominican Republic Global Film Festival website was an international effort, developed in 2006 by GFDD and FUNGLODE. It serves as an interactive means of disseminating DRGFF's mission to bring innovative dramatic and documentary films to the Dominican Republic that draw attention to poignant social issues.

Related links:

www.drglobalfilmfestival.org

www.webbyawards.com

www.webbyawards.com/webbys/current.php?season=11



Launch of GMAI Website

August 14, 2007

In response to the Global Media Arts Institute's (GMAI) rapidly expanding programs, GFDD and FUNGLODE created a bilingual English-Spanish Portal in order to better inform the public of the opportunities available through the Institute, and create a virtual community of professionals, aspiring talents and aficionados of the media arts.

The page's user friendly format allows visitors to acquire information regarding the courses, workshops, conferences and other activities offered by the Institute. The site features resumes of course instructors, reference materials, short films and commercials produced by GMAI students and photo galleries. Information concerning GMAI scholarship programs as well as internship opportunities through GFDD and FUNGLODE's premier internship program, InterDom, is also available on the site.

The section, "GMAI Community" is currently under development and will include chat rooms, blogs, documents and exchange opportunities for instructors and students, as well as an online training platform and programs.

For more information on GMAI, please see page 10.

Related link:

www.globalmediaarts.org

Launch of Dominicanaonline.org in English

August 24, 2007

In order to reach a broader audience, GFDD and FUNGLODE created the English equivalent of their Spanish Portal, Dominicanaonline.org.

For more information on Dominicanaonline.org, please see page 52.

Related link:

www.dominicanaonline.org





Launch of Dominicananonline.org's Virtual Library

August 24, 2007

With the objective of democratizing access to knowledge, GFDD and FUNGLODE created Dominicananonline.org's Virtual Library. The Library provides the global community access to a wide repertoire of Dominican literature in Spanish.

The initiative seeks to foster intellectual growth and promote appreciation of Dominican culture. In addition to providing equal access to library materials, the Virtual Library's digitalized volumes allow for numerous users to read the same book, article or document simultaneously. Restriction free access to all literary works makes the Virtual Library an invaluable teaching tool for classroom instructors.

Digital volumes may be read and printed at no cost to the reader. All documents form part of the public domain.

The site's user friendly "search" feature allows users to search for materials by subject (action, science fiction, drama, children's literature, social studies, education, geography, history, politics, religion, other) or by genre (biography, short story, essay, poetry, novel, report, document, other). The "advanced search" option allows users to also search for texts by title, ISBN, author, editor, year or content. The portal section "Recommendations" provides readers access to literary critiques of the Library's volumes. Additionally, the section "Reader Favorites" features a list of the texts most frequently read by portal users.

For more information on Dominicananonline.org, please see page 52.

Related link:

www.dominicanaonline.org



National Geographic Adventure Map

March 14, 2007,

PROJECT INITIATION

The informative, visually stunning map created by the National Geographic Society, with support from GFDD and FUNGLODE and the Presidency of the Dominican Republic, provides travelers with all the information needed to explore and discover the ecology, history and culture of the Dominican Republic. The masterfully compiled travel reference includes the locations of all highways, primary and secondary roads, airports, forests, swamps, mangrove forests, coral reefs and archeological sites in the Dominican Republic. It also features the locations of all national parks, marine sanctuaries, national monuments, national recreation areas, scientific reserves and wildlife refuges, as well as recommended spots for diving, fishing and surfing. Additionally, the map includes captivating photographs and provides adventurers with interesting facts concerning the country's ecology, culture, history and popular tourist destinations. It serves as an important point of reference for both national and international travelers.

Related link:

www.nationalgeographic.com

Launch of InterDom Website in English and Spanish

September 28, 2007

In order to reach a broader audience and better suite the needs of its user community, GFDD and FUNGLODE created the InterDom website in English and Spanish.

InterDom's bilingual site features updated news articles, listings of new internship position openings with Dominican organizations, in addition to intern testimonials. Moreover, the detailed and comprehensive webpage provides users with easy online access to program registration. Future projects include the creation of chat rooms and blogs that will allow for discussion between previous and future interns, as well as among the InterDom academic and professional community.

For more information on InterDom, please see page 28.

Related link:

www.interdominternships.org





Launch of New GFDD Website

May 11, 2007

In response to its program expansion and website visitor feedback, GFDD reengineered and revamped its website. While in line with its original design, the site underwent a digital facelift. It features a new user-friendly format, enhanced digital images and a number of new services.

Via the creation of GFDD's new online donation system, GFDD supporters can now easily provide financial support to a GFDD program of their choice, or the foundation in general, by using either a debit or credit card.

Through the site's new function, "Tell a Friend," GFDD supporters are able to send links of GFDD's projects and activities to family, friends and colleagues.

The site's new "E-card" function enables GFDD supporters to send virtual cards highlighting picturesque scenes of the Dominican Republic and images from GFDD's conferences and programs to those interested in the foundation's on-going initiatives.

Related link:

www.globalfoundationdd.org/gfdd



Launch of DRGFF 2007 Website

October 31, 2007

GFDD and FUNGLODE launched the 2007 Dominican Republic Global Film Festival (DRGFF) bilingual webpage in English and Spanish. The comprehensive and interactive webpage features up-to-date information concerning all aspects of the Festival, state-of-the-art digital images and promotional video clips. The site's user-friendly format provided visitors with breaking news stories, the festival program, detailing the times and locations of scheduled screenings, film synopsis, panel descriptions, photo galleries and related articles. The webpage also contains an entertaining online quiz that tests users' knowledge of film trivia. Additionally, the section "Press Accreditation" was designed to allow representatives from the press, television stations and magazine publications to register to receive timely updates on festival events. The section "Register" was designed to provide the general public with the latest reports.

Site sections that were being developed include postings on other related events scheduled to take place during DRGFF 2007, festival highlights and DRGFF TV, the Festival's internet broadcast channel, created to present live footage from the Opening Night Ceremony, panel discussions and other planned events.

The Second Dominican Republic Global Film Festival scheduled to take place November 13-18, 2007 was cancelled in response to the devastating consequences of Tropical Storm Noel.

Related link:

www.drglobalfilmfestival.org



DRGFF Promotional Video Clip

October 31, 2007

To promote the scheduled 2007 Dominican Republic Global Film Festival, GFDD and FUNGLODE's Global Media Arts Institute created a promotional video clip. The video clip includes footage from some of the stellar films premiered during the 2006 Festival, as well as glimpses from the 2006 red carpet opening ceremony.

For more information concerning DRGFF and GMAI, please see pages 82 and 8 respectively.

Related link:

www.youtube.com/watch?v=bHQ38YR36x4&url=http://www.drglobalfilmfestival.org/drgff2007/default_en.asp

Short Films Produced by GMAI for DRGFF 2007

November 2, 2007

GFDD and FUNGLODE's Global Media Arts Institute produced six short films to be presented prior to every film screening during the scheduled 2007 Dominican Republic Global Film Festival. The six films, *Atención (Attention)*, *Imaginación (Imagination)*, *Padres (Parents)*, *Reacciona (React)*, *Responde (Respond)*, and *Tolerancia (Tolerance)*, pertain to the Festival's theme, *Global Issues, Personal Stories*. The short films were designed to heighten awareness among audience members of current issues of universal relevance.

For more information concerning DRGFF and GMAI, please see pages 82 and 8 respectively.

Related link:

www.drglobalfilmfestival.org/drgff2007/shorts.asp

2008 Calendar

December 17, 2007

GFDD and FUNGLODE's 2008 bilingual English-Spanish calendar consists of aerial photographs that depict the ecology, history, culture and contemporary life of the Dominican Republic. It offers a new perspective of the country, void of common clichés and frequently seen images. In addition to awe-inspiring scenes, the calendar also includes the dates of national Dominican and US holidays.





Publication of Book, *Dominican Republic: New Perspectives*

November 28, 2007

The bilingual English-Spanish book, *Dominican Republic: New Perspectives*, is the result of arduous work carried out by an international team of photographers, writers, researchers, designers, translators and editors. The masterfully compiled 300 page edition, with close to 400 aerial images contributes to fulfilling GFDD and FUNGLODE's mission to promote the image of the Dominican Republic worldwide, disseminate information concerning the country, and strengthen appreciation and respect for its patrimony and values.

The publication is divided into 9 chapters – Reflections of Light, Coasts, Heights, Plains, History, City, People, Tourism and Work – that contain text describing various aspects of the country's history, culture, ecology and contemporary life.

GFDD and FUNGLODE hope that this book will serve as a point of reference for the national population and the numerous Dominicans that reside outside of the country, as well as for foreign visitors, the nation's commercial sector, students, art and photography aficionados and all those interested in developing a better understanding of the Dominican Republic.

The book can be acquired from FUNGLODE Headquarters in Santo Domingo and GFDD's offices in New York and Washington, DC. It may also be acquired online at:

www.dominicanaonline.org/shopping

Those interested in obtaining a copy of the publication may contact:

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