Brief History

Global Foundation for Democracy and Development (GFDD) is the sister organization in the United States of Fundación Global Democracia y Desarrollo (FUNGLODE), headquartered in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. FUNGLODE was created in 2000 by Dr. Leonel Fernández upon completing his first presidential mandate.

GFDD was incorporated under US law in 2002 to elevate and expand the international visibility and presence of FUNGLODE, and to strengthen collaboration and exchange with US-based institutions.

GFDD Headquarters are located in Washington, D.C. and its second office is in New York.
About GFDD

GFDD is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to the advancement of global collaboration and exchange relevant to Dominican professionals, general audiences and institutions in the homeland and abroad. The Foundation conducts research, enhances public understanding, designs public policies, devises strategies, and offers capacity-building in areas crucial to social, economic, democratic and cultural sustainable development.

GFDD promotes better understanding and appreciation of Dominican culture, values and heritage in the Dominican Republic, the United States and worldwide.

GFDD creates, facilitates, and implements wide-scope international human development projects, building on its own experience, expertise and strong national and international networks.

Mission

GFDD formulates and implements initiatives that contribute to sustainable social, democratic, economic and cultural development in the Dominican Republic and the Western Hemisphere.

Vision

GFDD brings new perspectives, innovative approaches and solutions to pressing issues and challenges of contemporary society in the Dominican Republic and the Americas. Through the construction of partnerships and networks, the Foundation builds bridges and implements development promoting initiatives on a global level.
Areas of Interest

- Environment
- Economic and Social Development
- Education
- Communications
- Health
- Culture
- International Relations
- Defense and Security
- Knowledge Management
- Information and Communications Technology
- Democracy
- Dominican Studies
- Globalization and Regional Integration

Activities

Global Foundation for Democracy and Development (GFDD) and the Fundación Global Democracia y Desarrollo (FUNGLODE) pursue their goals with the following activities:

- International Meetings
- Conferences
- Seminars
- Workshops
- Courses
- Professional Trainings
- Research Projects
- International Exchange Programs
- Publications
- Working Groups
- Development Projects and Programs
- Film Showcases and Festivals
- Discussion Forums
- Community Outreach
Projects and Programs

**Dominican Get-Togethers**
In the New York metropolitan area and other locations in the United States where Dominican community is present, GFDD creates opportunities for different audiences to gather around Dominican related issues, enjoy a Dominican movie, meet a Dominican prominent figure, and participate in discussions on topics of interest to the Dominican community in the U.S. and in the homeland.

www.dominicangettogethers.org

**Dominican Film Showcase**
The Showcase contributes to the dissemination of the best contemporary films produced in the Dominican Republic, by Dominican filmmakers, about Dominican topics. In its mission to promote the knowledge and appreciation of Dominican culture as well as to inspire Dominican filmmakers to reach out internationally, GFDD partners with institutions worldwide and creates opportunities for wide audiences to enjoy art, learn about Dominican culture and engage in conversations with filmmakers.

www.dominicanfilmshowcase.org

**Portal Dominicanaonline.org**
Dominicanaonline.org is the first comprehensive, detailed and interactive portal in both Spanish and English about the Dominican Republic that presents the country in all its facets to a national and international audience. It offers updated information on national life and at the same time compiles, in an objective and reliable manner, existing knowledge on the history, geography, education, culture, environment, tourism and society of the Dominican Republic. The Portal provides access to public services and practical information for the tourist, investor, and business professionals. Users are exposed to a wide array of materials, from written texts, audios, videos, photo galleries and directories, to interactive maps, electronic postcards, downloadable contents, and a virtual library.

www.dominicanaonline.org    Facebook: Dominicanaonline    Twitter: DominicanaOnlin
Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival (DREFF)

DREFF aims to raise awareness and deepen an understanding of environmental issues among Dominican and international audiences. At the same time, the Festival celebrates the beauty and diversity of the Dominican Republic’s natural heritage and offers insights into attitudes and actions that will contribute to its appreciation, conservation and sustainable use.

www.dreff.org

EcoHuertos

The EcoHuertos program seeks to support the creation of organic and sustainable vegetable gardens in schools and communities throughout the Dominican Republic. It also supports hands-on workshops in the field of natural sciences contained in the educational curriculum. The program generates awareness of the importance of a balanced diet, contributes to the food security and independence as well as the creation of small local business.

www.eco-huertos.org

ReCrearte

The ReCrearte program is a practical education initiative which offers women, youth and children workshops in art recycling. The program demonstrates how recycling waste into an art-form can empower individuals and communities alike. Through this program, GFDD seeks to engage Dominican communities into reformulating the way they think about trash, thereby promoting the three golden rules of proper waste management: Reduce, Reuse and Recycle.

www.r3crearte.org
**RDescubre Program**
It aims to provide undeserved students and communities with the opportunity to take part in educational nature expeditions all over the Dominican Republic as a way of seeing and appreciating the country’s beautiful landscapes and the wealth of its natural resources. By immersing these participants in natural environments, the expeditions connect them to nature through positive enduring experiences thereby motivating greater environmental stewardship. Participants are inspired to tell others about the experience, to act in their local communities, and to work together for a common cause.

www.rdescubre.org

**Globo Verde Dominicano Award**
It is a unique opportunity for filmmakers, students and professionals to get involved in a less-ventured area in the Dominican Republic -- the making of audiovisual material on issues related to the environment. Comprising of three categories: short film, public service announcement and photography, the competition provides opportunities for Dominicans to showcase their talent while generating awareness on environmental and sustainable development issues.

www.globoverdedominicano.org

**Year-Round Environmental Film Screenings**
As part of its mission to reach more communities, institutions and individuals around the country, the DR Environmental Film Festival (DREFF) organizes year-round film screenings that bring interesting and important films to new and remote communities. By showing a diverse selection of quality movies on critical environmental issues and organizing discussions and workshops, the year-round film screenings program seeks to foster and inspire dialogue, raise awareness and promote sustainable practices.

www.dominicanscreenings.org
New Perspectives: Dominican Republic
Comprised of 400 aerial images taken from a helicopter, the book is divided in 9 chapters ─ Reflections of Light, Coasts, Heights, Plains, History, City, People, Tourism, and Work ─ that contain text pertaining to various aspects of the country’s history, culture, environment, and contemporary life. It has become a point of reference for the national population, visitors, students, art and photography aficionados, the numerous Dominicans that reside outside the country and all those interested in a better understanding of the Dominican Republic.

www.newperspectivesdominicanrepublic.com

Research and Ideas Book Series
GFDD and FUNGLODE promote research and awareness in areas crucial to the democratic, social and economic sustainable development of the Dominican Republic and the world. The series includes research papers, articles, speeches and keynotes that discuss pressing contemporary issues from national, regional, and global points of view.

publications.globalfoundationdd.org

Dominican Republic Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment
This book is an A-Z guide on the environment and natural resources of the Dominican Republic. Its 463 pages contain 712 terms defined with the most up-to-date and comprehensive information, illustrated with 700 photos, 58 tables, 123 figures, and complemented by 17 scientific articles on environmental challenges and conservation methods. The Dictionary seeks to increase understanding of the dangers of environmental contamination, while promoting respect, care and concern for the natural environment, its protection and sustainable use.

publications.globalfoundationdd.org

GFDD Short Productions
Since 2012, GFDD started producing its own short documentary films, highlighting and raising awareness on important local environmental issues, as well as informing audiences of the different and unique cultural aspects of the Dominican Republic.

documentaries.globalfoundationdd.org
InteRDom
Since its establishment in 2005, InteRDom: Internships in the Dominican Republic, has become the leading internship and academic study program in the Dominican Republic. It promotes professional, academic and cultural exchange between students, universities, scholars, professionals, businesses and non-governmental organizations on a national and international scale. InteRDom works with many universities, and affiliated national, international, public and private institutions.

Fellows Program
Launched in 2009, the program responds to the Foundations’ desire to develop a community of scholars that contributes to the growing body of research on matters of international concern directly impacting the Dominican Republic. Fellows Program seeks to develop scholarship on issues at the forefront of the United Nations’ agenda in order to give voice to national and regional concern and to offer viable solutions to domestic and global challenges.

Global Dominican Academic Exchange Program (GDAE)
GDAE introduces Dominican students to the American style of liberal arts education and encourages dialogue between Dominican students and their Dominican-American counterparts attending these institutions. The program promotes partnership and entrepreneurship initiatives which foster innovation and stimulate Dominican economic development and international understanding.
**GFDD Global Roundtables**
In close association with the United Nations and affiliated institutions, GFDD organizes regular meetings with UN Ambassadors and other prominent figures of the international community in an effort to spread news, knowledge and understanding of other countries, global issues and work of different United Nations bodies to its audience in the Dominican Republic, the US and around the world.

**Collaboration with the United Nations**
GFDD and FUNGLODE are non-profit organizations with consultative status with the Economic Social Council (ECOSOC), the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the Department of Public Information (DPI), the Global Compact Office, the Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the World Summit of Information Society (WSIS). Both Foundations are dedicated to promoting and advancing issues at the forefront of the United Nations’ agenda. GFDD and FUNGLODE regularly participate in UN agencies’ discussions and meetings and contribute substantively to reports and position papers.

**Collaborative Projects with the United Nations Association of Dominican Republic (ANU-RD)**
UNA-DR is a non-profit, non-governmental organization dedicated to supporting the work of the United Nations. It coordinates educational and cultural initiatives to raise awareness of the United Nation’s work and encourages participation in UN-related activities. Since 2003, GFDD has been providing significant support to the organization of activities like the Model UN, Model OAS and Model Inter-American System, providing valuable learning and networking experiences for thousands of students and young people.
Training, Capacity Building and Knowledge Sharing

In collaboration with the most prominent thinkers, analysts, academics and practitioners, as well as the most reputable institutions around the world, GFDD and FUNGLODE regularly offer innovative and inspiring training programs, seminars, workshops, conferences and discussion forums to audiences in the Dominican Republic with the purpose of enhancing the local capacity, raising the level of the national discussion and promoting the implementation of creative solutions for the country’s sustainable development.

Collaboration with the Organization of American States (OAS)

GFDD and FUNGLODE are civil society organizations affiliated with the OAS and active supporters of the organization’s aims and objectives, of the Inter-American System and the Summit of the Americas program. Joint specific initiatives in the field of democracy, regional integration, trade, environment, education, culture, drug abuse prevention -- as well as internships and professional training opportunities -- are developed and implemented with different departments and divisions of the OAS.

Partners in Learning

Since 2004 GFDD and FUNGLODE have been the local partners with Microsoft for their international program Partners in Learning (PIL). During this period, more than 35,000 Dominican teachers have sharpened and honed their skills with training programs, workshops, discussions, seminars, and conferences. PIL’s goal is to motivate teachers to engage in a perpetual state of learning and continued education in the use of technology integrated into the curriculum.

Educational Innovation Forum

This regional Forum seeks to promote knowledge and transfer of technology in the educational area, as well as the development of projects that integrate the use of new technologies in education and professional training. It serves as a platform for the dissemination of good practices and success stories, their cross-pollination and the creation of regional programs.
Online *Dominican Republic Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment*

The online version of the book, *Dominican Republic Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment* offers an opportunity to access comprehensive and updated information on the Dominican environment and natural resources with the added advantages a digital platform provides. It ensures a dynamic, interactive tool, featuring both national and international ecological news, information on projects, environmental legislation and agreements, interactive maps, trivia and E-Cards.

www.environmentaldictionary.org

The Itinerant Photo Exhibit *New Perspectives: Dominican Republic*

Based on GFDD’s book *New Perspectives: Dominican Republic*, the initiative aims to present the little known facets of the country’s richness and diversity and shed new light on those that are better known to general audiences. The DR, its history and its people are revealed in a new and fresh way that expands and enriches perceptions and understandings for international audiences. At the same time, the initiative strengthens Dominicans’ pride and respect for their homeland. The exhibit travels around the world, hosted by universities, schools, public, private and international institutions.

www.newperspectivesdominicanrepublic.com

GFDD Annual Calendar

The annual English-Spanish GFDD calendar features stunning images which bear witness to the Dominican Republic’s richness and diversity, accompanied by interesting information on the country’s historic and natural heritage. At the same time, it showcases GFDD’s educational and cultural initiatives.

calendar.globalfoundationdd.org
Some of Collaborating Institutions Are:

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