

# Global Foundation for Democracy and Development

*Fostering Progress, Collaboration and Exchange*



GFDD

Year in Review

2011





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*Fostering Progress, Collaboration and Exchange*

Year in Review

**2011**

# **Global Foundation for Democracy and Development (GFDD)**

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## Prologue by Honorary President, Dr. Leonel Fernández



LEONEL FERNÁNDEZ  
HONORARY PRESIDENT

2011 has been a momentous year. GFDD has developed new institutional alliances with non-governmental organizations, private sector institutions and important bodies and departments of the United Nations and the Organization of American States, while strengthening previously established ties in the United States and around the world. In partnership with these world ranking institutions, the Foundation has implemented an impressive agenda of work in the areas of democratization, international affairs, education, environment, technology and innovation, media arts and culture.

The workshops, training sessions, seminar, conferences, get-togethers and academic exchange programs organized by the Foundation have provided critical opportunities for information exchange and professional growth. These initiatives have played an essential role in elevating the labor force capacity of the country by equipping the Dominican people with the knowledge and tools to actively contribute to the sustainable development of their country and the world.

More than ever before, the impact of the Foundation's programs has spanned beyond the territorial borders of the Dominican Republic to reach Dominican communities and like-minded supporters abroad. Through involvement in our diverse initiatives we hope that affiliation and collaboration with GFDD become part of the many ways that Dominicans living in the United States connect with the Dominican Republic. In 2011, GFDD celebrated programs in the New York Metropolitan Area, Washington DC, Southern New Jersey and Rhode Island. We look forward to expanding the geographical scope of our work in 2012.

Over the span of nine years, GFDD has established itself as a leader in knowledge sharing, education and professional development. We hope that our accomplishments will serve as an example for other institutions engaging in similar work and look forward to creating new partnerships and to realizing innovative programs and projects in the year ahead.

**Leonel Fernández**  
Honorary President





## Prologue by Executive Director, Natasha Despotovic



**NATASHA DESPOTOVIC**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It is with great satisfaction that we present to you the projects and programs accomplished by GFDD over the course of 2011. The Foundation has continued to expand its scope of work in innovative ways that have allowed it to enlarge its reach. This past year, GFDD has made a concerted effort to bring not only the expertise and best practices of the global community to the Dominican Republic, but also the best of the Dominican Republic to the international community and the Dominican Diaspora residing in the United States.

Through the coordination of panel presentations at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, GFDD has voiced Dominican responses to global challenges, and in keeping with the principals set forth by the Rio + 20 process, GFDD has worked to ensure for a greener tomorrow.

Environmental stewardship has been a key area of focus. GFDD's Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment masterfully unites information on the environment and natural resources of the Dominican Republic. The one-of-a-kind publication is sure to serve as an important reference for generations of high school and university students and environmentalists.

In 2011, GFDD harnessed the power of film to spread awareness of environmental concerns and to promote conservation and personal responsibility. In its first edition, the Foundation's Dominican Republic Film Festival (DREFF) premiered 17 documentary films in the cities of Santo Domingo and Santiago, garnering widespread interest and support.

The Foundation also renewed its commitment, yet again, to the advancement of the Dominican Republic's burgeoning film industry via the creation of new platforms. The Dominican Film Showcase in Washington, D.C. and the Dominican Get-Togethers in New York and New Jersey presented films about Dominican topics, celebrating the talent, stories and history of the Dominican Republic.

The online broadcast program, "The GFDD Global Roundtable", is another 2011 initiative created by GFDD. The monthly series, which features discussions with prominent figures on matters related to international sustainable development, has thus far spotlighted 7 countries.

What is more, GFDD's internship and academic exchange program, InterRDom, diversified its service offering to include the Expert in the Spanish Caribbean Program and the Service Learning Program. Through these new components, students can now engage in community development work or enroll in concentrated, short-term, scholastic courses that present an in-depth look at the history, culture, economy and politics of the country.

The important gains of the past year could not have been possible without the support of our donors, partners and the talent and dedication of the Foundation's hardworking staff.

We look forward to what 2012 has in store!

**Natasha Despotovic**  
Executive Director



Dominican Get-Togethers brought a slice of the Dominican Republic to communities in the New York Metropolitan Area and Southern New Jersey.



The online broadcast “The GFDD Global Roundtable” featured discussions with Ambassadors of the Permanent Missions to the United Nations of Moldova, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Benin, Kenya, Antigua and Barbuda and Bangladesh.



An enormous accomplishment, the Dominican Republic Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment includes an incredible 712 defined environmental terms, 58 table sets, 123 graphics, 19 scientific articles and over 900 photos.



The Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival, in its first edition, screened 17 documentary films, presented 11 thematic panel discussions, reached 10 high schools and centers of academic excellence, attracted 2,899 spectators, and featured participation by 18 international experts and 37 national experts.



The first-ever Dominican Film Showcase in Washington, D.C. spotlighted four films on Dominican topics, produced in the Dominican Republic.



InterDom offered three new exciting programs: the Expert in the Spanish Caribbean Program, the Service-Learning Program, and the Summer Institute for Educators.



GFDD released the second revised edition of its acclaimed publication New Perspectives: Dominican Republic. The new version has been registered under the International Standard Book Number (ISBN) system, making it accessible to wider audiences.



The travelling photo exhibit *New Perspectives: Dominican Republic* made stops in Samaná, Dominican Republic, New York City, Providence, Rhode Island and Santiago, Chile.



The Fellows Program officially launched the National Committee of Academic Advisors (CONAA).



In collaboration with the Organization of American States, GFDD coordinated the first Model of the Inter American System.



The keynote address during the sixth edition of Virtual Educa Caribe was delivered by Heitor Gurgulino de Souza, President of Virtual Educa Brazil and Assistant Secretary General of the International Association of Universities.



GFDD organized two high-level discussion forums at United Nations Headquarters in New York, one on gold mining, and the other on mainstreaming mental health services.



More than 700 Dominican and international middle school and high school students participated in the 2011 Dominican Republic Model United Nations in New York.



## About GFDD

[www.globalfoundationdd.org](http://www.globalfoundationdd.org)

GFDD is the sister organization in the US of FUNGLODE, headquartered in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. FUNGLODE was created in 2000 by Dr. Leonel Fernández upon completing his first presidential mandate. After resuming his duties as president of the Dominican Republic in August 2004, Dr. Fernández became honorary president of GFDD and FUNGLODE.

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, DC and its second office is in New York.

The Foundation 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, US and worldwide.

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

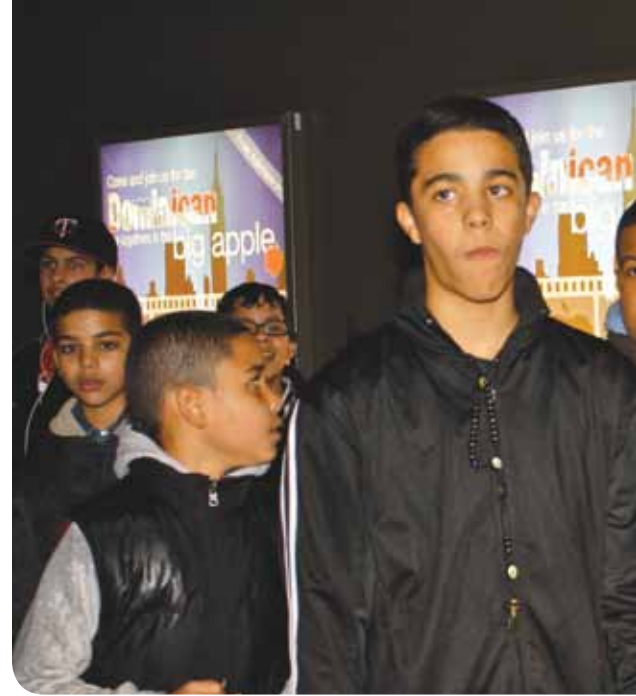
### Mission

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 and 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.







*Every three months, GFDD creates opportunities for residents of the New York Metropolitan Area to come together and enjoy a Dominican movie, meet a prominent Dominican figure, and engage in discussion on topics of importance to the Dominican community.*

A 2011 initiative, Dominican Get-Togethers forms part of GFDD's mission to promote appreciation of Dominican culture and to create opportunities for discussions on contemporary issues relevant to Dominican society in the homeland and abroad. The ongoing series has garnered the attention and support of the Dominican community of the New York Metro Area and all those interested in Dominican culture.

5 Dominican Get-Togethers:  
4 in New York City, 1 in Camden, New Jersey

14 guest speakers

Over 1,000 audience members

Dominican Get-Togethers celebrated a diversity of thematic topics directly related to the Dominican Republic. 2011 programs spotlighted Dominican baseball greats, organic cacao production and environmental stewardship, and the pioneering spirit of the Dominican people.

Through the power of film, audience members learned about the challenges of dictatorship, poverty, and later racism, overcome by Dominican baseball legends Felipe Alou, Juan Marichal, Manny Mota and Ozzie Virgil.

Later on in the year, cacao production took center stage and Get-Together attendees learned how organic, fair trade Dominican cacao directly benefits local farming communities in the country.

Concluding the year's program of events, the initiative reached an all-time high, chronicling the harrowing journey of the Dominican team to the top of Mount Everest.

## ***The Republic of Baseball: Dominican Giants of the American Game*** April 16, 2011

The first Get-Together presented the film *The Republic of Baseball: Dominican Giants of the American Game*, followed by a discussion session with special guests Daniel Manatt, Director of the film; Rob Ruck, Professor of History at the University of Pittsburg and author of the book that inspired the film *The Tropic of Baseball: Baseball in the Dominican Republic*; Ricardo Ramón, Deputy Minister of the Dominican Consulate in New York and Official of the Dominican Sports Ministry; and Tony Peña, Major League Catcher and current Coach of the New York Yankees. Guest speakers conveyed key challenges facing today's generation of aspiring players, and underscored the importance of achieving educational potential while pursuing careers in professional sports.



Natasha Despotovic introduces special guest Tony Peña



Daniel Manatt, Rob Ruck, Natasha Despotovic, Tony Peña



## Launch of the *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment* and Screening of Documentary *Chocolate Country* July 8, 2011

The evening started off with a presentation of GFDD's *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment* by GFDD Executive Director, Natasha Despotovic. It continued with the screening of the award-winning documentary *Chocolate Country* and a panel with Robin Blotnick, Director of the film; Maria Elena, protagonist; and Idelfonso Medina, Business Director of the Rizek Cacao Association of the Dominican Republic.



Robin Blotnick, Robin's partner, Maria Elena, Natasha Despotovic, Idelfonso Medina



Maria Montas, Alexandra Tabar, Emy Rodriguez, Natasha Despotovic, Semiramis de Miranda



## Dominican Get-Togethers Arrive to the Garden State October 14, 2011

In partnership with the Dominican American Chamber of Commerce of New Jersey, GFDD brought the Dominican Get-Togethers to the township of Camden, New Jersey. Entrepreneurs, community leaders, government officials, athletes and families convened under the auspices of promoting the diversity and richness of Dominican culture. The Get-Together featured the premier of the film *The Republic of Baseball: Dominican Giants of the American Game*, followed by a discussion session with baseball legend Luis Polonia, aspiring legend Ronald Polonia and writer Rob Ruck. Special presentations were also made by Miguel Amador, President and CEO, and Francis Reyes, Secretary of the Dominican American Chamber of Commerce of Southern New Jersey, and Dana Redd, Mayor of Camden, New Jersey.



## Panel Discussion on Dominican Expedition to Mount Everest

November 18, 2011

The initiative commemorated the first-ever Dominican expedition to the Himalayas. Representatives of the Dominican team, Karim Mella and Federico Alejandro Jovine Rijo shared their inspirational journey to reach the top of Mount Everest, describing the physically and psychologically grueling triumph to go where no Dominican had gone before.



Asunción Sanz, Federico Jovine, Karim Mella



### Lorilet Monegro, *Specialist in Speech Pathology*

"I would like to thank you personally for being accessible and, above all, for bringing to view the many wonderful things that Dominicans and Dominican heritage are all about. It is great to see these types of events being brought to the public and to take part in them. I would like to express to you my tremendous liking for this organization, its mission, and the quality of work it puts out."



### Cristina Cespín, *Community Activist*

"This evening's event more than surpassed our expectations. We look forward to more of the same."





*In 2011, GFDD officially launched the Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment in New York City, Santo Domingo and Santiago.*

**E**nvironmental stewardship has been at the forefront of GFDD's mission since its conception. Through the organization of conferences, workshops, film screenings and the creation of online and print publications, GFDD works to promote environmental protection, conservation and sustainability.

The Foundation's environmental initiatives heighten awareness of pressing issues and promote respect for biodiversity, natural resources and ecosystem services. These projects aspire to encourage citizens of the Dominican Republic and citizens of the world to adopt practices that will positively contribute to the sustainability and health of the natural environment.

Years of experience in the area have resulted in the development of an extensive network of prominent international environmentalists and national and local practitioners and educators, whose expertise contributes to the elevation of the content and scope of GFDD's diverse program of work.

## ***Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment:***

463 pages

712 terms

19 thematic areas

700 photographs

58 tables

123 graphics

200 photographs



In 2011, GFDD extended the reach of its message of environmental stewardship by publishing the print version of the *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment* and by creating the first-ever Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival (DREFF).

The *Dominican Republic Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment* represents the most complete source of information on the environment and national resources of the Dominican Republic. It includes an incredible 712 defined environmental terms, 58 table sets, 123 graphics, 19 scientific articles and over 900 photos.

Additionally in 2011, GFDD partnered with Fundación Vida Azul and The Ocean Conservancy to assess the results of the International Coastal Clean-up efforts carried out in the Dominican Republic during the year 2010. An analysis of the marine debris problem in the Dominican Republic was presented. The objective of the initiative is to provide a roadmap for implementing policies aimed at conservation and restoration of coastal resources.

(See page 23 for more on DREFF).



## GFDD Hosts Presentation of 2010 International Coastal Cleanup Report February 24, 2011

Marine debris is carried by ocean currents and winds all around the globe. In 2010, over 18,600 Dominican volunteers collected over 164,750 pounds of trash.



Dominican coastal clean-up team



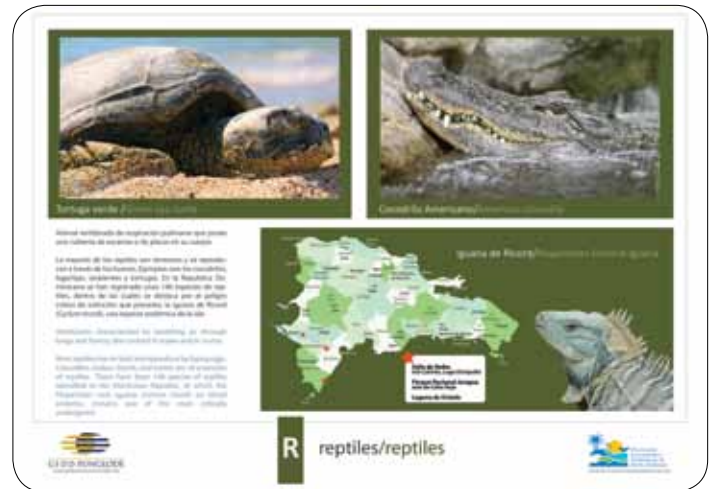
### Claudia S. de Windt,

*Senior Legal Specialist, Department of Sustainable Development of the OAS*

"GFDD's contributions to the environmental protection of the Dominican Republic are invaluable. The institution leaves a great legacy for the country with its *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment* and its coastal marine programs."

## Launch of *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment* in NYC July 8, 2011

The *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment* compiles information on diverse areas, such as terrestrial and aquatic habitats, coastal zones, natural resources, environmental legislation, biodiversity, urbanization, sustainable development and watershed systems.



## Launch of *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment* in Santo Domingo September 9, 2011

The publication was launched in Santo Domingo during the first-ever Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival (DREFF).

The Honorary President of GFDD, Dr. Leonel Fernández, and the Minister of Environment, Ernesto Reyna, were present during the launch, as were many other important national and international leaders in environmental conservation.

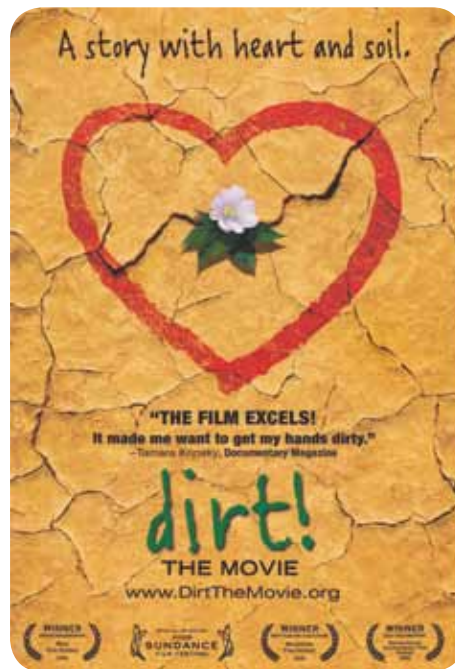


Raffle during the launch of the Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment with the presence of Dr. Sylvia Earl.

## Screening of *Dirt! The Movie* at FUNGLODE Headquarters

September 16, 2011

As part of the follow-up to the successful first edition of the Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival, GFDD presented a special screening of *Dirt! The Movie* at FUNGLODE Headquarters in Santo Domingo. The screening was the first of a monthly series dedicated to matters related to the environment.



## Launch of *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment* in Santiago

October 26, 2011

GFDD presented the *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment* at a book launch event in Santiago before environmentalists and students from various fields interested in the environmental conservation and resource management.



Domingo Rodríguez, Omar Ramírez, Eneildo Peña

## Presentation of *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment* at V Dominican Book Fair in NYC

October 7, 2011

GFDD participated in the fifth edition of the Dominican Book Fair, celebrated at Boricua College in Manhattan, sponsored by the Dominican Commissioner of Culture in the United States, the General Consulate of the Dominican Republic in New York and the Ministry of Culture of the Dominican Republic. During the popular annual event, GFDD Environmental Program Manager, Emy Rodríguez, presented GFDD's *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment*, which was received with great enthusiasm by book fair attendees.



Book fair attendees obtain their own copies of the one-of-a-kind encyclopedia





*The first-ever DREFF encouraged participants to pave a path for a greener tomorrow.*



and diversity of the country's natural heritage. Through screening a diverse selection of high-quality films on matters of environmental concern, and organizing panel discussions with environmental experts, filmmakers and other stakeholders, the Festival seeks to foster dialogue and to inspire Dominican audiences to adopt practices that will ensure for the health and environmental sustainability of the country.

By bringing together youth, scholars, experts, activists, filmmakers, representatives of public, private and nongovernmental institutions and the general public, the Festival promotes programs and projects that contribute to environmental protection, conservation and sustainability.

2,900 spectators

56 national specialists

19 international guests

17 national and international films

11 panel discussions

11 participating schools

11 collaborating institutions

4 venues

3 community outreach projects

## First Edition of the DR Environmental Film Festival (DREFF)

September 8-11, 2011

The first edition of DREFF was an enormous success, attracting over 2,900 spectators and participants. In addition to screening 19 acclaimed documentaries and 4 shorts related to diverse topics such as biodiversity, sustainable production and consumption, water, climate change, land degradation, conservation of fisheries and urbanization. DREFF also featured 11 discussion panels and 3 community outreach activities. Screenings and panel discussions took place at FUNGLODE, Universidad Autonoma de Santo Domingo (UASD), Centro Naricisco González and Centro León.

Panels centered on varied topics including: (un)sustainable agriculture, climate change, biodiversity, marine mammals, education and nature, sustainable development, scientific exploration, plastic, and environmental documentary filmmaking.

The 2011 Festival also offered opportunities to participate in hands-on activities designed to promote sustainability and environmental stewardship. Students and local community members participated in the Montesinos Beach Clean-up. Students from the Nuestra Señora de la Altagracia School learned first-hand how to create a community garden, and later on in the week, students from the Centro de Excelencia República de Colombia School constructed a sea monster from the plastic garbage collected during the beach clean-up.

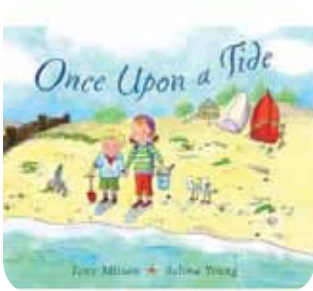
GFDD is pleased to announce that the second edition of DREFF will take place September 6-9, 2012.

Documentary films: *Bag It!*, *Cuba: The Accidental Eden*, *Vanishing of the Bees*, *Dirt! The Movie*, *Where the Whales Sing*, *The Polar Explorer*, *Journey to Planet Earth: Plan B: Mobilizing to Save the Planet*, *The Economics of Happiness*, *Wild Oceans*, *Ocean Voyagers*, *Parque Nacional de Este: Refugio de la naturaleza y cuna de la cultura*, *The Last Lions*, *Play Again*





Shorts: *Once Upon a Tide*, *The Story of Stuff*, *Luchando por la vida: Una historia del mar*, *Plastic Bag*



International guests: Amy Blount Lay, Surfrider Foundation; Andrew Stevenson, Where the Whales Sing; Charlotte Vick, Google Ocean; Darcie Fitzpatrick, Surfrider Foundation; David Guggenheim, Cuba: The Accidental Eden; Deborah Kinder, Blue Ocean Film Festival; Francene Blythe, National Geographic; George Langworthy, Vanishing of the Bees; Greg LeMieux, Play Again; Lisa Kaas Boyle, Plastic Pollution Coalition; Jennifer Austin Foulkes, Google Ocean; Mark Terry, The Polar Explorer; Roseann Lord, Make Gardens not War; Suzan Beraza, Bag It!; Maryam Henein, Vanishing of the Bees; Meg Merrill, Play Again; Peter O'Brien, DC Environmental Film Festival; Dr. Sylvia Alice Earle, Oceanographer/NGS



Festival Director, Natasha Despotovic, with Film Festival guests



**Sylvia Earle,**  
*World Recognized Oceanographer and Founder of the Sylvia Earle Alliance*

"I think the DR Environmental Film Festival is a very positive initiative. Using all means that are available to communicate knowledge, and film is very powerful, whether you are telling a story that conveys truth or a documentary. What it fosters is knowing; and with knowing there is caring. If you don't know, you can't care."



**Deborah L. Kinder,**  
*CEO/Executive Director, BLUE Ocean Film Festival & Conservation Summit*

"I think it was a great success and has laid the foundation for a very empowering event. Your dedication to the environment, to education and to the common good is to be commended."

National guests: Adolfo López Belando, Director, Caribbean Alliance for Sustainable Tourism; Alan Fernández, Esperanza Verde; Cesáreo Guillermo, PADF; Cristiana Rose, Ministry of the Environment; Constantino Pérez Minaya, Beekeeper; Ernesto Reyna, Minister of the Environment; Eleuterio Martínez, Advisor on Environment to the President; Francisco X. Geradez, Center for Marine Biology Research, Universidad Autonoma de Santo Domingo; Giberto Avalo, Fundación Rescate y Vida La Caleta; Ginny Heinsen, Project Coordinator, Center for Development of Agriculture and Forestry (CEDAF); Hector Ramírez, Manager, Marine Mammals Project, CIBIMA; Idelisa Bonnelly, President, FUNDEMAR; Ingrid Fernández, Executive, Santiago Corporation for Hygiene (CASA); José Miguel Martínez, Director, Sanitation, National District Council; Phillip Lehman, Aquavista Films; Pedro Luís Castellanos, Red Apícola, CEDAF; Peter Sánchez, Program Coordinator, Samaná Whales Observation Program; Roberto Llerena, Director, Nautilus Project; Rubén E. Torres, President, Reef Check Dominican Republic; Santiago Rivas, Red Apícola, CEDAF; Sésar Rodríguez, Consorcio Ambiental Dominicano; Yolanda León, INTEC/ Grupo Jaragua; Ydalia Acevedo Monegro, Vice Minister of Coastal and Marine Resources, Ministry of the Environment



*Idelisa Bonnelly, Ginny Heinsen, Sylvia Earl*



*Oswaldo Vasquez, Idelisa Bonnelly*



*Roberto Llerena, Adolfo López Belando*



*Marcelo Ferder, José Miguel Martínez, Ginny Heinsen*



*Peter O'Brien, Josefina Pimental, Francene Blythe, Deborah Kinder, Oswaldo Vásquez, Charlotte Vick, Idelisa Bonnelly, Jennifer Austin, Sylvia Earle, Dr. Leonel Fernández, Ernesto Reyna, Omar Ramirez, Natasha Despotovic, David Guggenheim*



*On a monthly basis, GFDD spotlights development success stories from around the globe.*

The GFDD Global Roundtable is a new monthly series formulated this year and produced by GFDD in partnership with South-South News. The objective of the program is to promote dialogue on issues of international concern. Each broadcast features discussion with a prominent international figure. The series seeks to inform GFDD and South-South News viewership in the United States, the Dominican Republic and around the world of innovative

initiatives pertaining to the Millennium Development Goals and other sustainable development targets realized in each of the countries spot-lighted.

“The Global Roundtable” is yet another channel by which GFDD contributes to enhancing visibility and understanding of the work of the United Nations System.

2011 GFDD Global Roundtables featured distinguished Ambassadors from:

Moldova

Tajikistan

Tunisia

Benin

Kenya

Antigua and Barbuda

Bangladesh

The broadcast series also featured questions from GFDD’s online community.



In 2011, GFDD hosted Global Roundtables with Ambassadors of the Permanent Missions to the United Nations of Moldova, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Benin, Kenya, Antigua and Barbuda and Bangladesh. During these informative interviews, a wide range of topics were discussed, from

achievement of the Millennium Development Goals to democratization, information and communications technology, education, public health, micro-credit, youth initiatives, climate change, environmental management and emerging markets.

## Interview with H.E. Alexandru Cujiba of Moldova

*February 1, 2011*

Moldova's commitment to modernize its economy has resulted in a successful transition in 1991 from an authoritarian government with a state-controlled market to a democracy with a free-market economy. Moldova's high level of education gives it a competitive advantage. The country boasts a 100% literacy rate – a legacy from the former Soviet Union. Ambassador Cujiba confidently asserted that Moldova is on track to meet the Millennium Development Goal 2: achievement of universal education by 2015.



*Ambassador Cujiba presents Moldova's recent development achievements*

## Interview with H.E. Sirodjidin Aslov of Tajikistan

*February 28, 2011*

Ambassador Aslov underlined the importance of proper water management for Tajikistan. Tajikistan's two main rivers flow into the Aral Sea, which supplies 60% of the water used by Tajikistan and its Central Asian neighbors. The Ambassador spoke about the challenges related to managing shared water resources among five countries. Tajikistan is a member of the Inner State Water Coordination Commission, which is responsible for the allocation of water to the five member states. The Permanent Mission of Tajikistan played an active role in the 2011 UN World Water Day, which was celebrated March 22.



*Ambassador Aslov welcomed the opportunity to discuss Tajikistan's commitment to water management*



*Ambassador Aslov with GFDD Staff*



*Ambassador Lorenzo commends Tajikistan for its leadership in water management*

## Interview with H.E. Ghazi Jomaa of Tunisia

March 21, 2011

Ambassador Jomaa discussed steps taken by the Government of Tunisia to establish **security** and strengthen **democracy**, following the departure of long-standing President Ben Ali by popular force in January. He spoke enthusiastically of the democratic elections to be held on July 24 to choose a constituent assembly responsible for rewriting the constitution and charting the country's transition into a new era.



*Ambassador Jomaa conveys his optimism regarding Tunisia's democratic transition*



*Ambassador Jomaa with GFDD Staff*

## Interview with H.E. Jean-Francis R. Zinsou of Benin

April 16, 2011

GFDD's fourth Global Roundtable was celebrated during the framework of the fifth annual New York Dominican Model United Nations. Ambassador Zinsou discussed initiatives being taken by the government of President Boni Yayi to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. These actions include free and compulsory **primary education**, free maternal and child **health care services**, and micro-credit programs to aid in poverty eradication.

In his capacity as Co-facilitator of the Conference on Youth, Ambassador Zinsou took questions from young people participating in the Model. The Ambassador commented that a major

achievement of the UN has been placing **youth-related issues** at the forefront of the international development agenda.



*Ambassador Zinsou talks with Dominican students concerning youth issues impacting international development*



*Students from Argentina participate in this special GFDD Global Roundtable at the UN*



*Alan Fernández, Abigail Espinal, Ambassador Francis Lorenzo, Natasha Despotovic, Ambassador Jean-Francis R. Zinsou*



## Interview with H.E. Josephine Ojiambo of Kenya

June 8, 2011

Kenya has launched a long-term plan to transform the lives of its citizens through national efforts focusing on **democratization**, **youth education** and **economic diversification**. Recently in 2003, the Government of Kenya universalized access to free primary education, resulting in an approximately 70% increase in primary school enrollment. Access to free secondary education has also been enacted. According to Ambassador Josephine Ojiambo, the government is taking steps to provide free and universal access to university-level education as well.



*Ambassador Ojiambo highlights progress made as it relates to universalizing access to free education*

## Interview with H.E. John W. Ashe of Antigua and Barbuda

July 29, 2011

Amongst other topics, Ambassador John W. Ashe emphasized work being done by the Government of Antigua and Barbuda to bridge the **digital divide**. The government is actively working to develop partnerships with Dell, Microsoft and Intel in an effort to establish a national laptop initiative that would distribute up to 25,000 laptops to children at the elementary, primary, secondary and tertiary levels by the year 2012.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Information, Broadcasting, Telecommunications, Science and Technology-led program, "Technology for Education 20/20," is working to directly empower over 1600 primary and secondary school teachers, both in public and private schools.



*Ambassador Ashe underscored work undertaken by the government to increase access to technology and technological training*

## Interview with H.E. A. K. Abdul Momen of Bangladesh

August 17, 2011

Bangladesh has made strides in meeting the Millennium Development Goal targets. Poverty levels have been reduced from 59% to 32%, and primary school enrollment has reached 99%, the second highest enrollment rate in Southern Asia.

Ambassador Momen highlighted other efforts the government is taking in relation to: ensuring **food security** through increasing agricultural subsidies; providing **micro-credit** to entrepreneurs; and expanding **education** and **literacy** programs.



*Ambassador Momen highlights Bangladesh's impressive achievements in the area of education and literacy*

# Dominican Film Showcase

[www.dominicanfilmshowcase.org](http://www.dominicanfilmshowcase.org)



*Through the Dominican Film Showcase, GFDD promotes the film industry of the Dominican Republic.*

In an effort to endorse the burgeoning film industry of the Dominican Republic, GFDD is presenting Dominican Film Showcases in different cities in the United States, with the intention of sharing and celebrating the stories, history and talent of the Dominican Republic through spotlighting a sample of the best films produced in the Dominican Republic, by Dominican filmmakers on Dominican topics.

The objectives of the showcase are to: promote the film culture of the Dominican Republic and bring its unique brand of cinema to a wider audience; utilize the seventh art as a platform to heighten social awareness; increase understanding internationally of issues of historic and cultural importance to the Dominican Republic; and encourage advancement and financing for film and multimedia productions in the Dominican Republic.



**Algenis Perez Soto,**  
*Protagonist, Sugar*

"I was very happy to receive the invitation, and was happier still to see all the love and support shown by people at the screening of *Sugar*."

4 days

4 films spotlighting Dominican talent and Dominican topics

## DC Showcase

July 20-22, 2011

DC Showcase: Coordinated with AMA and the Embassy of the Dominican Republic to the White House and to the OAS, premiered the following films: *Sugar*, *Love Child*, *Jean Gentil* and *The Republic of Baseball*.

***Sugar*:** *Sugar* follows Miguel “Sugar” Santos, a Dominican baseball player struggling to make it to the big leagues and pull his family out of poverty. Set against the disparate backdrops of the Dominican Republic, rural Iowa, and New York City, *Sugar* explores a fascinating side of America’s pastime as well as what it embodies to people outside the country.

***Love Child*:** After her mother dies in an accident, 18 year old María decides to look for the father she has never met. She finds her father Joaquín living in a dark old house located in the middle of an abandoned banana plantation, which the locals claim to be haunted by spirits. He lives there alone, with an enigmatic Haitian called Montifá as his only company.

***Jean Gentil*:** The Haitian professor Jean Remy Genty is always on the move, looking for work. A graceful figure stands out from the crowd, a model Christian, with his books under his arm. Although a job on a building site is an option for the unemployed Haitian, Jean does not feel up to it, feeling old and weak. He is looking for something better suited for the intellectual he considers himself to be.

***The Republic of Baseball: The Dominican Giants of the American Game*** is the story of Felipe Rojas Alou, Juan Marichal, Manny Mota, Ozzie Virgil, Mateo Alou and Jesus Alou who paved the way for the Dominicans that dominate Major League Baseball today.



Audience members enjoy film *Jean Gentil*



H.E. Roberto & Ms. Roberto Saladin, Angel Garrido show support for Dominican filmmaker Leticia Tonos



Algenis Pérez Soto, lead actor of *Sugar*, answers audience questions



Audience enjoying film screening at the Museum of the Americas



Leticia Tonos, Director of *La Hija Natural*, with Dominican Embassy staff



## Photo Exhibit – New Perspectives: Dominican Republic

[www.newperspectivesdominicanrepublic.com](http://www.newperspectivesdominicanrepublic.com)



*In 2011, the exhibit travelled to four cities in the Americas.*

The exhibit is a traveling photography display of the lesser known facets of the Dominican Republic. The photographs that make up the exhibit come from the richly-illustrated publication of the same name published in 2007. The book was produced by an international interdisciplinary team led by Natasha Despotovic, Project Director and Editor-in-Chief, and features photography by Franco-Dominican photographer Anne Casalé.

The exhibition showcases aerial images of the provinces of Samaná, La Altagracia, Santiago Rodríguez, Santo Domingo, Pedernales, Barahona, Monte Cristi, Valverde, Puerto Plata, Santiago, Espaillat, Salcedo, Mará Trinidad Sánchez, Duarte, Hato Mayor, El Seibo, La

Romana, San Pedro de Macoris, Monte Plata, San Cristobal, San José, Azua, La Vega, San José de Ocoa, Sánchez Ramírez, Peravia, Monseñor Nouel, Independencia, Bahoruco, Elías Piña and Dajabón.

The photos represent nine conceptual categories – reflections of light, coasts, heights, plains, history, city, people, tourism and work – and commemorate the country's achievements in the areas of economic, social, environmental and democratic progress.

The exhibition has been shown with great success both nationally and abroad, in Europe and the United States.

Through this initiative, GFDD seeks to expand and enrich understanding of the Dominican Republic.

4 cities

60 images

All provinces of the Dominican Republic

Launch of revised, second edition of  
***New Perspectives: Dominican Republic***,  
registered under ISBN system

# 2011

## Samaná

January 28, 2011

The photography exhibit opened at the Malecón, Bahía de Samaná. The inaugural reception was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Tourism and the general public.

*Residents of Samaná enjoyed aerial images of all 31 provinces of the Dominican Republic*



## University of Rhode Island

September 15 – October 31, 2011

58 aerial images of the Dominican Republic were on display at the University of Rhode Island Providence's Feinstein Campus Gallery, accessible to both students and the general public. The Exhibit formed part of Gallery Night Providence, a city-wide initiative that celebrates Providence's dynamic art scene.

*Kerry Stefancyk, Margaret Hayward, Anne Casalé, Steven Pennell, Yamile Eusebio*



*Margaret Hayward discusses the mission of the project with exhibit attendee*



*GFDD staff greets Gallery Night Providence public*



### Steven Pennell,

*Coordinator of Arts and Culture, URI Feinstein Providence Campus*

"This exhibit has such breadth in terms of variety of landscape – from city to rural towns and villages ... it's really exciting."

## City College of New York

September 13 – October 31, 2011

Hundreds gathered at the inauguration of the exhibit at the City College of New York Amsterdam Plaza. Distinguished guests included Maximo Corcino, Dominican Consul General in New York; Bill Perkins, State Senator; Ramona Hernández, Director of the CUNY Dominican Studies Institute and Professor of Sociology at The City College of New York; Anthony Stevens-Acevedo, Assistant Director of the CUNY Dominican Studies Institute; leaders of the NY Dominican Community, students and the general public. The exhibit was

made possible thanks to collaboration with the City College of New York Libraries and the CUNY Center for Dominican Studies Institute.



Dr. Leonel Fernández, Dr. Ramona Hernández



Máximo Corcino, Ramona Hernández, Lisa Staiano-Coico, Natasha Despotovic



Guests admire publication *New Perspectives: Dominican Republic*



Anne Casalé, Braudín Eusebio, Yamile Eusebio, Sarah Aponte, Natasha Despotovic, Margaret Hayward, Semiramís de Miranda, Mandy Sciacchitano, María Montas

## Publication of Second, Revised Edition of *New Perspectives: Dominican Republic*

September 1, 2011

Due to popular demand, GFDD published in 2011 a second revised edition of its acclaimed publication *New Perspectives: Dominican Republic*. The 275 page masterful work aptly captures the geography, environment, culture, history, economy and people of the Dominican Republic. In response to anticipated sales volume, GFDD has printed 4,000 copies of the bilingual English-Spanish book. The 2011 version has been registered under the International Standard Book Number (ISBN) system, making it accessible to wider audiences.





## Santiago, Chile

October 25, 2011

The photo exhibit made its first trip to South America, debuting in the picturesque Plaza de la Constitución, just steps from Chile's Presidential Palace.



Visitors marveled at the beauty of the island nation



Passers-by were amazed by the country's geographic vastness and biodiversity



Ambassador Maríñez, Asunción Sanz and Anne Casalé, along with Ministry of Foreign Affairs representative and local employees, make the official opening of the photo exhibit.



Students from the public school República Dominicana gave a Dominican note with their traditional songs and dances at the opening.

### José Ramirez,

Actor, Dominican Noh

"I got a little teary looking at some of the pictures because they brought back so many memories of growing up. [It] really brought me back there."

### Valencio Small,

Photographer

"The perspective from the air is so different from being on the ground ... Amazing."



*Virtual Educa 2011 called attention to the critical value of teacher training and quality assurance in the development of distance education.*

**V**irtual Educa Caribe (VEC) is the Regional Chapter of the Ibero-American Virtual Educa, an initiative that is affiliated with the Ibero-American Summit of Heads of State and Government.

VEC is an annual forum that promotes knowledge transfer and the development of projects that integrate the use of new technologies in higher education and professional training. The forum assembles experts in education and technology, as well as community, non-profit and private sector representatives from Ibero-America to exchange information and lessons learned in human capacity building in order to foster

the exchange of best practices and proven results concerning improvements in labor force advancement.

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

Both forums seek to foster discussion and promote the use of new technology in professional development and training, so as to advance sustainable community development and levels of national competitiveness in the region.

15 international guests

25 national guests

300 participants

19 institutional collaborators

## Virtual Educa Caribe 2011

*March 9-11, 2011*

Investment in scientific research and technology; the need to keep teachers current on the latest technological teaching tools; and the relation between improving salaries for teachers and improving quality assurance were key topics of discussion during the 2011 Conference of Virtual Educa Caribe.



*Paul Goris, Darwin Muñoz, Dr. Leonel Fernández, Luis Joyanes*

## Participation in Meetings of Virtual Educa Mexico

*March 14-15, 2011*

GFDD co-sponsored the meeting “Common Space for Long Distance Higher Education,” which forms part of the Multilateral Initiative on Educ@tion for Human Development (IMEDH), a project of GFDD, the Organization of American States (OAS), Virtual Educa, Latin American Parliament (PARLATINO), Union of Universities of Latin America and the Caribbean (ULAU). The meeting took place at the Office of Virtual Educa Mexico, located within the National School of Mathematics (CONAMET)



*Patricio López del Puerto, José María Antón, Nelly Gochicoa, Carlos Villanueva, José Luis López Piña, Yamile Eusebio, Rómulo Sanchez, Fernando Arrutia*



### **Heitor Gurgulino de Souza,**

*President of Virtual Educa Brazil and Assistant Secretary General of the International Association of Universities*

**“Innovation, teacher training and quality assurances are the challenges facing education in the twenty-first century.”**



## Participation in Virtual Educa 2011 in Mexico

June 20-24, 2011

GFDD participated in Virtual Educa 2011, hosted by the Tecnológico de Monterrey in Monterrey, Mexico, "Educational Innovation for Development without Frontiers." Stakeholders exchanged information and best practices in the areas of multilateral and public sector initiatives; universities; continuing education; knowledge management tools; and digital integration tools.

*Participants: Henry Lau Cortes, University of Panama; Arturo Santana, Director General of CONAMAT; Nelly Gochicoa, Senior Specialist for Latin American Cooperation, DDHEC, OAS*



*Dominican Delegation in Mexico City*



**José María Antón,**

*Secretary General of Virtual Educa*

"The biggest challenge of the global education sector is to educate twenty-first century children with teachers of the twentieth century."

**Mite Nishio,**  
*Orange Lab*

"Teachers cannot be left behind. They must be proficient in these technological tools, as they must be the main leaders in the knowledge economy."



*Mateo Aquino Febrillet, Ligia Amada Melo, Juan Lora, Luis Sánchez Noble*



*Arturo Santana, Enrique Laos, Dr. Leonel Fernández*



*José Armando Tavárez, Marbellis Castillo, Aida Consuelo Hernández, Josefina Pimentel, Gisele Félix, Luis Sánchez Noble*



*Miguel Escala, Yamile Eusebio*







*InterDom works with students, professors and university departments to customize internship, academic and service-learning opportunities in the Dominican Republic.*

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

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

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

To date, InterDom has worked with approximately 116 students from 39 universities, and has developed a database of over 500 affiliated national and international public and private institutions and multilateral organizations.



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

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

## Since 2005

116 students

39 universities

500 collaborating public, private and nonprofit institutions

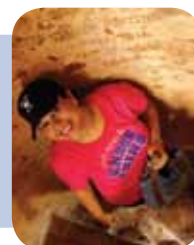
8 official programs: *Academic Semester, Caribbean Summer, Professional Semester, Program for Graduate and Gap-Year Students, Professional Year, Service Learning Program, Specialist in the Spanish Caribbean, Expert in the Spanish Caribbean*

4 program publications: *InterDom Press, Pasantes Globales, InterDom Guide to Internships, E-Flyers*

### **Professor Sydney Valerio,**

*Fordham University, Summer Institute for Educators 2011*

"I thank you for the time and effort it took to put together a great itinerary. I thank you for your time and truly believe in what your organization is doing and would love to see us collaborate and work on expanding our reach of talents."



### **Ryan Cowen,**

*University of Rhode Island, Expert in Spanish Caribbean*

"The InterDom experience completely exceeded my expectations. The cultural knowledge and experiences I gained here far surpassed any class I've ever taken. I've made lifelong friends and countless memories that I will hold on to for the rest of my life."



### **Pedro José Castillo Rodríguez,**

*Human Resource Manager, Banco Nacional de Fomento de la Vivienda y la Producción (BNV)*

"InterDom has given us the opportunity to organize an ongoing [internship] program, so we continue to work with InterDom to give the same opportunities to other interns that will come in the future."

2011 was a year full of exciting opportunities. For the first time, **InterDom offered three new programs: the Expert in the Spanish Caribbean Program, the Service-Learning Program, and the Summer Institute for Educators.**

InterDom partnered with the **University of Rhode Island** to offer the **Expert in the Spanish Caribbean Program**, providing URI students opportunities for in-depth exposure to the history, culture, economy and politics of the Dominican Republic through specialized course work with InterDom's partner university UNIBE, workshops with local experts, and excursions to sites of national importance.

Likewise, the **Service-Learning Program**, a joint initiative between InterDom and the **City College of New York**, was specially tailored by InterDom to respond to the needs of City College and its students. The program combined community service with bi-weekly seminars on Caribbean culture and identity. The service-learning component of the experience was realized in collaboration with the **non-profit organization Yspaniola**, an institution dedicated to empowering Dominican and Haitian residents of batey communities in the north-central part of the country. Through this multi-pronged approach to learning, students were able to have an intense study abroad experience which allowed them to cultivate their capacities and contribute to their career development. Students engaged in community-building activities,

English and technology instruction, leadership workshops and other initiatives.

In 2011, InterDom also combined forces with Programs in International Education Resources, the Council on Latin and American & Iberian Studies at **Yale**, the Mac Millian Center, the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies at **New York University** and the **U.S. Department of Education** to organize the in-country, Dominican component of the **Summer Institute for Educators**. The Summer Institute is a series of intensive professional development sessions that serve as a continuing training tool for in-service and pre-service K-12 and university-level teachers. The 2011 Summer Institute explored the theme "Colonial Latin America." Upon completing a week-long session at Yale University, participants had the opportunity to partake in a week-long field study in the Dominican Republic coordinated by InterDom. During the field study, educators participated in lectures and workshops, visited with local communities, and enjoyed guided visits to cultural, archeological and architectural sites.

Meanwhile, the InterDom team organized a number of **visits to universities in the United States**, forming relationships with staff from a variety of departments interested in developing innovative experiences for university students and faculty in the Dominican Republic through the InterDom Program.

## Premiere of Program: "Expert in the Spanish Caribbean" with University of Rhode Island

*January 4-18, 2011*

Nineteen students from the University Rhode Island participated in this new InterDom two-week program. The program featured excursions to different parts of the country, community service trips, classes with professors from the University of Rhode Island and from InterDom's partner university, UNIBE, in addition to workshops led by national experts.

*Students and faculty from the University of Rhode Island*



## Annual Conference of the Association of Academic Programs in Latin America and the Caribbean (AAPLAC) at Kennesaw State University

February 19, 2011

InterDom representatives formally presented the program to an audience of over 50 educators, study abroad professionals and on-site program coordinators, highlighting the ways that the program contributes to the enhancement of the Dominican professional sector



AAPLAC Conference 2011

## Forum on Spanish Immersion Opportunities at Livingstone College

March 30, 2011

InterDom presented to its special four-week language program in conjunction with the college's English and Foreign Language department to the Livingstone College student body. The month-long offering represents the first formal medium-term study abroad opportunity offered to Livingston students.

## Fifth Annual National Dominican Student Conference

April 8-10, 2011

For the fifth consecutive year, InterDom participated in the events of the annual Dominican Student Conference, held at Yale University. InterDom representatives met with Dominican college students from all over the country to discuss their academic and career goals and life after college.



Participants at the Dominican National Student Conference

## Columbia University Career Fair

March 2, 2011

For the third consecutive year, InterDom representatives attended the Columbia University Not-for-Profit and Public Service Career Fair, continuing an important relationship with Columbia that extends to many departments and programs. The fair attracted over 1,000 students interested in careers in international relations and development.



Alicia Alonzo, InterDom Manager at the Columbia University Career Fair



## Gap Year Event at George Washington University

*March 2, 2011*

InterDom participated in an event hosted jointly by the George Washington University Housing Programs and Career Center for students interested in having a gap year experience before beginning graduate studies or entering into the workforce full-time. Around 75 students spoke with InterDom representatives about their professional goals and the opportunities that would be available to them during a gap year. Following the networking reception, George Washington University's President Steven Knapp made some remarks about the importance of international and gap year experiences in the modern world. He spoke highly of a recent visit to the Dominican Republic and his enthusiasm for the InterDom program and the important development work that is being done in the country.



*Mandy Sciacchitano, InterDom Admissions and Marketing Coordinator at the Gap Year Event at George Washington University*

## Ten Organizations Certify their Internship Programs

*April 14-15, 2011*

Ten organizations participated in the third InterDom Internship Certification Program Seminar at FUNGLODE headquarters in Santo Domingo. Participants received training by InterDom staff on how to implement new internship programs and improve existing ones.



*Sarah Romero and Joaquín Salazar during the InterDom Certification Seminar*

## 2011 Caribbean Summer Interns

*June 4- August 19, 2011*

InterDom's 2011 Summer interns realized internship opportunities with the Dominican Council of International Relations (CDRI), an initiative of FUNGLODE, and with the Dominican-Haitian Mixed Bilateral Commission. Summer interns hailed from Wesleyan University, Boston University and Boston College.



*Summer interns 2011: Jaynice del Rosario, Edwin Aristy, Ana de la Cruz, Eddie Cuesta, Jenny Cruz, Jatna García, Nick-Edward Woolley*

## InterDom Business Day

*June 9, 2011*

2011 InterDom Caribbean Summer interns met for the first time with their internship supervisors to formally receive their work agendas and sign their internship contracts.



*Alejandra Liriano, Director of Center of International Relations of FUNGLODE/ GFDD, interns Jatna García, Michael Schreckinger and supervisors Germania Francisco, Katherine Acosta*

## City College and InterDom Partner to Present New Service-Learning Program

*June 11 – July 9, 2011*

InterDom launched its first-ever Service-Learning Program, “Caribbean Culture & Service-Learning Program,” in partnership with the City College of New York. During the four weeks, four City College students realized a service-learning externship project on the economic and leadership development of Haitian and Dominican women residing in bateyes of rural Dominican Republic. To complement the service-learning component, students also participated in InterDom’s Caribbean Expert Seminar instructed by Professor Pedro Cabiya.



*Students at Batey Esperanza during the City College Service Learning Program*

## HOT Summer Seminar: “Caribbean Culture, Identity and Music: Rhythm and More Rhythm”

*June 24, 2011*

As part of its Caribbean Summer program, InterDom presented a workshop on Caribbean culture, music and identity for students of both the Caribbean Summer and City College Service Learning Programs. The workshop featured discussion and performance by Dominican anthropologist and folklorist, Xiomara Fortuna, one of the leading experts in Afro-Caribbean music and culture.

*Artist Xiomara Fortuna (center) with City College students during the workshop “Caribbean Culture, Rhythm and more Rhythm”*



## Summer Institute for Educators

*July 10-17, 2011*

InterDom partnered with Programs in International Education Resources (PIER), The Council on Latin American & Iberian Studies at Yale (CLAIS), the MacMillan Center, and the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies at New York University (CLAS) to organize the Summer Institute for Educators. A diverse group of nine elementary, secondary and university-level educators participated in an intense agenda of activities prepared by InterDom which included visits to cultural heritage sites and museums and discussion panels on topics such as migration, urbanization, development and the environment, music, and Haitian-Dominican relations.



*The Educators from Yale University and New York University*



## Organizations Become Certified to Implement Internship Programs

August 18-19, 2011

InterDom held its fourth Internship Certification Seminar, a program offered quarterly to equip businesses and organizations with the tools necessary to develop their own internship programs. Ten representatives of the Ministry of Education, Unilever Caribe, Centro Cuesta Nacional, Parmalat Dominicana and Young and Rubicam Damaris completed the certification. All participants received a copy of the *InterDom Guide to Internships*.

*Human resource administrators and project managers get certified during the Internship Certification Seminar*



## 2011 Fall Interns

September 5 – December 10, 2011

The two interns participating in the Fall 2011 Academic Semester brought unique and important experiences to the program. From the City College of New York and San José State University, they performed an internship in the Dominican Council of International Relations and conducted an intensive journalistic research project on baseball in the Dominican Republic.

*Fall 2011 intern Christine Martinez and Indhira Sepúlveda visit the Mirabal Sisters' Museum in Salcedo as part of their agenda of cultural activities*



## InterDom Participates in International Opportunities Fair at Yale University

September 26, 2011

InterDom representatives spoke to students about the internship and research opportunities available to them through the program. The fair was unique in that it attracted a large quantity of first year students.

*Participants in the International Opportunities Fair*



## Third Annual Work Abroad Fair at Baruch College

October 13, 2011

The fair, sponsored by the Weissman Center for International Business, represented a new extension of InterDom's relationship with Baruch College. Baruch's exchange agreement with InterDom's partner university, UNIBE, makes it easy for students to transfer credits earned while in the Dominican Republic.

*InterDom representatives speak with interested students at Work Abroad Fair*



## Conference: “Best Practices in the Management of Internship Programs”

*Santo Domingo, October 13, 2011*

The seventh edition of the annual InterDom Conference brought together representatives from business and academia to discuss international standards related to facilitating college students with access to internships. 2011 Conference speakers were Christian García, Executive Director of the Toppel Center at the University of Miami, and Devon Howland, Director of the Academic Internship Council at the University of Berkeley. A key topic of discussion was the critical services university career centers provide to graduates, universities and employers.

*Christian García, Joaquín Salazar, Alicia Alonzo, Devon Howland*



## InterDom Attends Council on International Education Exchange Annual Conference in New Orleans

*November 16-19, 2011*

Representatives from InterDom forged new connections with an important leader in the study abroad industry, the Council on International Education Exchange, attending for the first time their 2011 Annual Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana. The theme of the conference was “Redefining Student Learning Abroad: New Directions and Opportunities,” and provided participants with strategies on how to manage the current shift in international education paradigms to student-centered teaching, learning processes and outcomes and assessment of learning. Through this conference, InterDom representatives were afforded the opportunity to network with other study abroad professionals, both on-site and on university campuses, to explore partnerships with other institutions, consortia, and providers, and to help redefine this new reality while embracing a collaborative, outcomes-based approach to study abroad.



*Participants in the 2011 CIEE Conference on international education are regaled by the sounds of authentic Louisiana jazz during the Annual Luncheon*

## InterDom Participates in “NGO, Non-Profit and Government Career Forum” at George Washington University

*December 12, 2011*

The InterDom Program met with undergraduate and graduate students from University of Pennsylvania, New York University and George Washington University interested in the non-profit industry at the NGO, Non-Profit and Government Career Forum held at George Washington University. InterDom representatives introduced students to opportunities for internships and research in the Dominican Republic through the program, as well as opportunities at its Manhattan and Washington D.C. offices.

*InterDom participates in George Washington University Career Expo*







*Fellows Program provides opportunities for M.S., M.A. and Ph.D. students to carry out research on sustainable development related topics.*

**F**ellows Program was created by GFDD in 2009 to respond to the desire to develop a community of scholars that contributes to the organization's growing body of research on matters of international concern that directly impact the Dominican Republic, thus complementing GFDD's overall mission to promote academic exchange, generate scholarship and influence the creation of public policy related to economic and social development at both the national and international level.

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 concerns and to offer viable solutions to domestic and international challenges.

Through this initiative, GFDD strives to establish critical links with universities, professors, M.S., M.A. and Ph.D. students and national experts; generate and disseminate research on topics related to social and economic development within the context of the Dominican Republic; create a community of scholars that will contribute to the expansion of academic research related to social and economic development, environmental sustainability and global governance; present the perspectives of GFDD before the commissions and committees of the United Nations; and provide opportunities for personal and professional growth, academic exchange and cross-cultural understanding.

12 thematic areas

12 National academic advisors

Opportunities to present before committees and commissions of the United Nations

Opportunities to publish

**Yosmayra Reyes,**  
2010 GFDD Fellow

"I want to say thank you to GFDD for allowing me the opportunity to conduct my research and for helping me whenever I needed assistance. I truly appreciate it, thank you."



A major stride for the Fellows Program in 2011 was the **official launch of its National Committee of Academic Advisors**. The Committee is formed of national experts specializing in the topics that make up the Fellows Program Agenda. After the Fellow, the National Academic Advisor plays the most critical role in the research process. The Advisor aids the student in assessing the topic of investigation at hand from a national perspective. He or she serves as a key focal point for the student during his or her time in the Dominican Republic, providing access to critical data, documents and legislation and advising in relation to the scope and direction of the research. The Program is very satisfied to have inducted a competent core group of Advisors who are recognized nationally and

internationally for their expertise in their given fields.

The Program is also proud to announce that 2010 Fellow, Yosmayra Reyes presented the findings on her investigation in the area of mental health during a **GFDD organized panel discussion at United Nations headquarters** during the **Commission on Population and Development**. Ms. Reyes' study identifies existing challenges within the field of mental health, with a focus on early detection at the primary care level. Ms. Reyes' investigation was carried out under the guidance of Dr. Alberto Fiallo Billini, Fellows Program National Academic Advisor and Advisor on Public Health to President of the Dominican Republic, Dr. Leonel Fernández.

## Presentation by Fellow Yosmayra Reyes during Panel at UN Headquarters on Mental Health

*April 11, 2011*

During her presentation, Ms. Reyes advocated for enhanced action related to decentralization of services; increased transparency among public health agencies; the need for human resource administration; and community practice as a way to understand the social causes of diseases.

*Ambassador Federico Cuello, Natasha Despotovic, Janice Wetzel*



## Launch of Committee of National Academic Advisors

*July 27, 2011*

Nine experts were inducted into the Committee of National Academic Advisors during a meeting that took place at FUNGLODE headquarters, during which they received official orientation on their roles as Advisors to GFDD/FUNGLODE Fellows.

*First annual meeting of the Committee of National Academic Advisors*



*Ernesto Reyna, Leonel Carrasco, Kerry Stefanczyk, Alberto Fiallo*



*Félix Faria Campo, Yamile Eusebio, Octavio López*

## Collaboration with the Organization of American States



*GFDD takes partnerships with OAS departments and secretariats to new heights during the year 2011.*

GFDD is an active supporter of the objectives of the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Summit of the Americas and a committed partner of the institution in the Dominican Republic. The Foundation is also a prominent member of the Civil Society of the OAS, a body in which the most instrumental nongovernmental and civic associations of the Western Hemisphere share expertise and participate in decision making processes related to development and democratic advancement in the region.

Thanks to a long-standing partnership with the OAS, GFDD has been able to develop joint programs and projects with different departments and secretariats that benefit the Dominican Republic. To date, a number of initiatives have been developed with the Inter-American Commission for the Control of Drug Abuse (CICAD), the Department of Education, the Department of Sustainable Development and the Columbus Library, among others.

### Collaboration with:

Department of Human Development, Education and Culture

Department of International Affairs

Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission

Office of the Assistant Secretary General

Launch of first-ever Dominican Model of the Inter-American System

In collaboration with the multilateral organization, GFDD put on the First Dominican Model of the Inter-American System. The impressive event, which simulated the OAS General Assembly and the Permanent Council; the Summit of the Americas; and the General Assembly of Governors of the Inter-American Development Bank received accolades by OAS Secretary General, José Miguel Insulza, for going

beyond the work of what has been done in other models to encompass bodies beyond the General Assembly.

Through OAS partnerships, GFDD also realized innovative programs in the areas of drug policy and treatment, management of natural disasters and regional integration.

## **Antonio Lomba,**

*Inter-American Drug Control Abuse Commission*

"The collaboration with GFDD in the preparation and development of the workshop on the viability of the model of the drug treatment tribunals [...] was of vital importance for the work that CICAD is carrying out in coordination with the National Council on Drugs of the Dominican Republic."

## **Annual Planning Meeting of the Multilateral Initiative of Education for Human Development (IMEDH) in Panama**

*February 8-11, 2011*

IMEDH, launched in June 2010 during Virtual Educa in Santo Domingo, is a joint project of GFDD, the OAS, Virtual Educa, the Latin American Parliament (Parlatino), and the Association of Universities of Latin America and the Caribbean (UDUAL). It was created with the intent of promoting education in a way that is innovative and inclusive, with a focus on advancing human capacity in Latin America and the Caribbean.

*The 2011 Meeting convened Executive Board Members: Marie Levens, Director, Department of Human Development, Education and Culture, OAS; Ambassador Abigail Castro de Perez, OAS Representative, Panama; Nelly Gochicoa, Senior Specialist for Latin American Cooperation, DDHEC, OAS; José María Antón, Secretary General Virtual Educa; Alfredo Jiménez, Technical Coordinator, Parlatino; Gustavo García de Parades, Rector, Universidad de Panama and President, Association of Latin American Universities; Asunción Sanz, Director, Washington DC Office, GFDD, along with special guests: Dr. Enrique Lau Cortes, Director General of University Planning and Evaluation, Universidad de Panama; and Delano Chan, External Consultant, DDHEC, OAS*

## **First Dominican Model of the Inter-American System**

*February 9-11, 2011*

GFDD, FUNGLODE and the United Nations Association of the Dominican Republic (UNA-DR), in partnership with the Department of International Affairs of the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Youth Development Outreach Program of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB Youth), launched the first-ever Dominican Model of the Inter-American System (MODOSI 2011). Youth delegates debated topics related to: conditions for the reinstatement of Honduras to the OAS based on the Inter-American Democratic Charter; joint efforts to tackle security in the Americas; regional commitment for the implementation of reconstruction and development programs in Haiti; and socially responsible management of natural resources.



Participants: *President Leonel Fernández; Irene Klinger, Director, International Affairs, OAS; Alejandra Liriano, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs; Aníbal Enríquez Quiñónez, OAS Representative in the Dominican Republic; and Nelly Robinson, Coordinator of MOAS Program, Department of International Affairs, OAS*



*Pilar Sandoval, Alejandra Liriano, Irene Klinger, Nelly Robinson*



*Opening Ceremony of MODOSI 2011*



*2011 MODOSI participants*

## **GFDD partners with the OAS, Virtual Educa and IMEDH to Award Scholarships to Dominican Students**

*July 30, 2011*

GFDD, in partnership with the OAS, Virtual Educa, the Multilateral Initiative of Education for Human Development (IMEDH), and the University of Panama awarded scholarships to two Dominican students to enable them to continue their studies through the online Masters in Virtual Learning program. Scholarships were received by Fernando Rojas and Elsa Munárriz.

Recipients were selected based on academic merit, job performance and potential impact on the recipient's country of origin.

### **Fernando Rojas,** *Scholarship Recipient*

I am very satisfied with the development of the program. It has fulfilled my expectations ... the impacts of (this master program) are really positive for my personal and professional development.

## Workshop: “Social Policies, Justice and Drug Treatments in the Dominican Republic”

August 1-5, 2011

GFDD organized the five-day workshop in close partnership with the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission of the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security of the OAS and the National Drug Council of the Dominican Republic. Experts emphasized the need for multidimensional approaches to address drug addiction and presented treatment policies that can serve as alternatives to imprisonment.

Participants: *Mabel Félix, Chair, National Drug Council; Ambassador James Mack, Executive Secretary, Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission; Dr. Jaume Canela, Lecturer, Department of Public Health, Barcelona University; Rogelio Flores, Judge, Santa Maria Substance Abuse Treatment Court, Santa Barbara County Superior Court*



President Leonel Fernández attended the inaugural conference at FUNGLODE Headquarters



Workshop in session

## Forum: “Economic Outlook and Challenges for Central America and the Caribbean in the Global Economy”

October 7, 2011

Participating high-profile dignitaries discussed strategies by which to strengthen regional integration in the critical areas of tourism, commercial trade, climate change, insecurity, drug trafficking and poverty eradication.

Participants: *President Leonel Fernández Reyna; José María Figueres, former President of Costa Rica; Bhoendradatt Tewarie, Ministry of Planning and Economy of Trinidad and Tobago; Julissa Reynoso, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for Central America and the Caribbean; João Machado Aguilar, Assistant Director General of the European Union; Albert Ramdín, Assistant Secretary General of the OAS; and Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean.*



Marco Herrera, Margarita Cedeño de Fernández, Dr. Leonel Fernández, Albert Ramdín, Andrés Van der Horst, Juan Daniel Alemán, Bhoendradatt Tewarie

## Collaboration with the United Nations System



*GFDD contributes to the work of ECOSOC in the areas of sustainable mining and public health.*

GFDD is dedicated to promoting and advancing issues at the forefront of the United Nations agenda.

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

Through involvement in many of the United Nations councils and commissions, GFDD strives to give voice to national and regional concerns and share best practices

and challenges. Likewise, the Foundation is committed to **transmitting the lessons and recommendations endorsed by the United Nations to the Dominican populace**, as part of its mission to further the diffusion of knowledge.

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

Panel on gold mining during Commission on Sustainable Development

Panel on mainstreaming mental health within public health paradigms during Commission on Population and Development

Intervention on financial speculation of commodity prices during High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development



In 2011, GFDD worked in a concerted manner to increase its contribution to the United Nations program of work. These inputs **include panel discussions at the United Nations Headquarters in New York and at FUNGLODE Headquarters in Santo Domingo**, as well as the **preparation and submission of reports**.

The Foundation participated in numerous high-level forums coordinated by the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD), the Commission

on Population and Development (CPD), the Department of Financing for Development, the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF), the Department of Public Information (DPI) and the United Nations University (UNU).

GFDD looks forward to continuing to develop ongoing partnerships with the councils and committees of the United Nations and to implementing innovative methods of participation.

**Ellen Lukens,**

*Firestone Centennial Professor of Clinical Social Work at Columbia University School of Social Work*

"It was a wonderful experience for me --- thanks very much for including this in this event."

## Panel on Integration of Mental Health within Public Health Paradigms

*April 11, 2011*

GFDD, in collaboration with the Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations, the Columbia University School of Social Work and the International Association of Schools of Social Work, organized the panel discussion "Mainstreaming Mental Health within Public Health Paradigms: A Global Look at Advances and Challenges" at United Nations Headquarters in New York City. Panelists discussed efforts to integrate mental health within overall health planning at the international, national and local levels, referencing experiences from the Dominican Republic, the United States, Kazakhstan and Japan.

Participants: *Dr. Janice Wood Wetzel, former Dean and Professor of Social Work at Adelphi University and Main UN Representative for the International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASS); Dr. Ellen Lukens, Firestone Centennial Professor of Clinical Social Work at Columbia University School of Social Work and Research Scientist at the New York State Psychiatric Institute; Dr. Ramona Torres, Presidential Commission on Public Health of the Government of the Dominican Republic; Ms. Yosmayra Reyes, GFDD/FUNGLODE Fellow and M.A. Candidate in Social Work, Columbia University; H.E. Federico Cuello Camilo, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations*

*Ambassador Federico Cuello, Natasha Despotovic, Ramona Torres, Kerry Stefancyk*





## Panel at UN Headquarters on Potential and Constraints of Gold Mining

May 3, 2011

GFDD, in partnership with **South-South News** and the **Council on Hemispheric Affairs**, coordinated the panel “Global Perspectives on Gold Mining: Evaluating Potential and Constraints” at United Nations Headquarters in New York City, during the celebration of the Nineteenth Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Speakers discussed the potential and constraints of the gold mining sector in relation to the achievement of national economic and social objectives and environmental sustainability. Critical topics addressed included: international performance standards and assessment; environmental impact; human health and safety; socio-economic potential; technological innovation; corporate social responsibility; and the need for effective management of revenue flows.

Participants: *Benjamin Peachey, Communications Director, International Council on Mining and Metals; Zoe Amerigian, Researcher, Council on Hemispheric Affairs; Manuel Bonilla, President, Pueblo Viejo Dominicana Corporation, Barrick*



*Zoe Amerigian, Ben Peachey, Francis Lorenzo, Manuel Bonilla*

## Fifth High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development

December 8, 2011

GFDD was invited by the NGO Committee on Financing for Development to present its work on the impacts of financial speculation on futures markets, global development and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.



*Representative to the UN, Kerry Stefanczyk, delivers intervention at Fifth High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development*



### **Ramona Torres,**

*Presidential Commission on Public Health of the Government of the Dominican Republic*

“Thank you for inviting me to participate in this event ... I am happy to continue collaborating in all areas within the scope of my expertise.”



## Collaboration with United Nations Association of the Dominican Republic (UNA-DR) [www.unadr.org.do](http://www.unadr.org.do)



*UNA-DR provides hundreds of students each year with important exposure to the work of committees and commissions within the United Nations System.*

The United Nations Association of the Dominican Republic (UNA-DR) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization dedicated to supporting the work of the United Nations. The Association coordinates educational and cultural initiatives to raise awareness and encourage participation in UN-related activities. Since it was founded in 2001 with the support of the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA), UNA-DR has designed and implemented Model United Nations and other national, regional and international forums involving **youth from the Dominican Republic and twenty other nations**.

In early 2002, UNA-DR signed a partnership agreement with FUNGLODE, establishing

the institution as its main local partner, to provide all operational and logistical support. In 2003, GFDD joined the partnership and has since been providing significant support from its offices in Washington, DC and New York City.

The Association works with educational entities, non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors to **elevate understanding of the work of the UN System amongst the Dominican populace**. UNA-DR contributes to the agenda of the United Nations through **educational campaigns, workshops, seminars, lectures, panel discussions and publications**.

7th Edition of NYDRMUN: 700 participants

7th Edition of CILA: 1,200 participants

2nd Edition of DEUROMUN: 100 participants

## Seventh Edition of the Dominican Republic Model United Nations in New York (NYDRMUN)

March 17, 2011

GFDD collaborated with UNA-DR and FUNGLODE to convene the Annual Dominican Republic Model United Nations in New York (NYDRMUN 2011). More than 700 Dominican and international middle and high school students partook in the 2011 Model that simulated the work of the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Human Rights Council, and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Jorge Szabo, Yamile Eusebio, Pilar Sandoval, Jay Hershenson, Ambassador Luis Lithgow, Isabel Padilla



## Second Edition of the Dominican-European Model United Nations Conference (DEUROMUN)

July 16-24, 2011

75 Dominican and international students participated in the second edition of the Dominican-European Model United Nations Conference (DEUROMUN 2011) celebrated at the Université Paris I Panthéon Sorbonne and the Headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). During the conference, the Dominican Delegation debated current issues in Spanish, one of the six official languages of the United Nations.

## Seventh Edition of the International Conference of the Americas (CILA)

October 27, 2011

Over 1,000 youth participated in the seventh edition of CILA.



Yamile Eusebio, Triana Aybar, Pilar Sandoval, Ambassador Riyad Mansour, Valerie Julliard, Ambassador Francis Lorenzo, Franklin Rodríguez



Triana Aybar, Yamile Eusebio, Pilar Sandoval, Ambassador Riyad Mansour, Valerie Julliard, Ambassador Francis Lorenzo, Franklin Rodríguez





More than 1,000 students from the DR and Latin America participated in CILA 2011



### **Ban Ki-moon**

*Secretary General of the United Nations*

"Recent events worldwide have shown, once again, the power of youth to take initiative and change the course of history."



### **Mauricio Aníbal Paz,** *Secretary General of MODOSI 2011*

"These events are of importance, as they educate participants on the development of necessary values and skills to become responsible global citizens, committed to their people and their environment."



In 2011, GFDD organized high-level forums on diverse subject matter including: \_\_\_\_\_



*GFDD works all year long to bring world-class programs to the Dominican Republic.*

Throughout the year, the GFDD team works arduously to bring exceptional programming in the areas of economic and social development, education, public opinion, health, culture, international relations, defense and security, knowledge management, information and communications technology, democracy, Dominican studies, environment, and global and regional integration to diverse audiences in the Dominican Republic.

Gold mining

Building back Haiti

The presence of Africa in the Caribbean, the Antilles and the United States

Educational and cultural television

Teacher education

## Panel: “Global Perspectives on Gold Mining: Assessing Potential and Constraints”

*FUNGLODE, Santo Domingo, March 23, 2011*

Experts discussed topics related to: international performance standards and social corporate responsibility; environmental impact; human health and safety; social and economic potential; innovative technologies designed to lessen environmental impacts; corporate social responsibility; and the need for effective management of revenue flows in order to advance national and international sustainable development goals.

Participants: *Ben Peachey, Communications Director for the International Council on Mining and Metals; David Le Blanc, Senior Sustainable Development Officer for the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs; Octavio López, Director of the National Office on Mining of the Dominican Republic; Omar Ramírez, Director of the Center for Environmental and Sustainable Development Studies, FUNGLODE and Executive Vice-President of the Presidential Commission on Climate Change and the Clean Development Mechanism for the Government of the Dominican Republic; Manuel Bonilla, President of the Pueblo Viejo Dominicana Corporation*



*Manuel Bonilla, Ben Peachey, Octavio López, David LeBlanc*



### David LeBlanc

*Senior Sustainable Development Officer, UN DESA*

“I want to thank you once again for inviting DSD to be part of this panel. I would also like to thank you for the nice welcome and flawless organization of this event.”

## Presentation of RAND Corporation Report: “Building a More Resilient Haitian State”

*FUNGLODE, Santo Domingo, April 7, 2011*

GFDD organized a presentation of the RAND Corporation Report, “Building a More Resilient Haitian State,” by Charles P. Ries, Senior Fellow of RAND Corporation, recently appointed Director of RAND’s Center for Middle East Public Policy, and former Executive Vice President of the Clinton Bush Haiti Fund. The purpose of this presentation was to offer reliable information and raise the level of ongoing discussion on measures and policies aimed at recovery.

*Enzo di Taranto, Carlos Castillo, Dr. Leonel Fernández, Todd Haskell, Katherine Cantrell, Chris Lambert, Bernardo Vega*





## Conference: “Presence of Africa in the Caribbean, the Antilles and the United States”

*FUNGLODE, Santo Domingo, July 17-20, 2011*

GFDD and FUNGLODE organized the three-day academic conference in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture, UNESCO and the Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo (UASD). The forum convened representatives of academia from the Caribbean, the Antilles, the United States and the Dominican Republic to present recent scholarship on the history of the African Diaspora in the region in an effort to elevate discourse regarding the historical trajectory of persons of African descent throughout continent.

Participants: *Ramona Hernández, Director of the Dominican Studies Institute and Professor of Sociology, CUNY; Nicauly Vargas, Secretary-General, National Commission of the Dominican Republic for UNESCO; José Guerrero; Dante Ortiz; Dario Solano, Director, Fundación Afrocimarrón; Samuel Saelversad Gregoire, Writer and Specialist in Haitian Literature; Silvio Torres-Saillant, Director of Latin American Studies, University of Syracuse; Franklin Franco, Historian; Patrick Bellegarde-Smith, Professor Emeritus, Department of Africanology, University of Wisconsin; Odalís Pérez, Professor of Humanities, UASD; Reynold Kerr, Author and Director, Kerr Museums Productions; Delia Blanco; Ambassador of Francophonía, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic; Dagoberto Tejeda, Professor of Sociology, UASD; Avelino Stanley, Writer and Specialist in Afro-Ibero-American History; Celsa Albert, Professor of Dominican History and Latin American and Caribbean History, UASD; Rafael E. Jarvis Luis; Lipe Collado, Journalist and Writer; Geo Ripley, Artist; Mateo Morrison, Writer; Roger Toumson; Melina Pappademos, Assistant Professor of History, University of Connecticut; Russell Rickford, Assistant Professor of History, University of Dartmouth; Frank Moya Pons, Historian; Jean Ghasmann Bissainthe, Professor of Modern Languages, Seton Hall University; and James DeWolf Perry, Director General, Tracing Center on Histories and Legacies of Slavery*



*Russel Rickford, Ramona Hernández,  
James DeWolf Perry*



### **Russel Rickford,**

*Assistant Professor of History, Dartmouth College*

*“Kudos to GFDD and FUNGLODE for a successful production! It was great meeting new friends and engaging in really rich intellectual exchange.”*

## Conference: “The Role of Think Tanks, Foundations and Philanthropy in Democratic Development”

*FUNGLODE, Santo Domingo, July 7, 2011*

James McGann, Director of the Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program at the University of Pennsylvania, highlighted the essential role that think tanks play in shaping policy formulation and strengthening democratic institutions.



*Oswaldo Vásquez, Asunción Sanz, James McGann, Yamile Eusebio, Aida Consuelo Hernandez, Addys Then, Marco Herrera*

## Summer 2011 Workshops for Teachers

*Santiago, Santo Domingo, San Pedro de Macorís, August 8-10, 2011*

For three days, New York City teachers imparted classes for Dominican teachers in Santiago, Santo Domingo and San Pedro de Macorís on a diversity of topics, from developing a conceptual understanding of mathematics to conflict negotiation and mediation to academic assessment.

Participants: *Leyti de los Santos, José Alfonseca, Adrian Bordoní, Milagros Hinojosa*



*Paul Goris, Leyti de los Santos, Milagros Hinojosa, Adrian Bordoní, José Alfonseca*

## Conference on Disaster Preparedness

*FUNGLODE, Santo Domingo, September 15-16, 2011*

GFDD organized two days of expert-led discussions and workshops on disaster preparedness focused on government operations; management of media; local, regional and international responses; and flood management.

Participants: *Stephen C. Johnson, Head of the Americas Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies; Johanna Mendelson Forman, Senior Associate of the Americas Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies; Stacey White, Researcher, Crisis and Conflict Prevention and Mitigation Program, Center for Strategic and International Studies; Gen. Luis Luna, Director of Civil Defense; Denisse Alvarez, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Andres Calderón, Deputy Director, Stephenson Disaster Management Institute, Louisiana State University; Gustavo Moré, Architect; Colonel Norberto Cintrón, United States Southern Command*



*Denisse Alvarez, José Rubiera, Johanna Mendelson, Gilberto Avalo, Asunción Sanz, Coronel Cintrón, members of Dominican Civil Protection, Andrés Calderón, Stacey White*



*Denise Álvarez, Steve Johnson, Johanna Mendelson, General Luna Paulino, Stacey White*



*Steve Johnson, Coronel Cintrón, Johanna Mendelson, Dr. Leonel Fernández, José Rubiera, Andrés Calderón, Stacey White, Pablo González*



## Presentation of Ibero-American Educational and Cultural Television Educational Portal

*FUNGLODE, Santo Domingo, November 11, 2011*

GFDD, in association with the Ministry of Education of the Dominican Republic and Ibero-American Educational and Cultural Television, organized an official presentation of the new educational portal launched by Ibero-American Educational and Cultural Television. The purpose of the site is to disseminate information and audiovisual material related to Ibero-American cultural identity and diversity. The site features up-to-date information on Ibero-American institutions such as the Organization of Ibero-American States for Education, Science and Culture, the Latin American Network of Educational Portals (RELPE), Virtual Educa and Instituto Cervantes.

Participants: *Alberto García Ferrer, Ibero-American Educational and Cultural Television; William Ortiz, Ministry of Education of the Dominican Republic*



*Podium: Alberto García Ferrer, seated: William Ortiz, Yamile Eusebio*

## Conference: “Teacher Education in Israel: the MOFET Institute Model and its Specialization in Teacher Training”

*FUNGLODE, Santo Domingo, November 23, 2011*

The conference, given by Dr. Sara Ziv, Director of the International Department of the MOFET Institute in Israel, discussed teacher training projects that the Institute heads in the Spanish-speaking world.



*Yamile Eusebio, Sara Ziv*



### **Manuel Bonilla,**

*President of the Pueblo Viejo Dominicana Corporation*

“It was a pleasure having the opportunity to present Barrick Pueblo Viejo’s vision of its gold mining prospects in the Dominican Republic at the seminar in Santo Domingo.”



### **Patrick Bellegarde-Smith,**

*Professor Emeritus, Department of Africanology, University of Wisconsin*

“Thank you for a magnificent and well-planned conference. I understand how difficult and time consuming it is to plan such an occasion.”



DOMINICANA ON LINE  
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**MINERD y CONARE firman convenio y lanzan campaña sobre Ley de Información Pública**

Santo Domingo, República Dominicana 22/02/2012

El Ministerio de Educación (MINERD) y el Consejo Nacional de Reforma del Estado (CONARE) firmaron un convenio interinstitucional, con el apoyo financiero de la Agencia de los Estados Unidos para el Desarrollo Internacional...



**GFDD y FUNGLODE lanzan concurso Globo Verde Dominicano**

Santo Domingo, República Dominicana 21/02/2012

Entre las iniciativas por la difusión de la cultura cinematográfica en pro del medioambiente y el desarrollo sostenible, GFDD/FUNGLODE presentan el primer concurso de cortometrajes y mensajes de concienciación, Globo Verde Dominicano.



**Importantes acuerdos con el Jefe de la Policía en materia de acciones contra la violencia de Género**

Santo Domingo, República Dominicana 22/02/2012

En los próximos 15 días abrirán una oficina que integrarán 50 agentes recién salidos de la academia, quienes recibirán capacitación especial de Profamilia y del Ministerio Público, para recibir las denuncias 24 horas del día.

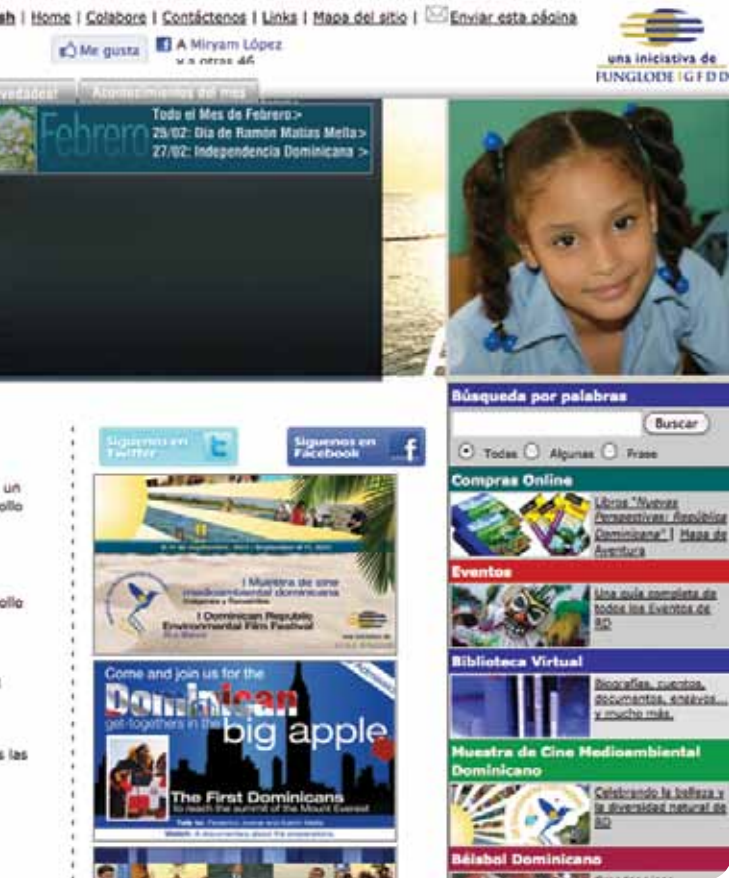


**Vicepresidente de la República y ministra de Educación entregan escuela en Pedernales**

Santo Domingo, República Dominicana 22/02/2012

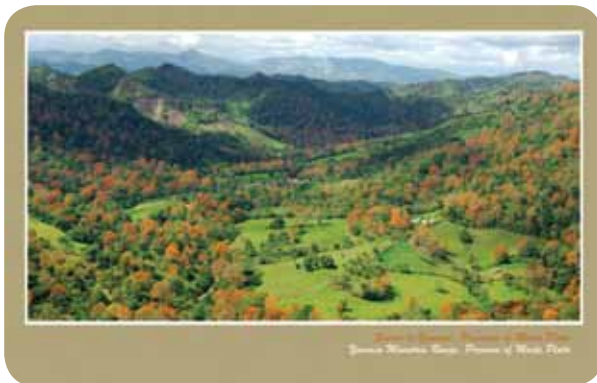
El vicepresidente de la República, doctor Rafael Alburquerque y la ministra de Educación, licenciada Josefina Pimentel, inauguraron en la provincia de Pedernales la reparación y ampliación del centro





GFDD updates the Dominican Republic Portal on a daily basis with timely information in Spanish and English for its Dominican and international user community.

Dominicanaonline.org seeks to serve students, educators, tourists, investors, travelers, researchers and Dominicans residing abroad interested in obtaining information in relation to the history, geography, economy, cultural and daily life in the Dominican Republic. The constant creation of special interest sections on themes such as: baseball, carnaval, the Dominican Book Fair, the GFDD Virtual Library, in-country cultural events, the whales of Samana, and the audio reference guide of dominicanismos make the Portal a dynamic, practical and relevant site for information on all topics related to the Dominican Republic.



Note Cards



New Perspectives:  
Dominican Republic



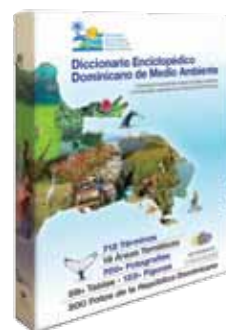
Dominican Encyclopedic  
Dictionary of the Environment



*GFDD's international and interdisciplinary team produces publications that promote knowledge about the Dominican Republic as well as inspire appreciation and further study of Dominican culture, natural heritage and contemporary life.*

### ***Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment***

This book is an A-Z guide on the environment and natural resources of the Dominican Republic. It contains 712 terms defined with the most up-to-date and comprehensive information, and is illustrated with 700 photos, 58 tables, 123 figures, which are complemented by 17 scientific articles on environmental challenges and conservation methods. The Dictionary seeks to increase understanding of the dangers of environmental degradation, while promoting respect, care and concern for the country's natural resources, their protection and sustainable use.



Hardcover: 463 pages  
Language: Spanish

### ***New Perspectives: Dominican Republic Second, 2011 edition***

Comprised of 400 aerial images, the book is divided into 9 chapters -- Reflections of Light, Coasts, Heights, Plains, History, City, People, Tourism and Work -- containing text about 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 of the country, and all those interested in acquiring a better understanding of the Dominican Republic.



Hardcover: 275 pages  
Language: English and Spanish

## Posters

Stunning aerial photographs converted into striking posters showcasing the wonderful Dominican Republic. This is your chance for photo-memories from the book.



Language: English and Spanish  
Dimensions: 28 inches x 21 inches

## Note Cards

These beautifully designed note cards depict aerial images of Dominican landscapes. Use them to send regards to friends and family, best wishes on special occasions or just to share your thoughts and ideas. They can be framed to enhance your decor, or will make a wonderful gift!

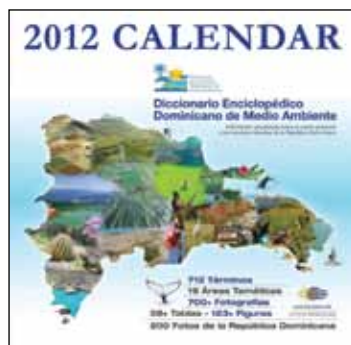


Dimensions: 8-1/2 inches x 5 inches  
Box of 10 different images

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Paperback: 24 pages

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