

GLOBAL FOUNDATION FOR DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT

Fostering Progress, Collaboration and Exchange



Year in Review 2012



GFDD







GFDD

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*GFDD Honorary President
Dr. Leonel Fernández*

More than a decade has lapsed since we started the non-profit organizations Global Foundation for Democracy and Development, GFDD, and its sister organization in the Dominican Republic, FUNGLODE. Both organizations aim to improve and contribute to the most pressing challenges facing our society by elevating the public debate and promoting greater understanding within the most prevalent sectors of the country.

Nowadays, at the turn of the new millennium, both organizations have celebrated well over a decade of success in achieving their goals promoting a better Dominican Republic through best practices, and by sharing experiences with global and regional partners and stakeholders.

As a non-profit, independent organization, GFDD engages public, private, multilateral entities as well as academia in order to raise awareness, promote professional and educational opportunities for our citizenry and fostering cooperation and interaction with the wider international community, giving relevance to the role of the Dominican Republic in the global arena.

GFDD's educational programs and professional training sessions, as well as national and international partnerships, help form a new generation of citizens capable to bring about the development of our society.

Furthermore, the populous is now becoming well equipped with the skills to join and compete with the rest of countries in the Latin American region in a common struggle to achieve professional excellence and self-fulfillment.

Join us in our efforts to continue creating a prosperous future for our society by investing in the talent and livelihood of our people, because the future is today!

Dr. Leonel Fernández
Honorary President of GFDD

Since its founding in 2000, GFDD has earned a reputation as a trusted source of independent, non-partisan center of analysis and innovating programs. Working with a wide array of global partners and leaders in think-tanks, academia and other centers of knowledge and research, we have been able to leverage the resources at our disposal to develop projects and programs that help shape and improve the policies and practices affecting the social, democratic and economic development of the Dominican Republic.

GFDD's work encompasses a broad spectrum of critical areas including the environment and sustainable development; media; information and communications technology; economy; international affairs; democracy and globalization. Definitely, 2012 has been a busy year for GFDD, and included many significant achievements that we would like to share with you:

- DREFF, the *II Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival* saw a 70% increase in attendance over the previous year, with audiences getting engaged in different initiatives that raise awareness and educate, bringing a better understanding of the threats affecting the environment and possible solutions;
- Launch of the English-language online edition of the *Dominican Republic Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment*, an A-Z guide to the country's environment and natural resources;
- National and international showings of the *New Perspectives: Dominican Republic* photo exhibit;
- Fellows Program was created to contribute to the growing body of research on matters of international concern that directly impact the Dominican Republic;
- A series of Global Roundtable meetings with UN ambassadors and other prominent figures of the System to discuss global issues of relevance to Dominican and global audiences;
- Dominican community outreach in the US through popular *Dominican Get-Togethers*, encompassing a wide range of topics of interest to our community,



Executive Director
Natasha Despotovic

including baseball, traditional music and folklore, media and cultural heritage;

- *Dominican Film Showcase* is a series of film festivals screening Dominican-centric films on university campuses from New York to Rhode Island, and with plans for more to be held across the country in 2013;
- The continuation of the promotion and advancement of issues at the Forefront of the United Nations' agenda through a series of panel discussions such as women's empowerment, youth employment and financial speculation affecting the socio-economic advancement of the Dominican Republic;
- And last, but by no means least, GFDD's pilot project, *Dominicanaonline.org*, remains the go-to site the most comprehensive, detailed and interactive portal in Spanish and English on the Dominican Republic that presents the country in all its facets to a national and international audience.

With each passing year, as we continue to evolve and grow, we hope for a more interactive dialogue with our friends and supporters through our programs and projects. Please join us in helping continue to push for change and prosperity in the Dominican Republic with varied and exciting events and initiatives.

Natasha Despotovic
Executive Director



Dominican Get-Togethers go South for the first time to Miami, and spark dancing, excitement and cultural appreciation, flavor and social awareness, spotlighting diverse topics such as baseball, Dominican root music, Carnaval culture of La Vega, the Millennium Development Goals and journalism.

The second edition of the **Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival** triples in size, covering the expanse of the Dominican territory at 9 venues in 7 cities, screening 24 films, presenting 9 panels, 4 workshops, and attracting over 3,500 participants and attendees.

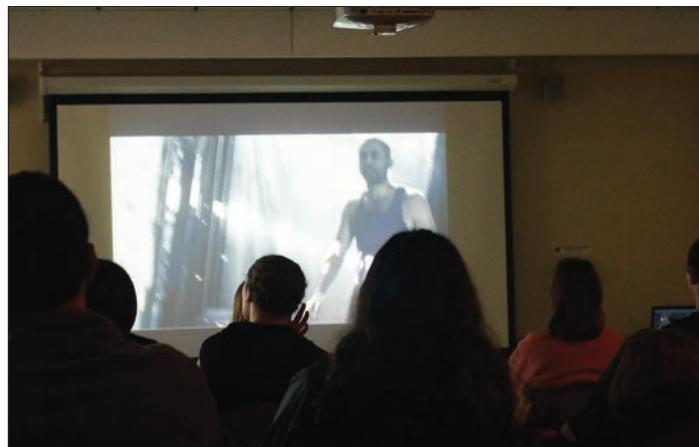


47 students from 12 universities travel to the Dominican Republic—many for the first time—to broaden their worldviews and expand their academic and professional horizons through the **InterDom program**.

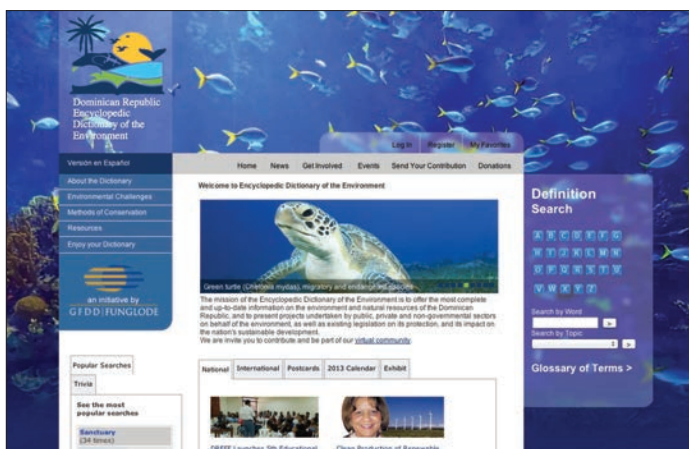
3 specialized **InterDom university short programs** in the fields of public health, urban gardening and education bring development opportunities to small communities and life-changing learning experiences to foreign students.



Audiences in Providence, Rhode Island, are enthralled and educated by Dominican-themed films, brought to them by the **Dominican Film Showcase**, in partnership with the Providence Latin American Film Festival.



Millions of English-speakers worldwide gain access to the wealth of knowledge on Dominican flora, fauna and natural resources with the launch of the ***Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment*** online in English.



More than 135 Dominican students connect with a side of their country, which they have never experienced in a once-in-a-life time opportunity to **scale Pico Duarte**, the highest peak in the Antilles, with a national mountaineering hero.



GFDD highlights the **Dominican perspective at the United Nations**, organizing and participating in events in such diverse thematic areas as: global structural reform; financial speculation and global development; women's empowerment; environmental management; productive capacity; youth unemployment; and promotion of peace and tolerance through communications media.





Schoolchildren in Brooklyn and European lawmakers share a similar experience: the breathtaking views of 31 Dominican provinces on display through the **traveling photography exhibit, *New Perspectives: Dominican Republic***.

GFDD joins forces with the Organization of American States and the Inter-American Development Bank to celebrate the **second edition of the *Dominican Model of the Inter-American System***.



The city of Santiago hosts for the first time the revolutionary educational conference **Virtual Educa Caribe**, which in its Sixth Edition attracted experts and practitioners in education and technological innovation from more than 8 nations.

The **International Conference of the Americas** convenes more than 1,500 youth from the Dominican Republic and different regions around the world.



The Dominican Republic's natural richness is showcased for diverse domestic and international audiences as the **traveling exhibit “Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment”** makes stops in Santo Domingo, Santiago, Monterey, California and the United Nations Headquarters in NYC.



Dominican filmmakers have a chance to hone their talents to make a difference in the world by competing in the newly-launched **Globo Verde Dominicano** competition in the areas of short film and public service announcement in favor of sustainability and environmental awareness.

A few more things...

- The Dominican Republic becomes the first Latin American coastline on Google Earth's "Explore the Ocean" layer through GFDD's partnership with the Sylvia Earle Alliance and Google Ocean.
- Economic development and poverty reduction take center stage through the empowering research of Fellow José Caraballo Cueto, Ph.D. candidate in Economics at The New School for Social Research.
- Professors and study abroad and career service administrators from six U.S. colleges and universities experience the life of an InterDom intern through the second edition of InterDom PRO.
- From the intensely global to the extremely local, cutting-edge knowledge and research on critical issues impacting the contemporary world are presented to broad audiences through the launch of the GFDD book series *Research and Ideas*.

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

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

GFDD Headquarters are located in Washington, D.C. and its second office is in New York. 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, the United States and worldwide.

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

Mission

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

Areas of Interest

- Economic and social development
- Education
- Communications
- Health
- Culture
- International relations
- Defense and security
- Knowledge management
- Information and communications technology
- Democracy
- Dominican studies
- Environment
- Globalization and regional integration

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.



FUNGLODE | G F D D



Dominican Get-Together with acclaimed Dominican journalist Miguel Franjul



Second GFDD Golf Tournament in New York



Photography Exhibit Launched at Public School 24 in Brooklyn, New York

Dominican Issues, Heritage and Outreach – 2012 Highlights

- Miami plays host for the first time ever to a **Dominican Get-together** at Miami Dade College.
- The **Dominican Film Showcase** brings two films and three special guests to the Providence Latin American Film Festival, where a Dominican actress brought home the distinguished “Best Actress” award.
- **Dominican Professional Discussion Forums** are launched during Dominican Week in October, with a special event featuring renowned journalist Miguel Franjul.
- **Dominicanaonline.org** keeps Dominican topics on pace with modern technology and graphics.
- Hundreds are exposed to brilliant Dominican landscapes from half a world away, as the **New Perspectives photo exhibit** reaches both local New York and international European audiences.
- **Three conferences with expert panelists** bring knowledge on highly-specialized topics to Dominican audiences.
- Dominican **student leaders from prestigious New York universities** become active in partnership with GFDD.
- 80 players tee off at the **Second Annual GFDD Golf Tournament**.



Dominican Get-Together in the Big Apple with Dominican Professional Swimmer and Humanitarian Marcos Díaz



Dominican Get-Togethers with Dominican Singer and Ethnomusicologist at United Nations in New York

Dominican Get-Togethers

www.dominicangettogethers.org

As a part of its mission to promote understanding and appreciation of Dominican culture, values and heritage, and to create opportunities for discussions of contemporary issues relevant to the Dominican society in the homeland and abroad, GFDD reaches out to the Dominican community, and to all those interested in Dominican culture both in the New York Metropolitan Area, and other cities in the United States, by organizing ongoing events.

Every three months, GFDD creates an opportunity for wide audiences to enjoy a Dominican movie, meet a Dominican prominent figure, and participate in a discussion on topics of interest to the Dominican community in the United States and in the homeland. The events are a part of the GFDD's mission to facilitate and support a collaboration and exchange between Dominicans in the home country and those that live abroad, as well as the Dominican and the greater NY community.



March 21: Screening of *Sugar* and discussion with Algenis Pérez Soto, Miami Dade College

April 19: Dialogue with open water swimmer Marcos Diaz, Hunter College

July 5: Dominican roots concert with Irka Mateo, United Nations Headquarters, NY

October 5: Professional Discussion Forum with journalist Miguel Franjul, GFDD Headquarters, NY

December 7: Screening of *Descubre La Vega* and Carnaval diablos cojuelos, School of Visual Arts, NY

Program Objectives

- To enjoy and celebrate Dominican culture, prominent figures and rising talent.
- To promote better understanding of the richness and diversity of Dominican culture.
- To create a space for reflection and discussion of topics relevant to the Dominican community in the United States and in the homeland.
- To create opportunities for networking and the exchange of ideas and experiences among Dominicans in the United States and in the Dominican Republic.
- To strengthen ties among the diaspora and the Dominican Republic.
- To provide opportunities for collaboration with other Dominican, Hispanic and like-minded organizations in the United States.

Dominican Get-Togethers in Miami

"I think it is an excellent idea that you came here to present all Global Foundation can do for the Dominican citizens in South Florida and for any person who has any interest about the Dominican people or about the Dominican Republic." — Danilo Arias

Dominican Get-Togethers Presents Screening of *Sugar* in Miami

March 21, 2012

GFDD headed south to host its first Dominican Get-Together in Miami, Florida, the city commonly referred to as the "capital of Latin America." The DGT in Miami, which took place at the Miami Dade College, Wolfson Campus, featured a screening of the film *Sugar* and a special question and answer session with Algenis Pérez Soto, the actor who portrays the film's protagonist.

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

Participating institutions: Center for Latin American and Caribbean Initiatives; Dominican Student Association of Miami Dade College; the Consulate of the Dominican Republic in Miami.

2012 Collaborating Organizations

- American Chamber of Commerce – Dominican Republic (Amcham-DR)
- Center for Latin American and Caribbean Initiatives
- Miami Dade College
- Centro Cuesta Nacional (CCN)
- Consulate of the Dominican Republic in Miami
- Dominican Student Association of Miami Dade College
- Hunter College
- Miami Dade College
- Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations
- School of Visual Arts
- World Federation of United Nations Associations





“Contributions of people like Marcos are inspiring and show that when people—especially young people—begin to act as global citizens, they can be very creative and effective. What we need now is the political will of the governments to get in sync with the will of the people.” — Bonian Golmohammadi, Secretary General, WFUNA

Dominican Get-Togethers in New York

Dominican Get-Together in the Big Apple with Dominican Professional Swimmer and Humanitarian Marcos Díaz

April 19, 2012

GFDD’s Dominican Get-Togethers, in association with the World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA), organized a program with Dominican professional swimmer and humanitarian Marcos Díaz to raise awareness for his “Swim Across the Continents” campaign with the United Nations to bring attention to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The swimmer and MDG advocate spoke about his work in and out of the water to call on governments to reach the targets to which they committed by the 2015 deadline.

In 2010, the campaign invited the world to join Marcos on his journey to swim to all five continents, in a quest to inspire the global community to place the MDGs on the world stage and to insist on change. Describing the campaign as his biggest



challenge to date, Díaz avowed that he would not stop until the world comes closer to achieving the Goals.

The event took place at the Hunter College Silberman School of Social Work.

Dominican Get-Together on Dominican Root Music and Culture with Irka Mateo

July 5, 2012

GFDD partnered with the Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations to celebrate the Dominican Republic's rich and distinct musical heritage, showcased by the sensational talent of award winning singer, songwriter and researcher of Dominican folk music, Irka Mateo.

The singer and ethnomusicologist brought audience members on a journey to discover the splendor of Dominican music, from the origins of the country's root music to the propulsive rhythms of today's contemporary genres.

The internationally acclaimed artist and expert on Dominican folkloric music and culture opened the evening with a discussion on the historical beginnings of the country's numerous musical genres. Mateo's

musical performance to follow ignited the Dag Hammarskjöld Auditorium of the United Nations Headquarters in New York, rousing many audience members to leave their seats and dance in the aisles. A seasoned performer, Mateo captivated the audience with her powerful vocals, energetic dance moves and Taino-inspired dress. The event came to a close with a standing ovation.

Continued on Page 16



Come and join us for the

Dominican

get-togethers in the

big apple

Join us for an evening of
beauty and entertainment capturing the history...

Irka Mateo

presents the evolution of Dominican music, from Taino settlements, through colonial times, to modern rural and urban musical genres. The internationally acclaimed singer and music historian will use her unique and extraordinary talents to talk about the history of Dominican music, explain musical trends, schools and rhythms and perform some of her incredible melodies.
Experience the history and the richness of Dominican rhythms and melodies.

Also enjoy a **photo exhibit** of images from GFDD's
The Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment!

Thursday, July 5, 2012, 6 - 9 pm
United Nations Headquarters
Dag Hammarskjöld Auditorium
405 East 42nd Street
New York, NY 10017
*RSVP: info@dominican-get-togethers.org - 212 751-6000

www.dominicangettogethers.org

GFDD
GLOBAL FOUNDATION FOR
DEMOCRACY AND DEVELOPMENT

Partner:

Free Admission
RSVP Mandatory*

Dominican Get-Togethers in New York

Continued from Page 15

"I loved the movie, principally because it was La Vega, it is my home, and I connected immediately with everything that I saw. I also learned some new things ... I see educational value in the fact that it shows an image of the Dominican Republic which goes beyond tourism ... it is a vision of the country that is very conscious of the environment, which is important to me as an educator." — Yoseli Castillo Fuertes, Bronx High School Teacher

La Vega Featured in the Final Dominican Get-Together of 2012

December 7, 2012

The School of Visual Arts in New York City came alive with color, dancing and the lively sounds of the Dominican Carnival in La Vega on Friday, December 7th during GFDD's final Dominican Get-Together in the Big Apple of 2012.

Come and join us for the **Dominican** get-togethers in the big apple

Free Admission

As we continue to celebrate the rich and vibrant cultural heritage of the Dominican Republic!

Watch a documentary screening of **Discover La Vega: Pride of my Land** and learn more about the Centro Cuesta Nacional Project

A fascinating journey into the religious customs, folkloric traditions, natural diversity, history and cuisine of La Vega province, including Jarabacoa, Constanza and Jima Abajo.

Sample firsthand the authentic sights, sounds, scents and flavors of the region at a reception to follow the screening!

Film Credits:
Title: Discover La Vega: Pride of my Land
Country of Origin: Dominican Republic
Year of Completion: 2012 - Duration: 46 minutes
Language: Spanish, English and French

Beatrice Theatre at the SVA
333 West 23rd Street
New York, NY 10011

Friday, December 7, 2012
6:30 - 10:00pm

RSVP: 212-751-5000
info@dominicangettogethers.org
www.dominicangettogethers.org
gettogethers@globalfoundationdd.org

Collaborators:
GFDD
MCCN
LA VEGA

The night began with a screening of Centro Cuesta Nacional's film *Discover La Vega: Pride of my Land*, which took the audiences on a journey through the rich cultural, historical, agricultural and musical heritage of the province of La Vega, in the central region of the Dominican Republic. Following the screening, the audience members were surprised with a special performance from a group of diablos cojuelos (limping devils), legendary characters of the La Vega Carnival who dress in vibrant, colorful costumes adorned with mirrors and bells and who wear large horned masks. Their traditional Carnival dance set the stage for former Dominican Consul in New York, Máximo Corcino, who was born and raised in La Vega and an expert in "vegano" culture, to answer questions from the audience about La Vega's history and what the province is like today. Members of the Association of Veganos in New York were also in attendance to contribute to the conversation and form more extensive networks in the Dominican Diaspora.

Dominicans, including many from La Vega, and non-Dominicans filled the auditorium to be transported to the island and to learn about what makes the municipalities of La Vega, Jarabacoa, Constanza and Jima Abajo of the La Vega province so unique.

Come and join us for the **Dominican** get-togethers in the big apple

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Collaborators:
GFDD
MCCN
LA VEGA

Dominican Get-Togethers Presents: Professional Discussion Forums



"I think GFDD thus far has done an excellent job with the events they have brought in... I think GFDD is on point with everything they've done." — Nelson Santana, Assistant Archivist and Assistant Librarian, CUNY Dominican Studies Institute

Dominican Get-Together with Acclaimed Dominican Journalist Miguel Franjul

October 5, 2012

GFDD partnered with Dominican Week in the United States and the Dominican-American Chamber of Commerce to organize a discussion forum with acclaimed Dominican journalist, Miguel Franjul.

The veteran journalist shared with fellow media representatives and the general public his wide breadth of experience in the field, providing recommendations on how to maximize the effectiveness of journalism. Among topics discussed, Mr. Franjul encouraged professionals in the field to create a wide spectrum media platform in English that responds to the information needs of the community. He recommended that journalists feature positive news about the Dominican Republic that would highlight the contributions that the Dominican Diaspora has made and continues to make to US society in all fields.



Dominicanaonline.org



The portal DominicanaOnline was born in 2005 and rapidly became the place of reference for everything Dominican. DominicanaOnline fills the need for a non-commercial site where Dominicans and foreign audiences—including students, teachers, tourists, investors and academics—can come to find information about the history, geography, economy, culture, customs and traditions of the Dominican Republic. In addition to the more than 1,000 pages with background information about the country and its people, the site features regular updates on all cultural and relevant events and activities

taking place in the country, such as international meetings, national celebrations, concerts, festivals, etc.

This living project hasn't stopped growing; it is continuously updated and expanded with more information and new aspects reflecting the thriving lives, concerns, aspirations and achievements of Dominican communities. In 2006, the English version of the portal was launched, making it available to broader audiences and bringing the Dominican Republic to the fingertips of the international public. New features, such as an audio section incorporated in 2007 and the virtual library of Dominican titles, have enriched the experience of this interactive tool, which has become a fixture of the Dominican cultural life.

GFDD/FUNGLODE is committed to continue the expansion and improvement of this project, where the appreciation and respect for Dominican heritage and values are portrayed and celebrated.

Highlights

- Every month, more than 12,000 visitors log onto Dominicanaonline.org to view news, features, cultural, environmental and sporting events.
- Follow us on Facebook at Facebook.com/Dominicanaonline.
- Join us on Twitter at @Dominicanaonlin.
- The 10 countries that most often visit DominicanaOnline include: USA, China, Ukraine, Sweden, Dominican Republic, United Kingdom, France, Brazil and Germany.
- According to Alexa Traffic Rank, DominicanaOnline is 390,559 in Global Rank among the world's 30 million websites.
- Thirty-four individual collaborators submitted their contributions to keep the website up and running.
- DominicanaOnline follows Major League Baseball in a special edition with a large niche. Carnival in the different Dominican provinces is also very popular. Updated information on the economy from official sources, community work and essential news on the environment through the Dominican Environmental Film Festival and day-to-day events in the Dominican Republic are all on this dynamic website.
- The website has a publications section, which includes links to magazines, important research work, a virtual library and links to purchase books.
- From DominicanaOnline, one can link to the interactive *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment* where all angles of Dominican and international ecological issues are reported and analyzed.
- There is a free downloadable yearly Calendar, e-postcards for all events and numerous e-books on offer.
- The webpage has 73 links from a variety of Dominican institutions, organizations and companies.
- The webpage is bilingual in Spanish and English.
- More than 11,000 webpages available.
- Twenty-two collaborators work regularly to keep the website up and on top of the news.



DOMINICANA ON LINE
República Dominicana

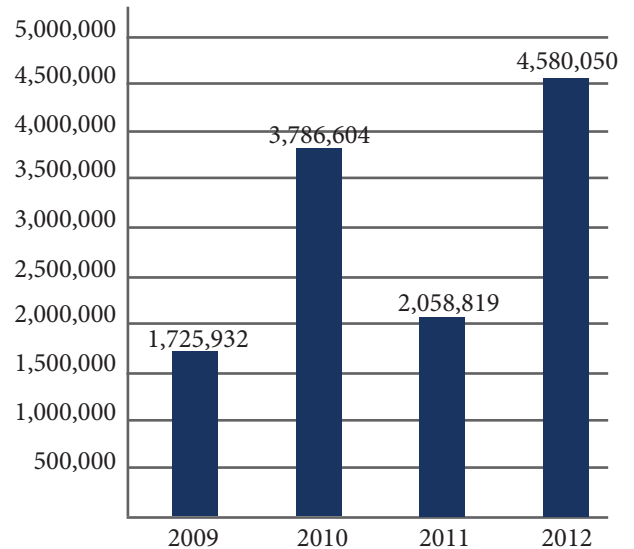
Portal Dominicanaonline.org at XV International Book Fair in Santo Domingo

April 18 – May 6, 2012

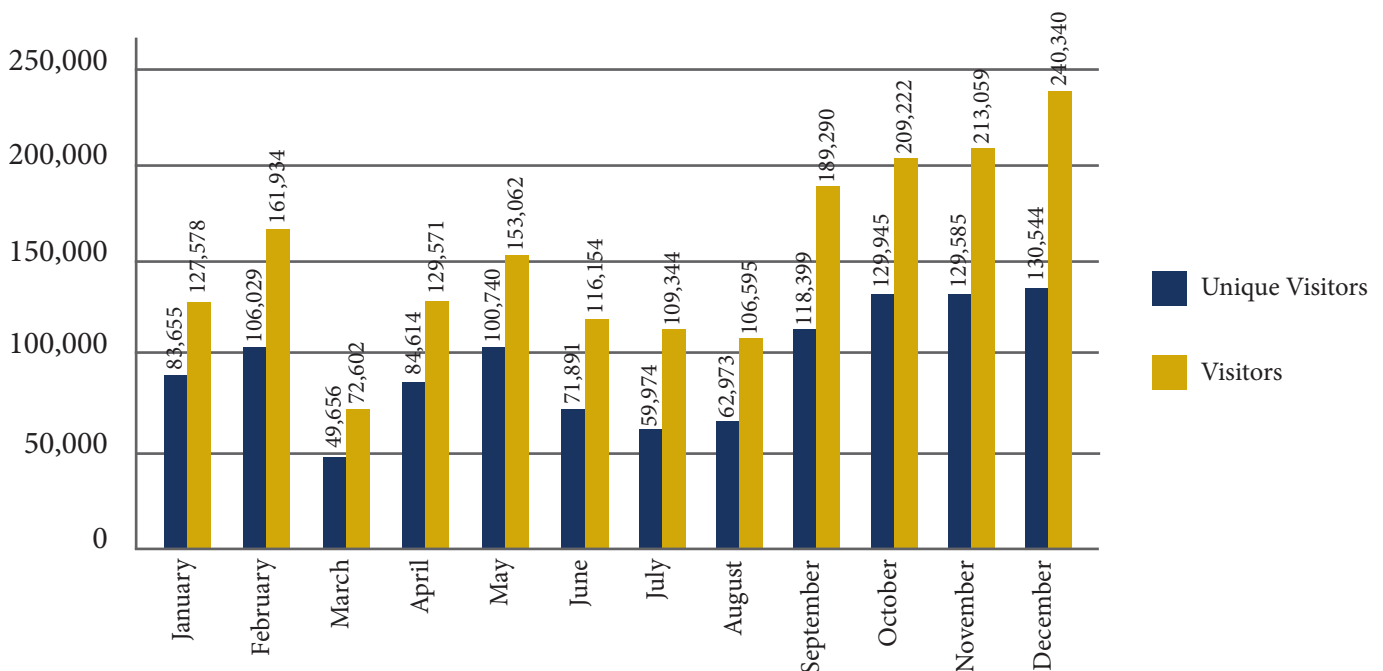
GFDD promoted Dominicanaonline.org during the XV International Book Fair held in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic in the Plaza de la Cultura. GFDD representatives offered fifteen minute-long informational sessions on the online portal six times daily at the FUNGLODE booth. The informational sessions presented the Portal's diverse thematic areas and services.



Dominicanaonline.org
Yearly Page Requests
From 01/01/2012 to 31/12/2012



Dominicanaonline – Year 2012
VISITORS



Dominican Film Showcase

www.dominicanfilmshowcase.org

In an effort to endorse the burgeoning film industry of the Dominican Republic, GFDD presents Dominican Film Showcases in different cities in the United States, sharing and celebrating the stories, history and talent of the Dominican Republic by featuring a sample of the best films produced in the Dominican Republic by Dominican filmmakers on Dominican topics. Dominican Film Showcases bring the opportunity to disseminate among international audiences films on Dominican issues and characters chosen by their quality and the talent of the authors.



The first edition of the 2012 Dominican Film Showcase will take place at the Providence Latin American Film Festival (PLAFF) from September 27-30, premiering the following films:



La Lucha de Ana/ Ana's Struggle (2012)

Director: Bladimir Abud
Genre: Thriller
Duration: 90 minutes
Writers: Alfonso Suárez (co-writer), Bladimir Abud
Stars: Cheddy García, Antonio Zamudio, Marquis Leguizamón

The film tells the story of Ana, whose only hope and joy in life is her son Amaury. Amaury's best friend involves him in a drug deal that leads to his murder. The film focuses on the corrupt system that Ana is forced to contend with as she attempts to find justice for her son.



Ballplayer: Pelotero (2011)

Directors: Guagua Productions: Ross Finkel, Trevor Martin, Jon Paley
Genre: Documentary
Duration: 82 minutes
Starring: Jean Carlos Batista, John Leguizamo, Miguel Angel Sano

In the run-up to the most important day of their lives, two young Dominican baseball players confront competition and corruption to achieve their Big-League dreams.

For 16-year-old Dominican baseball players, or Peloteros, the only real chance to escape crushing poverty comes every July 2nd, the day they become eligible to sign professional baseball contracts. Ballplayer: Pelotero provides an intimate portrait of two prospects as they navigate the calculating, mercenary and often corrupt elements that surround Major League Baseball's recruitment of the island's top talent.

Venues and Times

URI Providence 80 Washington Street Providence, RI	Prov. College 549 River Avenue Providence, RI
Friday, September 28 @ 8:30pm <i>La Lucha de Ana</i> (with Director)	Friday, September 28 @ 6:00pm <i>Pelotero</i> (with Director)
Bryant University 1150 Douglas Pike Smithfield, RI	Saturday, September 29 @ 7:30pm <i>La Lucha de Ana</i> (with Director)
Friday, September 28 @ 8:30pm <i>Pelotero</i>	The MET School 325 Public St. Providence, RI
Sunday, September 30 @ 1:00pm <i>La Lucha de Ana</i> (with Director)	Saturday, September 29 @ 5:00pm <i>Pelotero</i> (with Director)
	Sunday, September 30 @ 4:00pm <i>La Lucha de Ana</i> (with Director)

www.plaff.org
Providence Latin American Film Festival's 20th season of showcasing quality films from Latin America, Portugal, Spain and Latino film makers in the USA.



 an initiative by GFDD FUNDLODE

www.globalfoundationdd.org
www.dominicanfilmshowcase.org
Contact: Margaret Hayward
margaret@globalfoundationdd.org



The objectives of the showcase are to: facilitate the enrichment of Dominican film culture and bring its unique brand of cinema to a wider audience; utilize the seventh art as a platform for discussion and as a medium for enhancing social awareness and promoting constructive change; raise international awareness on issues of historic and cultural importance to the Dominican community; cultivate an appreciation of Dominican cinematographic talent; encourage financing for Dominican film and multimedia productions; further appreciation of the cinematographic arts and help advance the multimedia industry in the Dominican Republic; encourage potential partnerships for international co-productions; and aid the professional development of Dominican human resources in the field of film.



Dominican Film Showcase Joins Forces with the Providence Latin American Film Festival

September 27-30, 2012

GFDD partnered with the Providence Latin American Film Festival (PLAFF) to present a Dominican Film Showcase. Screenings were coordinated in partnership with University of Rhode Island Providence Campus, Bryant University, Providence College and the MET School.

GFDD and PLAFF premiered the following films:
La Lucha de Ana and *Ballplayer: Pelotero*.

La Lucha de Ana (2012)

Ana sells flowers at the local market. When her beloved son is murdered by a rich, entitled young man in a drug deal gone awry, Ana will have to take on a corrupt judicial system—and a complacent society—to seek justice.

Director: Bladimir Abud

Writers: Alfonso Suárez (co-writer), Bladimir Abud

Stars: Cheddy García, Antonio Zamudio and Marquis Leguizamon

Ballplayer: Pelotero (2011)

In this true story, two top baseball prospects in the Dominican Republic face fierce competition and corruption as they chase their big league dreams.

Directors: Ross Finkel, Trevor Martin, Jon Paley

Movie-goers had the unique opportunity to discuss the storylines and making of the films with directors Bladimir Abud and Ross Finkel. GFDD also played an instrumental role in bringing acclaimed Dominican director Fernando Báez and Carlos Rodríguez, artist and filmmaker, to PLAFF to serve as judges of the Festival.

GFDD is also very pleased to announce that actress Cheddy García, the protagonist of the film *La Lucha de Ana*, was the recipient of PLAFF 2012's Best Actress distinction.

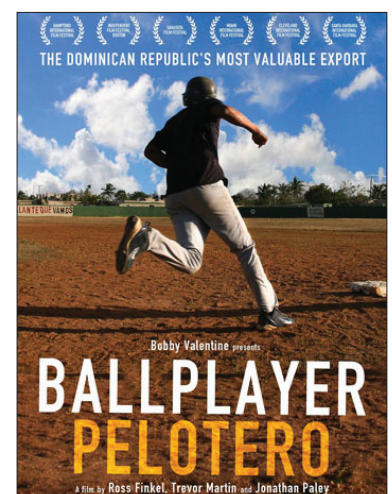


Photo Exhibit – *New Perspectives: Dominican Republic*

www.newperspectivesdominicanrepublic.com

The exhibit is a traveling photography display of the lesser-known facets of the Dominican Republic. The photos 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, which 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, María Trinidad Sánchez, Duarte, Hato Mayor, El Seibo, La Romana, San Pedro de Macorís, 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 internationally in Washington, D.C., New York, Rhode Island, Chile, Monterey (California), Spain and Brussels. Through this initiative, GFDD seeks to expand and enrich understanding of the Dominican Republic.





Photography Exhibit Launched at Public School 24 in Brooklyn, New York

June 4-6, 2012

PS 24 Elementary School, located in Sunset Park, Brooklyn, was the first public school in the New York City school system to put on a display of over 40 aerial images of the provinces of the Dominican Republic. PS 24 is an elementary school in New York City and serves 767 students, of which 92 percent are of Hispanic descent, including many Dominicans.

Myriam Victoria, PS 24 Leader in Education at the Dual Language School for International Studies, proposed to bring the images to the New York City Public School System after viewing the images at FUNGLODE, GFDD's sister institution in the Dominican Republic. She felt it was important that the exhibit be seen by the Hispanic community in New York, not only to educate the community about the Dominican Republic, but also to serve as a source of pride for all the students and teachers in the school system who identify themselves with Dominican culture.

Photography Exhibit Travels to European Parliament in Brussels

July 10-13, 2012

GFDD was proud to bring its acclaimed photo exhibit to the European Parliament in Brussels. The inauguration of the exhibit was celebrated at the European Parliament on July 10, in joint collaboration with Mr. Ignacio Salafranca, Member of the European Parliament and Chair of the Delegation to the Euro Latin American Parliamentary Assembly, and His Excellency, Alejandro González Pons, Ambassador of the Dominican Republic to the European Union.

The opening reception served as an invaluable opportunity to share with the Ambassadors and EU staff members 14 aerial images capturing the landscapes and diversity of one of the Caribbean's most ecologically diverse nations, the Dominican Republic.

The event was made possible thanks to GFDD's partnerships with the Dominican Embassy to the European Union and Mr. Salafranca's office.

Conferences and Panel Discussions

“The Dominican Republic 50 Years After Trujillo”

January 7, 2012

GFDD, in partnership with the Embassy of the Dominican Republic in Washington, D.C., presented the program “The Dominican Republic 50 Years After Trujillo,” with the participation of Dr. Howard Wiarda at FUNGLODE Headquarters in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic.

Dr. Wiarda affirmed that the Dominican Republic of today can provide lessons to the world on the challenges associated with achieving democracy following a period of prolonged dictatorship. Wiarda asserted that the country can teach other emerging democracies that the quest for democracy is a long process of continual transition that spans two or three generations. The scholar also underscored the critical contribution of President Dr. Leonel Fernández to this process. Wiarda confirmed that the political party system in the Dominican Republic is now one of the strongest in Latin America.

Baseball in the Dominican Republic: Opportunity and Responsibility

February 15, 2012

GFDD organized the program “Baseball in the Dominican Republic: Opportunity and Responsibility,” with Rob Ruck, Professor of History at the University of Pittsburgh. Ruck spoke of the large concentration of talent found in the



Baseball in the Dominican Republic: Opportunity and Responsibility

Dominican Republic. He also referred to the exploitative practices employed by talent scouts when drafting players, likening them to child trafficking. On a positive note, the university professor spoke enthusiastically about the start of the Dominican national sport, applauding the strong reputation achieved by the country in the baseball, a position supported by the comments of the Dominican minister of sports, Felipe Payano.

The discussion session was followed by the presentation of the film *The Republic of Baseball: Dominican Giants of the American Game*, written and produced by Rob Ruck. The documentary is based on the book by Ruck, *The Tropic of Baseball: Baseball in the Dominican Republic*.

Elections in the Dominican Republic: Where is the Country Headed?

April 23, 2012

GFDD, in collaboration with the Inter-American Dialogue and the Embassy of the Dominican Republic in the United States, organized the discussion forum “Elections in the Dominican Republic: Where is the Country Headed?” Political experts Bernardo Vega, former Ambassador of the Dominican Republic to the United States; Rosario Espinal, Professor of Political



Natasha Despotovic and Ambassador of Dominican Republic Roberto Saladin at panel discussion “Elections in the Dominican Republic: Where is the Country Headed?”



The Dominican Republic 50 Years After Trujillo

Sociology at Temple University; and Eduardo Gamarra, Professor of Politics and International Relations at Florida International University, gave insightful analysis of the upcoming election and provided a detailed overview of the history of elections in the country. The discussion was moderated by Peter Hakim, President Emeritus of The Inter-American Dialogue, and included the participation of Natasha Despotovic, GFDD Executive Director; Michael Shifter, President of The Inter-American Dialogue; Aníbal de Castro, Dominican Ambassador to the White House; and Roberto Saladin, Dominican Ambassador to the Organization of American States.

Experts described the political climate in the Dominican Republic as highly polarized, and classified the Dominican electorate as participatory, with a small percentage of undecided voters. The distinguished speakers forecasted close results with a few difference points. All agreed that,

despite characteristics of clientelism, the political process in the Dominican Republic is stable and participatory.

GFDD and FUNGLODE Showcase Programs and Projects during Cultural Tourism Passport DC Initiative
May 5, 2012

GFDD and FUNGLODE's participation in the *Cultural Tourism Passport DC* program, on May 5, 2012, in partnership with the Embassy of the Dominican Republic in Washington, D.C., attracted the attention and interest of a large group of visitors from all over the world.

Cultural Tourism Passport DC has proven to be an excellent window to present to the general public the work of GFDD and FUNGLODE in the fields of education, technology, internships, fellowships, environment, cultural heritage, and public policies.

Outreach

“These activities are not just of interest to the Dominican Republic and the Latino/Hispanic community, but those interested in Dominican culture worldwide.” — Haile Rivera, community leader and co-founder of Hands On New York, Inc.

GFDD’s small team of devoted staff works hard to develop initiatives that support social, economic, democratic, environmental and cultural advancement in the Dominican Republic. Outreach forms an important part of our mission, as it provides opportunities for the organization to increase awareness of the scope and benefits of our program and projects. In order to spread the word, GFDD regularly organizes meetings with media affiliates and leaders so as to increase the number of people and organizations that benefit from our initiatives, as well as to attract new partners committed to advancing sustainable development in the country.



GFDD Strengthens Partnerships with Dominican Student Leaders from Universities and Colleges in New York City

June 5, 2012

GFDD convened a reception with active Dominican leaders in the New York City academic community. The student leaders and faculty met with the Foundation’s executives and staff to hear about GFDD’s programs and projects and to learn more about the innovative and influential work being spearheaded by Dominican youth.

GFDD staff discussed how the organization’s academic-oriented programs InterDom and The Fellows Program can help to bolster students’ academic and professional advancement, while contributing to the development of the Dominican Republic.

The invited students, faculty and community leaders represented Columbia University, Grupo Quisqueyano Columbia, The City University of New York (CUNY), the CUNY Dominican Students Association, John Jay College and Lehman College.



GFDD Strengthens Partnerships with Dominican Student Leaders from Universities and Colleges in New York City

GFDD looks forward to developing ongoing partnerships with these and other student-led groups and associations.

Press Gathering in Partnership with the Consulate of the Dominican Republic

June 5, 2012

GFDD partnered with the Consulate of the Dominican Republic in New York City to organize a press gathering at the Consulate, with the purpose of presenting the programs and projects being spearheaded by GFDD in the Dominican Republic and the United States.

During the event, which featured the participation of Isabel Padilla, the Dominican Vice-Consulate in New York, GFDD Executive Director, Natasha Despotovic, spoke about the programs and projects being implemented by GFDD to promote sustainable development in the Dominican Republic and professional and educational advancement within the Dominican community in the United States.

The Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival (DREFF), the *Dominican Republic Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment*, Dominican Get-Togethers, InterRDom and The Fellows Program were a few of the numerous programs highlighted by Ms. Despotovic at the press gathering.



Press Gathering in Partnership with the Consulate of the Dominican Republic

Outreach



Second GFDD Golf Tournament in New York

October 1, 2012

GFDD celebrated the second GFDD Golf Tournament, taking place at the historic Fresh Meadow Country Club in Long Island, New York.

The event, which has become a GFDD tradition, featured the participation of 80 players. The ceremonial tee off was realized by former Major League Baseball player and long-standing friend of the Foundation, Mr. Juan Marichal, who officially kick-started the event with a hole-in-one shot. The 2012 GFDD Golf Tournament participants enjoyed the sunny, warm autumn afternoon, playing on the picturesque grounds of the Fresh Meadow Country Club, famous for its forested terrain, elevated tees and spectacular vistas.

The day-long festivities concluded with a dinner reception and awards ceremony officiated by GFDD Executive Director Natasha Despotovic, featuring the participation of former President of the Dominican Republic and Honorary President of GFDD and FUNGLODE, Dr. Leonel Fernández.

Ms. Despotovic thanked everyone in attendance for their continued support for the initiatives realized by GFDD, both in the Dominican Republic and the United States. She extended special gratitude to Mr. Rudy Fuertes, Head of the GFDD Golf Tournament Organizing Committee, for his dedication to the realization of the event and to the Foundation in general.



Special thanks to the following institutions:

Fine Fare Supermarkets
 Compare Supermarkets
 Mission Food
 Food Nation
 Tomra
 Global Energy
 Derle Farms
 Key Food
 Ozone Refrigeration
 Advance Sales
 Banco Popular
 CBA
 Hispanic Indoor Media
 Carolina Rice
 NSA-National Supermarket Association
 Frito Lay
 SV Products
 Metropolitan Paper
 ACE Advertisement
 Edwin Travel
 General Trading
 Nebraska Land
 Coca Cola
 Café Santo Domingo
 Callaway-Golf Destinare



Environmental stewardship has been at the forefront of GFDD's mission since its conception. Through the organization of conferences, workshops and 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.



2012 Highlights

- 6 schools and 1 community center pave the way for healthy living by planting garden
- Literally the first country “on the map,” the Dominican Republic leads Latin America as the first to add Spanish language content to the Explore the Ocean layer in Google Earth
- Dominican filmmakers hone their talents and advocate for the environment through the launch of the Globo Verde Dominicano Award
- The *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment* becomes accessible to millions of people worldwide with its launch in English online
- Three educational expeditions to Pico Duarte provide life-changing experiences for more than 125 school children
- The launch of the guidebook, *How to Make a School Garden*, is one of GFDD's environmental projects meant to encourage and inspire citizens of the Dominican Republic and the world to adopt practices that will positively contribute to sustainability and a healthier lifestyle.
- The II Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival shatters the high standard set in the first edition, screening 24 films at 9 venues in 7 cities, with more than 5,000 people
- Populations across the Dominican Republic and the United States learn of Dominican ecology, natural resources and conservation efforts through 6 installments of the *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment* Photo Exhibit
- Top experts from leading academic institutions in the Dominican Republic and the United States, INTEC and CCNY, combine forces to present cutting-edge research on the causes and implications of the rise of Lake Enriquillo

Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival (DREFF)

www.dreff.org



The Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival (DREFF) raises awareness and deepens the understanding of environmental issues among Dominican audiences, all while celebrating the beauty and diversity of the country's natural heritage. Through the screening of 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 inspire Dominican audiences to adopt practices that will ensure 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 extends beyond the dates of the screenings to promote programs and projects that contribute to environmental protection, conservation and sustainability.

What People Are Saying About DREFF

"This festival seeds so many grassroots movements and empowers people from all walks of life to take responsibility for their own backyard and day to day actions. Personally, I don't think it is about people hitting a point of saturation on current consumption habits, but realizing that such endless material appetite never leads to true satiation." — *Asher Jay, Artist and Environmental Activist*

"It was great to do the beach cleanup. ... sad to see how much was there, but good to see how much got recovered. Hopefully this left an impression with the teenagers who helped. I also had the opportunity to tour a local recycling collection center and visit the Ozama River. Some of the people from the recycling facility came to hear my talk, and that was a great experience to see them there! The event was well-run, and I hope it can continue to grow with leaps and bounds." — *Doug Woodring, Founder, Ocean Recovery Alliance*

"I was greatly looking forward to this year's GFDD Environmental Film Festival and it exceeded my expectations. From the devastatingly beautiful film *Waste Land* and the revealing *Revenge of the Electric*

Car, to the important issue-based films *Some Place with a Mountain* and *My Village, My Lobster*, those attending were inspired and informed. The local Dominican film *Educational Expedition to Pico Duarte* about the empowerment of youth will inspire far beyond the students who make the climb. Panel discussions on the value of nature economically and socially, and how to solve some of our planet's most pressing problems left us all with anticipation for a dialogue that will continue next year in 2013. BRAVO!" — *Charlotte Vick, Content Manager for Google Earth's "Explore the Ocean Layer"*

"DREFF 2012 was an engaging and well-planned festival geared toward a spectrum of participants; from activists to students to a general audience interested in learning more about environmental issues, we found DREFF to be an ideal outlet for our film." — *Joshua Wolff, Director, My Village, My Lobster*

"Thank you all for dedicating so much effort to this initiative in favor of the environment, and for allowing the members of the Voluntariado Banreservas to participate and support this great cause." — *Gloria Aquino de Rodríguez, Voluntariado Banreservas*

Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival (DREFF)

Screening of Environmental Documentary *Play Again* January 31, 2012

GFDD hosted a special screening of the environmental documentary *Play Again* at FUNGLODE Headquarters. The film follows the lives of six American teenagers that spend more time in the virtual world than the natural environment. The moving documentary explores the consequences of a life removed from nature and encourages viewers to take steps towards a more sustainable future.

The film screening was followed by an informative panel featuring: María Quirico, Coordinator of Community and School Gardens Program; Rose Lord of Make Gardens not War; and Ana Marte from the New Horizons School.

Screening of Environmental Documentary *The Polar Explorer* March 15, 2012

GFDD presented a screening of the documentary film *The Polar Explorer*, followed by a discussion session with filmmaker Mark Terry. The discussion following the film focused on the challenges Mark Terry and his team had to confront in making the film, the ecological implications of the expansion of new species in the Arctic, and what global warming will mean in terms of sea-level rise.

Discussion Panel on National Recycling Initiatives with the Screening of Documentary Film *Bag It!* May 30, 2012

GFDD organized a program on recycling at FUNGLODE featuring a panel discussion with key societal actors behind the country's recycling and green living movement, followed by the screening of the documentary film *Bag It!*.

The disposal of solid waste is one of the greatest environmental challenges facing the Dominican Republic. Invited speakers Ginny Heinsen, Project Coordinator for the Center for the Development of Agriculture and

Our Partners

- Universidad APEC
- Universidad Pedro Henríquez Ureña (UNPHU)
- PUNTACANA Resort and Club
- Banreservas
- Fundación Siempre Más
- Samaná Whale Festival
- Vida Azul
- City College of New York (CCNY)
- Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC)
- Fundsazurza
- Biblioteca Infantil y Juvenil Republica Dominicana
- PADF
- World Wide Views
- Blue Ocean Film Festival

Experts and Featured Guests

- Rose Lord, Make Gardens not War
- Ana Marte, New Horizons School
- Mark Terry, *The Polar Explorer*
- Karim Mella
- Bertha Santana
- Fer Figueras
- Ginny Heinsen, CEDAF
- Lorna Aquino, Green Love
- Nicolás Mendoza, FUNDSAZURZA
- Domingo Contreras, Secretary General of the Municipality
- José Alarcón, UASD
- Solhanlle Bonilla, INTEC
- Yolanda León, INTEC
- Luis Cuevas, INDRHI
- Jorge González, CCNY
- Ricardo González, INTEC
- Lisa Staiano-Coico, CCNY
- Rolando M. Guzmán, INTEC

Forestry CEDAF, for its Spanish acronym), Lorna Aquino, Executive Director of Green Love, Nicolás Mendoza, Coordinator for the Fundación de Saneamiento Ambiental de la Zurza – FUNDSAURZA, and Domingo Contreras, Secretary General of the Municipality, discussed the varied initiatives that their respective organizations are realizing to address waste management through recycling and community clean-up programs.

The screening concluded with closing remarks from Fer Figueras, photographer and environmental activist, whom showcased his most recent photography exhibit, *Máquina de espuma*, and reflected on the ever increasing presence of plastic in our natural environment.

Celebrating the Month of the Environment

June 6-23, 2012

In celebration of the Month of the Environment, DREFF organized screenings of films that relate to good waste and soil management practices, in various locales throughout the city of Santo Domingo and in Punta Cana. Screenings took place at Universidad APEC, Universidad Pedro Henríquez Ureña, Ministry of the Environment and the Asociación Popular de Ahorros y Prestamos (APAP).

2012 DREFF Screenings

January 15-21: *Where the Whales Sing & Ocean Explorers*, Whale Festival, Samaná

January 31: *Play Again*, FUNGLODE

March 15: *The Polar Explorer*, FUNGLODE

May 30: *Bag It!*, FUNGLODE

June 6-23: *Journey to Planet Earth: Plan B: Mobilizing to Save Civilization; Chocolate Country; Dirt! The Movie; Bag It!*; and *Vanishing of the Bees*, Universidad APEC, Universidad Pedro Henríquez Ureña and Ministry of the Environment and Asociación Popular de Prestamos y Ahorros (APAP)

September 6-9: II DREFF

September 24-30: *De Espaldas Al Mar*, Blue Ocean Film Festival, Monterey, CA

November 22-24: *Bag it!*, *Someplace with a Mountain*, and *Life: Challenges of Life*, Biblioteca Infantil y Juvenil República Dominicana



The following environmental documentary films were screened: *Journey to Planet Earth: Plan B: Mobilizing to Save Civilization*, *Chocolate Country*; *Dirt! The Movie*; *Bag It!* and *Vanishing of the Bees*.

DREFF Raises Awareness on Importance of Conservation at the Dominican Children and Youth Library

November 26, 2012

As part of its mission to elevate awareness of environmental challenges and to promote protection of the natural world and its resources, the Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival joined forces with *Biblioteca Infantil y Juvenil República Dominicana* (Dominican Children and Youth Library) for their first-ever Environmental Film Festival.

DREFF contributed to the program via the organization of three environmental documentary film screenings, which included: *Bag it!*; *Someplace with a Mountain*; and *Life: Challenges of Life*. The screenings were followed by lecture and discussion sessions with local environmentalists, who stressed the importance of conservation, recycling, biodiversity and raised awareness on the issue of climate change.

The program took place November 22-24, 2012 at the Library's *La Trinitaria* auditorium in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. More than 100 engaged students were on site each day to enjoy the films and exchange impressions and questions with the experts. The audience had a chance to learn about environmental challenges affecting the world in general and their own surroundings.

Community and School Gardens Program

DREFF School Vegetable Garden Initiative

January 31, 2012

In 2012, DREFF continued on its mission to inspire young people to become connected with the Earth and familiar with the concept of local horticulture by officially launching the Community and School Gardens Program. The idea behind the initiative arose from the interest sparked among students participating in talks, panels and workshops conducted by Rose Lord during the I Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival. Rose Lord represents the Make Gardens Not War, an initiative of the Global Coalition for Peace, which seeks to encourage the creation of vegetable gardens around the world.

The Community and School Gardens Program is a GFDD program which seeks to serve as a practical teaching tool to supplement middle and high school curriculums in the following ways: 1) strengthen Natural Science curriculums through inclusion of experimental activities; 2) teach students about how recycled organic matter can serve as organic fertilizer; 3) create awareness of the importance of a balanced diet; 4) create a how-to manual on school vegetable gardens; and 5) offer students a space for recreation, relaxation and physical activity.

The School Vegetable Garden initiative is reflective of DREFF's overall mission to interact with leading figures in the environmental community and to make a difference.

In 2012, DREFF partnered with six schools in the Dominican Republic to create organic vegetable gardens:

- February 1 – Babeque Secundario School
- April 16 – Loyola School
- April 20 – Calazans School
- April 22 – Café con Leche School
- April 24 – Centro Educativo Los Prados School
- April 28 – St. George School



DREFF Realizes Workshops on Community Gardens in Partnership with Banreservas

July 5 – August 4, 2012

DREFF partnered with Banreservas to realize a five-day workshop on community gardens at Club Banreservas in Santo Domingo. The program, which took place over the course of 5 Saturdays, provided participants with instruction on how to create and maintain box gardens utilizing organic agricultural techniques. The workshop was taught by Cristiana Cruz Minier, expert in botany and environmental science.

The objectives of the workshop were to: create a community garden that will serve both recreational and occupational needs; teach participants about organic box gardening; plant vegetables that are fast-growing; instill a sense of community; and provide a healthy, toxic-free food source for the community. Twenty people of varying ages took part in the workshop, planting three raised beds, one 4" by 4" in diameter and two 8" by 5" feet in diameter.

Participants learned how to plant and cultivate radishes, tomatoes, spinach, hot peppers and okra. Seeds were provided by the Ministry of Agriculture.

Scaling Pico Duarte

DREFF Educational Expedition to Pico Duarte *April 2-5, 2012*

DREFF's first-ever educational expedition to Pico Duarte exceeded expectations. Over the course of the four-day trek, forty-five students from three Dominican high-schools—Centro de Excelencia Media Profesora Cristina Billini Morales “Fe y Alegría”, Centro de Excelencia República de Colombia, and Centro Educativo República de Guatemala—had the opportunity to scale the Caribbean’s highest summit alongside the professional Dominican mountaineer and seasoned Everest trekker, Karim Mella.

The expedition included lectures by the students and teachers on the geography of the Cordillera Central

Mountain Range, rivers, fauna, flora, the climate of the Dominican Republic, environmental protection, forest fires, reforestation and first aid, among other topics.

GFDD hopes that the momentous experience will live in the hearts and minds of the student participants long after the expedition, and will instill within them a profound respect for the natural environment and its resources.

The expedition was made possible thanks to the collaboration of Dominican professional mountaineers Karim Mella and Federico Jovine, real role models to so many young Dominicans for their dedication to a higher aspiration and their achievements.



Scaling Pico Duarte



Certification Ceremony for Participants of the First-Ever DREFF Educational Expedition to Pico Duarte

June 21, 2012

DREFF hosted a certification ceremony for the students, educators and administrators that participated in the first-ever DREFF educational expedition to Pico Duarte.

The celebration included welcoming remarks by GFDD New York Director and FUNGLODE Director of Formative Activities, Yamile Eusebio, and an address by professional mountaineer Karim Mella highlighting achievements, lessons learned, student accomplishments and how students can continue to serve as multipliers.

Students were awarded certificates of achievement and had the opportunity to openly share and reflect upon what they learned and experienced during the four-day trek.

The event also featured a preview of the short film produced by GFDD's Multimedia Department on the expedition,

which was debuted during the second edition of the Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival.

DREFF Partners with Dominican Mountaineer Karim Mella to Realize Second Educational Expedition to Pico Duarte

July 5-8, 2012

On the heels of the success of the first-ever DREFF educational expedition to Pico Duarte, professional mountaineer and DREFF contributor Karim Mella and his foundation, Fundación Siempre Más, coordinated a subsequent trip for thirty five students from the Politécnico Ave María in Villa Mella and the Liceo La Salle de Capotillo public high schools. During the four-day trek, students learned about environmental topics and the importance of personal strength, teamwork, comradeship, and discipline and group awareness.

The initiative also received support from the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources of the Dominican Republic, the Reach Your Summits Foundation, the

Swanson Family Foundation, Fundación Futuro Posible and other private enterprises.

GFDD and FUNGLODE's Third Educational Expedition to Pico Duarte Ends On A High Note For Students

October 4, 2012

The Third Educational Expedition to Pico Duarte, orchestrated by GFDD and FUNGLODE, in collaboration with mountaineer Karim Mella's Fundación Siempre Más, took place on October 4 – 7, 2012, with the participation of fifty five students and professors from Liceo San Juan Bautista del Caimito, Moca and Nuestra Señora del Perpetuo Socorro, San Isidro.

The group reached the summit, the highest in the Caribbean, at 10:30 am on October 6, after a more than twenty-two mile trek over a two day period. In their quest to reach the top, the hikers had to overcome a number of challenging obstacles including low temperatures, rain, and an inhospitable terrain that was at times both rough and muddy.

GFDD and FUNGLODE provided students with the necessary equipment for the hike including backpacks, coats, gloves, hats, t-shirts and flashlights. In anticipation of the climb, the students were prepped by the expedition's official doctor on the importance of hydration and other vital aspects related to hygiene and trail maintenance whilst hiking.

The expedition included lectures on the geography of the Cordillera Central Mountain Range, the climate of the Dominican Republic, environmental protection, forest fires, reforestation and first aid. An important message of the trek was to impart in students the importance of leaving the parks ecosystem undisturbed as well as the critical need for careful disposal of all trash to minimize the risk, and subsequent spread, of forest fires.



Conferences and Special Topics

DREFF Collaborates with Whale Festival in Samaná *January 24, 2012*

In support of national initiatives to promote environmental awareness and respect for the natural environment, DREFF collaborated with the first-ever Whale Festival in Samaná, Dominican Republic. The festival commemorated the natural and cultural heritage of the Samaná Peninsula and the start of the whale-watching season, when high concentrations of north Atlantic humpback whales come to the northeastern coast of the Dominican Republic to calve, nurse and mate.

One feature of the Festival was the screening of films on whales and other marine life. The screenings were conducted in coordination with GFDD's Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival. In addition to film screenings, the festival included musical and theatrical performances, educational games and mural installations.

Program on Global Warming and Environmental Protection with Documentary Filmmaker Mark Terry *March 16, 2012*

GFDD partnered with the Fundación de Saneamiento Ambiental de la Zurza – FUNDSAURZA to coordinate an educational program on global warming and environmental protection with documentary filmmaker

and environmental advocate Mark Terry at the Aida Cartagena Portalatin School. Terry spoke with students about his journey to the Arctic and shared slides of his amazing encounters with Arctic wildlife.

Later, Terry was given a guided tour of the school's recycling program in conjunction with Fundsazurza, the local civil society organization serving a community of some 40,000 people, along with the students of the Aida Cartagena Portalatin School, major forces in the environmental and recycling movement, working together on the clean-up of the Isabela River. Fundsazurza realizes educational campaigns with local schools and is responsible for recycling tons of plastic and cardboard and providing social services to the community with the proceeds.

DREFF Raises Awareness of the Environmental and Human Health Risks Associated with Solid Waste *May 30, 2012*

Solid waste management has become an environmental and social issue for most cities in the Dominican Republic. Between 6,000 and 8,000 tons of solid waste is produced each day in the Dominican Republic, with more than 80% coming from municipal (non-industrial) sources. According to the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, nearly 90% of the municipalities surveyed identified solid



DREFF Collaborates with Whale Festival in Samaná



Program on Global Warming and Environmental Protection with Documentary Filmmaker Mark Terry

waste management as their top environmental priority primarily because of a lack of collection and disposal capacity. Though progress has been made by allocating funds to municipalities for landfill expansion projects and recycling collection centers, the reality is that inadequate and unsafe disposal of waste is common.

In response to this environmental challenge, DREFF organized a panel discussion with instrumental players in country's efforts to address waste management, followed by the screening of the documentary film *Bag It!*

National experts Ginny Heinsen (Project Coordinator, Center for the Development of Agriculture and Forestry CEDAF), Lorna Aquino (Executive Director, Green Love), Nicolás Mendoza (Executive Director, Fundación de Saneamiento Ambiental de la Zurza – FUNDSAZURZA) and Domingo Contreras (Secretary General of the Municipality) spoke of the severity of the issue and the awareness raising campaigns being launched to educate citizens about recycling and proper waste disposal.

The effects of plastic on waterways, wildlife and human health were echoed during the screening of *Bag It!*. The award winning film by director Suzan Beraza follows a man's quest to discover where plastic bags come from,

where they go once discarded, and if they are necessary. The film goes further still to investigate the presence of plastic in all facets of human life, and the detrimental corollaries of the chemicals that comprise it.

The program concluded with remarks by photographer and environmental activist Fer Figueras on his latest photography exhibit, *Máquina de espuma (Machine of Foam)*. The powerful exhibit is a photographic commentary on the ever-increasing presence of plastic in our natural environment.

DREFF Joins Forces with Universidad APEC to Celebrate 2012 Environment Week *June 5-8, 2012*

As part of its mission to elevate awareness of environmental challenges and to promote protection of the natural world and its resources, DREFF joined forces with Universidad APEC in celebration the 2012 Environment Week.

DREFF contributed to the program via the organization of environmental documentary film screenings, an exposition featuring images from the highly esteemed *Dominican Republic Encyclopedic Dictionary of*

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Conferences and Special Topics

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DREFF Partners with BLUE Ocean Film Festival & Conservation in Monterey, CA

the Environment, in addition to an informational presentation of GFDD's encyclopedic dictionary. Film screenings included: *Journey to Planet Earth*; *Plan B: Mobilizing to Save Civilization*; *Chocolate Country*; and *Dirt! The Movie*.

High Level Dialogue: “The Growth of Lake Enriquillo: Environmental, Social and Scientific Implications”

July 28, 2012

DREFF partnered with the City College of New York (CCNY) and the Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC) to organize the high-level dialogue “The Rise of Lake Enriquillo: Environmental, Social and Scientific Implications” at FUNGLODE headquarters in Santo Domingo.

Experts presented recent research conducted to determine why Lake Enriquillo has been growing, and to address the environmental, social and scientific implications of its growth. The event featured a briefing of recent findings related to the current status of the

lake, and working groups tasked with devising action plans aimed at mitigating the negative causal effects of the lake's expansion.

Participants included: José Alarcón, Faculty of Agronomic and Veterinary Sciences, UASD; Solhanlle Bonilla, Researcher, INTEC; Yolanda León, Faculty of Science, INTEC; Luis Cuevas, Operation of Risk Systems, INDRHI; Jorge González, Grove School of Engineering, CCNY; Ricardo González, Professor of Engineering, INTEC; Lisa Staiano-Coico, President of The City College of New York (CCNY) and Rolando M. Guzmán, President of Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC).

DREFF Partners with BLUE Ocean Film Festival & Conservation in Monterey, CA

September 24-30, 2012

DREFF representatives attended the BLUE Ocean Film Festival & Conservation Event in Monterey, California, with the purpose of providing support to

our partner institution, liaising with potential new partners, keeping current on new trends and promoting GFDD and FUNGLODE projects, programs and publications.

The BLUE Ocean Film Festival & Conservation Event is a seven-day forum that showcases the best in ocean films. The event brings together filmmakers, scientists, advocates and entertainment executives alike to foster connections that might inspire the production of new, world-class films that promote the conservation of the Earth's oceans.

DREFF participated in BLUE in a number of ways, including providing the support of DREFF staff members, who served as a BLUE Ocean Film Festival & Conservation Event volunteers. DREFF also premiered its 2012 Globo Verde Dominicano Award winner in the category of short film *De espaldas al mar (Turning our Backs to the Ocean)* by Armando Larrauri.

Even more, GFDD also inaugurated its acclaimed exhibits: *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the*

Environment and New Perspectives: Dominican Republic at BLUE. The exhibits displayed graphics and scientific information from the *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment and New Perspectives: Dominican Republic*, a reference book published by GFDD and FUNGLODE. Copies of both publications and promotional materials were on display at GFDD's booth.

Over 20 images were on display.

Citizen Dialogue on Biodiversity with PADF and World Wide Views

September 15, 2012

GFDD partnered with the Pan American Development Foundation (PADF) and World Wide Views to convene the Dominican meeting of the global event, "World Wide Views on Biodiversity." The purpose of the project was to promote dialogue on the decline of biodiversity and the importance of effective policy among citizens worldwide. The event

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DREFF Raises Awareness of the Environmental and Human Health Risks Associated with Solid Waste

Conferences and Special Topics

Continued from Page 41

in the Dominican Republic took place at FUNGLODE headquarters in Santo Domingo.

On September 15, citizens in 25 countries around the world attended meetings to discuss current challenges impacting biodiversity. Inputs were submitted to representatives attending the eleventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 11), to be held in Hyderabad, India, October 8-19, 2012, with the objective of informing ministers and representatives of the perspectives of the citizens they represent.

The initiative seeks to bridge the gap between civil society and policy makers in order to widen democratic processes and stimulate citizen involvement in decision-making on matters of global concern.

DREFF Hosts Event to Present the Findings of the Fundación Vida Azul 2012 Coastal Clean-up Report

October 18, 2012

On October 15, DREFF, GFDD and FUNGLODE partnered with Fundación Vida Azul to present the institute's "2012 Coastal Clean-Up Report" at FUNGLODE headquarters in Santo Domingo. The outcome document is a statistical assessment of the results of the national coastal clean-up project organized internationally by The Ocean Conservancy.

During the 2012 national coastal clean-up initiative, volunteers collected 196,988.84 pounds of trash along 147 kilometers of beach, rivers and streams.

Mr. José Ureña, President of Fundación Vida Azul, provided audience members with a breakdown of the type of waste collected – 37 percent bottles, 10 percent bottle caps, 8 percent plastic bags and 7 percent disposable plastic cups and utensils. These percentages in terms of items gathered translate into:



DREFF Hosts Event to Present the Findings of the Fundación Vida Azul 2012 Coastal Clean-up Report

183 thousand plastic bottles, 52 thousand pieces of Styrofoam, 49 thousand plastic bottle caps, approximately 39 thousand plastic bags and 35 thousand pieces of disposable plastic cups and utensils.

The president of the environmental organization highlighted that the main objective of the project is to educate the public on how to better care for the environment. Oscar Oviedo, Director of Fundación Vida Azul, went on to convey that the initiative teaches citizens to understand that trash is not part of the landscape, stating that, on the contrary "it robs space."

Mr. Oviedo and Ms. Catherine Florentino, Assistant Coordinator of Formative Activities at FUNGLODE, encouraged those present to promote the initiative, so as to ensure that the number of volunteers continues to grow.

Second Annual DREFF

GFDD Presents Second Edition of Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival

September 5-9, 2012

The second edition of GFDD's annual Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival (DREFF) exceeded expectations, attracting upwards of 3,500 attendees and participants.

DREFF 2012, celebrated in the cities of Santo Domingo, San Francisco de Macorís, Santiago de los Caballeros, Punta Cana, Baní, Puerto Plata and Sosua, featured a wide array of film screenings, panel discussions, workshops, training sessions and community outreach activities.



Films

The 2012 Festival featured screenings of 24 environmental film productions:

- 2 retrospective titles: *The Last Lions*; *Waste Land*
- 3 Dominican titles: *Terra*; *Dominicana Bajo el Mar II*; *Discover La Vega: Pride of My Land*
- 6 short films: *Anna, Emma and the Condors*; *Carbon for Water*; *Loretanos: Designing the Ocean's Future*; *Someplace with a Mountain*; *Wild Wealth*; *Yasuni: A Wild Idea*
- 13 international feature films: *Big Miracle*; *Biophilic Design: The Architecture of Life*; *In Organic We Trust*; *Life: Challenges of Life*; *My Village, My Lobster*; *My Father, the Captain*; *Jacques Yves Cousteau*; *Revenge of the Electric Car*; *Sea the Truth*; *Surviving Progress*; *Taste the Waste*; *The City Dark*; *The Whale*; *Vegucated*

DREFF also premiered its documentary short film on the first-ever DREFF led *Educational Expedition to Pico Duarte* – an outcome of the first edition of the Festival celebrated in September 2011, and the resulting national and international network that emerged. Forty-five students from three local high schools participated in the five-day trek.



Second Annual DREFF



Panels and workshops

DREFF offered audiences 9 thematic panels, providing opportunities to interact with experts and learn how we can all work toward a more sustainable tomorrow through the Festival's program of panel discussions, featuring presentations by national and international experts. Panels centered on the following thematic topics: sustainable fisheries, sustainable food production, the environmental and health benefits of plant-based diets, protection of bird species, conserving biodiversity, surviving climate change, green architectural design, and the economic value of biodiversity. Festival participants also had the opportunity to attend workshops on diverse subjects such as: the impact of marine debris on the environment, social media as an awareness-generating tool, recycled art and environmental filmmaking.

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Second Annual DREFF

Sponsors, Partners and Collaborators

The realization of DREFF 2012 was made possible thanks to the support and contributions provided by our extensive list of sponsors, partners and collaborators, which include: Centro Cuesta Nacional, Banreservas; Centro Franklin; PUNTACANA Resort & Club; Centro León; Centro Cultural Perelló; Cluster Turístico del Destino de Puerto Plata; Universidad Católica Nordestana San Francisco de Macorís; Centro Cultural Narciso González; Fundación Vida Azul; Reefcheck RD; Fundación Rescate y Vida; Children International; Panorama Verde; Odebrecht; Uepa.com; UEPA Radio; Embajada de España de la República Dominicana; Universidad Nacional Pedro Henríquez Ureña (UNPHU); Ministerio de Estado de Cultura; Ministerio de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales; ECORED; Fundación Marcos Díaz and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), among others.

Cities and venues

In 2012, DREFF expanded to include 9 venues in 7 cities in an effort to extend its reach.

SANTO DOMINGO

FUNGLODE

C/ Capitán Eugenio de Marchena No. 26,
La Esperilla, Santo Domingo
Contacto: 809-685-9966 Ext. 2447 y 2449

Universidad Nacional Pedro Henríquez Ureña
(UNPHU)

Salón de Conferencias
Av. John F. Kennedy Km. 6 ½
Santo Domingo

Centro Cultural Narciso González
C/ Américo Lugo, Esq. Marcos Adon,
Villa Juana, Santo Domingo

SAN FRANCISCO DE MACORÍS

Universidad Católica Nordestana (UCNE)
Campus Los Arroyos
San Francisco de Macorís

Centro de Educación Continua - UCNE
Calle Restauración Esq. 27 de Febrero
San Francisco de Macorís

SANTIAGO DE LOS CABALLEROS

Centro Cultural Eduardo León Jimenes
Av. 27 de Febrero, No. 146
Villa Progreso
Santiago de los Caballeros

PUNTACANA

PUNTACANA Resort and Club
Galerías PUNTACANA
4ta etapa. Boulevard 1ero de Noviembre
PUNTACANA Village

BANÍ

Centro Cultural Perelló
Carretera Sánchez Km. 2.5
Escondido, Baní

PUERTO PLATA

Asociación Cultural Sueños de Colores
Teatro Escuela Iván García
C/ Prof. Juan Bosch #60

La Fortaleza de San Felipe
Avenida General Gregorio Luperón
Extremo Oeste Malecón, Puerto Plata

SOSUA

Sosua Bay Grand Casino
Dr. Alejo Martínez #1, El Batey

Globo Verde Dominicano Award



GFDD and FUNGLODE Launch the Globo Verde Dominicano Award
February 21, 2012

In 2012, GFDD and FUNGLODE presented the first installment of their contest for short films and public service announcements, Globo Verde Dominicano Award.

Globo Verde Dominicano Award was launched within the framework of the II Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival. With this contest, GFDD and FUNGLODE seek to raise awareness on the preservation of the environment and sustainable development. More specifically, it comes as an opportunity for young producers, students and professionals to dive into a fairly unexplored area in the Dominican Republic: the production of audiovisual material of an environmental nature.

The contest is divided in two categories: short films, the length of which must not exceed 15 minutes, and public service announcement, which

must be limited to 40 seconds. Participants must be Dominican nationals, regardless of whether or not they reside in the country. The only requirement is that the work focuses on the topic of the environment and sustainable development.



Globo Verde Dominicano Winners Announced

September 10, 2012

As part of its mission to promote cinematography for the benefit of the environment, DREFF launched the Globo Verde Dominicano competition for short films and public service announcement.

Awards

Short Film – 1st Place: Trip to Monterey, California to present work at the Blue Ocean Film Festival and participate in the Festival's conferences and workshops

Short Film – 2nd and 3rd Place: Complimentary training session in area of interest at FUNGLODE

Public Service Announcement – 1st Place: iMac

Public Service Announcement – 2nd and 3rd Place: Complementary training session in area of interest at FUNGLODE

The 2012 Globo Verde Dominicano Award Winners

Short Films

1st Prize – *De espaldas al mar (Turning Our Backs to the Ocean)* by Armando Larrauri

2nd Prize – *Mi único ruido (My only noise)* by Angelly Gisell Méndez

3rd Prize – *Angelito (Little Angel)* by José A. Montás Díaz

Public Service Announcements

1st Prize – *Barquitos de papel (Paper boats)* by Gustavo A. Ricart

2nd Prize – *Ruido (Noise)* by José Luis Quiñones Almonte

3rd Prize – *Broadcasting Mars (Transmisión desde Marte)* by Joel Marte Torres

Short Films - 2nd Prize



Short Films - 3rd Prize



Public Service Announcements - 2nd Prize



Public Service Announcements - 3rd Prize



Audience Awards

GFDD Announces 2012 DREFF Audience Award Winners

September 25, 2012

Out of DREFF 2012's diverse selection of acclaimed films audience members selected their top picks.

First prize went to *In Organic We Trust*. The eye-opening food documentary follows director/producer Kip Pastor on a personal journey to answer commonly asked questions about organic food: What exactly is organic? Is it really better or just a marketing scam? It takes a balanced approach to clear up misconceptions about organic food while highlighting practical solutions that are transforming the way we grow and eat.



Coming in a close second was the film *TERRA*, directed and produced by Juan Emilio Yanes. *TERRA* is an interactive film about the environment, presented in a platform through which the audience engages in the content by responding to a section of questions that are related to the topic. The film has other segments, among them a short intervention by a well-known Dominican biologist who discusses his experience caring for the environment. Two other important sections are: positive actions that people can put into practice to benefit the planet and a short 3D film on global warming and the environment.

Taking home third place was *Anna, Emma and the Condors*, directed and produced by Katja Torneman. The film tells the story of two sisters, Anna and Emma and their companions, the California Condors. Their father, Chris Parish is the director of the Condor Project for the Peregrine Fund at Vermillion Cliffs. Their mother, Ellen Parish is a teacher and leader of the organization Roots and Shoots, founded by Jane Goodall.

Together, the family works together to save and reintroduce the California condor back into the wild.

The Audience Awards are special acknowledgements, as they reflect the preferences and interests of our audience members. DREFF congratulates all the winners for earning this important recognition.

GFDD is pleased to announce that the third edition of DREFF will be celebrated September 4-8, 2013.



Emy Rodriguez, Kip Pastor, and Natasha Despotovic

GFDD Documentary Shorts

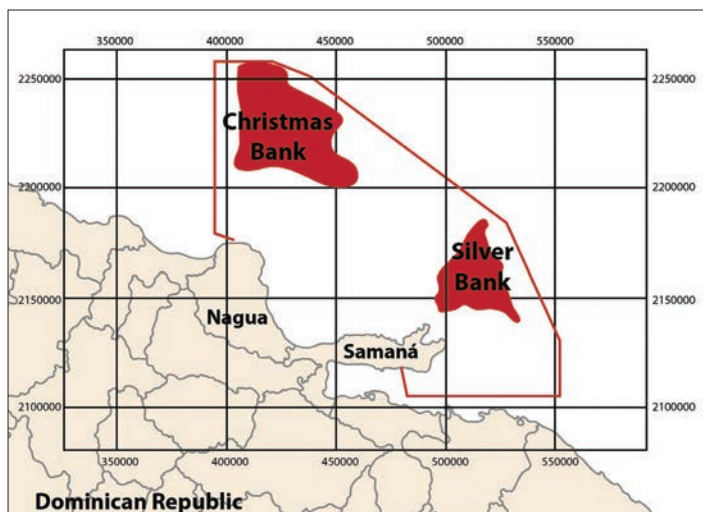


*Production of GFDD Short Film
on the Silver Bank Marine Mammal
Sanctuary is Underway*

Production of GFDD Short Film on the Silver Bank Marine Mammal Sanctuary is Underway *February 21, 2012*

GFDD is pleased to announce that it is in the process of producing a short documentary film on the Silver Bank Marine Mammal Sanctuary. The project strives to raise awareness of the importance of this marine protected area in the overall global protection of marine mammals, in particular, humpback whales.

A multidisciplinary team of marine biologists, producers, camera persons and project consultants have already been arduously at work filming onsite footage of whales in the bay of Samaná, and conducting interviews with local authorities involved in the ongoing management of the sanctuary.



Interviews have been conducted to date with the following major stakeholders: Idelisa Bonnelly de Calventi, Augusto González, President Asociación Dueños de Barcos; Leida Buglass, Museo CEBSE and Grupo Ecológico Juvenil de Samaná; Alexis Rodríguez, Asociación de Vendedores de Cayo Levantado; Peter Sánchez, Administrator of the Marine Mammal Sanctuary; Miguel Bezi, Mayor of Samaná; and Omar Shamir Reynoso, Ministry of Environment.

GFDD Documentary Shorts



GFDD Presents Short Film Documenting Educational Expedition to Pico Duarte

GFDD Presents Short Film Documenting Educational Expedition to Pico Duarte

September 5, 2012

During the opening night festivities of the II Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival (DREFF), GFDD debuted its in-house 30-minute short film documenting the first emotional and educational trip up Pico Duarte made by students in April, 2012.

The film, produced by GFDD's multimedia team, provided audiences with insight into the thoughts and feelings of the teenagers as many of them connected with nature in a real way for the first time during the expedition. The participants speak candidly about their fears and triumphs, as well as their plans to keep the natural environment a major part of their lives.

The film was also presented at the Politecnico Ann & Ted Kheel during the Festival in Punta Cana on September 7th, 2012.



GFDD Presents a Short Film on The Growth of Lake Enriquillo: Environmental, Social and Scientific Implications

GFDD Presents a Short Film on The Growth of Lake Enriquillo: Environmental, Social and Scientific Implications

September 6, 2012

The phenomenon that is the expansion of Lake Enriquillo in the Dominican Republic presents an invaluable opportunity to create this short film, produced by the DREFF. The film looks at the growth of Lake Enriquillo from 164 km² to 350 km² over the last 7 years, an event that has mobilized academia, scientists, related experts and authorities in several areas of the public and private sector, as well as numerous international development agencies.

Thus far, the unexplained growth of Lake Enriquillo and the overflow of saltwater and sediment run-off from resulting deforestation into the surrounding fields has had devastating consequences for the area's farmers, residents and neighboring communities.

The short film presents a unique opportunity to observe the application of engineering theories, territorial reorganization, ongoing assistance to displaced communities and the coordination of multidisciplinary teams and actions while maximizing risk management.

GFDD Short Productions

Google Earth Tour of the Coastal and Marine Ecosystems of the Dominican Republic

June 18, 2012

GFDD launched the first “Google Earth Tour of the Coastal and Marine Ecosystems of the Dominican Republic” in Spanish, at the Rio+20 UN Conference on Sustainable Development, in collaboration with Google Ocean and the Sylvia Earle Alliance, an event that included the presence of Sylvia Earle, and the participation of Charlotte Vick, of Google Earth.

GFDD launched the “Google Earth Tour of the Coastal and Marine Ecosystems of the Dominican Republic.”

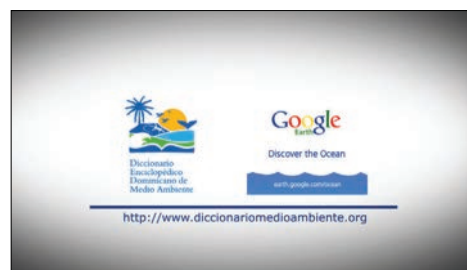
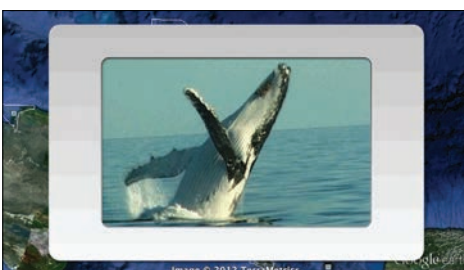
Since 2010, GFDD has been working with the Sylvia Earle Alliance to create content for the “Explore the Ocean” layer of Google Earth, launched by Google in 2009. GFDD has contributed specifically to the new Spanish language component of the project, which was released at the end of 2012.

GFDD has produced and created the first-ever Spanish tour for Ocean in Google. The tour seeks to educate global citizens on the high levels of biodiversity and endemism found in the Dominican Republic, and draw attention to the need for improved management of vulnerable and endangered species. The project also highlights best practices, programs and organizations that are making a difference in the country.

The 10 minute, 15 second short film on the country’s biodiversity hotspots is the result of the relentless work of GFDD’s multidisciplinary team of environmental experts, researchers and audiovisual specialists. Educational materials created for Google also incorporate content from GFDD’s *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment*.

Through this exciting and innovative project in partnership with the Sylvia Earle Alliance, GFDD hopes that content on the marine and coastal ecosystems of the Dominican Republic will serve as a model and will encourage other countries to use this interactive tool to promote knowledge and learning about oceans and coastal and marine resources.

GFDD would like to thank its partners in the Dominican Republic and abroad that have contributed Google footage for the Google tour: the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources of the Dominican Republic, Adolfo López and Roberto Llerena, Fundación Vida Azul, Reef Check Dominicana, Phillip Lehman and the Oceania Project.



Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment

www.environmentaldictionary.org



While the modern world faces many environmental challenges, effective conservation and protection of our natural environment will require informed and concerned citizens. In response to this critical task, GFDD and FUNGLODE created the *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment*.



The dictionary offers basic knowledge on conservation methods, planting the seeds of life-long learning and environmental responsibility.

It masterfully unites information on the environment and natural resources of the Dominican Republic, incorporating information from a wide range of disciplines, including chemistry, physics, geology, biology, atmospheric engineering, earth and soil sciences, geography, demography, economics and law.

The *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment* comprises three main sections: scientific articles, definitions of terms and concepts, and a resource guide containing a map of national protected areas, a directory of environmental organizations and government agencies and a list of endemic flora and fauna. Featuring 712 defined environmental terms, 58 table sets, 123 graphics, 19 scientific articles and over 700 photographs, the educational tool is sure to serve as an important reference for generations of students, environmentalists and concerned citizens.

In an effort to continually promote understanding of environmental topics and respect for the natural environment, and expand its reach to new audiences, GFDD disseminates the content of the encyclopedic dictionary in a variety of formats, including a photography exhibit, calendar, and the “Google Earth Tour of the Coastal and Marine Ecosystems of the Dominican Republic,” which forms part of the “Explore the Ocean” layer of Google Earth.

The Dictionary has been available online in Spanish since 2008 and in print since 2011. In 2012, GFDD launched the online publication in English.

The online version of the publication offers users the opportunity to access comprehensive and continuously updated information on the Dominican environment and natural resources with the added advantages that the digital platform provides, making it a dynamic, up-to-date and interactive resource. Special features include information on projects, environmental legislation and agreements, interactive maps, GFDD’s yearly calendar, trivia and E-Cards.

The launch of the online English language encyclopedic dictionary symbolizes a substantial milestone for GFDD’s Environmental Program. GFDD looks forward to introducing the English language content to schools, organizations and communities in the United States and elsewhere.

Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment Exhibit



“Seeing the exhibit at the Blue Ocean Film Festival in California made me feel great pride and longing for my homeland, the Dominican Republic. As a Dominican photographer living in the United States, I find great value in these types of cultural and artistic initiatives because they deepen our knowledge of the rich and vast resources present in our island, and also encourage us as artists to document this richness and share it with others less acquainted.”
— Erika Morillo, Photographer

Exhibit at United Nations Headquarters *July 5, 2012*

GFDD hosted a special showing of its *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment* at United Nations headquarters during the framework of the High-Level Segment of the UN Economic and Social Council, displaying information and graphics on 12 different environmental concepts.

GFDD Partners with Voluntariado Banreservas *July 30, 2012*

DREFF partnered with Voluntariado Banreservas to put on the exhibit “Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment,” featuring graphics and scientific information from GFDD’s acclaimed reference book. Through the initiative, the young people participating in the camp were able to learn more about the environment and natural resources of the Dominican Republic through the 23 images on display.

Continued on Page 54

Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment Exhibit

Continued from Page 53

The inauguration of the exhibit featured the participation of Banreservas executives Mr. Orión Mejía, Ms. Flor Migdalia Franjul and Alicia Collado; Mr. Osvaldo Larancuent, Director of Electronic Services and Member of the Banreservas Environment Committee; Mr. Ernesto Reyna Alcántara, Minister of the Environment; Mr. Jean Paul Quiróz of Seguros Banreservas; Ms. Jesusita Alcántara and Mr. Juan José Portorreal of Cooperativa Banreservas; Mr. Rubén Torres, Marine Biologist; Mr. Luis Piantini, producer of the documentary film Lago Enriquillo; and Ms. Yamile Eusebio, Director of the GFDD New York Office and Director of Educational and Formative Activities at FUNGLODE.

Inauguration of the Exhibit at Parque Independencia in Santo Domingo during DREFF

September 6-28, 2012

On September 6, GFDD inaugurated the exhibit at Parque Independencia in Santo Domingo during DREFF. The welcoming remarks were delivered by Asunción Sanz, Director of the GFDD Washington, D.C. Office. Ms. Sanz asserted that the initiative seeks to inspire interest and concern among Dominican



audiences regarding the environment and the natural beauty of the Dominican Republic. The inaugural act also featured the participation of Eda Grullón of the Ministry of Culture of the Dominican Republic.

The exhibit featured 114 thematic panels on environmental topics and attracted hundreds of visitors.

GFDD Premieres the Exhibit at Blue Ocean Film Festival & Conservation Event in Monterey, California

September 24-30, 2012

GFDD brought its acclaimed exhibit “Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment” to the Blue Ocean Film Festival & Conservation Event in Monterey, California. Over 20 images were on display.

Launch of the Exhibit in Santiago, Dominican Republic

November 8 – December 3, 2012

GFDD inaugurated the exhibit *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment* at Gran Teatro del Cibao in Santiago. The exhibit displayed 113 panels featuring images and information related to the ecology and environment of the Dominican Republic.





LEA and GFDD/FUNGLODE Offer Workshop for Teachers on Reading Newspapers in Classrooms

GFDD firmly believes that education, professional development and the generation of new and relevant sources of information are critical to social and economic advancement at all societal levels. Through the implementation of core programs such as InterDom: Internships in the Dominican Republic, Fellows Program, Virtual Educa Caribe and professional training sessions in conjunction with partner institutions, GFDD works to further high education, bolster labor force capacity, and contribute to the production of new and innovative scholarship on subject matters pertinent to development in the Dominican Republic, the Latin American and Caribbean region and the world.

2012 Highlights

- Hosted 48 students from 12 different universities hosted by the InterDom internship program
- Organized 3 specialized programs for InterDom partner universities in the fields of public health, sustainable urban gardening and education
- Launched the Correspondent Program, an extra professional development opportunity for InterDom students interested in marketing and public relations
- InterDom attended the Global Internship Conference and forged new relationships with universities in South Florida
- Provided training for more than a dozen Dominican organizations through the InterDom internship certification seminar
- Hosted one Fellow conducting research in the area of poverty eradication and economic development
- The Virtual Educa Caribe conference was hosted for the first time in Santiago, Dominican Republic
- Honored the academic achievements of more than 200 students at the “Meritorious Student Award” ceremony in New York
- Sent 5 Dominican teachers to Peru to participate in the “Innovative Teachers” competition
- Realized 4 “Reading and Learning with Newspapers” workshops, capacitating 500 teachers

InterDom: Internships in the Dominican Republic

www.interdominternships.org



Since it was established in 2005, InterDom: Internships in the Dominican Republic has become the leading internship and academic study program in the Dominican Republic.

InterDom is a competitive internship and academic study program that promotes professional, academic and cultural exchange between students, universities, scholars, professionals, businesses and non-governmental organizations on a national and international scale. It works with individual students and collaborates with universities to coordinate specialized academic and professional development opportunities 2-10 weeks in duration for classes and groups.

The Program offers internship and research opportunities to both undergraduate, graduate and gap-year students in a diversity of fields, allowing 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.

Specialized University Short Programs



“Every aspect of the experience in Santo Domingo and the work of your organization was excellent, your staff was outstanding and the events at the Institute were ideal – combining the experience with informed dialogue.”
— Dr. Maureen Moakley, Professor of Political Science, University of Rhode Island - Winter Program 2012



2012 CCNY Service Learning Program

InterDom-University of Rhode Island Winter Program *January 9-20, 2012*

InterDom partnered with the University of Rhode Island to organize a two-week program for students of nursing. Students partook in a week-long service learning experience in Las Matas de Farfán, where they provided medical care to residents of the rural community. During the second week, students received classes on the culture, politics and history of the Dominican Republic. The last day of the program culminated with the interactive dialogue, “Initiatives and Programs that Promote Access to Public Health in the Dominican Republic,” featuring the participation of renowned national health experts from a wide variety of public and private institutions. The event was designed to tie together everything learned in the field and the classroom.

InterDom Presents Urban Gardening Workshop for Participants in 2012 CCNY Service Learning Program *May 25, 2012*

In preparation for the summer 2012 Service Learning Program in the Dominican Republic, InterDom Internships, together with the Global Coalition for Peace (GCFP) and the Study Abroad office at the City College of New York (CCNY), presented an urban gardening workshop and practicum for summer 2012 program participants.

The workshop—an addendum to the regular mandatory pre-departure orientation session held prior to all InterDom special programs—featured a presentation and demonstration by Rose Lord, co-founder of the Global Coalition for Peace (GCFP), an organization

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Specialized University Short Programs

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2012 CCNY Service Learning Program

that seeks to create a more equitable world through the pursuit of internal peace and external service.

During the workshop, Lord trained participants in intensive gardening techniques, which aim to maximize the food output from a 4 foot by 4 foot plot of land (or garden box). These techniques were later applied by the students when they traveled to the Dominican Republic in June to partner with local high school students and Dominican community and government organizations on a community gardening initiative which benefits some 50 families in the semi-urban communities of Cielo and Bayona.

2012 CCNY Service Learning Program

June 9–July 7, 2012

Participants in the 2012 InterDom-City College Service Learning Program spent the week of June 11 participating in orientation sessions, seminars, workshops and dialogues with experts in order to prepare for the important gardening project they would

be realizing in two semi-urban Dominican communities, Bayona and Cielo.

The week included two important components: the dialogue “Gardens as a Means of Social Transformation in Communities” on June 12 and the workshop “Techniques for the Creation of Community Gardens” on June 13.

“Gardens as a Means of Social Transformation in Communities” provided students with historical and technical information about the history of urban agriculture in the Dominican Republic, the practices and tools employed, the most popular crops, and an overview of the current work being done in the sector by governmental and non-profit institutions.

Speakers included: Francisco Martínez, Director of Agricultural Extension and Training; Luis Miguel Acevedo, Country Director of ADRA Dominicana; and Brígido Peguero, Taxonomy and Botanical Explorations Director at the National Botanical Gardens.

Other experts in attendance were: Luis Eduardo Peña, Director of Extension and Training, Ministry of Agriculture of the Dominican Republic; Martín Jiménez, Technician, Ministry of Agriculture of the Dominican Republic; Madelyn Contreras, Project Coordinator, ADRA Dominicana; Ricardo García, General Director of the National Botanical Gardens; and Epifanio Belén, Regional Technician, Ministry of Education of the Dominican Republic.

“Techniques for the Creation of Community Gardens” introduced students to techniques for creating compost and fertilizers. The workshop was instructed by José María Bondín, Director of Organic Compost at the National Botanical Gardens, and Eduardo Peña, a Technician from the Ministry of Agriculture of the Dominican Republic. Students learned various techniques for urban gardening.

On June 27, the program presented the dialogue “Production Capacity, Consumption and Export of Fruits and Vegetables from the Dominican Republic.” The dialogue featured discussion on the consumption

of produce in the country, its production capacity and how to strengthen food autonomy at the community level. The talk also highlighted the characteristics of small farmers in the Dominican Republic and the challenges they face promoting their products.

Speakers included: Fátima Portorreal, Anthropologist, Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC); Euclides Paulino, Representative of the Commercial Research Department, Centro de Exportación e Inversión de la República Dominicana (Center for Export and Investment of the Dominican Republic); and Marco Coscione, Expert in Fair Trade Practices, FUNGLODE.

Following the week of orientation, students spent the next three weeks working intensively in the communities to plant some 50 gardens. On July 6, the program acknowledged the accomplishments of the students in a closing forum. City College students and their counterparts—the high school students representing the communities—were presented with a certificate from the Dominican Ministry of Agriculture stating that they had completed a training program enabling them to instruct workshops on urban gardening. Mr. Luis Eduardo Peña of the Dominican Ministry of Agriculture declared the project a great success and reiterated the Ministry’s commitment to ensuring a sustained presence in the communities. During the event CCNY students also had the opportunity to present their research findings.

The urban gardening initiative in Bayona and Cielo was a collaborative effort between The Dominican Republic Ministry of Agriculture, ADRA Dominicana, the National Botanical Gardens, Global Coalition for Peace and InterDom Internships in the Dominican Republic.

The program developed between City College and InterDom is a credit-bearing course that exposes students to both academic and practical experiences that increase their international awareness, cultural sensitivity, professional development and Spanish-language capacities.



2012 CCNY Service Learning Program

Specialized University Short Programs



2012 CCNY Service Learning Program

InterDom Creates New Internship Program with University of Mondragón

New York, November 3, 2012

Student teaching became the latest initiative of InterDom: Internships in the Dominican Republic with a new program in partnership with the School of Humanities at the University of Mondragón in Spain.

Participants in the program included university students in the area of education who, as interns, had the opportunity to contribute to the educational curriculum of Dominican schools as teaching assistants. The 16 participating students worked in their respective areas of specialization at the elementary and primary school levels. They focused on general education, special education and physical education.

The student teaching program allows both the interns and the schools to deepen their knowledge of cross-cultural aspects of education. The objective of the initiative is to strengthen the teaching abilities of primary school teachers, and to encourage children to initiate dialogue on opportunities and challenges that affect the schools and the community at large. The internships also contribute to the completion of the final project before graduation required for students of education at the University of Mondragón.

Participating schools in the program included: Colegio Calasanz; Colegio Babeque Primaria; Colegio Jaime Molina Mota; Colegio Escuela Nueva; Colegio Saint George; Centro Educativo Los Prados; Colegio Retoños; and Colegio New Horizons.

Individual Student Programs

Cocoa Trail Excursion Provides Ecological Component to Program Activities

March 5, 2012

InterDom has partnered with Hacienda La Esmeralda García Jiménez in San Francisco de Macorís, Dominican Republic, to provide interns with a cultural excursion entitled “Cocoa Trail,” to invigorate the itinerary of activities and excursions that complement student internship and academic programs.

The weather and ecosystem in the central region of the Dominican Republic is perfect for growing cocoa, which contributes to its status as one of the country’s leading exports. On the Cocoa Trail tour, students are guided by experts through the whole process of organic chocolate-making, from the sowing of seeds all the way through to the packaging of the final product.

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“Thanks to the good planning of both InterDom and [the Foundation where I conducted my internship], my professional development goals are being directly met. I wanted experience in community development projects, and that is specifically what my direct supervisors ... are involved in on a daily basis. They make sure to include me in almost everything they do, and also in the “fun” things ... My internship activities have directly affected the choice of places I interviewed at and eventually accepted a position with.”

— Anna Groesser, Western Michigan University – Graduate and Gap Year 32-week Program



Cocoa Trail Excursion Provides Ecological Component to Program Activities

Individual Student Programs

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After suiting up in hygienic gear, the tour enters La Esmeralda chocolate factory, where students participate in the chocolate-making process and have the opportunity to sample the product. They then partake in a healthy buffet-style lunch made from locally-grown produce and poultry and enjoy the entertainment provided by the staff of the ranch.

Hacienda La Esmeralda is an organic cocoa farm in the agriculture-rich heartland of the Dominican Republic that has been producing and processing cocoa since 1965, making it one of the pioneers in the cocoa

industry. The tour is careful to explain both more primitive and modern chocolate-making techniques, so that students can see the evolution of the industry, particular to the Dominican context. The Cocoa Trail tour adds an ecological and sustainable agriculture component to the list of excursions provided to interns of all programs.

“411 on Study Abroad” Blog Series

April 1, 2012

InterDom launched a one-month four-part blog series titled “411 on Study Abroad.” The series was authored by Ludonis Maule, a Baruch College Study Abroad Student Advisor and a InterDom marketing intern at GFDD’s New York office.

The blog series tackled topics such as how to select a program, master the application process

“The apartment housing offered to the interns through InterDom has far exceeded my expectations. The apartment is clean and modern with amenities such as air conditioning and a washing machine, which I feel very fortunate to have. The fact that towels and sheets are laundered and the apartment is cleaned on a weekly basis is luxury I am still not used to having ... Considering this is my first formal study/intern abroad program I am very thankful for the comfortable housing provided by InterDom as it has made my transition to life in the DR that much easier.”

— Maria Christina Herrera, Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons – Graduate and Gap Year 10-week Program



Cocoa Trail Excursion Provides Ecological Component to Program Activities



InterDom Initiates New Cultural Activities with Trip Highlighting Indigenous Heritage

and market an international experience on a professional resume. The series also emphasized the Caribbean, and specifically the Dominican Republic, as an important destination for students to consider.

InterDom Provides Resume-Boosting Opportunities for Program Participants through the Correspondent Program

May 7, 2012

With the Summer 2012 interns, InterDom debuted a new program for students interested in boosting their resumes and collaborating with InterDom. The InterDom Correspondent Program provides opportunities for students to send regular blogs before, during, and after their study, research or internship in the Dominican Republic to share their experiences with future students, professors, family members and friends of the program. Once they return to their home institutions, InterDom Correspondents become ambassadors of the InterDom program and the Dominican Republic.

Correspondents gain valuable experience in marketing and public relations by serving as the liaison on campus between the InterDom program and their host institutions. They are coached by the InterDom marketing team on best practices and strategies to promote the Dominican Republic as a study, internship and research destination. The program also provides students a platform by which to improve their writing skills and to publish unique content.

InterDom Initiates New Cultural Activities with Trip Highlighting Indigenous Heritage

June 13, 2012

As part of a consolidation and reorganization of its

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InterDom Provides Resume-Boosting Opportunities for Program Participants through the Correspondent Program

Individual Student Programs

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offering of cultural activities and excursions, InterDom Internships in the Dominican Republic kicked off the Summer 2012 agenda of activities on Saturday, June 9 with a trip highlighting indigenous heritage in the Dominican Republic.

The excursion successfully concluded the orientation week, during which participants are introduced to daily life, customs, transportation and the internship experience. Participants began the morning with a guided tour of the Museum of the Dominican Man, which boasts a collection of indigenous and early colonial artifacts, as well as extensive historical information on the origins and evolution of Dominican people. The students then ate lunch and traveled to the Cave of Wonders, where they explored the expansive caves decorated with indigenous artwork.



InterDom Initiates New Cultural Activities with Trip Highlighting Indigenous Heritage

The InterDom program has always boasted a robust offering of cultural and educational activities as part of its programs and services, but now the excursions are organized in a deliberate and chronological order in order to introduce students to historical, cultural and economic aspects of the country in a way that will serve to increase their understanding of economic and cultural processes and how they have come to be.



Cocoa Trail Excursion Provides Ecological Component to Program Activities

The excursion “Indigenous Heritage in the Dominican Republic” was the first in the new series of excursions, which will be followed by a tour of the Colonial Zone and an inside view of the Spanish settlement on the island, workshops on the Dominican Carnival and visits to important cultural and anthropological sites, an overview of the Trujillo dictatorship and visit to the Museum of Resistance and an introduction to organic farming and the import/export industry at the cocoa trail.

New Partners



Second Biannual InterRDom PRO for University Professors and Administrators

Second Biannual InterRDom PRO for University Professors and Administrators

March 14-18, 2012

InterRDom hosted its second biannual “InterRDom PRO: Professional Externship for Professors and Academics” at FUNGLODE headquarters in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. The initiative was first launched in 2010 to introduce university representatives to the facilities, structure and services of the InterRDom program.

The 2012 edition of InterRDom PRO highlighted the colonial heritage, cultural diversity and rapid economic development that characterize the Dominican Republic and provide unique opportunities that make it a prime destination for students, professors, academics and professionals.

“I found the geography as well as the people in Santo Domingo to be very special. Dominicans and the Dominican Republic have a lot to offer to the world and to our students. You have just made it easier to be able for students to find a good place to do their research and learn. I was particularly impressed with downtown Santo Domingo. I was not really expecting to find such a rich architectural legacy!” — Dr. Susana de los Heros, Professor of Spanish, University of Rhode Island

The four days of activities opened the doors for professors and study abroad and career services administrators to construct their own programs based on Caribbean topics that will create professional and academic opportunities for students as early as this coming summer.

Participating universities: Florida International University, Williams College, University of Rhode Island, the Oregon State University System, City College of New York and the University of Georgia School of Law.

InterRDom Makes Connections with Florida Universities *April 16-19, 2012*

InterRDom program representatives spent four days in Miami, where they met with university faculty and held information sessions at college campuses in the South Florida area: Miami Dade College (MDC), Florida International University (FIU) and the University of Miami (UM).

Interest and scholarship in Latin American and Caribbean Studies among universities in the South Florida region make them ideal partner institutions. InterRDom promoted specialized Caribbean curriculum and research and experiential learning opportunities available in the Dominican Republic for scholars, students and organizations. The Program succeeded in fortifying relationships with the Toppel Career Center at the University of Miami and the FIU Business Career Center—important partners regarding professional development and human capital goals.

“My trip to Santo Domingo was enlightening and most enjoyable. I discovered a city full of diversity, contrasts and art. The warmth of its people, the joy of its music, the weight of its history surrounded me throughout my stay. I am ready to go back and discover more of the marvels that this beautiful country has to offer to the world. It is a destination that I will recommend to my students, colleagues and friends and one that I intend to learn more about myself.” — María Eugenia Giménez, Associate Director, Dean Rusk Center for International Law and Policy, University of Georgia School of Law

United States Outreach



InterDom Attends Non-Profit, Education and Healthcare Career Fair at New York University

InterDom Promotes Summer Programs at City College *February 16, 2012*

InterDom partnered with the Study Abroad Office at City College in New York City to coordinate an information session on summer programs in the Dominican Republic to interested students. Students had the opportunity to view a video presentation and asked questions to both the InterDom and City College Study Abroad staff about the application process, financial aid and academic components.

InterDom Attends Non-Profit, Education and Healthcare Career Fair at New York University *March 8, 2012*

InterDom continued to cultivate its budding relationship with New York University through participation in the 2012 Non-profit, Education and Healthcare Career Fair, hosted by the NYU Wasserman Center for Career Development. InterDom representatives spoke with students interested in the work of nonprofits in the education and healthcare industries about the opportunities available through the Program in the Dominican Republic.

InterDom Reaches Out to Students at NYU Master's Level Social Work Job Fair *May 9, 2012*

InterDom representatives promoted internship and research opportunities in the Dominican Republic to students and graduates of New York area social work programs at the NYU Master's Level Social Work Job Fair. The fair was sponsored by the Metro New York Social Work Consortium, which comprises the social work departments of ten area colleges and universities: Adelphi, Columbia, Fordham, Hunter, Lehman, Long Island, NYU, Stony Brook, Touro and Yeshiva. The fair was attended by over 300 students.

InterDom Participates in Global Internship Conference *June 12-15, 2012*

Professionals and educators from more than 200 countries meet annually to discuss trends, best practices and labor regulations behind internships at the Global Internship Conference. This year, InterDom was represented at the event at the University of California

at Berkeley, held by the Academic Internships Council (AIC), in collaboration with the Foundation for International Education (FIE) and the Study Abroad Foundation.

The Conference aims to promote internships as an integral element of the education of college students. Presentations throughout the program demonstrate the interest of all countries in creating the best conditions to facilitate the integration of international students in local organizations and projects, and to expedite immigration procedures, facilitate safe accommodations and promote academic interaction with foreign universities and academies.

InterDom participated in this event to strengthen collaboration with the Academic Internship Council (AIC), to share the experiences it has gained through the mobilization of international students to the Dominican Republic, and the practice of coordinating the training programs that InterDom offers to organizations in the country to improve or implement internship programs and integrate local and international students.



InterDom Reaches Out to Students at NYU Master's Level Social Work Job Fair



InterDom Attends Non-Profit, Education and Healthcare Career Fair at New York University



Training for Dominican Organizations



InterDom Internship Certification Seminar

March 1-2, 2012

InterDom commenced its tri-annual Internship Certification Seminar at FUNGLODE headquarters in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic on March 1 and 2, 2012. The innovative training workshop enables organizations to detect internal needs, turning them into learning opportunities and capitalizing on the contribution interns can provide. Participants in this session learned how to improve candidate selection criteria and develop work plans, apprenticeship contracts and monitoring programs that will ensure that interns play a real role in overall productivity.

Sixth Edition of InterDom Internship Certification Program

October 2-4, 2012

InterDom's Internship Certification Program, convened at FUNGLODE headquarters in Santo Domingo, provided training to companies and organizations interested in optimizing their internship programs.

Organizations that implement internship programs generate a dynamic instrument for promoting human



resource development, aiding in institutional growth and minimizing brain drain or loss of qualified personnel. Other benefits associated with internship programs include:

- “New Blood”: ideas that emerge with the integration of interns
- Opportunities to assess candidates for future vacancies, reducing the cost of recruiting and hiring
- Social responsibility
- Development of leadership among employees through the supervision of interns
- Low cost – high benefit: If managed effectively, interns can contribute to the development of important projects that are consistent with the needs of the company and with the professional interests of the students
- Increase diversity within the work place
- Expand institutional visibility and desirability among students and schools

To date more than 40 Dominican organizations have certified their internship programs with InterRDom and 150 international students have collaborated, as interns, with companies and nonprofit institutions in the country.



Fellows Program

www.drfellowsprogram.org



The Fellows Program was created by GFDD in 2009 to respond to the desire of the Foundation 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.

The 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.



José Caraballo, GFDD Fellow 2012

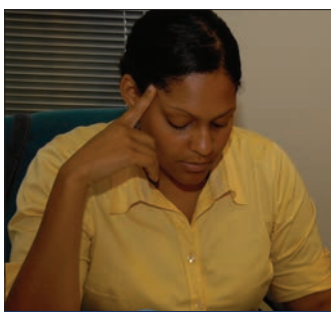
José Caraballo Cueto, Fellow in the Area of Economic Development and Poverty Eradication

July 22 – present

José Caraballo Cueto is a Ph.D. Candidate in Economics at The New School for Social Research. José is a 2012 Fellow whose investigation examines how increases in employment and entrepreneurship might contribute to poverty eradication and enhance market competitiveness in the Dominican Republic. He analyzes how the country can maximize gains associated with the global market by expanding native productive capacity through entrepreneurial activity, from the creation of micro-businesses to the establishment of large-scale firms. His study also assesses the multiplier effect of native exports versus free zone exports.

Mr. Caraballo Cueto conducted his fellowship under the guidance of the Fellows Advisor in the area of Economic Development, Frederic Emam-Zade. While conducting research in the Dominican Republic during the months of July and August, José had the opportunity to connect with other professionals working on similar topics.

Mr. Caraballo Cueto holds a M.A. in Economics from the University of Puerto Rico College of Social Sciences and a B.A. in Business Administration from the University of Puerto Rico College of Business Administration. He has experience teaching micro and macroeconomics at Berkley College, and has also worked as a research associate for the Center of Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College. Mr. Caraballo Cueto is the owner of two small businesses, Ferretería Caraballo and Remodelaciones Caraballo, and is a columnist for the newspaper *El Nuevo Día*. He is also a member of the forum "Dominican Migration: Political and Economic Perspectives," organized by the Association of Students of Political Science.



Yosmayra Reyes, GFDD Fellow 2011



Carl Allen, GFDD Fellow 2010

Virtual Educa Caribe

www.virtualeducacaribe.org



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

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

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, in order to advance sustainable community development and levels of national competitiveness in the region.



Virtual Educa Caribe



Sixth Edition of Virtual Educa Caribe

March 7-9, 2012

Virtual Educa Caribe 2012, celebrated for the first time in Santiago, Dominican Republic, convened over 18 experts, policymakers and practitioners in education and technological innovation from México, United States, El Salvador, Guadalupe, Spain, Argentina, Cuba and England. The purpose of the sixth edition of the high-level forum was to exchange best practices and to devise solutions to overcome challenges related to: 1) the new role of educational institutions before a digital world; 2) educators and environmental challenges; 3) innovative trends in teaching and learning; and 4) current perspectives on new technologies applied to education.

Working sessions were celebrated at the City Hall of Santiago and the Universidad Abierta para Adultos.

Participating institutions:

Alianza ONG, Asociación Dominicana de las Naciones Unidas de la República Dominicana (ANU-DR), CAPEX, EDUCA, Grupo Estrella, Microsoft, Fundación Sur Futuro, Instituto Tecnológico de las Américas (ITLA), Ministerio de Educación (MINERD), Ministerio de Educación Superior, Ciencia y Tecnología (MESCYT), Universidad Abierta para Adultos (UAPA), Universidad Autónoma de Santo Domingo (UASD), Universidad Acción, Pro Educación y Cultura (UNAPEC), Universidad del Caribe (UNICARIBE), Universidad Iberoamericana (UNIBE), Universidad INTEC, Universidad Nacional Pedro Henríquez Ureña (UNPHU), Comisión Nacional de la Sociedad de la Información y la Comunicación (CNSIC), Instituto de Formación Técnico Profesional (INFOTEP), Instituto Dominicano de las Telecomunicaciones (INDOTEL), Oficina Presidencial de Tecnología de la Información y Comunicación (OPTIC).



Technology & Education



GFDD's long-standing relationship with entities such as Microsoft and its Partners in Learning (PIL) program has helped more than 18,000 teachers to become better equipped to introduce technological learning tools in their classrooms, with the ultimate goal of facilitating student learning.

Workshop: “Integrating Technology in Education” with Microsoft

February 6, 2012

GFDD joined forces with Microsoft in the Dominican Republic to organize the workshop “Integrating Technology in Education” at the FUNGLODE headquarters in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. During the workshop, Microsoft representative Máxima Rodríguez presented the program “Teaching with Technology,” a training for educators on the use of technological tools for teaching and learning. Workshop participants represented both public and private institutions.

GFDD Joins Forces with the Consulate in New York to Present “The Meritorious Student Award” Ceremony

June 15, 2012

As part of its desire to promote academic excellence within the Dominican community, GFDD joined forces with the Consulate of the Dominican Republic in New York to present “The Meritorious Student Award,” which acknowledges outstanding student achievement.

The 2012 ceremony, which took place at the Sheppard Hall of City College (CCNY), commemorated the scholastic accomplishments of over two hundred students, and was attended by over 800 people.

The initiative has been sponsored by the Presidency of the Dominican Republic for the last 16 years to promote academic success among students of Dominican descent attending schools in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania. Recipients of the award must possess a grade point average between 95 and 100, and must participate in a variety of school related activities.



GFDD Joins Forces with the Consulate in New York to Present “The Meritorious Student Award” Ceremony

Technology & Education



Dominican Teachers Participate in Competition in Peru

Dominican Teachers Participate in Competition in Peru, with Support from GFDD, FUNGLODE, Microsoft and the Ministry of Education of the Dominican Republic

September 19, 2012

Five Dominican teachers participated in the competition “Innovative Teachers” in Lima, Peru—the result of collaboration between GFDD, FUNGLODE, Microsoft’s Partners in Learning Program, and the Ministry of Education of the Dominican Republic.

Educators Bruno Reyes, María Elena Vargas, María Isabel Rothlis, Juan Carlos Hernández and Edward Ulloa participated in the competition in Peru, along with Paul Goris, FUNGLODE Education and Technology Coordinator and Microsoft Partners in Learning Coordinator; Juan Luis Lozada, Manager of Academic Programs for Microsoft and Elsa Romano, Representative of the Ministry of Education.

The teachers selected participated in the local chapter of the competition, which took place in March of 2012.

Teachers from all parts of Latin America competed in the regional competition in Peru. Educator Edward Ulloa came in first in the category of “Extending Learning beyond the Classroom,” and went on to represent the region at the global level in Prague, Czech Republic.

Former President Fernández Receives Winner of the “Innovative Teaching” Competition, Who Will Represent Latin America in the Global Competition to be Held in Prague from November 28-30

November 22, 2012

Former President of the Dominican Republic and President of the Global Foundation for Democracy and Development (GFDD) and Fundación Global Democracia y Desarrollo (FUNGLODE), Dr. Leonel Fernández, received teacher Edward Ulloa of Puerto Plata on Thursday, November 22. Ulloa is the winner of the competition “Innovative Teaching” in Peru. The teacher will represent Latin America in the Global Innovative Teachers Forum, to be held from November 28-30 in Prague, Czech Republic.

Edward Ulloa was the winner in the “Innovative Teaching” competition, which was part of a project involving FUNGLODE and its sister organization in the United States, Global Foundation for Democracy and Development (GFDD), as well as Microsoft Partners in Learning and the Ministry of Education.

Ulloa shared his experiences and goals with Dr. Fernández. They were accompanied by Yamile Eusebio, Director of Training Activities FUNGLODE and director of the New York office of GFDD; Paul Goris, coordinator of Education and Educational Technology at FUNGLODE; and Juan Luis Lozada, who coordinates the agenda of the Microsoft Partners in Learning in the Dominican Republic.

LEA and GFDD/FUNGLODE Offer Workshop for Teachers on Reading Newspapers in Classrooms

November 28, 2012

The LEA plan, of the Dominican newspaper *Listín Diario*, in coordination with Gildan Activewear and the Educational Studies Center of GFDD and FUNGLODE, organized a theory and practice workshop on Tuesday, November 27, for teachers on

the benefits of using the newspaper as a teaching tool in the classroom.

The workshop was given 4 times to over 500 teachers in 2012.

The course began with introductions by Javier Echeverria, Vice President and Country Manager of Caribbean company Gildan Activewear, and by Juan Luis Lozada, manager of Microsoft Dominicana.

The participants were also given a compendium guide book which can be used to help them build their own class strategies, taking into account differentiated curriculum and the theory of multiple intelligences.



LEA and GFDD/FUNGLODE Offer Workshop for Teachers on Reading Newspapers in Classrooms



“Oceans in Google Earth as an Educational Tool” during Rio +20 Conference

GFDD believes that in-depth understanding and assessment of global processes and enhanced international cooperation are essential to devising solutions to the challenges of the twenty-first century. Via the realization of its broadcast program Global Roundtables and the organization of initiatives in collaboration with the United Nations, the Organization of American States and other like-minded partner institutions, GFDD promotes discussion and analysis of matters impacting our globalized world.

2012 Highlights

- Hosts information-sharing conversations with 3 United Nations Ambassadors and 2 sustainable economic and environmental development experts
- More than 200 Dominican youth receive first-hand experience in international negotiations through their participation in the Inter-American System Model (MODOSI)
- Dominican expertise is shared with other world leaders at the Sixth Summit of the Americas in Cartagena
- Four side-events in highly-specialized topics are arranged with the United Nations, including two at the Rio +20 global conference in June
- Financial speculation and professional development through internships are highlighted with special ECOSOC interventions
- GFDD Honorary President Dr. Leonel Fernández delivers 3 major addresses encouraging leadership and economic development practices to the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) and United Nations Education Scientific Cultural Organization (UNESCO)



Interview with Fabien Cousteau, Oceanographer and Founder and Executive Director of Plant a Fish

“Global Roundtables” is a monthly series produced by GFDD that promotes dialogue on issues of international concern. Each broadcast features discussion with a prominent international figure, and seeks to inform GFDD 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 being realized in each of the countries being spotlighted.

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

**Interview with H.E. Ambassador Riyad Mansour,
Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations
and Ambassador of Palestine to the Dominican
Republic and Costa Rica**

January 23, 2012

Ambassador Mansour spoke of present day Palestinian-Israeli peace negotiations, as well as Palestine’s high-level of human capital.

Palestine boasts a literacy rate of 99%. The Ambassador conveyed that educational success is an exemplary characteristic of Palestinian culture and heritage. Over the last 60 years, thousands of Palestinians have

received scholarships from prestigious academic institutions around the world as a result of the Palestine’s superior scholastic preparation at the primary and secondary levels.

The Ambassador affirmed that if independence is achieved, the highly-educated Diaspora would play a fundamental role in the social and economic development of an independent Palestine.

Palestine, which in October 2011 was admitted by majority vote into UNESCO, is actively pursuing

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Global Roundtables

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Interview with Dr. Bruce Niswander, Director of the Global Business Incubator

admission into the United Nations as a full Member State. The Ambassador confirmed that negotiations were progressing well. Despite the possible veto by some powerful countries, more than a two-thirds majority in the General Assembly now recognize Palestine as a State, and many Palestinian representative offices abroad are now recognized as full diplomatic missions headed by an Ambassador.

In addition to serving as the Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations, he is also the Ambassador of Palestine to the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica. Ambassador Mansour hearteningly affirmed that both countries were among the first Latin American nations to support an Israeli-Palestinian solution based on a two-State vision.

GFDD and FUNGLODE to be joined by the United Nations Economic and Financial Committee Chairman at the Global Roundtable

February 1, 2012

The February edition of GFDD and FUNGLODE's Global Roundtable featured the United Nations Economic and Financial Committee (Second Committee), which is currently chaired by His

Excellency Mr. Abdul Momen. Ambassador Momen was the first Global Roundtable guest to join us for discussions at FUNGLODE in Santo Domingo in his joint capacity as Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations.

During the session, Ambassador Momen spoke of the Second Committee's agenda for the second half of 2011 and the beginning of 2012, which would include such issues as job creation, global trade, sustainable development, speculation, financing for development, public health and information and communication technologies for development.

Additionally, Ambassador Momen spoke in depth about the trip of the UN Secretary General, Ban-ki Moon, to Bangladesh, which was his first trip after his second term re-election last year.

Interview with Dr. Bruce Niswander, Director of the Global Business Incubator

March 26, 2012

Dr. Bruce Niswander, Director of the Global Business Incubator (GBI), discussed how this initiative was working to create partnerships and enhance local knowledge for the benefit of local communities, businesses, governments and academia. Dr. Niswander explained that GBI's modus operandi is not to enter into partnerships with lots of rules and details, but rather to draw upon the talents and existing structures of countries and people.

He emphasized the Incubator's commitment to unite the commercial market place with the academic marketplace, stressing the importance of students who possess the skills desired by businesses.

GBI is currently working to harness potential in the areas of renewable energy, sustainable tourism, fashion and food.

Interview with Fabien Cousteau, Oceanographer and Founder and Executive Director of Plant a Fish

June 18, 2012

Oceanographer and Founder and Executive Director of Plant a Fish, Fabien Cousteau told the GFDD Global Roundtable viewers of the important work being realized by his organization. He also shared his opinions of where we stood in achieving Millennium Development Goal 7 – environmental sustainability.

Engaging local communities to do aquatic restoration is the mission of Plant a Fish, which strives to partner with organizations worldwide to replant one billion “fish.” At present, the organization is dedicated to the regeneration of four critical species: sea turtles, oysters, mangroves and coral reefs. Projects right now are underway in El Salvador, New York City, Southern Florida and the Maldives.

When asked where we stand as a global community in achieving MDG 7 – environmental sustainability – the advocate for the world’s oceans stated that we have failed at increasing land areas covered by forests and, until now, have not even included marine protected areas on the to-do list. Cousteau argued in favor of declaring 40 percent of the world’s oceans as marine protected areas. He insisted that such a move would represent a smart investment in the resource bank that we humans depends so much on for food, vital medicines, oxygen and economic prosperity.

United Nations Ambassador from Angola Discusses Post-War Efforts for Sustainable Development

December 10, 2012

GFDD and FUNGLODE had the pleasure of hosting the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Angola to the United Nations, His Excellency Ismael Abraao Gasper Martins, who is also Vice Chair of the

sixty-seventh session of the United Nation’s General Assembly.

Democratic development, economic diversification, climate change, public health and, perhaps surprisingly, merengue music were the focus of Ambassador of Angola’s comments during the dynamic and informative discussion presented by GFDD Executive Director, Natasha Despotovic.

As Angola continues to recover and rebuild following a 27-year civil war which ended in 2002, it can already boast a number of great successes in its development. According to His Excellency, these include strong democratic development despite the effects of the war, a dynamic and politically-involved youth, economic diversification, agricultural production and climate change.

As the Ambassador pointed out, Angola actually has many striking similarities to the Dominican Republic. For example, the promotion of ecological tourism foreconomic development is very important in the country right now. Also, surprisingly, Angolans love to dance and play merengue music. Thanks to the connected nature of our world, it is easy to share and enjoy the rhythms and cultural expressions that unite us.



United Nations Ambassador from Angola Discusses Post-War Efforts for Sustainable Development

Collaboration with the Organization of American States



Organization of
American States

"The Model will offer young people the opportunity to assume the role of ambassador, develop negotiation skills, and fine-tune conflict resolution abilities." — Luis Joaquín Ortega, 2012 MODOSI Secretary General



Second Dominican Conference of the Inter-American System Model

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 of local and international bodies 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, amongst others.

Second Dominican Conference of the Inter-American System Model

February 8-10, 2012

GFDD joined together with the United Nations Association of the Dominican Republic (UNADR), the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Youth Outreach and Development Program of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) to celebrate

the second edition of the Dominican Model of the Inter-American System (MODOSI 2012).

Over 200 youth delegates participated in simulated sessions of the General Assembly, the Permanent Council, the Summit of the Americas, and the General Assembly of Governors of the Inter-American Development Bank. Sessions were held at FUNGLODE headquarters and at the Central Bank's Jesús María Troncoso Auditorium in Santo Domingo.

GFDD Participates in Sixth Summit of the Americas in Cartagena, Colombia

April 14-15, 2012

GFDD attended the Sixth Summit of the Americas, "Connecting the Americas: Partners for Prosperity," in Cartagena, Colombia. The annual Summit organized by the OAS convened 34 Heads of State, with the purpose of advancing inter-regional cooperation in four critical areas: infrastructure; poverty and inequality; citizen security; disaster risk management; and access to technology.

As a regional leader in the areas of economic and social development; information and communication technology; education; environment; defense and security; and regional integration, GFDD attends high-level meetings to remain current on international development trends, and to develop strategic relations with like-minded institutions.





Collaboration with the United Nations System

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, among other offices, through which GFDD strives to give voice to national and regional concerns and to 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 non-governmental 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, population, trade and public health.

Collaboration with the United Nations System

Side Events



“Women’s Empowerment in Developing Country Democracies,” during UN Commission on the Status of Women

“Women’s Empowerment in Developing Country Democracies,” during UN Commission on the Status of Women

February 27, 2012

GFDD hosted a special panel at the 56th session of the Commission on the Status of Women in partnership with the Mission of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations and the Special Coordinator Civil Society Office of the President of the General Assembly.

The forum featured presentations by accomplished and influential women on challenges and best practices in their respective countries—the Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Egypt and Kenya. Although these countries have vastly different historical, political and cultural contexts, the shared struggle by women to gain equality and opportunity in traditionally patriarchal societies unifies the nations represented at this panel.

Speakers: Dr. Amany Asfour, President of Egyptian Federation of Business & Professional Women, President of Egyptian Business Women Association, President of the Organization of Women in Trade, President of African

Alliance for Women Empowerment, and President of Afro-Arab Network for Women Empowerment (Egypt); H.E. Dr. Josephine Ojiambo, Ambassador/Deputy Permanent Representative of the Permanent Mission of Kenya to the United Nations (Kenya); Ms. Rita Rosa Álvarez, Executive Director, Mujeres Dominicanas en Desarrollo (MUDE) (Dominican Republic); and Ms. Mildred Espinoza, General Manager/Correspondent for South-South News (Guatemala).

Side Event: “Oceans in Google Earth as an Educational Tool: A Dominican Republic Perspective,” during Rio +20 Conference

June 17, 2012

GFDD, in partnership with the Sylvia Earle Alliance, presented the panel discussion “Oceans in Google Earth as an Educational Tool: A Dominican Republic Perspective,” at the Rio +20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The event provided a real-world example of how technology now allows the world to have access to one

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Collaboration with the United Nations System Side Events

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Side Event: “Food Sustainability and Global Democracy: Challenges and Perspectives,” during Rio +20 Conference

of Earth’s last frontiers—the Ocean. GFDD Executive Director, Natasha Despotovich, and Environmental Projects Manager, Emy Rodríguez, took the audience on an interactive Google Ocean tour of the Dominican Republic’s coasts, rich and diverse in biodiversity, highlighting endangered species from iguanas to humpback whales. Ms. Despotovich and Ms. Rodríguez explained in detail how “Oceans in Google Earth” was being effectively used to raise awareness and provide information on coastal and marine resources, using the Dominican Republic as a model for the Caribbean and Latin American region.

The panel also featured presentations by Charlotte Vick, Director of Strategic Partnerships for the Sylvia Earle Alliance; Cyril Ritchie, President of the Conference on NGOs; and Maria Montoreano, Curator of Explore the Ocean Layer in Google Earth.

GFDD has been an active partner in the development of the “Oceans in Google Earth” project, which forms part of its wider mission to create a broader Dominican Republic educational outreach initiative promoting greater environmental literacy among its citizens and tourists. To learn more about GFDD’s involvement in the “Oceans in Google Earth” initiative, see page 52.

Side Event: “Food Sustainability and Global Democracy: Challenges and Perspectives,” during Rio +20 Conference *June 18, 2012*

GFDD joined forces with UBUNTU – World Forum on Civil Society Networks to convene the side event “Food, Sustainability and Global Democracy: Challenges and Perspectives,” within the framework of the Sustainable Development Dialogues leading up to the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20).

Presentations were delivered by Natasha Despotovich, GFDD Executive Director; Daniela Sanches Fonzi of Conselho Nacional de Segurança Alimentar e Nutricional (CONSEA), and Julian Oram of Greenpeace International. The dialogue was moderated by Manuel Manonelles, Director of the UBUNTU Forum (World Forum of Civil Society Networks).

Central topics featured included the right to food; food sovereignty; lack of coherence in global governance; the establishment of mechanisms to reduce price volatility and financial speculation of commodities; the commodification of nature; the role of instrumental intergovernmental organizations such as Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO), International Fund

for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and World Food Program (WFP); and the functions of the Committee on World Food Security (CWFS).

Ms. Despotovic presented the innovative perspectives of GFDD on the impacts of financial speculation on food security and global democracy, and promoted the decisive efforts taken by Dr. Leonel Fernández, former President of the Dominican Republic and Honorary President of GFDD and FUNGLODE, to make financial speculation of basic commodities within futures markets a priority item on the United Nations agenda of work.

Side Event: “The Financial Crisis and its Impact on Youth Unemployment,” during 2012 High Level Segment of ECOSOC

July 9, 2012

GFDD organized the side event “The Financial Crisis and its Impact on Youth Unemployment,” in partnership with the Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations, the Office of the President of the Sixty-Sixth Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, and the NGO Committee on Financing for Development, during the framework of the 2012

High Level Segment of ECOSOC, at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

The objective of the panel discussion was to examine how the global financial and economic crisis has accelerated chronic unemployment and social exclusion for many of the world’s youth. Panelists discussed challenges and best practices aimed at creating better and more sustainable opportunities for young people across the globe.

The side event, moderated by Hanifa Mezoui, Civil Society Special Coordinator to the President of the Sixty-Sixth Session of the General Assembly, featured welcome remarks by Counselor Francisco Álvarez of the Mission of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations and Asunción Sanz, Director of the GFDD DC Office, and presentations by international experts: Navid Hanif, Acting Director, Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination, UNDESA USG; María de Lourdes Cabrera, Director General of Employment, Dominican Ministry of Labor; Gaetano Cavellerri, President of CIBJO (The World Jewellery Confederation); François Lorient, President of AIFOMD (International Association of MDG/CSR trainers); and Victor Ovalles-Santos, Expert on Multilateral Negotiations on behalf of the South.



ECOSOC Interventions

GFDD Delivers Intervention on the Impacts of Financial Speculation of Basic Commodities on Global Development during High-Level Meeting of ECOSOC

March 12, 2012

GFDD delivered an intervention on the impacts of financial speculation of basic commodities on global sustainable development during the 2012 High-Level Meeting of the Economic and Social Council with the Bretton Woods Institutions, the World Trade Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, “Coherence, coordination and cooperation in the context of Financing for Development.” The intervention of GFDD formed part of thematic debate 2: “Financing for sustainable development.”

GFDD representative Kerry Stefancyk stressed that the rising price of basic commodities like food and oil, as a result of financial speculation, has made it increasingly more challenging for nations and organizations to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, job creation, green growth, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and other international development targets, as it signifies reduced financing for priority public investments. GFDD put forth four recommendations aimed at eradicating excessive speculation: limits on the transactions of investors; establishment of margins higher than the premiums required for underwriting commodity futures contracts; limits on the volume of transactions of institutional investors; and banning financial speculation of food in futures markets.

GFDD Shares Best Practices in the Areas of Internship Coordination and Implementation, Professional Training and Educational Advancement in General Debate during 2012 Substantive Session of ECOSOC

July 3, 2012

GFDD delivered a statement during the General Debate portion of the 2012 Substantive Session of the United



GFDD Delivers Intervention on the Impacts of Financial Speculation of Basic Commodities on Global Development during High-Level Meeting of ECOSOC

Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) on “Promoting Productive Capacity, Employment and Decent Work to Eradicate Poverty in the Context of Inclusive, Sustainable and Equitable Economic Growth at All Levels for Achieving the MDGs.”

GFDD was selected out of a group of over 60 nongovernmental organizations by ECOSOC to deliver an oral statement during the General Debate. Only

5 other nongovernmental organizations were chosen to take the floor.

GFDD representative Kerry Stefancyk discussed how the Foundation's professional training sessions, internships, courses and degree programs are contributing to the advancement of labor force capacity in the Dominican Republic. Ms. Stefancyk highlighted GFDD's decade worth of experience coordinating and implementing internships through its InterDom program. InterDom carries out work in 14 fields that have been identified as critical development areas by the Ministry of Labor of the Dominican Republic.

Ms. Stefancyk also expressed support for the innovative actions taken by the Ministry of Labor of the Dominican Republic to improve youth employability and labor force capacity through its Youth and Employment Program. The initiative, which receives financing from the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank, partners with INFOTEP (Instituto Nacional de Formación Técnico Profesional) and private sector institutions to provide at-risk youth with job skills training and practical work experience.

GFDD Reaffirms Commitment to UN Development Agenda at Working Luncheon during ECOSOC High-Level Segment

July 6, 2012

During the High Level Segment of ECOSOC held on July 2-9, 2012, GFDD Executive Director Natasha Despotovic reinforced GFDD's commitment to the goals of the United Nations at a private luncheon hosted by the Convention on Independent Financial Advisors (CIFA), in honor of the Vice-President of the ECOSOC, Ambassador Alfonso Luis De Alba. Hanifa Mezoui, from the President of the General Assembly's Office, and a longtime supporter of affiliated NGO's, introduced Ambassador De Alba.

The event provided an opportunity for a small number of NGOS, UN departments and bodies to exchange ideas and share new concepts with respect to the innovative work each is undertaking in the area of youth and employment.



GFDD Reaffirms Commitment to UN Development Agenda at Working Luncheon during ECOSOC High-Level Segment

Address by Dr. Leonel Fernández, Honorary President of GFDD



Dr. Leonel Fernández Asks the Community of Latin America and Caribbean States to be the Voice of Latin America and the Caribbean

Dr. Leonel Fernández Proposes Gradual Tax Increases for Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean with Low Rates of Taxation during Thirty-Fourth Session of ECLAC

August 29, 2012

Dr. Leonel Fernández, former President of the Dominican Republic, President of FUNGLODE and Honorary President of GFDD, argues that, in order to increase public investment in Latin America and the Caribbean, it is necessary that countries with low taxation arrive at the current Latin American average, which is 20 percent of gross domestic product. He indicated, however, that this measure should be put in place gradually, and should be based on the concept of progressive taxation and ample social agreements that lead to fiscal pacts, as put forth by the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

Additionally, Dr. Fernández articulated that the challenge facing all of Latin America is how to effectively transform the productive structure to one that improves productivity, technology and social inequality gaps. He indicated that what must take place

is a move towards a new design of productive structure characterized by increased diversification that results in higher production and improves the quality of life of workers.

Dr. Leonel Fernández Asks the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States to be the Voice of Latin America and the Caribbean

August 31, 2012

Dr. Leonel Fernández, former President of the Dominican, President of FUNGLODE and honorary President of GFDD, affirmed that the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) should serve as a space for cooperation, integration and political dialogue on global issues for Latin American and the Caribbean countries. Dr. Fernández asserted that in addition to CELAC's role as a platform of common interest with relation to Latin American integration, that the representative body should also represent Latin America and the Caribbean within the G-20.

Dr. Fernández established that CELAC, as a common representative entity, should also serve as the voice of



Dr. Leonel Fernández Proposes Gradual Tax Increases for Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean with Low Rates of Taxation during Thirty-Fourth Session of ECLAC

Latin America and the Caribbean to the globalized world. In this respect, he advocated for greater internal dialogue within CELAC to ensure that the body is representative of the entire Latin American and Caribbean region.

He went on to suggest that through the framework of CELAC, Latin American and Caribbean Member States could arrive at a distinctly unique Latin American position, which could contribute to the reform of the United Nations System.

Dr. Leonel Fernández Delivers Address during High-Level Debate of UNESCO “Contemporary Challenges and Approaches to Building a Lasting Culture of Peace”

September 21, 2012

Dr. Leonel Fernández, former President of the Dominican Republic, President of FUNGLODE and honorary President of GFDD, recommended that the United Nations consider creating an international legal

mechanism to prohibit and penalize religious blasphemy and insult.

He declared that taking into account UNESCO’s interest in promoting the use of information and communications technology for the promotion of peace, not violence, tolerance and intercultural dialogue, it would be of great value to consider the inclusion of a new international legal focus regarding the utilization of cyberspace and global digital media in its new Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace and Non-Violence. Along these lines, he maintained that communications media, in place of being perceived as instruments of hate and insult to human dignity and religious beliefs, could be converted into the ideal catalyst for peace, understanding, solidarity and pluralism in the new world order.

Participants: Ban Ki-moon, UN Secretary General; Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO; Vuk Jeremic, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia and President of the 67th Session of the United Nations General Assembly; Nasser David Khalili, Founder of the Khalili Collections; Wole Soyinka, Member of the High-Level Panel of UNESCO on Peace and Intercultural Dialogue; Forest Whitaker, UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador; and Elie Wiesel, President of the Elie Wiesel Foundation for Humanity.



Dr. Leonel Fernández delivers address during High-Level Debate of UNESCO “Contemporary Challenges and Approaches to Building a Lasting Culture of Peace”

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

www.unadr.org.do



UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION
of the Dominican Republic



CILA 2012

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, D.C. and New York City. Dr. Leonel Fernández serves as the President of the Association.

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 among the Dominican populace.

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

NYDRMUN 2012

March 29 - April 13, 2012

UNA-DR, GFDD and FUNGLODE celebrated the eighth edition of the Dominican Republic Model United Nations in New York (NYDRMUN 2012). More than 900 Dominican and international middle and high school students partook in the 2012 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).

UNA-DR, GFDD and FUNGLODE Select Finalist Isaac Vásquez Montilla to Serve as Dominican Republic Youth Delegate before the Third Committee of the United Nations General Assembly

September 20, 2012

UNA-DR, GFDD and FUNGLODE selected finalist Isaac Vásquez Montilla to serve as the Dominican

Republic Youth Delegate before the Social, Humanitarian and Cultural Affairs Committee (Third Committee) of the General Assembly. Mr. Vásquez Montilla was one of six finalists to compete in the annual “Dominican Youth Delegate before the United Nations Competition.” convened by UNA-DR, GFDD and FUNGLODE.

Mr. Vásquez Montilla participated in the working sessions of the Third Committee of the Sixty-Seventh session of the United Nations General Assembly at UN Headquarters in New York City from October 5-20.

2012 Dominican Republic Youth Delegate, Isaac Vásquez Montilla, is a graduate Cum Laude of Business Administration of the Instituto Tecnológico de Santo Domingo (INTEC). He possesses a great wealth of experience participating in Model United Nations Conferences, and has been elected on two occasions as the Secretary General (2009 Ministry of Education Model United Nations and 2012 Dominican Model United Nations Conference in New York). Moreover, Mr. Vásquez Montilla has been a Volunteer Member of the United Nations Association of the Dominican Republic since the year 2009.

CILA 2012

October 24 - 28, 2012

UNA-DR, GFDD and FUNGLODE convened the eighth edition of the International Conference of the Americas (CILA). The international event, celebrated at the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Convention Center in Punta Cana, Dominican Republic, included the participation of more than 1,500 youth from different regions around the world.

The conference simulated 13 organs and commissions of the United Nations and other multilateral, regional and international institutions. Students also had the opportunity to participate in seminars, conferences, workshops, exhibitions, and social and cultural activities on UN-related topics. CILA 2012 also featured the teacher workshop “Innovation, Formation and Compromise: The Role of Educators” and the First Dominican Competition of Proceedings before the International Court of Justice (CODOCIJ 2012).



NYDRMUN 2012

International Conference Series



“Political Polarization in the United States and the Presidential Elections”

Throughout the year, GFDD’s team works arduously to bring exceptional programming in the areas of economic and social development, democratization, environment, education, public opinion, information and communication technologies, health, international relations, defense and security, knowledge management, Dominican Studies, globalization and regional integration to diverse audiences in the Dominican Republic and around the world.

How to Resolve Sovereign Debt Crisis in the Twenty-First Century

July 24, 2012

Barry Herman, Professor of International Affairs at The New School for Social Research and Senior Advisor on Financing for Development to the Development Department for the Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) presented the conference “How to Resolve the Sovereign Debt Crisis of the Twenty-First Century.” Herman made the case that a critical piece of the international financial architecture was missing, namely an international mechanism through which countries in sovereign debt can obtain timely effective and fair workouts that put them on a path to sustainable public debt and development. The professor of international affairs discussed why the existing “non-system” for resolving government debt crises produces inferior outcomes. He outlined the characteristics a superior system should have had and suggested that

smaller countries needed a new system more than countries with large economies and huge debts, calling for the creation of a bankruptcy law to combat insolvency.

Political Polarization in the United States and the Presidential Elections

August 22, 2012

Steve Clemons, Editor at Large of *The Atlantic* and Senior Researcher of the New America Foundation and Founder of the institution’s American Strategy Program, assessed the implications of the heightened polarization of US political cultural and how this phenomena could potentially play out during the 2012 US Presidential Elections, and the challenges facing both President Obama and Republican candidate Mitt Romney.

Mr. Clemons affirmed that the electoral process in the United States was characterized by profound division and polarization. He identified social networks, blogs and excess transparency as factors contributing to polarization. He also referred to the demographic changes occurring in the country, including the growth of the country’s Hispanic presence, and this group’s influence on the coming elections. He emphasized that the political leverage of the Hispanic population in some states involved redistribution of the district borders that elect members of Congress.

International Participation by Dr. Leonel Fernández, Honorary President of GFDD

Dr. Leonel Fernández Delivers Keynote Address at Sixteenth Annual CAF Conference in Washington, D.C.
September 5-6, 2012

Dr. Leonel Fernández, former President of the Dominican Republic delivered a keynote address during the Sixteenth Annual CAF Conference, hosted by the CAF Development Bank of Latin America, the Organization of American States and the Inter-American Dialogue, in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Leonel Fernández urged countries in Latin America to prioritize economic development, reducing unemployment and restoring confidence in investment, as an expedited means of successfully confronting the current global crisis. The former President indicated that moving beyond the crisis would require passing through a phase characterized by a return to economic fundamentals – investment in infrastructure and human capital. He affirmed that, in the short-term, the most effective strategy would be to design and execute policies oriented to economic growth and the reduction of unemployment. For medium and long term planning, Dr. Fernández recommended putting in place policy aimed at reducing the fiscal deficit and resolving the debt crisis.

The agenda featured an impressive list of diplomats, prominent economists and private sector pioneers.

Speakers included: Former President of the United States, Jimmy Carter; Enrique García, President of CAF; José Miguel Insulza, Secretary General, Organization of American States; Michael Shifter, President, Inter-American Dialogue; Carla A. Hills, Inter-American Dialogue Co-Chair and CEO, Hills & Company; Chris Alden, Professor, London School of Economics; Changyong Rhee, Chief Economist, Asian Development Bank; Mzukisi Qobo, Professor, University of Pretoria; Lu Bo, Deputy Director, American Economic Affairs, CAITEC; Augusto de la Torre, Chief

Economist for Latin America and the Caribbean, World Bank; Harinder Kohli, President & CEO, Centennial Group; Victor Rico, Special Advisor to the President, CAF-Development Bank of Latin America; Rosario Green, Senator, Mexico; Lázaro Cárdenas, Senior Scholar, Woodrow Wilson Center International Center for Scholars; Ana María Sanjuan, Professor, Universidad Central de Venezuela; Luis Vicente León, Director, Datanálisis; Dan Restrepo, Former Director of Western Hemisphere Affairs, National Security Council; Clifford Sobel, Former US Ambassador to Brazil; Charles Shapiro, President, Institute of the Americas; Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary, CEPAL; Alejandro Foxley, President, CIEPLAN; Hasan Tuluy, Vice President for Latin America and the Caribbean, World Bank; Santiago Levy, Vice President for Sectors and Knowledge, Inter-American Development Bank; Moisés Naím, Senior Associate, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace; Luciana León, Member of Congress, Peru; Diego Cánepa, Secretary to the President, Uruguay; Daniel Mejía, Professor, Universidad de los Andes; Fernando Carrera, Head of Secretary of Planning, Guatemala; and Alejandro Hope, Director of Project “Less Crime, Less Punishment,” México Evalua and IMCO.

“Latin America and the Caribbean: Challenges and Opportunities” at Georgetown University
September 7, 2012

Dr. Leonel Fernández, former President of the Dominican Republic and President of GFDD and FUNGLODE gave the conference “Latin America and the Caribbean: Challenges and Opportunities” at Georgetown University.

The conference was organized by the university’s Edmund A. Walsh Center for Latin American Studies, a longstanding partner of GFDD and FUNGLODE.

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International Participation by Dr. Leonel Fernández, Honorary President of GFDD

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Dr. Leonel Fernández Delivers Addresses on Democratization at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island

Dr. Leonel Fernández Delivers Address during “New Grounds for Relations between the EU, Latin America and the Caribbean – Towards a Relevant Partnership,” in Hamburg, Germany
September 17, 2012

During the forum organized by the EU-LAC Foundation, the German Institute of Global and Area Studies (GIGA) and the Andean Development Corporation – Development Bank of Latin America (CAF), Dr. Leonel Fernández, former President of the Dominican Republic and President of FUNGLODE and Honorary President of GFDD, stated that the creation of the European Union, Latin American and the Caribbean Foundation (EU-LAC Foundation) represents a new paradigm for international relations that, in collaboration with non-State actors, develop and implement a strategic vision for regional exchange within a globalized world.

The EU-LAC Foundation was created in May of 2012 with the objective of uniting the non-governmental

sectors of Europe, Latin America and the Caribbean to involve them in the agendas being developed by governments in these two regions. GFDD, FUNGLODE and the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (CEPAL) have been selected by the EU-LAC Foundation to serve as strategic partners for Latin America and the Caribbean.

The forum included the participation of a wide selection of participants from various sectors, including academics, high-level officials, opinion makers and entrepreneurs.

Dr. Leonel Fernández Delivers Addresses on Democratization at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island
October 1, 2012

Dr. Leonel Fernández, former President of the Dominican Republic, participated in the public conversation Democratic Leadership and the Challenges of the 21st Century, followed by the panel discussion “Democratization: Lessons from Leaders,” organized by the Watson Institute for International Studies and its Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies at Brown University in Providence, RI.

The program, “Democratic Leadership and the Challenges of the 21st Century,” also featured engagement by Ricardo Lagos, former President of Chile and Professor at Large at Brown University, and Sergio Bitar Chacra, former Senator and former Minister of Education of Chile, and member of the Inter-American Dialogue.

Dr. Fernández asserted that the administrations of former Haitian president René García Préval and current President Michel Joseph Martelly came to power as a result of democratic electoral processes, stating that despite Haiti’s prolonged history of dictatorship, the country has made significant strides in the construction

of a democratic process. Dr. Fernández expressed his optimism regarding the changes that have occurred in Haiti with respect to democratic development, as well as the future prospects of the nation, underscoring the end of the Duvalier dictatorship and the democratically elected René García Préval and Michele Joseph Martelly.

The panel discussion that followed, “Democratization: Lessons Learned by Leaders” featured interventions by Dr. Leonel Fernández; Dr. Ricardo Lagos; Evelynne Huber, Morehead Alumni Professor of Political Science and Chair of the Department of Political Science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; and Alfred Stepan Wallace Sayre Professor of Government, the founding Director of the Center for the Study of Democracy, Toleration, and Religion (CDTR), and the Co-Director of the Institute for Religion, Culture, and Public Life (IRCPL) at Columbia University. The distinguished panelists discussed lessons learned

regarding political, social and economic reality of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Debates were moderated by Dietrich Rueschemeyer, Professor Emeritus of Sociology at Brown University; Abraham F. Lowenthal, Professor of Ethics, Globalization and Development at the University of Southern California; and Sergio Bitar Chacra.

Both events were attended by politicians, professors, students and professionals of various sectors.

Earlier on in the day, Dr. Fernández delivered a keynote address to student scholarship recipients during the framework of a program realized by Fundación Marcelino Botín of Spain together with Brown University. During the address, the former president provided a historical account of the processes of independence and democratization in the countries of Latin America.

Haitian-Dominican Friendship Concert

GFDD Co-Organizes Haitian-Dominican Friendship Concert

May 16, 2012

GFDD partnered with the Smithsonian National Museum of African Art, the Smithsonian Latino Center, the Embassy of the Dominican Republic to the White House, the Embassy of Haiti and the Dominican Republic Tourist Board to organize the first-ever Haitian-Dominican Friendship Concert at the National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C. Washington, D.C. residents were brought to their feet by the elegant ballroom-arranged merengue and son by Dominican music group Enriquillo Tejada y Los Clarinetes Mágicos, and the energetic notes of konpa and merengues by the popular Haitian group, Tabou Combo.

The event celebrated the African derived musical traditions of the Dominican Republic and Haiti, the African and indigenous legacies of the Caribbean and reinforced the fraternal ties shared by the neighboring island nations.



GFDD Co-Organizes Haitian-Dominican Friendship Concert

GFDD/FUNGLODE Awards

www.funlode.org/premiosfunlode

The GFDD/FUNGLODE Awards seek to promote and celebrate excellence in written expression, documentary film and photography. The annual competition was created with the purpose of stimulating creativity among Dominicans in the Dominican Republic and overseas. The award categories are divided into two groups: audiovisual (photography and documentary film) and literary (short story, non-fiction, novel, poetry and journalism). The initiative recognizes and promotes the talents and achievements of Dominicans.

2012 GFDD/FUNGLODE Awards Ceremony

February 1, 2012

GFDD and FUNGLODE held their annual GFDD/FUNGLODE Award ceremony.

The evening commenced with an artistic performance by dancers Héctor Farías and Katherine Idalina, followed by recognition of the winners in the categories of: poetry, essay, short story, journalism, photography and documentary film.

Prize winners were selected among 281 applicants – 146 short story entries, 42 poetry entries, 11 essay entries, 51 photography entries, 4 documentary film entries, and 27 journalistic report entries.

GFDD/FUNGLODE Awards Present Collection – *Poetry and Story*

August 22, 2012

GFDD and FUNGLODE hosted a special event at FUNGLODE headquarters in Santo Domingo in celebration of the publication of the book collection *Poetry and Story*. The collection features the works of 2011 GFDD-FUNGLODE Awards winners in the areas of poetry and short story: César Augusto Zapata (poetry), *Hechas y sospechas* (Acts and suspicions); Nan Chevalier (short story), *El muñeco de trapo* (Rag doll); Kianny Antigua (short story), *Downtown*; and Danilo Rodríguez (short story), *Porfirio y la serpiente* (Porfirio and the serpent).



Publications

GFDD's international and interdisciplinary team produces publications that promote knowledge about the Dominican Republic and inspire appreciation and further study of topics critical to the sustainable social, economic, democratic and cultural development of the country.

New Perspectives: Dominican Republic is a Best Seller!

Increased sales since its first run in 2007 obliged publishers to print a second edition of the hit book *New Perspectives: Dominican Republic*, as wholesalers around Latin America, the Caribbean and the USA clamor for copies. The second edition, featuring some 400 breathtaking aerial photos of the Dominican Republic, has quickly become a best seller in airports, bookstores, and even Amazon.com!



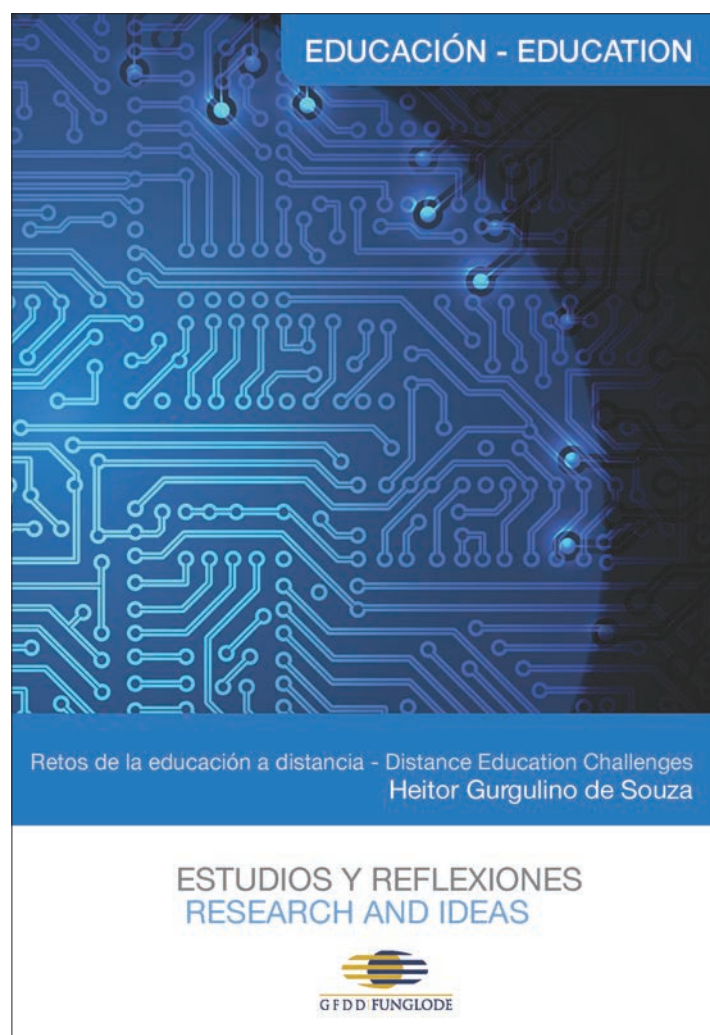
GFDD Launches the Guidebook *Como hacer un huerto escolar* (How to Make a School Garden) September 7, 2012

The success of GFDD's Community and School Gardens Program created the demand to make it a national movement. In response to the overwhelming receptiveness of the Dominican community to gardening projects, as well as to the need to distribute information more widely and effectively, GFDD launched the guidebook *How to Make a School Garden*. The book is available for download on the GFDD website, or can be acquired in print from the FUNGLODE headquarters in Santo Domingo or the GFDD office in New York.

Research and Ideas Series

This book series promotes knowledge sharing and best practices. The series includes research papers, articles, speeches and keynote addresses on critical issues impacting the contemporary world, offering national, regional and global points of view.

The selected works present scrupulous analysis, introduce innovative ideas and transmit inspiration. The series seeks to contribute to a better understanding of the world, empowering us to act in a more informed, efficient and harmonious way. The book series, available in print and electronic format, highlights an ample selection of topics including education, health, urban development and history, among other timely topics.



Distance Education Challenges **by Heitor Gurgulino de Souza** *March 22, 2012*

The GFDD publication, *Distance Education Challenges* by Heitor Gurgulino de Souza, Secretary General of the International Association of Universities and President of Virtual Educa Brazil, available both in English and Spanish, calls attention to the expansion of distance education programs, and the important role of distance education in the future growth of higher education worldwide. Gurgulino de Souza identifies innovative technologies that will transform higher education in the coming years, and emphasizes the critical value of teacher training and quality assurance in distance education development.

The subject of distance education is at the core of Foundation's mission. On an ongoing basis, GFDD organizes international forums, workshops, training programs and lectures and generates scholarship related to technological innovation, education and labor force capacity, in an effort to establish dialogue between agents that play a key role in integrating new technologies and innovative approaches in higher education and profession training.

El Metro and the Impacts of Transportation System Integration in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
by Carl Allen

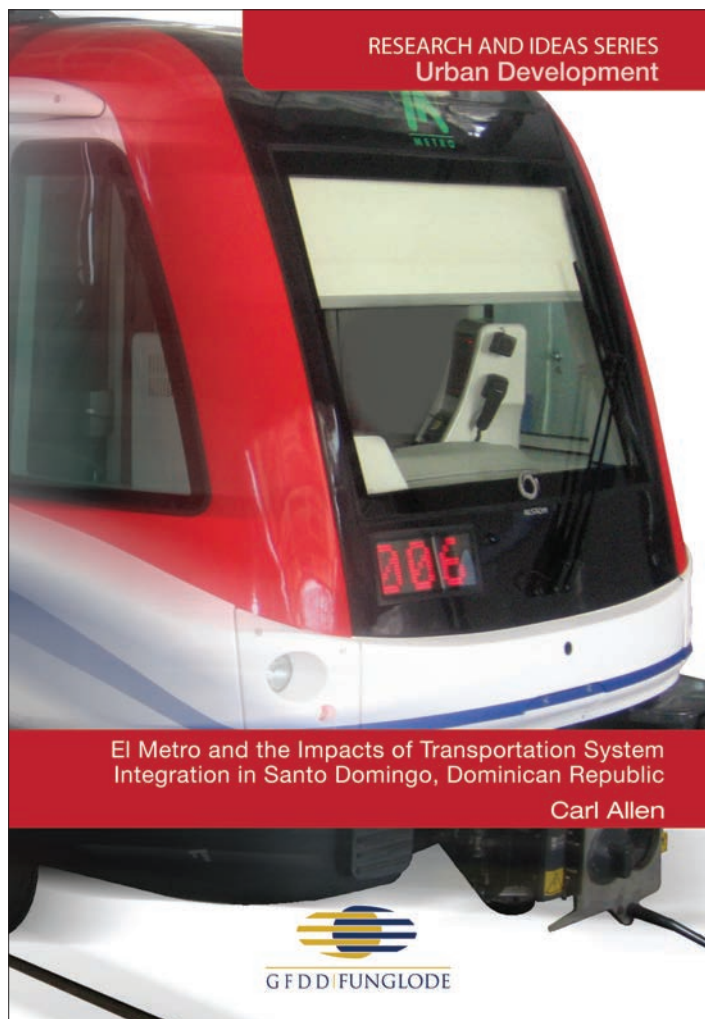
June 1, 2012

El Metro and the Impacts of Transportation System Integration in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, by Carl Allen, 2009 GFDD/FUNGLODE Fellow and graduate of the Harvard Kennedy School Master's Program in Public Policy and Urban Planning, is a comprehensive study of the potential impact of the transportation system on poverty alleviation, congestion, pollution reduction and social and economic development. The outcome of his research is this extensive report on the effects of the metro and feeder bus routes on the nation's urban development, which includes recommendations for maximizing societal benefits.

As a GFDD/FUNGLODE Fellow, Mr. Allen spent the summer of 2009 and January 2010 carrying out research under the guidance of his National Academic Advisor, Mr. Leonel Carrasco, Sub-Director of the Office of Transportation Planning (OPRET – Oficina Para el Reordenamiento del Transporte). His research methodology consisted of the examination of first and secondary sources, including OPRET data and documents and review of Dominican media sources.

Mr. Allen's fellowship also entailed interviews with key stakeholders including Dr. Leonel Fernández, President of the Dominican Republic, and representatives from OPRET; the Commission on Natural Science and Environment of the Academia of Sciences (Comision de Ciencias Naturales y Medio Ambiente, Academia de Ciencias); the Metropolitan Office of Bus Service (Oficina Metropolitana de Servicios de Autobuses -- OMSA); the Presidential Commission on the Millennium Development Goals and Sustainable Development (Comisión Presidencial sobre los Objetivos del Milenio y Desarrollo Sostenible -- COPDES); and the School of Architecture at the Univeridad Iberoamericana (UNIBE).

Mr. Allen's conclusions are also based on surveys administered to riders, students and local business owners.



Participation in Book Fairs



GFDD Presents Publications at IX Annual International Book and Culture Fair in NYC

GFDD Presents Publications at IX Annual International Book and Culture Fair in NYC

March 23-25, 2012

On March 23, GFDD Executive Director Natasha Despotovic formed part of the inaugural act, during which the Fair recognized five prominent Dominican women – Osiris Mosquea, Mary Ely Peña Grateaux, Ana I. García Reyes, Sarah Aponte and Irka Mateo. During the event, Ms. Despotovic presented the work of GFDD and bestowed each honoree with a copy of the GFDD book ***New Perspectives: Dominican Republic***.

During the afternoon of the following day, Ms. Yamile Eusebio participated in a panel at the Isabela Home Center. Ms. Eusebio spoke about the content of GFDD publications ***New Perspectives: Dominican Republic and the Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment***.

GFDD was very pleased to form part of this important event dedicated to the promotion of Caribbean and Latin American authors and publishers. The Annual International Book and Culture Fair is regarded as one of the top Spanish Book Fairs in New York and seeks to serve as a channel of promotion for Latin American and Caribbean authors and publishers.

GFDD Showcases Publications at 6th Annual Dominican Book Fair

September 28-30, 2012

GFDD partnered with the Dominican Commissioner for Culture in New York to celebrate the 6th Annual Dominican Book Fair at Boricua College in the Bronx. The annual event celebrates the literary contributions of Dominican authors, both in the Dominican Republic and in the United States.

The event will provide an important opportunity for GFDD to showcase some of its latest publications in the book series Research and Ideas: ***El Metro and the Impacts of the Transportation System Integration in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic***, by Carl Allen and ***Distance Education Challenges***, by Heitor Gurgulino de Souza. The Foundation will also present the literary works of 2011 GFDD-FUNGLODE Award winners in the categories of poetry (Pedro Mir Award), Documentary ***Max Pou***, and short story (Juan Bosch Award) and ***María Montez***.

GFDD also presented the work of the following 2011 GFDD-FUNGLODE Award winners:

Poetry – ***Hechas y sospechas (Acts and Suspicions)*** by César Augusto Zapata

Short Story – ***El muñeco de trapo (Rag Doll)*** by Nan Chevalier

Short Story – ***Downtown*** by Kianny Antigua

Short Story – ***Porfirio y la serpiente (Porfirio and the Serpent)*** by Danilo Rodríguez

GFDD Books and Publications on major outlets: Amazon, iBookstore, and Book Stores



GFDD Publications Available on Amazon

March 1, 2012

GFDD's acclaimed books *New Perspectives: Dominican Republic* and *Dominican Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment* are available for purchase on Amazon. Exposure will help secure new markets for both publications. Proceeds from all sales will

go towards financing GFDD programs and projects.

In 2011, GFDD published a revised edition of *New Perspectives: Dominican Republic*. The 275 page masterful work aptly captures the geography, environment, culture, history, commerce and people of the Dominican Republic. The 2011 version has been registered under the International Standard Book Number (ISBN) system, making it accessible to wider audiences. The photography book, inspired by Editor-in-Chief Natasha Despotovic, features over 400 aerial images by Franco-Dominican photographer Anne Casalé. Promotion of the book and travelling photography exhibit have become an integral part of the mission of GFDD to promote understanding and appreciation of Dominican culture and heritage by presenting lesser known facets of the country's history, culture, ecology and contemporary life. The Dominican Republic, its history and its people are revealed in a new and fresh way that expands and enriches perceptions for international audiences.

The *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. The dictionary represents the most complete source of information on

the environment and national resources of the Dominican Republic, including an incredible 712 defined environmental terms, 58 table sets, 123 graphics, 19 scientific articles and over 700 photos.

GFDD Publications Offered in the iBookstore

March 22, 2012

GFDD audiences need not wait any longer to access publications in electronic format. The first GFDD publication offered in iBook format, *Distance Education Challenges* by Heitor Gurgulino de Souza, of the Research and Ideas series, is already in iBookstore®.

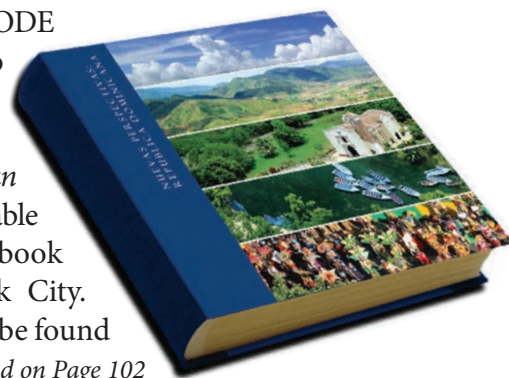
GFDD ebooks follow the international standard EPUB format, which makes them compatible with many devices listed here: iPhone, iPad, Blackberrys, Barnes and Noble NOOK, Sony Reader, Adobe Digital Editions, Windows Phone 7, Bookworm, EPUBReader, COOL-ER, BookGlutton, AZARDI, Aldiko, FBReader, Mozilla Firefox, uBook, Mobipocket and Okular.

This publication is the first of many which will be available in this easy-to-use format. Other publications may be purchased online through the GFDD webpage shopping cart, Amazon, or downloadable in PDF format on the GFDD website.

New Perspectives: Dominican Republic Available at New York City Book Stores

August 22, 2012

GFDD and FUNGLODE are pleased to announce that the publication *New Perspectives: Dominican Republic* is now available for purchase in book stores in New York City. The publication can be found



Continued on Page 102

GFDD Books and Publications on major outlets: Amazon, iBookstore, and Book Stores

Continued from Page 101

at St. Mark's Bookshop on the Lower East Side and Book Culture on the Upper West Side.

Book Culture

536 West 112th Street
(Between Broadway and Amsterdam)
New York, NY 10025-1601
Phone: 212-865-1588; info@bookculture.com

2915 Broadway at 114th Street
New York, NY, 10025
Phone: 646-403-3000; broadway@bookculture.com

St. Mark's Bookshop

31 Third Avenue
New York, NY 10003
Tel: 212-260-7853; stmarksbooks@mindspring.com

GFDD Launches Online Shopping Site

<http://shoppingcart.globalfoundationdd.org>

November 28, 2012

GFDD is thrilled to offer unique gift ideas for everyone through its new online shop. If you are looking for something special and meaningful, look no further than the charitable gifts offered by GFDD through the shopping cart feature on the webpage.

From photobook publications and educational books to stunning posters and charming personal note cards, GFDD has created an exciting array of inspiring and stimulating gifts that not only look great but also contribute to the development of quality social, environmental and economic programs both in the Dominican Republic and abroad.

For those who value the importance of helping others, while at the same time increasing the global visibility of our unique and beautiful island nation, some items you may consider purchasing include:

Book: *New Perspectives: Dominican Republic*



Composed 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 pertaining to various aspects of the country's history, culture, environment 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.

Note Cards: Box of 10 note cards

Beautifully designed postcards depicting the aerial scenery brought to life by the Dominican landscape. of La Altagracias; Monte Cristi Salt Flats; Limon Waterfall, Province of Samana; Yamasa Mountain Range, Province of Monte Plata.



Posters

Beautiful aerial photographs developed into ten striking posters showcasing the wondrous Dominican Republic. This is your chance for photo-memories from the book *New Perspectives: Dominican Republic*. Size: 28" x 21".



Please go to <http://shoppingcart.globalfoundationdd.org> for the full GFDD selection of gifts and tell your friends and associates.

Websites and Portals

All Websites and Portals are available in both idioms: Spanish and English

Global Foundation for Democracy and Development
www.globalfoundationdd.org



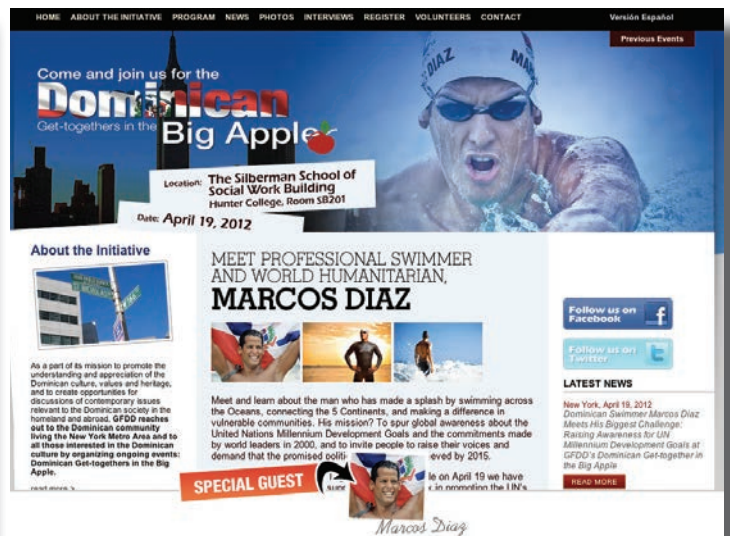
DominicanaOnline
www.dominicanaonline.org



Dominican Republic Environmental Film Festival
www.dreff.org



Dominican Get-Togethers
www.dominicangettogethers.org



Websites and Portals

Fellows Program
www.drffellowsprogram.org



Dominican Film Showcase
www.dominicanfilmshowcase.org



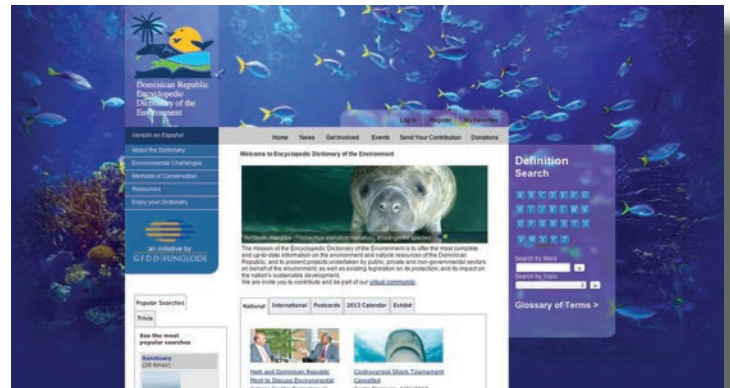
InterDom: Internships in the Dominican Republic
www.interdominternships.org



Globo Verde Dominicano Award
www.globoverdedominicano.org



Dominican Republic Encyclopedic Dictionary of the Environment
www.environmentaldictionary.org



New Perspectives: Dominican Republic
www.newperspectivesdominicanrepublic.com



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with the UN



Photography Exhibit: New
Perspectives Dominican Republic



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