



Public Private Alliance Foundation

## PPAF INSIDER

September 2017

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### ***Important Updates and Haiti Developments***

*From the Executive Director:*

*We have been so busy with plans and partners that we haven't sent out a newsletter in a while, though we do post often on our Facebook page.*

*First of all, I am glad to say colleagues in Haiti and Florida escaped serious damage from Hurricane Irma. We are grateful for that.*

*We have much to report about work in Haiti and the U.S. by PPAF and our colleagues. This focuses on solar and biogas for cooking, as well as organizing or participating in several important meetings in and around the United Nations in New York.*

***SPECIAL APPEAL*** - *Our friends in the Haiti Adolescent Girls Network are engaged a Global Giving crowdfunding campaign up through Friday 9/29, with a special incentive for online contributions made on Tuesday 9/19. We are eager to encourage support from our readers. Here is the link - [www.globalgiving.org/projects/eco-friendly-girl-owned-microenterprises-in-haiti/](http://www.globalgiving.org/projects/eco-friendly-girl-owned-microenterprises-in-haiti/). More details are in the body of the newsletter.*

*Unfortunately at the U.S. national level we also have shocking news. According to articles published this past week the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced cancellation of federal grants that mention climate change, including specifically to the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves. This is terrible. Please see more details in the body of this newsletter.*

*Please remember to give generously to PPAF so that we can work with our partners in educating about clean cookstoves, about biogas for cooking, and work in training Haitians in new cooking technologies. And if you haven't already, please "like" and "follow" our Facebook page [www.facebook.com/PublicPrivateAllianceFoundation/?ref=bookmarks](http://www.facebook.com/PublicPrivateAllianceFoundation/?ref=bookmarks)).*

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*David Stillman, PhD*

*Executive Director*

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## Work in Haiti and the U.S.

### Solar Ovens for Girls' Entrepreneurship in Haiti

The Haiti Adolescent Girls' Network (HAGN) (<http://haitigirlsnetwork.org>) organizes "My Space" Girls Clubs to help marginalized girls stay in school, avoid pregnancy and early marriage, and develop their capabilities. PPAF and others are collaborating with HAGN to stimulate entrepreneurship in such clubs through Solavore solar ovens and related training from KDCK, and monitoring and stove performance evaluation from Solar Cookers International. [Click here](#) for a one-page description.

And [click here for more information](#) on the design of our consortium project, which made the shortlist for significant funding from a recent large-scale competition.

### **SPECIAL APPEAL - Help Support the Haiti Adolescent Girls Network -Crowdfunding for Eco-friendly Girl-owned Microenterprises in Haiti**

Our friends in the Haiti Adolescent Girls Network (HAGN) have been accepted by the Global Giving crowdfunding program to hold a campaign up through **Friday 9/29**. There is also an incentive for online contributions that are made on **Tuesday 9/19**. We are eager to encourage support from our readers. Here is the link - [www.globalgiving.org/projects/eco-friendly-girl-owned-microenterprises-in-haiti/](http://www.globalgiving.org/projects/eco-friendly-girl-owned-microenterprises-in-haiti/).



HAGN's pilot project is helping 16 out-of-school girls between the ages of 15 and 19 start their own eco-friendly cooking businesses by providing them with Solavore solar cookstoves and related training and supplies. PPAF will be involved. HAGN needs to raise at least \$5,000 USD from at least 40 donors to remain listed with the program. On Tuesday 9/19 GlobalGiving will match at 20% the online donations between \$25 and \$1,000 USD that are made that day.

HAGN's leadership is in the capable hands of Myriam Narcisse. She holds a law degree from the Haitian Faculty of Law and has over 15 years of experience managing development and microfinance programs targeting poor women and youth. PPAF is proud to be working with her and with HAGN. Please add your support! Again, the link for donations is [www.globalgiving.org/projects/eco-friendly-girl-owned-microenterprises-in-haiti/](http://www.globalgiving.org/projects/eco-friendly-girl-owned-microenterprises-in-haiti/)



## Creating videos about biogas for cooking

When the HEART in Haiti School (<http://heartinhaiti.org>) installed its first biodigester, Solar CITIES ([www.solarcities.eu](http://www.solarcities.eu)) provided advice and recorded the process. PPAF has made English and Creole versions of training videos from that work, available now on the [Video](#) section of our website. Kathy Puffer (Solar CITIES) and Schadrac St. Louis & Carina Blon (HEART) are featured in the videos. Rose Bazile of KDCK and Dayna Hippolite prepared the translations and Solar Punch performed the background music. Violetta Spinazzola, a PPAF high school intern, provided excellent film editing.

We also produced a video of an interview by PPAF's Tom Setchel with a [Solavore solar cooker user](#), taken in cooperation with KDCK in Cotes de Fer, Haiti

## Building biodigesters for demonstration

ECHO Global Farm & Research Center, in Florida ([www.echonet.org](http://www.echonet.org)) is noted for its tropical agriculture, research and training to improve nutrition and combat poverty. Solar CITIES had previously built a 250 gallon biodigester there, which needed to be inoculated and commissioned. Tom Setchel (PPAF), Kathy Puffer (Solar CITIES) and Rose Bazile (KDCK) plus several interns did so and toured the Center on June 28. Elliot Toevs (ECHO) hosted the event. The biodigester will produce biogas for cooking and fertilizer from the slurry, both for use and for demonstrations.

Tom Setchel also joined work to build a 10,000 gallon biodigester at the Rosebud Center of Patel College, University of South Florida. Impressive!

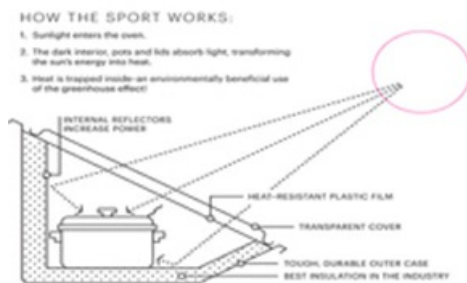


## Visit to the CEO of Solavore

Solavore CEO Anne Patterson lives “off the grid” ([www.solavore.com](http://www.solavore.com)) with no municipal services. An August visit to her home on a small Connecticut island was an eye-opening experience in the practicalities of sustainability. We were treated to brownies cooked on her Solavore Sport oven and took a tour to see the tanks of collected rainwater, the solar panels, the composting toilet and other features of independent living. She has a strong commitment to the environment and entrepreneurship and a “can do” spirit. A CEO who truly represents the company.



Ann Patterson demonstrates a Solarvore solar-oven



## Promoting solar and biogas cooking in Haiti

Rose Bazile is the Board Chair of KDCK, a Haitian hometown non-profit ([www.kdck-cdf.org](http://www.kdck-cdf.org)), and the Solavore representative for Haiti. In July-August she traveled to Haiti for PPAF and these organizations, visiting sites in Port-au-Prince, Cotes de Fer and Hinche to promote and review progress in the implementation of solar and biogas as cooking fuels. The photos below illustrate training demonstrations of solar cooking among leaders and club mentors of the Haitian Adolescent Girls Network, and several promotional presentations at a factory in Port-au-Prince and for the vice president of the Université Notre Dame at Hinche. Also shown are mothers cooking on solar or biogas in Cotes de Fer. These fuels and the related apparatus are attracting much interest.





Baking cake on solar



Cooking spaghetti on biogas



Rose Bazile and Group at small garment factory in Port-au-Prince

## Meetings and Events

### Population Council - Girl Center - "Closing the Gender Data Gaps in Girls' Education" September 13, 2017

The Girl Innovation, Research and Learning (GIRL) Center ([www.popcouncil.org/girlcenter](http://www.popcouncil.org/girlcenter)) is a new initiative to leverage the Population Council's long-standing combination of research, impact evaluation and programmatic experience to fill evidence gaps and help girls around the world complete schooling, avoid early pregnancy and marriage, and lead healthy, productive lives.

PPAF Executive Director David Stillman attended and participated in the GIRL Center's gender data gaps seminar on September 13 in New York. He had opportunity to underscore PPAF's collaboration with the Haiti Adolescent Girls Network (HAGN) and building entrepreneurship skills in their "My Space" girls clubs. HAGN is one of the initiatives receiving attention and support from the Population Council.

The session brought together four expert panelists and was moderated by Thoai Ngo, who is Director of the Council's Poverty, Gender and Youth Program and Director of the GIRL Center. The group emphasized the importance of: ensuring the disaggregation of data to better understand the status of access and accomplishment for girls; the availability and importance of multi-sectoral information from education, health, social services, labor statistics etc.; communications between researchers and policy-makers; prospects for improved health and livelihoods after schooling; and the significant return, at national and family levels, from investing knowledgeably in education for girls.

Below are photos of the panelists and moderator: David Evans (World Bank), Dasmine Kennedy (Ministry of Education, Jamaica), Albert Motivans (Equal Measures 2030) Stephanie Psaki (Population Council), Thoai Ngo (Population Council)



## [High-Level Global Meeting on Road to the Future of Sustainable Development: Moving from Commitments to Results through Inclusive Innovation - August 25](#)

The World Organization of Governance and Competitiveness (WOGC) ([www.wogcfun.org](http://www.wogcfun.org)) held a high-level global meeting, hosted by the Permanent Mission of Zambia, at UN Headquarters in New York on August 25. The theme was: “Road to the Future of Sustainable Development: “Moving from Commitments to Results through Inclusive Innovation.” Close to 500 participants attended, including political leaders, delegations, representatives of the private sector and civil society, and UN staff. WOGC reports a membership of over 2,000,000, from large, small and medium, government owned and private businesses, and experts available from China, Japan, South Korea and Singapore. The meeting dealt mainly with integrating technologies and management of innovative industries from China into African, Latin American and Pacific countries, and introduction of a global action plan for poverty reduction, emphasizing low cost housing and digitization of national resources.

Upon PPAF’s introduction to WOGC management, Dr. Alan Bigelow, Science Director and UN Representative at the UN of Solar Cookers International ([www.solarcookers.org](http://www.solarcookers.org)), was invited to address the conference. His well-received statement, “Solar Cooking: A Cross-cutting Solution for Sustainable Development,” covered types of solar stoves and ovens, their uses and benefits, global distribution statistics, relation to all 17 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals, and prospects in Haiti and Kenya, where SCI and PPAF are part of consortium efforts. Here are photos from the day. Please contact us to obtain copy of the presentation.



Alan made an excellent presentation at this conference of over 400 Chinese and other business

people.



### Solar Cooker Performance Evaluation - August 3

Solar Cookers International (SCI) joined the International Solar Energy Society to organize a webinar on August 3 on cooker performance evaluation ([www.ises.org/webinars/330](http://www.ises.org/webinars/330)). This was important to PPAF in relation to promotion of public capacity for testing solar cookers and verification of such capacity in project work in Haiti and elsewhere. Moreover, PPAF collaborators were presenters.

Solar cooking uses free solar energy for no-emissions clean cooking, and various products and designs exist; but not all solar cookers are equal. In response to expressed needs to develop the capacity for testing solar cookers, SCI, as a non-profit international organization and global convener of the sector, has developed a performance evaluation process (PEP) and has also designed and built open-source, low-cost, portable PEP testing stations that apply the appropriate recognized protocol.

The webinar included an overview of solar cooking and response to the need for solar cooker evaluations by Julie Greene (SCI Executive Director), a review of the ASAE S580.1 protocol for testing and reporting solar cooker performance by Dr. Paul Funk (American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers), a description of the new SCI Performance Evaluation Process (PEP) by Dr. Alan Bigelow (Science Director, SCI) and a manufacturer's perspective on the value of solar cooker PEP results by Anne Patterson (Founder and CEO, Solavore). Please contact us if you wish to obtain copy of the individual presentations and related graphics.

[Click here for more information on the webinar.](#)





## Intergenerational Dialogues on the Sustainable Development Goals - August 1

The UN Department of Public Relations, Non-Governmental Relations Unit (DPI/NGO Relations) (<http://outreach.un.org/ngorelations>) and the NGO/DPI Executive Committee (<http://ngodpiexecom.org>) partnered to organize an event entitled “Intergenerational Dialogues for the Sustainable Development Goals.” This took place on 1 August 2017 at UN Headquarters in New York. The aim was to raise awareness of the high value that youth and older persons can bring to implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) from here to 2030, and foster a shift in the perception of youth and older persons from beneficiaries of social policy to agents of social change.

PPAF is a recognized NGO associated with the UN/DPI and accredited to the UN Economic and Social Council. Several of us participated in the sessions. Senior Fellow Padmini Murthy led the session “Healthy Living: Physical and Mental Wellness,” Senior Fellow George Garland was a panelist in the session “Sharing Responsibility for the Planet,” and Senior Fellow Michael Ambrozek along with Executive Director David Stillman introduced PPAF interns Julia Baumgartner, Lidia Koljancic and Violetta Spinazzola to the excitement and intricacies of UN conferences.



## High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development - July 10-19

The annual UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf>) was convened at UN Headquarters from July 10 to 19 under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Its purpose is to promote and review the implementation of the 2015-2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs>) and to provide political leadership, guidance and recommendations. The 2017 HLPF focused on the theme “Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world” and seven of the related SDGs. The meetings included moderated discussions among ministers and senior government officials, UN system and other organizations, and major groups and other stakeholders of civil society, both in the conference rooms of the UN and in less formal meetings in nearby venues.

Of particular interest to PPAF were the sessions on gender, food security, multi-stakeholder partnerships, major groups and other stakeholder contributions, and science, technology and innovations. In the latter case PPAF participants joined colleagues from Solar Cookers International and later participated in a reception honoring solar cooking pioneer Dr. Mrs. Janak McGilligan.



## UN Public-Private Partnerships Conference - May 23

The World Development Foundation organized an event hosted by the Permanent Mission of Suriname on May 23 at UN Headquarters. ([www.globalwdf.org/publicprivatepartnerships](http://www.globalwdf.org/publicprivatepartnerships)). Several international figures, high level UN staff, and investors and leaders within the private sector gathered to investigate ways in which public-private partnerships may shape the success of the SDGs and other UN initiatives and trends in the world economy. They shared broad perspectives, insight and predictions in a morning session and in the afternoon laid the groundwork for a major eco-tourism initiative in the Caribbean Guyana Shield Area.

PPAF Executive Director David Stillman spoke at this event on “Creating and Endorsing Public-Private Partnerships“ including remarks on the principles and current work of PPAF. [Click here](#) for a copy of the text.

Thanks to Alan Bigelow of Solar Cookers International, we have a video of the presentation. [Click here](#).



## Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves Meeting on Cookstoves and Fuel Planning - March 31



l. to r.: David Stillman, Myriam Narcisse, Yvenique Bathard and Alan Bigelow

The Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves (GACC) organized a stakeholders meeting in Port-au-Prince Haiti on March 31 to discuss its Preliminary Action Plan for the Transformation of the Cookstoves and Fuels Market in Haiti (<http://cleancookstoves.org/resources/476.html>). PPAF Executive Director David Stillman and Solar Cookers International (SCI) Science Director and UN Representative Alan Bigelow participated. Nearly sixty persons from Haiti and abroad attended. PPAF has been active as a resource to the program since GACC research began in the summer of 2016, and urged SCI to get involved.

The planning document and discussion covered the current status of the

cookstoves and fuel market, proposed interventions to foster an enabling environment, strengthen supply and enhance demand for clean cookstoves and fuel, and the projected impact of this in the shorter and longer-term future. GACC and the discussants emphasized the challenges, the need for step-by-step measures, the importance of women, and the need for a variety of stoves, fuels, and approaches in order to make headway.

Stillman and Bigelow also joined Myriam Narcisse and team members of the Haiti Adolescent Girls Network (HAGN) to discuss using solar cookers as a means for developing entrepreneurial skills in the “My Space” girls clubs sponsored by HAGN. They toured possible initial sites in Carrefour, just west of Port-au-Prince.

### Girls, Women, Clean Energy and Entrepreneurship - March 15



PPAF and the UN Association of the USA Southern NY State Division co-sponsored a seminar on girls, women, clean energy and entrepreneurship in Haiti and elsewhere on March 15, as part of the 61st Session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women. The goals for the session were to broaden the awareness of opportunities and challenges and to strengthen the community of those working with these subjects.

Speakers included representatives from the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, the Population Council, and from two implementing agencies - the Haitian hometown organization Konbit pou Developman Commune Kotes de Fer (KDCK) and HEART in Haiti, which is a school outside Port-au-Prince that includes an environmental focus. About 40 people filled the conference room at the NY office of the UN Foundation, despite the snow.

For more information, see the program. [Download File](#)

### U.S. National News - Clean Cooking and Climate Change

Unfortunately at the time of this writing we have shocking news at the U.S.

national level. According to an article on Monday 9/11 in [The Washington Post](#) and on Tuesday 9/12 in [ThinkProgress](#) the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced cancellation of federal grants that mention climate change, including specifically to the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves. As stated in the Washington Post:

“Two of the awards the EPA’s leadership rescinded – \$1.1 million to the U.N. Foundation and a nearly \$148,000 award to the nonprofit organization Winrock International – supported the deployment of clean cookstoves in the developing world. The U.N. Foundation grant grew out of a 15-year-old EPA program with the private sector, which aims to curb the kind of pollution that fuels climate change and disproportionately affects women and children.

This is terrible. As stated in the ThinkProgress article, “Developing clean cookstoves is one of the most cost-effective ways to save lives globally, while simultaneously generating American jobs and improving our national security.” That article also quoted Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves CEO Radha Muthiah as saying “It’s a cutting-edge solution to one of the world’s oldest challenges, it’s working, and there is a lot still to be done.”

In the case of PPAF we have not mentioned Haiti and global climate change. We have focused on the daily issues of poverty, respiratory disease and deforestation tied to the tremendous dependence of families on charcoal for cooking, and the possibility of better lives and livelihoods through nonpolluting stoves and fuels.

## Our Recent Volunteer Interns



Maria Paula Banos



Violetta Spinazzola



Lidia Koljancic



Julia Baumgartner

**Maria Paula Banos**, a student at EF International School, interned with PPAF and the UNA-USA Southern New York State Division (UNA-SNY) from April to late June 2017. Maria is from Colombia and is studying international relations. She participated in a day-long conference at the UN on Public-Private Partnerships that was related to PPAF. For UNA-SNY, Maria summarized a 19-page United Nations document on criminal justice and right of assembly into a form useful to share with others.

**Violetta Spinazzola** interned as a Hastings High School senior from May-June 2017 and then during the summer. In the fall she will study international relations at Simmons College. For PPAF she edited the video “BioGas for Cooking in Haiti - English Version.” She also assisted with the UNA-SNY/PPAF parallel event to the Commission on the Status of Women 61: “Girls, Women, Clean Energy and Entrepreneurship in Haiti and Elsewhere.” She joined in UN events including “Many Languages-One World Global Youth Forum” and the “Intergenerational Dialogue on the Sustainable Development Goals” (SDGs). She assisted with managing and as videographer for the UNA-SNY consultation on “Protecting Freedoms of Speech and Assembly and Finding Solutions for Youth in Crisis.”

**Lidia Koljancic**, a student at Université Grenoble Alpes in France, is interning with PPAF and UNA-USA Southern New York State Division from June to August 2017. Lidia is studying Applied Foreign Languages and Management. For PPAF she edited the video “BioGas for Cooking in Haiti - Kreyol Version.” She participated in United Nations conferences including “Many Languages-One World Global Youth Forum,” “Intergenerational Dialogue on the Sustainable Development Goals”(SDGs), the

“2017 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development” and at a UNA-SNY event on “World Refugee Day.” She drafted reports and articles and assisted with preparations and management of the UNA-SNY Consultation “Protecting Freedoms of Speech and Assembly and Finding Solutions for Youth in Crisis.”

**Julia Baumgartner**, a student at EF International School, is interning with PPAF and the UNA-SNY from July to September. Julia, a graduate of HLW Biedermannsdorf in Austria, is studying international relations. For PPAF she is assisting with a newsletter, carrying out administrative work, participated in the UN “Intergenerational Dialogue on the SDGs” and the WOGC meeting “**High-Level Global Meeting on Road to the Future of Sustainable Development: Moving from Commitments to Results through Inclusive Innovation.**” For UNA-SNY she is participating in research and writing of a proposal on race, civil rights and human rights.

## HOW YOU CAN WORK WITH THE FOUNDATION

Your contributions make it possible for the Foundation to continue our work in bringing organizations and people together for sustainable development and clean energy. “Like” us on [Facebook](#), view our videos on [YouTube](#), join us on [Linked In](#) and receive our [Twitter feeds](#).

(1) **Donate Directly.** It's quick, safe and easy to give online. Go to [www.ppafoundation.org](http://www.ppafoundation.org) and click on the donation button you prefer. Please consider a monthly gift. You can also mail a check directly to Dr. David Stillman, PPAF, 166 Edgars Lane, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706, USA. The Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Its EIN is **71-1016293**.

(2) **Become a Corporate Sponsor.** You'll be listed on our website and in our newsletter as a corporation that supports important work in agribusiness, clean energy, and broad assistance to people in Haiti, the Dominican Republic and Madagascar. Contact David Stillman at [ppafoundation@gmail.com](mailto:ppafoundation@gmail.com)

(3) **Give through [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)** Whenever you make a purchase through Amazon.com, please enter [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) . When you start that account, choose Public-Private Alliance Foundation and a fraction of your purchase price will go to PPAF. It costs you nothing, and PPAF programs benefit from your action.

(3) **Live Green!** If you live in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, the District of Columbia, Virginia or Illinois, you can help by changing your electricity provider to Viridian Energy. (Depending on where you live, you may also be able to switch your gas provider.) This saves money and supports green energy and a smaller carbon footprint, with the Foundation earning a small fee. Click here to learn more, and feel free to contact us. Go to [www.viridian.com/PPAF](http://www.viridian.com/PPAF) or call 914-478-3450; email [ppafoundation@gmail.com](mailto:ppafoundation@gmail.com). You can watch a great 2-minute video by clicking at the top right on our page.

(4) Volunteer, serve as an intern, or get involved as a professional. Use the information above to contact us.

Contact us: David Stillman, Executive Director, Public-Private Alliance Foundation, 166 Edgars Lane, Hastings-on-Hudson, NY 10706. Email: [ppafoundation@gmail.com](mailto:ppafoundation@gmail.com)



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