Public-Private Alliance Foundation

What do sustainability, green business, climate commitment, improved health and clean cookstoves have in common? These are all ways of saying that we care about our planet, our future, and the futures of following generations. This is the thread that runs through the Public-Private Alliance Foundation’s philosophy and actions.

This newsletter features four topics:

1. **Sustainability Dialogue Day, Maricopa County Community College District, Phoenix, Arizona – March 4, 2011**

On March 4 David Stillman will be the keynote speaker at “Sustainability Dialogue Day” at Maricopa County Community College District (10 community colleges in the greater Phoenix, Arizona area, with about 250,000 students). The audience will include the system chancellor and vice chancellors, college presidents and faculty. The Chancellor is signatory to the American College and University President’s Climate Commitment. [http://www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org/](http://www.presidentsclimatecommitment.org/)

Stillman’s presentation “International Perspectives on Sustainability” will include information on the work of the United Nations and its agencies in this area, as well as a case example of the work of the Public-Private Alliance Foundation and its partners to bring ethanol-burning cookstoves to Haiti. He will also lead a breakout session on the topic “International Resources for Sustainability.”

Stillman’s participation in the Day has been arranged by the Higher Education Alliance (HEA), a new program of the Humphry Dumpty Institute. The Institute forges public-private partnerships to find solutions to humanitarian problems. HDI fosters dialogue between the United Nations and the U.S. Congress, supports mine-action programs, and works to alleviate both domestic and international hunger.

The HEA Program aims to assist universities and colleges across the United States to obtain a more global perspective for their students, including interaction with the United Nations and other international institutions, and possibilities for studies and internships abroad. The program targets historically black colleges and universities and community colleges, as these traditionally have had less opportunity for such exposure.

2. **Disaster Response and Recovery Summit, March 1-2, Orlando, Florida**

On March 1-2 David Stillman will speak in Orlando, Florida at the Disaster Response and Recovery Summit, organized by Global Investment Summits, Ltd. This will bring key decision makers in the aid and development community together with government policy-makers and partnering contractors looking to assist in the aftermath of disasters around the globe.

Morning sessions will introduce the presenters, while afternoon sessions will devoted to private consultations between attendees and participants to discuss key issues affecting disaster preparedness, response and recovery.

Stillman will participate in the panel on Aid and Relief. His topic is “Lives, Livelihoods and the Environment in Post-Earthquake Haiti.” Other panelists represent THW – the Federal Agency for Technical Relief (Germany), World Care Center and Mercy Corps.

The Summit will include panels on “Preparedness, Prediction and Assessment,” “Disaster Response,” “Public-Private Cooperation,” “Communications, Logistics & Supply Chain Management,” and “Reconstruction and Recovery.”

In March 2010 Stillman spoke at a similar meeting, in Miami, “Haiti: Resources for Reconstruction and Humanitarian Assistance Summit.”

3. **Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves highlighted at UNA-USA Conference at the United Nations, February 11, 2011**

Leslie Black Cordes, Acting Director of the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, which is housed in the UN Foundation, took part in a panel on energy and climate change at the United Nations Association of the USA Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference / Members Day at the UN. This day-long conference brought some 550 participants to hear presentations on issues of great importance to the U.S., the UN and globally.

Cordes emphasized the impact of dirty, inefficient cookstoves and open fires on health and environment, as half the world’s population continues to depend on wood and other biomass for cooking. She pointed out that exposure to such smoke kills almost two million young children and women a year and sickens millions more. Cookstove smoke is one of the top five worst overall health risk factors in the developing world. Reliance on wood and charcoal is a major contributor to deforestation.

Cordes described the recent establishment of the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, its program focus and the technical working groups that are being established. She declared that the Alliance hopes to promote adoption of 100 million clean, efficient cookstoves in ten years, which would be approximately 20% of the globally affected population. She invited expanded government, private sector, philanthropic, academic, NGO and other institutions to engage in partnership opportunities. For more information, see [http://cleancookstoves.org](http://cleancookstoves.org) and [http://www.flickr.com/photos/ppaf](http://www.flickr.com/photos/ppaf). For information on the UNA-USA Conference, see: [http://unasoutherny.wordpress.com](http://unasoutherny.wordpress.com)

4. **PPAF Promotes Investment in Community Distilleries, January 13-17, 2011**

The Public-Private Alliance Foundation organized meetings from January 13 through 17 for representatives of Blume Distillation, LLC, which is planning to manufacture community-level distilleries for alcohol production that fuel clean cookstoves, motorbikes, etc. The distilleries will accept sugar cane and a variety of other feedstocks and can receive support through distance monitoring. The aim is to encourage agribusiness both in feedstock production and in co-products of the distillation process which can enrich the soil and support secondary markets.

For information on the UNA-USA Conference, see: [http://unasoutherny.wordpress.com](http://unasoutherny.wordpress.com)
Meetings were held with several potential private investors, with Ambassadors to the UN from Madagascar and Haiti, and with UN officials. On the 15th SlimACT, a Haitian-American investment group, organized a session with more than 50 participants at their Brooklyn headquarters for discussions on both the clean cookstoves and the distilleries.

On January 14, Blume Distillation represented and investors joined Stillman at the Conference for Teaching About the UN. Blume staffed a display table at the conference along with Project Gaia. Stillman addressed the conference on the topic “Fighting the Silent Killer in the Kitchen: Achieving the MDGs.”

Photos are available on the Foundation’s Flickr account.

Thank you for your involvement!

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The Public-Private Alliance Foundation is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to reducing poverty in the world by bringing together business, governmental, community, academic, United Nations and other interests. Through collaboration, PPAF helps stimulate entrepreneurship and commerce-related activities and encourage investment for sustainable development. PPAF supports the principles of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals. The Foundation is a member of the Partnership for Clean Indoor Air.

Focusing on the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Madagascar, our vision is to make a difference for human betterment. PPAF works closely with the United Nations for policies and actions to advance public-private alliances. PPAF is associated with the Department of Public Information of the United Nations and is a participant in the United Nations Global Compact.