June 17-18 - Meetings Across the Pond

On June 17, at the invitation of the Ambassador of the Dominican Republic to the UK, Federico Alberto Cuello Camilo, PhD, David Stillman spoke at the Tenth Roundtable on the Dominican Republic and Haiti. This was held at the Houses of Parliament in London. Revd. Lord Leslie Griffiths, Chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for Haiti, presided over this open session of the two All-Party Groups. The roundtable addressed innovations for increasing environmental sustainability in the DR and Haiti. Government, business and NGO community representatives attended.

The Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Dominican Republic, H.E. Jose Manuel Trullois, offered opening remarks. Nick Harvey, Senior Resilience Adviser and leading on the Political Champions for Resilience, Department for International Development (DFID), UK, spoke on “The Political Champions Initiative for Disaster Risk Reduction” recently begun in relation to Haiti and several other countries. Stillman spoke on “The PPAF Ethanol Stove Project” and its work involving Path to Haiti Business Consulting LLC, Project Gaia Inc, and others, and with cookstoves from Dometic Group AB fueled by high-proof alcohol from the Association of Farmers and Distillers of Leogane. Participants at the meeting had questions and exchanges of ideas with all speakers.
It being “Dominican Week in the UK”, Stillman was invited to a panel discussion hosted by the Embassy on the 17th at the University College of London - Institute of the Americas. Speakers included Dr. José del Castillo, Dominican Minister of Industry and Trade, Mr. Kai Schoenhals, President of the Dominican Association of Exporters, and Ambassador Cuello. This focused on branding the DR as “The Hub of the Americas” and increasing investment and trade relations with the UK. A highlight was that week’s inauguration of Indomina Pinewood Movie Studios, just outside Santo Domingo. On the 18th, Stillman took part in “An Evening of Dominican Cigars, Music and Rum,” which again focused on promoting Dominican - UK relations.

June 3-4 - Conversations in Washington

Following our successful Consultation on Ethanol Cookstoves and Fuel at the United Nations in April, PPAF organized a meeting at the UN Foundation office of the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves in Washington, to bring together representatives of organizations who could not come to New York. Among those represented were the Brazilian Sugarcane Industry Association (UNICA), the International Lifeline Fund, the Roundtable on Sustainable Biomaterials, the UN Environment Program, the US Agency for International Development as well as the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, Path to Haiti Business Consulting LLC and board members of PPAF.

PPAF started the meeting with its new video. The discussions focused on the work of
the various organizations and on how they could be helpful to expansion of ethanol cookstoves and fuel in Haiti.

Gene George, USAID (l); Carol Dabbs, PPAF Board Member (r)

PPAF and Path to Haiti representatives also met with staff of the Inter-American Development Bank and with the Director of the US Cookstoves Initiatives in the Office of the Secretary at the U.S. Department of State.

Part of the exhibit on Improved Cookstoves at the U.S. Department of State.

Other News

An excellent article on the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves has appeared on the www.devex.com site, entitled How the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves Manages 700 Partners. Among other things, the article focuses on the Alliance’s business plan for achieving a goal of 100 million households using clean cookstoves by 2020.

Summer Interns at PPAF

PPAF is happy to welcome two summer interns:

Nadejda Orlowski will be a senior at Macalester College in the fall, where she is an International Studies major with a concentration in Human Rights and a focus and minor in Hispanic Studies. She is a graduate of the International Baccalaureate
program at Dobbs Ferry High School and is fluent in English, French and Spanish. She has recently completed a study program in Cuba.

Nithin Paul is a medical student at Thomas Jefferson College in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and its Jefferson School of Population Health. He graduated from the University of Delaware with majors in Biological Sciences and in the Liberal Arts Studies - Medical Scholars Program. Among other activities at UD activities he served as Students for Haiti Fundraising Chair. He has studied, worked or interned in India, Brazil and Ghana, speaks English, Hindi and Malayalam and has studied Spanish.

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(3) Live Green! If you live in Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, the District of Columbia 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 you money, supports green energy and provides 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 (have your current electricity bill handy) or call 914-478-3450; e-mail 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. Volunteer positions available in fundraising, research and business development.