



Public-Private Alliance Foundation

CIVIL SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT FORUM 2007
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The Public-Private Alliance foundation is a young organization but it has strong roots in the work of the United Nations, in corporate responsibility and in the Millennium Development Goals.

PPAF is a further step in the sequence begun by the UNECOSOC, which endorsed the idea of the UN Public-Private Alliance for Rural Development, with Madagascar and the Dominican Republic as pilot countries. Inspired by the launch of the Foundation for the Global Compact, PPAF has been established as a non-profit charitable organization. This means that it is able to work with and to receive and disburse funds from various sources – from corporate sponsors, civic groups, individuals, other foundations, governments and other entities – to accomplish agreed results.

The purpose of PPAF is to bring together the different stakeholders to combat poverty and promote partnerships – thereby encouraging achievement of MDGs 1 and 8. PPAF is a part of the growing family of efforts that emphasize the positive role business can play in promoting development. The focus is on pro-poor business opportunities, entrepreneurial capacity-building and investment, commerce and related activities for sustainable development.

The foundation is a participant in the UN Global Compact. It encourages South-South and Triangular cooperation. It is working with the UN Training and Research Institute on Women (UN-INSTRAW), which is headquartered in the Dominican Republic, and it is collaborating with the Financing for Development Office of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs.

PPAF is building relations with companies, non-profit organizations, diaspora groups, business associations, universities and colleges, and others. An important part of this is establishment of a Board of UN Ambassadors, which is now taking shape. Current foundation initiatives aim to promote information technology, water, health, agri-business including fish farming, ethanol and cacao production, migrant remittances, microfinance and women's entrepreneurship

PPAF leaders have met several times in recent months with potential partners in the Dominican Republic, and in particular in one of the provinces that have serious poverty but great potential, and which is receiving national and international attention for achieving the MDGs.

We ask for and welcome the involvement and support of all as partners against poverty, including organizations represented here at the Civil Society Development Forum. We are of the firm belief that public-private alliances, and the work of this foundation, can indeed make a difference.

In addition to the announcements made this morning by Ambassador Lorenzo, I would also like to bring to your attention something that may be of interest to a number of the participants here today. This is the NGO Aggregated Purchasing Program, now being organized by BidGive International. This program makes possible purchase discounts, reduced costs for certain services and other savings, thereby shrinking opportunity costs and increasing the impact of budgets and revenues. By this means, greater amounts of resources can become available to advance the programmatic work of the participating NGOs. For those who are interested, I have copies of an information sheet on this, and whom to contact.