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Conference on Honduras 2008 to Focus on Millenium Development Goal 8 in Honduras

WASHINGTON, DC / January 8, 2008—projecthonduras.com announced its ninth annual Conference on Honduras will take place on October 2-4, 2008, in the town of Copán Ruinas, Honduras. The event will bring together more than 230 individuals representing over 110 non-governmental organizations (NGOs), companies, churches, universities, civic groups, and governments to exchange information on projects to improve access to education and healthcare, and support family and community building efforts in Honduras. The goal of the conference is to discuss and understand what is already being done to alleviate problems and how private citizen volunteers can build on these activities through improved communication and coordination.

“You do not have to be a genius to figure out why Honduras doesn’t seem to be able to get substantially ahead, nor is it a matter of spending billions of dollars,” says projecthonduras.com cofounder Marco Cáceres. “The fact is that Honduras lacks the necessary human resources selflessly working in synergistic, innovative ways over the long-term to develop the full mental, emotional, and physical potential of its people.”

The Conference on Honduras 2008 will provide an opportunity for people who are involved in grassroots projects to meet face to face and strengthen the relationships they have established through the projecthonduras.com website at www.projecthonduras.com and network of online forums.

More than 50 speakers will give presentations summarizing their current work and their future plans with respect to building schools and health clinics; providing micro-credit loans and teaching about investing remittance funds from Honduran communities abroad; supporting orphanages and other homes for children; implementing clean water systems and planting trees to address soil erosion; caring for people with HIV/AIDS; and ensuring better coordination between short-term medical brigade teams and good follow-up care after the teams complete their work.

“The focus of any effort to make a real difference in Honduras should be to mobilize all of the country’s ‘human capital’ around the world and channel the full power of its experience, expertise, and talent over the course of one or two generations,” emphasizes Cáceres. “Money is a valuable tool, but I believe our emphasis should be to inspire and motivate people to get involved constructively with Honduras and stay involved the rest of their lives.”

The overall theme of our ninth annual conference is "Building Global Partnerships". ... the idea being that if groups and individuals working to help Honduras learn to work together closely, coordinate, and share information and ideas, then many of the solutions to core development problems and issues will more easily, efficiently be realized. The UN's Millenium Development Goal 8 is to "Develop a global partnership for development". This "goal", however, is not actually a goal, but rather a means to

attain the other seven MDGs. Make MDG 8 happen, and the other MDGs stand a chance. Pay only lip service to MDG 8, and the other MDGs will remain forever a dream.

The conference represents the third part of a three-step strategy for creating an alternative development model for developing nations based on the Internet. The first part was the creation of the projecthonduras.com website, which serves as an online portal for information about Honduras. The second part was the creation of online forums to allow people to communicate daily as specialized issue groups.

For more information about the conference, e-mail hondopost@yahoo.com. The Conference on Honduras 2008 will be presented by projecthonduras.com and sponsored by Special Missions Foundation, Inc. of Georgetown, TX.

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