

Global Giving

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As change spreads across the Middle East, individuals and organizations are looking for ways in which philanthropy can address important social, economic and political needs in the region. Our first feature article examines two people – Omar Amanat and Ronald Bruder – who are each refining approaches that hold promise for addressing very different, but interconnected needs there. One seeks to harness the power of the media to create and reinforce positive images of the Muslim world to replace inflammatory negative stereotypes in a bid to increase understanding about the region. The other is creating a stronger link between education and jobs in the Middle East to address the economic roots of unrest and bring about greater stability, peace and social and economic opportunity.

Our second feature looks at two initiatives of the World Economic Forum's Global Institute for Partnership and Governance, which provides a space for leaders from varying backgrounds to engage in collaborative problem-solving. The Jordan Education Initiatives and the West-Islamic World Dialogue are both demonstrating ways in which business can bridge long-standing economic and social divides within the Middle East and Islamic world and also between that world and the West.

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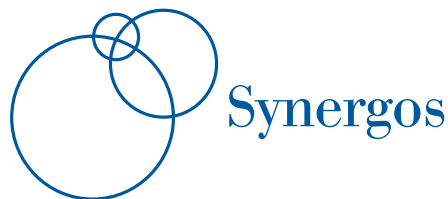
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Global Giving Matters presents best practices and innovations in philanthropy and social investment around the world. It is an initiative of The Synergos Institute's Global Philanthropists Circle and the World Economic Forum, under the direction of Adele Simmons, Senior Advisor to the Forum, and James M. Brasher III, Director, Global Philanthropists Circle. Lynn Peebles is the lead writer. Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors provides support for its distribution. If you would like to subscribe to this newsletter, to unsubscribe, or to designate someone else in your organization to receive it in your stead, contact us at comments@globalgivingmatters.org.

Feature: Philanthropy as a bridge between the Western and Muslim worlds

The events of September 11, 2001 affected most Americans in profound and long-lasting ways, and underlined the urgent need to address the social and economic divides that contribute to global terrorism. For two highly successful entrepreneurs based in New York, 9/11 prompted a period of intense personal reflection that led each to seek a new philanthropic focus aimed at addressing these divides.

The stories of the impact of 9/11 on **Omar Amanat**, a pioneer in the electronic brokerage industry, and **Ronald Bruder**, a real estate developer and national leader in remediating environmentally contaminated properties, have many common elements. Each had much at stake personally and professionally, with families and businesses located in the New York metropolitan area. Both embarked on a time of introspection and research following 9/11, seeking out a wide range of international expertise on the possible causes and solutions. And both were prepared to bring their considerable entrepreneurial skills to bear to address the problem.

As a climate of change and opportunity spreads across the Middle East, Amanat and Bruder are refining philanthropic approaches that hold promise for addressing very different, but interconnected needs in the region. One seeks to harness the power of the media to create and reinforce positive images of the Muslim world to replace inflammatory and pervasive negative stereotypes in a bid to increase understanding between the in the region and with the West. The other intends to create a stronger link between education and jobs in the Middle East to address the economic roots of unrest. Both have recently joined the **Global Philanthropists Circle** as a means to share their experiences in philanthropy and learn from others. Their stories trace paths that begin in the dark aftermath of 9/11 but aim for a brighter era of stability and peace, social and economic opportunity and mutual understanding and respect.

Omar Amanat: Tapping the power of media to build self-esteem

Amid the tragedy and loss of September 11 are many examples of survival and transformation. One such story belongs to Omar Amanat, founder and CEO of Tradescape Corp., a financial technology firm that revolutionized the electronic brokerage industry on Wall Street.

The story would have had a much different ending if Amanat had shown up on time at his office in the World Trade Center on the morning of September 11, but an interview with a local radio station ran longer than expected, delaying his arrival.

Remarkably, all 60 employees of Tradescape's largest branch office, located on the 83rd floor, managed to make the long and harrowing descent down a smoke-filled internal stairway to safety before the building collapsed with great loss of life.

While his business survived and prospered – it was sold to online broker E*Trade for \$280 million in 2002, making him E*Trade's largest individual shareholder – Amanat,

only 29 at the time, says the events of 9/11 served as a catalyst for a period of intense personal reflection and study that has profoundly influenced his philanthropic vision.

The education of a philanthropist

“What really affected me was when I found out who had actually carried out the attacks. For a long time, I didn’t want to admit it. I felt uncomfortable in my own skin for the first time,” said Amanat, an American-born Muslim, whose parents immigrated from India following Partition. “So I started doing research and analysis and in the immediate aftermath, I said, I have to do whatever I can in my capacity as an individual to make a change in this particular problem because I bestride both worlds, in a sense.”

A central theme, the power of media to heal – or inflame – divides, began to emerge from his readings and conversations with opinion leaders from a wide variety of fields. These included *New York Times* columnist **Thomas Friedman**, who has written widely on the Middle East, and **Lee Hamilton**, the former US Representative who served as Vice Chairman of the 9/11 Commission, the blue-ribbon panel charged with investigating the 2001 attacks on the World Trade Center. Hamilton was introduced to Amanat by Ron Bruder, who is also profiled later in this article.

Particularly influential was a book, *Black Rage*, which traces the history of violence and extremism in the African-American community, highlighting the primary role played by television and media images of minority groups in shaping the self-esteem and identity of members of these groups. Amanat also cites another book, *Real Bad Arabs*, a study of the Western film industry and its overwhelming reliance on negative stereotypes of Arabs. Both books posit the psychological theory that members of minority groups tend to derive more of their self-esteem from media images of themselves than from their own interactions with others.

Amanat links studies showing a rise in self-esteem – and a near simultaneous drop-off in violence – among African-Americans in recent decades to watershed developments in US broadcasting. These include the launch of the Black Entertainment Television (BET) network in 1979, and breakthrough programming such as the *Cosby Show*, which for the first time in television history featured a successful, middle-class black American family. Seeing potential parallels for the Muslim world, Amanat believes that through efforts to use the media to enhance self-esteem, some portion of today’s “Muslim Rage” and violence may be mitigated.

Popular media as a mirror for positive images

Amanat began to explore the possibility of starting up a cable television network that would stimulate positive models for Muslim audiences the way that BET and the *Cosby Show* did for black audiences, and soon concluded that he needed to focus energy on the film industry as well. “The number one thing people in the Middle East watch, ironically, is US sitcoms and films,” Amanat said.

“If you have people watching nothing but caricatures of themselves – as Tom Friedman says, ‘people who are part of the world won’t want to blow up the world.’ If they don’t

feel like they are part of the world, it's a different story. What I'm trying to do, like the Cosby show did, is bridge the cultural gap," said Amanat.

Several years ago, Amanat invested in a for-profit US cable network aimed at a Muslim viewership called **Bridges TV**, but has decided that he can have much more cultural impact by working with the mainstream film industry to counteract negative stereotyping of Muslims and uplift the self-esteem of minorities through popular entertainment. Amanat is in the final stages of negotiation with a major Hollywood studio to launch a \$100 million film that would serve these ends.

In April, at the **Rubin Museum of Art** in Manhattan, Amanat co-hosted a preview of the documentary *Who Speaks for Islam?*, a television series being broadcast this spring on **Link TV**, a free, non-commercial network promoting global cooperation, economic and social justice and preservation of the environment and diverse cultures. The series explores the many different aspects of the religion as it is practiced around the globe, including moderate voices not often reported in the US media. Amanat serves on the board of both the Rubin Museum and Link TV. In collaboration with the Rubin Museum, he is also creating the first comprehensive online archive of Islamic art.

Working on diverse philanthropic fronts to heal divides

Meanwhile, Amanat is working on a number of other fronts to address social and economic inequities in the Muslim world and to create stronger links between Western and predominantly Muslim countries.

He calls his work as Vice Chairman of the board of the **Acumen Fund**, the global venture capital fund for the poor, "one of his most enjoyable philanthropic experiences to date" because it draws on his expertise in starting up and building new organizations. Among Acumen's social investments in the Arabic world are affordable, legal housing for urban squatters in Karachi; a sustainable organic farming business outside of Cairo; and a microfinance initiative for women in Pakistan.

Amanat is currently involved in the **American Sufi Muslim Association's** Cordoba Initiative, an inter-religious blueprint for improving relations between America and the Muslim world. And he serves on the board of the **Abraham Fund**, an organization that promotes coexistence among Jews and Arabs in Israel. It was the Fund's President and CEO, **Ami Nahshon**, who introduced Amanat to the psychological theory about media, minorities and self-esteem.

After a period of several year's absence from the Middle East, Amanat resumed his travels to the region in 2005. In March, he was in Dubai in connection with the **Wharton Global Family Alliance**, on a visit hosted by the Royal Family of Dubai. The Alliance is comprised of 300 high net worth families from around the world with an interest in the region.

Amanat, who attended the University of Pennsylvania and the Wharton School of Business is a Wharton Entrepreneur in Residence (EIR) and taught at Wharton after returning from Dubai as part of the EIR program. Other travel to the region includes a conference in Doha, Qatar sponsored by the Brookings Institution's Saban Center on

US-Islamic World Relations to Dubai, and participation in the World Economic Forum's annual meeting in Jordan in May.

When asked what his philanthropic priority will be in the coming year, Amanat, a dedicated multi-tasker, can't seem to resist citing a rather long list of activities that he feels "really passionate and excited about." These include media, film and minorities; poverty relief, sustainable development and human rights; and art and museums.

Ron Bruder: Training youth for meaningful employment

In the chaotic hours after the attack on the World Trade Center in 2001, **Ronald Bruder** was unable to locate his daughter. "I wasn't sure if she was alive," Bruder recalls. "She was downtown that day, and knowing her instincts, I was afraid she'd run to the World Trade Center to help."

It wasn't until that evening that Bruder learned that his daughter was unharmed physically, if not emotionally. The events of 9/11 left Bruder and his family, like most Americans, with a sense of profound vulnerability and uncertainty about the future, and he decided to transform his feelings of fear and anger into action.

A successful real estate developer and "serial entrepreneur" with relatively little experience in international affairs, Bruder decided to put to work the skills he had used in starting real estate, pharmaceutical, travel and oil companies. He began talking to people who knew more than he did, and reading widely to determine if there was "something that he and others of good will could do to bridge the divide between the Muslim and Western worlds."

Honing a philanthropic vision

Through a major redevelopment project that his company, Brookhill Group, was undertaking in Portland, Oregon, he met a former governor of Oregon who subsequently became a business partner and introduced him to a number of individuals with experience in government, politics and international affairs whose expertise was critical in shaping Bruder's philanthropic vision.

Bruder in particular sought input and involvement from influential figures with a Middle Eastern background and in-depth knowledge of the region. These included Ambassador **Mokhtar Lamani**, then the Permanent Observer to the UN of the Organization of the Islamic Conference; **Moeen A. Qureshi**, former Prime Minister of Pakistan; and **Shibley Telhami**, Anwar Sadat Professor for Peace and Development at the University of Maryland and a Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution.

Others early advisors brought a wide range of international expertise: Lee Hamilton, the former US Representative and Vice Chairman of the 9/11 Commission; **Jeffrey Maurer**, former Chairman of U.S. Trust Corporation; **Jeffrey Smith**, senior partner for public policy at the Washington, DC law firm of Arnold & Porter; **Alton Frye**, Counselor and Presidential Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations and **Ellen Laipson**, President of the Henry L. Stimson Center. Ultimately, all of these indi-

viduals became members of the board of directors of the **Education for Employment Foundation** (www.efefoundation.org – EFE).

While initial brainstorming focused on the construction of primary and secondary schools in the Middle East, the board advised that this approach would take decades to have an impact on the economy and could be sensitive culturally.

On the other hand, Bruder discovered that there was an unparalleled opportunity to provide supplemental technical and vocational education to the large numbers of young people in predominantly Muslim countries who had some education but didn't have a job.

Linking training directly to job creation

Unemployment figures from the region underline the urgent need for new approaches: joblessness among youth between the ages of 15 to 24 in the Muslim world alone is estimated at over 40%, and is likely to get worse as these countries prepare for a massive infusion of young people into the job market. The Arab world's population – 285 million in the year 2000 – is expected to rise 60% to 459 million by 2020.

With a job-creation focus, EFE was launched in 2003 as a US 501(c)(3) nonprofit with Bruder as interim CEO and \$10 million in seed money from his own funds. Since the initial \$10 million is earmarked for administration and start-up costs, 100% of all contributions to the initial project will be used to educate and train youth in Muslim countries for jobs.

EFE's mission is to promote increased understanding and improved relations between the people of the Muslim and Western worlds by providing constructive solutions that link technical and vocational education directly to the creation of jobs and that can be tailored to the particular needs of each country in the region. Bruder says that strong local relationships with individuals, corporations, NGOs and government are key to the establishment of successful EFE initiatives.

"I'm a strong believer that if I can't do business in Portland, Oregon without local partners, I couldn't go into the Middle East and create a viable entity without strong, local partnerships with individuals and organizations who have 'skin in the game' and are willing to make a commitment of time, money and resources," said Bruder.

Forging strong local partnerships

EFE has assembled a diverse array of partners for its first initiative in the Middle East, the **Egyptian Center for Nursing Excellence** in Cairo, scheduled to open in the autumn of 2006. In addition to putting university graduates to work, the Center addresses a critical shortage of trained nurses that continues to threaten the quality of Egyptian health care. From an initial class of 75, the program is expected to ramp up to train thousands of nurses over the next five years, Bruder says.

The project has received critical local leadership and support from Dr. **Hossam Badrawi**, founder of the Nile Badrawi Hospital and Member of the Egyptian

Parliament. Developed in partnership with **Simmons College** in Boston, the Center will be located on the campus of an Egyptian university that will share facilities and services for the delivery of a full-fledged nursing curriculum.

Based on successful models in the US, the program will provide an accelerated second Bachelor's Degree in Nursing to unemployed university graduates and will require about two to three years for completion. Coursework will include needed bridging skills such as English, information technology, and leadership.

A number of Cairo hospitals are expected to provide loans for students in the program in exchange for a period of service in their institutions. A major hospital in New York has agreed to a similar arrangement for students, who will return to work in Egyptian health care institutions after a period of service in the US.

Tailoring solutions to regional needs

EFE is also actively working to identify opportunities to create education programs to meet the specific employment needs of other countries in the region. In Jordan, for example, there is a pressing demand for soft skills training for unemployed university graduates and for emergency medical technicians at a sub-university level. EFE is working with a local university to create a partnership school to deliver both programs. To help address these needs, EFE co-hosted a workshop in Amman in 2004 with the **Information Technology Association** of Jordan. EFE is also currently exploring opportunities in Morocco and Palestine.

For his part, Bruder, plans to remain personally involved in EFE, particularly in the area of development, and seeks to raise an additional \$10 million to complement his initial start-up fund of the same amount. He is supported in this effort by a strong board that includes internationally regarded leaders from the Islamic and Western worlds, including a number of his early advisors in the foundation's start-up.

As part of his commitment to EFE, Bruder has sold his oil company, Devon Petroleum, and turned over the day-to-day operations of his real estate firm, Brookhill Group, to others. He estimates that he spends about 80% of his time on EFE these days. "It's stimulating and I am enjoying the process," said Bruder, but he acknowledged that success in the for-profit world did not necessarily prepare him for the challenges of philanthropic leadership.

"I found in my serial entrepreneur life that if I came up with a better mousetrap, getting people on board and raising money was relatively straightforward," said Bruder. "In the foundation world, each organization has its own niche. Everyone agrees that youth employment in Muslim countries is urgent, but actually getting checks written is not as easily done as I had thought. It's challenging because the rules of engagement are different, which just means that I have to work harder."

Feature: World Economic Forum initiatives bridge divides

As leaders from all segments of global society convene in Jordan in May for the **World Economic Forum's** 2005 Extraordinary Meeting, two initiatives launched by the Forum are demonstrating the dynamic role that business can play as a catalyst in bridging longstanding economic and social divides within the Middle East and Islamic world and also between that world and the West.

Both the **Jordan Education Initiative** and the **West-Islamic World Dialogue** are initiatives of the World Economic Forum's **Global Institute for Partnership and Governance**. The Institute recognizes that business has a role to play in tackling the world's most pressing problems through engagement in public-private partnerships. It provides a conducive environment for leaders from varying backgrounds to engage in collaborative problem-solving.

The Jordan Education Initiative

Business leaders at the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2003 proposed the creation of a public-private partnership model to improve education in a developing country using new approaches to accelerate reform, build capacity and mobilize industry. The group selected Jordan for the pilot of an ambitious project to transform public education across the kingdom and impart the skills demanded by the 21st century knowledge economy.

The Jordan Education Initiative (www.weforum.org/jei) will involve 100 participating "Discovery Schools," directly impacting 50,000 students and 2,300 teachers. Already being rolled out in schools across Jordan, it focuses primarily on K-12 education using a novel "blended learning" approach that weaves together e-content with traditional teaching. The math curriculum has already gone live, with ICT, science, Arabic and English to be launched shortly. Additional focus areas include lifelong learning and development of the local IT industry.

Over the past two years, 45 organizations – including 17 global corporations, 17 local firms and 11 governmental and nongovernmental organizations – have made more than \$15 million in direct investment in the initiative. The Jordan project is recognized as one of the world's largest successful working models of public-private sector partnership in the area of education, and efforts are underway to replicate it in other developing countries beginning in 2005.

"We have learned a great deal from the experience in Jordan – creating the model, finding out what works, and what changes are required. Now we are ready to take this program to other countries where even more people can benefit," said **Tae Yoo**, Vice President for Corporate Affairs of **Cisco Systems**, one of the founding partners of the initiative. "Cisco Systems is enthusiastic about the success of the program and the way it is facilitating social and economic stability in the region."

West-Islamic World Dialogue: The C-100

The World Economic Forum's West-Islamic World Dialogue serves as a unique global community to promote understanding and cooperation between Western countries and those with predominantly Muslim populations. Formally launched at the Forum's annual meeting in January 2004, the initiative convenes a council of 100 (C-100) senior political, religious, business, media and opinion leaders.

In the wake of the September 11 attacks in the United States, many organizations are engaged in building Islamic-Western cooperation; C-100 is distinguished by its ability to rely on the particular strengths of the business community as a powerful agent of positive change. C-100 provides a platform for members to generate new collaborations or mobilize additional support for existing projects that strengthen intercultural relations between the West and the Muslim world. The Council seeks to promote Islamic-Western cooperative projects that aim for highly leveraged impact across multiple countries.

Ten new projects were presented to the C-100 at the Forum's annual meeting at Davos; among those approved was a proposal for the world's first Reconciliation Reality TV program, to be broadcast in Europe, the US, and the Arab World. Exploring diverse cultural norms, the program would feature participants who face challenges that require cooperation for them to prevail. C-100 is in discussion with TV broadcasters about the show, which would offer opportunities for audience interaction through text messaging and Internet-based dialogue about the show.

The C-100 will also use the Forum's meetings in Jordan in May 2005 to raise awareness of another of its projects, which aims to alleviate the crisis facing charities and development organizations in the Muslim world. Concerns that charitable giving might be redirected to terrorists has caused a substantial drop in donations from individuals and foundations worldwide. C-100 convened a broad cross-section of stakeholders at Davos during the 2005 Annual Meeting to address these concerns.

The action agenda that emerged from Davos works on a number of fronts to bolster confidence in financial accountability and transparency for donors and charitable organizations. C-100 will work with Western and Muslim non-governmental organizations to establish shared standards for humanitarian and development activities; assist financial institutions to develop criteria for handling questionable funding streams; and engage Western government agencies to make anti-terrorism legislation more transparent.

C-100 plans to kick off a wide-ranging media campaign at the Forum's 2005 meeting in Jordan to focus attention on the problem, highlight workable solutions under development, and the mutual benefits to the West and the Muslim world that collaborative action will make possible.

Global Giving Roundup

Overviews of best practices around the world and links to learn more about them

Links to websites with more details are available at the online edition of Global Giving Matters at www.globalgivingmatters.org

Gandhi Project brings message of nonviolence to Middle East

The **Gandhi Project**, (www.gandhiproject.org) a campaign to encourage peace and tolerance in the Middle East, was launched in Ramallah, Palestine, in April with an Arabic language screening of the film *Gandhi*. Sponsored by the **Skoll Foundation** (www.skollfoundation.org) and the **Global Catalyst Foundation**, (www.globalcatalyst.org) the project plans to offer free screenings throughout Palestinian communities and refugee camps the West Bank and Gaza Strip and to distribute copies of the film to local civic groups to show to youth. Further screenings are planned in Jordan, Lebanon and Syria. “Gandhi was an ordinary man who took it upon himself to change the world, and telling his story is one way to get people to see the Gandhi in themselves,” said **Jeff Skoll**, Skoll Foundation chair, at the launch of the film in Ramallah. Administered by **Relief International-Schools Online** in partnership with Palestinian non-governmental and community-based organizations, the Gandhi project has produced a series of educational materials to supplement the film with resources and training materials. Meanwhile, actor and philanthropist **Richard Gere**, a member of The Synergos Institute’s **Global Philanthropist Circle**, was also in Ramallah and Jerusalem in April for private visits with Palestinian and Israeli officials. It was the third visit to the region over the past year for Gere, who has been active in efforts to address conflict in the Middle East through his Healing the Divide foundation (www.healingthedivide.org). (Associated Press, April 6, 2005)

Nike Foundation supports safe spaces for girls in developing countries

The **Nike Foundation** (www.nikefoundation.org) has announced a new focus: improving the lives of adolescent girls in the developing world as a critical link toward achieving the **UN Millennium Development Goals** of poverty alleviation and gender equality. The foundation’s programs aim to create “safe spaces” to bring together and empower young girls. “Research has shown the ripple effect of positive outcomes for girls and boys, communities, countries and the world when girls and young women are provided meaningful opportunities to participate more fully in life,” said **Maria Eitel**, president of the Nike Foundation and former Nike VP for Corporate Responsibility. One of the first projects will be a \$600,000 grant to the **Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee** to support a pilot program that uses learning centers to give 45,000 girls in 1,500 rural communities opportunities to socialize and access information on personal finance, life skills and reproductive health. The foundation will work in partnership with the **UN Foundation**, the **World Bank**, the **Population Council** and the **International Center for Research on Women** on its new global outreach to girls. The philanthropic work of the foundation will complement community investments made by the athletic wear company through **NikeGO**, a global program that uses sport and physical activity to bring positive change to young people. Nike, Inc. will provide \$20 million in cash and land donation for the foundation’s new line of work and aims to target 3% of its pre-tax profit to the foundation going forward. (Nike Foundation press release, March 8, 2005)

Unitus takes on two new microfinance partners in India

Unitus (www.unitus.com), which works globally to increase access to microfinance, has announced two new lending partners in India, **Activists for Social Alternatives-Grama Vidiyal** (ASA-GV) in Tamil Nadu, and **Bharatha Swamukti Samsthe** in Karnataka.

The Unitus partnership will help ASA-GV grow from serving 66,000 clients to 700,000 in five years and includes a \$1 million loan guarantee and a commitment to take a minority equity ownership position in a new, for-profit finance company to be formed. The partnership with BSS includes a \$1.5 million line of credit and a \$100,000 capacity building grant, to help accelerate BSS's client base from 10,000 to 500,000 poor women over the next six years. Unitus' pioneering approach has helped its partners in Mexico and India achieve unusually rapid growth, doubling the numbers of borrowers served by local institutions. "We know firsthand that microfinance works," said Mike Murray, Unitus chairman and member of The Synergos Institute's **Global Philanthropists Circle**. He noted that another of Unitus' lending partners in rural India has grown from serving 7,000 to more than 70,000 microcredit clients in two years, with a 100% repayment rate. "Few microfinance institutions in the world have seen this kind of accelerated growth. This is the way we will achieve the democratization of opportunity." (*Unitus Newsletter*, March 2005)

Activists from six nations tapped for 2005 Goldman Environmental Prize

The 2005 **Goldman Environmental Prize** (www.goldmanprize.org) the world's largest prize for grassroots environmentalists, was awarded on April 18 to six activists from Haiti, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Honduras, and Romania. "The caliber of this year's winners takes environmental activism to new heights for risk, dedication and vision," said **Richard N. Goldman**, President of the **Goldman Environmental Foundation**. The Goldman Environmental Prize was founded in 1990 by Goldman and his late wife, **Rhoda**, both civic leaders and philanthropists. Many prize winners have gone on to receive further recognition; for example, 1991 Goldman Prize winner, Kenyan Wangari Maathai, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004. This year's Goldman Prize recipients are working on numerous fronts in their home countries, from preventing devastating soil erosion to fighting illegal mining and logging, to thwarting plans to import nuclear waste. 2005 winners, who each receive \$125,000, are agronomist **Chavannes Jean-Baptiste** of Haiti; biologist **Kaisha Atakhanova** of Kazakhstan; indigenous farmer **Isidro Baldenegro López** of Mexico; botanist **Corneille Ewango** of the Congo; Father **José Andrés Tamayo Cortez** of Honduras; and former journalist **Stephanie Roth**, Romania. (Goldman Environmental Prize press release, April 18, 2005)

Jimmy Carter stepping down as chair of Carter Center

Former US President **Jimmy Carter** and his wife **Rosalynn** have stepped down as chair and vice chair of the board of the **Carter Center** (www.cartercenter.org) the Atlanta-based nonpartisan public policy institute that works globally to fight disease, poverty, conflict, and oppression. At the age of 80, President Carter, who founded the institu-

tion that bears his name, said the move is part of preparations to ensure the center continues its work after his retirement. Both Carters plan to stay on and play active roles as members of the board. The board has elected current trustee **John Moores**, San Diego businessman and philanthropist, to serve as the next chairman of the Carter Center. Moores and his wife **Rebecca** founded the **River Blindness Foundation** in 1989 and developed innovative partnerships across various sectors to develop a distribution method for treatment of the disease in the developing world, particularly sub-Saharan Africa. The assets of the foundation were transferred to the Carter Center in 1997; see *Global Giving Matters*' December 2001 for more information on the Moores.

Meanwhile, the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** announced a pledge of \$25 million to the Carter Center in April toward the campaign to eradicate the remaining cases of Guinea worm diseases worldwide. The grant includes an initial \$5 million contribution and challenges other donors to provide an additional \$20 million over the next five years, to be matched one-to-one. The **Canadian International Development Agency** and the **Conrad N. Hilton Foundation** have stepped up with pledges of \$6 million to date. (Carter Center press releases, March 22 and April 6, 2005)

Clinton's partnerships help underserved AIDS populations worldwide

Another former US President who remains an active advocate for partnerships to benefit the developing world, **Bill Clinton**, has announced that his foundation's HIV/AIDS initiative will deliver antiretroviral therapy to 10,000 children in at least 10 countries by the end of 2005. Through an alliance with Indian generic drug maker Cipla, the **William J. Clinton Foundation** (www.clintonfoundation.org) has obtained much lower than market prices for pediatric HIV/AIDS therapies and will purchase and donate these drugs to countries already receiving technical assistance from the foundation. Children in China, Dominican Republic, Lesotho, Rwanda and Tanzania are scheduled to receive drugs under the program this spring. Pediatric AIDS medicines are normally as much as five times as expensive as adult HIV/AIDS and more problematic to administer. President Clinton also announced that his foundation would launch a new program to provide HIV/AIDS care to people living in rural Africa, and has asked Paul Farmer, a pioneer in rural health care, to lead the effort, which will kick off in Rwanda. The program will be expanded to Mozambique and Tanzania later in 2005 and will use these experiences as a model for rural health care in other countries. The Clinton Foundation will contribute \$10 million for the pediatric and rural programs, which is aimed at leveraging funding commitments from national governments and international donors. Private funding partners to date include the **Children's Investment Fund Foundation**, and its president, **Jamie Cooper-Hohn**; **Mala Gaonkar** and **Damien Tran**, lead donors for the pediatric program, and **The Ruettgers Family Foundation**, lead funders of the Rwanda rural program. (William J. Clinton Foundation press release, April 11, 2005)

Resources & Links

Activities, websites and other cutting-edge information for global givers

Links to websites with more details are available at the online edition of Global Giving Matters at www.globalgivingmatters.org

Philippine diaspora philanthropy portal now online

The new **Philippine Diaspora Philanthropy Portal**, www.filipinodiasporagiving.org, offers an information-packed, online mechanism to “promote and mainstream diaspora giving” among the estimated eight million Filipinos living abroad. But the new portal is intended to be more than just a conduit for remittances, says **Jeremiaiah Opiniano**, Executive Director of the **Institute for Migration and Development Issues**, which developed the website with the support of the **Asia Pacific Philanthropy Consortium** (www.asianphilanthropy.org/appc/). Opiniano hopes that the site will become a lively and wide ranging forum for individuals and organizations interested in information and opportunities for collaborating on transnational migration, development and philanthropic issues.

Alliance Extra online: the latest news and views on global giving

Three years after **The Atlantic Philanthropies** announced it was going out of business, Chief Executive **John Healy** reflects on how the organization’s decision to spend down an almost \$4 billion endowment has affected its style of grantmaking, in an interview in *Alliance* magazine’s online supplement, *Alliance Extra*. *Alliance Extra* also offers reports from the recent **Asian Social Entrepreneurship Forum** and the **Global Philanthropy Forum**. Also included are highlights of **Social Edge**’s online forum in February on the subject of what it would take to really get global philanthropy going, a topic launched in the December 2004 issue of *Alliance* magazine. Links to all of the above can be found at www.allavida.org/alliance/allianceextra.html.

Your Ideas Wanted

Global Giving Matters aims to present information on best practices and innovations in philanthropy and social investment around the world. We encourage you to send us:

- Ideas about issues or people you would like to learn more about
- Examples of your own philanthropy
- Comments about this issue.

Write to us at comments@globalgivingmatters.org.

Global Giving Matters does not present solicitations of support for particular initiatives or organizations.

The Synergos Institute
9 East 69th Street
New York, NY 10021
USA
tel +1 (212) 517-4900
fax +1 (212) 517-4815
www.synergos.org

The World Economic Forum
91-93 route de la Capite
CH-1223 Cologny/Geneva
Switzerland
tel +41 (22) 869-1212
fax +41 (22) 786-2744
www.weforum.org

Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors
437 Madison Avenue
New York, NY 10022-7001
USA
tel +1 (212) 812-4330
fax +1 (212) 812-4335
www.rockpa.org