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The Grantham Foundation for the Protection of the Environment and Overlook International Foundation announce a joint US$ 2.0 million donation to Proyecto Mirador, a Gold Standard fuel-efficient stove project in Honduras

Proyecto Mirador, LLC, a fuel-efficient stove project in rural Honduras that has been registered by the Gold Standard, is pleased to announce that The Grantham Foundation for the Protection of the Environment, Boston, Massachusetts, and Overlook International Foundation, San Francisco, California, have provided matching US$ 1.0 million donations to expand Proyecto Mirador’s operations.

The donations will support the construction of over 100,000 La Justa Dos por Tres stoves over the coming ten years, reduce carbon emissions in excess of 150,000 tons, reduce toxic smoke inside 100,000 homes, and provide the Honduran families with tangible economic benefits from a reduction in the consumption of increasingly scarce fuel wood resources. Proyecto Mirador (PM) hopes its stove project can serve as a model for other groups around Central America where the damage from deforestation and indoor air pollution is accelerating each year.

Jeremy Grantham, Chairman and Founder of The Grantham Foundation for the Protection of the Environment (GFPE) said, “We have been supporting Proyecto Mirador for the past five years and have been impressed by its integrity, its determination in securing Gold Standard registration, and its vision to utilize the carbon markets for funding this social benefit. The dissemination of fuel-efficient stoves is one of the most economical and efficient mechanisms to substantially reduce global emissions while providing real benefits to the world’s poor. We are pleased to offer this level of support.”

Proyecto Mirador, founded in 2004, achieved Gold Standard™ Registration in June 2010, becoming the fourth stove project in the world to achieve such status. This was the culmination of more than two years of submissions and documentation. To achieve Registration status, PM proved that all aspects of its project were of the highest quality,
with real and measurable emissions savings, and near-unanimous acceptance of its *Dos por Tres* stove within the local communities. Registration with the Gold Standard confirms the most rigorous review of carbon emissions reductions and sustainability claims. Proyecto Mirador plans to initiate sales of carbon credits in 2011.

Richard and Dee Lawrence, Directors of the Overlook International Foundation and co-founders of PM, continued, “Gold Standard certification can provide an exceptional opportunity for stove projects around the world to become self-funding and self-sustaining. We believe such a market based solution must be a core requirement if the world is to provide improved stoves to the more than 500 million households that cook over open fires and live with indoor air pollution and under the threat of deforestation. It has been our goal from the beginning to establish Proyecto Mirador as an organization that is sustained by carbon finance for the dissemination of durable, high quality cookstoves throughout Honduras. Eventually, we hope PM will serve as a model solution for other parts of Latin America. Certainly, The Grantham Foundation’s generous donation will help us pursue our goals.”

In Santa Barbara, Honduras, Proyecto Mirador President and co-founder Doña Emilia Mendoza said, “These donations will enable us to expand our work of reaching the poorest of the poor households in the rural highlands of Honduras with our *Dos por Tres* stoves. Our project could not have been as successful were it not for the dedication and joint effort of my colleagues at Proyecto Mirador, the Lawrences and the other donors that have generously supported us, our technicians who build each stove on site, and the families who must contribute time and materials to help with construction of their *Dos por Tres* stove. We are grateful to both Overlook and The Grantham Foundation for their donations and affirmation of our work here.”

Proyecto Mirador has enjoyed the support of a number of experts that have helped improve the *Dos por Tres* stove design and helped quantify its emissions reductions. These include: Assistant Professor Robert Bailis, PhD, of the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies; Mr. Martin Klein of the Yale School of Public Health; Dean Still and Nordica McCarty of the Aprovecho Research Center; Gabe Petlin and his team at 3Degrees in San Francisco; Professor Timothy Longwell and his colleagues at Zamorano University, Honduras; and Reina Mejia, a 12-year old girl from La Vega, Honduras, who named the stove *Dos por Tres*, Honduran equivalent of “Double Time,” because of the stove’s speedy and multiple benefits to families.

Additional Information on cookstoves from outside organizations:

1) The Partnership for Clean Indoor Air [http://pciaonline.org/node/2](http://pciaonline.org/node/2)


3) Dr. Kirk Smith, Professor of Global and Environmental Health, University of California, Berkeley [http://ehs.sph.berkeley.edu/krsmith/page.asp?id=1](http://ehs.sph.berkeley.edu/krsmith/page.asp?id=1)


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The Challenge - Exposure to smoke from traditional cookstoves – the primary means of cooking and heating for nearly three billion people in the developing world –causes 1.9 million premature deaths annually, with women and young children the most affected. Reliance on biomass for cooking and heating forces women and children to spend hours each week collecting wood. Women face severe personal security risks as they forage for fuel, especially from refugee camps and in conflict zones. Cookstoves also increase pressures on local environmental resources (e.g., forests, habitat) and contribute to climate change at the regional and global level.

The Solution - The use of clean cookstoves and fuels can dramatically reduce fuel consumption and exposure to cookstove smoke. Development of a global clean cookstove industry that is constantly innovating to improve design and performance, while lowering the cost of stoves, can lead the way to widespread adoption of clean cooking solutions.

The Alliance - The Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves is a new public-private partnership that aims to save lives, empower women, improve livelihoods, and combat climate change by creating a thriving global market for clean and efficient household cooking solutions. The Alliance’s ‘100 by 20’ goal calls for 100 million homes to adopt clean and efficient stoves and fuels by 2020. The Alliance will work with public, private, and non-profit partners to help overcome the market barriers that currently impede the production and use of clean cookstoves in the developing world.