



Young Americas Business Trust
ing Stars of the Americas and the Caribbean

Annual Report 2003



*The Young Americas Business Trust is a non-profit corporation affiliated with the
General Secretariat of the Organization of American States
The Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development
And the Unit for Social Development and Education*



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The Mission of the Young Americas Business Trust

The Young Americas Business Trust (YABT) is a dynamic private sector alliance with the General Secretariat of the Organization of America States (OAS) for young people in the Americas and the Caribbean.

It aims to combat poverty, increase economic growth, and build social development through international cooperation, entrepreneurial leadership, and Internet technology with strategic partnerships of governments, the business community, and civil society.

Almost 60% of the population in Latin America and the Caribbean is under the age of thirty. Thus, we believe that young people must be included in all development activities in the Hemisphere. Helping them learn business skills and establish young businesses is vital to the health of all communities and nations.

YABT partners with a variety of organizations across the Americas focusing on developing self-esteem, obtaining technical skills and business training, and improving their access to finance and technology. With its sponsors and the OAS, the Young Americas Business Trust brings together business leaders, donors, governments, national organizations and successful young entrepreneurs themselves. This unique approach promotes effective policies, the expansion of proven programs, and networks of both young and “young at heart” entrepreneurs.

The Plan of Action from the 3rd Summit of the Americas, held in Quebec City, Canada "recognizes the central role that businesses play in the prosperity and flow, and maintenance of trade and investment in the hemisphere...businesses can make an important contribution to sustainable development and increasing access to opportunities, including the reduction of inequalities in the communities in which they operate..."



Introduction

From the Chair of the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive Officer

John F. Kennedy once declared, "The future promise of any nation can be directly measured by the present prospects of its youth." The talents and prospects of young entrepreneurs of the Americas and the Caribbean who live and work in the Americas today determine the region's potential for future socio-economic growth and democratic stability. Enterprising, energetic young leaders offer the best hope for building the Americas of everyone's dreams. However, only with encouragement and investment today can this be achieved.

In this Annual Report, we present the work of the Young Americas Business Trust for 2003. YABT is a young startup organization initiative itself, involving talented young people as staff and representatives. It also builds on the experience and prestige of the Organization of American States.

Over the past year, the most gratifying result has been the encouraging response the YABT has received from young entrepreneurs themselves throughout the Hemisphere. Their enthusiastic and unselfish contributions of time, talent, and money to support this cause gives us much hope. In addition, it shows that they realize this work is vital to their future and to that of their respective countries and all the Americas, from Argentina to Alaska.

This Annual Report illustrates only the beginning and the potential of our work. We are enthusiastic about these accomplishments – making this dream a reality. We began like so many young entrepreneurs: with a vision and faith, facing and overcoming many challenges, achieving much "on a shoestring". We know that this is the reality everywhere of many young entrepreneurs and the organizations that work with them.

Our respect for young people in business grows - along with a commitment of being a catalyst for their success. We draw on their enthusiasm, energy and skills for encouragement. They are what YABT is about and they have made the difference in YABT. We sincerely thank them – as well as all our sponsors and supporters.

Jeanette W. Hyde
Chair, Board of Directors

Roy L. Thomasson
Chief Executive Officer

"The talents of young people in the Caribbean and the Americas are the future of our communities, nations, and businesses. Unless these talents are encouraged and developed, however, our region cannot compete in the global marketplace.

The Young Americas Business Trust represents a new initiative by the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States to create a partnership for development with the private sector to realize that potential."

Dr. César Gaviria
Secretary General of the OAS
Prospectus for Young Americas Business Trust



Purposes and Goals of the Young Americas Business Trust

Through the YABT, the OAS makes a unique contribution to the development of policies and programs for education, work and entrepreneurial skills development in the Hemisphere:

1. **To serve as an on-going high level policy dialogue** and to work with the Member States and public and private sector institutions in developing education for work and entrepreneurship as a public policy priority.
2. **To foster exchanges of information and experiences** so countries can learn from and benefit from each other's experience, best practices and expertise through seminars, conferences, internships, study tours, and Internet technology.
3. **To work with Member States and institutions to formulate strategic plans;** design, document and evaluate innovative approaches; plan and mobilize resources for the expansion of successful programs that are based on proven methodologies.

Goals

The Young Americas Business Trust acts as a mechanism to further the goals of the Summit, Member States and the Summit Plans of Action for improving education and alleviating poverty in the Americas. The OAS is uniquely positioned to bring together, on a regional basis, the Member States, civil society and young people in the Americas to create a dialogue for economic and social development through young entrepreneurs.

The YABT promotes social and economic development through programs, projects, and activities to create and advance efforts to improve the quality of life for young adults, especially those living in or near poverty.

“The YABT has been a true friend and mentor to AJE El Salvador. Thanks to its good name and reputation it has been able to offer international support on the highest levels, opening doors with both government and local institutions - of utmost importance to us in our efforts to benefit the youth of El Salvador.

The YABT’s invaluable contributions in methodology and experience allow AJE El Salvador, still a very young organization, to use YABT knowledge as its own and in this way present itself properly as a leader amongst institutions in the area of youth entrepreneurship. Their wide network of contacts throughout the Hemisphere constitute another great benefit, one that has offered us access to best practices done in other partner countries to adapt in El Salvador.

The YABT network makes a reality of the ideals of globalization through the establishment of trade relations with other young business people throughout the continent.”

**Sabas Monroy, Vicepresidente
Asociación Jóvenes Empresarios (AJE), EL SALVADOR**

The Young Americas Business Trust:

- **Fosters greater awareness** among governments, the private sector, and the public of the contribution that youth entrepreneurship can make to economic growth, social equity, job creation, and poverty alleviation.
- **Formulates strategic plans** to help encourage and accelerate entrepreneurial development at the community, national, and international levels; assists new and existing organizations to plan and carry out entrepreneurial development and related employment skills training programs for young people.
- **Supports the development of effective programs** to foster youth entrepreneurship, particularly those carried out by the private sector serving as a resource for: innovation, exchange of information and expertise, organizational linkages, and collaboration among those individuals, organizations, and entities which are working to strengthen youth.
- **Increases entrepreneurship among young people** through the support of programs aimed at their: personal development, business and entrepreneurial education, employment and technical skills training, and accessing of technological and financial resources, including primary, secondary, and post-secondary schools, and community-based programs.
- **Solicits and provides funds, services, contributions, and in-kind contributions** for all these purposes from public and private entities.



“We are supporting this innovative project and are enthusiastic about what you can teach to these youth who will not only be the future, but are also the present of this new Ecuador – one of which our grandfathers and fathers dreamed, and which we now have the obligation to turn over to our sons and daughters. I salute you, young entrepreneurs.”

***His Excellency Ing. Lucio Gutierrez Borbúa, President of the Republic of Ecuador
Remarks for the Business Labs Seminar, Tena, Ecuador, June 2003***

YABT’s Program Focus

The YABT works principally in four program priority areas for the development of young entrepreneur programs and networking of young entrepreneurs in the Americas.

Young Entrepreneur Leadership Network

- **“Leadership Links”** - Links young entrepreneurs and national associations of young entrepreneurs in a regional communications and collaboration effort, supporting both national initiatives and the regional programs of the YABT.
- **Business Ethics and Social Action** - Instills ethical values in young entrepreneurs and works with them and small / medium-sized businesses in the Americas in programs of good business citizenship and social responsibility, working in partnership with the World Bank Institute.

Young Entrepreneur Skills Training

- **Business Labs** - Emphasizes integrated practical and “hands-on” business skills training at the secondary, technical school and university levels. Phase one includes training of trainers and localized program development. Phase two extends the methodology to incubators and develops an incubator model appropriate for young people in business as a follow-up to the training program.
- **Regional Technical Cooperation Network** - Conducts videoconferences in partnership with the World Bank Global Development Learning Network to enable participating organizations to share experiences and expertise and collaborate on curriculum development. Includes regional seminars to increase the interaction of those interested and to strengthen the technical cooperation aspect.

Technology to Benefit Entrepreneurs and Organizations

- **Ybiz.net** - Builds YABT's Internet portal as a communications network and electronic resource center for young entrepreneurs. The “InfoBiz” component will include information about doing business in OAS Member States and Observer countries.
- **Entrepreneur Technology Connections** - Technology mentoring and training program linking technology companies with young entrepreneurs. The White House, following the meeting between Brazilian President Luis Inácio Lula da Silva and US President George W. Bush in June 2003, announced this project.

Resources for Young Entrepreneurs and Programs

- **Mobilizing Funding for Young Entrepreneurs** - YABT aims to create national trust funds targeted specifically to young entrepreneur development. It also works with a range of financial institutions to increase the level of resources to young entrepreneurs and programs, such as the Latin America Venture Capital Association and other organizations.
- **Researching and Designing Innovative Initiatives** - Drawing on its own extensive expertise, unique position, and range of partners can identify and adapt appropriate and successful models. This includes increasing the inclusion and participation in all YABT’s programs of young women, young Indigenous people, and Afro-Latin young people across the Americas in a hemispheric technical cooperation network.



"The Young Americas Business Trust (YABT) is doing excellent work in the area of the development of youth entrepreneurship. Their programs provide social and economic benefits for the Americas.

Entrepreneurship is an important means to establish a more dynamic and sustainable economy, and is crucial to the creation of new jobs and the establishment of a more equal and fair society.

With great satisfaction, I express my gratitude in knowing and supporting the Young Americas Business Trust in its projects for the development of entrepreneurship for young people in the Americas."

**H. E. Fernando Henrique Cardoso, Former President of Brazil
In a letter to staff of the Young Americas Business Trust**

Highlights of the Young Americas Business Trust in 2003

2003: A Year of Significant Accomplishments and Advances for YABT. To highlight three:

- The **Leadership Network** grew substantially, linking over **100,000 young entrepreneurs through partner organizations** and programs in the Americas. New cooperation agreements and partnerships were signed nationally and regionally bringing more support to the YABT's projects in the region.
- YABT partners have trained **1,200 trainers** for our **Business Labs** project in Ecuador alone. These trainers replicated their knowledge through approximately **12,000 students**, spurring **780 new businesses** by young people, resulting in the creation of more than **9,750 new jobs** in 2003. In 2004 twenty-two countries in Latin America and the Caribbean will participate in the Business Labs project.
- The **Entrepreneur Technology Connections**, a mentoring project was launched to train **7,000 young entrepreneurs** in Brazil over the next four years. This program was announced following the meeting between **Brazilian President Luis Inácio Lula da Silva and US President George W. Bush** in June 2003. Based on this pilot project, it will be replicated in other countries of the Americas and Caribbean.

Partnership With Inter-American Development Bank (IDB Youth)

YABT's partnership with IDB Youth is meant to strengthen, expand and integrate existing youth entrepreneurship networks in order to offer enhanced methods for youth entrepreneurs to share ideas, opinions, and best practices, while striving on local, national and regional levels to create a more favorable atmosphere for entrepreneurial activities. The stated purpose of IDB Youth is to "...contribute to the growth and development of youth entrepreneurship in Latin America and the Caribbean by raising awareness of the positive impact it has on economic and social development, and helping to foster support for the creation of policies and programs". YABT is working with IDB Youth on three projects to achieve these mutual goals.

YABT and IDB Youth jointly planned three projects in 2003, which will be carried out in 2004.

- First, during the **IDB Annual Board of Governors Meeting** held in Lima, Peru in March of 2004, the YABT is assisting the IDB in organizing workshops.
- Second, YABT has been collaborating on the **Youth Entrepreneurship Assessment (Research)** to assess the successfulness and needs of entrepreneurial programs in Latin America and the Caribbean. The research will be the basis of future plans and programs.
- Finally, YABT, along with IDB Youth, has been working together to prepare two, parallel **directories of organizations and young entrepreneurs** in youth entrepreneurship. Approximately 400 organizations and 500 entrepreneurs registered for the directories, and the 400 organizations will be included in a book form of the directory to be presented at the IDB Annual Board of Governors meeting in March 2004.

The directory will contain contact information and a basic description of public, private and non-governmental sector programs that help youth acquire entrepreneurial and business skills. It will be useful to organizations as a means to make their programs known, and provide contact information for other professionals working in their area. This directory could also be the basis for the creation of a future cooperation network, reaching across the Americas.



Partnership With World Bank Institute on Business Ethics / Social Action (CSR)

The Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Program is specifically tailored to young entrepreneurs and small/medium sized businesses (SME's) in the Americas. A network of young business leaders and organizations has been established throughout the region in order to encourage the exchange of experiences, knowledge and ideas about CSR amongst the participants and their partners in their respective communities. The objective of this program is to promote and support CSR action-oriented individuals, organizations and movements throughout the region, enabling knowledge on the topic to be expanded and positive results to be achieved.

Included in the activities of YABT's business ethics and social action program are: using the World Bank Institute (WBI) curriculum with young entrepreneurs, and organizing a series of training exercises for business leaders, young entrepreneur associations, and SME's; the further development of CSR resources and activities on the YABT's web portal will also be a priority; the WBI sponsored an opportunity for young leaders from around the world to come forward with innovative ideas, strategies, and research concerning the role of business in sustainable development and poverty alleviation through an international essay and research competition; the WBI and YABT promoted a course on CSR in English for young entrepreneurs and leaders in Latin America and the Caribbean in October, 2003.

The interest was so great that the development and translation for a Spanish course is being organized for the coming months; the WBI is hosting a one-day event on March 26th, 2004, inviting young leaders and organizations around Washington, D.C. and other states to learn more about the programs they produce and about the YABT and our initiatives. One dialogue was produced in 2003 on the CSR topic, and another two are scheduled to be produced in March 2004.

A course on CSR will also be developed and offered via Global Development and Learning Network (GDLN) videoconferences in April of 2004. The WBI is hosting a large conference in Shanghai, China, in May 2004, and the YABT has been asked to participate as an expert on youth and development in the region of Latin America and the Caribbean. The YABT will provide evidence on how entrepreneurship support can help alleviate poverty and unemployment through successful programs in the region.

Strong support from the previous GDLN Dialogue in September 2003 encouraged the WBI-CSR team to continue working with the YABT in the production of two additional GDLN Dialogues on Leadership and CSR issues, to be held in March 2004. YABT has been invited to help present the Latin American perspective and program on youth and poverty alleviation at the World Bank event: "Scaling Up Poverty Reduction: A Global Learning Process, and Conference in Shanghai, May 25-27, 2004. On Corporate Social Responsibility, later in the year, a Spanish language, and later a Portuguese, online course will be promoted by the WBI and YABT throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.

In the Declaration of the Second Summit of the Americas in Santiago, Chile in 1999, the Presidents acknowledged, "overcoming poverty continues to be the greatest challenge confronted by our Hemisphere."

The Member States of Organization of American States (OAS), in the Plan of Action from the Second Summit, pledged to strengthen preparation and training for the world of work, including the development of entrepreneur skills.

The Plan of Action of the Third Summit of the Americas in Quebec City, Canada made a Hemispheric commitment to "increase access to opportunities for sustainable entrepreneurship, productivity and employment among young people" are essential in solving the dilemma of persistent poverty and lack of congruity between formal education and the market.



International Cooperation During 2003

Collaboration with international and national organizations form the operational base of YABT's programs and avenues to jointly work on locally identified and initiated projects. The following organizations expressed support for or participated in YABT programs during 2003:

National Organizations

- **Antigua and Barbuda** Youth Skills Training Project
- **Bahamas** Ministry of Youth and Sports
- **Barbados** Barbados Youth Business Trust
- **Barbados** Ministry of Education Youth Entrepreneurship
- **Barbados** Pinelands Creative Workshops
- **Belize** Ministry of Economic Development and Foreign Trade
- **Bolivia** Asociacion de Jovenes Empresarios de Santa Cruz - AJE Santa Cruz
- **Bolivia** Universidad Catolica Bolivariana
- **Bolivia** Universidad NUR
- **Brazil** The American Chamber of Commerce – Bahia
- **Brazil** Associação Comercial do Rio de Janeiro
- **Brazil** Brasil Junior- Confederação Nacional das Empresas Juniores
- **Brazil** Confederação Nacional de Jovens Empresários – CONAJE
- **Brazil** Empresa Júnior
- **Brazil** Federação das Associações Comerciais e Industrias de Santa Catarina – FACISC Jovem
- **Brazil** Federação das Associações de Jovens Empresários do Rio Grandedo Sul – FajeRS
- **Brazil** Federação das Indústrias do Estado de São Paulo – FIESP
- **Brazil** Forbes-Brasil
- **Brazil** Fórum de Jovens Empreendedores da Associação Comercial de São Paulo – FJE
- **Brazil** Jornal do Brasil
- **Brazil** Núcleo de Jovens Empreendedores da Fiesp/Ciesp – NJE
- **Brazil** Prefeitura Municipal do Rio de Janeiro
- **Brazil** Serviço Brasileiro de Apoio às Micro e Pequenas Empresas – SEBRAE
- **Brazil** Serviço Nacional de Aprendizagem Industrial – SENAI
- **Brazil** Society for Brazilian Software Excellence (Softex)
- **Canada** CG International
- **Canada** Junior Chamber of Commerce of Americas – JCCA
- **Canada** Native Law Centre, University of Saskatchewan
- **Chile** Universidad Adolfo Ibañez
- **Chile** Universidad Mayor
- **Colombia** Camara de Comercio de Bogota
- **Colombia** GDLN World Bank Distance Learning Center
- **Colombia** Redexpo Colombia
- **Colombia** Servicio Nacional de Aprendizaje – SENA
- **Colombia** Universidad de los Andes
- **Dominican Republic** Secretaría de Estado de la Juventud
- **Ecuador** City of Quito
- **Ecuador** Fundación Ecuador
- **Ecuador** Globatel - GDLN World Bank Distance Learning Center
- **Ecuador** Ministry of Foreign Trade, Industrialization, and Fisheries
- **Ecuador** Ministerio de Trabajo y Promoción del Empleo – MINTRA
- **Ecuador** Presidency of the Republic of Ecuador
- **El Salvador** Asociación Jóvenes Empresarios de El Salvador
- **El Salvador** Escuela Superior de Economía y Negocios (ESEN)
- **Grenada** Grenada Development Bank/SEDU
- **Grenada** Ministry of Education
- **Grenada** National Development Foundation
- **Guatemala** Development Gateway Guatemala
- **Guatemala** GDLN WB Distance Learning Center

“The support that we feel from the YABT, from the institution as well as the surrounding network, helps us aim higher and work harder in our efforts to offer our country's youth access to the possibility of creating their own business, as well as the support to make that business successful. This will generate economic development and an improvement in the quality of life of our people.

That is YABT - one of the motors that compels and motivates us because we know that we aren't alone. We can depend on a solid institution that has offered a hand in achieving our dreams of a better country.”

**Marjorie Astrid Hernández, Coordinator of Communications
Asociación Jóvenes Empresarios (AJE), EL SALVADOR**



- **Guatemala** Guatemala Chamber of Commerce
- **Guatemala** National Youth Commission
- **Guatemala** Universidad Rafael Landivar
- **Mexico** Comisión Nacional de Empresarios Jóvenes – COPARMEX
- **Mexico** Instituto Politecnico Nacional
- **Mexico** México Joven Hacia el Exterior
- **Mexico** Ministry of Labor, Veracruz
- **Mexico** Secretaría de Trabajo y Prevención Social
- **Mexico** Universidad Tecnológica de Cancún
- **Nicaragua** Asociación de Jóvenes Empresarios de Nicaragua
- **Nicaragua** División de Cooperación del Ministerio de Educación
- **Nicaragua** Roberto Teran Foundation
- **Panama** Acelerador Tecnológico Empresarial de Panamá (Ciudad del Saber)
- **Paraguay** Asociación de Jóvenes Empresarios del Paraguay - AJE Paraguay
- **Paraguay** EPCI Instituto de Liderazgo
- **Paraguay** Ministerio de Acción Social
- **Peru** Asociación de Jóvenes Empresarios de Lima – AJE Lima
- **Peru** Asociación de Jóvenes Empresarios del Perú – AJEP
- **Peru** Fondo Peruano de Capacitación Laboral – FOPECAL
- **Peru** RedOnline
- **Peru** Telefónica
- **Peru** Universidad San Martin de Porres
- **Trinidad and Tobago** Ministry of Education
- **Trinidad and Tobago** University of the West Indies - Institute of Business
- **United States of America** Artistamundo
- **United States of America** Bank of America
- **United States of America** CNN Español
- **United States of America** Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce
- **United States of America** Hispanic Business Magazine
- **United States of America** Latin American Venture Capital Association – LAVCA
- **United States of America** Students in Free Enterprise – SIFE
- **United States of America** University of Maryland – SIFE Chapter
- **United States of America** United Nations Association – National Capital Area – UNA/NCA
- **United States of America** United States of America US Small Business Administration
- **United States of America** Washington Center
- **Venezuela** Asociación Bancaria de Venezuela
- **Venezuela** Asociación Jóvenes Empresarios de Venezuela – AJE Venezuela
- **Venezuela** Cámara de Comercio Júnior de Venezuela
- **Venezuela** FEDEINDUSTRIA
- **Venezuela** Ingeniería Universal
- **Venezuela** MB Consultores
- **Venezuela** Telcel BellSouth
- **Venezuela** Universidad Experimental del Táchira
- **Venezuela** Universidad Rafael Urdaneta

“The YABT represents a golden opportunity for organizing, strengthening and unifying young entrepreneurs in the Americas.”

Ariosto Manrique Moreno

Presidente de la Comisión Nacional de Empresarios Jóvenes de COPARMEX, MEXICO

International Organizations

- **Inter-American Development Bank** Office of External Relations - IADB Youth
- **Republic of China - Taiwan** International Cooperation and Development Fund
- **Republic of China - Taiwan** TECRO – Washington, DC
- **Republic of China - Taiwan** Embassies in Central America and the Caribbean
- **World Bank Institute** Private Sector Development, Corporate Social Responsibility
- **World Bank Institute** Global Development Learning Network – GDLN
- **OAS** Office of External Relations
- **OAS** Department of Public Information
- **OAS** The Education Portal of the Americas
- **OAS** Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development – IACD
- **OAS** Offices of the General Secretariat in the Member States
- **OAS** Unit for Social Development and Education
- **Israel** Mount Carmel International Training Center
- **Israel** Permanent Observer Mission of Israel to the OAS
- **Korea** Permanent Observer Mission of Korea to the OAS
- **Turkey** Permanent Observer Mission of Turkey to the OAS
- **Sweden** Swedish Foundation for Enterprise Education



“When we listen to the students talk of their experiences as business people -- how they started their businesses, and how they created marketable products - we also look for the reaction of the teachers. That is to say, they are so proud to see their students as young business people, those that feel so sure of themselves and with a self esteem so high because they have a sense of security in that they are doing something for their future and for their home.”

***The Honorable Ivonne Baki
Minister of Foreign Trade, Industrialization, and Fisheries, ECUADOR
Remarks at Closing Ceremony of Business Labs Seminar, June 2003***

Business Laboratories Project Makes Extraordinary Progress in 2003

During 2003, the YABT Business Labs program trained around 2500 trainers in four different workshops in three countries of the Americas and the Caribbean. All of the participants instructed belong to different sectors of society; those trained included professors, students, community leaders, consultants, managers, government officials, social workers, and different volunteers involved in one way or another with youth entrepreneurship.

One of the most important aspects of the program is the commitment by participants to continue training others upon returning to their respective organizations.

Alliances have been developed with several organizations such as government ministries, young entrepreneur organizations, non-governmental organizations, private sector and universities all over the region. These institutions have demonstrated a sincere interest in the project and are committed to work to implement the program in their region by the end of 2004.

There are several institutions with which the YABT has very strong relationships. Formal partnerships have been formed with the Asociación de Jóvenes Empresarios de El Salvador, Lima, and Venezuela, Brasil Junior, Fundación Ecuador, MB Consultores of Venezuela, and Pinelands Creative Workshop of Barbados. Another key partner for YABT is the World Bank Global Developing Learning Network (GDLN) with whom YABT is creating a curriculum for the development of skills of young entrepreneurs. This curriculum will be taught via videoconference to various participants and countries throughout the region.

The first workshop of the Business Labs Project, “Regional Young Entrepreneur-Skills Training,” was held in Grenada, West Indies from March 24th to 28th, 2003. This regional workshop was held in collaboration with the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development (IACD), the National Office of the Organization of American States in Grenada and the Grenada Ministry of Education. The implementing institution was the Golda Meir Mount Carmel International Training Center (MCTC) of Israel.

The language of instruction was English. Twenty-two participants from seven different countries were present. A total of thirteen participants were native to Grenada, and others traveled from Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, Saint Lucia and Ecuador. The participants were teachers, lecturers, consultants, managers and project officers who are currently involved in the entrepreneurial field. A final report was issued by the Golda Meir Mount Carmel International Training Center, which specified the procedures and methodologies of the training as well as evaluations by the participants, and included comments and recommendations by the Israeli team.

The second workshop of the Business Labs Project, “National Workshop: Training of Trainers,” took place in Tena, Ecuador from June 23rd to 28th, 2003. There were five full days of instruction, during which 399 Ecuadorian schoolteachers and community leaders were trained. Also present were 15 international participants from Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala, El Salvador, Mexico, Panama and Peru, all from varied sectors involved in the entrepreneurial field. The implementing institution was again the Golda Meir Mount Carmel International Training Center, and the training language was Spanish.



The YABT, IACD, Fundación Ecuador and Corporación Financiera Nacional held a third workshop of the Business Labs Project, “Regional Workshop: Training of Trainers,” in Quito, Ecuador, December 8th to 12th, 2003. This workshop was held with the cooperation of There were 528 Ecuadorian schoolteachers and community leaders who received instruction. In a simultaneous workshop held in Guayaquil, Ecuador, approximately 350 Ecuadorian schoolteachers and community leaders were also trained.

The training institution was once again Golda Meir Mount Carmel International Training Center from Israel. A total of 15 international participants from Peru, Chile, Bolivia and Venezuela attended the training and are already working and committed to developing the program in their own countries. The participants were teachers, lecturers, consultants, managers and project officers who are currently involved in the entrepreneurial field.

Because of these workshops, there have been 780 new businesses created by young people in Ecuador. It is also important to mention that the average number of partners for each new business is between 10 and 15 young people, meaning that the Business Labs program created more than 7,000 new jobs in 2003 primarily in Ecuador.

Guatemala launched the first phase of the Business Labs program, “Formación de Educadores para el Desarrollo de Habilidades Empresariales,” from October 13th to 23rd, 2003. On this occasion, the implementing institution was the Rafael Landívar University and held the workshop on their campus. They carried it out by delegating representatives from the Schools of Economic Sciences and Administration, Engineering, Architecture and Design, the Institute of Social and Economic Investigations (IDIES), the University’s Social Projection Department and the Unit of Science and Technology (UCyT) to facilitate the training.

Rafael Landívar University issued a final report of the first phase of the project, specifying the procedures and methodologies of the training as well as evaluations by the participants, comments, conclusions and recommendations by the Rafael Landívar University’s Business Labs project team. By the end of the year, the original 19 trainers had, in turn, trained more than 400 students from the university.

“In Guatemala, we are convinced that growth in business and the culture of entrepreneurship is an excellent tool for fighting poverty throughout Latin America. We believe that the YABT is a leader which, apart from strengthening the entrepreneurial capabilities of each nation’s people, brings youth together from throughout this great common ground we call the Americas and the Caribbean.

In a short time, we have established an alliance that has allowed us to learn about successful experiences in Latin America and to join together with others with a common interest. The work done via videoconference has given us the opportunity to develop an entrepreneurial education curriculum, which is of great value in the world of academia.”

**Lic. Abraham Samuel Perez-Attias
Director, Department of Economics
Universidad Rafael Landívar, GUATEMALA**

The YABT’s partnership with the Global Developing Learning Network makes possible an interaction between participating countries through videoconferences. Three GDLN videoconferences during 2003 related to Business Labs Project curriculum development. These are listed separately in this report.

Through this program more than 2500 trainers have been trained in 2003. Participants from Venezuela, Peru, Chile, Bolivia, Colombia, Panama, Mexico, Nicaragua, El Salvador and Brazil are ready to start developing the program in their own countries and are already working together with our organization in making this program a reality. It is also important to mention that only in January 2004, 500 new trainers were trained in Ecuador and 80 new businesses were created with an average number of partners of 5 young people for each new company.



The 2004 YABT / IACD Business Labs Project

In 2004, through extended funding by the Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development, additional national ministries and organizations will offer Business Labs training on-site. Eight countries (Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, Grenada, Guatemala, Panama, Peru, Venezuela) will offer the training, using project trainers from previous regional and national workshops to approximately 200 new trainers (i.e. local teachers, organizations, and young people), averaging 25 per national workshop, using the curriculum.

YABT will also launch an Internet-based version of the training, organize a regional training and planning workshop on incubators in Guatemala, and continue to work with the World Bank Global Development Learning Network to create an integrated electronic / on-site curriculum with universities in Latin America.

YABT Chapter in Brazil Grows

During 2003, we accelerated the development of the YABT Chapter in Brazil. YABT established a wide network of collaborators in business organizations and development agencies. YABT's network now includes commercial associations, the Association of Young Entrepreneurs, both nationally and in several cities, Empresa Júnior – a university-based “hands-on” learning program in 600 chapters with 27,000 members, SEBRAE – the principal small business development agency of Brazil, and FIESP – the Federation of Industries of Sao Paulo.

We have contracted a local professional to formulate a plan of action in Brazil for 2004. This resulted in important new relationships with major media, e.g. Forbes Brazil, Jornal do Brasil, and Gazeta Mercantil. Recent planning has identified the interest of these media outlets in organizing a conference on entrepreneurship that will take place during 2004 if startup funding is available.

The conference will be held in São Paulo, the commercial center of Brazil, will feature high-level business leaders, a proposed international videoconference, and will cover issues ranging from trade, technology, and business startup.

In addition, YABT is in the final stages of formalizing a working arrangement with the City of Rio de Janeiro to further implement YABT's programs in its four priority areas in Rio. This will be signed in early 2004.

“The YABT is changing the lives of thousands of young people in the Hemisphere. It is really impressive the difference that young people can make in society just by being entrepreneurs and having the sense of business social responsibility.”

Leonardo Gomes, 21, Empresa Júnior - Brazil

In 2003, the Young Americas Business Trust Signed a Cooperation Agreement with Brasil Junior – The Brazilian Confederation of Junior Enterprises (“Empresa Junior”)

Empresa Junior in Brazil is a non-profit corporation, formed and managed by college and university students. With the help of the professors, student volunteers develop consulting projects with small and medium sized businesses and organizations. The Young Americas Business Trust considers Empresa Junior to be an especially effective model for university students to learn business skills through “hand-on” experience, a major focus of YABT.

There are currently 600 Empresa Junior chapters in Brazil affiliated with university departments of business, communications, technology, marketing, etc. forming a network of 27,000 young Brazilian entrepreneurs. “Brasil Junior” was created during the 11th Brazilian Conference of Junior Enterprises, in Salvador, Bahia in June 2003. Roy Thomasson, YABT CEO, participated in the event.

During the third quarter of 2003 and first quarter of 2004, two representatives of Brasil Junior, Leo Gomes and Daniel Messeder worked at the YABT office at OAS Headquarters. YABT is collaborating with Brasil Junior to share the successful model of the Junior Enterprise Movement with other interested countries throughout the Western Hemisphere so they can adapt and learn from the successful Brazilian experience with the program.



Major Events and Conferences

▪ **March 24 – 28: YABT / IACD Business Labs Training Seminar – St George’s, Grenada**

This was the first regional training of trainers workshop of the Business Labs Project funded to YABT by the OAS Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development. The workshop was held in Grenada, March 23 – 28, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education of Grenada and attended by ten regional participants from Ecuador, Trinidad and Tobago, St. Lucia, Barbados, and Antigua and Barbuda. Two experts sent by the Mount Carmel International Training Center, the international development and training arm of Mashav, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel, conducted training.

▪ **May 17 – 19: First Leadership Link Conference - OAS Main Building, Washington, DC**

YABT convened its first Leadership Link Conference in Washington, DC, May 17 – 19 at the Main Building of the OAS. The conference brought together a core group of 50 of YABT’s national representatives, young business leaders, and other officials and business leaders from 13 countries. H. E. Janeth Gutierrez, Representative of the newly-elected President of Ecuador, H. E. Ing. Lucio Gutierrez, attended and was interviewed on CNN Español about the event and the work of YABT in Ecuador. In addition, the Secretary General of the OAS, Vice-President of Corporate Communications of AOL Latin America, the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Commerce of the United States, the Alternate Executive Director of the USA to the Inter-American Development Bank, Ambassadors and Permanent Representatives of OAS Member States, and staff of the OAS also attended.

▪ **September 3 – 4: Second Leadership Link Conference - Xcaret, Mexico**

YABT was pleased to present in Xcaret, Cancun, Mexico the “2nd Leadership Link” YABT Conference. This conference enabled over 35 participants from 11 countries to meet each other, exchange experiences and presentations from their organizations and also to establish a strategic plan to expand YABT purposes and objectives in their own countries.

The YABT is keen in responding to the network of young leaders, entrepreneurial organizations, NGOs and government officials that are involved within the YABT “Leadership Network” program. Identifying the needs of each group and organization in each country participating in the program enables the YABT to organize and plan for the future events and programs in 2004.

The “Leadership Network” program will increase opportunities of networking and businesses between each organization involved and future development in their own countries. Young leaders and entrepreneurs from these countries are eager to work together with the YABT network in various topics, in order for them to advance and offer more opportunities for the people in their countries.

Top Recommendations for 2004 from Young Entrepreneurs at “Leadership Link” Events

YABT’s “Young Entrepreneur Leadership Network” is poised for substantial growth in 2004 with expanded opportunities for and benefits of networking. Responses to these projects are overwhelmingly positive. Young leaders and entrepreneurs have continually expressed their eagerness to work within the YABT network. YABT has gathered a number of responses from network participants on what they hope to accomplish. They include:

- **Host additional “Leadership Links” events** - Bring together leaders and entrepreneurs from Member States and Observer countries. Exchange experiences, ideas and contacts to increase cooperation regionally and extend the benefits of existing and future programs.
- **Re-design and re-organize the YABT website: www.ybiz.net.** – Improvements include individual country home pages within the YABT site. These separate sites would allow for the easy access to information on events, new programs, regional partnerships, advice, and technical information.
- **Provide expert advisors to counsel young entrepreneurs on business themes**, as well as organize and teach seminars and workshops and hold on-site training events on business skills and emerging market opportunities. These events would be hosted in YABT-Network countries.



- **Organize trade shows** for entrepreneurs to forge business relationships and learn first-hand about international business opportunities. Face-to-face meetings also offer intangible benefits: promoting goodwill between countries, regions and industries. They also set the stage for the exchange of business ideas, career advice, and for lessons-learned in a particular business or venture.
- **Design and build business incubators** - Business incubators, that provide expert advice, funding and technical support for fledgling businesses, could have significant practical impact in all YABT Network countries by complementing the work of regional youth entrepreneur programs.
- **Develop coursework on lessons-learned and best practices** - It applies equally to all countries within the YABT Network that seek greater economic ties and investment between ROC Taiwan companies and local firms.
- **Initiate a national infrastructure project** aimed at providing for the unique needs of young entrepreneurs in urban areas, where the majority of Latin Americans reside.
- **Strengthen YABT's capacity** in national initiatives and regional linkages, i.e. working more closely with Embassies and Trade Missions.

▪ **September 24-27: “Developing International Business Leaders For The New Millennium” - 2nd International Business Education Conference, Washington, DC**

The Conference, organized by the Young Americas Business Trust and Western Illinois University included the following co-sponsors and collaborators West School of Management of Arizona State University, Center for International Education, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies of the University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, Center for International Business Studies of the Mays Business School - Texas A&M University, Ibero American Chamber of Commerce, Universidad Autónoma de Querétaro, AmeriSpan, Gordon Ford College of Business, Association for International Practical Training, American Association of State Colleges and Universities, St. Mary's University, Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León, College of Business and Economics, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, University of Maryland, Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, Embassy of Mexico, Washington, DC, Universiti Utara – Malaysia.

YABT, the World Bank Corporate Social Responsibility Program, and the Global Development Learning Network organized a pre-conference workshop: “Redefining the Role of Business Leadership in Relation to Poverty and Development at The World Bank. This workshop explored the role of future business leaders in regard to development issues and the question of poverty, which will be important for the upcoming generation of leaders. It focused on poverty not as a social problem, but looked more at redefining the role of business in relationship to poverty and development. A primary reference point was the challenge of meeting the Millennium Development Goals, and how best to involve and prepare young business people in this changing and challenging agenda. This issue is relevant to the missions of all international development institutions, to universities who prepare young people for work, and to the social development interests of young people themselves.

▪ **October 16: Hispanic Business Magazine's Economic Summit - Hall of the Americas, OAS Main Building**

The YABT and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States hosted the Hispanic Business Magazine Board of Economists 2003 at the OAS. Ambassador Jeanette Hyde, YABT Chair, and the Secretary General of the OAS, Dr. César Gaviria, opened the event. The Hispanic Economic Summit offered a forum to stimulate corporate, government, and entrepreneurial economic discussions about the fast growing, deeply rooted Hispanic community and facilitated a dialogue on US and international issues that affect the Hispanic community.

Summit attendees included, Congressional leaders, government officials, agency decision-makers, Fortune 1000 executives and corporate economists. Other participants included representatives from policy and research centers such as the Cato Institute, the Brookings Institution, and the American Enterprise Group, the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the IMF, and the Inter-American Economic Council, along with Hispanic entrepreneurs and Hispanic Business 500 executives, and academic leaders and student representatives.

**December 3 – 5: Regional Seminar: “Lessons Learned” - Barbados**

The “Lessons Learned in Entrepreneurship and Skills Training: Building a Technical Cooperation Network in the Americas” seminar, held in Barbados, December 3 – 5, 2003, shared experiences in skills training and entrepreneurship, and facilitated the progress of establishing a technical cooperation network in the Americas. Forty-five participants from eleven countries attended.

World Bank Global Development and Learning Network

A central element in the formation of the YABT’s Network has been collaboration with the World Bank Global Development Learning Network. The GDLN has demonstrated effectiveness as a recruitment tool, a platform to highlight successful projects and a good linkage with other avenues of cooperation at the World Bank. YABT organized the following videoconferences during 2003, focusing on its four priorities:

- **February 27th, 2003 - “The Application of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) to the Business Sector - Case Studies”** Guatemala, Costa Rica, Peru, El Salvador, Ecuador, Colombia, Washington DC, Israel
- **April 30th, 2003 - “Electronic Commerce: Do you believe in alternatives for people with limited resources?”** México, Costa Rica, Perú, Spain, Ecuador, Colombia, Washington DC
- **August 26th, 2003 - “Developing / Constructing an Entrepreneurial Education Curriculum (secondary schools) for the Region: What components will contribute to this success?”** Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Perú, México, Washington DC
- **September 9th, 2003 - “Lessons from ROC Taiwan for the Development of Small and Medium Enterprise – A Dialogue with Latin America”** Washington DC, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, México, Nicaragua, Perú, ROC Taiwán
- **September 24th, 2003 - “The Potential of the Future Business Leaders in the Fight Against Poverty: Corporate Social Responsibility”** Ecuador, Bolivia, México, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Chile, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Washington DC
- **December 1st and 10th, 2003 - “Entrepreneur Education: Learning by Doing”** Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Peru, Israel, Washington DC

Other Presentations and Speeches

- *Republic of China on Taiwan, Delegation of OAS Officials - January*
- *Commercial Association of Brazil, Salvador, Brazil - June*
- *Brasil Júnior – Brazilian Confederation of Junior Enterprise Annual Meeting, Salvador, Brazil - July*
- *BizBall Conference, Confederación Patronal, Tijuana, Mexico - October*
- *Escuela Superior de Economía y Negocio, El Salvador - October*
- *Universidad Adolfo Ibanes, Conference on Research in Entrepreneurship, Chile – October*
- *Wharton Conference on Latin America, University of Pennsylvania - November*

Sample of Press, Publications and Major Internet Links

- *CNN Espanol Program “En Efectivo”:* Interviews: Roberto Vargas, January; Janeth Gutierrez, May
- *Jornal A Tarde – Bahia, Brazil (November, December)*
- *Forbes Brazil – September*
- *Gazeta Mercantil, Brazil – December*
- *RedOnline; Trade Network of Young Entrepreneurs, Peru www.redonline.com.*
- *Organization of American States: OAS Home Page, <http://www.oas.org>*



Under the OAS Umbrella

The Organization of American States, the oldest regional organization in the world, dates back to the First International Conference of American States, held in Washington, DC, in 1890. The OAS has thirty-four Member States and has granted Permanent Observer status to over forty-four countries.

The essential purposes of the OAS are the promotion of peace and conflict resolution, the enhancement of democratization and the consolidation of democracy, and the combating of poverty through social and economic development.

The Young Americas Business Trust exists to benefit the countries of the Americas and the Caribbean and to forge strong partnerships between the nations of the Hemisphere. As a community of nations, the OAS provides a unique forum for collaboration and communication in Washington, DC and in the capitals and communities of the Member States.

We particularly recognize the interest and active encouragement during the past year of the following Ambassadors, along with the Ministers and staff, of the Permanent Missions of the Organization of American States. Their support has been invaluable in establishing this unique partnership:

- **Antigua and Barbuda** – Ambassador Lionel Hurst
- **Barbados** – Ambassador Michael King
- **Belize** – Ambassador Lisa Shoman
- **Bolivia** – Ambassador Maria Tamayo
- **Brazil** – Ambassador Valter Pely Moreira
- **Bahamas** – Ambassador Joshua Sears
- **Colombia** – Ambassador Horacio Serpa Uribe
- **Costa Rica** – Ambassador Walter Niehaus Bonilla
- **Ecuador** – Ambassador Marcelo Hervas
- **El Salvador** – Ambassador Margarita Escobar
- **Grenada** – Ambassador Dennis Antoine
- **Guatemala** – Ambassador Víctor Hugo Godoy
- **Honduras** – Ambassador Salvador E. Rodezno
- **Mexico** – Ambassador Miguel Ruiz Cabañas
- **Nicaragua** – Ambassador Leander Marin Abonza
- **Panama** – Ambassador Juan Manuel Castulovich
- **Peru** – Ambassador Eduardo Ferrero Costa
- **St Kitts and Nevis** – Ambassador Izben Williams
- **Venezuela** – Ambassador Jorge Valero

The Young Americas Business Trust gratefully acknowledges the special assistance and support received in 2003 from the departments and staff of the General Secretariat of the OAS:

- The Secretary General of the OAS, Dr. César Gaviria
- The Assistant Secretary General, Ambassador Luigi Einaudi
- The Chief of Staff of the OAS, Mr. Fernando Jaramillo
- The Chief of Staff of the Assistant Secretary General, Ms. Sandra Honore
- The Director General, Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development, Mr. Ron Scheman
- Offices of the OAS General Secretariat in the Member States
- Unit for Social Development and Education
- Office of External Relations
- Office of the Secretary General - Protocol Office
- Department of Human Resources – Intern Program
- Department of General Legal Services
- Department of Public Information
- Department of Technology and Facility Services

“For the OAS General Secretariat, YABT has proven its value as a unique public / private sector partnership for and with young entrepreneurs, development organizations, governments, and the business community. It has mobilized a network of young entrepreneurs and established a framework for the expansion of skills training, emphasizing practical, “hands-on” methodologies. Enterprising young people deserve our fullest support.”
Roy L. Thomasson, Chief Executive Officer
Young Americas Business Trust



Board of Directors

As a non-profit corporation, incorporated in the District of Columbia, USA, the Young Americas Business Trust is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors committed to YABT's purposes.

Officers and Directors 2003

- H. E. Jeanette Hyde, Chair - Former US Ambassador to Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean
- H. E. Dennis Antoine, Vice Chair - Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Grenada
- H. E. Walter Niehaus, Vice Chair - Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica
- Mr. Lou Ferrand, Vice Chair - Principal Attorney, General Secretariat of the OAS
- Mr. Joseph Caracuel, Treasurer - Vice-President, International Banking, Bank of America
- Mr. Roy Thomasson, Secretary / CEO - Principal Specialist, General Secretariat of the OAS
- Dr. Benno Sander, Director – Educator, Brazil
- Mr. Deryck Murray, Director – Community Asset Management Consultants, Barbados

Program and Administrative Staff

- Mr. Luciano Almeida Freitas, Administrative Manager and Legal Affairs
- Mr. Rafael Pinto, Program Manager

YABT is not just an organization *for* young people; it is an organization *of and by* people. We consider it important to respect the talents of young professionals from many countries and create opportunities for them to gain work and entrepreneurial experience in international development.

“Young people are the future of the world and giving them the opportunity to learn about entrepreneurship is the first step towards progress.”
Daniel Messeder, 21, Director, MM Ltd. - Brazil

YABT's energetic, enterprising team of program officers has made the most important contributions to the organization's growth. They represent the best of the next generation, contributing their time and skills to make a tangible difference to the future of the region. During 2003, the following university students and young professionals worked with YABT at the OAS General Secretariat through the OAS Intern Program:

Program Officers / Interns

Ricardo Lopez	University of Maryland	Bolivia
Daniel Messeder	Universidade Federal da Bahia (UFBA)	Brazil
Leonardo Gomes	Universidade Federal da Bahia (UFBA)	Brazil
Lana Gudmundson	University of Saskatchewan	Canada
Michael Kotschorek	University of Saskatchewan	Canada
Carlos A. Lievano	Universidad Autonoma de Bucaramanga	Colombia
Gerardo Aldana	Universidad Industrial de Santander – Colombia	Colombia
Manuel Fernando Garcia	Pontificia Universidad Javeriana – Colombia	Colombia
Paola Ramos	Politecnico Grancolombiano – Colombia	Colombia
Susanne Menestrey	Universidad de la Sabana – Colombia	Colombia
Tilven M. Bernal	American University	Colombia
Bernd Hoberg	American University	Peru
Luis Viguria Chavez	Pontificia Catolica Universidad de Peru	Peru
Roberto Martin Vargas	Pontificia Catolica Universidad de Peru	Peru
Manuel Gutierrez	Barry University	Spain
Harold Dale Thomas III	University of Arizona, Tucson	USA
Tuira Torrijos	American University	Panama
Samantha Barrios	Marshall University, West Virginia	Venezuela
Marcelino Uriarte	St. Edward's University, Texas	Venezuela

The Young Americas Business Trust also expresses special thanks to the following national and regional YABT team members who have demonstrated an exceptional spirit of entrepreneurship in 2003:

Marcos Vargas, Brazil	Abraham Perez, Guatemala	Marco Bozzetto, Venezuela
Hector Villagran, Ecuador	Sabas Monroy, El Salvador	Rodney Grant, Barbados
Ricardo Teran, Nicaragua	Edgar Maestre, Panama	Sophia Greaves, Barbados
Edwin Escobar, Guatemala	Ariosto Manrique, Mexico	Cristina Figueredo, USA



Growing Support for the Young Americas Business Trust

The Young Americas Business Trust's overhead and administration is provided by in-kind contributions from the General Secretariat of the OAS. This enables the organization to direct its primary resources to its programs. The Young Americas Business Trust relies on contributions of financial, as well as time and other in-kind resources from a variety of both public and private sector donors for program support.

The Young Americas Business Trust gratefully acknowledges the financial and in-kind support and assistance of the following contributors and collaborators to its program activities during the past year:

- The Republic of China on Taiwan
- Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the US
- International Cooperation and Development Fund of ROC Taiwan
- Inter-American Agency for Cooperation and Development
- Bank of America – International Banking, Washington, DC
- Permanent Observer Mission of Turkey to the OAS
- Permanent Observer Mission of Israel to the OAS
- Inter-American Development Bank Youth Outreach Program (IDB Youth)
- World Bank Institute – Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainable Competiveness Program
- Global Development Learning Network – World Bank Institute
- COPA Airlines
- TACA Airlines
- US Airways
- Aeropostal Airlines
- Mexicana de Aviación
- Microsoft
- Mexican Cultural Institute
- Fundacion Ecuador
- General Secretariat of the Organization of American States
- Unit for Social Development and Education
- Mount Carmel Golda Meir International Training Center
- Pinelands Creative Workshop, Barbados
- Ministry of Social Transformation, Barbados
- Permanent Mission of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas to the OAS
- Permanent Mission of Bolivia to the OAS
- Her Excellency Maria Carmen González Cabal, Ambassador of Ecuador to Nicaragua

YOU Can Help!

Please consider how you can advance this important and innovative initiative that will benefit the Americas and the Caribbean in the years to come. Your help and collaboration can make the difference in building the future of the Americas through young entrepreneurs.

We rely on contributions of time and money from the private as well as the public sector to realize our goals. We would appreciate your consideration in any possible way. For tax-deductible contributions, the United States IRS recognizes YABT as a 501 (c) (3) corporation.

Donors to the Young Americas Business Trust also benefit from good public relations by being identified as an outstanding corporate citizen. Sponsors will become part of a network of business leaders and dynamic entrepreneurs thereby having direct access and acquire important knowledge of the hemisphere.

For more information, contact:
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