Sustainability, Human Needs, & Basic Rights

Vinod Sasidharan, Ph.D., School of Hospitality and Tourism Management

**Course Goal**
Experiential, service learning activities, examining the relationship between Sustainable Development & Millennium Development Goals relating to basic human needs and rights

**Course Objectives**
Contextualize global citizenship to meet sustainability challenges of the 21st century through international alliances & partnerships, cooperation between institutions, & global commitment to progress

Apply individual- & collective-responsibility for improving the lives of fellow citizens through commitments, resources, focus & accountability, & dedication to sustainable development

**Course Format**
Local service learning projects (Spring 2011), San Diego Roots Sustainable Food Project, International Rescue Committee

International service learning projects (Summer 2011), Punta Cana Ecological Foundation, Peace Corps, Save The Children, Dominican Republic

**Millennium Development Goals**

1. Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
2. Achieve universal primary education
3. Promote gender equality and empower women
4. Reduce child mortality
5. Improve maternal health
6. Combat HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases
7. Ensure environmental sustainability
8. Global partnership for development

**San Diego Activities**

**Agriculture** – Planning & building a school garden, in collaboration with Victory Gardens

**Health** – Community health activities for shoppers & families

**Education** – Teaching & creating learning projects for students through First Things First program

**Nutrition** – Food education to low-income communities at City Heights Farmers’ Market

**Dominican Republic Activities**

**Food** – Determining cost of food & average citizen’s access to food

**Education** – Examining access to local schools, drop out rates, enrollment, average GPA

**Gender** – Investigating average numbers of positions held by women vs. men, positions held

**Child + Maternal Health** – Determining birth rates & child mortality rates, biggest pregnancy-related threats & risks

**Disease** – Assessing rates of HIV/AIDS, malaria & other infectious diseases

**Ecology** – Examine effectiveness of environmental programs

“**We must not fail the billions who look to the international community to fulfill the promise of the Millennium Declaration for a better world.**

Let us keep the promise.”

UN Secretary-General, Ban Ki-Moon