

## SDG: Basis for alliances in Puerto Rico (Ep.10)

**Locutor Víctor Ramos** [00:00:07]

Moving toward a sustainable and inclusive Puerto Rico. A special series from En Puerto Rico and GFR Media, sponsored by the Puerto Rico Community Foundation.

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:00:19]

Welcome to the tenth and final episode of the series Moving toward a sustainable and inclusive Puerto Rico, sponsored by the Puerto Rico Community Foundation, in collaboration with GFR Media. I'm Luis Alberto Ferré Rangel. In this episode we will be discussing SDG #17: Partnerships to achieve the goals. To discuss the value of these partnerships, we welcome Mary Ann Gabino, senior vice president of the Puerto Rico Community Foundation.

**Mary Ann Gabino** [00:00:47]

Greetings. Thank you. Good afternoon.

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:00:49]

Glenisse Pagán, executive director of Filantropía Puerto Rico, and to Ricardo Arzuaga, director and founder of the United Nations Association, Puerto Rico chapter.

**Ricardo Arzuaga** [00:01:00]

Thank you very much.

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:01:02]

Ricardo, let's start with you. Talk a little about the SDG Puerto Rico working group you have been coordinating to us.

**Ricardo Arzuaga** [00:01:10]

Well, starting with the organization that I work for and founded, I'm executive director of UNA-USA Puerto Rico, which is the acronym for United Nations Associations of the United States. They, in turn, are under the umbrella of the United Nations Foundation. This was an organization that was founded in '97, with a donation from Ted Turner, the largest philanthropic donation in history, at that time. He made a \$1 billion donation to start this foundation. The United Nations Foundation tries to be a link between private companies, non-governmental organizations, the general public and the work that the United Nations does. We, here in Puerto Rico, celebrated our 25th anniversary last year. We've focused mainly on raising awareness of the work that the United Nations does, but specifically working on education. I had the opportunity to participate in a program during my college years, the Model United Nations Program, and that program provides knowledge and skills to the students that we wanted to bring to Puerto Rico, particularly to public schools. That has been our main focus. However, since 2015 and the approval of the Sustainable Development Goals, we began to move in that direction. Just like our parent organization and that work group that you mention, it was one of the five pillars that we've worked on in Puerto Rico and it was to begin to map the Sustainable Development Goals by sectors — the academic sector, cooperatives, civil society, in short, different groups in Puerto Rico — and see how they were addressing these SDGs.

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:02:55]

And how many members do you already have?

**Ricardo Arzuaga** [00:02:56]

Thanks for the question. We started three organizations in 2017, including Sacred Heart University, the Institute of Statistics, with Dr. Mario Marazzi at that time. Now we are more than 100 organizations that are part of that collaboration ecosystem — as we call it — to advance the Sustainable Development Goals, particularly in five areas: promote, integrate, advance, measure, and finance the Sustainable Development Goals in Puerto Rico.

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:03:26]

Very good, let's continue talking during today's podcast about networks and alliances and the importance of continuing to work horizontally in that sense. Glenisse, tell us a little about Philanthropy in Puerto Rico.

**Glenisse Pagán** [00:03:38]

Filantropía Puerto Rico is an organization that serves Puerto Rico's philanthropic sector or the one that's working in Puerto Rico. We seek to unite and amplify the impact of philanthropic organizations in Puerto Rico, whether from here or abroad. We spend our time supporting, mobilizing, and leading the philanthropic sector. We have a membership model that's precisely like that sector network. Apart from that, we also have some initiatives. We support, through the membership model, different activities that are related to relationships, creating capacity, talking about strategies and alignment. And then we have other initiatives that are like practice communities, about strengthening social justice, about practices of listening to each other, about participation. We also manage the Adelante Puerto Rico fund, which is a collaborative fund among different philanthropic entities that has supported in recent years and has also been active. So, a lot of what we do all the time, as you were talking about this networking thing, is to keep this philanthropic network active, robust, aligned, and coordinated with each other.

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:04:58]

I don't want to get ahead of ourselves with questions for Filantropía, but I would be interested in knowing a little later why the name was changed from Red de Fundaciones to Filantropía Puerto Rico and what you have learned in the process. But we move on to Mary Ann, who has been our main sponsor.

**Mary Ann Gabino** [00:05:18]

Yes, thanks. First, I'm very happy to be here on this latest podcast, so I thank GFR Media, Luis Alberto and the entire team that has been working very closely on this series. I work with the Puerto Rico Community Foundation; I've been with the Foundation for 20 years. The Foundation has been established for 37 years and is an institution that does work in networks, because we do nothing alone. We're always going to do it with an organization in the community and it will always be pushed or stimulated by a donor. So, we don't do anything alone. That's the basis of our work. With the SDGs, I think it was in 2016, we attended a conference of community foundations, and the topic was already being discussed. Fresh from the United Nations, it was already being mentioned. That was when we began to look at how we could work from Puerto Rico. It took us a while, but we got to that point and it's part of what we can share this afternoon. But within the Foundation's work, as I said, we do nothing alone. Part of the Foundation works with donors, institutions, corporations, and families who wish to channel their concerns to the community in the form of donations, scholarships, and recognitions. So, we work on fund administration. The other part of the Foundation has a programmatic duties in which it also works with a donor, larger funds and we work in certain areas that have been identified as areas of opportunity, in this case access to water, to energy, to housing, to entrepreneurship opportunities, jobs and we do everything through a community organization that is who works with its community, pardon the redundancy.

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:07:26]

There's an African proverb that says something like "if you want to go fast, go alone; but if you want to go far, go together," something like that. We must remember that we're in a Puerto Rico in constant emergency, with immediate emergencies, but also an island that wants to be built, an island that wants to emerge within the emergency. So, why is the importance of working in networks in an island under these conditions, Ricardo?

**Ricardo Arzuaga** [00:08:00]

I appreciate the question. Reflecting on the podcasts in this series, I recently listened to a program where you precisely had organizations or networks like Queremos Sol and Generación Circular. Those are the type of networks that must come together in Puerto Rico. I also mentioned the Sustainable Development Goals working group, they're also a network, a collaborative ecosystem. But we, just like Mary Ann was mentioning, we don't do anything alone. And that's since we started our educational programs, but particularly in the historical context now, speaking of the Sustainable Development Goals, all the pillars that we've worked on are always in collaboration with other networks. For example, you, GFR Social Innovation, as you know, we worked on a program with the president of the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, which is the organization that worked with the design of the Sustainable Development Goals in 2012. In other words, Professor Sacks directs a global network that's important for Puerto Rico to be a part of and that's why it was very appropriate that we worked in that program with the leaders of universities in Puerto Rico, because that United Nations Solutions Network had prepared a guide for the integration of the Sustainable Development Goals in the academic sector. It was important that all academy leaders knew about this and spoke about this topic. Likewise, as you know — which we also collaborated with GFR Social Innovation — we had an activity in 2020, sorry, at the end of 2019, on island networks around the world. And you know that we were collaborating with networks like the Global Island Partnership, Hawaii Green Growth. At the same time, these two organizations are the secretariat of other networks that have emanated from the United Nations, such as the Local2030 Islands Network. As you know, also in collaboration with you and other partners, we managed to get the government of Puerto Rico to become part of this network — the Local2030 Islands Network — before the Biden Administration officially took part through John Kerry, Biden's special envoy, so that Puerto Rico knew that this would have the support of the U.S. government and is an important network (in which) Puerto Rico must participate. Finally, another network — and pertinent to the Puerto Rico Community Foundation — was that the Climate Strong Islands Network was created in 2020 here in Puerto Rico. That was part of a statement signed by several organizations in Puerto Rico. That's a network, also of islands, but of islands of the United States. In other words, two days ago I was at that Climate Strong Islands Network meeting because we know that it's important for these international networks to communicate. That's an initial example that I can give you of different networks and the collaborations that we've participated in along the way with young people in Puerto Rico.

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:11:19]

Mary Ann and Glenisse, here in Puerto Rico, we're told that everyone pulls in their own direction and that it has been very difficult, traditionally, to work as a team, alliance, and networks. Has that been the experience of Red de Fundaciones or Filantropía Puerto Rico?

**Glenisse Pagán** [00:11:37]

I would say yes. That's always the challenge, but this is exactly what makes it valuable to have a network and come together. It's complicated because there are always motivations and there are agendas and we must align our needs, but it's possible. Especially when there are those very specific crisis calls, people are much quicker to align themselves then. When there isn't so much of

a crisis, then, it's like everyone takes their side, it's more typical, but when there's a crisis...the objective is clearer and it's easier for everyone to look aside. But apart from that, we know that collaborating has its complexities, not that it's impossible. There's also a maturity in time. We have to be there continuously, supporting the objective of yes, we're going to collaborate and collaborate so that it's done. So I feel a positivism that yes, it's challenging, but...

**Mary Ann Gabino** [00:12:47]

Absolutely. I think that for decades we've seen a Puerto Rico that works disconnectedly. Not only from the philanthropic sector, but we see the modeling even from the sectors and spheres of power. The way we work reflects those systems that are fractured and fragmented. So, everyone definitely pulls to their side at some point during the process. However, I think that after the crises we have experienced for the past five years there has been a genuine interest in greater collaboration. My experience, for example, what we're experiencing now with Fiona, and the way in which, for example, Filantropía Puerto Rico has been able to sit all at the table and other networks that have been convened to work on certain issues; I hadn't seen it for María. I didn't see it for María. I probably didn't see it in COVID and the earthquakes either. What we're experiencing is something else. It's a joining of motivations. Now, we can do it from the sector we're in. It's a sector in which people are good, in which people have a vocation, in which people are there because we really want to assist in some way, and we find the platform to do so. But when we talk about the SDGs and alliances, it goes beyond, it must go beyond our sector. Then the other sectors come in, the public sector, the private sector.

We're moving from the philanthropic sector and the private sector to some extent. But that transparency needs to permeate and we're still not where we could be. Again, I think that with this hurricane — at least I'm sitting at several tables from different sectors — and there's genuine interest, but we still lack it. It's part of learning. I believe that we have, in the past five years, evolved differently as a society. In some instances, for the better and in some times, we have gone back a little, because it must be said also, but it's part of our evolution and we must be aware of that to continue pushing forward.

**Glenisse Pagán** [00:15:17]

I think that's part of the point, we're much more aware. Notice how we say it: everyone has their little area of interest, everyone pulls to their side. And the idea of being aware of something is to make a different decision. As a collective we're much more aware of this and, although it isn't perfect, we make decisions to come together somehow.

**Mary Ann Gabino** [00:15:41]

So how do we make that permeate? And the other two sectors?

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:15:45]

Private and public sectors.

**Mary Ann Gabino** [00:15:45]

Exactly. How do you get the government to suddenly say 'hey, but we can't think about this alone.' It's not like we're going to have all the engineers and architects and actuaries. We're going to bring in the nonprofit sector, we're going to bring in this other sector to listen and understand and observe how we're going to move the island. That must happen. That little area of interest, those dividing lines... I believe that they still exist.

**Ricardo Arzuaga** [00:16:11]

I also wanted to add to that discussion that you just had, which — one thing that I've reflected

upon precisely while listening to the podcasts of this series — is how everyone has mentioned (Hurricane) María as a reference, a very important historical juncture. Now we can mention Fiona also. But I was saying that on the issue of networks, we don't necessarily have to expect everyone to go in a particular direction and it's our human nature that we all work on our own areas, as we were saying. But what does seem to me to have become very conscious, after Hurricane María, was precisely for the need of these collaborations. And what I think — we, at least, our perspective as an organization and perhaps mine — is that what the Sustainable Development Goals give us is a common language and a common purpose. That's what we should at least aspire to, that's what unites us. It's not that we're going to change things and — as they say — it's not that we're going to start everyone singing Kumbaya. We're all going to continue working from our own areas because we have different cultural viewpoints and we've worked, each organization, you in the Foundation are 35 years old, we are 25, but there are organizations that have just started and have been around for a year. How do you overcome all those challenges? Also, it isn't easy to collaborate, organizations have to know about each other. And one of the things that I need to tell you, that for me has been most gratifying collaborating in that SDG working group is precisely having meetings that I would never have thought of (having) before. The plethora of virtual meetings that we've had, but that have allowed us to get to know each other. They recently had a Generación Circular podcast, because I already had a conversation with Ingrid Vila, but also with Francisco Aquino, who are from the same organization, to get to know each other and see how... There's also the Red de Economía Solidaria, with Frances Figarella. In other words, there are organic conversations and collaborations that I had never seen before and that can be done, that are happening, and that for me is what's new in all this collaboration part.

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:18:31]

We were talking about emerging solutions in the previous podcast. Precisely, Dr. (Nelson) Colón, (president) of the Community Foundation, was speaking about it. Mary Ann, you were also talking recently about the fragmentation of our problems. I think that's where we come from, that we've had fragmented public policies, fragmented solutions, but networks and alliances help to look at the entire problem and not just a part of the problem.

**Mary Ann Gabino** [00:18:55]

Of course. When we look at the SDGs and goal 17, which is that of alliances, we must look, we have to delve deeper into what each goal tells you, because there are some indicators at a global level that you can implement and measure. We in Puerto Rico are also experts in creating alliances, we call everything an alliance. We go to lunch and it's an alliance; Maybe concrete things don't necessarily come out, but we ally ourselves and talk about it. Now, I believe that what the Sustainable Development Goals give us is that they have a series of very specific indicators that are topics to bring to the table and discuss. The same thing goes for alliances, we're talking about how we come together, but it's a very deep issue that even what it questions you is how to make connections among the different sectors to address the debt, to have free trade, tariffs and a series of things that we cannot... because it isn't part of our expertise, but that there are some very specific things. What's important to us is sharing information and data. That there is an indicator and that it must be permeable to all sectors. How you share learning, how you share data. That's what we've been seeing, at least we — and perspectives — but it's much more than that. It's that we, literally, sit down as a large multi-sector group, look at those indicators and say 'hey, where are we going to influence and how are we going to do it?'

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:20:30]

Glenisse, I also wanted to say to you along these lines, the concept of philanthropy is changing. In

Puerto Rico we also have a spectrum of philanthropists who are much more activist and much more... traditional. Obviously, there's room for everything.

**Glenisse Pagán** [00:20:46]

Everything's more than valid, everything's necessary, everything's welcome. I'm always very much in that discourse or in that approach that it's cool that we're all different and it's necessary that we all be different to precisely support the different organizations, which also want and need to be supported in different ways. The social problems we have today are already so integrated into everything that you must manage it — or the only way you can really influence or change or impact part of that social problem is — from different angles. So, you need different perspectives, different people, different philanthropic methods, different ways of raising money. It takes like, what they call the Medici Effect, that you have all the different fields looking at the problem for the best solution. In Filantropia, that's certainly what we try to do. I think it's precisely part of what as a generation... we're really enjoying that diversity now, learning to admire each other much more for how different we are. There's a lot of polarization, but at the same time there's something else... going back to movements, collectives, alliances, there's a polarization, but at the same time, there's another movement toward coming together while being different.

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:22:28]

Exactly. That's a very important point because there are many subtleties when it comes to defining and behaving as an alliance, behaving as a network, behaving as a movement or a collective. Ricardo, I wanted to ask you, how does one manage a network, how does one manage alliances like the ones your work group has.

**Ricardo Arzuaga** [00:22:50]

I don't think there's a single way to do it, but something that I mentioned just now, and I believe it's very pertinent, is how these networks tend to work organically, that you can't necessarily control everything that's going to happen in them, precisely due to the diversity of the groups that are involved in them. At least in UNA-USA Puerto Rico, we began with the idea of how we started to convene these organizations and that it was as basic as an electronic registry. We wanted the organizations to register, and we initially began making some recommendations that could be carried out in Puerto Rico in different specific projects. That it wasn't, precisely, let's meet for lunch and call it an alliance, but let's work on this. For example, likewise, those of us who were talking about the government part, how do we get the government of Puerto Rico to insert itself into these networks or how do we integrate networks like the United Nations with Puerto Rico? But part of the answer to your question... it has happened organically, the group has grown dramatically since we started it and the truth is that we're pleased to have a focus on different initiatives in education, once again with the government, the private sector, at least. We believe that the United Nations Global Compact is something very practical, very specific that can be integrated into the private sector here in Puerto Rico, because it has some metrics and we already know since we have some case studies in each of these initiatives. For example, Global Compact doesn't have to be for large organizations like Banco Popular — you recently interviewed Ignacio Álvarez, the CEO, that they established an ESG Report. Beyond that, how organizations as small as Álvarez-Díaz/Villalón, which is an architectural firm, were just recognized at the United Nations last week by the United Nations Global Compact. They were finalists in a Global Compact competition in which they were competing with Microsoft and PepsiCo. If you look at the magnitude of these multinationals and that a very small Puerto Rican group was a finalist, is precisely the case study we need.

Just like we needed a case study with the academia. That step was taken by Sacred Heart University, having established a bachelor's degree in Sustainable Development, the first bachelor's

degree in Puerto Rico. Now we're working with the University of Puerto Rico in Mayagüez because they're working with a sustainable engineering bachelor's degree. Something very innovative, they're already received funding — which, once again, it goes beyond those launches — they received \$500,000 from the National Science Foundation and Microsoft to start the program. I have a meeting with them next week.

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:25:56]

That's very interesting... The concept of asymmetry, in the sense of divergence, difference, diversity, managing them in an alliance, in a network. What has been the recent experience of the Community Foundation?

**Mary Ann Gabino** [00:26:13]

Yes, the experience is very rich. It takes time to align motivations. When we work on projects in the community we try to make them participatory. By executing a participatory project you're making an alliance with the community and you're entering a conversation that the community probably hasn't had before: a series of terms, a series of agreements, arrangements. So, we managed to do it, most recently, with Toro Negro in Ciales. And it's how you sit at the table with people who have a different perspective, like in their way of living, in their way of surviving. Suddenly you sit down, you understand them, and together we're going to design a participatory process. And how from this institutional structure, which is the one that has power, because it's the one who has the money to be able to do it, suddenly you say no, no, wait, we need to break away from that. And we go to the community every week and we design with the community; we build with the community. That takes time, but it's one of the richest and most powerful things that can happen when you have an alliance.

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:27:33]

Glenisse, from the perspective of Filantropía Puerto Rico, what has been the need that Filantropía has been seeing from its members in recent years and how has it also changed since you started?

**Glenisse Pagán** [00:27:47]

Good question, because the members are so different that there isn't a critical mass, but I think that data is something that always helps them. This support gives space to align with data, conversations. I also feel that through us — we have 18 members right now — through all these 18 members who range from a very small one to a super large one and with very different perspectives on how they exercise their philanthropic practices. Those opportunities to just get to know the smallest or the largest and being there, sharing data, getting the pulse of the communities at a collective level... because sometimes when a philanthropic entity enters a community, you get there with your power, because you're going there. So maybe you don't necessarily get that real community pulse because you come from a position that, although you recognize it and try to have participatory practices, you need to recognize it. Giving that reality, that pulse helps a great deal for the practices, for the decisions they're going to make.

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:29:16]

We've been talking about an island in emergency and an island that wants and will emerge in one way or another, precisely because of these alliances, these networks, this way of working horizontally. But there's no doubt that the State, the government of Puerto Rico, continues to be a hierarchical organization, that federal aid continues to be almost a military operation in the way the funds are disbursed and how difficult it is for communities to access these funds, have an incredible bar to overcome. So, we have this vertical, hierarchical island, private companies still function like this a lot, but we have communities that are used to working in networks, working in

alliances. We have this dichotomy of an island, how can we take advantage of that crossroad, Ricardo?

**Ricardo Arzuaga** [00:30:14]

Thank you very much for that reflection, Luis Alberto. Going back to reconnect with the podcasts that have been done — and we thank you once again for the invitation that the Community Foundation and GFR Media have made us — something else that I want to mention before we close is the core of the statistics and data to face these problems that overwhelm us. We constantly talk about this, but we aren't addressing it properly. One of the first things we did as an organization, as part of the working group, was to have a conversation with the Institute of Statistics, when Dr. Mario Marazzi was there. As Mary Ann mentioned earlier, the Sustainable Development Goals have 169 goals, but what I don't hear about are the 232 statistical indicators behind them. And more importantly, the number 185, which is 80% of 232. In other words, that's the number that the Institute of Statistics would have to reach, the number of indicators, for Puerto Rico to appear on the global dashboard of the SDGs and can be compared with other countries. That was the first try to see how the government of Puerto Rico began to consider this great problem that we have regarding statistics. We have a gigantic problem. So, the Statistics Institute definitely needs help. You need to have a dedicated staff to deal with those indicators and with updating those indicators also. Because once you take out all those methodological sheets for a particular year, you did that in 2018, how do you update it? That's where I see the relevance when I hear that the Community Foundation wants to develop a voluntary local report, because it's important to understand the difference. There are voluntary national reports that member states submit annually to the United Nations. This information is very important, which I'm sure you may not know, but the United States government is one of the only six countries in the world that hasn't submitted a voluntary national report, and it is with Myanmar, with South Sudan and with Haiti in that group. The Biden Administration is also taking some affirmative steps, and that's what the United Nations Foundation is requesting. It's asking the Biden Administration to start with a voluntary national report. In other words, when we saw that the Puerto Rico Community Foundation — which, as you know, we were searching for an organization for a long time that would step up and that would say, we're going to tackle a Voluntary Local Review — so, we welcomed it wholeheartedly, because look how it's so encouraging. Not only do they want to do it, but they have the funds to do it, which, as we know, is also a challenge. Ideas are great, but if you don't couple it with financial capital, what happens? So that step is very important. It would be very interesting if, as a final point or because of this voluntary local report, we could motivate the government of Puerto Rico to submit a national report that focuses on all agencies, that there be at least one agency in Puerto Rico or several that join to submit a voluntary national report.

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:33:35]

Mary Ann, would you like to elaborate on that?

**Mary Ann Gabino** [00:33:36]

Yes, based on your question and that crossing, we foresee...there are several issues. First, motivation is needed for these crossings to occur. Humility to recognize what's known and what isn't known, search for what isn't known and find those who do know. And third, with this voluntary local report, we would have the hope that that juncture that's so marked, perhaps can begin to be integrated. Because truly, we obviously want to submit the report to the pertinent body. But more than anything we want it to be a living document that serves to sit everyone at the table and say: this is where things are moving. Bring everyone to the table and have that conversation. I think, and my aspiration would be that once we reach that point, we can achieve it and... the document is the beginning of this integration among these conversations, within the



important things for the island. Beyond what the emergency is, beyond what the urgency is, it's how we're going to focus on all these issues and we're going to be able to move them. I, like you, have... a lot of hope in the future, I have a lot of hope in the youth that is emerging. I think it's a generation that can be highly criticized, but with a very high social consciousness. Much more than what we had in our times when I was growing up. Being able to manage this type of tool, so to speak, that serves as a basis to start this type of conversation, this type of juncture between sectors, I think it is important. So, time will tell, and we'll look at it.

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:35:46]

How do the Red de Fundaciones o Filantropía Puerto Rico handle this...?

**Glenisse Pagán** [00:35:51]

You made the comment, asked the question, and I remembered a meeting we recently had with the public sector, Housing specifically, because much of what we're focused on right now is supporting those spaces. Support, for example, the visit from HUD, Housing, nonprofits that work on these issues and support the space. We aren't experts in this, but we give the space because I think we need to get to know each other. As Mary Ann said, come with humility, motivation, but for that we must know each other. It's funny because in that meeting there comes a point where everyone is protected because you know that they're going to attack me and supervise me. Everyone comes with their expectations and the meeting ended up going like, wow, everyone wants to be seen for the effort they're putting in. We need to be seen and... thanked. These people who are in government, many times, what we need is to remind them 'look, we want to get dirty with you to resolve this. It's not like you solve it, but I want to get involved here enough to be able to solve this.' That takes a little time to happen... for one to open up, to trust. That's why our focus right now is very much on sustaining those spaces so that people, little by little; I trust that little by little we will be more open...

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:37:26]

It's important to maintain those open spaces, to support those spaces of trust, of building trust, because alliances and networks are built.

**Glenisse Pagán** [00:37:34] And consistent, so that you then create that trust.

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:37:36]

Well, this has been an incredible adventure for me as a journalist. These ten episodes that, thanks to the Puerto Rico Community Foundation, have so graciously sponsored. I think we have established a very important conversation platform along the way, see how we started these episodes before Fiona and, as it always happens, we must adapt and learn from these natural disasters that aren't natural. They are caused by humans.

**Mary Ann Gabino** [00:38:05]

Yes, they're natural events with disastrous consequences caused by human hands.

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:38:14]

That's right. We recognize the work of the Puerto Rico Community Foundation; from Glenisse Pagán, also, from Filantropía Puerto Rico.

**Glenisse Pagán** [00:38:21]

You still had the question about Red. Internally we still call it a network and we're a network. At the time... there was a — repurposing — like the organization had a purpose, a very specific direction that we became more like this organization that in the United States is known as Philanthropy Serving Organizations (PSO) and typically the names of the PSOs are Philanthropy

New York, Philanthropy Massachusetts...to cover the number of initiatives and make it more like a collective movement. As we were talking about the collective, which is more than anything like the way, the names of the collectives are the way you want to go. And it came up there, there was a lot... like the Philanthropy Network, Philanthropy Network, but we keep the network very close to our hearts.

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:39:21]

Thanks for the response. And to Ricardo Arzuaga, thank you for being the pioneer in creating the SDG working group that, as you rightly say, already has a life of its own. It's a matter of continuing to add new people.

**Ricardo Arzuaga** [00:39:35]

Many thanks to the Community Foundation for the invitation, to GFR Media and GFR Social Innovation, because you may have said the pioneer thing, but as you know... we never do anything alone, because we truly don't have the capacity and we must learn to collaborate. So, excellent, I think it has been a very fruitful conversation, not only in this podcast, but in the other nine.

**Luis A. Ferré Rangel** [00:39:57]

Well, esteemed audience, we ask and recommend that you tune in and listen to the nine podcasts preceding this one. Soon we will also have some transcriptions, in writing, for each of them. I'm Luis Alberto Ferré Rangel. Goodbye until next time.

**Locutor Víctor Ramos** [00:31:12]

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