



AGA KHAN FOUNDATION U.S.A.

PRESS RELEASE

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**2,200 WALK TO END GLOBAL POVERTY AT
LOS ANGELES PARTNERSHIPS IN ACTION WALK**

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, November 13, 2011. Today, over 2,200 walked to end global poverty in the 17th annual Partnership Walk at Santa Monica Pier. The Los Angeles Partnership Walk is an initiative of Aga Khan Foundation U.S.A (AKF USA) to raise awareness and funds that reduce poverty, hunger, illiteracy and poor health in Africa and Asia.

Los Angeles's [2011 Walk](#) raised over \$400,000. **100% of the funds raised at Partnership Walk go directly to projects sponsored by the Foundation;** not a cent is spent on administration.

One of the most inspiring features of Partnership Walk was the *Village in Action*, where participants enjoyed interactive displays and hands-on exhibits that spotlighted how the Foundation is implementing creative solutions in poor regions from micro-hydro power plants in Pakistan to roof rainwater harvesting structures in India to a campaign in Kenya to plant 10 million trees by next year.

The Walk attracted many high-profile guests and civic leaders including keynote speaker Matt Petersen, President and CEO of Global Green, who said, "I've been so impressed with everybody at the Aga Khan Foundation." Speaking about the Village in Action that showcased examples of roof water harvesting, hatch windows and hydroelectric power, Petersen commented that these were the kind of solutions the world needs to see in action.

Reshma Dordi, hostess for Showbiz India, and actors Rupak Ginn and Anisha Nagarajan hosted the event. Guest speakers included Richard Bloom, Mayor of Santa Monica; Dr. Franklin D. Gilliam, Jr., Dean of UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs; and Bobby Shriver, Council Member, City of Santa Monica.

To learn more about the event and register, volunteer, become a sponsor, or make a donation, visit www.PartnershipsInAction.org/walk.

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An agency of the Aga Khan Development Network

Partnership Walk events have been held in nine major U.S. cities this year. Since 1995, Partnerships*InAction* activities including the annual Partnerships Walk and Golf tournaments have attracted over 350,000 participants and raised \$42 million for poverty alleviation projects supported by AKF USA. Participants help communities in some of the poorest areas of Africa and Asia create self-help solutions to lift themselves out of poverty. Contributions make a tremendous impact in creating opportunities for girls in Afghanistan to go to school, for farmers in Mali to feed their families, and for mothers in India to lead healthy lives.

About Aga Khan Foundation U.S.A.

AKF USA, established in 1981, is a private, non-denominational, not-for-profit international development organization committed to alleviating poverty, hunger, illiteracy and poor health. AKF USA works to address the root causes of poverty by supporting and sharing innovative solutions in the areas of health, education, rural development, civil society, and the environment. AKF USA is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Service code.

AKF USA is part of the Aga Khan Development Network (www.akdn.org), a network of private, non-denominational, development agencies around the world, established by His Highness the Aga Khan to empower communities and individuals, often in disadvantaged circumstances, improve living conditions and opportunities. The Network's agencies work for the common good of all citizens, regardless of their gender, origin or religion and its underlying impulse is the ethic of compassion for the vulnerable in society.

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