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HOPEFUL NEW ANGLE TO IMMIGRATION DEBATE
Paper Offering Key Research to be Presented to United States Congress

Washington, D.C.: As the debate on immigration and border issues with Mexico heats up in the media and Congress prepares to discuss new immigration policy, lawmakers will be presented on Friday with a paper examining the crucial impact that education quality has on immigration. Luanne Zurlo, founder and Executive Director of World Education & Development Fund, will visit Capitol Hill to introduce her findings to key personnel.

Luanne Zurlo's paper highlights evidence that when countries focus on education, there is a correlating drop in emigration and immigrants are more able to compete in new societies. *"The link between education and immigration is impossible to ignore, and it is in our best interests in America to encourage Mexico and other Latin American countries to focus on education to stimulate economic growth and stem emigration,"* she said.

Ms. Zurlo expressed hope that the information would be helpful in shaping America's immigration legislation: *"It is so important that lawmakers are made aware of the crucial part that access to quality primary and secondary education can play in the development of Latin American economies and societies. Hopefully, Congress will be able to use this research to inform their debate on the immigration legislation that will be before them soon."*

For more about the briefing, please contact Christine O'Donnell or Sara Lockwood at 202-641-3443.

Ms. Zurlo's paper will be available on World Education & Development Fund's website on Friday afternoon after the briefing (www.worldfund.org).

Luanne Zurlo founded WEDF in 2002 after a nine year career as a securities analyst on Wall Street (Smith Barney, CSFB and Goldman Sachs), during which she was ranked by Institutional Investor as one of the top Latin American telecommunications analysts. She holds an MBA in Finance and Accounting from Columbia Business School, an MA in International Affairs from Johns Hopkins SAIS, and a BA in History from Dartmouth College.

World Education & Development Fund's mission is to transform lives and reduce poverty in Latin America by supporting high-quality education for impoverished children. WEDF has provided over \$1,000,000 in capital improvement and operating budget grants to schools serving 15,000 students in Mexico, Argentina, Brazil, El Salvador, Venezuela, Chile and Colombia. At least 90 cents of every dollar of individual contributions is directed to education programs in Latin America.

For more information on World Education & Development Fund, visit www.worldfund.org