

BEN COKELET

Reynolds Alumnus, 2008
Graduate School of Arts and Science
Master of Arts, May 2010
Concentration: International Business and Politics

PODER
Founder & Executive Director



After 12 years as a global union organizer and researcher in the U.S. and Latin America, Ben Cokelet founded the Project on Organizing, Development, Education, and Research (PODER) in 2008, and is now the organization's executive director. PODER is a non-governmental organization whose mission is to improve corporate accountability in Latin America and to strengthen civil society stakeholders of corporations as long-term accountability guarantors. PODER accomplishes this by leveraging business intelligence, transparency technology, and grassroots organizing to ultimately build a citizen-led corporate accountability movement. The organization is based in New York City and Mexico City.

Ben received his undergraduate degree from Washington University in St. Louis in 1998. In 2010 he completed a master's degree in international business and international politics at New York University. In 2008 the Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation awarded Ben a coveted fellowship for social entrepreneurs. In 2009 Ben and the team of PODER won the \$100,000 Stewart Satter Family Prize in the NYU Stern Business School Social Venture Competition. Ben and his family reside in Mexico City.