



17th Annual Neelan Tiruchelvam Memorial Lecture on 31 July at the BMICH

Dr. Ronald C. Syle, Professor of Law at the Seattle University will be delivering this year's Neelan Tiruchelvam Memorial Lecture. He will speak on **Difficult Issues, Strategic Choices: Crafting a Coherent Sri Lankan Transitional Justice Process.**

Professor Syle specializes in International Law of Human Rights, Poverty Law, Public International Law and Property Law. He is a professor, visiting professor, advisor and consultant in the areas of public international law, international criminal law, transitional justice, and international human rights law. From August 2009 to August 2013 he was chosen by Kofi Annan to be one of three international Commissioners for the Kenyan Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission. He is widely published, and is the author of several books which deal with human rights and law enforcement.



The lecture will be held on 31 July 2016 at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH), Committee Room "A" at 6.00 pm.

All are welcome!

Neelan Tiruchelvam Trust

Empowering communities; building trust

Vision

The establishment of a just, equitable and peaceful society

Mission

To collectively promote peace, reconciliation and human rights, sharing responsibility, resources and risks through strategic partnerships with civil society, public sector, business community, diaspora, academia and donors

Contact us

16/6A, Ward Place
(Mohideen Terrace)
Colombo 07, Sri Lanka

T: +94 11 2690991

F: +94 11 2690993

E: ntt@neelan.org

www.neelan.org

www.facebook.com/neelantiruchelvamtrust

Sithie Tiruchelvam Women's Fellowship Programme Continues

The Sithie Tiruchelvam Women's Fellowship Programme (WFP) which began in 2013 is now in its 2nd round providing capacity building programmes for women working at the community level to enhance their positions in their families, communities and villages. The programme comprises 3 phases, the 2nd of which is currently ongoing.

NTT truly appreciates this gesture to and decided to contribute the proceeds to the NTT fellowship programme, specifically for the computer literacy component.

3rd Phase of the 2nd Batch The third and final phase of the current programme is scheduled to be held from 6 - 16 November 2016.

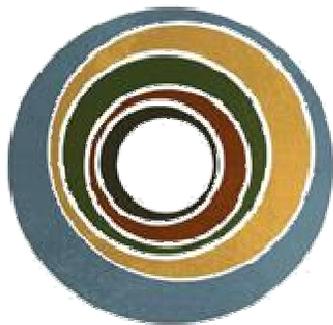
Upcoming Components for the 2nd Round: Computer Training

In the SWOT analysis done in January and March 2016 during the 2nd phase and in the follow-up meeting, all the WFP participants pointed to their lack of computer, Internet and English literacy and indicated that they would like to gain these proficiencies. A residential training on computer & Internet literacy for the five fellows is scheduled for July 2016. This part of the programme is being supported with personal funds donated by employees of the John Keells company at an internal event to commemorate International Women's Day 2016.

New call for WFP now open!

Applications are now being called for the 3rd round of the WFP. Application forms can be downloaded from our website (www.neelan.org). Completed applications should be sent to **Ms. Sahunthai Muthurajah, Programme Officer, at programme.officer.ntt@neelan.org.**

The programme is expected to start in September this year.



Global Summit on Community Philanthropy 1–2 December 2016 Johannesburg

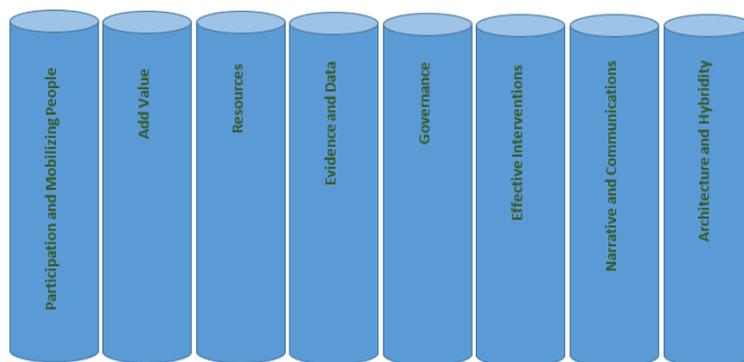
Expected to be a lively, collaborative event, the Global Summit on Community Philanthropy is aimed at hosting participants from community philanthropy organizations, NGOs, philanthropic or civil society networks, research or academic institution as well as funders; all holding the common vision of giving more power to the communities of the grassroots levels in building better lives for themselves.

In December 2004, 162 people - practitioners, funders, researchers - from over 30 countries across the world came together in Berlin for the first ever Global Summit of the Global Fund for Community Foundations (GFCF). Discussions have been underway to hold a Global Summit on Community Philanthropy, which would form part of the current efforts to develop the field. Consultative meetings have been held with key

stakeholders in the field (practitioners and funders) to invite ideas about the appropriate format and content for such a gathering, which seeks to link the field more strategically with other parts of the development landscape (international and national development programmes, other parts of civil society, INGOs, local philanthropic actors, and corporations) and to deepen practice within the field.

A wide array of ideas on the specific issues to focus on have been received by the organizers in response to an open call for proposals. With the help of the Advisory Committee and using the hashtag #ShiftThePower as a framing statement, a framework of 8 pillars of “good development” has been identified, into which as many of these ideas as possible will be weaved. The conference sessions will be designed based on this, with the expectation of cutting across different constituencies and interests.

A richly represented group of specialists have been assembled to form the Summit Advisory Committee, which includes members from notable organizations such as the African Women’s Development Fund in Ghana, the Community Foundations of Canada, The Rockefeller Brothers Fund of the USA, WINGS of Brazil and of course, the Neelan Tiruchelvam Trust. The wide membership herein will take into account the different views and perspectives that make up the diversity of the global community philanthropy field and its supporters.



The 8 pillars “Good Development” identified by the GSCP Advisory Committee

The conference will be held from 1- 2 December 2016 in Johannesburg, South Africa.

For further information, please visit <http://cpsummit.nqo>

Foundations for Peace to Discuss a Decade of Peace Building



Foundations for Peace will be hosting a convening of peace builders and grant makers to share and discuss peacebuilding based on its experiences over the last 10 years. It will be held at the Philanthropy House (EFC Centre) in Brussels from 3-4 November 2016.

Firmly of the view that conflicts cannot be resolved by violence, but rather by peace, Foundations for Peace was formed by a group of independent, non-partisan indigenous funders who work towards building peace within their respective communities, societies and countries. Five local funders, namely **Nirnaya** (India), **Community Foundation for Northern Ireland (NI)**, **Dalit Foundation** (India), **Neelan Tiruchelvam Trust** (Sri Lanka) and the **Abraham Fund** (USA), came together to form this global network that works for peace. The network presently

has 13 members.

The November event is expected to be of particular interest to philanthropies who wish to contribute towards conflict transformation.

The convening will:

- 1) Discuss a new paradigm for development in contested or deeply divided societies;
- 2) Explore the role of different types of community intervention in peace and conflict transformation;
- 3) Explore new models of partnership working for community based conflict transformation in contested or deeply divided societies.

For further information, please visit <http://www.foundationsforpeace.org>



Apply for funding; civil society space

The Community of Democracies is soliciting applications for funding on projects that seek to expand space for civil society. Financial assistance will be provided through the CD-UNITED program, which funds projects that support and strengthen democracy in countries around the world.

Eligible recipients include universities and international organizations that are working to promote human rights, freedom and the values of the [Warsaw Declaration](#). The proposed activities can take place anywhere in the world.

Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, through 31 December 2016. Visit <http://www.movedemocracy.org> for more details.

Private Funding and Corporate Influence: Fit for Whose Purpose?

The development sector is now in a state where private sector stakeholders, i.e. donors in particular, play a significant role. Large private donors such as the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, as well as private sector companies such as ExxonMobil, Goldman Sachs, Bank of America and Shell contribute to the promotion of sustainable development and philanthropy.

However, in their recently published report, Barbara Adams and Gretchen Luchsinger questions the ethics, values and possible manipulations behind this ideology. For example, some of the most significant donors for the WHO include major pharmaceutical companies such as Glaxo-Smith Kline, Novartis, Bayer and Pfizer. During the swine-flu outbreak of 2009-2010, the experts who advised that WHO declare it a pandemic had ties with drug companies, who in turn used the occasion to establish new vaccine contracts with governments. WHO Director General .

Margaret Chan says it is "driven by what I call donor interests". Similarly, the Gates Foundation supports the establishment of technical solutions with quick, measurable and visible outcomes.

The paper stresses that public funding of organizations such as the UN must increase. Funding must be high in quality. More importantly, the surrounding discourse needs to fundamentally change, drawing a clear distinction between those who regulate and those who are regulated, and reclaiming the public space for systems such as the UN and within it.

To access the full report, please visit https://www.globalpolicy.org/images/pdfs/GPFEurope/Fit_for_whose_purpose_-_final_final_draft_24-07-2015_US.pdf

NTT partners with newArow to Assist Victims of GBV

NTT provided funding for the management of victims of gender-based violence (GBV) and the coordination of services for such victims in 3 selected Divisional Secretariat Divisions (DSDs) in the Batticaloa district. Partnering with the Network for Advocating Requirements of Women (newArow), this grant is expected to ensure the guidance and management of 250 cases of violence against women, including domestic violence, child abuse, sexual abuse and unmarried pregnancies.

Learning the importance of legal documentation - a case study

A 35 year old woman whose husband was reportedly abducted in 2007 was, through the guidance and advice of newArow able to obtain a death certificate for her husband. She was also advised that in the event that he returns safely, this certificate could be cancelled. With this in hand, along with other relevant legal documentation, she was able to seek assistance from UN Habitat to get permanent housing for herself and her daughter. She and her family contributed by providing labour with which her house was completed.

Proud of her achievements, she says "I am very happy that I have got a permanent place of residence through my own efforts. I have been able to contribute to my society, and this I think is how a woman should be".



Neelan Tiruchelvam Trust has partnered with the Anne Frank House (AFH) in the Netherlands to bring the travelling exhibition “Anne Frank – a history for today” in Sri Lanka in 2016. The initiative is made possible with financial support from the Embassy of the Netherlands in Sri Lanka.

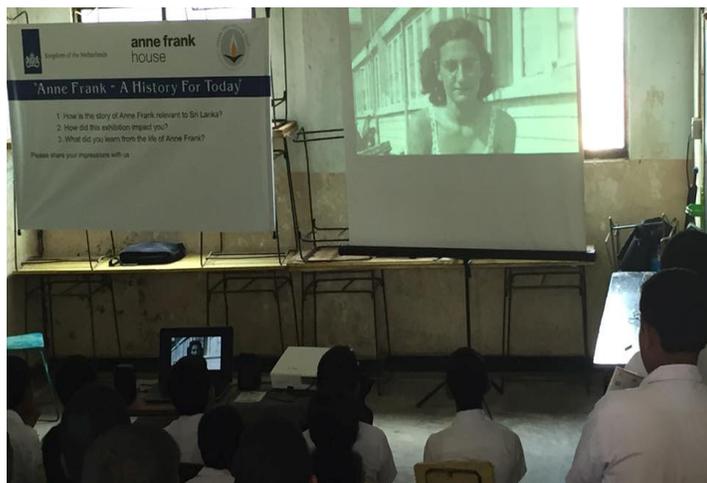
The travelling exhibition on Anne Frank is held at over 300 venues each year. Worldwide, this exhibition has been shown in 3,000 locations in more than 40 countries.

The exhibition comprises 32 panels that walk viewers through the story of Anne Frank set in the backdrop of World War II, Nazi Germany and the Holocaust. A video documentary “A Short Life of Anne Frank” accompanies the exhibition, so that viewers can also visualize the exhibition through pictures and commentary.

In Sri Lanka, the exhibition is available in both Sinhala and Tamil and has already been viewed by students, teachers and the general public in Colombo and Jaffna, with more exhibitions planned around the country. The documentary is currently available in English and Sinhala; the Tamil version is expected to be completed shortly.

Holy Family Convent: venue of first exhibition

The first exhibition for 2016 was held at Holy Family Convent, Colombo 4 on 7 and 8 April during school hours, for the students and staff of the school. NTT organized an opening ceremony which was attended by representatives from the Netherlands Embassy — Ambassador Joanne Doornewaard, Deputy Head of Mission Ms Lianne Houben and Senior Policy Advisor Political Mr. Mahendra Ratnaweera — as well as Dr Murugesu Ganeshamoorthy, Secretary to the Ministry of National Integration and Reconciliation, Mrs S. Jayatunga, Additional Secretary (Development), Mr Chanaka Gunathunga, Director (International Relations) to H.E. the President of Sri Lanka and NTT Chairperson Ms Ambika Satkunathan. The staff of NTT, students and staff of the school were also present at the ceremony. Approximately 500 students viewed the exhibition from Grades 8, 9,



10 and 11 along with members of the staff and a few people from outside the school community. The exhibition included the panels as well as the documentary “Short life of Anne Frank”, which includes the only video clip with Anne Frank in it.

Sri Lankan President visits Anne Frank Exhibition

A second exhibition was held on 5 May 2016 at the Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall (BMICH) at 5.00 p.m. It was held alongside the opening ceremony of a reconciliation programme for schools organized by the Ministry of National Integration and Reconciliation.

His Excellency Maithripala Sirisena, the President of Sri Lanka, Hon. A.H.M. Fowzie, State Minister of National Integration and



Reconciliation, Hon. Susil Premajayantha, Minister of Science, Technology and Research and Hon. Isuru Dewapriya, Chief Minister of the Western Province visited the exhibition, alongside approximately 1500 school students and teachers from various schools in the Western Province .

And on to other locations in the Country

The third exhibition was held on 8 July 2016 at St. Aloysius College, Galle. More than 350 students and staff visited the exhibition, where the Sinhala translation of the documentary was screened, in addition to the viewing panels on display. According to the staff at St. Aloysius College, this was the first such event that had been held for their students, and the enthusiasm with which the initiative was received was testament to this.

Remarks from students who viewed the exhibition

“It was a touching experience. It’s quite sad to know that stories which are quite similar to Anne’s still exist. We gained a lot of knowledge.”



“I understood the cruelty of the Nazis and Hitler. Though Anne may have had many desires for the future, this was her destiny. I hope that even an enemy will never have to face a fate such as this.”

Write to us if you wish to hold this exhibition in your community or school!