



GFI Welcomes Dr. Danilo Türk as Board Chair



It is with great pleasure that the GFI Board of Directors announced the selection of Dr. Danilo Türk, former President of Slovenia, as the new GFI Board Chair to replace former Chair José María Figueres who served on the Board since GFI was founded in 2002. Dr. Türk has already had a tremendous presence with GFI since join the Board in last year, hosting several dialogs on key development issues, and engaging actively with GFI staff on program priorities. This month Dr. Türk will join Karen as the featured speaker for the central event of the Tunisia Inclusive Labor Initiative (TILI), a GFI program working with the Tunisian Government and civil society aimed at facilitating the transition of Tunisia's large informal sector into the protections, right and opportunities afforded by formalization. In May Dr. Türk will also be joined by other GFI Board members for an experts dialouge on Africa hosted by Latvia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs in recognition of Africa Day.

Most in our GFI community, and of course far beyond, are very familiar with the distinguished work and career of former President Türk, but for those who are not, Dr. Danilo Türk served as President of the Republic of Slovenia from 2007 to 2012 and was the first the Slovenian Permanent Representative to the United Nations. At the UN he was a non-permanent member of the Security Council as well as a member of UN Human Rights Committee. Later he was appointed UN Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs before returning to Slovenia where in 2007 he was elected as the third President of Republic of Slovenia where he served until 2012. A former professor and director of the Institute for International Law of the University of Ljubljana, Dr. Türk served on the Constitutional Commission of the Slovenian National Assembly co-wrote the human rights chapter of the 1991 Slovenian Constitution.

See Dr. Türk's [Full Bio](#). Read the Press Release on the new GFI Chair [HERE](#)

Read Karen's recent piece for the Council on Foreign Relations

Formalizing Economies to Fight Poverty

Karen Tramontano, GFI Founder and President, was recently a featured writer for the Council on Foreign Relations' Development Channel series on global justice and development. Karen's piece *Formalizing Economies to Fight Poverty*, is focused on GFI's work on informality and explores the challenges and benefits to formalization seen through the lens of GFI's work in Guatemala.

Formalizing Economies to Fight Poverty by Karen Tramontano

"Sixty percent of the labor force in most developing countries works in the informal economy. Even though the informal economy is vibrant and provides essential services and goods to many communities, most governments disregard it. If governments instead sought to bring informal economies into the fold, they could enjoy substantial economic benefits. Even more important, granting economic and legal rights to these overlooked workers and producers could lift thousands out of poverty...

...read the full article at the [Council on Foreign Relations Development Channel](#).

Article: Illustrative Reporting of Nepalese Brick Kilns

"Using illustrated reportage to cover human trafficking in Nepal's Brick Kilns", is an interesting article on how reporters can use illustrations to raise awareness of the challenges within Nepalese Brick Kilns, such as issues of trafficking, child labor and poor working conditions. Illustrations of conversations and survivor testimonies have a greater potential to reach at-risk communities with low literacy levels, including individuals working within the brick sector.

Read, [Using illustrated reportage to cover human trafficking in Nepal's Brick Kilns](#), by Dan Archer to learn more about how illustrative reporting has increased the visual impact of each worker's story as well as the identity, young and old, of the storytellers themselves.

Waste-Pickers: Scouring the Streets to Running a Business

"I started recycling when I was seven years old," says Edilberto Delgado. Now 36, Edilberto has spent most of his life chasing after what others throw in the garbage. Growing up in poverty, he had to look for opportunities wherever he could from an early age. 'I didn't get an allowance, so on my way to school I started to recycle bones, and got my own allowance...'

Back then, he says, it wasn't hard to make a living as long as you got up early every morning to beat the garbage trucks. But over the past decade the competition has gotten stiffer. According to a 2011 government report, over 100,000 people work in the country's recycling industry, the majority of them, informally..."

About 23,260 tons of waste is produced daily Peru, creating opportunities for many poor Peruvians to find a source of income as waste-pickers. Until recently, waste-picking in Peru was taboo, but

with accumulation of waste and the presence of a large informal community, it has become an increasingly acceptable, less dangerous and more rewarding as NGOs, Governments and Co-ops help to formalize the business.

The Global Fairness Initiative is honored to be a partner of Ciudad Saludable on the Recyclers Leadership Initiative (RLI) beginning this year. The main objectives of RLI are to train entrepreneurial and ethical leaders, as well as to create a mainstream culture of recycling. RLI will create a ripple effect of waste management enterprises that help advance decent work and sustainable livelihoods for waste pickers.

[Waste-Pickers Go from Scouring the Streets to Running a Business](#), is a must read article detailing the development of formal waste-picking and how Delgado became a formal worker with Ciudad Saludable.

Your Purchase on Amazon could contribute to GFI's work!

Amazon released an exciting new program in which Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase to a charitable organization of your choice. You can now use this new feature to support the Global Fairness Initiative when you shop at Amazon! Visit [Amazon Smile](#) for more details.

Your generous support will be directly invested in our work to create broad and inclusive economic empowerment programs for working poor communities around the globe. As a small non-profit organization focused on doing far more with less, we promise you that every dollar of your support will be more than doubled by our effort and commitment.



In 2003 GFI was founded with one core goal: to make our global economy work for the countless working poor that globalization has left behind. A decade later we are proud to be an organization that has steadily built a track record of success through innovative programs that reduce poverty, enfranchise informal communities, and advance human rights and livelihoods. In 2014 we are celebrating this decade of impact by looking back at what we have done and learned, and looking ahead at the challenges and commitments we will take on in the decade to come.

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