

# 2015 Annual Report



MAJOR EVENTS

**WORLD DAY AGAINST TRAFFICKING**



Visayan Forum, the Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking, and the local government of Quezon City, gathered over 10,000 individuals in an advocacy event dubbed "Walk for Freedom" to celebrate the World Day Against Trafficking and call for the promulgation of the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the Expanded Anti-Trafficking in Persons Law. The IRR was released just days before the event.




World Day Against Trafficking

**LEADING THE FIGHT**

MAJOR EVENTS

**INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENTS**



# Stories of Change 2015

skoll institute

International Engagements

## LEARNING NEW INNOVATIONS

VF believes in storytelling as a potent tool for advocacy, so Cecilia participated in Sundance Institute's 2015 Stories of Change Convening to learn new ways to inspire action through stories.

Also, at the invitation of Free the Slaves, Cecilia returned to Stanford University for the annual Freedom from Slavery Forum. VF will be party to the global working group on modern slavery formed at the Forum.





At the invitation of Freedom for All Foundation, Cecilia and 3 survivors went on an advocacy tour in the USA. They were able to inspire influential personalities in Hollywood, mostly media executives and celebrities, to use their space in raising awareness and encouraging support for solutions to end modern slavery. In New York, they spoke to faculty and students of Yale University about human trafficking and the role that the academe can play in the innovating solutions and intensifying the fight.

Oh! and the survivors had so much fun visiting Lady Liberty and other landmarks in New York, and spending a day at DisneyWorld.



International Engagements

**INFLUENCING MULTIPLIERS**



Cecilia and David were at the 2015 Skoll World Forum in London where Cecilia served as a Resource Person for the topic "Down is not Defeated". Cecilia shared her experience and perspectives on how social entrepreneurs can triumph over adversities.

Also in London, Cecilia and Sharmila participated in the 2015 Trust Women Conference where they were able to convince some of the world's top law firms to embark on a research partnership with VF on the issue of slavery at sea.



International Engagements

**ENGAGING SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS**

## DIALOGUING with GLOBAL ACTORS



We hosted a meeting with the Global Fund to End Slavery. Attended by the country's top anti-trafficking groups, we surfaced emergent issues, challenges, and points for convergence in anti-slavery interventions.

Cecilia also served as a Resource Person for the Harvard Project for Asian and International Relations Conference. She stressed the need for governments to create systems and measures that address policy and programming gaps in anti-slavery initiatives.



## FIGHTING FOR CHILDREN



Ricki Mae, a survivor under VF's care, fulfilled her duties as a child juror for the World Children's Prize 2015 in Sweden. Together with 11 other child jurors, she helped determine what it takes to be a child rights hero. This year, Malala Yousafzai was awarded.

Also in Sweden, Reach for Change and the Sophie Stenbeck Foundation named Cecilia one of the 2015 Child10 Awardees. She also served as Resource Person at the Child10 Forum. She discussed emergent issues like online child sexual exploitation and the need for developed countries to curb the demand side.



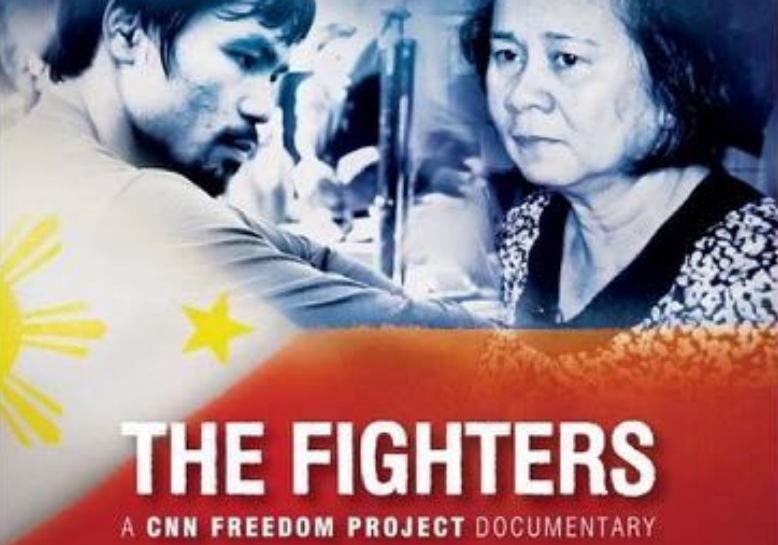
Cecilia served as Resource Person at the 2015 Trust Forum Asia hosted by Thomson Reuters Foundation. She discussed emergent issues like slavery at sea, online sexual exploitation, and vulnerabilities of household service workers overseas.

She was also a Keynote Speaker at the Voices of Faith 2016 Storytelling Event at the Vatican. The event, in celebration of Women's Month, is a platform for women to share stories of courage, mercy, and faith to inspire others. She not only shared her personal life story but also the stories of women and children who survived human trafficking and modern slavery.



MAJOR EVENTS

# MEDIA COVERAGE



## THE FIGHTERS

CNN FREEDOM PROJECT

A documentary following the work of Cecilia Oebanda and Visayan Forum in fighting human trafficking and modern slaveyry in the Philippines.

This updated version released in May 2015 features the impact of the iFIGHT Movement



## SAVING THE CYBERSEX GIRLS

BBC 3: STACEY DOOLEY INVESTIGATES

A documentary about human trafficking in the Philippines focusing on online child sexual exploitation.

The film features VF's work in rescuing and transforming the lives of victims.

## TRAFFICKING MOVES ONLINE

---

### PBS NEWSHOUR

A short documentary on human trafficking in the Philippines focused on online child sexual exploitation.

The video features VF's work in rescuing and transforming the lives of victims.



## CEYBERSEX IN THE PHILIPPINES

---

### CCTV ASIA: ASSIGNMENT ASIA

A documentary on online child sexual exploitation in the Philippines.

The film features VF's perspectives on the issue and its work in rescuing and transforming the lives of victims.



# MOTHER OF THE LOST

## ARIRANG PRIME

A documentary featuring the life and work of Cecilia Oebanda, Visayan Forum's Founder and President.

It also features all of VF's programs and services.



# VICTIMS OF THE STORM

## NHK WORLD: ASIA INSIGHT

A look into vulnerabilities to trafficking of natural disaster survivors, coming from the experience after Typhoon Haiyan.

The documentary features VF's various programs that prevent trafficking as well as rescues and transforms the lives of survivors.



MAJOR EVENTS

# AWARDS and ACCREDITATIONS



Child 10  
Stockholm  
2015



There are many challenges when you're fighting on the ground, and certainly these can take their toll on us. But VF's work for 25 years can speak for itself: No matter what struggles we faced, we chose to have courage and fight. We share this success with our partners in the government, civil society, private sector, faith-based groups, schools, and communities, without whom VF would not have been able to save countless lives. The world is noticing how we have intensified our work and our collective gains in the fight. This award is for us all.

This year, Reach for Change and the Sophie Stenbeck Family Foundation named Cecilia one of the 2015 Child 10 Awardees.

Similarly, Thomson Reuters named her a Finalist for the 2015 Trust Women Anti-Trafficking Award

**TRUST WOMEN ANTI-TRAFFICKING AWARD**

In 2015 Trust Women will present the Trust Women Anti-Trafficking Award. The new Award will recognise an exceptional individual from the frontlines who has made significant progress in the fight against human trafficking.

**2015 Nominees**

 <b>Marika VandenBerg</b> Executive Director, The Human Trafficking Research Center	 <b>Angel Benedict</b> Executive Director	 <b>Ana George Carjanaleggi</b> Director of Global Initiatives, Program Manager, Center for Global Health, University of Illinois	 <b>Cecilia Flores-Oslands</b> President, President, Worldwide Campaign Against Human Trafficking, Human Rights Foundation	 <b>Karen Friedman Agiffin</b> Chief National Director, New York State Attorney's Office, New York County	 <b>Shafiqur Rahman Khan</b> Founder, Resonance Radio	 <b>Tara Heimbach</b> Executive Director, The Safe Harbor Foundation	 <b>Wu Ngien Tsai</b> Chief Counsel, Asia Chapter, Thomson Reuters Foundation
---	---	---	--	---	---	--	---

**trust women** A conference by Thomson Reuters Foundation

 <b>Klara Skrivankova</b> Senior Programme Coordinator, Amnesty International	 <b>Lalithanidhar Mishra</b> National Human Rights Commissioner, India	 <b>Marissa Bergeris</b> Senior Justice & Outreach Director
---	--	---





This year, the Philippines' Department of Social Welfare and Development renewed VF's license and registration as a social welfare and development agency implementing residential care and community based programs and services for children, youth, women, domestic workers, families, and communities. The certificate empowers VF to operate for the next three years.