



**anti-
slavery**

today's fight for tomorrow's freedom

2010
Annual Review



Cover picture: A woman in bonded labour in the fields in Karnataka, India

Photo: Andy Martinez

Right: Child domestic worker taking part in a recreative activity organised by Grupo de Apoyo Comunal Réplica de Líderes and supported by Anti-Slavery International, Ventanilla, Callao, Peru

Photo: Anti-Slavery International



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Anti-Slavery International is committed to eliminating all forms of slavery throughout the world including forced labour, bonded labour, trafficking of human beings, descent-based slavery and the worst forms of child labour. Slavery denies millions of people their basic dignity and violates their fundamental human rights.

Anti-Slavery International works to end these abuses by:

- Gathering evidence and exposing cases of slavery.
- Campaigning for its eradication.
- Supporting the initiatives of local organisations to release people.
- Pressing for more effective enforcement of existing laws, and for the development of new laws where needed.

Anti-Slavery International, the world's oldest international human rights organisation, has consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

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Director's and Chair's Report

Anti-Slavery is slowly emerging from a very difficult financial period with the help of its supporters, institutional and corporate donors. It has been a result of hard work and considerable pain borne by staff in organisational restructuring.

The 2009/10 audited accounts showed a small surplus on Anti-Slavery's unrestricted funds, as well as a good ability to raise restricted funding for programmes and projects. We can take pride in this, and thank all those who have brought us this far, but we cannot rest. We need to rebuild those unrestricted resources so that we have the flexibility to respond to the opportunities and needs as they arise.

We have as a Board been much preoccupied with discerning an effective strategy for tackling slavery as a social and economic exploitation which traffickers and masters continue to adapt in order to feed their greed. Anti-Slavery's Strategic Plan 2010-15 aims to focus on developing increased impact on some of the most egregious manifestations of contemporary slavery.

As with our work on restoration of financial stability to the organisation, we must strengthen our efforts to make a difference in the face of modern day abuses.

Programmes are already underway for example:

- to establish a humane and effective, victim-centred approach to anti-trafficking practice across Europe
- to advance educational opportunities to those vulnerable to slavery in Niger, Senegal and Nepal
- to establish international legal standards for the rights of domestic workers and to translate those standards into practical protections
- to end child labour in Uzbek cotton production
- Future plans are also being put in place to reduce forced labour practices in Indian brick kilns, quarries and garment factories.

The USA Department of Labour's identification of a high incidence of forced labour in 50 industries from 29 countries is instructive of how implicated we all are in the global forced labour economy. This should not be a cause for despair but a spur to action: slavery is a human institution, and like all human institutions it can be changed by human action.

As this review shows we are still making history. Please read about this year's achievements, and encourage those whom you know to include Anti-Slavery as part of their making the world a better place.

Dr. Aidan McQuade, Director and Andrew Clark, Chair



Aidan McQuade, Director



Andrew Clark, Chair of Trustees



Domestic Slavery

Domestic workers are amongst the most exploited and abused workers worldwide and many of them find themselves in slavery. Hidden behind closed doors in private households and falling outside the normal regulatory and inspection frameworks applicable to other places of work, they have been asking to be recognised as workers and claim their rights for decades.

In 2009, the International Labour Organization (ILO) started working on an international instrument to protect them. At Anti-Slavery International, we launched the HOME ALONE: End Domestic Slavery campaign calling on governments, unions and employers in the UK and globally to strongly support the adoption of a domestic work convention to protect their rights. Many Anti-Slavery supporters have lobbied their governments and in September this year, in partnership with the International Slavery Museum we launched an exhibition to highlight the exploitation of domestic workers and press for global action.

Facing page: Mideleine Chersetal, aged 13, a child domestic worker in Haiti

Photo: Pete Pattison, www.petepattison.com

Right, top: Home Alone Campaign logo

Middle: Child domestic workers visited Geneva to call for a new ILO Convention

Bottom: Stand With Us campaign logo



In the run up to June 2010, when the members of the ILO met in Geneva to discuss the actual text, we worked with our partners and consulted over 150 child domestic workers about what they wanted to see included in the convention. They came back with four recommendations which they also adapted in a short film called *Stand with Us*.

In June, a delegation of 5 children from India, Peru and Togo travelled with Anti-Slavery International and Children Unite to the Conference to present their views and recommendations. They showed their film and spoke face to face to many delegates about the importance of including the needs of child domestic workers in the convention. We hope that the significant amount of media coverage will have raised awareness of the issue, and ensure that the children's own views are considered. These young people expressed their excitement and hope that the new standards could make a real difference to their lives.

The conference in 2010 was a relative success with a majority of governments standing in support of a strong convention. Yet the final text will only be adopted in June 2011 and until then, we will continue to be active at the ILO and globally through the HOME ALONE campaign to make sure that domestic workers get the protection that they deserve.



Ending slavery in the products we buy

Anti-Slavery International mobilises the influence of business in eradicating slavery, particularly within their supply chains. To complement this work, Anti-Slavery also raises awareness among the general public of how slavery is connected to products and services we buy.

On the UK's first Anti-Slavery Day 18th October 2010, we launched www.productsofslavery.org, a new interactive website, which aims to give users an understanding of the scale of products produced around the world with a high incidence of forced labour and child labour. Over 2,500 users visited the site within the first four days after its launch. [Productsofslavery.org](http://www.productsofslavery.org) has received national mainstream and social media attention and will be promoted further in schools, amongst business and online. Anti-Slavery would like to express its thanks to Tactical Technology Collective and MediaShala for their work and contribution in realising this project.

Our new campaign 'Cotton Crimes, the European Campaign Against Child Slavery' is calling for immediate action to end the use of forced child labour in the cotton industry worldwide, initially focusing on eradicating forced labour in Uzbekistan's cotton industry because of the scale and the role of the authorities in forcing adults and children to work.

Following co-ordinated lobbying of the government of Uzbekistan across Europe and with partners in the US, the government attended the International Labour Organization's Conference in June. The EU made a strong statement that Uzbekistan was not complying with its obligations under international law and the ILO recommended that a high level observation mission be sent during the autumn harvest. Whilst the campaign continues efforts to end this practice through the ILO, it is also lobbying cotton traders and merchants and calling on the European Union to withdraw preferential import tariffs for cotton from Uzbekistan.



Facing page: Child forced labourer during cotton harvest near Bukhara, Uzbekistan

Top: Children as young as seven are employed every year during the harvest

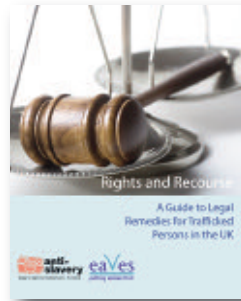
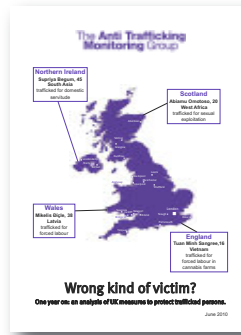
Bottom: www.productsofslavery.org website reveals extent of slavery in everyday goods



Human Trafficking

Action to ensure that trafficked people are compensated for the abuses they suffered has been at the forefront of Anti-Slavery International's trafficking programme this year. Often, traffickers make large profits out of exploiting people in various forms of labour. However, compensation is rarely awarded and paid to the victims. Following the research we published in 2009 on compensation in the UK, we joined forces with the Poppy Project to produce a guide for practitioners on compensation for trafficked persons. The tool which includes practical input by lawyers who took test cases through employment tribunals and civil courts, is designed to help others who work with victims of trafficking in seeking compensation.

In Europe, we are leading member of COMP.ACT (European Action for Compensation for Trafficked Persons), a coalition of NGOs, trade unions and legal practitioners from 15 European countries, working to ensure that compensation becomes one of the key elements of policies and programmes to assist trafficked people in Europe. As well as receiving unprecedented institutional support from the Council of Europe, national partners have begun to pursue test cases. Strategic pro bono partnerships with law firms are being developed in order to assist in obtaining remedies for trafficked and exploited persons.



Facing page: Jiera, a 19 years old woman trafficked into sex slavery in London.

Photo: Karen Robinson/Panos Pictures

Top: Report launched by the Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group

Above: Guide on compensation for trafficked persons

Over the last year, we have provided expert witness statements in around 40 human trafficking cases in British courts, and an expert report for a case of domestic servitude filed before the European Court of Human Rights.

Another key achievement this year has been the work of the Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group. This coalition of nine organisations hosted by Anti-Slavery International, collects data and analyses the UK's compliance with international obligations to combat trafficking and provide assistance to victims. The project found that the UK is not yet compliant with its international obligations, and in some cases there is even a detrimental effect on those trafficked, resulting in creating a hierarchy of 'deserving and undeserving' victims. The analysis showed a lack of coordination and oversight of individual cases; insufficient special protection of trafficked children; failure to identify trafficked persons, including continued criminalisation and a culture of disbelief. In addition, there is a general misunderstanding of trafficking for forced labour.

We will continue this work, lobby for changes to address the shortcomings and monitor the UK's performance for the next three years. This work has been commended internationally as an example of good practice.



South Asia

This year, Anti-Slavery International has worked to expand its work on bonded labour unionisation in India. In an initial phase we established four new unions and 7,940 ex-bonded workers have become unionised as a result of project activities. This work has also led, in Punjab, to local politicians and an MP making commitments to work with our partners to improve the situation of bonded labourers. The Chhattisgarh government is also working with our partners to pursue bonded labour rehabilitation claims in Jammu and Kashmir.

Our recommendations regarding reform to the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act are also being fed into the bonded labour law review process being undertaken by the National Human Rights Commission, in collaboration with the ILO.

Based on this work we have drawn up a new phase of the programme over the next five years, that aims at organising 240,000 brick kiln workers and to engage local business and government to develop approaches for the eradication of bonded labour from this sector.

In parallel with our work on bonded labour Anti-Slavery with the support of Humanity United has undertaken research on the phenomenon of

Sumangali, a relatively new slavery like practice in which girls and young women are confined to work for little pay and in poor conditions in the Indian garment sector, principally in spinning mills. Our Indian partners have already begun campaigning to end this practice in India and we will be conducting further work through the coming year.

In Nepal, substantial progress has been made regarding the inclusion of key bonded labour issues within a comprehensive labour law, as part of the process leading towards a new constitution. A lawyers group established by the project partners has presented a draft proposal for labour law amendments to a high level meeting of stakeholders. In 2010 we also started a new project to pilot a comprehensive framework of supported access to discrimination-free remedial education to children of bonded labour families in remote Western regions, where education is not otherwise accessible to these children. The project seeks to break the cycle of discrimination and bondage by improving access to education and vocational training, and consequently increase livelihood opportunities.

Within Pakistan, mass mobilisation of workers is being deployed as the principle strategy for building momentum towards legislative reform.



Facing page: Bonded labourer in Mysore District, India

Photo: Andy Martinez

Top: Young boy spinning silk in Bangalore

Photo: Andy Martinez

Above: Bonded girl in Karnataka, India

Photo: Andy Martinez



West Africa

In West Africa, Anti-Slavery International is working to increase awareness of slavery and generate greater commitment towards the eradication of slavery practices and related discrimination. We work with governments, regional human rights bodies and relevant international institutions to strengthen legal protection and enforcement of anti slavery laws, as well as enabling programmes of education and awareness-raising amongst civil society.

We have also been working with Gulnara Shahinian, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery. This year, the Special Rapporteur undertook her first country visit to Mauritania, with our assistance and that of our partner SOS Esclaves. She met with families victims of slavery as well as civil society actors and was able to make detailed recommendations to address slavery in the country. The Special Rapporteur reported to the UN Human Rights Council, where numerous States made oral interventions condemning slavery, forced labour and/or bonded labour, listing their national measures to combat slavery.

In Mauritania, Mali and Niger, with local partners, we are focussing on providing specific tailored training for a range of professional groups, including the legal profession, on slavery and connected human rights issues.

Anti-Slavery International's ground-breaking project to establish community schools for the children of former slaves in Niger is now in its third year, with the sixth school opened this year. The

project provides a replicable model of how change is possible, exceeding all our hopes and expectations.

The community shops set up by the mothers of the schoolchildren using micro-credit funds have also been a resounding success. This initiative links the schools in Niger with schools in the UK and Europe, with children communicating together towards an increased understanding of slavery, children's rights and climate change within a globalised context. Teachers from the schools will also participate in exchange visits.

Despite all the positive outcomes provided by the schools project and the great sense of enthusiasm around it, the context in which the schools work is extremely precarious, due to political stability and severe climate problems, resulting in food, water and financial problems.

A women's mat-making cooperative in Aboli, Niger, has also proved enormously successful. Set up through our local partner Timidria, the co-operative gives ex-slave women from the Aboli village and surrounding area the means to become economically independent.



Facing page: Meriéme Mint Hamadi, aged 40, escaped slavery with the help of our partners SOS Esclaves

Photo: Anti-Slavery International

Right: Niger School Project proved to be a resounding success

Photo: Anti-Slavery International



18 October, Anti-Slavery Day

Before the general election, one of the last bills to be passed in Parliament was the Anti-Slavery Day Act which was championed by former MP Anthony Steen, founder and chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Human Trafficking. The new Act has created a national Anti-Slavery Day in the UK to fall on October 18 annually, which will provide an annual focal point for raising awareness of all forms of modern slavery and human trafficking, and will promote the need for many individuals and organisations across society to take positive action to eradicate it.

Many university students, local Anti-Slavery groups, schools and local councils raised awareness of slavery and took collective action as part of various activities on the day. A public photo exhibition on slavery was launched at London's City Hall and two debates took place on the House of Commons and the House of Lords to highlight the day. We hope that in future years to come, Anti-Slavery Day will become even bigger and better to help us involve more people in combating modern slavery.



Facing page: Theresa, 53, India, a former domestic worker trafficked to England under the pretext of a job.

Credit: Karen Robinson/Panos Pictures

Top: Divia, 28, from India, a former domestic worker for a Kuwaiti family in London.

Credit: : Karen Robinson/Panos Pictures.

Above: Young Romanian child picking spring onions on the farm in Worcestershire.

Credit: Tim Carter, Gangmasters Licensing Authority



Forced Labour Law

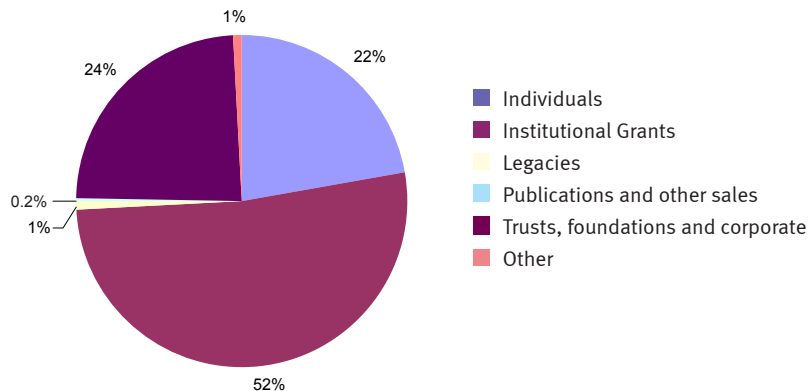
In 2009, Anti-Slavery International, together with Liberty, lobbied for the inclusion of a new criminal offence of forced labour and servitude in the Coroners and Justice Bill that was debated in the House of Lords. Anti-Slavery campaigners supported the campaign by writing letters to pressure the Government to address the gap in the law. Baroness Young tabled the amendment, and after initial Government opposition, the law was passed. Consequently, section 71 of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 now makes it a criminal offence in the UK to hold someone in forced labour or servitude. This new Act will aim to protect the estimated 1000 people in forced labour conditions where trafficking may not have taken place or cannot be proved and will carry a maximum sentence of 14 years on conviction. This is a highly welcomed inclusion in British legislation, two hundred years after the UK led the fight for the abolition of the slave trade and slavery in its colonies and a testament to the campaigning efforts of our supporters.



Financial highlights

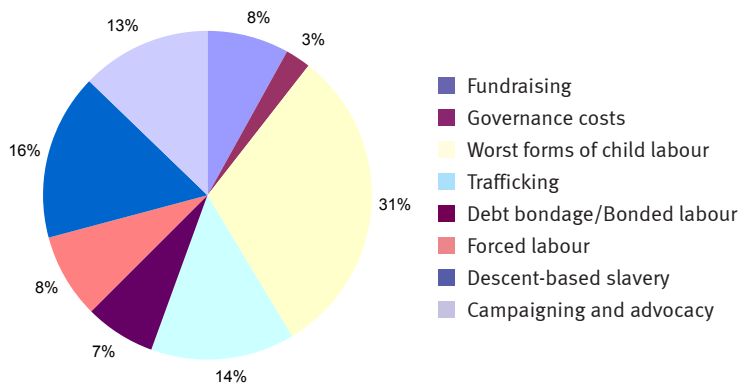
Income

Individuals	450,725
Institutional grants	1,061,449
Legacies	15,674
Publications and other sales	4,944
Trusts, foundations and corporate	485,597
Other	18,982
	2,037,371



Expenditure

Fundraising	157,675
Governance costs	51,269
Worst forms of child labour	611,268
Trafficking	276,256
Debt bondage / Bonded Labour	142,005
Forced labour	163,420
Descent-based slavery	321,593
Campaigning and Advocacy	254,615
	1,978,101



Facing page: Children working in the silk factory

Photo: Andy Martinez



Thanks

Anti-Slavery International would like to express sincere thanks to all those who supported us. Individuals held events and raised vital funds and awareness of our work, as well as campaigned through writing letters and emails to decision makers. The contribution of trusts, foundations, and other organisational donors, often consistently over the years is also much appreciated.

The involvement of volunteers made an enormous difference to our capacity to effectively campaign and implement programmes to end slavery.

Facing page: Student in one of six schools in Niger supported by Anti-Slavery International

Photo: Anti-Slavery International

Special thanks go to the following:

The AB Charitable Trust
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 Trust for London (City Parochial Foundation)
 The Westcroft Trust
 The Wild Rose Trust
 The William Allen Young Charitable Trust
 The Wyndham Charitable Trust
 Tradadev
 Arsenal FC
 Gillespie Primary School
 Woodhouse College
 Aquasparta Primary School, Italy
 San Gemini Primary School, Italy
 Graham Martin
 Pete Pattison
 Luisa Piluso



Your support is needed

- £15** could pay for 20 children from Niger families freed from slavery to attend school. It could provide them with school materials or school dinners, the kind of things we take for granted.
- £40** could pay for community activities in Senegal to raise awareness of the negative health, safety and social impact of sending children away to schools, where they are then forced to beg.
- £150** could pay for our work to build a strong network of companies, trade unions, NGOs, investors and other organisations in Europe so that by working together we can strengthen calls to end the use of forced labour in Uzbek cotton production.
- £1,000** could help us to mobilise over 16,000 members of our campaigns network, enabling them to put pressure on authorities to take action.
- £24,000** could pay teachers for evening classes in basic literacy and numeracy for mothers (20 women per school, for six schools), run through the school year.

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