



 **anti-slavery**
today's fight for tomorrow's freedom.

2013 Annual Review

Cover picture: Women from communities of slave descent in Mauritania. Anti-Slavery helps to facilitate dialogue with neighbouring communities in conflict over land (see page 8).

Photo: Anti-Slavery International

Right: Children and adults are forced to pick cotton in Uzbekistan (see page 14).

This review covers the period April 2012 to March 2013

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today's fight for tomorrow's freedom



Anti-Slavery International is committed to eradicating 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:

- Research and advocacy - lobbying and influencing governments, businesses and civil society;
- Advocating for the enactment and implementation of national and international legislation, policies and practices to prevent and eliminate slavery;
- Building coalitions and movements to hold the international community to account;
- Empowering individuals and communities vulnerable to slavery to demand respect for their human rights, access effective remedies and obtain protection from slavery.

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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Chair's and Director's Report

As the oldest international human rights organisation in the world Anti-Slavery International has a long, historical perspective on broad range of problems surrounding slavery. Given the extent of our programme work, we also have a broad geographical perspective on this issue.

This review reflects this and shows why Anti-Slavery International remains the leading anti-slavery organisation in the world, not merely protesting against slavery but working with others to devise practical responses to sustainably eliminate the problem. Our work extends from action with government and civil society in west Africa on ending forced child begging in Senegal's Koranic schools (page 4) and using education as a means to break the cycle of slavery in Niger (page 8), to our work with domestic workers' organisations to obtain national and international legal

protections as well as empower child domestic workers to claim their own rights (see page 6), to our work with brick kiln workers in India to eradicate bonded labour in that entire industrial sector (see page 10).

We have also engaged on new agenda setting work such as the exploration of the links between child marriage and child slavery (see page 4) and hosting of the Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group, which has been shaping the policy debate on human trafficking in the UK since its inception.

The work that Anti-Slavery has consistently and doggedly undertaken through hard times and good means that our insight and leadership remains the one that is consistently sought by others: in February 2013 for example Anti-Slavery was one of only 3 NGOs who were invited to address the ILO on



Paul Whitehouse,
Chair of Trustees



Aidan McQuade,
Director

the need for a new instrument to guide application of the 1930 Forced Labour Convention.

This combination of practical action on the ground with engaged learning and policy discussion is a thing that distinguishes Anti-Slavery from many other organisations in the anti-slavery movement as well as in the wider movement for development and human rights.

As we enter our 175th anniversary year we renew our commitment to lead the struggle to end slavery in this world once and for all.



Child Slavery

Forced Child Begging

In March 2013, Senegal's president Macky Sall publicly committed to tackling the problem of the forced begging of talibés - boys who study in Qur'anic schools (daaras), who are often forced by their teachers to beg on the streets for their keep. Most talibés are from remote rural areas or even trafficked from neighbouring countries. Far from their parents and villages and living in squalid conditions, they are impoverished, vulnerable to disease and poor nutrition, and subjected to physical and emotional abuse if they fail to meet their 'quota' from begging.

Anti-Slavery International and local NGO partners have been advocating since 2010 for the enforcement of anti-begging laws and the introduction of a national state-regulated modern-daara programme. This would provide schools where children can learn the Qur'an alongside a wider curriculum in safe conditions, without being forced to beg. Attitudes towards the issue have been changing for some time, and Anti-Slavery and its partners work at the community level to encourage support for a state-regulated programme. In March 2013 a large fire in a daara in the capital city, Dakar, which killed nine children, prompted the government to commit to unveiling a plan to regulate the daaras and put an end to children begging on the streets by the end of next year. Some funding for modern daaras has already been pledged from the World Bank and the Islamic Development Bank. Anti-Slavery is committed to making sure these plans are implemented.

Facing page: Talibés, boys in Qur'anic schools in Senegal are forced to beg by their masters, suffer poor conditions and are vulnerable to abuse.

Photo: Émilie Régnier

Child Marriage and Slavery

Awareness about the harmful consequences of child marriage, especially for girls, has been growing rapidly. News and NGO reports have detailed the negative impact of marriage on children's physical and psychological health and education; however the links to slavery have received very little attention. Perhaps due to idealistic notions of marriage or the very personal sphere that marriage represents, governments and communities alike appear largely blinded to the possibility that slavery might exist in this context.

Anti-Slavery's report "Out of the Shadows: Child marriage and slavery" was published in 2013 and shows that a high number of children in marriage could be in slavery. The report is based on arguments presented at the UN and in conferences during the year. The foreword was contributed by the UN Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery. As many marriages involving children, particularly those between couples aged 16-18, will not amount to slavery, the report outlines the relevant international legal framework to help clarify when it could amount to slavery. It notes gaps at the international level for

addressing child marriage as a slavery issue, and at the national level in terms of tackling it in law and practice. It also deals with the complexity of root causes. The report forms a useful advocacy tool, strengthening the framework for future work on the issue.

Middle: 'Out of the Shadows' report on link between child marriage and slavery highlights new ways to tackle child and forced marriage.





Domestic Work and Slavery

Anti-Slavery International continues to advocate on behalf of domestic workers in the UK and abroad, calling on governments to ratify the ILO Domestic Workers Convention 189. The convention offers minimum protection to domestic workers covering rights such as maximum working hours, weekly rest of at least 24 consecutive hours and clear information on terms and conditions of work. Ten countries have so far ratified the convention so we are pursuing advocacy efforts for more states to do so. Unfortunately the UK is not prepared to ratify it and was one of only eight countries that abstained from voting for the convention in June 2011.

In 2012-13 we continued to work with partners to tackle the trafficking of migrant domestic workers from South East Asia to the Middle East, with particular focus on Nepal and Lebanon. In Nepal we are working with local communities to ensure migrant domestic workers travelling to Lebanon are aware of the risks and how to mitigate them, know their rights and ways to claim them. In Lebanon, the project aims to empower Nepali migrant domestic workers to self-organise and create a new, active and autonomous community able to assert their rights and provide support to each other. We also press the governments of both Nepal and Lebanon to facilitate safe migration and provide domestic workers with better working conditions, remove the sponsorship system that facilitates the exploitation and ultimately ratify the ILO Convention.

We also continued our work in six countries (Peru, Costa Rica, Togo, Tanzania, India and the Philippines) on child domestic work. This pioneering project focused particularly on children's participation in advocating for their own rights and brought great results with many children leaving exploitative employment and becoming strong leaders for other child domestic workers in their own communities (see the story of Angel).

Angel, Tanzania.

My mother died when I was 14. There was no job to do in my home, my father became cruel and said if I wasn't going to get married I had to leave the home and make my own way. I found work in a household. I would wake up for work at 5.30 and work until I went to bed at 11. I never took any holiday or rest. I escaped domestic work because of the violence of my employer's husband. I came into contact with Kivulini (Anti-Slavery's partner in Tanzania) as they work with child domestic workers. I was taught my rights and responsibilities. Because of this knowledge I was able to refuse to have sex with my employer. I knew that no one could make me do something which is not in my rights or which I am not willing to do. It is my dream to see domestic workers respected like other workers. I want them to be recognised by the government. That way exploitation, low salaries and other forms of violence will not take place. The thing that I am most proud of is establishing Wote Sawa from a group of a few child domestic workers to an independent organisation. We have 200 members at the moment. I am very proud because Wote Sawa is a safe place for child domestic workers. We are here to empower others to be like me and raise up their voices and advocate for their rights. I want to see other child domestic workers going to the police and reporting their employers if their rights have been violated.



Facing page: Child domestic workers are amongst the most vulnerable groups often facing exploitation and abuse.

Photo: AGTR



Descent Based Slavery

Anti-Slavery and local partners continue to support justice for victims of slavery in Mauritania, Niger and Mali.

In Mauritania, new cases of slavery are regularly brought to the courts, with occasional successes. In March 2013 the family of Maatalla Ould Mbeirick was released from slavery after a struggle of nearly ten years. Maatalla had escaped from slavery in a remote desert region in 2004, supported by our partner organisation SOS-Eslaves. He filed a complaint immediately against his former masters, who were still holding the other members of his family in slavery. When no action was taken, Maatalla began visiting the regional authorities every year to try to get them to investigate the situation and in early March the family was reunited. Anti-Slavery is ensuring the provision of socioeconomic support and legal assistance to the family.

Last year we published a report on conflict over land in the south of Mauritania, where the people of slave descent were pitted against neighbouring communities of other ethnic groups. Following the report, local teams including partner organisations as well as community leaders from the groups in question were formed and trained to mediate with affected communities to good effect.



Anti-Slavery International and its Nigerien partner organisation Timidria continue to provide primary education in newly settled communities that recently emerged from slavery in six remote villages in northern Niger. A further five years of funding has been secured for this and we are securing growing engagement by the Niger authorities, with a view to the government assuming responsibility for the school costs. Families of the school children have also received support for their transition to emancipation, including micro-credit for economic activities. The communities were recently assisted in purchasing herds of goats from which they will make and sell goat's cheese – a highly prized product in the region.

Facing page: Family of Maatalla Ould Mbeirick after being freed from slavery

Photo: Anti-Slavery International

In Niger, cases emerged in which people deemed to be 'slaves' were forcibly evicted from their land by their 'masters', with reference to customs that preclude slaves from owning land. We have supported work on the cases and engaged the government on discrepancies in law prohibiting slavery and court decisions based around customary systems of slavery.

There have also been several new cases relating to the 'fifth wife' practice, whereby men buy girls and women of slave descent for domestic and sexual slavery. An appeal on one such case has been recently ruled in our favour, with a jury ruling the case was likely to be a slavery case sending the alleged perpetrator back to court to face a slavery trial.

In Mali Anti-Slavery International and its partner organisation Temedt have been lobbying for the adoption and application of an anti-slavery law, as well as assisting people of slave descent in Northern Mali, who were badly affected by the recent conflict. The lack of trade, resources and employment exacerbated the plight of former slave communities who were already extremely poor and marginalized, and many were targeted by former 'masters' using the crisis as an opportunity to reassert control over people of slave descent.



Bonded Labour

Bonded labour in India's brick kilns

The first year of a three year project to empower bonded labourers working in brick kilns in India covered 50 kilns in three districts of Punjab. Initially, needs assessments and surveys were carried out in the kilns to identify the needs related to government entitlements for the poor, education of children and the working conditions in the kilns. Work-based associations of workers are being formed in the kilns and the membership of these associations has grown rapidly.

Our local partners have initiated discussions with kiln owners associations to improve the working conditions in the kilns. Fifteen kiln owners have so far committed to starting a provident fund scheme for workers and install safe drinking water taps in the kilns. In May 2013 our partners in Delhi and Punjab joined forces to run training for male and female workers about the provisions of government entitlements, work conditions in the kilns and legal support that is provided to workers in the extreme form of bondage. The project has also started a free hotline for workers to contact to report abuses and seek support for

temporary rehabilitation. A temporary rehabilitation centre has been established in Punjab for the workers who escape violence and abuses. The project will now be extended to further kilns.



Facing page: Even small children have to work in India's brick kilns to pay off the debts incurred by their parents.

Photo: Anti-Slavery International

Above: Bonded labour continues to be a problem in Nepal but children of bonded labourers finally have a chance of receiving education.

Photo: Anti-Slavery International

Providing education to children of bonded labourers in Nepal

Anti-Slavery continues to provide remedial education in Nepal for out of school children of bonded labourers, or children who have themselves been bonded. This is to prepare them for entry into formal school system and provide them with vocational training. The project is being implemented in 10 districts of Nepal, five in the plains and five in western hills of Nepal.

This year, 336 children from former bonded labour communities both in the hills and plains received the preparatory classes to enable them to join mainstream schools. The project collaborated with the Nepali Department of Small Industries to provide vocational training to children. 221 children were admitted for vocational training and the skills they learnt this year included carpentry, radio, television repair, motor cycle maintenance, mobile phone repairing, knitting and tailoring. Nearly an equal number of boys and girls participated in the training.

Many of the children who completed this vocational training have now started employment and are earning money for their livelihood and to support their families.



Trafficking in Human Beings

Anti-Slavery's trafficking projects focus principally on obtaining policy and practice changes in Europe and in the UK that will increase the protection for people who have been trafficked into all forms of forced labour or sexual exploitation.

The Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group (ATMG), established to monitor implementation of the Council of Europe anti-trafficking convention in the UK and hosted by Anti-Slavery International, published two reports on the prevention and prosecution of trafficking, both of which have been well received. Following the ATMG's recommendation that prevention was overlooked in government action, the government made funds available for awareness raising and training in early 2013.

The RACE project (Response Against Trafficking for Forced Criminal Activity) is an initiative focusing on human trafficking for the purpose of forced criminal exploitation and forced begging in Europe. In January 2013 exploratory research commenced with partners in the UK, Czech Republic, Ireland and the Netherlands. Researchers looked at the scale of this type of trafficking across Europe and identified trends and individual cases of people trafficked for these purposes. The research aims to highlight the experience of victims and the response of

authorities. In March, a specific project website www.raceineurope.org was launched to raise awareness of this issue.

COMPACT (European Action for Compensation for Trafficked Persons), a European project by Anti-Slavery International and their partners to improve access to justice and guarantee compensation for trafficked people, has seen 54 cases of compensation claims by trafficked persons, with a number pending across 14 countries, and has been presented as a model of good practice by the European Commission, OSCE and the Council of Europe.

FINE TUNE, a partnership project with the International Trade Union Confederation and the Churches Commission for Migrants in Europe, focuses on exploring new trends in trafficking for forced labour such as the gender dimension, exploitation of migrant workers in mainstream economy and new recruitment methods including the use of the internet.

Anti-Slavery International has also been able to provide an advisory service, producing expert witness reports and assessments for legal cases of people presumed to have been trafficked.

Facing page: Anti-Slavery works to ensure victims' rights are protected and that criminals are prosecuted in all forms of trafficking.

In response to the risks of slavery associated with the 2012 London Olympics Anti-Slavery International undertook work aimed at increasing public awareness of contemporary slavery and minimising the risks of trafficking to the UK in connection with the Olympics.

Anti-Slavery played a key role in establishing the Human Trafficking and London 2012 Network and played an energetic role in the Playfair 2012 Campaign alongside our partners to mitigate risks of slavery and other human rights abuses in Olympic supply chains. The risks of trafficking and forced labour in relation to the Olympics were recognised by the Government, parliamentarians, the Met police and Gangmasters Licencing Authority.

Our imaginative approach using the theme of the "Team Invisible" of thousands of vulnerable workers who make the city run was successful in increasing public awareness and the need for greater action from authorities. We also engaged directly with those vulnerable to slavery by disseminating, through migrant community networks, postcards informing migrant workers of their rights and providing contact details in cases of exploitation.



CAUTION
WET FLOOR



Forced Labour in Supply Chain

Staff Wanted Initiative

Anti-Slavery, in partnership with the Institute for Human Rights and Business (IHRB), co-ordinates the Staff Wanted Initiative which aims to combat forced labour, trafficking, and exploitation in the UK hospitality industry.

The Initiative has done much to raise awareness of the exploitation faced by hotel workers. John Cryer MP hosted a parliamentary meeting in January 2013 following the success of the early day motion he tabled calling for the prevention of the exploitation of workers in the hospitality industry, which received cross-party support from 52 MPs.

UK Immigration Minister Mark Harper also hosted a roundtable on ending trafficking in the hotel industry, securing the attendance of representatives from a number of hotel companies. Staff Wanted Initiative was the only non-governmental agency invited to present at the meeting.

The Initiative has been endorsed by the Metropolitan Police Human Exploitation and Organised Crime Command and features on the National Police Knowledge Database used by all UK's police forces. We have secured an additional grant to share the lessons learned with partners in Glasgow in anticipation of the upcoming Commonwealth Games in 2014.



Cotton Crimes campaign

Anti-Slavery continued the Cotton Crimes campaign as part of the Cotton Campaign - a wide coalition of organisations working to end the use of state-sponsored forced labour in Uzbekistan's cotton industry.

Facing page: Staff Wanted Initiative works to end the exploitation of hotel workers

Above: Cotton Crimes calls on companies to end their complicity in forced labour in Uzbekistan's cotton industry

The campaign mobilises the industry to ensure that no tainted cotton is in the goods it produces, as well as national governments and the international organisations to put pressure on Uzbekistan to end this practice.

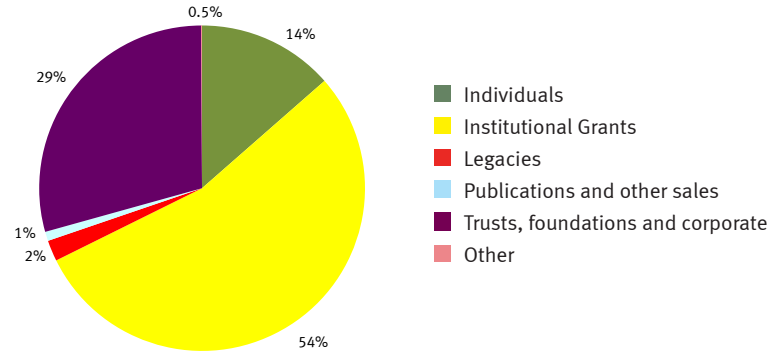
In December 2012 we launched a campaign calling on H&M to implement the Daewoo Protocol, a series of steps to ensure that no Uzbek cotton enters the company's supply chain – a step further than its commitment to not knowingly source Uzbek cotton. Alongside an online campaign we distributed postcards to our supporters to be handed in at shops, and we held an action at the re-launch of H&M's flagship central London Oxford Circus store, where we talked to shoppers about the campaign. Finally the clothing giant succumbed to pressure and, even though it didn't go as far as we wanted, it now requires its direct suppliers to sign a commitment not to use Uzbek cotton and implemented concrete steps to ensure no Uzbek cotton can be found in its whole supply chain. The focus of the campaign then switched to Nike, which had refused to stop doing business with Daewoo - a company that knowingly benefits from forced labour in Uzbekistan's cotton sector and continues to purchase 5% of all Uzbek cotton.



Financial highlights

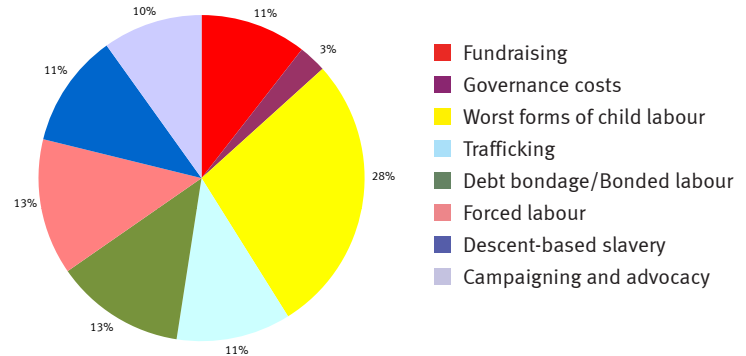
Income

Individuals	346,748
Institutional grants	1,387,229
Legacies	52,965
Publications and other sales	23,692
Trusts, foundations and corporate	749,292
Other	1,925
	2,561,851



Expenditure

Fundraising	201,144
Governance costs	52,821
Worst forms of child labour	529,974
Trafficking	216,600
Debt bondage / Bonded Labour	245,927
Forced labour	257,402
Descent-based slavery	215,141
Campaigning and Advocacy	188,638
	1,907,647



Facing page: Child domestic workers from Mumbai, India, planning their advocacy activities.

Photo: Anti-Slavery International



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 by 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. We would also like to thank all the artists, committee members and experts who donated time, works of art and expertise to make the Follow Your Art event such a success. Last but not least we would like to thank all our partners working on the ground; without them we wouldn't be able to do our work.

Special thanks go to the following:

Allen & Overy Global Foundation
Bank Machine Ltd
Barbara Cairns Trust
Bliss Family Charity
C B and H H Taylor 1984 Trust
Comic Relief
Department for International
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Eleanor Rathbone Charitable Trust
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Facing page: Anti-Slavery supports bonded labourers in India's brick kilns to unionise and claim their rights.

Photo: Anti-Slavery-
International



Your support is needed

- £19** could pay for a training session for three local support workers in Mauritania so they can identify cases of slavery and alert local authorities
- £50** could pay for 30 potential migrants from the rural areas of Nepal to learn about the dangers of migrating to the Middle East for domestic work
- £75** could pay for one police officer in the UK to be trained on how to recognise and protect victims of trafficking
- £500** could pay for 20 women of slave descent in West Africa to set up income generating activities together
- £1,100** would allow representatives of communities in Senegal to organise a campaign in the capital city calling for an end to child begging
- £6,500** would pay for herds of goats for six villages established by communities emancipated from slavery in Niger, allowing them to make and sell goat's cheese to support themselves
- £20,000** could help us protect 1,500 labourers from debt bondage in 100 brick kilns in India, help ensure they can access their legal rights and entitlements, enable female workers to earn an independent wage, and release 500 of their children from child labour, so that they can attend school

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