



**anti-  
slavery**

today's fight for tomorrow's freedom

# Annual Review 2016



**Cover:** Zeinabe Mint Ghoulam, who escaped slavery in Mauritania.

Photo: Michael Hylton

**Above:** Girl supported by our Niger School Project.

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**Our vision** is a world free from slavery.

## Our approach

Anti-Slavery International works to eliminate all forms of slavery throughout the world by investigating and exposing current cases of slavery, campaigning for its eradication, supporting the initiatives of local organisations to secure the freedom of those in slavery or vulnerable to it, and pressing for more effective implementation of national and international laws against slavery.

## Our values

We aim to demonstrate the following values through our work, both internally and externally:

- Transformative
- Authoritative
- Ethical
- Equitable
- Accountable
- Collaborative

## A message from the Director and the Chair of the Board of Trustees



**Tanya English**  
Chair of the Trustees

■ **2016 was a challenging year for us, defined by the UK voting to leave the European Union.**

We were the first and only anti-slavery organisation to highlight, before the referendum, the serious risks that Brexit poses to co-operation across Europe in anti-slavery operations and to protections from slavery of non-UK nationals in Britain.

But Brexit represents more: a repudiation by the UK of the ideals of rule of law, and particularly human rights protection, which are essential in the struggle against slavery.



**Aidan McQuade**  
Director

And we see a wider trend of abandoning these ideals, from Europe's non-action on thousands of unaccompanied refugee children at risk of trafficking, to Mauritania cracking down on anti-slavery activists. From the UK's refusal to grant basic protection to overseas domestic workers, to Europe striking trade deals with Uzbekistan.

It is this climate that makes our successes in the past year even more impressive. We defy the surrounding bleakness every day and deliver real impact for people in slavery, that we hope you will take real pleasure from reading about on the following pages.

We hope you enjoy the fact that these are very much your successes. Yes, you, a modern abolitionist, without your support none of this would be possible.

Fortunately, we have enough experience to know that no challenge is insurmountable, just like ending slavery in the 19th century Britain wasn't.

We would like to thank you for all your invaluable support.

With you on board, we will continue to work until slavery is truly ended.

*“Our successes are very much your successes. Without your support none of our work would be possible.”*

## News: Niger gets serious about tackling slavery

■ In a major step for our project in Niger, the Government pledged to take over the supply of our community school canteens from the start of the new school year in September 2016.

This means that the state officially takes on responsibility for the community schools, and indicates the growing seriousness of the authorities in tackling slavery in the country.

The maintenance of the canteens is of major importance for the schools, ensuring that children receive regular meals and don't drop out of school to go on pastoral migrations, irrespective of droughts that are common in the desert locations.



## Project: Providing education for children of slave descent

In our main Comic Relief-funded project in Niger, Anti-Slavery International and our local partner Timidria run six schools for communities emerging from slavery.

This is a ground-breaking project that breaks a long-standing bond between slave descent communities and their masters, for the first time establishing their communities as free people.

This is the first time children of slave descent have ever had access to schools. Over 450 children have attended our schools this year, with around half of them girls. Over 100 children have moved on to secondary education in the nearest town.

The schools serve as a hub for wider projects involving whole communities, including providing over 400 microloans for families to start small businesses, and delivering human rights and advocacy training in the villages, particularly for women.

Thanks to the training the communities keep growing in confidence, and their advocacy with local authorities played a major part in contributing to the decision of the taking the canteens over.

## 'Wahaya' fifth wife practice

*"I was trafficked to Nigeria from Niger to become a fifth wife. I was raped repeatedly and I later gave birth to two children, one of whom died. One day, a friend of the family told my former master that the law meant he had to let me go, and he did."* **Hadijatou Rabu**

Hadijatou is a former 'wahaya', a practice where women and young girls are sold into sexual and domestic slavery as unofficial 'fifth wife' – in addition to four officially allowed.

Whilst the practice has not been entirely eradicated, it has been significantly diminished. The landmark 2008 ruling in the case of former wahaya Hadijatou Mani (a different Hadijatou to the one quoted above), which Anti-Slavery International brought to the international court of ECOWAS (Economic Community Of West African States), had a particularly strong impact.

The Government is now acknowledging the existence of slavery and has incorporated the fight against slavery into national plans and programmes.



*"The Government has acknowledged the existence of slavery and incorporates the fight against it into national plans and programmes."*

Wahaya' practice has been significantly diminished in Niger.

## Legal work

■ In a separate project in Niger, we continue to provide legal support to victims of slavery. After achieving the first ever prosecution for the crime of slavery in previous years, we

continued to support eight cases this year through the work of a lawyer. Paralegals in four regions of the country also helped hundreds of people obtain identity documents and file claims to the land they farm.



**Migrant domestic worker working in Lebanon**

Credit: KAFA (Enough) Violence & Exploitation/ Matthew Cassel © 2010

## News: Campaign changes employers' attitudes in Lebanon

■ As part of our joint project our Lebanese partners KAFA ran a big media campaign to change employers' attitudes towards migrant domestic workers in Lebanon.

Short viral videos highlighting mistreatment and misconceptions of migrant domestic workers by their employers were shown by national

media and watched by tens of thousands online.

The campaign was based on a nationwide survey that revealed negative and often outright racist attitudes towards migrant domestic workers by their employers, despite entrusting them with caring for their children, elderly family members and entire households.

### Other news

- Victims of trafficking who are pregnant or have children are 'systematically overlooked' in the UK's anti-slavery response, according to a report "Time to deliver" by the Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group (ATMG), a coalition of eleven UK-based charities lead by Anti-Slavery International.
- The Anti-Slavery team managed to secure the release of a young Ivorian woman trafficked to Iraq, with the help of a local NGO and the International Organization for Migration.

## Migrant Domestic workers

### From Nepal to Lebanon

Supported by the Open Society Foundation, for the last five years we worked with our partners GEFONT in Nepal and KAFA in Lebanon on an agenda-setting project to protect Nepalese women migrating to Lebanon for domestic work.

In Nepal we worked to reach out to potential migrant women and provide them with training and information on safe migration.

In Lebanon, apart from supporting individual women who suffered exploitation and abuse, we founded a group of Nepalese migrant women called NARI to support each other and organise to advocate for their rights. At its peak consisting of 81 members, NARI grew into an independent and increasingly influential group campaigning for migrant domestic workers' rights.

### From Bangladesh to Lebanon

With the support of the 'Work in Freedom' programme by the International Labour Organization, we worked with KAFA to build on a project with Nepalese workers to provide similar support to Bangladeshi migrant women in Lebanon and to identify community leaders.

### Within India

Funded by the US Department of State Trafficking in Persons programme, we work with the National Domestic Workers Movement (NDWM) with women migrating between states of India for domestic work.

We work in five states and in Delhi, providing training and information on domestic workers' rights and we support them to self-organise.

In a remarkable success, women have organised themselves into hundreds of informal groups and federated into Trade Unions, creating a good cadre of leaders and ensuring the sustainability of our work.

## Seema

### A former migrant domestic worker in India

*"I had been placed with two different employers in Delhi before I met NDWM (Anti-Slavery local partners in India).*

*I wasn't paid for the work that I did over two years, except for the absolute minimum I needed to survive.*

*My employers would shout at me, insult me and beat me.*

*Finally, I was given NDWM's number, and the very next day after I called them, a staff member came to the house, accompanied by the police, and rescued me. My employers still didn't pay me, but I was just so happy to leave that place anyway."*



# News: New education policy offers new hope for brick kiln children

■ Anti-Slavery partners Volunteers for Social Justice (VSJ) received confirmation from the Government of Punjab, India, that it had developed and started implementing a new policy aimed at ensuring children of brick kiln workers go to nursery and primary school.

This is a huge step forward in breaking the cycle of slavery. Primary school attendance is extremely low for children of bonded brick kiln workers, particularly migrant workers.

The policy was formulated after a successful High Court case brought by VSJ. Thanks to their advocacy, Government officials must maintain updated lists of all workers and children at brick kilns and ensure all children are going to school and nursery, or face disciplinary measures.



Brick kiln workers' children at school just got a major boost.

## Other news: World Bank condemns forced labour

- Anti-Slavery International was accepted as a core member of the newly formed ministerial engagement group in the UK, opening the door for more regular influence on a ministerial level.
- Together with partners from the Cotton Campaign coalition we delivered a petition signed by 120,000 people to the World Bank to suspend financing Uzbekistan's agricultural projects until it stops using forced labour. A representative of the World Bank condemned forced labour, although he stopped short of committing to withdraw funding from Uzbekistan.

## Puspal – former brick kiln worker

*“My family had been working in a kiln for five years but didn't seem to be earning any money. Whenever we asked, the debt was still not paid.*

*On a promise of a commission we brought more families from Chhattisgarh, but the new workers were not paid and were starving. They tried to leave, but two got caught and they locked them up and beat them.*

*My husband Raju went for help to VSJ. I was pregnant then and I fell very ill. Luckily someone from VSJ came and took me to hospital.*

*We now live in the temporary rehabilitation centre, and Raju now works for VSJ.*

*But I am still scared. I fear for my children. What if they become like us, without a house, without food, always desperate...”*



## Project: Bonded labour in India's brick kilns

**Supported by a number of donors, we work to end bonded labour in Indian brick kilns, where bondage is endemic.**

Alongside our local partners, Volunteers for Social Justice (VSJ), Jan Jagriti Kendra (JJK) and the Centre for Education and Communication (CEC), we assist brick kiln workers who are victims of debt-bondage in Punjab and Chhattisgarh.

Our project is innovative in working with migrant workers both at the source and in destination states.

We help bonded workers access justice, obtain compensation, improve working conditions and support them to come together as groups to advocate for their rights.

We lobby local and national governments, as well as the brick kiln owners, to implement the law and improve working and living conditions.

We also work to ensure children are able to go to school and have access to healthcare.

We focus heavily on recognising women as workers. We organised the first ever national convention of women brick kiln workers in April.

The highlight of this year was obtaining a big number of release from bondage certificates for workers, despite the state of Punjab still not recognising that bonded labour exists in the state.

*“New policy is a huge step forward in breaking the cycle of slavery”.*



Hotel workers across the UK often face severe exploitation.

## News: First British companies to publish slavery statements

■ From the 1st of April 2016 the first group of British companies reported on their efforts to eradicate slavery from their supply chains. The requirement was put on all business with a turnover of over £36m by the Transparency in Supply Chains (TISC) measures in the Modern Slavery Act.

Anti-Slavery International with a coalition of fellow organisations and,

crucially, businesses, successfully lobbied for the inclusion of the measure.

Anti-Slavery through its recently secured membership in the Modern Slavery Strategy Implementation Group, a ministerial engagement group, will continue to push for mainstreaming slavery into all relevant policy sectors in the UK.

## Anti-Slavery's work on slavery in supply chains

Supply chains are an area of strategic development for Anti-Slavery. Our influence with business has grown significantly.

Thanks to our successful lobbying for the inclusion of the Transparency in Supply Chains measures in the Modern Slavery Act in 2015, the issue of slavery in supply chains ranks high on the public agenda.

We provided guidance for numerous high profile businesses on due diligence in their supply chains. We were invited by the Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI, alliance of companies and organisations working to improve the lives of workers across the globe) to act as a specialist consultant, providing training and expertise for ETI member companies.

We have also worked with the confectionary company Mondelez, an owner of Cadbury, to tackle child labour and child slavery in their supply chains.



*“Our work with Mondelez led to their adoption of a new child labour policy.”*

Our work with them led to their adoption of a new child labour policy, translated into action by their “Cocoa Life” programme. Mondelez also had the courage to publish an independent report on slavery in their supply chains, setting a good precedent for other companies to follow.

Finally, we have been involved in advocacy during the General Discussion on Decent Work in Supply Chains at the International Labor Organization, in a process that we hope will result in setting the standards for decent work in the future.

### Other news:

- Despite our campaigning efforts, British MPs voted against protecting overseas domestic workers from slavery, rejecting the amendment in the Immigration Bill allowing the workers to change employers and extend their visa for that purpose.
- Anti-Slavery International was granted permission by the European Court of Human Rights to intervene in the landmark case of *Chowdhury v Greece*, concerning Bangladeshi workers who were exploited and shot at by guards on a farm in Greece.



## News: First slavery prosecutions in Mauritania slavery court

■ Two slave owners were convicted for the crime of slavery in the first ever successful case before the Mauritanian Special Courts for Slavery. The case was brought to the court by Anti-Slavery International and its partners SOS-Esclaves.

Although the sentences were shorter than required by the new law, the case is hugely significant. The slave owners come from a highly influential and

powerful family, and their conviction was hailed as a game-changer by activists.

The slave owners were ordered to pay significant compensation to two female victims (see box for one of their stories).

The Special Courts for Slavery were introduced by the new anti-slavery law in 2015, which also made it easier for civil society organisations to bring cases to courts on behalf of the victims.

## Project: Slavery based on descent in Mauritania

This was a whirlwind year for our work in Mauritania.

However, major wins such as the one described above were marred by crackdowns on anti-slavery activists by the government and reluctance of authorities to acknowledge and address the slavery issue.

It is in this context that our work, supported by both the United Nations Trust Fund on Violence against Women and the Freedom Fund, looks all the more impressive. Our win in slavery courts marked a new dawn for nearly fifty other cases we have

*“Major wins were marred by crackdowns on anti-slavery activists by the government”*

going through the courts that so far had been delayed and obstructed.

An appeal of another case of two young boys, which had been awaiting scheduling in court since 2011, finally took place after a complaint was filed to an African Court by a partner organisation, with support from Anti-Slavery.

We will continue to train community workers and build local networks of social support for women leaving descent-based slavery, who represent 80% of the slavery survivors supported by our local partner SOS-Esclaves.

### Fatimata Mint Zaydih

*“I was the property of four masters from the same family. They shared me, so each one had a period of the year where I was at his service.*

*I herded their goats from a very young age. But I was never allowed to milk the goats to feed myself or my children. Sometimes my children and I would go for several days without eating.*

*My 10-year old son became the slave of one of the masters, and was under his control all the time. I never knew if my boy was eating enough, or if he was eating at all.*

*Now I can hope for a better future. All I want is to live a dignified life, and be able to feed and educate my children.”*



Brexit could make more trafficking victims invisible to authorities.

## News: Brexit “could hurt anti-slavery work”

■ Anti-Slavery International warned that Brexit could weaken Europe’s anti-slavery efforts.

Anti-Slavery believes that UK exit from the EU would increase the risks for victims of trafficking within Europe, reduce the capacity of law enforcement to cooperate to combat trafficking, and reduce the capacity of the UK to influence wider European law and

policy against slavery.

Anti-Slavery was the only organisation which raised these concerns before the referendum.

Director Aidan McQuade said: *“The environment in which Anti-Slavery International works to tackle slavery has been made considerably harder. Wide support for our work has never been so crucial.”*

### Other news

- Anti-Slavery patron Baroness Young of Hornsey introduced a Private Members’ Bill in the House of Lords to strengthen measures on transparency in supply chains.
- For the first time a British company was found liable for violations in a modern slavery case. Six Lithuanian men who were trafficked to the UK and forced to work on poultry farms won a civil suit against their employers and were awarded compensation.
- Anti-Slavery Glasgow Group campaigned for the rights of migrant workers in Qatar at a conference of engineers building World Cup stadiums in Qatar. Thanks to their impressive action, the Institution of Civil Engineers turned to Anti-Slavery International to tackle slavery in their members’ supply chains.

## Project: Safe migration to the Gulf



Migrant workers in the Middle East face exploitation and harsh working conditions.  
Photo: Pete Pattison.

Responding to the growing number of Indian workers migrating to the Middle East from the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh, we initiated a project aiming to inform potential migrants on the potential risks.

Supported by UNISON, we teamed up with Delhi’s Centre for Education and Communication (CEC) to organise a number of training sessions on how to organise the migration process, not fall into debts with unscrupulous recruiters and seek help in case of trouble at the destination.

We produced passport sized materials for each worker to carry with them, containing all necessary information and key contacts. We set up a WhatsApp number as a method of contact if workers require assistance overseas.

In the first year of the project we trained nearly 400 workers, 55 staff and activists from local organisations and unions to raise awareness in their local community.

### Shahid’s story\*

*“When I arrived, my passport was taken from me and I was told I was going to be a shepherd, not the job in IT I was promised.*

*My employer said things have changed, then he ‘gave’ me to someone else. I lived out in the desert in a shed with a tarpaulin roof. I wasn’t given enough food so I had to eat the animal fodder. I was not allowed to leave the farm. Luckily, another worker lent me his phone and I messaged my family. After they complained to the Indian Government, the ‘employer’ gave me my passport back and a flight ticket. But I didn’t get any wages at all. I paid my agent 85,000 rupees (around £1,000). I mortgaged my farm land for this.”*

\*Name changed



## News: New modern slavery task force announced



Modern Slavery Act often fails victims of slavery  
Photo: Karen Robinson.

■ Theresa May announced the creation of a £33m fund and a new ministerial taskforce to tackle modern slavery in Britain and abroad.

The fund is designed to invest in police training and collaborative working between government agencies, as well as tackling slavery in source countries for trafficking into the UK such as Albania, Vietnam and Nigeria.

Anti-Slavery was invited alongside other organisations to advise the Home Office on making the best use of this new anti-slavery fund.

### Other news

- President of Senegal Macky Sall announced that all begging Talibé children will be cleared from the streets of Senegal. Unfortunately his drive to take Talibé children off the street was proven ineffective, as many children ended up simply being hidden away by their marabouts. We continue to press for implementation of a comprehensive strategy to end child begging.
- Thanks in part to our advocacy efforts, the U.S. State Department downgraded Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan to the lowest possible ranking in its annual Trafficking in Persons (TiP) Report, recognising that both countries don't comply with the minimum anti-slavery standards.
- India's new Child Labour Bill passed by the Parliament of India has been roundly criticised by campaigners for exempting children below the age of 14 who help family enterprises after school hours, and leaving the interpretation of the law open to abuse.

## Our work on slavery in the UK

Much of the focus of our work in the past year was on implementation of the Modern Slavery Act, focusing particularly on protecting the victims.

### Victim protection in the UK

Apart from our involvement in the Home Office review of the National Referral Mechanism and our contributions to independent panels assessing individual slavery cases, we continued to campaign for the rights of overseas domestic workers.

The Government only partly followed the recommendations of our Victim Protection campaign. While it did allow workers to change employers under the rule of the tied visa, it refused to extend their visas and therefore reduced their chances of finding another employer. We will continue to press for a complete removal of the tied visas.

### Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group (ATMG)

Supported by Comic Relief and The Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, Anti-Slavery hosts and leads the coalition that came together to monitor the UK's implementation of the Council of Europe anti-trafficking convention.

To that end the ATMG released two research reports, 'Time to Deliver', focusing on the lack of support for victims who are pregnant or have children, and 'Class Acts?', analysing measures in three anti-slavery laws throughout the UK and identifying victim protection shortcomings of the Modern Slavery Act in England and Wales.

The ATMG plays a crucial part of our advocacy to improve the anti-slavery response of the UK Government.

### Exploitation in the hospitality industry

We continued to implement the Staff Wanted Initiative, funded by Trust for London, to ensure hotels are aware of and address exploitation in the hospitality industry. This year we produced awareness-raising posters in ten languages aimed at hotel staff and distributed to 630 hotels in the London area.



# New project to end child begging in Senegal

■ With the support of Comic Relief, we started activities for our new project in Senegal to tackle child begging. Across Senegal, boys known as ‘talibés’ are sent out to beg in the streets by their teachers at Qur’anic schools called daaras.

Together with our partner organizations Tostan and RADDHO, we are building on a previous five year project to consolidate work with local communities and advocate for modernisation and regulation of the schools, as well as lobbying for a new law criminalising forced child begging.

Tostan works in twenty communities to change attitudes to child begging and has engaged with over 300 Qur’anic teachers so far, the majority of whom

now supports the modernisation of the daaras. The Qur’anic teachers are supported by the communities to make improvements and look after the children better, without sending them

out to beg. Over 25,000 talibé children have been sponsored by local families as part of this scheme.

Our advocacy efforts for a new law criminalising forced child begging have

had limited results. The draft law is contested by some parts of the religious lobby, and further consultations have led to lengthy delays.

The Senegal President’s announcement of a new initiative to remove begging children from the streets proved to be ineffective.

*“Over 25,000 talibé children have been sponsored by local families as part of our project.”*

Meanwhile, Anti-Slavery and RADDHO are working with the government ministers, MPs and other influential religious leaders to develop and implement a long-term strategy to reform and regulate daaras, and protect children from begging and exploitation.



Children in ‘modern’ daaras are not forced to beg and are well looked after

## Success story: Touba Fall village

The village of Touba Fall in the Kaolack region is one of the communities that our partner Tostan supports.

The entire community, including local Qur’anic teachers and village leaders, have come together to support talibé boys and ensure they’re not exploited. Each child has been linked to a local family so that their well-being is monitored and their needs are met.

*“The entire community, have come together to support talibé boys and ensure they’re not exploited”*

There is no longer any begging. A local women’s association provides food for the children. Children have been registered with a mutual health insurance scheme to ensure free care, and they have clean premises and clothes. Older children can go on to attend a local state school if they wish.

The community is helping to modernise their daara with their own resources, in anticipation of registering their daara with the government once the law is passed. This will bring more support and regulation of standards.

When asked the reason for their success, they spoke of community solidarity as the biggest factor, but emphasised the importance of our project in bringing that about.

Community leaders, Qur’anic teachers, Community Management Committee representatives and the Tostan team in the Touba Fall village



Whole families are in debt bondage in brick kilns in India

Photo: Bharat Patel



## News: UN prompted to take action on debt bondage

■ The UN Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, Urmila Bhoola, presented to the UN Human Rights Council her report on debt bondage, the most widespread mechanism to enslave people today.

We worked closely with the Rapporteur on the report, and her strong recommendations were widely accepted, with governments committing to implement them.

*“Debt bondage is the most common mechanism to enslave people across the world today.”*

The mandate of the Special Rapporteur was renewed for another three years, recognising the importance of the role in raising the profile of slavery on the international stage.

## Our work: international advocacy

Work carried out on the ground by our local partners is only a part of our work. We have always driven change at the global level, pressing for the implementation of international laws and holding governments to account.

This year we continued to advocate for changes at the international level, working with international organisations, governments and businesses.

- Following last year’s success of making ending slavery one of the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals, we joined Alliance 8.7, a coalition of organisations gathered around the ILO to ensure that Target 8.7, eradicating slavery, is implemented.
- We have been pressing UN agencies to recognise that many practices within child marriage amount to slavery and should be tackled with appropriate seriousness.
- We used UN monitoring mechanisms to hold countries such as Mauritania, Niger, Turkmenistan and the UK to account.
- We continued to press the World Bank and other influential actors to end forced labour in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. Although it was positive that the US Department of State’s downgraded both countries in its Trafficking in Persons report, it was frustrating that the European Union agreed a trade deal with Uzbekistan.
- Together with our partners we lobbied the Indian government on issues such as draft anti-trafficking legislation, new child labour law and debt bondage.
- We continued to advocate for increased child protection measures for unaccompanied refugee children at risk of trafficking across Europe.
- We worked to highlight the issue of North Korea exploiting its own citizens on foreign contracts in countries across the world, including in the EU.
- We continued to campaign to end the exploitation of migrant workers in Qatar in the run up to FIFA World Cup 2020.
- We intervened in precedent-setting legal cases, including in the European Court of Human Rights, as well as in numerous individual cases in the UK.



# Child domestic workers in Tanzania

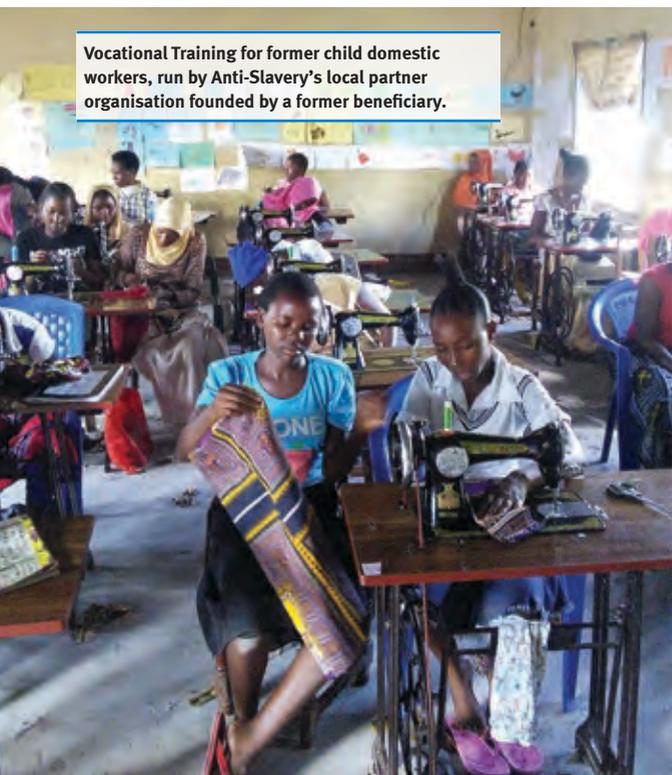
■ The autumn saw the start of our new project to tackle exploitation of child domestic workers in Tanzania.

With initial funding from Irish Aid, we are building on the learning from a previous project which saw many children empowered to claim their rights. Many formed their own groups, joining the Tanzania Domestic Worker Coalition to press for changes.

Working with coalition partners, we are aiming to reach and protect around 7,000 children in two regions,

Shinyanga and Mwanza, identified as, respectively, source and destination areas for migrating child domestic workers.

We are again focusing on empowering child domestic workers, so they can engage with their communities and claim their rights. We are aiming to build the capacity of local organisations to implement by-laws to protect working children. Such by-laws have proven to be effective in the areas we worked in previously.



Vocational Training for former child domestic workers, run by Anti-Slavery's local partner organisation founded by a former beneficiary.

## Other news: Victims of slavery in England at a disadvantage

■ The new "Class Acts?" report from the Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group (ATMG) analysed anti-slavery legislation throughout the UK and highlighted the weakness of the Modern Slavery Act in protecting victims of slavery, putting those identified in England and Wales at a disadvantage compared to victims in Scotland and Northern Ireland.

## Luzmila, 16, a child domestic worker in Lima, Peru (on the right on the photo)

Luzmila was twelve when she went to Lima to work as a domestic worker. Her employer ill-treated her for over two years. She forced Luzmila to work extremely long hours, convert to Catholicism, cut her hair against her will and controlled her every move.

Luzmila secretly started visiting La Casa de Panchita, the home of a project working with child domestic workers run by Anti-Slavery partners AGTR.

After few months of receiving support she built up her courage to leave



her employer. She found a new job, where she easily negotiated much better working conditions.

Luzmila has become a leader among her colleagues, sharing information about their rights as domestic workers. Her favourite saying is: *"If you love yourself, do not let them mistreat you"*.

## Live-in child domestic workers at risk in Peru

With support from Comic Relief, we are working in partnership with Asociación Grupo de Trabajo Redes (AGTR) to empower child domestic workers in Peru.

*"Our project in Peru has already reached over 5,000 children, including notoriously hard to reach live-in domestic workers."*

We reach out to children in domestic work, as well as vulnerable children about to enter it, and support them to build their skills and confidence to claim their own rights. We also work with parents and employers to make

sure children's rights are protected and that they can access education. The project has already reached over 5,000 children, including notoriously hard to reach live-in domestic workers.

We also press for changes in laws at the national level, to protect children already in work and to eradicate child labour completely in the long term.

An important part of the project is the success of the radio program "No Somos Invisibles" (We are not invisible) produced by AGTR, which regularly reaches thousands of people and changes attitudes towards child domestic work.

# News: Cotton treaty backed



Every year Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan force hundreds of thousands of its own citizens to pick cotton.

■ The European Parliament Committee on International Trade (INTA) passed a resolution backing the Uzbek textiles treaty despite widespread forced labour concerns.

*“We faced an increasingly lenient approach of governments and organisations towards Uzbekistan.”*

The so-called Textile Protocol is a treaty with Uzbekistan freeing up trade by lowering tariffs for import of Uzbek cotton to the European Union.

Anti-Slavery International, alongside Human Rights Watch and other

## Other news

■ Qatar introduced changes to its labour laws, calling for ‘patience’ with the reforms. However, the activists, including Anti-Slavery International, condemned the changes as merely cosmetic, with workers still having to obtain their employers’ permission to change their jobs or leave the country.

organisations from the Cotton Campaign coalition, campaigned to halt the deal amid concerns over continued widespread use of forced labour by the Uzbek government in its cotton production.

Student Unions and Societies from major UK universities, representing over 57,000 students, have joined the campaign and signed on to a solidarity letter calling on the European Parliament to stop the deal or delay it until evidence from the latest harvest can be examined.

Unfortunately the plenary vote in December sealed the Uzbek deal.

■ Anti-Slavery held its first “Freedom Conference”, an Annual General Meeting in a completely new format. Answering our supporters’ voices, we organised an all-day conference with workshops, presentations and a panel discussion on the future of Modern Slavery Act, featuring the UK Anti-Slavery Commissioner Kevin Hyland.

## Project: Cotton Crimes campaign

Supported by the Open Society Foundation we continued working to end the use of state sponsored forced labour in cotton industry in Uzbekistan. Recently we extended our work to Turkmenistan, which uses similar practices.

We work in partnership with the Cotton Campaign, a wide coalition of organisations, working with governments, international organisations and business to put pressure on the governments of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan to end these abuses.

In recent times our work has been made harder by an increasingly lenient approach of governments and organisations towards Uzbekistan after it stopped forcing children to pick cotton on a systematic scale, but replacing them with adults.

In March with our partners we delivered a petition signed by over

120,000 people calling the World Bank to stop financing agricultural projects, and in the autumn we campaigned to stop the European Parliament passing the trade deal with Uzbekistan (see left).

On the plus side, we saw the US State Department downgraded both countries in its annual Trafficking in Persons report, pointing out the lack of effort to end forced labour. We also saw an increasing number of businesses signing the declaration not to knowingly use Uzbek cotton in its products.

An important part of our work is documenting that abuses continue as normal, despite the Uzbek government’s propaganda. We commissioned a video-journalist to travel to Uzbekistan and produce a short documentary, containing rare first hand evidence from the ground.



# A cause for celebration

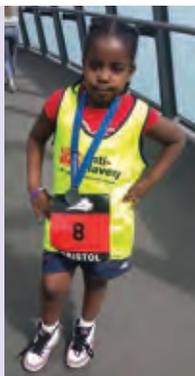
We thank all those **whose contribution has made a huge difference in fighting for the rights of those in slavery**. Community fundraisers and student groups, trustees and volunteers who have raised funds, awareness, campaigned and given their time throughout 2016... This page is dedicated to you.

## Christmas appeal

■ Huge thanks to our loyal supporters who continue to respond generously to our quarterly appeals! If you have not had a chance yet to respond to our Christmas appeal, you can still donate online or by returning the enclosed donation form.

## Going that extra mile to combat modern slavery

■ Congratulations to our team of 4 runners who conquered the 26.2 mile challenge of the **Virgin London Marathon** in 2016, raising over £9,000. In 2017, Carly Parsons is running in aid of Anti-Slavery International. If you have secured your own place in the ballot for the Virgin London Marathon 2017 or in any other iconic event why not join the team and consider fundraising in aid of Anti-Slavery International!



## Regular giving

■ Heartfelt thanks also to everyone who supports Anti-Slavery International by direct debit and other forms of regular giving. Your commitment means we can plan ahead with confidence and we are hoping that many more will join you in 2017 in supporting the anti-slavery cause through regular giving.

## Faith groups

■ Thank you to the **Holy Trinity Church** in Clapham, London, for donating over £7,500. A big thank you also to **Westminster Abbey** for their renewed support, collecting over £680 in 2016.

**Quakers** work locally and globally to challenge the systems that cause injustice and are long-term supporters of Anti-Slavery International. In 2015 and 2016 they have raised an amazing total of £5,000!

## Universities can help too!

■ A huge thank you to the RAG societies at Cambridge and **Bradford** Universities who selected us as one of their partner charities in 2016, raising in total over £11,000. We are delighted that in 2017 **Newcastle, University of the Arts and Greenwich universities** have nominated Anti-Slavery International as their international charity of the year!

Alongside this, we continue to work with a motivated community of student activists and groups who have taken part in fundraising and campaigning actions throughout the year.

In December alone, we co-ordinated Student Unions, Societies and Groups from major UK universities representing over **57,000 students** concerned by modern slavery. They joined their voices in a letter of solidarity with the students of Uzbekistan, significantly affected by state-sponsored forced labour in the cotton industry.

We're excited to continue our work with student activists at **SOAS, UCL, Cambridge, Oxford and Nottingham Universities**, as well as with our community group in **Glasgow**, throughout 2017!



## Workers of the world unite!

■ Decent work is at the heart of the anti-slavery movement. That's why 2017 will include a renewed focus on our work with trade union branches throughout the UK. Why not join those who have already affiliated their branch to Anti-Slavery International to campaign against slavery practices. Please get in touch with Ellie at [e.mcdonald@antislavery.org](mailto:e.mcdonald@antislavery.org) or contact 020 7737 9434 to receive our **trade union affiliation leaflet** and **welcome pack**.

## Remember us

■ A gift in your Will could bring forward the day that no child is born in slavery. Even small bequests can make a difference. To find out more about our Legacy Charter and to download a legacy pledge form, please visit [www.antislavery.org](http://www.antislavery.org) or contact 020 7501 8920 to request a **legacy information pack**.

# Financial highlights

Income	2015/16
Individuals	£197,047
Institutional grants	£819,570
Legacies	£248,362
Publications and other sales	£2,394
Trusts, foundations and corporate	£662,285
Other	£38,103
	<b>£1,967,759</b>



Individuals	10%
Institutional grants	42%
Legacies	13%
Publications and other sales	0.1%
Trusts, foundations and corporate	34%
Other	2%

Expenditure	2015/16
Fundraising	£228,685
Worst forms of child labour	£373,136
Trafficking	£193,871
Debt bondage / Bonded Labour	£414,831
Forced labour	£735,857
Descent-based slavery	£297,320
Campaigning and advocacy	£70,493
	<b>£2,314,193</b>



Fundraising	10%
Worst forms of child labour	16%
Trafficking	8%
Debt bondage / Bonded Labour	18%
Forced labour	32%
Descent-based slavery	13%
Campaigning and advocacy	3%

The financial results are for the financial year 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016. The results were in line with long term forecasts. For full details, please consult the report and financial statements available from our website.

## Thank you!

We would like to thank all those who contributed to our work throughout 2015 and 2016:

- Patrons and individuals members who support our work with donations, volunteering, fundraising and campaigning.
- Local partners across Africa, Asia, America and Europe who work tirelessly to combat modern slavery in all its forms.
- Institutional donors who have supported us consistently with major gifts over the years.

Below we only mention those who agreed to be named, but we would like to thank all of them.

Barbara Cairns Trust  
Big Lottery Fund  
Bryan Guinness Charitable Trust  
Comic Relief  
Eileen & Colins Trust  
Ericson Trust  
Esmee Fairbairn Foundation  
European Commission  
Eva Reckitt Trust Fund  
Evan Cornish Foundation  
Freedom Fund  
Fulmer Charitable Trust  
G C Gibson Charitable Settlement  
Herbert Smith Freehills  
ILO Work in Freedom  
Irish Aid  
Jusaca Charity Trust  
Kinsbourne Trust  
Lancashire Foundation  
Lord Faringdon Charitable Trust  
Muriel Jones Foundation  
Open Society Institute (OSI)  
P and W Webster Trust  
Persula Foundation

Pilkington General Charity  
Robert Fleming Hannay Memorial Charity  
Roger and Sarah Bancroft Clark Charitable Trust  
Samworth Foundation  
Sir James Reckitt Charity  
Tinsley Foundation  
Trust for London  
UK Department for International Development  
UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women  
UN Voluntary Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery  
UNISON International Development Fund  
US Department of State Trafficking in Persons Office  
US Department of State Bureau of Democracy, Labor and Human Rights  
Valentine Charitable Trust  
Westcroft Trust  
William Allen Young Charitable Trust  
William Whyte Tait Charitable Trust  
Wyndham Charitable Trust

## Our immediate funding needs in 2017

■ **Most of our projects are funded by institutional funders, such as governments, inter-governmental organisations or foundations. However, sometimes there are match funding requirements from these funders or additional unmet project needs.**

For this reason, we also raise funds from grant-making charitable trusts and individual major donors who are able to contribute to project shortfalls with restricted grants. Of course, unrestricted donations are also welcome and equally valuable because they enable us to invest your donations to where the need is greatest at any given time.

These are the projects we are raising additional funds for during 2017, with an indication of the main funders for 2016/17, although the list is likely to increase throughout the year so **please do contact us for our most up to date funding needs.**

### Africa

■ **Community Education for Former Slaves in Niger**, main funder: Comic Relief

Descent-based slavery is still practiced in West Africa. This project supports people emerging from slavery through six primary schools in villages created by families trying to gain independence from their traditional “masters”, micro-credit for mothers, awareness-raising on rights for the children and their parents, and advocacy for increased government responsiveness to their needs.

■ **Justice for Survivors of Slavery in Mauritania**, main funders: UN Trust Fund on Violence against Women, US Department of Labor, Freedom Fund

80% of people affected by descent-based slavery in Mauritania are women and girls, who are routinely subjected to sexual abuse. The project engages with women emerging from slavery to facilitate their access to legal redress and we also seek changes to the legal and policy framework.

■ **Forced Child Begging in Senegal**, main funder: Comic Relief

Up to 100,000 children in residential Quranic schools (daaras) in Senegal are forced to beg on the streets for several hours each day and suffer mistreatment from their Quranic masters (marabouts). Our project aims to ensure modernisation and state regulation of daaras by working with Quranic masters, the Daara Inspectorate and the local community to build positive responses to new laws and monitor daaras' compliance.

■ **Child Domestic Workers in Tanzania**, funder: Irish Aid

Child domestic work in Tanzania is almost entirely unregulated, creating high levels of vulnerability for child domestic workers, who are mostly girls. Our project enables these children to assert and claim their rights and aims to improve their protection and working conditions through community dialogue and oversight by the local police, street leaders, teachers and health workers.

### Asia

■ **Ending brick kiln bonded labour in India**, main funders: Big Lottery Fund; US Trafficking In Persons

Despite its illegality, bonded labour is endemic within the brick industry in India. It affects mostly internal migrants from poorer states who are members of castes such as Dalits and indigenous groups. The project aims to eradicate bonded labour in the Punjab by facilitating workers' access to governmental entitlements and benefits, releasing them from debt bondage and seeking implementation of employment legislation. The project also runs pre-migration awareness-raising in states of origin.

■ **Migrant Domestic Workers in India**, main funder: US Trafficking In Persons

The project focuses on inter-state migrant workers from the poorer states, who are among the most marginalised and socially discriminated populations in India. The project facilitates domestic workers' access to social security entitlements, including the setting of a minimum wage and the formation of Trade Unions for self-advocacy within state and national governments.

■ **Pre-Departure Awareness and Safe Migration from India to Qatar**, main funder: UNISON

This project provides safe migration awareness training and information to Indian men in north-eastern Uttar Pradesh who may migrate to the Gulf to work in the construction sector.

■ **Forced Labour and Cotton Crimes in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan**, main funder: Open Society Foundation

Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan are among the largest producers of cotton in the world and this industry heavily relies on forced labour. Adults and even students are forced to pick cotton under harsh conditions. The project aims to call upon international institutions and the private sector to put pressure on the governments of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan to end the use of forced labour.

### Latin America

■ **Empowering Child Domestic Workers in Peru**, main funder: Comic Relief

The project reduces the vulnerability of child domestic workers to abuse and exploitation, in particular live-in child domestic workers. It enables them to assert and claim their rights and promotes a fundamental shift in the perception of child domestic work within society at all levels.

### Europe

■ **Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group**, main funders: Comic Relief and the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation

The Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group is a coalition of 11 organisations based in England, Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland. Together the Group monitors the British Government's implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings. It examines all types of trafficking, including internal trafficking and the trafficking of British nationals, and is dedicated to research, data analysis, reporting and advocacy.



# Partnerships

■ Working in partnership with others is fundamental to our work.

We work closely with 40 local partner organisations in more than 20 countries, and have a range of other diverse partnerships outside of formal projects.

Our work with grassroots partner organisations drives the credibility of our advocacy at international and national levels, enabling us to influence more widespread and relevant systemic change.

Advocating at a global level also requires working with a wide range of partners, from fellow anti-slavery

organisations, to trade unions, universities, lawyers, businesses and international organisations, to wide coalitions of various stakeholders.

The local organisations we work with are the true heroes of anti-slavery work. They rarely get the credit they deserve but carry out most of the difficult and crucial work to advance the idea of freedom.

We salute them all.

AFRUCA (UK)	Global Alliance against Traffic in Women (GAATW)	La Strada International (Europe)
ADPARE (Romania)	Helen Bamber Foundation (UK)	Law Centre NI (Northern Ireland, UK)
Asociación Grupo de Trabajadores Redes (Peru)	Human Trafficking Foundation (UK)	Lefö (Austria)
Association Timidria (Niger)	Informal Sector Service Centre (Nepal)	Migrant Rights Centre Ireland
Backward Society Education (Nepal)	International Domestic Workers Federation (global)	The National Domestic Workers' Movement (India)
Ban Ying (Vietnam)	International Trade Union Confederation – ITUC (Belgium)	National Domestic Workers Union (NDWWU) (Bangladesh)
Bawso (Wales, UK)	Jan Jagriti Kendra (India)	PAG-ASA (Belgium)
British TUC	Jan Sahas Social Development Society (India)	RADDHO (Senegal)
Caritas Lithuania	KAFKA (Lebanon)	SOS-Eslaves (Mauritania)
Centre for Education and Communication (India)	Kalayaan (UK)	Tanzania Domestic Workers Coalition (TDWC)
The Churches' Commission for Migrant in Europe (Belgium)	KOK – Network against Trafficking in Human Beings (Germany)	TARA Project (Scotland, UK)
City Hearts (UK)		Tostan International (Senegal)
ECPAT UK		Volunteers for Social Justice (India)
Focus on Labour Exploitation – FLEX (UK)		
General Federation of Nepalese Trade Unions (Nepal)		

# Our work in numbers

**115,000** – the number of people directly supported by our work throughout the year. We indirectly supported thousands more through awareness raising and campaigning

## INDIA

**53,683**

workers were reached by our brick kiln project

**1,484**

brick kiln workers were released from bondage

**21,000**

workers were assisted to access existing social security schemes and benefits, making them less dependent on loans

**400**

workers were trained before migrating for work to the Gulf

**37,668** migrant domestic workers

were provided with information on labour rights, women's rights, safe migration and emergency contacts in case of abuse

**308** domestic

workers have signed formal employment contracts

**1,102**

domestic workers secured wage increases

## LEBANON

**300** individual

migrant domestic workers were supported by our partners in Lebanon in cases of exploitation and abuse

## MAURITANIA

**180** local members

of our partners SOS-Eslaves were trained to provide support in their communities in Mauritania to people to escape slavery

**30** – we

have filed over 30 cases of slavery to the courts, many facing delays and obstacles

**236**

families were supported through the provision of micro-credits

## NEPAL

**1,405** potential migrant

women were trained in Nepal on safe migration for domestic work to Lebanon

## NIGER

**3,287** people of slave

descent in Niger were supported by our project to understand, assert and claim their rights

**452** children of

slave descent accessed our schools in remote villages of Niger

## PERU

**1,047** children showed that they recognise and understand the risks associated with domestic work

**13,000** people who tuned in to the radio programme on Child Domestic Work 'No somos invisibles' (We are not invisible) in Lima run as part of our project

## SENEGAL

**25,000** talibé children have been sponsored by local families as part of our project in Senegal to protect children from forced begging

\*All numbers relate to the financial year from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2016, except the number referring to Senegal, which is for the whole five years project.

# Future plans

Our vision is a world free from slavery. For more than 175 years, Anti-Slavery International has remained committed to the eradication of slavery in all its forms. Despite our long history, we are anything but “old.” To succeed for so many years, we have had to constantly reinvent ourselves — by listening to victims of slavery, our local partners and our donors, by forging strong partnerships, and by attracting passionate supporters to our cause. With the new UN Sustainable Development goals for 2030, we have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to ensure slavery is duly eradicated.

As a global organisation with a local footprint, we are uniquely qualified to lead the charge.

Funding permitting, in addition to our current commitments and trademark projects, we are considering an expansion of our programme over the coming years, for example in:

## Safe migration and bonded labour

- For workers migrating to the Middle-East from Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Pakistan.
- For indigenous groups and vulnerable members of castes such as Dalits, migrating within India from poorer rural states.
- For former bonded agricultural labourers of the Haliya community in Nepal.
- Building on our experience in India and Nepal, to start a new programme for forced and bonded labourers in Pakistan.

## Sex trafficking and sexual exploitation of women and children

- In Nigeria, where trafficking and harmful witchcraft practices against women and girls is endemic and has an impact on trafficking to UK.
- Actively investigating work to reduce forced child marriage and forced sex work, in particular in communities affected by strong caste discrimination in India.

## Descent-based slavery

Applying the learning from our successful

programme in Mauritania to start a new programme empowering people of slave descent in Mali.

## Forced labour

Putting pressure on the Eritrean Government to reform its indefinite ‘national service’ which amounts to a state-run forced labour system.

## Trafficking for forced criminal activities

Increasingly across Europe, including in the UK, children and adults are being trafficked and made to commit crimes such as cash machine theft, metal theft and cannabis cultivation. Continuing to advocate for the protection of victims of trafficking for forced criminal exploitation.

## Supply chains in the agricultural sector and the garment industry

Carrying out more research in both sectors, with a focus on child trafficking in the Ivory Coast cocoa industry, slave labour in Malaysia and Indonesia’s palm oil supply chains, and child labour in the garment and costume jewellery of India and Pakistan.

## Yes, I want to support the fight against modern slavery

Name

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Mobile Telephone

I give Anti-Slavery International permission to contact me  By telephone  By SMS

Email address

Please send me news and updates by email (you may unsubscribe at any time)

*giftaid it* I am a UK taxpayer and would like Anti-Slavery International to reclaim the tax on all my donations made this year, in the previous four years and on all future donations. (Please note, you must pay an amount of income tax or capital gains tax at least equal to the tax we, and other charities and Community Amateur Sports Clubs you donate to, reclaim on all your donations and in the appropriate tax year. If you pay less income and/or capital gains tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all your donations, it is your responsibility to pay any difference. Tax year is 6 April one year to 5 April the next).

Date:  . Please notify us if you want to cancel this declaration, change your name or address, or if your tax status changes.

Please accept my gift of £

(Please do not send cash)

I enclose a cheque or charity voucher made payable to Anti-Slavery International

Please debit my Visa/Mastercard/CAF Charity Card

(last 3 digits for CAF cards only)

Card No.

Expiry date

Name on card

Signature

Date

To help us save on administrative costs, we will only thank you for your donation if you tick this box.

**Data Protection:** We do NOT trade names with other organisations, ‘list swap’ or rent out our supporters’ list. In accordance with the 1998 Data Protection Act, we will only hold your details for administrative purposes and to provide you with updates about our work and what supporters like yourself are helping us achieve. If you do not want to receive any further communication by post from us in the future, including our annual review and our newsletter, please email [supporter@antislavery.org](mailto:supporter@antislavery.org)

**Membership** (please tick)  I want to be a voting member at Anti-Slavery International’s AGM.

Please return this form to **Anti-Slavery International**  
donate online at [www.antislavery.org](http://www.antislavery.org) or call +44 (0)20 7501 8920

# Why I support Anti-Slavery International



## Nicholas Griffin QC, member and trustee

■ I heard a story on the radio about a young girl my daughter's age being stolen, effectively, from her village in India, and it really moved me. I wanted to become involved and I found Anti-Slavery International online.

Unlike organisations which have very small targets in terms of what they're fighting, Anti-Slavery seeks to deal with slavery in a very broad way, whether it be on an international level, or with different forms of slavery, or different types of things that can give safe haven to slavery.

That holistic approach is unique and really impressive, which made me want to become even more involved, so I applied to be a trustee.



## Alicia Barwick, supporter

■ My interest in Anti-Slavery goes right back to my sixth form days at school when we were asked to give a lecture on a subject that interested us.

I did a presentation on 'Opening of Africa', which of course had to involve the slave trade, of which I felt very angry about, and that anger came over.

Then in my twenties I went off to teach in Nigeria and I was horrified then to discover that slavery was still going on, we just got to know about it.

Fighting slavery is a colossal job, almost impossible, will it ever stop?

But you have to work, and if you don't work for it, things will never change.