



# Annual Review 2017-18



Girl attending Anti-Slavery's schools for children of slave descent in Niger.

Cover photo: Sarita was trafficked into domestic work as a child. Thanks to Anti-Slavery's project she now works as a paralegal, helping other victims.

Photo: Pete Pattison

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## Our vision is a world free from slavery

■ Anti-Slavery International works to eliminate all forms of slavery and slavery-like practices throughout the world, including forced labour, debt bondage, human trafficking, descent-based slavery, the worst forms of child labour and forced marriage.

We work with local organisations to secure the freedom of those in slavery or vulnerable to it, campaign for changes in attitudes towards slavery and press for more effective implementation of national and international laws and policies to protect people.

Anti-Slavery International is the world's oldest abolition movement, founded in 1839 by British abolitionists such as Thomas Clarkson and Joseph Sturge.



Jasmine O'Connor OBE  
Chief Executive

*“While the challenges that face human rights show little sign of abating, neither do our partners, members and supporters.”*

## Fighting for freedom

■ Throughout 2017/18 we faced significant challenges in every region of the world, from the horror of Grenfell and the callous treatment of those seeking asylum in Europe, to a rise in populism that threatens the core values of human rights.

But in the midst of these challenges there has been an enormous fight back and added urgency from across the global human rights movement. While it is easy to feel disheartened or angry when turning on the news, more and more people are channelling their energy into activism.

As slavery issues continue to hit the headlines, new organisations and individuals are responding to the challenge of eradicating modern slavery. This growing movement is having an impact, in this last year alone our members, supporters and donors have helped strengthen over 17 anti-slavery movements across 19 projects in 14 countries.

And these courageous frontline human rights defenders have directly empowered 77,388 people to understand, assert and claim their rights. But more than that, together we have changed laws and policies to stop slavery in its tracks.

While the challenges that face human rights show little sign of abating, neither do our partners, members and supporters. I hope you enjoy reading this review and celebrating the many successes there have been over the last year. And I hope you will continue to be a part of this movement, fighting today for tomorrow's freedom.

**77,388** people were empowered by Anti-Slavery International and its partners to understand, assert and claim their rights.

We worked to strengthen **17** overseas anti-slavery partners across **19** projects in **14** countries.

# Protection from abuses of domestic work

■ An estimated one million children work in formal or informal domestic work in Tanzania. While some children receive shelter, food, education, and protection from early marriage, many are exploited. Due to a lack of oversight and the hidden nature of the work, children are very vulnerable to maltreatment and slavery.

Anti-Slavery International is working closely with a local partner from the Tanzania Domestic Workers Coalition, a coalition of local grassroots organisations, some of which were founded by former child workers,

to protect children in domestic work, improve oversight from local authorities of these practices and advance local legislation in Tanzania. We engage with local communities to develop an effective framework for intervention and work to empower local officials to represent the interests of exploited children.

Grassroots initiatives are an essential part of this campaign; identifying working children and providing support for victims of violence and other abuse. Where possible this has involved reuniting younger children with their

families or else finding alternative arrangements that are in the best interests of the child.

Support has included provision of a safe space for child workers to learn about their rights and understand the legal protections they are entitled to. Education outreach extends to local authorities, with over 400 police officers, administrative staff and employers enrolling for training to learn about their role in protection for working children.

Where teenagers have chosen to continue working, Anti-Slavery International is able to ensure that they do so in safe conditions and with access to healthcare and education. Nearly 2,500 child domestic workers have been identified and registered so far in the Mwanza region in the

north of Tanzania.

Anti-Slavery International works closely with employers to help them understand their obligations and highlight the benefits to them of treating child workers fairly and with respect.

As a result of these initiatives, Anti-Slavery International and its partners have helped child workers build confidence and organise committees to protect their rights and recognise what is a fair employment contract and salary. This has led to over 300 contracts signed to protect the rights of working children.

**2,471** children were registered with the local authorities as working in private households so that they are known and can be protected.



Anti-Slavery International's project ensures young people in domestic work can access education.

## Grace

“My family was so poor it was sometimes a struggle to get food or buy clothes. I became a domestic worker when I was fifteen.

The treatment I got was not good for sure. My employer frequently shouted at me and sometimes beat me when I did something wrong.

Thanks to the project I know my rights, such as to be able to express my feelings, to be protected from abuse and exploitation, and a right to salary. I am young, but it should be noted that I am an employee who should be treated fairly at my work.

The activities brought me an idea to start my small company when I am older and leave my job as domestic worker.

”



# Freeing children from forced begging

■ Forced begging continues to affect tens of thousands of children living in Quaranic schools across Senegal.

Up to 100,000 children are forced to beg for several hours every day and many face violence and abuse if they fail to meet begging 'quotas' assigned by their masters. Far from their families and often living in squalid conditions, the students can be vulnerable to malnutrition and neglect, and face further dangers on the streets.

This system, which pays for children's religious education, is widely accepted

in local cultures, however, the extent of the maltreatment of children is not fully known.

Anti-Slavery International, together with local partners Tostan International and La Rencontre Africaine pour la défense des Droits de l'Homme (RADDHO), works with local communities, Quaranic teachers and the government to effectively reform the Quaranic school system to eliminate begging.

We have worked with more than 300 Quaranic teachers across the country



Anti-Slavery is working to ensure children attending Quaranic schools in West Africa receive good education and are no longer forced to beg.

since the beginning of the project two years ago. This has led 54 Quaranic schools to end the practice of begging. As a result of this, the vulnerability of 3,052 children has been substantially reduced and their living conditions improved. We continue to work with the communities to stop begging completely.

One very successful initiative has been to connect boys with local 'sponsor' families, leading to nearly 2,000 children benefiting from essential donations such as daily meals, soap, sleeping mats and mosquito nets.

**54** Quaranic schools stopped the practice of begging.

This initiative is complemented by community level advocacy and awareness-raising efforts to challenge parental preconceptions about residential Quaranic education and the practice of begging; and to form local committees protecting and promoting children's rights and welfare.

At the national level, Anti-Slavery also continues to lobby for change, working closely with partner organisations to advocate for the introduction of a state curriculum and stricter regulation for schools and to criminalise begging.

**300** Quaranic teachers have worked with our project across Senegal.

## Eradicating forced begging across West Africa

■ The practice of children being sent out to the streets to beg by their schoolmasters in residential Quaranic schools is widespread across the whole region of West Africa.

Building on almost a decade of experience working in Senegal, Anti-Slavery started a new project in January 2018, partnering with organisations RADDHO in Senegal, ENDA in Mali and ANTD in Niger, to fully assess the situation and support a regional effort on forced-begging.

The project aims to establish organisations led by children and young adults with experiences of begging in Niger, Mali and Senegal and train them in advocacy and communication techniques so that they can shape the national debates around forced child begging and end it for good across the region.

We are working to engage former Quaranic students to share their experiences and identify strategies to address not only forced begging, but also the root causes, such as poverty and lack of access to state education, contributing to the prevalence of this practice.

Anti-Slavery and its partners lobby governments and regional international bodies to put this issue high on their agendas and draw concrete plans to eradicate forced child begging from West Africa.



Women who escaped slavery in a shop funded by microloans provided by Anti-Slavery's project.

## Building lives in freedom

■ In Mauritania many people are born into slavery because their ancestors were captured and their families have been 'owned' by slave-owning families ever since.

People born into slavery face a lifetime of abuse, and even if they escape, they suffer widespread discrimination and hardship. For many, their undocumented status means they cannot access state support including education for their children.

Anti-Slavery International works to support individuals from communities

of slave descent to break free from servile relationships with 'masters' and build new lives.

In partnership with local partner organisation SOS-Esclaves, 307 children and adults of slave descent received literacy training and we began income-generating activities for 170 survivors of slavery, including socioeconomic support through courses in catering, sewing, veil dyeing and hairdressing.

Emergency funds have been used to provide for survivors' families, and

**3,000** people attending monthly awareness-raising meetings within their communities.

**170** survivors of slavery attended training courses in catering, sewing, veil dyeing and hairdressing.

facilitate regular visits by designated local 'women mentors', to help survivors build lives away from slavery and adjust to the new challenges of independence.

To enable this, Anti-Slavery continues to build its growing network of local activists, with nearly 3,000 people attending monthly awareness-raising meetings within their communities. These meetings have led to activist training in media skills, human rights, the identification of slavery, the basic judicial process, and how best to accompany victims through the courts.

Alongside this work, Anti-Slavery has distributed small grants supporting local journalists and assisting them to communicate the issues around discrimination and slavery and bring these stories to the wider public.

Local partner SOS-Esclaves has been instrumental in building momentum within Mauritanian society. Unfortunately, national government remains largely unwilling to acknowledge the issue, much less tackle, the existence of slavery. Anti-Slavery has advocated to increase pressure for prosecutions of slavery crimes, including lobbying the national government and international agencies such as the Human Rights Council, the International Labour Organisation and the African Commission.

**307** children and adults of slave descent received literacy training.

Said and Yarg.

Photo: Michael Hylton

## Long road to justice

■ In January 2018, the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC, an African Union body) ruled in favour of survivors of slavery in Mauritania, in a case supported by Anti-Slavery International.

This flagship ruling concerns two brothers, Said and Yarg Salem, who were born into slavery. Their former masters were prosecuted for slavery in the first ever such case in the country, but given extremely lenient sentences and set free pending appeal.

The ACERWC found that Mauritania's authorities have failed to protect the boys from abuse, as well as investigate, prosecute and punish the widespread practice of slavery in the country.

The ruling increases pressure on Mauritania to take slavery seriously. The Government has been sensitive to external pressure, proven by a quick reaction of the Mauritanian authorities to organise the appeal case within a week of the ACERWC hearing, after six years of earlier inaction.

The brothers found the appeal verdict unsatisfactory and appealed again. Their wait for justice continues.

# Emancipation through education

■ In Niger, where traditional slavery still exists, many people remain under the control of their masters in practices similar to serfdom.

Communities of slave descent are among the most marginalised and impoverished, facing huge challenges in building their lives in freedom, from the lack of access to education, to finding employment and struggling with stigma and discrimination.

Anti-Slavery has been working with local partner Timidria for over ten years to create hubs for new communities escaping slavery in Niger.

At the centre of these hubs has been

the establishment of schools to provide the children of slave descent access to education for the first time. The results have surpassed any expectations.

In 2017, these schools obtained some of the highest pass rates in the country (89% compared to an average of 58% nationwide), a zero drop-out rate, low absenteeism rates, and the highest proportion of girls at school in the district.

Around the schools we have built community-wide projects, including micro-loans to help members, especially women, start small businesses; training on human rights



Anti-Slavery International's project has built strong communities living in freedom from their former masters.

and gender equality. These projects have built up the confidence of community members, who have been increasingly successful in persuading local authorities to support them.

Infrastructure development such as construction of wells, crucial in the desert location, has also been important for developing strong communities and preventing people from leaving the villages in search of better living conditions.

Recently we facilitated the government takeover of the six community schools established by the project to educate 703 children of slave descent, 340 girls and 363 boys.

We have also continued our work to advocate for more comprehensive policies tackling slavery practices

and discrimination of people of slave descent on the international stage, including the UN and African Union.

In February 2018 we began a new three-year DFID-funded project to build upon this work and further support the socio-economic development of the communities to help ensure results are sustained when the project ends in 2021.

This project is funded with UK aid from the UK government.



**273** families were supported through the provision of microcredit and small loans in 2017.

**703** children of slave descent attended six schools managed by this project.

## Adamou\*, 16-years-old

■ Adamou's parents lived under the control of their masters until they settled in a village where Anti-Slavery International runs schools and community projects for people escaping slavery.

"I am the first one in the family to go to secondary school and this makes my parents very proud. Life in my home village has changed a lot since the schools were built, they have made such a positive difference. People are now less poor and know so much more about their rights than before. There are no slaves in my village any more.

My dream is to become the President of Niger. If I am the President, I would make sure there is enough food for Nigerien people, construct schools in every village, give a job to everyone, build new wells, and release people who are still in slavery."

\*name changed



Workers in India's brick factories face extremely harsh working conditions and widespread bonded labour practices.

Photo: Bharat Patel



## Lifting the burden for India's brick workers

■ Bonded labour continues to be a pressing issue in India, most particularly in the brick kiln industry, where harsh working conditions are frequently compounded by endemic exploitative practices.

While there are laws in place to protect the rights of workers in India, they are often not implemented due to the powerful pressure of business owners and landlords on local authorities responsible for enforcement. This lack of legal protection, combined with poverty, and poor access to education and employment, makes marginalised groups, such as the lowest caste Dalits and religious minorities, vulnerable

to debt bondage in brick kilns and the agricultural sector.

With the majority of families having travelled far from their home in search of work, the need for support networks is vital and Anti-Slavery International has proven instrumental in helping families escape from the cycle of debt-bondage and access support to build a new life.

In partnership with local organisations Volunteers for Social Justice (VSJ), Jan Jagriti Kendra (JJK) and Jan Sahas, Anti-Slavery has made significant headway addressing the causes of bonded labour, working both in the villages

where migrant families originate, and in areas where the brick kilns are located.

Tackling the intersecting problems has involved a combination of awareness raising, peer support development, assistance to take legal cases forward and ensuring workers receive certificates formally freeing them from debt-bondage.

Since the current phase of the project began in February 2017 it has succeeded in securing 238 such certificates so that workers can be released from their debt, as well as helping them access compensation and rehabilitation.

Through better awareness of their rights, bonded workers have increasingly been able to join forces to successfully exert pressure on local authorities and the police to follow up on cases of exploitative practices. This has led to the formation of 180 worker peer groups which have helped raise awareness of

the rights of over 31,000 workers.

Successful projects in the northern states of Chhattisgarh, Punjab and Uttar Pradesh, have helped Anti-Slavery reach out to approximately 50,000 at-risk workers, as well as providing access to support such as a dedicated telephone helpline, advocacy resources and access to healthcare.

Although government action remains slow, Anti-Slavery continues to work with local authorities and partners to oppose harmful vested interests and confront the abuse of the most vulnerable communities.

**238** release from bondage certificates were secured since the project began in February 2017.

**180** worker peer groups were formed to better equip workers to defend their rights.

### Mohan's family story

■ In 1992 Mohan Lal and his wife Bhagavati travelled from their home in Rajasthan, India to work in a brick factory in Punjab. However, they were forced to stay at the same brick kiln for 25 years after becoming trapped in debt-bondage after the factory owner started to control the loan they initially had taken.

With their three young children also forced to work to repay the loan, they were only given enough money to survive. It was only after Hardeep, their youngest son, contacted Anti-Slavery's partners, Volunteers for Social Justice (VSJ) for help, that an official order to free the family was obtained. We are working to secure the official debt-bondage release certificates and compensation for the family.



# Preventing Child Trafficking

■ In early 2018 we began two new projects in Nepal. The first works to reduce the risk of trafficking amongst the children of communities affected by the 2015 earthquake.

Working with local partners Children and Women in Social Service and Human Right (CWISH) and Samrakshak Samuha Nepal (SASANE), Anti-Slavery is focusing on communities from which girls are forced to migrate to find work, usually because of their families' desperate situation.

Awareness raising with both duty bearers



Sanu, a former victim of trafficking who became a paralegal.

Photo: Pete Pattison.

and communities is vital and specially developed school programmes are important in helping children to recognise the risks of accepting risky job offers, especially far away from home.

Over the two-year programme, the project aims to support over 2,500 girls and young women who are vulnerable to, or

have been subject to, human trafficking. An innovative element of this initiative is a special programme to train survivors to become paralegals and organise placements for them in police stations, not only building up their skills and confidence, but also helping improve the police's response to other trafficking cases.

## Breaking the cycle of bonded labour

■ The second project works to break the cycle of slavery and exploitation of communities affected by the so-called Haliya system, a traditional agricultural bonded labour practice in the western hills of Nepal.

Following generations of social and economic marginalisation, the Government announced in 2008 that it had abolished the Haliya system and cancelled the debts of all Haliya bonded labourers. However, the rehabilitation process has been slow, uneven and ultimately ineffective.

The project aims to support the Haliya community, especially women, to monitor the government's rehabilitation scheme and ensure it is implemented in a fair way that is responsive to their needs.

Working in partnership with the Nepal National Dalit Social Welfare Organisation (NNDSWO), we are aiming to support 36,000 women, men and children to escape bonded labour, claim their rights, access education and achieve economic stability.

Community outreach, rights-awareness and group support aims to empower people to benefit from rehabilitation and gain access to land redistribution and subsistence grants.

Introduction of tuition classes, transition support and resources such as books and school uniforms are key to our work as we ensure up to 3,000 children enrol, regularly attend and remain at school, breaking inter-generational cycles of slavery.

# Stopping exploitation of migrant women

■ In June 2017, our Migrant Domestic Work programme in Lebanon secured funding for a new phase. We worked with partners KAFA from Lebanon and Ovibashi Karmi Unnayan Program (OKUP) from Bangladesh.

Despite a relatively short timeframe of only nine months the project equipped 369 Bangladeshi migrant women working in Lebanon with the knowledge and skills to better protect themselves from exploitation and abuse.

The project also produced an information campaign consisting of ten billboards displayed on major highways across Lebanon and three short videos which were shown on TV and online, encouraging people to question the sponsorship (Kafala) system. The online campaign alone was viewed by more than 700,000 people by the end of the project in March 2018.



Women migrating for work to Lebanon often face exploitation and abuse.



# Bringing Cotton Crimes out of the shadows

■ The seventh and ninth largest producers of cotton in the world, Uzbek and Turkmen cotton is used by major high street brands and ends up in shops around the world. However, the cotton industry in both countries is tainted by the endemic use of forced labour.

With the entire industry state-owned and controlled in both countries, thousands of people are forced to pick cotton under harsh conditions by repressive governments; using systems of forced labour on a massive scale.

Farmers risk steep penalties if they grow other crops instead of cotton and during harvest season citizens are forced from their regular jobs and into the fields, where they must meet strict cotton quotas.

Working with the Cotton Campaign coalition, Anti-Slavery has been instrumental in tackling these forced labour systems by lobbying governments and international organisations, such as the World Bank and the UN, to pressure Uzbek and Turkmen leaders to end these abuses.

## Uzbekistan

After a decade of campaigning, the President of Uzbekistan officially acknowledged the existence of the problem of forced labour in its cotton industry for the first time.

This was followed by thousands of students, education and healthcare workers being suddenly being recalled from the cotton fields under orders of the Prime Minister.

However, despite signalling an intention to eradicate the problem, during the 2017 harvest the Government still imposed quotas on local authorities and put pressure on regional officials to round up a huge local workforce through coercion and threats, whilst independent activists against forced labour faced harassment.

Although Uzbekistan has largely cooperated with the International Labour Organization (ILO) to monitor the harvest, some observers point out that the Uzbek government hasn't allowed the ILO to monitor the harvest in a truly independent fashion.

Challenges remain, and local independent organisations are not yet free to officially register in the country, whilst websites of many international independent organisations, including Anti-Slavery International, are still blocked.

## Turkmenistan

Whilst Uzbekistan took most of the media attention for the last decade for its forced labour abuses, Turkmenistan has remained in the shadows.



Uzbek citizens picking cotton.

Together with the Cotton Campaign and local partner Alternative Turkmenistan News (ATN) we have increased our focus on this country.

We campaigned for the release of Gaspar Matalaev, an independent campaigner involved in monitoring the cotton harvest, who has been in jail since November 2016 on spurious charges.

We also joined the campaign to use the publicity for the Asian Games held in Turkmenistan at the end of September of 2017 to call for its sponsors, including Coca Cola, LG Corp and Mastercard, to withdraw support for a country that abuses the human rights of its own citizens on such a vast scale.

Advocacy at the UN to include Turkmenistan in the Human Rights Committee's list of issues for closer examination has been important in bringing Turkmen cotton crimes into the public spotlight.

## IKEA pulls out of Turkmenistan

Following Anti-Slavery International's intervention, Swedish furniture giant IKEA revealed it would stop sourcing cotton from Turkmenistan. IKEA agreed with our position that continuing its presence in the country would mean condoning human rights abuses.

# Holding the Government to account

■ Our campaigning continued to put pressure on the UK government to develop a comprehensive system supporting all slavery victims and monitor the implementation of the 2015 Modern Slavery Act.

While the Act marked a major step forward for anti-slavery efforts in the UK, challenges remain as too often victims of trafficking are not identified, and those who are identified do not get adequate support. Additionally, perpetrators are rarely prosecuted for their crimes.

Anti-Slavery International is chairing the Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group coalition (ATMG) to hold the UK Government to its anti-slavery promises. Our campaigning has led the

government to announce that support for victims of trafficking will be raised from 45 to 90 days; in line with the ATMG's recommendations.

However, the changes announced by the Government do not go far enough in addressing what survivors need to recover from their traumatic experiences. Anti-Slavery therefore joined the *Free for Good* campaign to support the Modern Slavery (Victim Support) Bill brought forward by Lord McColl of Dulwich. The Bill asks that all victims have a guaranteed right to support while their status is decided by the authorities, and for a further twelve months afterwards.

The Bill successfully made its way through the House of Lords and was

submitted to the House of Commons. Anti-Slavery is pressing the UK Government to back the Bill and fulfil its promises of leading the world in tackling slavery.

In July 2017 the ATMG also published its latest ground-breaking research on the impact of the UK's withdrawal from the European Union, which has been widely praised and cited by parliamentarians and lobby groups in relevant debates across the UK. The paper warned that if the UK loses

access to European mechanisms – such as Europol and Eurojust, that help dismantle cross-border trafficking networks – instances of modern slavery could soar.

**5,148** people were identified as potential victims of slavery in the UK in 2017.

**2,120** of trafficking cases referred were related to children, a 66% rise from the year before.

## Tackling Vietnamese trafficking to the UK

■ The trafficking of vulnerable young people from Vietnam to the UK is on the rise, with the majority trafficked into cannabis production, nail bars and forced prostitution.

Building on our 2014 research report on this issue, this new project initiated in April 2017 with partners ECPAT UK and Pacific Links Foundation, aims to raise awareness amongst potential victims of the risks of trafficking and trains Vietnamese police officers to recognise the signs of trafficking.

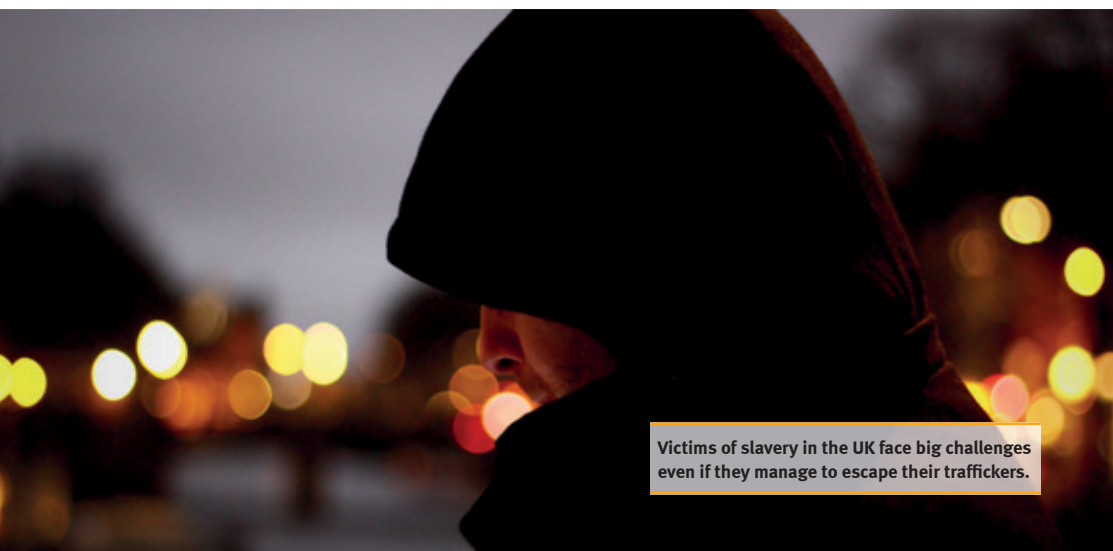
Anti-Slavery has made significant progress this year with research to

identify transit routes, trafficking methods and vulnerabilities that put people at risk of being targeted. By identifying the methods by which victims are trafficked we are better equipped to identify policy changes in Vietnam, the UK and transit countries that can help halt this crime.

Our project partners provide vocational training for young people in Vietnam, offering an alternative to looking for jobs abroad; along with support for children and young adults who are already in the UK after having been exploited, helping them to overcome their trauma and rebuild their lives.



Awareness raising event in a Vietnamese school organised by Anti-Slavery partner Pacific Links Foundation.



Victims of slavery in the UK face big challenges even if they manage to escape their traffickers.



Agriculture is one of the industries affected by forced and child labour.  
Credit: Ghost Presenter, Unsplash

## Eliminating slavery practices from global supply chains

■ A central pillar of Anti-Slavery International's work in the last year has been our focus on global supply chains and the need to eliminate slavery practices affecting goods sold across the world.

Throughout 2017/18 we continued to develop a popular supply chain consulting work to support international businesses and non-profits based in the UK to fulfil their requirements under the 2015 Modern Slavery Act, working with more than 20 clients across the private and third sector.

Anti-Slavery encourages businesses to go beyond 'compliance', aiming to

engage with businesses longer term as critical friends, advising on how to undertake thorough due diligence in their supply chains and develop appropriate business strategies to tackle the risks of slavery. We utilised our expertise to advise, guide and train UK and international businesses across a broad spectrum of industries from garments, to insurance, toys and gifts.

Anti-Slavery has developed a close working relationship with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office over the year, both with the FCO's Modern Slavery Unit in London and with individual embassies, particularly in relation to supply chains due diligence.

For example, in March 2018 Anti-Slavery delivered two British Embassy training workshops in Sudan, one for officials from relevant Government ministries and another workshop for business representatives on the issue of risks of modern slavery in supply chains and on the UK's modern slavery legislation.

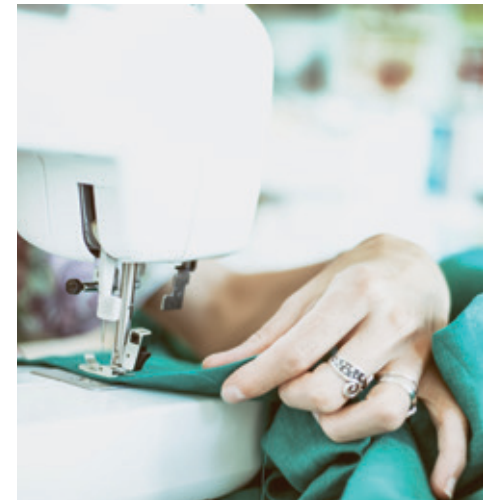
We have deepened our working relationships with some of the largest brands in the world to make concrete steps forward this year, including chocolate giant Mondelez, which own Cadbury's, implementing their 'Cocoa Life' programme, to tackle child labour and trafficking in their cocoa supply chain. After our intervention Swedish furniture giant IKEA ceased sourcing cotton tainted by forced labour in Turkmenistan.

In the legislative sphere we supported our patron Baroness Young of Hornsey to bring a Private Members' Bill through UK Parliament to strengthen the Transparency in Supply Chains (TISC) provision and ensure that the public sector is required to report on modern slavery due diligence.

We continue to work with the Ethical Trading Initiative (ETI), an alliance of companies, trade unions and voluntary organisations aimed at improving the lives of workers across the globe.

In June 2017 we opened a new project to lobby the European Union to introduce an EU wide legislation to oblige businesses carry out due diligence on forced and child labour in global supply chains. Successes to

date include the EU Parliament passing a key resolution, which includes recommendations for mandatory due diligence in supply chains and, more recently, the EU passing a resolution to support binding provisions in EU trade agreements to promote and protect women's rights.



### ASOS Partnership

■ We entered a strategic partnership on a 'critical friend' basis with online clothing giant ASOS to help improve its on-the-ground practices and prevent labour exploitation in its supply chain. This work includes supporting them to find sustainable solutions to the issues faced by migrant workers in their supply chain in Mauritius and develop modern slavery training for ASOS staff and suppliers in the UK and overseas.

# Advocacy

- Anti-Slavery International has advocated against slavery since its inception and has built a strong position on the international stage, which gives us and our partners a platform to hold national Governments to account and comply with international legislation on slavery related practices. In the last financial year we influenced a range of UN mechanisms, including Universal Periodic Reviews of specific countries, to Treaty Monitoring Bodies and the mechanisms of the International Labour Organisation. Examples include:
- During the Universal Periodic Review of the UK we secured ten recommendations on modern slavery and four on overseas domestic workers. Our advocacy on domestic workers was particularly successful, challenging the current visa regulations which tie overseas domestic workers to their employers.
- At the Universal Periodic Review of India, we achieved twenty recommendations relating to modern slavery and child labour practices, as well as on issues relating to the root causes of slavery such as access to education and caste discrimination.
- We retained pressure on Niger and Mauritania on compliance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child by influencing the inclusion of slavery practices as one of the priority areas ahead of the upcoming examinations of both countries' by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.
- We achieved an inclusion of strong recommendations of the International Labour Conference's examination of Mauritania's compliance with Forced Labour Convention.

## Anti-Slavery Charter

- In September 2017 we launched the Anti-Slavery Charter, a set of comprehensive measures needed to be taken to end slavery, to ensure that global momentum towards ending slavery continues to grow. The Charter was endorsed by the UN Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, Ms Urmila Bhoola, and by over twenty other organisations, including three large trade unions, and businesses.

**Organisations wishing to sign up to the Charter can call us on 0207 501 8934 or email [j.sobik@antislavery.org](mailto:j.sobik@antislavery.org).**

Anti-Slavery Charter highlights the need to tackle discrimination as one of the root causes of slavery.

Photo: Bharat Patel



**Kafala sponsorship system, widespread across the Middle East, ties migrant workers to their employers and enables exploitation.**

Photo: Pete Pattison

## Forced marriage is slavery

- In September 2017, new global estimates for modern slavery were launched by the International Labour Organisation with partners, estimating that there are 40.3 million people in modern slavery worldwide. Forced marriage was included in the estimates, marking the first time it has been recognised as a form of slavery. This was the result of years of advocacy by Anti-Slavery and others for including forced marriage as a form of slavery.

## Qatar commits to reforms

- Under pressure from campaigners, Qatar has committed to labour law reforms for migrant workers, including a minimum wage and the right for workers to organise and leave the country if they wish. Although positive, the reforms won't change the 'kafala' system, which gives employers control over workers' visas and enables exploitation. Anti-Slavery was the first to expose abuses of migrants working on the infrastructure for the FIFA World Cup in Qatar, prompting an investigation by the Guardian newspaper in 2013.

## India ratifies conventions to protect children

- Following calls from Anti-Slavery and others, India has ratified two international treaties concerning the worst forms of child labour and the minimum age of work. This means that it will be easier to hold Indian authorities to account and help end widespread child exploitation in the country.

# Financial highlights

Income	2017/18
Individuals	£441,775
Institutional grants	£1,786,932
Gifts in Wills	£305,685
Trusts, foundations and corporate	£301,240
Other	£120,884
	<b>£2,956,517</b>



Individuals	15%
Institutional grants	60%
Gifts in wills	10%
Foundations and companies	10%
Other income	4%

Expenditure	2017/18
Fundraising	£363,700
Africa	£1,139,521
Asia	£692,836
Latin America	£192,306
Europe	£545,619
	<b>£2,933,982</b>



Fundraising	12%
Africa	39%
Asia	24%
Latin America	7%
Europe	19%

Our full report and financial statements are available on our website at [www.antislavery.org/accounts](http://www.antislavery.org/accounts).

## Thanks

We would like to thank all those who supported us throughout the year, including:

- Individuals who donate, raise vital funds and awareness of our work and campaign to end slavery,
- Patrons, who speak up to raise awareness of slavery and our work to tackle it,
- Foundations, companies and other organisational donors which enable Anti-Slavery to effectively campaign and implement programmes to end slavery,
- Volunteers, who make an enormous difference to our capacity to carry out our work,
- Our members whose consistent support inspires us to work for a brighter future free of slavery.

Barbara Cairns Trust

The Bay Tree Charitable Trust

Big Lottery Fund

British & Foreign School Society

Comic Relief

C & A Foundation

Eileen & Colins Trust

The Ericson Trust

Esmee Fairbairn Foundation

European Commission

Freedom Fund

G C Gibson Charitable Settlement

Henry Scutt

ILO Work in Freedom

Irish Aid

Jonathan Newhouse

Jusaca Charitable Trust

Lancashire Foundation

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands

Muriel Jones Foundation

Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation

Robert Fleming Hannay Memorial Charity

Samworth Foundation

Sir James Reckitt Charity

The Trust for London

UK Department for International Development

UK Home Office – Modern Slavery Innovation Fund

UN Voluntary Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery

US Department of State Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons

US Department of State Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor

The William Allen Young Charitable Trust

The William Whyte Tait Charitable Trust

The Wyndham Charitable Trust

The Valentine Charitable Trust

# Partners

■ Working in partnership with others is fundamental to the way we go about ending slavery.

In the financial year 2017-18 Anti-Slavery worked closely with 19 formal partners implementing our projects in 14 countries. However, our partnerships extend far beyond that.

We work in close and diverse partnerships with individuals and organisations across the world, from fellow anti-slavery organisations to trade unions, universities, law firms, businesses and international organisations.

AFRUCA (UK)

Alternative Turkmenistan News (ATN)

Ashiana Sheffield (UK)

Association Nigérienne pour le Traitement de la Délinquance et la prévention du crime (ANTD, Niger)

Association Timidria (Niger)

Bawso (Wales, UK)

British TUC

Business & Human Rights Resource Centre (UK)

Children and Women in Social Service and Human Right (CWISH, Nepal)

The European Coalition for Corporate Justice (ECCJ, Belgium)

The Corporate Responsibility Coalition (CORE, UK)

The Cotton Campaign

ECPAT UK

Environnement et Développement du Tiers – Monde (ENDA, Mali)

Ethical Trading Initiative

Focus on Labour Exploitation – FLEX (UK)

Helen Bamber Foundation (UK)

Human Trafficking Foundation (UK)

International Domestic Workers Federation (IDWF, Bangladesh)

International Trade Union Confederation – ITUC (Belgium)

Jan Jagriti Kendra (India)

Jan Sahas Social Development Society (India)

Karak Enterprise Ltd. (India)

KAFA (Lebanon)

Kalayaan (UK)

La Strada International (Europe)

Law Centre NI (Northern Ireland, UK)

Migrant Rights Centre Ireland

Minority Rights Group International (UK)

Nepal National Dalit Social Welfare Organisation (NNDSWO, Nepal)

Ovibashi Karmi Unnayan Program (OKUP)

Pacific Links Foundation (Vietnam)

RADDHO (Senegal)

Samrakshak Samuha Nepal (SASANE, Nepal)

The Snowdrop Project

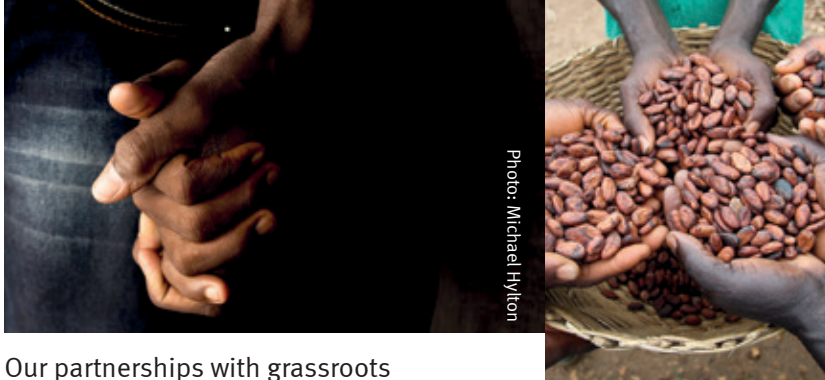
SOS-Esclaves (Mauritania)

Tanzania Domestic Workers Coalition (TDWC)

TARA Project (Scotland, UK)

Tostan International (Senegal)

Volunteers for Social Justice (India)



Our partnerships with grassroots organisations allow us to bring expertise to effectively advocate for systemic change nationally and internationally. Our grassroots partners carry out crucial work, often in challenging circumstances, to give people their freedom.

They are the true anti-slavery heroes. Even if we can't list all of them here, we thank and salute every single one of them.

## Grantmakers

■ Anti-Slavery works with grantmakers to create sustainable, impactful projects that lead to lasting freedom for the world's most vulnerable. Grantmakers typically value Anti-Slavery's longevity and deep global expertise which means that grants are effective and well-managed. For more information please contact Katherine on 0207 501 8935 or at [k.hart@antislavery.org](mailto:k.hart@antislavery.org).

## Community Groups

■ If your group is committed to the ending of slavery, you can get involved with events and initiatives to campaign and fundraise for freedom. Contact Rebecca on 0207 737 9434 or on [r.chambers@antislavery.org](mailto:r.chambers@antislavery.org).



# Become a partner

■ Together with our funding partners, we bring unique value through innovative and sustainable work to challenge policy and practice and eradicate slavery throughout the world.

## Company Partnerships

■ Does your business want to play a part in ending modern slavery? Are you looking to slavery risks in your own operations? Speak to us about how your company can be a leading light in the modern slavery movement. Call Ryna on 0207 737 9436 or email [r.sherazi@antislavery.org](mailto:r.sherazi@antislavery.org) for more information.



## Contact us

■ Anti-Slavery International collaborates to affect and lever change across the world. To partner with the world's oldest human rights organisation contact Rebecca on 0207 737 9434 or at [r.chambers@antislavery.org](mailto:r.chambers@antislavery.org).

## Why we support Anti-Slavery International

High on the Trusts' list of people in need are those who are enslaved, in whatever way. They need outside help – simply to be equal with everyone else on the planet.



Couple that with two of today's trustees being descendants of pioneer abolitionist William Wilberforce and you see why it concentrates on helping to eliminate modern slavery.

We continue to support Anti-Slavery because we feel it has the knowledge and experience, with on-the-spot partners, to tackle the whole problem.

**John Gaselee, trustee of Wyndham Charitable Trust and a descendant of William Wilberforce.**

As a history buff I had studied slavery, but it was the Morecombe Bay disaster in 2004 when more than twenty Chinese immigrants drowned which shocked me to the core.



To know that persons were being enslaved through modern methods, in plain sight, and dying right here in Britain – and not enough was being done. I resolved to get involved and to try to help. Becoming a patron enables me to carry out this commitment.

**Jonathan Newhouse, Chairman and Chief Executive of Condé Nast International, Anti-Slavery's patron.**

### Your gift could change lives:

- **£180** could pay for a former victim of slavery to be trained in the management of small businesses
- **£2,000** could pay for the running of a hotline for exploited brick factories workers for a month
- **£5,500** could pay for 30 young trafficking survivors in Nepal to be trained as paralegals.

To find out more about our work please visit [www.antislavery.org](http://www.antislavery.org), or contact Ryna Sherazi on 0207 737 9436 or [r.sherazi@antislavery.org](mailto:r.sherazi@antislavery.org).

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