



reporter

Autumn 2019

Established in 1825

180 years of working against slavery

How 180 years of successful campaigning drives
us to bring freedom to people today.



Cover photo: 180 years of working against slavery inspires us to look into a slavery-free future.

Photo: Hadynyah

We work to deliver freedom from slavery to everyone, everywhere, always.

Photo: Anti-Slavery International

The Reporter magazine was established in 1825 and has been continuously published since 1840.

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Freedom is a fundamental human right, everywhere, always.

Anti-Slavery International works to end all forms of slavery. Slavery affects some of the most vulnerable people in the world, and out of the 40 million people in slavery today, 10 million are children.

We work with partners across the globe to deliver freedom to people trapped in slavery. Together, we:

- support people to leave slavery and build their lives in freedom
- help change laws and policies to protect people from being exploited
- change public attitudes to exploitative practices
- campaign for businesses to make sure people are not exploited in their supply chains.

Anti-Slavery International is the world's oldest abolition movement, founded in 1839 by the original abolitionists.



Jasmine O'Connor OBE
Chief Executive

180 years of delivering freedom

■ Over 200 years ago the world set down that nobody should profit from the enslavement of other human beings. It took the courage of a small group of remarkable people to challenge the way global business was conducted and they succeeded in abolishing the Transatlantic Slave Trade.

But these abolitionists knew their work was not yet done. They knew that there are many ways people find to control and exploit others.

In 1839 – 180 years ago – they founded the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, today Anti-Slavery International. And, together with our supporters, we've been campaigning against slavery ever since.

"We still have 40 million reasons to keep on working: 40 million adults and children still trapped, controlled and cruelly exploited."

Together, we have had an enormous amount of success over the years. We have managed to end some forms of slavery completely. Against other forms we've made major progress, even if practices haven't yet been completely eradicated.

Today, we have 40 million reasons to keep on working: 40 million adults and children still trapped, controlled and cruelly exploited.

With 180 years of campaigning experience, we are confident that we can finish what we started and deliver freedom to all of them. We are developing a new strategy to take on the challenges we currently face.

We can't achieve this without you. Only by working together have we been able to provide freedom from slavery to so many people so far, and will be able to provide for many more in the future.

I hope to see you at our Member and Supporter Conference on 14th November, where we can update you on the progress we've made in tackling slavery around the world and thank you for your support in person. You can find all the details on page 26.

Thank you for helping to deliver freedom for those who don't have it.

Niger: 10 years' wait for justice as 'fifth wife' slavery practice outlawed

■ A decade-long legal battle of Hadijatou Mani, a woman forced into sexual slavery as a 'fifth wife', ended with Niger historically outlawing the practice.

The 'fifth wife' is a slavery custom when girls and women are sold to wealthy men to become their 'unofficial' fifth wives, in addition to the four wives permitted by Islam. They are treated as domestic and sexual slaves.

Ms Mani, who as a young girl was sold for around £200 as a 'fifth wife' to an older man, saw that "marriage" ruled unlawful and the 'fifth wife' tradition outlawed altogether by the Niger Court of Appeals.

The case marks the end of a long legal battle that Anti-Slavery with its partner in Niger, Timidria, started over a decade ago.

From 'fifth wife' to anti-slavery hero

Hadijatou Mani was born into slavery and then sold as a 'fifth wife'. She was never paid for her work and lived in a state of complete submission to her master, suffering regular beatings and sexual violence.

Following her escape with the help of Timidria, she married a man she had freely chosen, whereupon her former master took her to court accusing her of bigamy.

Invoking customary law, the local Nigerien court ruled in favour of her former master, condemning Ms Mani to a brief spell in jail. This prompted her, supported by Anti-Slavery and partners INTERIGHTS and Timidria, to take her complaint to the international court of Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

The case reverberated across Niger, making it the first time ever when slavery was discussed on public radio. Ms Mani bravely testified

Hadijatou Mani was born into slavery. Now she lives in freedom.

Photo: Anti-Slavery International



publicly against her former master, an unprecedented move in a country where people of slave descent had no standing in the society.

In a pioneering ruling in October 2008, she won the case and damages, prompting the Government to take slavery more seriously. She was recognised for her bravery by the then US Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton, and First Lady, Michelle Obama, with the International Women of Courage Award in Washington.

She has been living freely since, but shockingly, the courts did not annul the bigamy case against her. Now, after a decade-long struggle for a new ruling, Ms Mani finally saw justice: her freely chosen marriage was ruled not to be a case of bigamy, and the entire practice of 'fifth wife' was ruled unlawful.

This victory gives hope to other women still enslaved as 'fifth wives'. The ruling of the Court of Appeals, the highest

"Hadijatou Mani put her life at risk to live the life of her choice and inspired many women to follow in her footsteps. She is a true anti-slavery hero".

Emmanuelle Tremeau, Anti-Slavery International

judicial body in Niger, applies to all the lower courts in the country.

Together with our partners, we will work to ensure the full implementation of this ruling. The fight is far from over, but we remain inspired by Ms Mani's bravery and resolve to continue working to deliver freedom to all people in Niger.

Provide freedom and justice for others like Hadijatou:
www.antislavery.org/donate
or see back page.



Hadijatou Mani, Niger's anti-slavery hero.

Photo: Anti-Slavery International

Campaign news: Protect, Not Neglect

■ Anti-Slavery continues to campaign for the right protection for survivors of slavery in the UK so that they can stay safe, recover and rebuild their lives.

UK survivors win the right to long term support

Following a successful legal challenge, supported by Anti-Slavery, the UK Government has conceded that victims of trafficking should receive support according to their individual circumstances. This is a major move away from a system where support would only be provided for 45 days after an official recognition as victims,

regardless of their individual situation.

The challenge was brought to the court by two slavery survivors who had struggled to rebuild their lives after their trafficking experiences. The Home Office recognised both as victims, however, it also informed them that their specialist support would end only 45 days later.

Together with their legal representative, the survivors successfully argued that the state support shouldn't end so soon, putting at risk their safety and recovery and making them vulnerable to being exploited again.

Survivors of slavery in the UK do not feel safe enough to be able to show their faces. We joined them to deliver the petition asking the Government to protect, not neglect, the victims.

Photo: Anti-Slavery International.



High Court reverses cuts to victim support

Anti-Slavery and partners have also supported another crucial case, in which the High Court reversed the Home Office's decision to cut weekly financial support for asylum seeking victims of trafficking by over 40%.

The survivors, who were prohibited from working, argued that the cuts left them unable to afford to meet their basic needs, such as healthy food or travelling to support groups or healthcare appointments. This affected their recovery and made them vulnerable to becoming trapped and exploited again, as they were pushed into finding alternative ways of making a living.

The High Court ordered the Home Office to repay the difference in income to all victims affected by the cuts.

Your voice

In April, we delivered nearly 12,000 of your petition signatures to Number 10 and the Home Office, asking the Government to back the Victim Support Bill to protect, not neglect, survivors of slavery. At the time of writing the Government hasn't committed to supporting the Bill. We will continue to work to secure the right protections for the survivors in the next Parliamentary session after a likely election.

Join the movement to end slavery for just £5 a month:
www.antislavery.org/membership
or see back page.

Anti-Slavery archive moves to a world leading museum

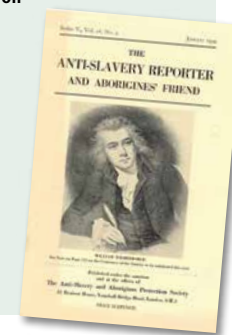
■ This year saw the transfer of the unique Anti-Slavery archive and library to the world-leading International Slavery Museum in Liverpool.

The collection covers the archive from 1700s onwards, as well as manuscripts dating back to the origins of the international abolition movement, including the first issue of the Anti-Slavery Reporter magazine from 1825. This archive complements other historical materials transferred earlier to the Bodleian Library in Oxford.

Anti-Slavery CEO Jasmine O'Connor said: "There is no more appropriate place than the International Slavery Museum for the UK's most important abolition archive to be housed. It will now be preserved in the manner it requires and made publicly accessible once the cataloguing and curation process is complete."

Read an article from International Slavery Museum's director Richard Benjamin on page 16 and find more details about it on www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/ism. Any questions regarding the Anti-Slavery archive, please contact Ryna Sherazi on r.sherazi@antislavery.org or 0207 737 9336.

The collection of the historical issues of the Anti-Slavery Reporter has been transferred to Liverpool, including the first issue from 1825. Pictured: issue from January 1939.



The difference we've made in 180 years

For 180 years we have delivered freedom to millions of people affected by various forms of slavery. Today, we take inspiration from the difference we have made over the years to deliver freedom to all those that remain trapped in slavery today.

Abolitionist Thomas Clarkson was one of the founding members of the 1787 Anti-Slavery Committee and the first secretary of the Anti-Slavery Society founded in 1839, after the abolition of slavery. The Society changed its name to Anti-Slavery International during the 1990s and continues his legacy to end slavery in all its forms.

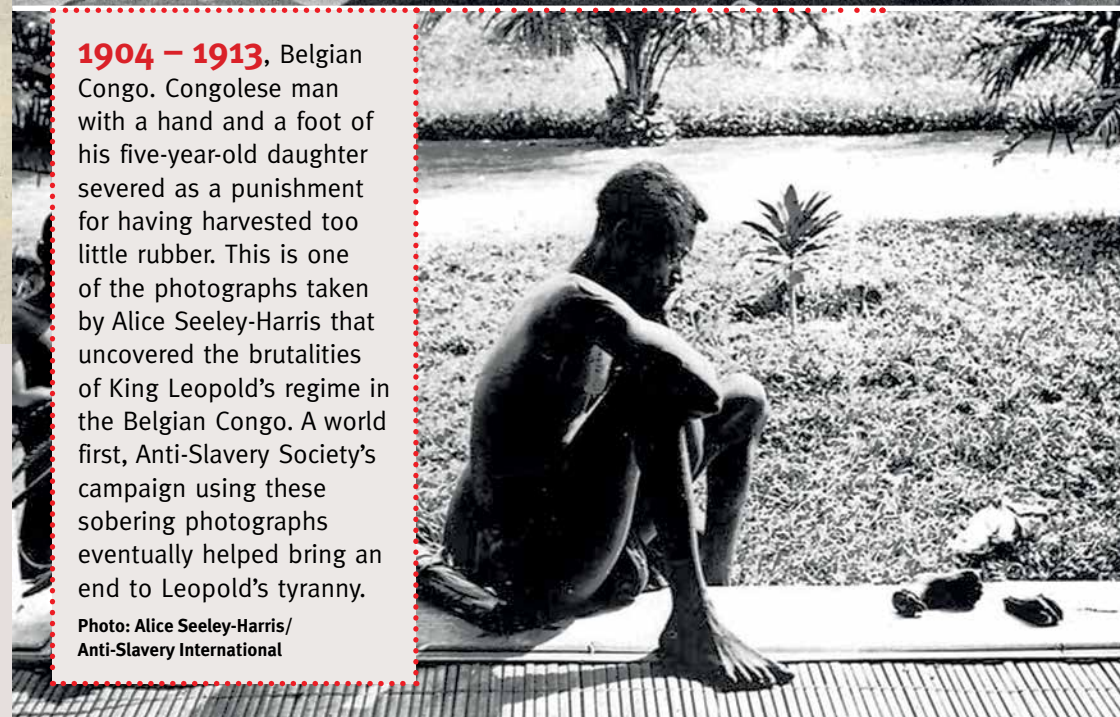
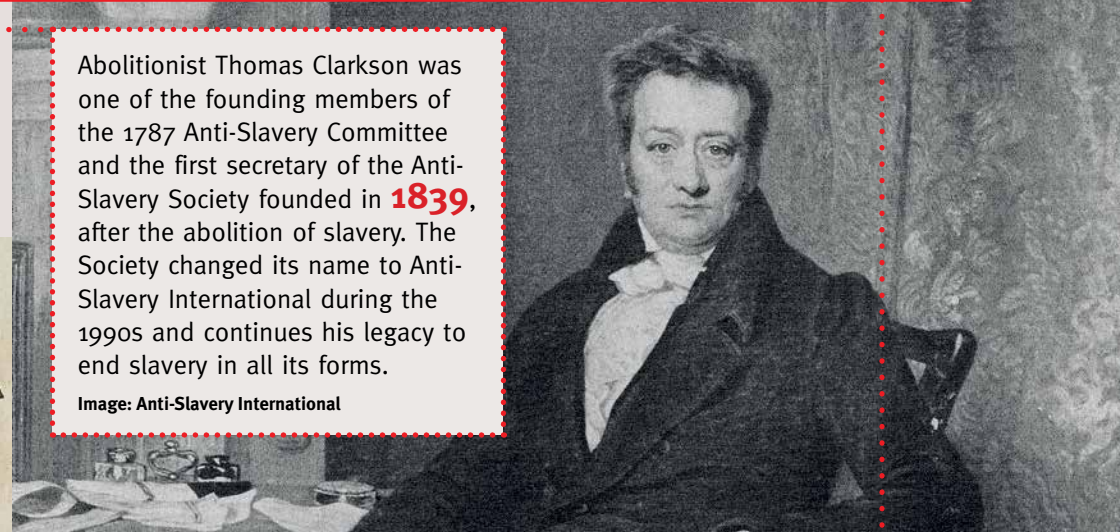
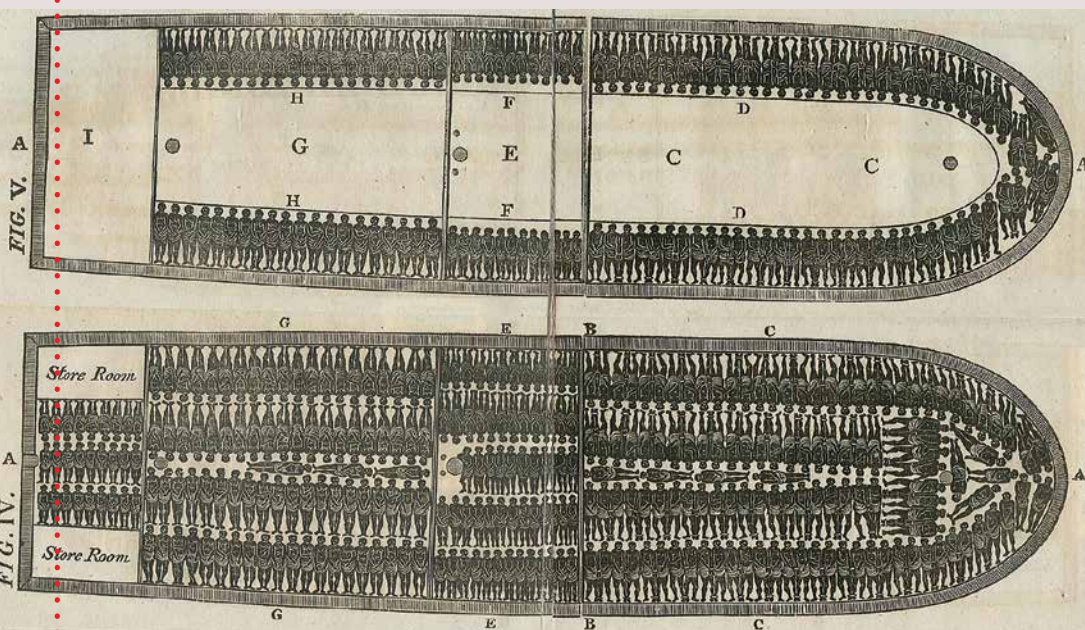
Image: Anti-Slavery International

1904 – 1913, Belgian Congo. Congolese man with a hand and a foot of his five-year-old daughter severed as a punishment for having harvested too little rubber. This is one of the photographs taken by Alice Seeley-Harris that uncovered the brutalities of King Leopold's regime in the Belgian Congo. A world first, Anti-Slavery Society's campaign using these sobering photographs eventually helped bring an end to Leopold's tyranny.

Photo: Alice Seeley-Harris/
Anti-Slavery International

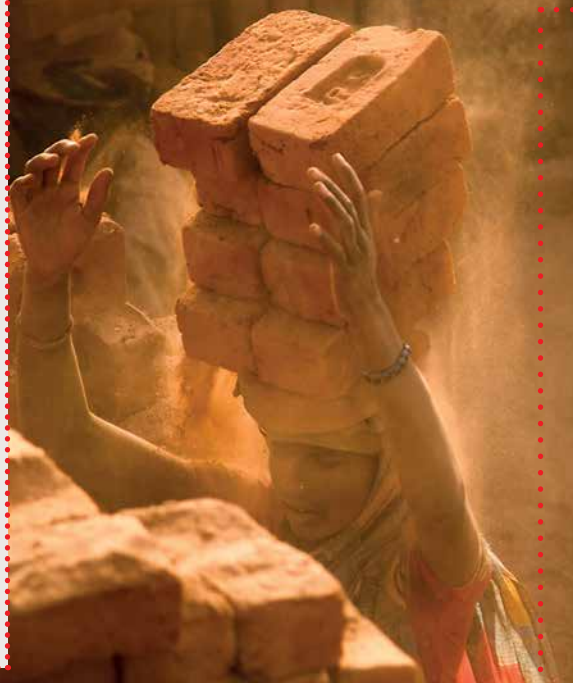
In 1789, posters showing enslaved Africans crammed on board a ship called the Brookes, shocked people and contributed to a sea change in public opinion against slavery. The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade was abolished in 1807, when it became illegal for British ships to carry slaves. However, slavery itself continued for another 30 years. Although the Slavery Abolition Act in 1833 formally abolished it, slaves were indentured to their former owners as 'apprentices', until they were finally emancipated on 1 August 1838.

Image: Anti-Slavery International



1926-today. Throughout the years, Anti-Slavery has influenced numerous international laws on slavery, from the 1926 League of Nations Slavery Convention and 1956 UN Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, to international specific conventions on forced labour, child labour and trafficking. These international laws brought protections for people affected by slavery and oblige national governments to address the different forms of slavery that occur in their countries. Throughout the decades, Anti-Slavery has lobbied individual countries to legally abolish slavery. The last country to criminalise slavery was Mauritania in 2007.

Photo: Bharat Patel



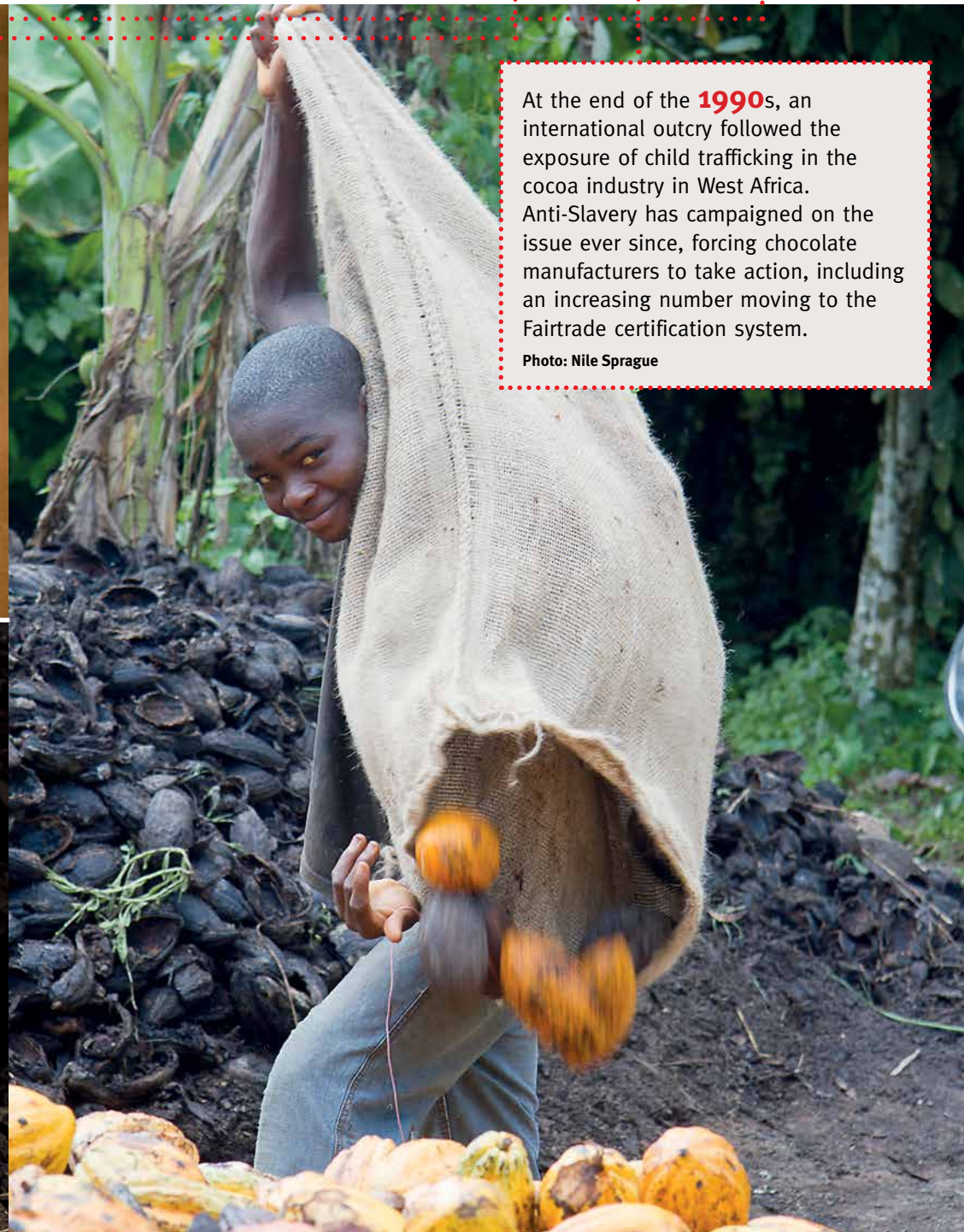
In **1999**, Anti-Slavery was one of the organisers of the Global March against Child Labour, which led to the adoption of a UN Convention on the Worst Forms of Child Labour in 1999 (ILO No. 182), protecting children from harmful work.

Photo: Bharat Patel



At the end of the **1990s**, an international outcry followed the exposure of child trafficking in the cocoa industry in West Africa. Anti-Slavery has campaigned on the issue ever since, forcing chocolate manufacturers to take action, including an increasing number moving to the Fairtrade certification system.

Photo: Nile Sprague



2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013



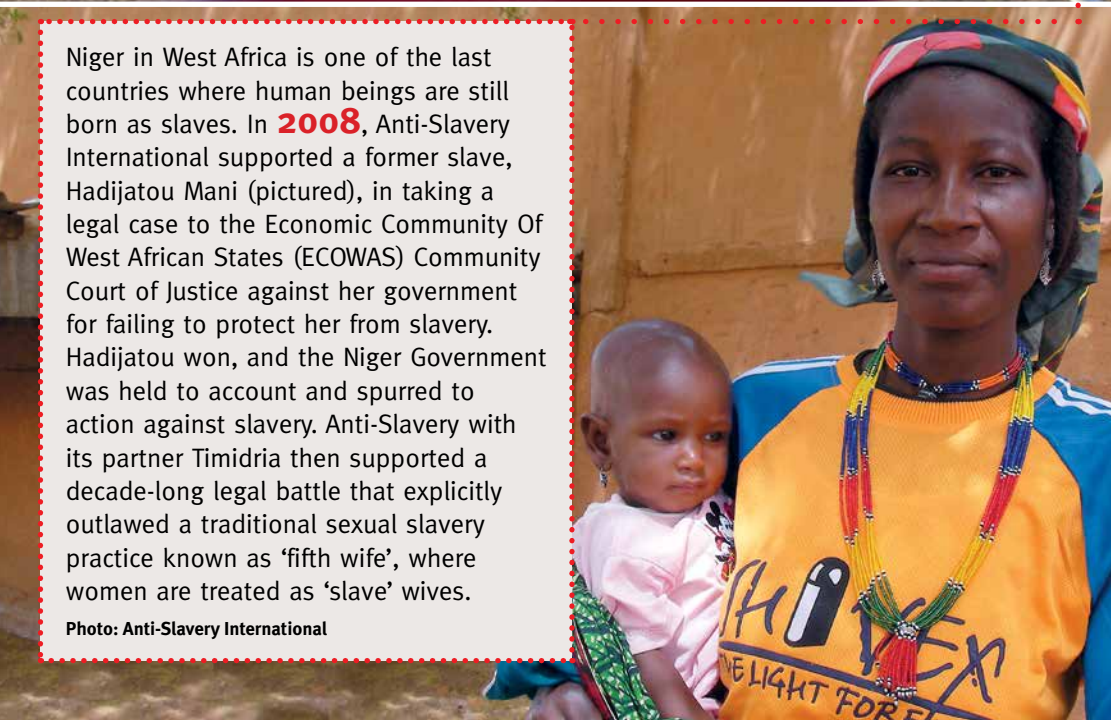
In **2005**, Anti-Slavery organised a major campaign, which forced the United Arab Emirates to recognise the problem of trafficking of children from South East Asia to be used as camel jockeys. The countries subsequently passed laws banning the practice and assisted in returning children to their countries of origin. Qatar and Kuwait passed similar laws. Today, thanks to this pressure, robots are commonly used as jockeys instead of humans.

Photo: JL Winters/Anti-Slavery International



Anti-Slavery was one of the first organisations to tackle domestic slavery, particularly of children. Our Home Alone campaign led to the International Labour Organization adopting the Domestic Work Convention in **2011**, providing legal rights to domestic workers across the world. Our success was symbolised by our beneficiary Angel Benedicto, a former child domestic worker in Tanzania, who was recognised by the Queen for advocating for the rights of vulnerable children in domestic work.

Photo: Queen's Young Leader Foundation



Niger in West Africa is one of the last countries where human beings are still born as slaves. In **2008**, Anti-Slavery International supported a former slave, Hadijatou Mani (pictured), in taking a legal case to the Economic Community Of West African States (ECOWAS) Community Court of Justice against her government for failing to protect her from slavery. Hadijatou won, and the Niger Government was held to account and spurred to action against slavery. Anti-Slavery with its partner Timidria then supported a decade-long legal battle that explicitly outlawed a traditional sexual slavery practice known as 'fifth wife', where women are treated as 'slave' wives.

Photo: Anti-Slavery International



2013 Anti-Slavery was one of the first to investigate the dire consequences of the sponsorship 'kafalah' system in the Middle East, which deprives hundreds of thousands of migrant workers from South Asia of legal protection from abuse. This led to an investigation into the abuses in Qatar in the run up to the 2022 FIFA World Cup by the Guardian newspaper, sparking an international campaign to end the abuses and forcing Qatar to introduce reforms.

Photo: Pete Pattison

2015

2019

2019

2015

Years of campaigning in the UK resulted in the passing of the historic UK Modern Slavery Act. The Act has put slavery firmly on the agenda of mainstream debate and galvanised public support behind the issue. We continue to campaign for the improvement of the support provided to the survivors under the Act.

Photo: Anti-Slavery International

Protect **NOT** Neglect
Victims of Slavery
in the UK



www.antislavery.org

During the **2000s**, Anti-Slavery supported Mende Nazer, a Sudanese girl who was abducted by soldiers from her village and trafficked to London to work in a house of a Sudanese diplomat in the UK. After her escape she filed for asylum, but was initially denied by the Home Office, before being overturned thanks to a public campaign. Mende went on to write her autobiography, *Slave: My True Story*, later televised by Channel Four Film. Anti-Slavery has campaigned to prevent diplomats in the UK, who are accused of holding someone in slavery, from hiding behind diplomatic immunity. The UK Supreme Court agreed with us with a ruling in **2019**.

Photo: Damien Lewis, www.damienlewis.com

Today

One of the main features of the campaign to abolish slavery in British colonies was boycotting slave-produced sugar. Today, we continue to encourage companies to act on issues ranging from forced-labour tainting cotton in Central Asia, to enslaving vulnerable girls in India's garment industry, to child-trafficking in West Africa. We use a 'critical friend' approach to support corporates' efforts to address risks of slavery in their global supply chains.

Photo: Simon Buxton/
Anti-Slavery International

We are working to help adults and children to build futures of freedom and create a movement of people that demands freedom for **everyone, everywhere, always**.

Photo: woraput via iStock

Constructing pasts, contesting futures: The International Slavery Museum

Head of International Slavery Museum, Dr Richard P Benjamin, on Liverpool's slavery legacy.

■ When we think of Britain's involvement in slavery, we often prefer to focus on the heroes of the abolition movement. But our history has its darker sides.

By the 1780s, Liverpool was the European capital of the transatlantic slave trade. Vast profits from the trade transformed Liverpool into one of Britain's most important and wealthy cities. Other European ports were heavily involved too, but more than 4,000 slaver ships left Liverpool, which carried perhaps 1.5 million enslaved Africans into slavery.

This did not mean that Liverpool didn't have an active abolition movement – figures like William Roscoe (lawyer, poet, botanist) stand out in the city's history. Several Liverpoolians were involved with the Society for the Abolition of the Slave Trade, but by and large Liverpool was a powerhouse for the pro-slavery lobby.

Although it was important to draw attention to those in Liverpool who were abolitionists, the International Slavery Museum (ISM) was conscious not to suggest that the abolition movement was solely a European battle. Enslaved Africans themselves played a significant part, through revolts on board ship, uprisings in the Americas, and lobbying by figures such as Olaudah Equiano.

Liverpool was an ideal place for the International Slavery Museum to open on 23 August 2007 during the Bicentenary of an *Act for the Abolition of the Slave Trade*. It is the only national museum of its kind and has welcomed over 4 million visitors.



Dr Richard P Benjamin
Head of International
Slavery Museum

The Museum not only tells the untold stories of enslaved people in historical slavery, but also engages with contemporary human rights issues, addressing ignorance, challenging intolerance, and building partnerships with communities and organisations that share our vision.

The Museum currently has three galleries. *Life in West Africa* explores the story of Africa and its rich history and culture before the arrival of Europeans; *Enslavement and the Middle Passage* reveals the brutality and trauma suffered by enslaved Africans on the voyage across the Atlantic, plantation life and resistance. *Legacy* details contemporary forms of enslavement, racism, hate crime, discrimination and the achievements of the African Diaspora.

The *Campaign Zone* hosts exhibitions highlighting contemporary campaigns, including Anti-Slavery International's *Home Alone: End Domestic Slavery campaign to protect the rights of domestic workers* in 2010. Others include a campaign highlighting labour rights abuses in Uzbekistan with the Environmental Justice Foundation in 2011 and a partnership with the Dalit Freedom Network on *Broken lives: Slavery in Modern India* campaign in 2015.

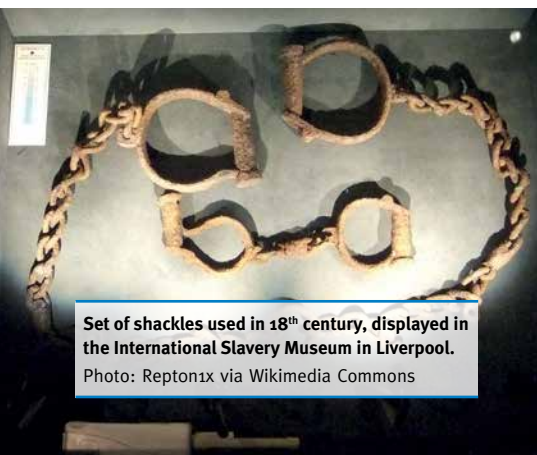
An example of our commitment to bridge the past and present is our collaboration with Anti-Slavery International, which recently transferred its archive and library over to the Museum. We are currently working

through over 180 years' worth of archives to prepare it for the public and for researchers to be able to access it and learn lessons about slavery then and now.

Museums play a major role in enhancing social cohesion and promoting social justice. As ISM develops, so do opportunities to tackle the legacies of transatlantic slavery and contemporary forms of exploitation.

Find out more about the International Slavery Museum, including how to visit (entry is free) on www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/ism. Read more about transferring ASI library to Liverpool on page 7.

The iconic Dr Martin Luther King, Jr. building on the Royal Albert Dock in Liverpool will be a front entrance to the Museum after the redevelopment.



Set of shackles used in 18th century, displayed in the International Slavery Museum in Liverpool.

Photo: Repton1x via Wikimedia Commons

Looking into the future

We are developing a new organisational strategy. Anti-Slavery CEO, Jasmine O'Connor, takes us through some of the key issues affecting the anti-slavery movement today.

Migration and climate change

With progressing globalisation and climate change, more and more people leave their native homes to seek a better future for themselves and their families. They face big challenges. At their destination, they are often treated as second class citizens; many can't work legally or have no right to legally leave their employers, even in abusive situations. Many migrants don't speak the language and have no one to turn to for support. All this makes them perfect targets for traffickers. We need to change the way countries treat migrants to make them less vulnerable to slavery.

Politics of populism

Slavery is built on racism and prejudice that undermine people's humanity through discrimination based on their race, immigration status, religion, caste, age or gender. Coupled with poverty and laws that don't protect those discriminated against, it makes the perfect conditions for exploiters to take advantage of. We must call out every form of discrimination and work together to build communities and nations that treat all humans with dignity and respect.



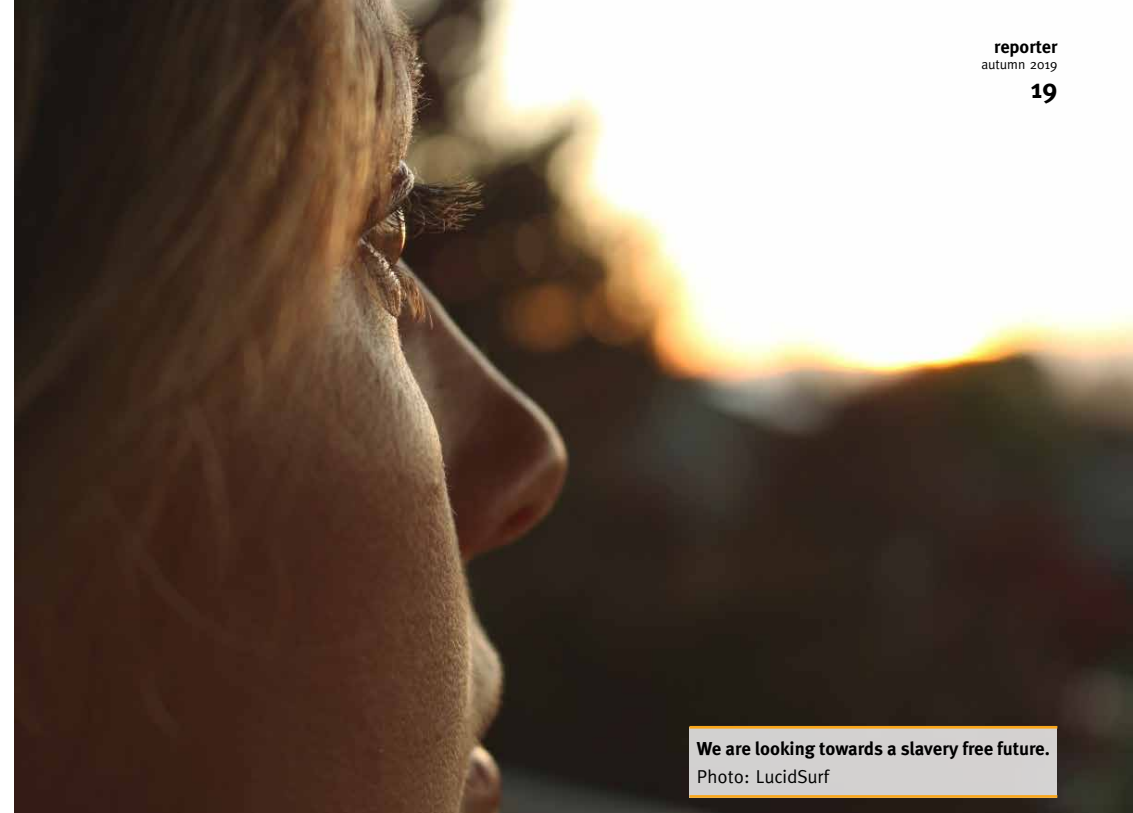
Jasmine O'Connor OBE
Chief Executive

Global supply chains

Adults and children are trapped and exploited in the system working to sell products across the world. We as consumers have a right to be assured that the products we buy are not tainted by slavery, and businesses are responsible for ensuring that people are not exploited in their supply chains. We are encouraged by many companies already taking the initiative to do this and we work with many of them to support their anti-slavery efforts. We will continue to campaign to introduce and strengthen laws that would legally oblige businesses to ensure that the rights of the workers are protected.

Power to survivors

When people are trapped in slavery, their power is taken away from them. Anti-Slavery has been working to reverse that. When people with lived experience of slavery take the centre stage and lead the movement against slavery, we build solutions that are fully informed by their voices. We must work together to enable the survivors of slavery to reclaim the power they lost as a result of their enslavement and ensure that their voices influence anti-slavery policies.



We are looking towards a slavery free future.
Photo: LucidSurf

Build futures of freedom

10 million children are thought to be in slavery today. We must invest in making sure that children don't fall victim to traffickers and don't get trapped in a cycle of poverty and exploitation as they become adults. Anti-Slavery is working to build their confidence and capacity to live their lives in freedom and contribute to the anti-slavery movement to bring that freedom to others.

We welcome hearing from supporters about your views on this article and how you're helping to further the anti-slavery movement where you live. Please email your thoughts to supporter@antislavery.org.

Build the anti-slavery movement

We believe that the most crucial element of our quest to end slavery worldwide is building a widespread movement of people, organisations, businesses and institutions that would work together towards this common goal. We want everyone to join this movement and reinforce a message that today, in the 21st century, slavery is unacceptable in any form. We want this movement to exert pressure on key people and organisations who have the power to end exploitation of adults and children.

You can join the movement to help end slavery for just £5 per month at www.antislavery.org/membership.

Difficult path to freedom

Africa Programme Manager, Sarah Mathewson, on the challenging yet successful decade of working against descent-based slavery in West Africa.

“I used to collect wood and fetch water for my masters daily, with no compensation or respite. I was never treated like a human being, but instead I was treated like a donkey, beaten to make it work harder.”

■ Tatinatt, who said the above words, was born into slavery. She was owned by masters who her family had belonged to for generations. Under the total control of her master, she was treated like his property and suffered constant abuse and exploitation. This treatment is common in cases of descent-based slavery.

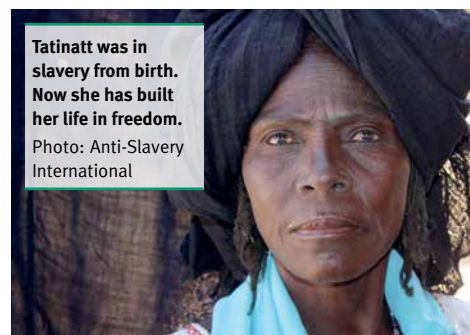
This year, Anti-Slavery International, alongside partner organisations in Mauritania, Mali and Niger, marked 10 years of projects to end descent-based slavery in West Africa.

We have come a long way since we started, helping thousands of people to leave their masters and establish new, independent lives. We have advocated for the rights of people affected by slavery, pushed through new laws and

won landmark cases in national and international courts.

Tatinatt was one of the people we helped to escape and rebuild her life. She settled into a village of other families of slave descent who are seeking to assert their freedom and educate their children, to break the cycle of slavery over the generations. She now says: “I never believed that a woman, especially a slave woman, could make her own fortune. But now I feel completely free – I am no longer a slave.”

This marks a real transformation. But as we have learned from our work, simply escaping slavery is only the beginning of a long and difficult process of learning to live in freedom. It can be enormously challenging without fundamental change



Sarah Mathewson
Africa Programme Manager



to the social, economic and political structures that perpetuate slavery, and requires extensive support for the individuals affected.

People of slave descent, even after leaving slavery, still face pervasive discrimination. Illiterate and without identity documents, they can't send their children to public schools or access services, and struggle to find decent work and housing. True freedom doesn't come easily.

“True freedom doesn't come easily.”

Anti-Slavery focuses much of its efforts on building the self-sufficiency of slavery survivors, with amazing results. In Niger, alongside our partner Timidria, we have established nine community schools for people of slave descent. In Mauritania, hundreds of women have thrived after receiving training,

Key successes:

- Anti-Slavery and its partners established community services and resources for people of slave descent in nine villages in Niger and provided education to their children, providing them with a basis for real freedom. The communities' success has been so remarkable that the Government followed our model and established schools and other services in a further 11 communities.
- We helped shape Mauritania's new anti-slavery law and used it to successfully prosecute slave owners – the first successful prosecutions for slavery in Mauritania's history.
- We pursued legal cases in Niger, ensuring the criminalisation of the 'fifth wife' practice, where women are treated as 'slave' wives.
- We led campaigns in Mali to overcome taboos and ensure national dialogue on slavery.

equipment and funds to run small businesses like shops as part of our work with local partners SOS-Eslaves.

But we also focus on structural change through our advocacy, legal work and public campaigning. In Mauritania, we have had a major influence shaping and ensuring the adoption of anti-slavery

laws. We have pioneered the first ever successful prosecutions of slave owners in the country's history. In Niger, by winning a landmark case at the ECOWAS Community Court of Justice, we put slavery on the regional agenda and forced the Niger government to take action. In Mali, despite entrenched

Mauritania: from slavery survivors to entrepreneurs

■ For a person born into slavery it is incredibly challenging to leave their master and embrace freedom. So together with our local partners SOS-Eslaves, we have been providing the foundations for people to build their freedom on. Hundreds of adults and children of slave descent have received literacy training and practical training courses such as catering, sewing, veil dyeing and hairdressing. The transformative effect of this work has been striking. For example, 180 women have thrived after an Anti-Slavery project gave them training, equipment and funds to run local co-operatives, which they developed into food shops and a clothing store. All shops are making a profit and have enabled the women to look into their futures with optimism.



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



Children supported by Anti-Slavery have had access to education for the first time and thrived.
Photo: Anti-Slavery International

conflict, our awareness-raising and advocacy work has ensured that slavery is no longer a taboo subject.

The political will and capacity of the authorities to act on slavery remain limited. The Mauritanian government still denies the very existence of slavery practices in the country, despite overwhelming evidence. In Niger, despite some encouraging progress by the Government, proper application of the law has yet to follow. In Mali, draft legislation criminalising slavery has been pending before the parliament for years, and the civil war in the north of the country has left limited funds to address slavery.

Yet despite these limitations, momentum has gathered in our anti-slavery movement and we are determined to make descent-based slavery a thing of the past.

Read more about our work on decent-abased slavery in West Africa over the last decade in a newly published report *Difficult path to freedom*, available on our website www.antislavery.org/10-years-africa.

Niger: setting communities free from their masters

■ Our community schools in Niger that we founded with our local partners, Timidria, have been a ground-breaking unequivocal success that set people truly free from their masters.

The six schools were the first to provide education to children of slave descent. They have been obtaining some of the highest pass rates in the country, low drop-out rates, and a high proportion of girls at school.

The schools have served as hubs for new communities escaping slavery. Services such as micro-finance schemes for members to start small businesses; confidence building, advocacy training; and infrastructure development, such as construction of wells, have helped the communities thrive.

The communities have now been successful in persuading the Government to officially take over the schools to ensure their sustainability, and to open three new schools for other communities of slave-descent.

ATMG: 10 years of advocating for victims of slavery in the UK

The Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group Coordinator, Anna Sereni, on what we learned from monitoring the UK's anti-slavery efforts for the last decade.

■ Ten years ago, the awareness of modern slavery in the UK was very limited and the response to it was in its infancy. In 2008, the UK ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, which obliged the UK Government to implement anti-slavery policies.

To monitor the UK's implementation of the Convention, leading anti-trafficking organisations in the UK formed a coalition, the Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group (ATMG), which Anti-Slavery International still leads today.

Over the last 10 years the ATMG's work has led to significant improvements to the way most vulnerable people in the UK are identified and supported by the Government.

The ratification of the Convention spearheaded the initiation of the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) – the UK's primary support system for identified victims of slavery. Although in itself positive, the NRM is far from ideal

and the ATMG was key in identifying failures in the identification and protection of victims, which led to its improvement.

The ATMG was instrumental in the shaping of the UK Modern Slavery Act in 2015, including introducing legal advocates for trafficked children, measures to protect victims from being themselves prosecuted and the introduction of an Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner.

"The government must look beyond its hostile, austerity-stricken policies, in order to truly create a safe environment for victims to recover in."

More recently, the ATMG has successfully supported important court cases to protect the rights of victims. A recent major achievement was the reversal of the Home Office decision to cut the



Anna Sereni
Anti-Trafficking Monitoring
Group Coordinator

**The Anti Trafficking
Monitoring Group**

rate of financial support provided to over 1,000 victims of trafficking, and by doing so making them more vulnerable to be exploited again. We also helped to force the government to end the 45 day limit for providing support to survivors and oblige it to design a system providing long term support tailored to the individual needs of each survivor.

We are proud of the ATMG's successes, but there are still some big challenges to be faced.

The hostile environment means that people trafficked from abroad are treated as immigrants first, and victims only second. It means that often, even the identified survivors are more likely to be sent to detention, deported, or stuck in the asylum system, than to be properly supported. Many are unable to work, instead, they are pushed into poverty and put at risk of being exploited again in their desperation to live decent lives.

Austerity policies in the last decade have had a detrimental effect on support services for victims of slavery. The depletion of legal aid has excluded survivors of slavery out of publicly funded legal assistance. Cuts to social services and education hamper efforts to prevent British children getting trapped in county lines drug trafficking gangs, while cuts to the police and judiciary have lessened their capacity to investigate trafficking cases.

The UK Government's response to tackling modern slavery is critical and its aim to be a world leader in this regard, commendable. While the UK government's progress against slavery in the last decade has been positive, we must continue to hold it to account. The government must look beyond its hostile, austerity-stricken policies, in order to truly create a safe environment for victims to recover in.

Looking ahead, the ATMG will support slavery survivors to have their voices heard much louder to influence the UK's efforts to implement a truly effective response to modern slavery.



Real people, real lives report looks back at successes of the ATMG in the past decade and takes stock of the key challenges lying ahead. It's available at www.antislavery.org/atmg-10-years.



The ATMG coalition has been campaigning for the rights of slavery victims in the UK.
Photo: Anti-Slavery International

Anti-Slavery is teaming up with clothing retailer ASOS to protect garment workers from slavery.

Photo: Waldemar Brandt, Usplash



Innovating against slavery

We are harnessing technology to protect migrant workers in Mauritius in our new project with the internet retailer ASOS.

■ Mauritius is an island in the Indian Ocean most famously known as a tourist hotspot thanks to its pristine beaches and crystal-clear blue water. But it is also a significant manufacturing hub, home to a number of garment and food factories serving international brands.

These industries employ thousands of migrant workers from countries such as Bangladesh, Madagascar and India. Many of these vulnerable people go to Mauritius in the hope of finding opportunities to provide for their families, but end up being exploited by unscrupulous employers, with some becoming trapped in situations of slavery. Many international brands source their

products in Mauritius. One of them is leading online fashion retailer ASOS, which has partnered with us on an innovative project to protect migrant garment workers from being exploited.

Smart solutions to protect vulnerable workers

In the project, we are harnessing technology to address and prevent modern slavery.

Many migrant workers get trapped in abusive situations because they don't know where to get help or they fear reprisals from their exploiters.

To address this, ASOS is developing a special smartphone app that will not



A special smartphone app is being developed to help protect migrant workers in Mauritius.

only arm migrant workers with relevant practical information about their rights, but crucially allow them

to safely raise grievances. This will also help the company more accurately address problems when they arise.

The app will be complemented by the establishment of a trade union-based support centre for migrant workers in Mauritius, delivered by IndustriALL, the global union.

"It is no longer acceptable to tolerate exploitative practises in workplaces producing goods for global markets."

It is crucial that we address the issues making migrant workers vulnerable to slavery from the moment the workers decide to go to Mauritius for work. For example, this project will help stop the practice of workers paying recruitment fees to unethical recruitment agencies prior to migrating, which traps workers in debt bondage.

Our local partners on the ground will provide pre-departure training for migrant workers in Bangladesh, India and Madagascar prior to embarking on their journey to Mauritius. This will

ensure they understand their rights and the risks involved in moving to Mauritius, and have relevant information should they face exploitative practices.

ASOS and IndustriALL Global Union, will deliver workers' rights training to factories in Mauritius to ensure all ASOS suppliers uphold good labour standards.

Changing global business

This project is an example of a proactive collaboration of NGOs, trade unions and corporate partners coming together to protect migrant workers in global supply chains.

There is a growing consensus among many brands that it is their responsibility to protect workers in their supply chains, and that it is no longer acceptable to tolerate exploitative practices in workplaces producing goods for global markets. Together with ASOS, we are planning to reach outside of the project's core group of partners to share our learning with other brands, suppliers and countries to ensure its long-term impact.

We are encouraged to see that a number of businesses are already championing anti-slavery measures in global trade. Together, we will work to engage more businesses to protect the workers from slavery in global supply chains until it is a standard across the globe.

Help end slavery in global supply chains: www.antislavery.org/donate or see back page.

The Secret Garden Boho Ball

■ In March, Hannah Clegg organised the Secret Garden Boho Ball in support of Anti-Slavery International in Landscope in Devon.

"I'd heard so many moving stories of people who are still enslaved today that I felt compelled to do something to help", she said.

The ball was a huge success and raised an incredible £1,116.00 for Anti-Slavery. "We can't change the world alone, but I'm convinced if we all do our small bits to help, we can make a difference, together, she added."



Secret Garden Soho Ball,
Photo: Hannah Clegg

Dress against slavery

■ We are excited to announce that Anti-Slavery has been chosen as a partner for the Dresseember campaign this year.

The Dresseember challenge is a fun and easy way to make a difference for people in slavery. By pledging to wear a dress or tie every day during the month of December, you'll have the opportunity to raise funds and awareness for the fight against human trafficking. This year, your participation in Dresseember will support Anti-Slavery's work.

You can find information, resources and sign up at www.dresseember.org.



James, Luke and Nic
training for the ride.

100 miles towards freedom

■ Over the summer, Anti-Slavery supporters James, Luke and Nic cycled an incredible 100 miles through London's streets and over Surrey's hills in the Prudential Ride London. A huge well done for completing the race and collectively raising an impressive £1,175 for Anti-Slavery.

Could it be YOU taking on the challenge next year? Our places are now open! Secure yours today by contacting Rebecca on r.chambers@antislavery.org or 0207 737 9434.

Mark our 180th anniversary at our Supporter Conference and AGM

■ You are an essential part of the Anti-Slavery movement and we would like to invite you to attend our Member and Supporter Conference and AGM at the Great Hall, Goodenough College, London, on Thursday 14th November 2019.

Hosted by Patron and ITV Newsreader, Julie Etchingham, the event promises to be an inspiring and thought-provoking afternoon.

You'll get a special update on the work that you support in the UK and overseas, a panel will debate how to tackle slavery in the digital age, and performers from musical Freedom Song will tell the story of a famous group formed by former slaves, Fisk Jubilee Singers, in 19th century America.

Members will have an opportunity to vote on matters critical to the organisation.

To secure your place for you and your friends, please register online at www.antislavery.org/agm by Friday 27th October or call 020 7501 8920. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Dancing for freedom lead by Anti-Slavery supporter Ben Hammond, aka the Planet Prancer, at the conference in 2018.
Photo: Anti-Slavery International



Yoga teacher Jess Ballard.
Photo: Jess Ballard

Freedom yoga

■ Throughout February and March, Yoga teacher Jess Ballard donated all proceeds from her classes to Anti-Slavery.

"I feel incredibly lucky to be able to teach and create a safe space for individuals. No-one should feel unsafe or be exploited, and I'm

shocked there are an estimated 10 million children in slavery today. This is why I chose to support Anti-Slavery and spread the word on your incredible work."

Jess has raised a generous £236. Thank you Jess!

Team Anti-Slavery does it again

■ It was another incredible day for Team Anti-Slavery at the Great North Run – the world's biggest half marathon. A huge thank you to Mya, Heather, Maria, Martha, Emily, Jake and Amy, who at the date of this publication have so far raised

£2,764.09 – amazing!

Could YOU be part of Team Anti-Slavery next year? Secure your place today by emailing Rebecca on r.chambers@antislavery.org or by phoning 0207 737 9434.



Jake and Emily after the run.
Photo: Emily McDonnell-Thomas

Feeling inspired by stories of modern anti-slavery abolitionists? Want to raise funds to deliver freedom from slavery? Not sure where to start?

We've got it covered with our new free fundraising pack to help you organise your very own event. It's packed full of inspiration, tips and advice on how to successfully organise your own fundraising event or challenge.

To order your pack today please visit www.antislavery.org/diy or email us on supporter@antislavery.org.

We look forward to hearing from you about your ideas to support Anti-Slavery's transformational work.



The RAG students in Prague after hitchhiking from Edinburgh.
Photo: Edinburgh RAG

Students' amazing effort for freedom

■ Anti-Slavery International was lucky enough to be selected as one of Edinburgh University's Raising and Giving (RAG) society's charity partners for the 2018/19 academic year. The students ran imaginative events including hitchhike challenges to Paris and Prague, a battle of the bands and a ball, raising an incredible £10,393.48 for Anti-Slavery's life-changing work.

A huge thanks!

Why I support Anti-Slavery

As a historian of slavery, I struggle with the notion that the cruelty of slavery hasn't been confined to the history books. We need to wake up to the reality that slavery exists today. We must make sure that people who hope for better lives are not confined to ruthless exploitation and terrifying abuse instead.

We need to get to work again: raise awareness, campaign and press the government to start taking slavery more seriously.

This is why I became a patron of Anti-Slavery International. I am raising my voice today and calling on people all over the world to get behind the campaign to end slavery once and for all.

Benjamin Lawrance is Professor of African History at the University of Arizona and Editor-in-Chief of African Studies Review. He has recently become a new patron of Anti-Slavery International.



The fact that slavery is still taking place today is scandalous.

Five years ago, when I found this out, I was horrified and felt compelled to take action. I still find it hard to believe it is happening in the UK, right now.

Working for the Co-op, I have been lucky enough to combine my desire to campaign for change with the opportunity to harness the resources of a huge business for the cause. Co-op members, colleagues and customers care deeply about this issue and that's been a huge inspiration for me. Anti-Slavery have helped guide my work and encouraged the Co-op to go above and beyond in its actions.

Alison Scowen, as the Co-op's Senior Campaigns and Public Affairs Manager, campaigns against slavery in the UK. She also ran the Great North Run in 2018, raising £645 in direct support of Anti-Slavery, and recruited many of her colleagues to do the same.



Yes, I want to protect adults and children from slavery

Please accept my gift of £

- ☐ I enclose a cheque or charity voucher made payable to Anti-Slavery International
☐ Please debit my Visa/Mastercard/CAF Charity Card below

Card No.																		Expiry date					
Name on card																	(last 3 digits for CAF cards only)						
Signature																	Date						
Title																	First name						
Surname																							
Address																							
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																Signature					Date		

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. I understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference. Please notify us if you want to cancel this declaration, change your name or address, or if your tax status changes.

Become a member and help end slavery for good

☐ I would like to give a monthly gift of: ☐ £5 ☐ £10 ☐ £15

Other amount £ Starting on the 1st 15th of (month)

☐ I already support Anti-Slavery International by Direct Debit with a monthly gift of £ and would like to increase to a new monthly total of £

(this will update your previous direct debit instruction and you will receive a new advance notice letter)

INSTRUCTION TO YOUR BANK OR BUILDING SOCIETY TO PAY BY DIRECT DEBIT

Please send the completed form to Anti-Slavery International

Name and full address of your Bank/Building Society
To The Manager Bank/Building Society

Address Postcode

Name of the account holder(s):

Bank/Building Society Account Number:

Branch sort code:

Banks and Building Societies may not accept direct debit instructions for some types of accounts.

Service User No. 4 1 7 4 5 5

Reference (to be completed by Anti-Slavery International)

Instruction to your Bank or Building Society:

Please pay Anti-Slavery International Direct Debits from the account detailed in this Instruction subject to the safeguards assured by the Direct Debit Guarantee. I understand that this instruction may remain with Anti-Slavery International and if so, details will be passed electronically to my bank/building society.

Signature Date

Telephone Mobile No.

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

To hear about our work fighting slavery around the world, and different ways you can get involved and support us, please fill in your email address. You can unsubscribe whenever you want.

Email address

Please contact me about how my workplace ☐ local community ☐ can support the work of Anti-Slavery International.

If you would prefer not to receive certain mailings from us, please contact us on supporter@antislavery.org or 020 7737 9434.

Data Protection: Anti-Slavery International does not trade names with other organisations, list swap, or rent out our supporters' data. We hold and process data in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (2018).

To read our Privacy Policy, please go to www.antislavery.org/contact-us/privacy-and-usage-policy



Registered Charity 1049160

Please return this form to Anti-Slavery International, Thomas Clarkeson House, The Stableyard, Broomgrove Road, London SW9 9TL
Or you can donate online at antislavery.org/release or call 020 7737 9434



Photo: Stokpic

Help end slavery once and for all

By leaving a gift in your Will to Anti-Slavery International you will be helping future generations to live in freedom.

To find out more about our work and leaving a gift in your Will, please fill in your details below and post to: Anti-Slavery International, Thomas Clarkson House, The Stableyard, Broomgrove Road, London SW9 9TL

Title First Name..... Last Name

Address

..... Postcode

- ☐ I would like to receive more information about gifts in Wills
- ☐ I would be interested in a free Will service if one was made available
- ☐ I've included / intend to include Anti-Slavery in my Will (delete as required)



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We have supported slave-descent communities to find their freedom.

Photo: Anti-Slavery International

New communities start their path to freedom

■ Recently, as a result of the influence by communities of former slaves supported by our project in Niger, two new groups of people have left their masters and established their own independent villages. The new communities are made up of 300 and 400 people.

Our project in Niger provides a platform for people of slave decent, who have escaped their masters, to come together as a community and start living freely. Within these communities we provide primary school education, vocational training for adults and microloans for people to start their own businesses.

These communities thrive in freedom and increasingly influence their neighbouring villages, where people still live tied to their masters. As people who were born in slavery and don't know anything beyond it, it is hugely challenging to move away and cut ties with their masters, so this move is very significant.

Good luck to them on their new path to freedom, we are excited for it to be spreading!

Please donate now to give the gift of freedom:

- **£12** could help pay for school supplies for two children for a whole year.
- **£24** could help pay for a whole years' education for a child born into slavery.
- **£50** could help provide microcredits to support survivors of slavery to set up their own small business.

Donate today

at www.antislavery.org/donate

To join as a member for £5 per month, go to www.antislavery.org/membership

or call us on 020 7501 8920