



reporter

Summer 2018

Established in 1825

Children: futures of freedom

We provide children with a strong voice, skills and confidence to protect themselves from slavery now and in the future.

Also in this issue:

- Ending forced child begging across West Africa
- Campaign to protect UK survivors of slavery gathers momentum



Young girls are commonly exploited in clothing factories in India.
Photo: Dev Gogoi

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

Series VIII, Vol 24, Issue 1.

Anti-Slavery International
Thomas Clarkson House
The Stableyard
Broomgrove Road
London SW9 9TL
United Kingdom

tel: +44 (0)20 7501 8920
fax: +44 (0)20 7738 4110
email: info@antislavery.org
website: www.antislavery.org

Editor: Jakub Sobik
tel: +44 (0)20 7501 8934
email: j.sobik@antislavery.org
Layout: Berie Stott, www.dot-ink.com

UK Registered Charity 1049160
Company limited by guarantee 3079904
Registered in England and Wales

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 pressing for more effective implementation of national and international laws and policies against slavery.

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

Cover photo: Boys from families affected by bonded labour in Nepal.



Jasmine O'Connor
Chief Executive

Tackling root causes for long term change

■ I am delighted to introduce this issue of the Reporter for the first time as the new Chief Executive of Anti-Slavery International.

Anti-Slavery's work addresses not only immediate situations of exploitation, but tackles the roots causes. This is one of the reasons I am so excited about taking up this role. Nowhere is this approach more acute than in our work with children.

We want children to have a strong voice, skills and confidence to be better equipped to protect themselves from exploitation now and in the future. You can read about how we work to achieve this in our features on pages 8 to 14.

Eradicating slavery is far from simple. Sometimes the challenging circumstances in which we operate can make even the most hard-fought wins seem small because of how much there is left to do. But every piece of progress we make, for example in protecting survivors of slavery in the UK (page 4), migrant workers in Qatar (page 6) or survivors in Mauritania (page 7), should be celebrated because of how hard it came about and because each success brings us closer to ending slavery for good.

Together with our wonderful supporters, whose incredible efforts we showcase on pages 22-26, we are confident we have what it takes to end slavery abuses in every corner of the world. And if you're in need of inspiration, look no further than page 20 for six simple actions you can take in less than an hour.

I have been inspired by the imagination and determination of our supporters since I joined Anti-Slavery in March this year, and I am already looking forward to meeting many of you at our **Annual Supporters' Meeting** on the afternoon of **Thursday 15th November 2018**. I hope you can keep the date free!

Thank you for your commitment. Together we can end slavery for good.

We want children to have a strong voice, skills and confidence to be better equipped to protect themselves from exploitation now and in the future.

Helping UK slavery survivors be free for good

**Co-ordinator of the Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group
Anna Sereni on the growing momentum of our campaign to support the victims of slavery in the UK.**

■ The failure of the UK Government to implement a convincing anti-slavery strategy has been laid bare in recent months.

A series of highly critical reports from respected public institutions, including the National Audit Office and the Work and Pensions Select Committee, have increased pressure on the Government to live up to its promise of making modern slavery its priority.

Reflecting Anti-Slavery's stance on the issue, the reports focused to a large extent on urging the government to dramatically improve the system supporting victims, as well as invest in intelligence gathering and police investigations that would make it easier to prosecute traffickers.

The reports pointed out that the current system of signposting potential victims to relevant support

networks is inefficient, causing delays and distress to vulnerable people. They criticised the government for not knowing what quality of care is being provided to potential victims, and what happens to the victims after they leave care, making them vulnerable targets for traffickers again.

Several high-profile court cases also highlighted the Government's tough anti-immigration policies and their disastrous effect on slavery victims,

often deeming them as offenders rather than vulnerable victims of traumatic crime in need of long-term support.

The Government responded by

committing to reform the current victim support system, the National Referral Mechanism, and by extending the period for which potential victims are guaranteed support, from 45 to 90 days. However, this does not provide enough protection for survivors – it takes much longer to overcome the



Anna Sereni,
The Anti-Trafficking
Monitoring Group
Co-ordinator

trauma of slavery and piece a life back together.

This is why Anti-Slavery supports the **Modern Slavery (Victim Support) Bill** which would ensure that all victims receive appropriate support from the state.

The Bill provides a guarantee for support for 12 months after a person is identified as a victim of slavery, giving them time to start rebuilding their lives.

It specifies the minimum standards of care for victims, from appropriate accommodation and financial assistance, to access to social, medical, psychological and legal care. This would ensure that no victim receives a lower quality of support than others.

It also grants the victims 'leave to remain' in the UK for the period of recovery should they wish. This allows them the time to create some normality in their new lives in freedom.

Anti-Slavery has joined the **Free For Good** campaign calling for the passing of the Bill. After successfully navigating its way through the House of Lords it has been submitted to the House of Commons, putting pressure on the Government to get serious about slavery.

We are calling on all of our supporters in the UK to join us in putting pressure on local MPs to support the Bill. This can be done very quickly and easily by visiting www.freeforgood.org.uk, entering your postcode to identify a relevant MP and sending a pre-drafted message.

Please use your voice to provide full and lasting protections for some of the UK's most vulnerable men, women and children to help them become free for good.



Slavery survivors in the UK still have no guarantee of proper support from the state.

Slavery in your smartphone

■ A Sky News investigation found children as young as four-years-old working in Congolese cobalt mines, a mineral essential for smartphone batteries.

With heart-breaking stories of young children carrying out back-breaking work and falling sick from the mine chemicals, the investigation exposed the problems in the global supply chains of products widely used by millions of people.



Slavery affects mining industry in DRC.
Photo: MONUSCO/
Sylvain Liechti

“The electronics companies must do more to clean up their supply chains. Not only that, they should use their power to put pressure on governments to address the systemic problems that underpin slavery such as extreme poverty and the lack of rule of law”, said Anti-Slavery’s spokesman Jakub Sobik.

On page 18 read why we need an EU wide law to address slavery in global supply chains.

Qatar promises reforms

■ The International Labour Organization (ILO) opened its first office in Qatar for the first time to work with the Qatari government to improve working conditions for migrant workers building the infrastructure for the FIFA World Cup in 2022.

The move is part of the commitment made by the Qatar government under pressure from campaigners at the end of 2017 to reform labour laws for migrant workers. These include introducing

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’ sponsorship system, which gives employers control over workers’ visas and is one of the main factors that enables widespread exploitation.

“It’s good to see Qatar promise reforms, but it’s their implementation that will matter for the workers”, said Kate Elsayed-Ali, Anti-Slavery’s International Advocacy Manager.

Anti-Slavery was the first to expose this issue, prompting an investigation by the Guardian newspaper in 2013 and starting a global campaign to protect migrant workers.



Migrant workers in Qatar still face exploitation and forced labour.
Photo: Pete Pattison



There is still a long way to go to end slavery in Mauritania.
Photo: Michael Hylton.

Harsh sentences for slave owners

■ Two slave-owners in Mauritania were sentenced to 10 and 20 years in prison respectively, the country’s harshest slavery sentences yet.

This was only the third conviction for slavery in Mauritania. One of the cases was a result of a seven-year fight as part of Anti-Slavery International’s legal work representing three sisters who escaped their masters in 2010.

The ruling gives new hope for slavery victims in Mauritania. In the previous two cases, brought to the courts by Anti-Slavery, the slave-owners were given lenient sentences of two to five years, well below the penalty

prescribed by the law.

“The sentences are in line with the law for the first time” said Karine Penrose, Anti-Slavery’s Africa Programme Co-ordinator. “It offers a glimmer of hope that the courts will start taking slavery seriously”.

Slavery in Mauritania exists in its most traditional form, with black descendants of the Haratine ethnic group often born into slavery and spending their lives working as domestic servants or cattle herders for White Moors (traditional slave owning group) without ever receiving payment for their work and with little hope of ever being free.

“There is still a long way to go” Penrose added. “We have filed at least 40 cases from former slaves that are lingering in the courts.”

ASOS partnership

■ Anti-Slavery entered a strategic partnership with online clothing giant ASOS to help improve its ‘on the ground’ practices preventing exploitation.

Acting as a ‘critical friend’, Anti-Slavery is working to advise ASOS

to meet the commitments made in its Modern Slavery Statement and provide a sustainable solution to the issues faced by migrant workers in its supply chain in Mauritius.

Find out how your business can benefit from our expertise, email Ryna at r.sherazi@antislavery.org.

Futures of freedom

To mark World Day Against Child Labour on 12 June, Jakub Sobik takes a closer look at child slavery, and highlights what Anti-Slavery is doing to tackle it.

■ Today there are an estimated 10 million children in slavery across the world. Children who are forced into back-breaking work in mines, brick kilns, sweatshops and private homes. Children who are forced into sexual exploitation or early marriage. Children who get exploited as soldiers, or are forced to beg, or sell drugs.

Like Ananya* from India (see box, right), who had to wake up at midnight and work through the night to prepare bricks for moulding.

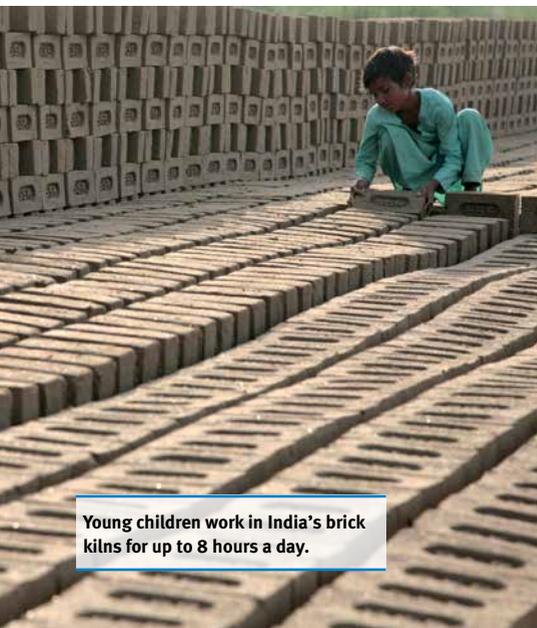


Jakub Sobik,
Communications Manager

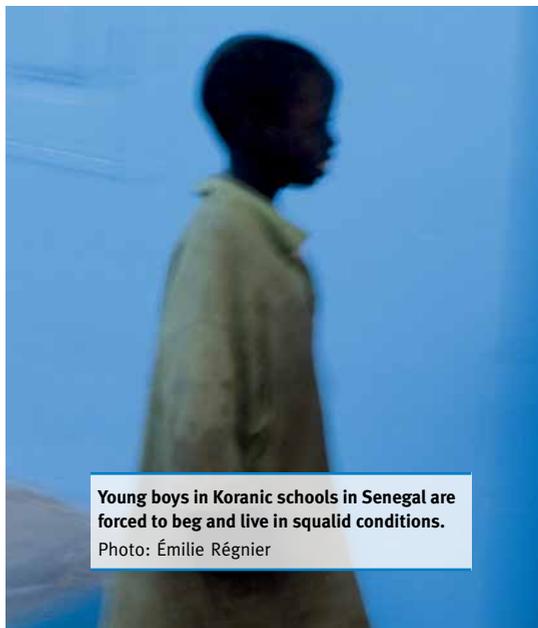
Like Oumar* in Senegal, who had to spend hours begging every day just to earn enough to eat and avoid being harshly punished by his master.

Like Irene in Tanzania*, who was beaten by her employer every time she wanted to take a short break from her domestic chores.

There are 10 million children who, instead of going to school and spending their days playing with their friends, get exploited for someone else's gain. They suffer abuse, fear and isolation.



Young children work in India's brick kilns for up to 8 hours a day.



Young boys in Koranic schools in Senegal are forced to beg and live in squalid conditions.
Photo: Émilie Régner



Children of slave descent in school founded by Anti-Slavery International in Niger.

Ananya*, 9 years old, India

“ I like reading, but my father didn't have any money [to send me to school], so had to take me to the brick kiln to work instead. We used to get up at midnight or 1am and work through the night making clay ready for moulding. ”

Ananya migrated with her family from Uttar Pradesh, India, to work in a brick kiln in the northern state of Punjab. Together with our partners we have recently advocated for Punjab state to introduce a policy providing education for children living with their families in brick kilns, and now we are pressing for its implementation.



The vicious cycle of child slavery

Children are particularly vulnerable to exploitation because it's much easier to deceive a child.

Sadly, the vicious cycle of slavery rarely ends with survivors escaping their captors, because children rarely receive a formal education whilst in captivity and have trouble finding employment later in life. Additionally, the trauma of abuse often affects every aspect of a child's life, including their health and the ability to build normal relationships with other people.

Many survivors are likely to stay in poverty, in low skilled and low paid jobs. In turn, they will have little chance of providing their own children with an education and a good start to their lives.

Building freedom for the long run

Anti-Slavery works with children in many countries across the world (see box on page 13), and every project operates in a completely different cultural context. However, one common theme applies: we work to secure a long-term future of freedom for children and families affected by slavery.

We do this by focusing on protecting vulnerable children from immediate exploitation and abuse, while ensuring that our work is sustainable in the long term, preventing future children from exploitation.

We support children to become less vulnerable by enabling them to defend their rights and providing them with access to education to help increase their chances of finding

Jagrati*, Nepal

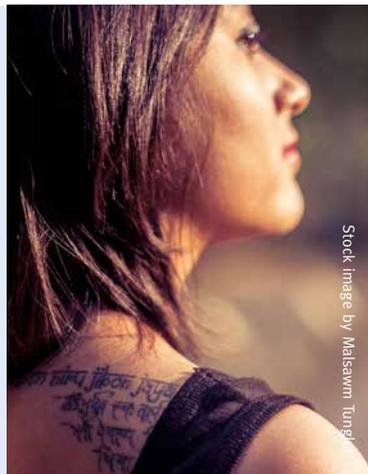
“ I was sixteen when I started to date a man who quickly offered to marry me. I ran away with him to another town. There he would leave for work in the morning and lock me in the room, and he soon started attacking and abusing me.

One day I overheard him offering to sell me to another man. I was shocked and terrified. I managed to run away and return to Kathmandu. Later I heard that the man had already sold two other women using the same method.

”

Jagrati is now receiving training from Anti-Slavery and its partner SASANE to become a paralegal and help other victims to get justice.

*name changed.



Stock image by Malsawim Tungha

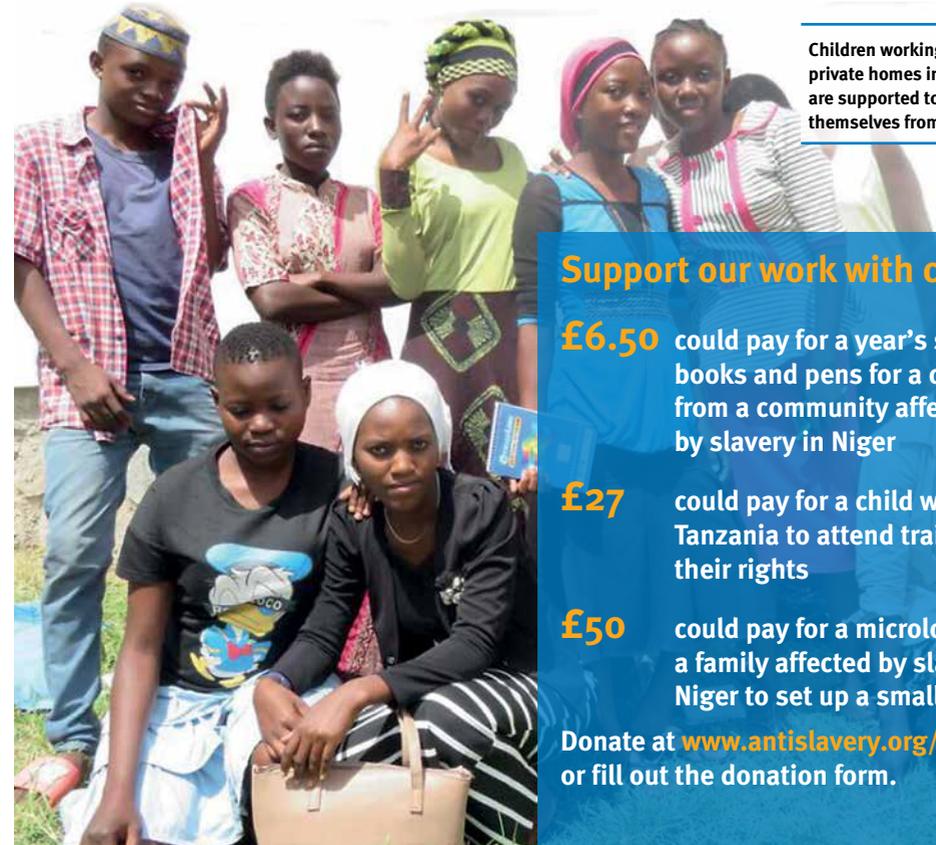
Irene*, 16-years-old Tanzania

“ I started working as a domestic worker when I was fourteen. I washed clothes, mopped the house, bathed children and cooked food for a whole family. The most difficult thing for me was I did not get an hour to rest. When I tried to rest, my employer beat me up.

But now I can call for help from the [Anti-Slavery and partners] project workers and stand up and stop my employer from behaving like that.

Irene attended classes organised by Anti-Slavery's project and built her skills and confidence. In the future she is planning to become pharmacist.

*name changed.



Children working in private homes in Tanzania are supported to protect themselves from exploitation.

Support our work with children

£6.50 could pay for a year's school books and pens for a child from a community affected by slavery in Niger

£27 could pay for a child worker in Tanzania to attend training on their rights

£50 could pay for a microloan for a family affected by slavery in Niger to set up a small business

Donate at www.antislavery.org/donate or fill out the donation form.

Adamou*, 16-years-old Niger

“ I am the first one in the family to go to secondary school, and this makes my parents very proud. Life in my village has changed a lot since the schools were built. People are less poor and less ignorant than before.

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

Abdullah’s parents lived under the control of their masters until they benefitted from Anti-Slavery’s school and community projects.

*name changed.



decent employment.

For example, in Niger we created six schools for families born into slavery and controlled by their masters. This was the first time that children from these families had access to any formal education. A decade on, the families are completely free from their masters’ influence. Their children perform way above the national average on school exams, and the first children have started attending secondary education. The communities which have formed around the schools have also helped to advocate with the government to build three additional schools in other areas.

We’re also making sure that we don’t leave the most vulnerable communities behind. For example, we have recently started a project on tackling forced child begging in Niger and Mali – an issue that no international organisation has addressed so far (read more on page 14).

We change children’s futures. The transformations we witness every day give us hope that we can raise a new generation who will ensure that slavery is no longer acceptable, and no longer possible.

We won’t stop until every single child around the world is free from slavery.

Our work: bringing freedom to children

In **Niger** children from families of slave descent can access formal education for the first time thanks to six schools founded by Anti-Slavery. Their families received micro-loans to start small businesses.

Thanks to our lobbying work with local governments and brick kiln owners in **India**, an increasing number of children of brick kiln workers can go to school during the working season.

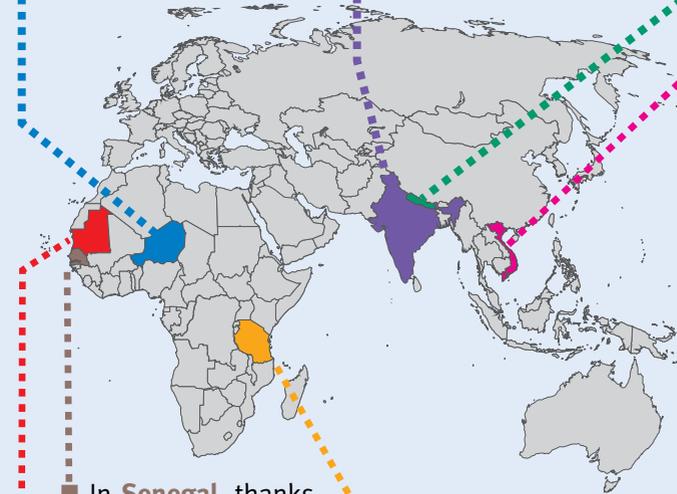
In **Nepal**, survivors of sex trafficking receive paralegal training and gain experience at police stations to advocate for other victims when child trafficking is reported.

In **Vietnam**, thanks to our project, young people learn about the dangers of trafficking and receive vocational training and job placements to make them less vulnerable to being trafficked.

In **Senegal**, thanks to our work with local communities, young boys have been protected from being forced to beg on the streets and received care from local families.

Thanks to our project in **Tanzania**, children exploited whilst working in private homes build up the confidence and skills that they need to protect themselves and build alternative future. Through our advocacy work, children are protected from abuse by their local communities.

In **Mauritania**, children and their parents escaping slavery benefit from essential education and vocational training. Usually they are not able to access state education because of the discrimination against the ‘slave’ class.



Ending forced child begging



Emmanuelle Tremeau
Africa Programme
Co-ordinator

We are leading the fight against the abusive tradition of forcing young children to beg on the streets, writes Africa Programme Co-ordinator Emmanuelle Tremeau.

■ Anti-Slavery International has worked for almost a decade on protecting children who are forced by their schoolmasters in their Koranic school to beg on the streets in Senegal, West Africa, making them vulnerable to abuse. But the issue is prevalent in adjoining countries too, where forced-begging is a common practice.

Every time I visited projects in Niger, also in West Africa, I was shocked and saddened to see so many children, sometimes as young as four-years-old, standing outside supermarkets, gas stations, or by traffic lights to ask passers-by for money.

“We will [...] identify strategies to address not only the forced begging, but also the root causes, such as poverty and lack of access to state education.”

Equally shocking was that no organisation was working to end the exploitation of these children in Niger, and that very few initiatives exist that span the region, despite some children being trafficked between

countries for this purpose. It then became clear to me that Anti-Slavery had to do something about it. So together with our local partners in Senegal, Mali and Niger we decided to assess the situation much more closely to see if we could support a regional effort on forced-begging.

Koranic education is a long established and highly-regarded tradition across West Africa. A large number of children, particularly boys from poor, rural backgrounds, receive their entire education at residential Koranic schools.

Traditionally, these residential schools do not charge their students for food, accommodation or studies. Instead, the boys are sent out to beg for them. Far from their families and living in squalid conditions, the children are neglected and fall victim to physical or psychological abuse if they fail to meet their begging ‘quotas’, not to mention potential dangers on the streets.

In Senegal, an estimated 100,000 children are forced to beg. In Mali, it is estimated that in 2010 the capital Bamako was home to over 50,000 such children but warns that this

number has significantly increased since then. The number in Niger is unknown, but child begging is very visible across the country’s towns and cities.

In January 2018, we embarked on a new project to tackle this issue. Over the next three-years we will gather data on the nature and prevalence of forced child begging in Mali and Niger, including the rate of trafficking involved, and identify how the lessons learned from our work in Senegal could apply to other countries in the region.

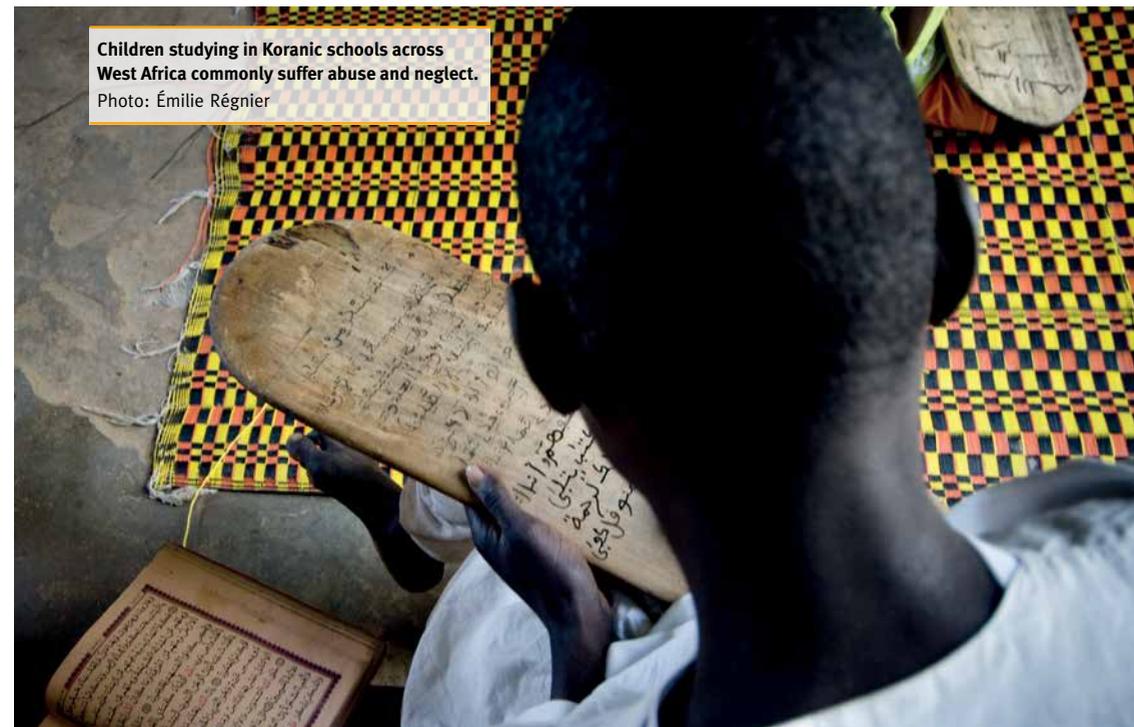
The project will establish organisations led by children and young adults with experiences of begging in Niger, Mali and Senegal and train them in advocacy and communication techniques so that they can shape the national debates

around forced child begging and end it for good across the region.

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

We will also lobby the 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 for good.

Support our work to end forced child begging with a regular gift at www.antislavery.org/donate.



Children studying in Koranic schools across West Africa commonly suffer abuse and neglect.
Photo: Émilie Régnier

Brick kiln workers stand up for their rights



Sameer Taware,
India Project Officer

Anti-Slavery Project Officer in India Sameer Taware on the increasingly effective struggle of bonded labourers to claim justice.

■ Despite outlawing bonded labour, India's underprivileged castes and communities often fall victim to debt bondage and continue to be denied justice.

Mohan Lal and his wife Bhagavati (below) come from a village in Rajasthan in northern India. They are Dalits, a caste that commonly suffers discrimination and poverty.

In 1992 they travelled to work at a brick kiln further north in the state of Punjab, with dreams of a better life.

Originally, they had planned to work only for one season. However, they were forced to stay at the same brick kiln for over 25 years after becoming trapped in debt bondage. They initially took out a loan to move, which was then controlled by the brick kiln owner, and increased exponentially.

Most of their wages went towards the repayment of their loan. They were never able to repay it in full, and instead had to take other loans, falling into a never-ending cycle of debt.

Their youngest child was always

held captive as 'insurance' whenever Mohan Lal and his family wanted to visit their home in Rajasthan to ensure they returned to the kiln.

Mohan and Bhagavati managed to send their children to a nearby state school, which is quite unusual for brick kiln workers. Finally when Hardeep, their youngest son, was stopped from attending his graduation exams, he contacted Anti-Slavery's partners Volunteers for Social Justice (VSJ) for help and VSJ helped the family to safety.

Despite district authorities being obliged to provide immediate relief and necessary support for their survival, the family was left with nothing.



Mohan Lal, Bhagavati and Hardeep faced hardship for 26 years, but are looking forward to the future.

Brick kiln workers commonly fall into debt bondage and endure hard working conditions.

Photo: Bharat Patel.



It took for the VSJ to organise a sit-in protest of around 600 brick kiln workers outside of the local magistrate's building for almost two weeks for the family to be provided with financial support. However, they were denied the official bondage release certificate, which would entitle them to compensation and allow them to build a slavery-free future. Mohan's and Bhagavati's struggle continues.

Their case is a classic debt-bondage case that represents the agony of many millions of brick kiln workers in India in the 21st century. An estimated 2.3 million workers employed in brick kilns every year work and live in precarious conditions and aren't able to leave.

Anti-Slavery International supports workers in the northern 'source' states of Chhattisgarh and Uttar Pradesh – the states where many workers usually migrate from to work in brick kilns – and in the Punjab, where many of the kilns are located.

Working with the authorities has always been challenging because of a widespread denial of the existence of bonded labour practices across India. However, invoking national mechanisms, such as the National Human Rights Commission, is helping to mount pressure on local authorities

to implement the law and secure the rights of workers.

What is the most encouraging is that our work to empower vulnerable workers

by providing education, assistance and legal support is starting to bear fruit. The fact that 600 local brick kiln workers came together and joined the protest for Mohan Lal's family shows that our work is increasingly paying off, and that these discriminated communities are becoming more confident, that together they can stand up for their own rights and demand justice from the state.

Support our work in India at
www.antislavery.org/donate

Why the EU needs law on slavery in supply chains



Louise Eldridge,
UK and Europe
Programme Assistant

Louise Eldridge answers five questions

1. Why does slavery occur in global supply chains?

A lot of goods and services that we buy are produced in the context of poverty where there is a lack of decent work opportunities, and exploitative practices have become more tolerated. This keeps production costs low and keeps prices low for consumers.

It is workers who often bear the brunt of businesses' drive for low production costs and high profit margins. In many circumstances the companies from

which consumers buy their goods and services are not aware of slavery occurring in its supply chain.

National laws are often weak, and those responsible companies that want to tackle slavery in their supply chains still have to compete with businesses that exploit their workers.

2. Why the European Union

The EU is the world's largest economic block, and its legislation could

influence business practices across the world.

Protection of human rights is written into the EU's constitution and it has already moved to combat abuses in some sectors such as garments, conflict minerals and palm oil. Some EU countries, such as France, the UK and the Netherlands, have or are introducing legislation to tackle slavery in supply chains.

“European politicians can make it happen, and we, as European citizens and consumers, should show them we support such action.”

However, the systemic problem of slavery in corporate supply chains requires regulation that will create a common

standard for all businesses trading in the EU. We believe this will create large enough change to encourage companies to act.

3. What regulation is needed?

Firstly, we need to compel businesses to be transparent and publicly disclose the details of their supply chains, such as the origins of products and labour.

Secondly, we should require businesses to take responsibility



Slavery is present in many goods consumers buy across the European Union.

for the impact of their actions all the way through their supply chains and proactively tackle human rights violations. This is known as human rights due diligence.

For instance, this means looking at how the use of subcontracting makes abusive practises harder to monitor. Or it may mean looking at whether all workers in the supply chain have the rights and means to negotiate with employers about their working conditions.

4. Do businesses support supply chain regulation?

It is a common misconception that businesses oppose any new regulation. But experience shows that regulation which aims to support fair competition wins business support.

For example, including the transparency provisions in the UK Modern Slavery Act 2015 was a direct result of action by companies. Many big businesses, including Nestle, Heineken and ASOS, supported similar legislation in the Netherlands and Australia.

The regulation that we advocate for does not pose additional burden on businesses already taking steps to root out slavery. And adding some burden on companies that undercut others by tolerating it doesn't strike us as unfair, quite the opposite.

5. Why now?

The momentum is growing. In September 2017 the European Parliament passed a resolution calling for corporate due diligence for companies in the EU, and eight EU national parliaments have called for legislation at a European-wide level to harmonise rules and standards, with potential impact on a global scale.

Interested in learning about how your business or employer can work with Anti-Slavery to identify and remedy slavery in its supply chains?

Visit www.antislavery.org/supply-chains or contact Ryna Sherazi at r.sherazi@antislavery.org or 020 7737 9436.

Six things you can do to stop slavery in less than sixty minutes

Chief Executive Jasmine O'Connor suggests simple actions which everyone can take.

■ Some 40 million people are estimated to be in slavery, whether in a nail bar in London, a coltan mine in Congo or a garment factory in India, slavery is often hidden in plain sight. The products of slavery are around us every day – it's in the things we wear and the things we eat.

Ending slavery and freeing millions of people is a huge task and will require a movement of inspired activists to achieve it. But there are very simple ways you can take action and be part of that movement.

1. Learn

Learn about modern slavery. Know where it can exist and how it manifests. It can take as little as 10 minutes. Visit our website www.antislavery.org to learn more.

2. Spot the signs

You probably see people who are in slavery on a regular basis. They don't have shackles, they might appear normal, but look closer and

you might spot more worrying traits. Do they appear to be in the control of someone else and reluctant to interact with others? Are they able to move around freely? Do they appear frightened, withdrawn, or show signs of physical or psychological abuse?

If you suspect that someone is in slavery, DO NOT confront them as this will likely lead to increased harm for them. In the UK call the Modern Slavery Helpline on **08000 121 700** – it takes five minutes but can save a life.

3. Use your consumer power

Engage the businesses you buy from. Check on their website whether they have a modern slavery statement and ask them what they are doing to ensure their goods and services are not tainted by slavery. 15 minutes spent reading a statement and sending a short email can have a real impact. We have countless examples of businesses acting under pressure from their customers.



Jasmine O'Connor,
Chief Executive

4. Sign the petition

Victims of slavery need time and support to rebuild their lives, but the UK fails to provide it. Please spare 2 minutes and ask your MP to support the Free for Good campaign at freeforgood.org.uk.

5. Donate

Anti-Slavery International provides immediate care for victims, runs programmes to rebuild their lives, and lobbies governments and businesses to take slavery seriously and protect vulnerable people. This is long and complex work and needs sustained funds. A gift of just £5 a month –

that's only 15p a day – could make a vital difference to help end slavery. Visit www.antislavery.org/donate or use the donation form on the back of this Reporter.

6. Share

Share information about slavery with friends, families and colleagues and encourage them to take action themselves. Tweet or post the action you took and share this article to get six other people to take the six actions. This will cost you as little as a few seconds!

A longer version of this article was originally published on Huffington Post.



Forced labour in the cocoa industry.
Photo: Nile Sprague

No Diet Coke challenge

■ Becca Terris has given up her beloved Diet Coke for six months to support the anti-slavery cause. She is donating to Anti-Slavery whatever she usually spends on Diet Coke and has asked her friends for sponsorship.

“I was shocked to learn that more than 40 million people are still slaves today. Discovering this made me want to take immediate action” she said.

Becca has raised £445 and is still going. Thank you for your commitment Becca!



Facebook birthday fundraising

■ Celebrate your birthday by fundraising to help us end slavery, simply using Facebook!

Here's how to do it: on your birthday go to the Anti-Slavery Facebook page (just search for Anti-Slavery International), go to 'Fundraisers' on the left-hand side, click the 'Raise money' button, and set up your fundraiser in just a few clicks. Your friends will be able to donate to Anti-Slavery on your birthday without even leaving Facebook. **Thank you!**

Nottingham students power ahead against slavery

■ The University of Nottingham Anti-Slavery society has been very active this year.

The members have dug out their trainers to run the Robin Hood Half Marathon and Hampton Court Half Marathon, and convinced 40 other students to run 5k around the campus!

The group also organised their second 'Sounds Against Slavery' night of live music, as well as an awareness raising slavery-free coffee morning and clothes swap.

They have raised an impressive £1,600 over the past year. Thank you for your incredible work!



Power in Silence

■ Aileen Belle committed to a whole month of silence to raise awareness about slavery in Libya.

Throughout February, with the exceptions of having to speak at university for work or in an emergency, Aileen only communicated with simple cards and a notepad.

“The scenes of men in Libya being sold as slaves at an auction shook her. “It is heart-breaking to see that [...] we are still subjecting people to such awful measures in the name of power and money. But we are not helpless, and we can do something to help them.”

Aileen raised £610 and reached thousands of people through her Facebook page @silenceagainstslavetrade. Thank you!

Dancing for Freedom

■ Ben Hammond, a teacher from London going by the name of Planet Prancer, is DANCING the length of the famous Route 66 from Los Angeles to New York to raise money for Anti-Slavery International.

“I believe everyone should have the right to live a life free from servitude, to determine their own future and to create and follow their own dreams, just as I am lucky enough to be able to do”, Ben said.



Ben has already danced 130 miles from the Californian coastline to the desert, and the next stage will take place over the Summer. He has fundraised over £4,000 already. Amazing work!

Check out his unbelievable journey and sponsor his efforts at www.planetprancer.com.

Reaching new heights for Anti-Slavery

■ In May, Lauren Todd trekked through the Atlas Mountains in Morocco for five days and summited the highest point in North Africa, Toubkal at 4,167 meters, to help people escape slavery.

“Raising money to help even one person live a better life, a free life, was more rewarding than finishing the trek itself.”

Lauren has raised an amazing £3,000 and is still going. Thank you and well done!



Remember Anti-Slavery in your Will

■ We are extremely grateful to all our generous supporters who remember Anti-Slavery International in their Will. Last year, we received over £300,000 in legacies, which helped us support thousands of people affected by slavery. A gift in your Will could help us reach even more people and help create a world free from slavery.

For more information about Gifts in Wills and how your support could have a lasting effect, please visit www.antislavery.org/legacy, call Paul on **020 7737 9435**, or email p.sheehan@antislavery.org for more information.

Today, it is inconceivable that slavery still exists. I urge you to help make the world a better and fairer place for all. Help change forever the lives of people in slavery today by leaving a legacy to Anti-Slavery International.



Dame Judi Dench, Anti-Slavery International Patron

Anti-Slavery International strengthens privacy rights

■ Anti-Slavery has updated its privacy policy to further protect the security and privacy of all our supporters whose personal information we hold and process.

Our policy fully complies with the General Data Protection Regulation (2018) that came into force on 25th May 2018. We are committed to treating all donors and supporters with the highest level of care, consideration and respect.

To find out what data Anti-Slavery collects, why we collect it, and the measures we take to keep it secure, please read our Privacy Policy at www.antislavery.org/privacy, or alternatively call **020 7737 9434** and we will post you a written copy.

Annual Supporters Conference – save the date

■ Make a note in your diary for our **Annual Supporters' Meeting and AGM**, which will take place in central London in the afternoon of **15th November 2018**. All our supporters are welcome to attend, you are also very welcome to bring a friend who could be interested in our work, and members have the option to vote on the day.

Places are limited, so please RSVP to the invitation letter in the Summer to secure your place.



To become a member of Anti-Slavery International, please email supporter@antislavery.org or call **020 7737 9434**, or you can join online at www.antislavery.org/membership. The minimum membership fee is £60 a year, or £5 per month.

Inspiring action against slavery

■ From using birthdays and weddings to ask friends for donations to remain silent, dancing through continents and diving with sharks, the lengths our supporters go to in raising money and their voice against slavery doesn't stop inspiring and motivating us to work even harder to put an end to it.



Although we can feature only some of these inspiring stories in this Reporter, we value them all equally and send the most heart-felt **THANK YOU** to all of you.

If you would like to fundraise to support our work, please visit www.antislavery.org/fundraise-for-freedom for more information, or contact our friendly team on **0207 737 9434** or email Rebecca at r.chambers@antislavery.org. Thank you.



M'barka, 25-years-old, Mauritania

“For all my life as a slave, I herded animals. When I came back in the evening, I had to milk the animals, cook, serve dinner and clean up the tent. I was insulted and beaten by my masters whenever I forgot something or did not do things properly, or when I was late. I was never allowed to eat with them.

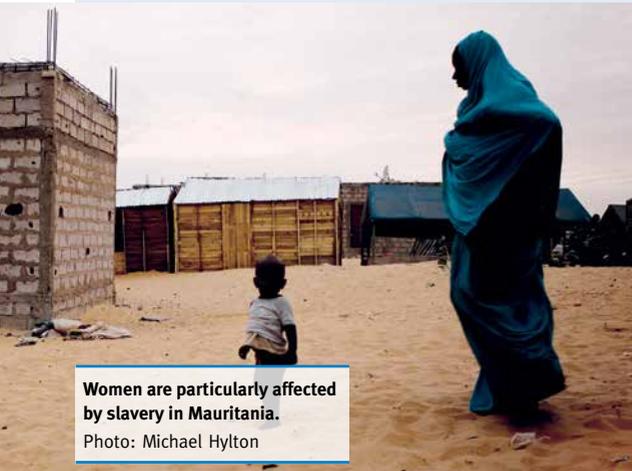
For all my childhood until the moment I left, the abuse never stopped.

My master often came to find me in the bush and would rape me. I have four children, of whom three belong to my master and his brothers. My master never recognised my children as his.”

M'barka was rescued with the help of Anti-Slavery, and lodged a complaint against their former masters. She now lives in freedom with her children

and receives regular support including education classes, financial help and regular visits from the network of volunteers that Anti-Slavery built in the region to support people who escape from slavery.

“I now want to have a house, to provide an education to my children and I also want to learn. I want my rights and rights for my children.”



Women are particularly affected by slavery in Mauritania.

Photo: Michael Hylton

Your gift could change lives:

- **£6.50** can help pay for school books and pens for a child from a community affected by slavery
- **£24** can help pay for a year's education for a child born into slavery
- **£120** can help train a community leader to uphold the rights of child domestic workers.

Donate today

at www.antislavery.org/donate

To join as a member for
£5 per month, go to
[www.antislavery.org/
membership](http://www.antislavery.org/membership)

or call us on **020 7501 8920**.