Resisting slavery and restoring freedom

How you helped thousands of people across the world to fight or escape modern slavery.

antislavery.org
Born into slavery

In Mauritania, Mali and Niger, thousands of people are ‘owned’ by their masters from birth.

With your support, we worked alongside local partners and free communities of slave descent in all three countries – tackling the poverty and prejudice that fuel descent-based slavery practices and helping to build a future where slavery is eradicated.

Our work in Niger is part-funded by UK Aid Direct, from the UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office.

Highlights from our three year project in Niger:

- 628 men and 632 women benefited from our income generation and microcredit schemes.
- 1,578 people accessed our civic education centres for legal advice and were supported by paralegals to obtain their official identity documents.
- 767 girls and 816 boys received a primary education.
- 350 households with children enrolled in our community schools were provided with food and hygiene supplies.
- 632 men and 632 women benefited from our income generation and microcredit schemes.
- 1,578 people accessed our civic education centres for legal advice and were supported by paralegals to obtain their official identity documents.
- 767 girls and 816 boys received a primary education.
- 350 households with children enrolled in our community schools were provided with food and hygiene supplies.

Ending bonded labour

The Haliya people of western Nepal are lower-caste Dalits, often working as bonded labourers.

Thanks to your donations, with our partner in Nepal, we helped Haliya communities to claim their rights and get the government support they need.

Over the four-year project:

- 498 Haliya children and young people received tuition and/or schooling support with 100% exam pass rate and 495 staying in school.
- 172 young people completed business start-up training, and 39 young people graduated from specialised 18-month technical training courses.
- In response to the pandemic, with additional UK Aid funding, we provided food and nutritional support to 4,345 households.
- Last year, 36 Haliya families registered for state rehabilitation, which includes a house and land; a total of 1,483 families since the project began in 2018.
Forced labour and slavery in supply chains

Global companies’ efforts to drive down costs can result in slavery and other human rights abuses in the supply chain.

With your help, we continued to call for new laws in the UK and EU to hold business and the public sector to account for supply chain human rights abuses and environmental harms. In early 2022, the EU will publish its proposal for this law.

We continued our leading role in the Coalition to End Forced Labour in the Uyghur Region. Launched in July 2020, the campaign is now endorsed by over 400 organisations worldwide, including ASOS and Marks and Spencer.

Over 140 companies have now supported the Turkmen Cotton Pledge to not invest in state-imposed forced labour in Turkmenistan.

Global child labour statistics
- 160 million children are in child labour
- An increase of 8 million children since 2017
- 79 million are in hazardous work
- 112 million work in agriculture
- 122 million work in rural areas
- 8.9 million more children will be working by the end of 2022 because of Covid-19.

(Source: ILO/Unicef)

Explore our report at antislavery.org/eu-business-and-human-rights-law
Climate change and modern slavery

Climate change destroys livelihoods, forces migration and increases people’s vulnerability to modern slavery.

We collaborated with leading experts to launch two reports. Compelling case studies from Peru, Bolivia, Ghana and Bangladesh demonstrate how climate change and modern slavery form a vicious circle.

We used this research in our engagement with the world’s decision makers. We called on leaders at COP26 and across the EU to financially support people displaced by climate change and to embed anti-slavery actions in their policies and plans.

Read the two reports at antislavery.org/climate-change-modern-slavery and antislavery.org/climate-induced-migration

UK government anti-trafficking action

Making sure that trafficking victims in the UK receive the support they are entitled to.

As chair of the Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group (ATMG), we are incredibly proud of the Agents for Change research on the importance of including and responding to survivors’ voices. Survivors of slavery or exploitation shared their reflections to help inform practitioners, civil society organisations and the UK government.

We continued to fight divisive immigration, asylum and modern slavery proposals from the UK government. We are grateful to the thousands of supporters who wrote to their MP in response to our Ditch Detention and Protect Not Punish campaigns, challenging provisions that would cause harm to victims of slavery.
Mrs F was born into slavery and given away at the age of seven to her slave master’s sister in neighbouring Burkina Faso.

After decades of being mistreated, and having six children with different fathers, Mrs F returned to Niger with the help of an uncle. With the assistance of our partner organisation, she then launched legal action against her former master and to take custody of her three children still living in slavery.

Mrs F’s case went all the way to the West African Court of Justice, which found Niger to be in violation of Mrs F and her children’s rights to a fair trial; to not be subject to any form of exploitation or enslavement; and, to the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women.

Niger has now paid significant compensation to Mrs F and her children.

To donate visit antislavery.org/donate
2021: The year at a glance

In 2021, Anti-Slavery International directly supported 17,880 people.†

EU
Tackling forced labour and slavery in supply chains.
We await an EU policy proposal due in Spring 2022 and recently began our campaign for a similar law in the UK. Join our call and find out more at: antislavery.org/take-action/campaigns

40.3 million people are trapped in modern slavery today.

UK
Campaigning for Survivors’ rights and amplifying their voices.
Listen to our Agents for Change podcasts on YouTube.

Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan and Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region (Uyghur Region), China
Working with the Coalition to End Forced Labour in the Uyghur Region.
We also continued to campaign for the end of forced cotton picking in Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan with the Clean Cotton campaign.

16 million women, men and children are in forced labour in the private sector, producing goods that end up in markets across the world.

14 anti-slavery partner organisations in 10 countries.†

40.3 million people are trapped in modern slavery today.

In June, new global estimates on child labour were released, which showed that child labour had increased for the first time in two decades.

Overseas, we supported 14 anti-slavery partner organisations in 10 countries.†

16 million women, men and children are in forced labour in the private sector, producing goods that end up in markets across the world.

In the UK, we worked with 16 partner organisations to advocate for the rights of people affected by slavery.

Mauritania, Niger
Working with five newly freed communities.
Including supporting legal cases as they go to the West African Courts of Justice.

Mauritius
Helping migrant workers escape debt bondage and forced labour.
The Migrant Resource Centre in Mauritius has processed over 130 cases, many involving multiple workers, since February 2020.

UK
Engaging with decision makers at COP26 in Glasgow.
Read our reflections on COP26 at antislavery.org/cop26-least-developed-countries-left-in-the-lurch

Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal
Ending forced child begging.
Since 2016, we have stopped or significantly reduced begging among 7,781 students and improved conditions in 230 Qur’anic schools in West Africa.

Nepal
Ending bonded labour in Nepal.
We produced a documentary on our project in Nepal, watch it on our YouTube channel.

We spent £2,937,095 on eradicating slavery and raising more vital funds.†

Nepal
Ending bonded labour in Nepal.
We produced a documentary on our project in Nepal, watch it on our YouTube channel.

Mauritius
Helping migrant workers escape debt bondage and forced labour.
The Migrant Resource Centre in Mauritius has processed over 130 cases, many involving multiple workers, since February 2020.

Our incredible supporters
Anti-Slavery International supporters ran, hiked, biked, campaigned, lobbied and petitioned throughout 2021 – find out how you can get involved at antislavery.org/take-action

† Figures from the 2020-21 Annual Report and Accounts: antislavery.org/accounts