

Reporter

Autumn 2022



Together putting humanity first

- Driving change in Tanzania
- Success in Uzbekistan
- New laws can put people before profit

Freedom is a fundamental right

Founded in 1839, Anti-Slavery International is the oldest international human rights organisation in the world. We began fighting to eliminate the slave trade and today, we're still fighting to end all forms of slavery and slavery-like practices around the world.

Our vision is to realise freedom from slavery for everyone, everywhere, always. We aim to do this by:

- Making the end of slavery everyone's concern.
- Acting as an ally to survivors and people at risk of slavery, elevating their voices and experiences to create radical change.
- Challenging and changing law, policy and practice so everyone, everywhere can be free from slavery.

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Tell us what you want from Reporter

By reading Reporter you're participating in a movement that has its roots in the battle against the wrongs of the trans-Atlantic slave trade. We're always keen to learn from our supporters and members and would love to hear what you'd like to see in the magazine. Please drop us an email at media@antislavery.org with any ideas, suggestions and comments – and thank you for being part of our movement.

Follow us

Please follow us on Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook and Instagram to keep up to date with our campaigns – you can find links to our social media on our website antislavery.org.

Together putting humanity first

Throughout 2022, we've seen a mix of great wins, collective progress and hope. But also frustration and disappointment.

The media shone a much-needed spotlight on modern slavery after the courageous disclosure by Sir Mo Farah that he was trafficked into domestic servitude as a child. We need to keep building on this awareness and keep building momentum. Now, more than ever, we must put humanity before politics.

Modern slavery is a human story. A story we're committed to telling, while engaging survivors and elevating their voices. In April, the Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group published a first review of the Home Office's Recovery Needs Assessment. This crucial paper was researched and written by people with lived experience, and highlights the myriad ways that survivors are being failed. I know you join me in believing the UK can and must do better to protect survivors.

For 15 years, we've been campaigning with the Cotton Campaign to end systemic forced labour in Uzbekistan. As a result of our collaborative efforts and commitments, the 2021 cotton harvest showed no evidence of state-imposed forced labour. A huge win. While there's still much work



Jasmine O'Connor OBE
Anti-Slavery International
chief executive

to be done, I'm thrilled to share this incredible success.

Despite such success in Central Asia, I have been deeply troubled by the invasion of Ukraine, a conflict that

has displaced millions of people and placed them at great risk of harm. We've therefore focused our energy on raising awareness of the risks of trafficking

faced by people fleeing Ukraine, and calling for greater protections to be in place. Working with key partners, such as La Strada International and the Ethical Trading Initiative, we've been able to provide core guidance to businesses on protecting workers fleeing Ukraine in their supply chains.

I am so happy to share this latest Reporter with you, a symbol of the fantastic work that our colleagues and partners around the world have been able to achieve with your support. Your engagement and energy bring us one step closer to our goal of securing freedom for everyone, everywhere, always.

“
Now, more than ever,
we must put humanity
before politics.”

Laws that could protect people and planet

In our work to put people and planet before profit, with your vital support, we continue to campaign for improved laws to stop human rights abuses in business supply chains.

Here are some important developments from the past few months.

In the UK

In May's Queen's Speech, the government renewed its commitment to strengthen the Transparency in Supply Chains clause in the UK's Modern Slavery Act. The proposals won't come close to what we are calling for, so we're campaigning to introduce amendments that will strengthen the clause and introduce import bans for goods made with forced labour.

This is the first step on a long journey to reduce business harm. But we still need a stronger overarching law that requires companies to continuously take meaningful action against all human rights abuses, including modern slavery, and environmental harm.

Therefore, **we're continuing to call for the UK government to introduce a Business, Human Rights and Environment Act** so that businesses are compelled to take meaningful action against human rights abuses in their supply chains.

In the US

In June, the US introduced the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act which **bans all companies from importing goods tainted with Uyghur forced labour into the US**. The law is a huge win for the Coalition to End Forced Labour in the Uyghur Region, of which Anti-Slavery International is an active member. However, despite this great success, there are two key risks:

- As few other countries have such strict laws, there is a risk that companies will split their supply chains – having a 'clean' supply chain for the US, and a 'tainted' one for the rest of the world. We are calling on governments around the world to introduce similar legislation, in order to mitigate those risks.
- Importers to the US will be able to re-export any goods that are blocked from entry, meaning products made with Uyghur forced labour can be shipped to other countries. There's a high risk the EU could become a dumping ground.



Credit: Tim Mossholder on Unsplash

In the EU

After many years of hard work from us and our partners, in February 2022 the EU announced its proposal for a mandatory human rights and environmental due diligence law. We welcomed the proposal and outlined recommendations to improve it, including:

- Broadening the scope – currently small and medium-sized enterprises are not included, meaning that only about 17,000 companies will be covered by the law.
- Involving workers more – the directive must strengthen the need to involve workers in consultations.

The European Commission – the EU's

executive arm – announced that they are preparing a new legislative instrument to effectively ban products made by forced labour from entering the EU market. Since then, the EU has moved fast in the development of a Forced Labour Instrument, which should ban the import of goods tainted with forced labour, as well as targeting goods that are produced with forced labour within the EU.

Your support is crucial to changing laws that put people before profit. Please keep an eye out for our campaigns and emails to get involved and help bring about lasting change. Join our mailing list via our website to stay up to date.

Preventing exploitation and trafficking of people from Ukraine

With more than 9.5 million adults and children having fled Ukraine since 24 February this year, we are hugely concerned about the risks of modern slavery. As the crisis has continued, we have pushed **for greater protections for displaced people** as they seek safety and sanctuary across Europe and around the world.

In the UK, we have supported initiatives highlighting the risks of trafficking and called for action from governments and international bodies to address those risks. As a member of La Strada International, a European network of NGOs addressing human trafficking, we have promoted their research and recommendations relating to the heightened risk of trafficking, and guidance for

businesses to reduce the risk of exploitation. La Strada International has identified the key risks displaced people are facing, including a rise in online and on-the-ground recruitment, a lack of social support and clear information on their rights, and language barriers.

Businesses have a crucial role in preventing exploitation of people in their operations and supply chains. Working with members from the Ethical Trade Initiative we have compiled core guidance for businesses.

We are encouraging all companies to share this guidance with their suppliers. You can help by writing to companies and asking them to use the guidance. Together we can encourage businesses to prevent exploitation from occurring within supply chains and support the employment of those displaced.

Thank you for your ongoing support to help highlight the risk to people fleeing global conflicts. It's crucial that the lessons from this guidance are used to help people secure the right to decent work and to encourage further collective action. Please email supporter@antislavery.org for a copy of the guidance and more information for businesses.



People rush to the Polish border, fleeing Ukraine.

The real Mo Farah

In July, the nation was shocked when British Olympic champion, Sir Mo Farah, revealed he had been a victim of child trafficking.

Sir Mo Farah, born Hussein Abdi Kahin, was trafficked from Djibouti to the UK as a young child and forced into domestic servitude.

In a beautiful and empowering television documentary, Sir Mo looked into his past and shared his experiences of child trafficking and **domestic servitude.** Living with his trafficker, he was kept hidden from public view, initially prevented from attending school and forced to work for his meals. After eventually gaining access to education, he was finally able to tell adults about the severity of his situation. Through running, he found his release and with the support from those around him, he was able to reach his extraordinary potential. **It takes tremendous bravery and courage to disclose such an experience.**

Sir Mo's revelation has shone a light on the thousands of men, women and children in the UK who are coerced into exploitation and slavery every year. Last year alone there were nearly 13,000 cases of modern slavery reported via the National Referral Mechanism. Around 43% of these cases included children, although these figures are considered to be very conservative.

Following the airing of the documentary, we, along with



Credit: Erik van Leeuwen

colleagues across the Anti-Trafficking sector signed a joint statement, calling on the government to improve protections for victims of trafficking.

Sadly, lots of people who escape slavery, including children, are often let down by the authorities whose role it is to protect them. We see survivors being detained, deported or even jailed for crimes they were forced to commit, often feeling like they are **fighting for their freedom alone.**

That's why we are continuing to campaign over the coming months to make sure that the government's proposed modern slavery legislation is comprehensive and provides sufficient support to survivors.

Sir Mo Farah showed the nation the human face of trafficking – an issue which continues to plague people across the UK and all over the globe.

Thank you for standing with us in the fight against modern slavery. Together, we'll make sure the government provides better protection for survivors.

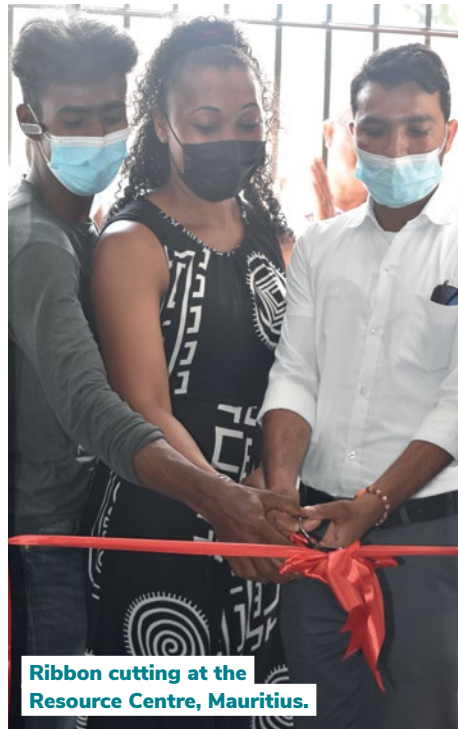
Supporting migrant workers in Mauritius through partnerships and modern technology

For the past three years, we've been working in partnership with migrant workers, trade unions and businesses in Mauritius to reduce modern slavery in supply chains.

Many people embark on migration journeys that lead them to situations of debt bondage or forced labour, as recruiting agents may deceive them by promising false job opportunities and ask for the payment of exorbitant recruitment fees. Regardless of international labour standards and frameworks, many migrant workers remain highly vulnerable to exploitation and abuses of their rights.

Anti-Slavery International supported local organisations in Bangladesh and Madagascar to make sure migrant workers going to Mauritius knew the risks of modern slavery and what they could do to protect their rights. Our Bangladeshi partner also worked with recruitment agents and government agencies to improve protection of migrant workers' rights.

As part of this project, a Migrant Resource Centre was established in Mauritius, where migrant workers can receive information on their rights, including monthly awareness-raising sessions and support with



Ribbon cutting at the Resource Centre, Mauritius.

employment-related problems. The Resource Centre was created with the support of IndustriAll Global Union and their local affiliate, the Mauritian trade union Confédération des Travailleurs des Secteurs Publique et Privé (CTSP), and ASOS. It is a free service for

Images credit: Campaign Officers at CTSP, Deearna Ragoo and Hema Murda.



The Resource Centre project coordinator, a migrant worker and Anti-Slavery International staff talk after the cutting of the ribbon event in Mauritius.

The discussion revolved around the story of the migrant worker and understanding how the Resource Centre supported her.

migrant workers, accessible in their native languages.

The project also launched an app – Just Good Work Mauritius – designed to increase migrant workers' ability to access reliable information on their rights and life in Mauritius, from home or abroad. To make sure it meets their needs, workers were directly involved in the development of the app, which is available in English, French, Bangla and Malagasy. This access to knowledge improves migrant workers' ability to protect themselves and detect potential risks to their freedom. It also supports them in access to help, providing a direct link with the Resource Centre and other useful contact details.

While the project has now come to an end, our partners are committed to ongoing collaboration. The Resource Centre will also continue operating and provide support to migrant workers through the local trade union, CTSP. Similarly, at Anti-Slavery International

we will tackle modern slavery issues in the garment supply chain beyond Mauritius, remaining open to engaging with new allies in the fashion industry as we work towards making sure all workers are free from exploitation and abuse.

A Modern Slavery Statement, required by law for companies with a turnover of £36Million, is a policy outlining their companies' modern slavery risks and how they intend to tackle them.

A good modern slavery statement must:

- Be detailed and transparent
- Identify key risks
- Then have meaningful steps to address the risks
- And include measures of impact, key collaborations (such as working with Anti-Slavery International) and trainings.

A typical week with the Tanzania Child Domestic Worker Coalition

The Tanzania Child Domestic Worker Coalition is a long-time partner of Anti-Slavery International. A truly grassroots organisation, coalition members focus on a range of frontline support, advocacy, education and legal support.

Based in Mwanza, the country's second largest city, the Tanzania Child Domestic Worker Coalition works across communities to advocate for the rights and protections of child domestic workers.

Child domestic work, where children work as domestic servants, is very common in Tanzania and while it can be empowering for children – enabling them to access employment, education and save money for their futures – there can also be cases of extreme abuse and slavery-like conditions. The Coalition works with child domestic workers, child advocates, local law makers, educational institutions and employers to prevent and respond to abuse and exploitation in domestic work, and allows children to engage in work that is safe, fairly paid and compatible with schooling.

Monday

The Coalition meets to discuss upcoming trainings, opportunities and feedback from ongoing activities.

Tuesday

The Coalition leads a training day with street leaders (local government leaders) focused on raising awareness

of the types of abuse they should look out for among child domestic workers in their constituencies. Training often focuses on how street leaders should handle cases of suspected abuse, how to mediate between employers and child domestic workers, and at what point they should bring in the police.



Street leaders take part in a motivational exercise during a training session.

Wednesday

Coalition member, Wajabu, brings together advocates for child domestic workers – including employers, local motorbike riders, teachers and religious officials – to train them on how to support children. The focus is on supporting good contracts, spotting abuse and improving the responses from local officials.



Advocates for child domestic workers talk about the challenges faced by child domestic workers in their communities.

Thursday

A core part of the coalition's work relates to supporting child domestic workers to access education and vocational training while they are in employment.

Coalition members from the Hakizetu Organisation meet with representatives of the Nyakoto Vocational Training Centre to make sure child domestic workers receive training in skills that will help them plan for the future or move to better paid employment, such as plumbing and sewing.

Friday

The team from coalition member, Mwanza Orphans Ministry (MWAOMI), travel to schools in the Magu district to raise awareness on the realities of child domestic work and the challenges those children face.

MWAOMI works with pupils in school clubs to dispel misinformation about domestic work – including promises made to young children when approached by employers or intermediaries – and encourages them to stay in education.



A classroom at the Nyakoto Vocational Training Centre.

Saturday

On Saturdays, child domestic workers who've joined the Advocacy Committee come together in the centre of Mwanza to share their learning of supporting others in their communities in the same situation. Mery shares how she's not only learned about her own rights, but how she's been able to support fellow child domestic workers as they've faced abuse. Mery hopes to train as a tailor and become a fashion designer.

Mery attends the Advocacy Committee workshop.



Thanks to your support, we witness children leaving abusive situations, building their futures and pursuing their dreams away from domestic work and a vicious cycle of slavery.

To support our ongoing work with children, please donate online at antislavery.org/donate

Meet Zalika: from child domestic servant to future business leader

A child domestic worker in Mwanza, Tanzania, Zalika* is attending the Nyakato Vocational Training Centre and striving for a brighter future.

Like many girls worldwide, Zalika experienced hardship at home which led her to seek employment in domestic work. In Tanzania, around one million children are engaged in domestic work, most of them girls.

Poverty and hardship in rural areas force children to migrate to cities to find jobs in private households. **Far from their families and vulnerable to exploitation, they may be denied the salary initially promised. They are often forced to work long hours and have little chance of attending school and getting an education.**



So, when Zalika was offered the opportunity of vocational training, she was delighted. Through the Tanzania Child Domestic Worker Coalition, **she has been able to learn a vocational skill and is using this opportunity to train as a plumber.** She is the

only female plumbing student at the training centre.

Zalika hopes that by learning this important skill she will be able to provide a better life for her family. She would like to have a career beyond domestic work and inspire other girls to believe that they too can learn to be a plumber. **She dreams of running her own plumbing company and being able to employ women.**

Zalika would like other women and girls to learn from her. We can't think of a better way to empower females in her area and break gender biases in employment.



Together, we are fighting for freedom from slavery for everyone, everywhere, always. This includes the nearly 30 million women and girls worldwide experiencing some form of slavery.

*Name changed

Support our work to protect children from slavery with a regular gift at antislavery.org/donate

Credit: Jessica Turner for Anti-Slavery International

Historic success in Uzbekistan

Ending state-imposed forced labour in the 2021 cotton harvest.

For almost 15 years, the Cotton Campaign, a coalition of international human and labour rights organisations, including Anti-Slavery International, has been at the forefront of human rights campaigning to end state-imposed forced and child labour in Uzbekistan.

With your help, we were able to put pressure on the Uzbek government. And we're now thrilled to celebrate the end of state-imposed forced labour in the 2021 Uzbek cotton harvest – an historic achievement.

Under the state-imposed system, human suffering was widespread. More than a million children and adults – including medical staff, public sector employees and students – were forced to pick cotton every year. Not only were children forced into labour, but some were harmed and even died due to the unsafe nature of the work.

Since 2010, the Uzbek Forum for Human Rights – Cotton Campaign's frontline Uzbek partner – has conducted independent monitoring of the annual cotton harvest. **In 2021 their monitoring indicated that, for the first time, there was no systematic state-imposed forced labour.**



However, the risks aren't over:

- The Uzbek government must introduce broader reforms to make sure cotton workers enjoy decent work, not exploitation.
- With risks of labour and other abuses still high in the cotton sector, including constraints on freedom of expression and association, companies must exercise human rights due diligence as they engage with the Uzbek textile industry.
- Companies must not begin sourcing from Uzbekistan, without making sure labour rights are respected and can be meaningfully monitored; and that workers can access their rights, and resolve any work-related grievances. This is why the Cotton Campaign has developed a Framework for Responsible Sourcing to try and make sure companies have the tools in place to respect labour rights.

Read the Framework to find out how businesses can respect labour rights at cottoncampaign.org/uzbekistan

One day at a time

In April, the Anti-Trafficking Monitoring Group, which we chair, launched a report, 'One day at a time', on the UK Recovery Needs Assessment. Its authors offer an overview of the findings.

What is the Recovery Needs Assessment (RNA)?

Post-slavery support is essential for survivors to be able to recover from their experience. The RNA is an assessment that is intended to equip a survivor of modern slavery with appropriate support following their modern slavery experience in the UK. It's a transition plan, tailored to the survivor, aiming to ensure the continuation of services until others are in place to meet their recovery needs. **It is the vital final stage in the National Referral Mechanism journey,** after which a survivor is left to recover and navigate the world alone without a support worker.

What are the key findings?

The report highlighted a range of concerns faced by survivors:

- **Every survivor said they had, at times, been destitute,** because the RNA **didn't meet their basic needs.** This can hinder recovery and heighten the risk of re-trafficking.
- Support is generally denied for **children of trafficking victims,** meaning that survivors must bring their children to appointments, which can be triggering and distressing.



Images: Faltrego for Anti-Slavery International

- The RNA is complex, inefficient and unclear. Most survivors reported having to make important, impactful decisions with little understanding of their consequences.

These concerns could easily have been prevented by having an inclusively informed structure **that listened to all parties experiencing the RNA first-hand, including survivors.** Sadly, this didn't happen and, by failing to do so, the authors found the RNA **process has become a harmful and even a 'hostile environment' for survivors of modern slavery and human trafficking.**

Since the report was published, we've been busy promoting its findings with parliamentarians, the Home Office and others. We are urging the Home Office to review the RNA policy and use our recommendations to develop a comprehensive support package that aids victim recovery, with meaningful collaboration from survivors and the anti-trafficking sector.

We have:

- Presented and discussed the report at the Home Office-led Modern Slavery Strategy and Implementation Group quarterly meeting.
- Met with Home Office officials to present the report and the changes needed.
- Met with MPs, communicated with other parliamentarians and supported the asking of parliamentary questions in the House of Commons and House of Lords to raise awareness of the issues and press for improvements.

Thank you so much for your ongoing support. Together, we can make sure that people – who have been through so much already – are treated with kindness, dignity and given the chance to rebuild their lives.



Want to know more?

Read the report summary online, at: antislavery.org/one-day-at-a-time

Or read the blogs by the report authors:

Ok Google, what's the Recovery Needs Assessment (RNA)? antislavery.org/whats-the-rna

The RNA process created another yet hostile environment antislavery.org/rna-process

Meet the team

The team at Anti-Slavery International is ever-expanding – with new supporters, volunteers and staff. Here, we meet George – our existing partner in Tanzania – and two new colleagues Yaeno and Cara.

George is a community development practitioner with a passion. He works at our partner organisation the Tanzania Child Domestic Workers Coalition (TCDWC). He has over ten years' experiences of working with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), communities and other stakeholders to improve children's livelihoods in Mwanza, Shinyanga and Mara regions in Tanzania. Currently, he is working with Tanzania Child Domestic Workers Coalition. He provides leadership for project management and accountability by facilitating the capacity building of member CSOs, coordinating the overall monitoring and evaluation processes, and ensuring that improvements are being made to children's lives.

“ It has been a great opportunity for the Coalition to work with Anti-Slavery International to end slavery around the world and I look forward to us continuing to work together. ”



Yaeno joins Anti-Slavery International, supported by the Caroline Ashurst Award.

“ I'm a future trainee solicitor at Ashurst LLP, and this opportunity allows me to join Anti-Slavery International as part of Ashurst's Modern Slavery Action Plan. This commitment continues the legacy of the firm's founder, William Henry Ashurst, and his daughters, who advocated for the abolition of slavery and equality for women in the 1800s.

I'm honoured to be supporting the work of Anti-Slavery International because I believe in its mission for freedom from slavery for everyone, everywhere, always. I will be working primarily to develop the organisation's knowledge management, to track its extensive research and impactful public-facing work.

This is an incredible opportunity to learn from such dedicated, inspiring and knowledgeable individuals about the very real issue of modern slavery. I look forward to continuing to support the work of Anti-Slavery International with Ashurst, and seeing the fruits of the amazing work across the organisation. ”



Cara is an International Advocacy Officer.

“ I was thrilled to join Anti-Slavery International in June. I'm really passionate about survivor-informed advocacy and am particularly excited to work on elevating the voices and experiences of those affected by slavery in our work.

Having previously worked in Geneva, I've seen first-hand the impacts that international mechanisms can have, particularly as a means to amplify and create momentum for national level advocacy, but also as an important last resort for accountability when avenues are closed elsewhere.



One of the things that drew me to Anti-Slavery International was its incredible legacy and longevity, combined with its commitment to growing and being dynamic. It is such an exciting time to join the organisation as it revamps its strategy, expands its advocacy work and expands the team! ”

We need to protect people in the climate crisis

New research shows that climate change not only increases vulnerability, but is leading to greater incidences of modern slavery. Our CEO, Jasmine O'Connor, reflects on what needs to happen now.

Anti-Slavery International's long history of campaigning against injustice has shown us that slavery thrives where a weak rule of law meets discrimination and poverty.

Around the world, from Peru to Ghana, to Bangladesh and, most recently, India – there is growing evidence that climate change is forcing people to migrate, leaving them highly vulnerable to exploitation.

“ We used to live in Satabhaya (a group of seven villages), which was submerged due to sea-level rise. We moved to Bagapatia, but there is no employment opportunity here or nearby places. We don't own land here, so we engage in share cropping as that is the only livelihood option for us. However, we suffer massive crop losses due to climatic impacts. With no livelihood option, we migrate to Kerala. There are so many migrants that a bus service has started from our village to Kerala. With direct transport facility available, youth, including women, have started migrating. ”

Bagapatia village, West Bengal, India

Extract from the International Institute for Environment and Development report, 'Climate change, migration and vulnerability to trafficking' available to download at [iied.org](https://www.iied.org)

What we must do

As the links between modern slavery and climate change become more apparent, so too does the need to include modern slavery in climate change responses. We want the prevention of modern slavery to become part of the solution to climate change.

We know that we're much stronger together. We need a movement, led by those who live in the affected regions, that can amplify the voices of those who have experienced the links between modern slavery and climate change. Together, we must continue to call for this link to be recognised and acted upon. We are continuing to support new research and are raising awareness of climate change and modern slavery on the international stage.

A ruined house in Sierra Leone, a little way down the valley from a mudslide. The marks shows how high the torrent of mud and water came up.



Credit: Olivia Acland for Anti-Slavery International

Five ways to get involved for Anti-Slavery Day

Join us this Anti-Slavery Day, 18 October, and help raise awareness of modern slavery.

Please take action to help unlock the future for victims of slavery in the UK and worldwide. Here are a few ways to get involved.

1. Send a postcard

Enclosed with this mailing is a postcard. Raise awareness of Anti-Slavery Day this year by posting it to a friend, family member or colleague and ask them to join us in the movement resisting modern slavery and restoring freedom.

2. Join the movement

We resist modern slavery for all people whose freedom is withheld. Become a member of Anti-Slavery International and you will resist too. With your regular gift, you will help dismantle systems of abuse and exploitation, push to change laws and arm people with their rights. Join today to resist modern slavery and restore freedom for everyone, everywhere, always. Visit antislavery.org/join to get started.

3. Campaign for change

Sign our petition calling for a new UK law to stop UK businesses selling goods made on the back of modern slavery. Then tell all your friends and family about it by sharing it on your social media channels! Get involved at antislavery.org/take-action/campaigns

4. Fundraise for freedom

There are lots of ways you can raise money to fight slavery – whether you like running, cooking or want to come up with your own unique challenge. **Here are a few easy ideas to inspire you:**

- Make your steps count by doing a sponsored walk, run or dance.
- Run a bake sale or cook-off.
- Give up your favourite thing – perhaps it's coffee or your Friday treat – then donate what you would have spent.
- Double your impact by asking your employer if they will match the money you raise, to boost your fundraising and help twice as many people.

5. Invite a speaker

Invite a speaker to your local community, school, business or faith group to learn about modern slavery and how to join the fight for freedom. We've also created resources about the history of slavery and how people are affected by it today. Request the resources by emailing supporter@antislavery.org



Credit: Kenny Eliason on Unsplash

People powering freedom

Education is crucial to ending modern slavery. Through knowledge and learning, activists can find their voice.

The modern slavery movement is full of individuals advocating for change – from street leaders in Tanzania, to migrant workers in Mauritius and inspiring activists in the UK. On the following pages we meet Ishaan and Natalia – two young people powering freedom.

But they're not alone in their pursuit of educating and inspiring the next generation to end slavery.

Anti-Slavery International's Fundraising and Communications Executive, Lizzie Muir, travels across the country giving talks and, with your help, can reach your local community, school, business or faith group so we are all armed with the knowledge of what modern slavery is and how to end it.

Learn more about our talks on modern slavery and how you can book one on page 23.

The critical role young people can play in abolishing modern slavery



Ishaan Shah is a 19-year-old, international award-winning human rights advocate, speaker, writer and National Youth Representative at UN Women. In 2017, he founded Stolen Dreams, a youth-led anti-slavery organisation engaging with civil society, international institutions and governments.

“ Young people are an essential missing piece in the current modern abolition movement. Our effective and meaningful participation, as co-creators, co-leaders, and co-owners, across all efforts and at all levels is critical. Mobilising young people as agents of change is becoming more common across social justice movements. It's time

for the sector to invest, amplify and support youth participation. This starts by recognising our value, expertise and the mutual benefits we bring to the table.

There is extraordinary power in including young people in intergenerational collaboration and leadership. Through collaboration and by recognising our contributions, we collectively embark on a journey of learning, growth and building our capacity to end modern slavery. Young people are already working on the frontlines, driving change from local to international levels. Through harnessing our unique expertise, enhanced by our determination, proactivity and innovation, we can support long-term and impactful action.

Since 2017, through Stolen Dreams and more recently with the Youth for Freedom Collective, we've committed to working with all stakeholders, including governments and intergovernmental organisations, to promote youth. Our projects operate at local, national and international levels, and include educational outreach to promote awareness and as a means of prevention. By equipping young people with the tools to take action and including them in the anti-slavery sector, they become valued activists and decision-makers.

Fundamentally, we want the anti-slavery sector to work with us towards achieving long-term, impactful and meaningful engagement with young people. This includes those foundational principles of co-creation, co-leadership and co-ownership, combined with accountability, substantive participation and intersectionality. It's time to transform the anti-slavery movement and realise its full potential by investing in the meaningful inclusion, engagement and participation of young people, as valued and equal partners.



Speaking out on modern slavery. What can I do?



Natalia Dabrowska is a 21-year-old student at the University of Westminster, reading Politics and International Relations. She generously volunteers for Anti-Slavery International and has been engaging with universities across the UK to increase their activism on modern slavery.

“ During my first year at the University of Westminster, we covered modern slavery. Despite the introduction being brief, it was enough to catch my interest. The more I read and learned about it the more frustrated I became. I couldn't believe the terror many have to go through for the gain of others. I also very quickly realised that many people don't speak about modern slavery on social media or the news.

There had been very few occasions when I'd heard about it before.

I remember watching a documentary about child trafficking in Europe. I couldn't and, in a way, didn't want to believe how much of a big issue this is and how the whole system works. Since learning about modern slavery, I know that when I finish university this is the path I want to pursue. I want to help people who face such injustices and prevent more people falling victim to it.

Being given an opportunity to volunteer for an organisation with so much experience has been an absolute honour. Volunteering in a place where each and every member of the team shows their passion and commitment for the cause inspires me every day and only makes me want to do more to make a difference. The most important thing I have learned during my time at Anti-Slavery International is that a little help can change and impact another person's life in such an incredible way.

Knowing everything I know now about modern slavery, I feel privileged to feel free, to have my rights and to feel safe every day – which is what more than 40 million people around the world don't have. By 'giving up' my free time I'm hoping to help prevent that number from rising and help free those who are currently in modern slavery. ”

Let's talk about modern slavery

Many people across the UK are unaware of modern slavery, its prevalence and how to fight it. Change this within your local community by requesting a talk on modern slavery.

We currently provide speakers for:

Community groups

From Rotary Clubs to Women's Institutes, there are many community groups across the country who are working with us to help more people experience freedom. We provide talks that give an overview of modern slavery and ideas on how to reach local communities and get them involved too.

Schools

For students aged 8 to 17, we provide workshops, lessons and assemblies covering what modern slavery is, what we are doing to end it, and how pupils can get involved.

Faith groups

We know that faith is a key driver for many people to fight injustice across the world. That's why we offer faith-specific talks that not only highlight how your community can fight modern slavery, but also the theology that underpins this call to action.

Businesses

There are many ways businesses are helping to bring an end to modern slavery. One such way is making sure co-workers and staff are well-informed and passionate about it. We provide tailored talks to businesses so they can learn about specific forms of modern slavery relevant to their work.

If you'd like to find out more or to discuss booking a speaker, please email supporter@antislavery.org or call us on 020 7737 9434.



A woman attends a training event on child domestic worker advocacy.

Credit: Jessica Turner, Anti-Slavery International

Could freedom be your legacy?

We all want to leave the world a better place through the actions we take in our lifetime. We take comfort in the knowledge that our loved ones will build a better future for themselves, through the legacy we leave.

But for the millions of people still living in slavery, a better future can seem out of reach. As you've heard throughout this Reporter, many people are born into situations which make them vulnerable to slavery and exploitation, and a way out is not always clear.

This was the case for Zalika, a child domestic worker in Tanzania, for the millions in the Uzbekistan cotton harvest and for many migrant workers in Mauritius.

Thanks to gifts in Wills, people who have been forced to pick cotton under government-imposed forced labour in Uzbekistan, migrant workers in Mauritius, and child domestic workers like Zalika, can experience greater freedoms and an opportunity to thrive.

By leaving a gift in your Will, you can help children and adults escape their life of modern slavery and into freedom.

Every legacy gift makes a difference to someone's freedom. Please take a moment to consider remembering Anti-Slavery International in your Will.

For more information about gifts in Wills and how your support can have lasting impact please contact [**supporter@antislavery.org**](mailto:supporter@antislavery.org)