Our vision is a world free of slavery
“If slavery is not wrong, nothing is wrong.”
Abraham Lincoln
The Freedom Fund is a leader in the global movement to end modern slavery.

We identify and invest in the most effective frontline efforts to eradicate modern slavery in the countries and sectors where it is most prevalent. Partnering with visionary investors, governments, anti-slavery organisations and those at risk of exploitation, we tackle the systems that allow slavery to persist and thrive. Working together, we protect vulnerable populations, liberate and reintegrate those enslaved and prosecute those responsible.

The Freedom Fund has sustainably liberated 8,923 people and positively impacted 207,383 lives as of July 2016.

Left: A day wage labourer carries a load of bricks in the brick kiln in Baruhuaa village in Chandauli district of Uttar Pradesh, India. The workers are entitled to get INR180 ($3) per 1000 bricks but the contractor only gives INR 80 - INR 100 ($1.25 - $1.70).

Image, left: Sanjit Das © Legatum Limited
Cover image: Sanjit Das © Legatum Limited

The Freedom Fund CEO Nick Grono addressing the UN Security Council at its first ever debate on modern slavery, in December 2015.
What is modern slavery?

Modern slavery takes many forms and is known by many names. It entraps men, women and children forced to work long days in dangerous and punishing conditions – to make bricks, peel prawns, mine tin and gold, pick cotton and weave carpets. Girls and women imprisoned in brothels and raped every night. Young boys forced to become child soldiers. Girls sold off into forced marriages. It can be called human trafficking, forced labour, slavery, or it can refer to the slavery-like practices that include debt bondage, forced or servile marriage and the sale or exploitation of children.

No matter what it is called, victims of modern slavery have their freedom denied. They are used, controlled and exploited by another person for commercial or personal gain.

Slavery causes terrible suffering to its victims, but it is more than just an individual crime. It is also a cancer that eats away at the wider health of our economies and communities, and a symptom of greater societal failures. Ending slavery not only extinguishes an injustice, but also enables people to freely contribute to their community, creating greater prosperity.

Common forms of slavery:

**Forced labour**

Around the world, men, women and children are forced to work against their will under the threat of penalty or violence, whether by government authorities, private businesses, or individuals. This form of modern slavery is especially common in domestic work, construction, prostitution and manufacturing.

**Bonded labour**

In fields, factories, and households, people are indebted, often through deception and forced to work to repay the “loan” under unlawful and exploitative conditions, sometimes over generations. This is a common practice in agriculture, brick kilns, mills and factories, especially in India and Nepal.

**Sex slavery**

An estimated 4.5 million¹ women, children and men are sex slaves, imprisoned by force or deception into slavery for the purpose of sexual exploitation. Uprooted from their communities or countries, they are disempowered and offered little hope of escape.

**Forced marriage**

Around the world, girls and women are forced or coerced into marriage against their will, usually for money. They are forced to work, and frequently physically and sexually abused.

Opposite, top to bottom, left to right:
Underage girls can be tricked, sold, or trapped as prostitutes within the sex industry; cotton pickers in Uzbekistan are coerced into service each year by their government; brick kilns trap entire families in debt bondage in South Asia; forced domestic servitude is often hidden because of informal and isolated working conditions; girls are sold off into involuntary marriages to settle debts, or for dowry; child soldiers are unlawfully recruited and forced to work, fight, or be sexually exploited by armed forces.

Page 3, top to bottom, left to right: Katie Orlinsky © Legatum Limited, David Beatty © AP Photo, Alice Carfrae © Legatum Limited, Prakash Hatvalne © AP Photo, Karel Biswarup Ganguly, Karel Prinsloo © AP Photo

¹ILO 2012
The scale of the problem

45.8 million people are trapped in slavery around the world today.²

Ten countries are home to two thirds of the world’s slaves³

More than half the victims of slavery are women and girls⁴

There is a lack of good data about how best to prevent and reduce slavery

Current efforts to fight slavery are fragmented

The top ten OECD donors spend only $120m annually to fight slavery internationally⁵

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² Global Slavery Index 2016
³ India, China, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Uzbekistan, North Korea, Russia, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Indonesia. Global Slavery Index 2016
⁴ ILO 2012
⁵ Walk Free Foundation 2014
Why we can end slavery

We can end modern slavery. Here is why:

1 Slavery is illegal everywhere. It is illegal under international law and in every country.

2 It is morally abhorrent. You don’t have to persuade people of the evils of slavery.

3 Governments, business and religious leaders are all increasingly aware of the pervasiveness of slavery, and beginning to act.

We have to build on the momentum we are seeing. We need to educate consumers and mobilise concerned citizens everywhere. We need to encourage political leaders to prioritise anti-slavery efforts and business leaders to robustly tackle slavery in their supply chains.
What we do

1. Work on the frontlines:
   We partner with frontline organisations to directly combat slavery in defined regions where it is highly concentrated. We do this by setting up “hotspot” projects - clusters of the most effective community-based organisations in these regions. Partnering with these organisations in some of the world’s poorest and most marginalised communities is difficult, demanding and time intensive, but it is also one of the most effective ways to achieve large scale and sustainable impact.

2. Drive systemic change:
   We tackle the underlying systems that allow slavery to persist. We do this in our hotspots, engaging the government, private sector, media, social movements and other key drivers of change. We also do it through our Global Initiatives, by catalysing action on selected issues and industries that have a direct link to our hotspots.

3. Strengthen the anti-slavery infrastructure globally:
   We empower the anti-slavery movement, with our Movement Building Initiatives providing platforms, tools and knowledge for organisations to connect and work together more effectively.

4. Raise new capital:
   We bring new funding and innovative investors into the anti-slavery space, with the goal of mobilising the capital needed to work on the frontlines, drive systemic change and strengthen the anti-slavery infrastructure globally.
* Approved strategic plans for Brazil and Myanmar are subject to raising further funding.
Kanchi’s story

Kanchi is a teenager from Sindhupalchok. She is the third of four siblings. Her elder sister has been out of contact for many years and her brother has his own family. Kanchi reports that he does not care for her and her younger sister. When their parents passed away, Kanchi and her sister were left abandoned. Desperate, Kanchi left her village and went to Kathmandu in search of work, so that she could provide for both of them. She started working in a dance bar - a job that she loathed and that exposed her to frequent abuse. Feeling trapped, Kanchi endured the abuse. One time she tried to return home, but her brother badly beat her and threw her out of the house, saying that she had soiled their reputation by working in a dance bar.

Kanchi returned to Kathmandu and was put in touch with a local charity, who supported her to complete her grade ten exams and to find work as a housemaid. Unfortunately, domestic work proved no safer than her previous job. Her employer would call different girls to his house and make them dance and give him massages, including Kanchi. Again, she felt she could not leave the position as she needed the income to provide for her sister. It was during this time that Kanchi became aware of a Freedom Fund partner organisation. When she contacted them and described her exploitative working conditions, staff intervened. Recognising Kanchi’s potential, our partner offered her a job as assistant warden at their shelter. This offered Kanchi not only employment and a place to stay for her and her sister, but also access to counselling and other recovery services. Today, Kanchi is thriving. She is working and continuing her studies.

1 out of every 3 victims of slavery is a child.6

* Name changed to protect the identity of the victim
6 UNODC 2014
Girls work at a “dancing club” in the Tamel neighborhood of Kathmandu, Nepal. The sex industry in Nepal’s capital Kathmandu has gone underground; prostitution is illegal but women still work as “dancers” and “give massages.”

Image: Katie Orlinsky © Legatum Limited
Our hotspots

The Freedom Fund invests in frontline, community-based organisations to protect those at risk, liberate and rehabilitate those enslaved and prosecute those responsible. Our interventions are designed to be strategic and scalable, informed by the needs and expertise of our local partners.

We also invest in a range of interventions at the national and international level to disrupt the systems that perpetuate slavery and to reinforce those that foster freedom, including policy advocacy, private sector engagement and working with the media.

In 2015, four hotspot projects were launched by the Freedom Fund – in Ethiopia, central Nepal, southern India and Thailand – in addition to existing hotspots in northern India and south-eastern Nepal. We now have a total of six hotspot projects operational in four countries addressing a range of slavery-related issues.

We are also working to raise funds for two new hotspots – in Brazil and Myanmar – for which we have developed project strategies.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hotspot</th>
<th>Average annual grant size</th>
<th>Number of partners we work with</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Northern India</td>
<td>$76,999</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern India</td>
<td>$56,286</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Nepal</td>
<td>$42,944</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South-Eastern Nepal</td>
<td>$55,500</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>$61,638</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>$60,537</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Right: A self-help group in south-eastern Nepal is interviewed about their experience of the haruwa-charuwa system of agriculture bonded labour.

Image: Ginny Baumann © The Freedom Fund
The Freedom Fund’s impact
1 January 2014 - 30 June 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TOTAL INVESTED</th>
<th>LIVES IMPACTED</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$11.3m</td>
<td>207,383</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>SURVIVORS ACCESSING RECOVERY SERVICES</th>
<th>VICTIMS LIBERATED</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5,543</td>
<td>8,923</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
- **Cost per Person**: $43
- **Micro-enterprises Started**: 2,911
- **Community Freedom Groups Supported**: 2,911
- **Number of At-Risk Children in School**: 24,079
- **Legal Cases Assisted**: 954
- **Micro-enterprises Started**: 6,439
Global Initiatives and Movement Building Initiatives

Global Initiatives

Through its global initiatives, The Freedom Fund catalyses action worldwide around a slavery-specific issue, industry or approach.

At present, global thematic work focuses on legal strategies to fight slavery, safer migration, transparency in supply chains and treatment of mental trauma.

The Freedom Fund facilitates collaboration between multiple stakeholders and provides a channel through which those with knowledge, influence or funds can impact international organisations, governments, media and the corporate sector.

The initiatives draw on the expertise of local partners to design and test potential solutions.

Movement Building Initiatives

The Freedom Fund works to strengthen the global movement of activists (donors, anti-slavery organisations, and other actors with the expertise and commitment to advance the fight against slavery) by providing the platforms, knowledge and tools for them to connect and work together more effectively.

Combining operational expertise with high-level influence, The Freedom Fund is uniquely positioned to provide global leadership and encourage cross-sectoral collaboration.
Academic partnerships

Integral to the mission of the Freedom Fund is the commitment to know what works in the fight against slavery. We place great emphasis on research and rigorous monitoring and evaluation. This allows us to constantly improve our programs, contribute to sector learning about what is effective, and be accountable to our donors and program participants.

In 2015, we launched partnerships with two new research institutes and completed the fieldwork for a groundbreaking evaluation of a partner program in northern India.

In 2015 the FXB Center at Harvard completed their study of the work of one of our partners in northern India, MSEMVS (the study was published in March 2016). MSEMVS has developed a community empowerment model that enables economically disenfranchised groups to identify their own priorities and collectively demand their rights. FXB’s research documented a significant decline over a four-year period in human trafficking and debt bondage in the area – almost complete elimination. It also found that communities supported by MSEMVS’ full intervention benefited in the following ways compared with similar communities:

- Significantly reduced household debt
- 30% higher wage growth
- Increased access to free public health care
- Dramatically improved access to Indian government protective schemes such as job cards
- Significantly increased the number of meals families reported eating per day

The results suggest that the intervention is highly effective at addressing root causes of vulnerability to slavery, and support the idea of adapting and using similar interventions in other contexts.

The Institute of Development Studies at the University of Sussex is leading the evaluation of our hotspot in northern India and in 2015 we expanded the partnership to southern India and south-eastern Nepal.

In northern India, early findings are being used to help partners improve their programs and ensure they are meeting the needs of participants. IDS is also trialling an innovative participatory approach to measuring prevalence, which means results can be used immediately, are owned by the community and may in some cases be more accurate than traditional methods.

In 2015 we agreed to a new partnership with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine to inform and evaluate our Ethiopia hotspot program, which seeks to promote safer migration among women and girls travelling to the Middle East for work. In 2015, LSHTM launched the first phase of research, which interviewed migrants and potential migrants to understand what they know about the risks of travel, how they make their decisions and the factors that can improve their chances of a successful migration experience.
“I told them I wanted to leave but they didn’t let me. They hit me and forced me to board.”

Lek did not return home for another eight years.
After eight years on the island, trapped in abject poverty with no documentation or ability to contact his family, Lek was discovered by our local partner. They worked with him to gather information about his family and hometown and finally tracked down his parents. Our partner then coordinated with the local Office of the Interior and the Thai Consulate to obtain paperwork for Lek’s repatriation.

A few months later, Lek returned home, along with dozens of other men who’d been trapped in similar situations of forced labour. Lek’s mother and sister met him at the airport in Bangkok, overwhelmed and weeping in relief. “Let’s go home... let’s go home,” his mother whispered. “Don’t you go anywhere again.”

Lek is now safe with his family in Thailand. Our local partner and several former crewmen are helping Lek and his parents to build a small house and Lek is seeking new means of employment close to home.

* Name changed to protect the identity of the victim

Image: Brent Lewin © The Freedom Fund
Financial snapshot
2015 financial year

Total expenditure

Program costs

$7.98M

83%

Fundraising & communications

$0.76M

9%

Operations & administration

$0.86M

8%

Movement Building

$6.98M

87%

Global Initiatives

$6.98M

87%

$0.61M

8%

Other Program Costs

$0.29M

4%

$0.1M

1%

Full financials, 501(c)(3) and Charity Commission reports can be found at: freedomfund.org/about/financials

Right: A women from a self-help group in northern India takes a tailoring training class in her village organised by Freedom Fund partner Prayas.

Image: Atul Loke © Legatum Limited
It is time to end slavery

Anchor Investors

Council of Advocates

The Freedom Fund Council of Advocates is a select group of passionate activists and philanthropists dedicated to supporting the Freedom Fund’s mission. Members play a key role in the Freedom Fund’s work, contributing their intellect, passion, advocacy and financial support. The current members of the Council of Advocates include Natasha Dolby (The Ray and Dagmar Dolby Family Fund), Elliot Justin, Grace Forrest (Walk Free Foundation) and Brandee Butler (C&A Foundation). The Council is chaired by Molly Gochman, Stardust Fund.

Other supporters

The Freedom Fund is pleased to thank the following for making a variety of in-kind and other special contributions since our inception in January 2014: The Dorothea Haus Ross Foundation, British Asian Trust, Alan McCormick, Katie Ford, Dilhan Attanayake, Leigh Day, Legatum Institute, Legatum Limited, Molly Gochman and Joseph Bikart of Templar Advisors.

Other Investors

Directors

Kevin Bales
Professor of Contemporary Slavery, University of Nottingham.

Andrew Doust
Vice President, Strategy, Legatum

Molly Gochman
Artist and Human Rights Activist, Stardust Fund

Felicity Gooding
Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer, Minderoo Foundation

Ed Marcum
Managing Director, Humanity United

Alan McCormick (Chair)
Managing Director, Legatum

Lawrence Mendenhall
Chief Operating Officer and General Counsel, Humanity United

Hisham Mundol
Executive Director, Child Protection, Children’s Investment Fund Foundation

Stardust Fund

C&A Foundation

It is time to end slavery

Image, right: Sanjit Das © Legatum Limited
Slavery is an enormous challenge, but evidence has shown that effective interventions can have a demonstrable impact.
In the late 1700s a small, bold and visionary group of activists in London set out to abolish the slave trade. Against all odds, they succeeded in ending the trans-Atlantic trade in human beings - but their mission is sadly far from complete.

The Freedom Fund is a global anti-slavery leader dedicated to identifying and investing in the most effective frontline efforts to end modern slavery.

Together, we can complete the work of those 18th century visionaries and end slavery once and for all.