



ORGANIZATION

Anti-Slavery International, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
pledges to

**Launch a new 5-year strategy to end
child slavery**

Launch a new 5-year strategy to end child slavery

Name:

Launch a new 5-year strategy to end child slavery: reaching those most marginalised and excluded to end child labour

Description:

In 2021, Anti-Slavery International pledges to launch a new 5-year strategy to end child slavery – one of four priority themes to achieve our organisational vision of 'Freedom from slavery for everyone, everywhere, always.' We will focus on child slavery, the worst form of child labour, to ensure that no child is left behind: so that children in or at risk of slavery – who are among the most marginalised and excluded – are prioritised, reached and included.

Our strategy to end child slavery will integrate work across our programmes, policy, learning and campaigns to influence lasting systemic change.

We will strive to:

- Make ending child slavery everyone's concern
- Be an ally to survivors and children at risk of slavery
- Challenge and change law, policy and practice that allows child slavery to persist

We will do this by:

- Delivering global child slavery projects with partners which achieve a positive impact on the lives and opportunities - of children affected by slavery. Including children born into descent-based slavery, children forced to beg, child-bonded labourers, and child domestic workers.
- Ensuring that the voices of children who have experienced or are at risk of slavery are elevated in all our work and are heard by powerholders.
- Generating and sharing learning and evidence on the challenges faced by children vulnerable to slavery and on what works in tackling child slavery.
- Advocating for the introduction and implementation of laws and policies which address child slavery by decision-makers and power holders, including investment in initiatives that prevent child slavery and its drivers, particularly social protection systems and accessible quality education.

Implementation plan:

In 2021, Anti-Slavery International will launch a new 5-year strategy to end child slavery.

Child slavery has long been a focus of Anti-Slavery International's programmatic work through two types of projects: Child-slavery specific projects and community projects including children.

Our child-slavery specific projects currently include

- a multi-country forced child begging project in West Africa
- A project enabling access to education by children of slave descent in Niger and supports child domestic workers in Tanzania and Ghana.

Community projects, in which children are also supported, include

- a project addressing the needs of the Haliya bonded labourer community in Nepal
- a project on descent-based slavery in West Africa
- work on trafficking in the United Kingdom; and within our responsible business programme.

By choosing child slavery as one of our four priority themes for the next five years and launching a strategy to end child slavery, we commit to strengthening and 'scaling up' this work in order to influence lasting systemic change. Anti-Slavery International will therefore integrate work on child slavery across programme, policy, learning and campaigns, through new and existing projects, and through combining efforts with other priority thematic focus areas (responsible business, climate change, and migration and trafficking). We will identify knowledge gaps and build our evidence and experience so that we can use our work on the ground – including the voice and lived experience of children themselves and their families – to drive improvements in child slavery focus, policies and practice of actors at all levels

We have set objectives for this strategy, relating to a positive impact on lives and opportunities of children affected by slavery; the increased voice of children in programme design, delivery and policy engagement; using evidence and learning to influence good practice; and on the introduction and implementation of policies which address child slavery by decision-makers. We are setting targets and key progress indicators against these objectives in order to track and monitor implementation and progress.

Impact:

We believe that to achieve the elimination of child labour by 2025, a 'leave no one behind' approach must be pursued: where action to reach the most excluded – including children in slavery – is prioritised by governments and the international community.

Anti-Slavery International will contribute to global efforts for the elimination of all forms of child labour by 2025, by introducing a 5-year strategy to tackle child slavery, the worst form

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of child labour, so that children who are in or at risk of slavery are prioritised, reached and included in efforts to eradicate child labour.

The need for special attention on child slavery is demonstrated by the 2017 Global Estimates of Modern Slavery and Child Labour which showed that overall numbers of children in forced labour had remained almost unchanged in this period. Since then, the economic and social impact of the Covid-19 pandemic threatens to push more children into hazardous and exploitative work and increase all forms of child slavery. At the same time, the impact of climate change and environmental degradation on labour and migration will intensify over the coming years, leading to conditions where children are more vulnerable to slavery.

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