Annual Report

Building Resilient Futures 2024





1320 19th Street NW, Suite 600 Washington, DC 20036 USA T: 202.775.7480 F: 202.775.7485 info@freetheslaves.net www.freetheslaves.net



1320 19th Street NW, Suite 600 Washington, DC 20036 USA T: 202.775.7480 F: 202.775.7485 info@freetheslaves.net www.freetheslaves.net Facebook Youtube LinkedIn Instagram Copyright ©2025 Free the Slaves *Photo: CLI Training in the Philippines*



Letter From The Executive Director

Dear Friends, Partners, and Champions of Freedom,

As I reflect on the journey Free the Slaves has taken over the past year, I am filled with profound gratitude—for the courageous leadership of survivors, the commitment of our partners, and the enduring support of our global community. The 2024 Annual Report offers not only a snapshot of our collective impact but a testament to what is possible when we stand united against the injustice of modern slavery.

This year, our work spanned seven regions, reaching deeply into communities where the risk of exploitation is high, but where resilience, hope, and determination run even deeper. From survivor leadership in Kenya to grassroots efforts in India, legislative reform in the Philippines, and pioneering coalition-building in the Caribbean, we witnessed firsthand how locally led, globally supported strategies can drive transformative change.

Together, we trained nearly 2,000 community members, civil society leaders, government officials, survivors, and students. We helped establish or strengthen networks like Survivor Network Kenya and the Caribbean Coalition Against Trafficking in Persons. We equipped vulnerable migrant workers with tools for safer journeys, advocated for stronger laws and protections, and launched vital new initiatives—from our Cameroon pilot project mitigating forced labor risks in the cocoa supply chain to the official registration of Free the Slaves Philippines.

At the heart of all these achievements lies a shared vision: a world where human trafficking and modern slavery cannot exist. This vision drives our unwavering commitment to supporting survivors, strengthening systems, and shifting the power to those most impacted by modern slavery. The path ahead will not be easy. Conflict, inequality, climate change, and economic instability continue to create fertile ground for exploitation. But we are more prepared than ever to confront these challenges because we are not walking this path alone.

Thank you for walking beside us. Thank you for believing with us that freedom that a world free from slavery is possible!

With hope and determination,

Bukeni Waruzi Executive Director Free the Slaves

Table of Contents





Letter from the Executive Director	1
Map of FTS Active Countries	3
<u>By the Numbers</u>	4
Executive Summary	5
Asia Region	6
Caribbean Region	12
East and Central Africa Region	14
Latin America Region	19
Middle East and North Africa Region	22
West Africa Region	23
Freedom from Slavery Forums	27
<u>Global Policy and Advocacy</u>	32
<u>Research</u>	35
Monitoring and Evaluation	38
<u>Communications</u>	40
The Organization	43

Photo: Fauziah Wanjiru, FTS Kenya

Map of FTS Active Countries



Photo: Training Migrant Workers in India



Photo: Survivor Training, Philippines



Photo: Community Empowerment, Philippines

INDIA BANGLADESH NEPAL PHILIPPINES KENYA DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO CAMEROON NIGERIA SENEGAL MAURITANIA TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO KUWAIT



By the Numbers

359	Civil Society Leaders and Workers Trained	
152	Government Officials Trained	
1149	Community Members Trained	$\mathbf{\bar{k}}$
169	Survivors Trained	<u>-11</u> :
37	Individuals Freed From Slavery	JACE COR
535	People Reached Through Webinars	
184	Television and Radio Appearances	
675000+	Total Media Reach in 2024	
339000+	Total Social Media Reach in 2024	

Executive Summary

In 2024, Free the Slaves advanced its mission through bold, collaborative action rooted in our four strategic pillars: **community and survivor engagement, policy and advocacy, movement building, and continuous learning**. This report reflects how our work is not only tackling immediate needs but also building the long-term systems and leadership required to dismantle modern slavery at its roots.

We expanded our reach across 13 countries and 7 regions, equipping civil society actors, government officials, and survivor leaders with the tools to create lasting change. Survivors shaped every level of our programming, training peers, informing policy, and leading collective action. In Kenya, survivor leaders helped shape a national roadmap to end modern slavery. In the Philippines, community leaders launched initiatives to protect children from exploitation. In India, survivor networks developed tools to document labor rights violations and build accountability. These are not isolated efforts, they represent a growing ecosystem of local leadership, global solidarity, and shared purpose.

We also deepened our regional presence, establishing legal operations in the Philippines and launching a new office in the MENA region. The Freedom from Slavery Forums continued to unite stakeholders across sectors while new coalitions emerged in the Caribbean and Africa. Through it all, research remained a driving force, generating insight into issues such as climate-linked trafficking, corporate due diligence, and child labor in domestic work.

Taken together, the work highlighted in this report underscores our belief that ending modern slavery is possible when survivors lead, systems are transformed, and communities are empowered to protect their own.



Photo: Community Forum, Mauritania

Asia Region





Photo: Supporting Student Advocacy, Philippines

Top Photo: Supporting Student Advocacy, Philippines

In 2024, Free the Slaves strengthened its impact across Asia by embedding survivor leadership in community action, shaping national legislation, and expanding regional partnerships. The formal registration of Free the Slaves Philippines Inc. marked a major step forward, enabling deeper collaboration with civil society and government allies. Throughout the year, our teams supported local leaders in addressing urgent child labor crises, trained hundreds of community members and survivors, and contributed to reforms that enhance labor protections and migration safety. These achievements reflect our strategic commitment to locally led change that dismantles the systems enabling modern slavery.

Establishing Free the Slaves Philippines Inc.: A Major Milestone

A significant achievement this year was the formal establishment of Free the Slaves Philippines Inc. This legal recognition enhances the organization's operational capacity, allowing us to strengthen partnerships with government agencies, civil society organizations, and private sector stakeholders while ensuring compliance with national laws. This foundational step will bolster the long-term sustainability of our community-based programs and policy engagement in the country. In April 2024, Free the Slaves conducted its first in-person Community Liberation Initiative training in Barangay Culiat, Quezon City, equipping 18 community leaders with skills to combat human trafficking. This training was particularly urgent following the shocking revelation of 956 child laborers in the area. The training provided legal education, real-life case simulations, and strategic planning exercises to strengthen local government responses. In a follow up assessment, participants shared the following details about how they used the training to impact their community.



Photo: Training Community Leaders, Philippines

"I used the Community Maturity Tool in household sessions to gauge awareness levels and plan interventions accordingly."

"We have implemented a profiling process of our children who are at-risk of trafficking, especially those who are potential victims of child labor. We have identified their status."

"Encouragement from the barangay captain and local organizations provided the necessary backing and funding for community programs."

EQUIPPING COMMUNITIES TO PREVENT EXPLOITATION



Photo: Training Community Leaders, Philippines

Following the training of community leaders, Free the Slaves partnered with the Barangay Culiat Council to develop a localized anti-child labor program. This initiative integrated new child protection measures into the barangay's social welfare agenda and launched the "Child Labor Free Business Campaign," which incentivizes businesses to uphold ethical labor practices. As a result, 956 children were connected to support services.

"We are very thankful for Free the Slaves in equipping us with the right skills. We now have an ally in fighting human trafficking and child labor in our community."

 Alelie Bernardo, Chairperson on Children and Women Protection, Barangay Culiat

SURVIVOR-LED CHANGE: AZAD Shakti Abhiyan in India



Photo: Training Survivor Leaders - India

Free the Slaves continued its commitment to survivor leadership as a cornerstone of community engagement and systems change by conducting a three-day Community Liberation Initiative training for Azad Shakti Abhiyan, a survivor-led network in India with over 900 members. The training focused on educating and mobilizing vulnerable communities, equipping survivors with advocacy and legal knowledge to lead antislavery efforts.

"People who have experienced modern slavery and trafficking can think of the best solutions to eradicate it. More opportunities like this training will help us prepare to help others still trapped in bonded labor."

– Mr. Laalphool, Survivor Leader, Azad Shakti Abhiyan

"When I was a bonded laborer, I worked 12-13 hours for barely any wage. I didn't know that my employer could face legal consequences for this. Now that I've learned my rights, I want to help others escape these conditions."

– Ms. Durga Devi, Member, Azad Shakti Abhiyan

Case Study: Lalphool's Journey from Bonded Labor to Advocacy

Lalphool, a survivor of bonded labor from Kemarasulpur village in Mirzapur district, Uttar Pradesh, is now a dedicated survivor leader with Azad Shakti Abhiyan (ASA). Once trapped in forced labor, he was rescued through the collaborative efforts of FTS partners ASA and Manav Sansadhan Evam Mahila Vikas Sansthan. After reintegration into the community, he joined ASA, a survivor-led collective of over 900 individuals freed from forced labor and human trafficking.

As a core member of ASA, Lalphool plays a crucial role in raising awareness about modern slavery and human trafficking in vulnerable communities. He actively identifies victims, escalates cases to relevant authorities, and supports government departments in rescue and rehabilitation efforts. His leadership ensures that survivors not only regain their freedom but also find pathways to justice and economic independence —demonstrating the transformative potential of survivor engagement.



Photo: Training Survivor Leaders - India

Strengthening Youth Leadership Through University Partnerships



Photo: Supporting Student Leaders, Philippines

Photo: Supporting Student Leaders, Philippines

Recognizing the role of youth in social movements, Free the Slaves partnered with Xavier University - Ateneo de Cagayan in the Philippines to educate young leaders on human trafficking. Over 110 students participated in interactive workshops covering the root causes of trafficking, climate change's impact on migration, and social media advocacy strategies.

Students developed action plans that included leveraging social media, engaging in local policy discussions, and integrating antislavery initiatives into academic projects. Their enthusiasm and commitment reinforce the importance of youth-led advocacy in sustaining long-term change and expanding the movement to end modern slavery.



FFACT PROJECT



Photo: Community Awareness Activity, India

In 2024, Free the Slaves, in partnership with Verité and local organizations, completed the Fostering Fee Accountability and Cost Tracking (FFACT) project. This initiative aimed to bring greater transparency and accountability to labor recruitment in the India-Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Countries migration corridor. In two districts of Uttar Pradesh, India, Free the Slaves and its implementing partner, MSEMVS, conducted extensive community engagement, including a two-day cascade training on debt bondage calculation for Community Vigilance Committees (CVCs) and Migrant Vigilance Committees (MVCs). A total of 24 CVC meetings and 22 MVC meetings were held, reaching over 300 participants and equipping them with critical tools to track recruitment fees and prevent exposure to exploitative labor conditions. Additionally, Free the Slaves hosted a multi-stakeholder dialogue to present findings from a comprehensive survey on recruitment fees, gathering CVC and MVC members, CSO representatives, and government officials.

Case Study: Sonu's Story

My name is Sonu Kumar, and I'm from Anantpur village in Uttar Pradesh. I work as a volunteer with the Migration Vigilance Committees (MVC) as part of the FFACT project, organizing meetings and spreading awareness about safe migration. My involvement in this project began when my own family was affected. My brother was sent abroad on a tourist visa by a local agent, which caused him many difficulties. Seeing his struggles made me realize how important it is to have the right information before migrating, and I wanted to help others avoid similar problems.

I've been part of a team conducting door-todoor surveys, collecting stories from migrant workers who left after 2018. We ask about the jobs they were promised, their wages, and any exploitation they faced. These surveys have revealed how many people have been deceived by labor agents and sent abroad on tourist visas without legal work documentation. Through meetings with the Community Vigilance Committees (CVCs), we've helped more people understand the risks of unsafe migration. Before, people trusted agents blindly, but today, more migrants leave with the right documents and knowledge, helping them avoid exploitation and debt.

*Sonu's story is just one example of how grassroots efforts rooted in lived experience are strengthening community protection and advancing safe migration practices.



Photo: Sonu Training Community Members

Expanding Advocacy and Influencing Policy Reform



Photo: Senate Hearing, Bill 2612, Philippines

In 2024, Free the Slaves made significant strides in advocacy and policy reform across Asia, advancing national and regional efforts to combat modern slavery in alignment with our strategic focus on systemic change. At the regional level, Free the Slaves provided expert input at the Bali Process Roundtable on Scam Centers, addressing the growing threat of forced labor within fraudulent scam operations. In the Philippines, Free the Slaves contributed to the development of Senate Bill 2612: The Magna Carta for Children, which enhances protections against child labor and exploitation. The Asia team offered expert recommendations on strengthening legal protections, improving labor inspections, and ensuring survivor-informed approaches to child welfare—demonstrating the impact of policy advocacy grounded in community realities.



Caribbean Region





In 2024, Free the Slaves deepened its engagement in the Caribbean by strengthening regional coordination, building local capacity, and supporting survivorcentered solutions. Through the launch of the Caribbean Coalition Against Trafficking in Persons (CCATIP), we advanced our movement-building strategy, uniting stakeholders across multiple countries to confront shared challenges. Our Community Liberation Initiative trainings in Trinidad and Tobago equipped frontline professionals with tools to identify and respond to trafficking, reinforcing the importance of cross-sector collaboration and continuous learning in building a resilient regional response.



Uniting the Caribbean in the Fight Against Human Trafficking

Building on the momentum of the 2023 and 2024 Caribbean Regional Forums, Free the Slaves has spearheaded a groundbreaking initiative: the launch of the <u>Caribbean</u> <u>Coalition Against Trafficking in Persons</u> <u>(CCATIP)</u>. This regional coalition reflects our strategic commitment to movement building and is a direct response to the urgent need for stronger, more coordinated efforts to combat human trafficking across the Caribbean.

Developed with support from the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative, Chab Dai, and Dark Bali, CCATIP was created to bridge gaps between state and non-state actors, fostering collaboration, enhancing survivor engagement, and amplifying regional leadership. The coalition's leadership spans Barbados, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela, demonstrating a deep commitment to inclusivity and shared ownership. With six individual members, including survivors, researchers, and subject matter experts, alongside two state agencies and nine civil society organizations, CCATIP is growing into a powerful regional platform. Free the Slaves serves as the Secretariat, managing the coalition's governance, membership, and digital infrastructure to ensure long-term sustainability and impact.

Expanding Training and Capacity Building in the Caribbean



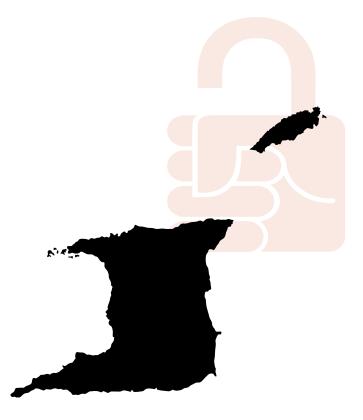
Photo: Training Social Workers, Trinidad and Tobago

Aligned with our pillar of community and survivor engagement, Free the Slaves delivered three major Community Liberation Initiative (CLI) training programs in Trinidad and Tobago in 2024. These sessions equipped civil society leaders, education stakeholders, and community advocates with the tools to prevent trafficking, identify at-risk individuals, and strengthen protection systems.

In October, FTS trained 12 representatives from organizations working on women's and girls' rights, reinforcing a survivor-informed approach to gender-based exploitation. In collaboration with Trinidad and Tobago's Ministry of Education, FTS also conducted two CLI workshops in September and October for 83 guidance officers and school social workers. These sessions focused on early identification of trafficking victims, establishing referral pathways, and integrating child protection strategies within the national education system, demonstrating the power of partnership between civil society and public institutions.



Photo: Training Women's Rights Advocates, Trinidad and Tobago



East and Central Africa Region





Photo: Preparing for Kenya Alliance 8.7 Roadmap Subission





Photos: Training Survivor Leaders in Kenya; Alliance 8.7, Italy

In 2024, Free the Slaves strengthened its regional impact in East and Central Africa through strategic advocacy, survivor leadership, and coalition-building. In Kenya and the Democratic Republic of Congo, FTS supported the development of national anti-trafficking strategies and legal reforms that center the voices and needs of survivors. The launch and rapid growth of Survivors Network Kenya marked a significant step in our movementbuilding efforts, while survivor-led trainings and stakeholder engagements ensured that policies reflect lived experience. These achievements demonstrate how community-rooted, survivordriven approaches are transforming systems and advancing justice across the region.

Supporting Kenya's Pathfinder Country Roadmap Development

In 2024, Free the Slaves played a key role in shaping national and regional policies to combat human trafficking, child labor, and forced labor in East and Central Africa. In Kenya, we partnered with Survivors Network Kenya to organize two workshops that brought together civil society organizations to consolidate recommendations for Kenya's Alliance 8.7 roadmap. These recommendations covered four key focus areas forced labor, child labor, human trafficking, and modern slavery. FTS also facilitated multiple Alliance 8.7 stakeholder meetings in Nairobi, working closely with government agencies, survivor networks, and international organizations to strengthen Kenya's roadmap. The organization presented key policy proposals and advocacy strategies, many of which were adopted into the Country Roadmap.

In November 2024, the <u>roadmap</u> was officially launched in Naivasha, Kenya, bringing together key stakeholders, including government officials, civil society representatives, and international partners. Survivor leadership was central to the launch, with four members from Survivors Network Kenya (SNK) serving as panelists. Their lived experience and expertise reinforced the critical importance of embedding survivorcentered protections in national antitrafficking policies.

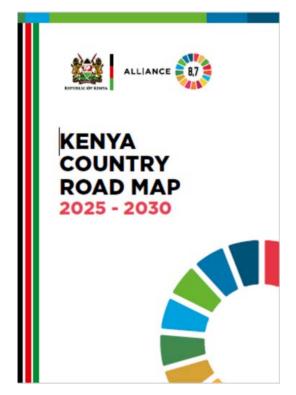


Photo: Kenya's Pathfinder Country Roadmap

Just one month later, in December 2024, Kenya's roadmap was presented at the Global Coordinating Group (GCG) meeting of Alliance 8.7 in Turin, Italy. Led by Cabinet Secretary for Labour and Social Protection, Madam Hellen Opiyo, and accompanied by SNK representative Fauziah Wanjiru, the presentation received unanimous endorsement, officially establishing Kenya's status as a Pathfinder Country.

Case Study: Fauziah's Story

My name is Fauziah Wanjiru, and my journey from surviving human trafficking to becoming an advocate and leader has been one of resilience, transformation, and purpose. Before I connected with Free the Slaves, I was already mentoring migrant workers, informal workers, and survivors of gender-based violence, but working alone was overwhelming. I lacked the network and tools to scale my impact.

That changed when I joined Free the Slaves. Their survivor-centered approach gave me access to training in advocacy, leadership, and ethical storytelling, helping me refine my skills and connect with a supportive community. Through the Alliance 8.7 initiative, I learned how to engage policymakers and drive systemic change. With this foundation, I co-founded Survivors Network Kenya, a survivor-led organization dedicated to amplifying survivor voices in anti-trafficking efforts. Since then, I've contributed to the development of Kenya's national roadmap, raised awareness through national radio, and represented SNK at international events, including the ILO's CAPSA project launch and the Global Coordinating Group meeting in Turin. These opportunities have reinforced my belief in the power of survivor leadership to challenge stigma, reform systems, and inspire change.



Photo: Fauziah Wanjiru

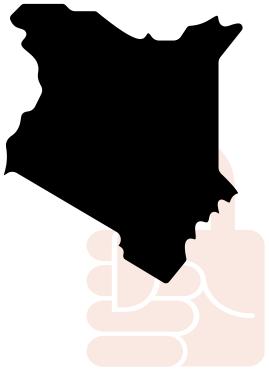
Strengthening Survivor Leadership: The Launch and Growth of Survivors Network Kenya



Photo: Offical Launch of Survivors Network Kenya

In 2024, Free the Slaves played a pivotal role in the launch and development of <u>Survivors Network Kenya (SNK)</u>, a survivor-led initiative focused on advocacy, peer support, and policy influence. With more than 100 active members, SNK provides a platform for survivors to build solidarity, shape anti-trafficking strategies, and directly engage in national decision-making processes. Its launch marked a transformative step toward long-term survivor-led movement building in Kenya.

Key achievements in 2024 included the development of a three-year strategic plan, a special session of the Survivor Leadership Academy focused on policy engagement, and SNK's leadership role in Kenya's Alliance 8.7 process. The network also secured a \$20,000 grant from the Freedom Fund to implement a safeguarding policy, conduct trauma-informed training for members, and launch an income-generating project in the coming year. These efforts have established SNK as a driving force in Kenya's anti-trafficking landscape, positioning survivors as central agents of change.



Advancing Anti-Trafficking Efforts in the **Democratic Republic of Congo**



Photo: Training Survivor Leaders, DRC

Free the Slaves has also advanced anti-trafficking efforts in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), particularly through survivor-led policy advocacy. These efforts contributed to key legislative reforms, including the revision of child labor laws and the inclusion of modern slavery offenses in the DRC's penal code. FTS also supported the expansion of victim protection measures, with a focus on improving access to psychological support services for survivors. By building strong partnerships between government stakeholders and survivor networks, FTS is helping embed a survivor-centered approach into the country's national policy framework.

In December 2024, Free the Slaves facilitated two online training sessions for 30 survivors from North Kivu, South Kivu, Lualaba, Haut-Katanga, and Kinshasa. These sessions focused on communityled advocacy, survivor leadership, and legal protections against modern slavery—reinforcing our commitment to survivor engagement and continuous learning as essential drivers of sustainable change.

Photo: Survivor Advocacy Efforts, DRC

THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO REVISES ITS ROADMAP

The Democratic Republic of Congo became a Pathfinder Country in 2022 after presenting its roadmap to the Global Coordinating Group (GCG) of Alliance 8.7.

Following the adoption of the Accountability Framework at the GCG in December 2022, and the need to include survivors of modern slavery and trafficking in the development of the roadmap, the DRC initiated the revision of its roadmap to integrate the priorities of survivors.

Working with Free the Slaves (FTS), the DRC's focal point for Alliance 8.7, the Ministry of Employment and Labor welcomed the priorities of survivors and began revising its roadmap. Additionally, the DRC government revised its National Task Force for Alliance 8.7, chaired by the Ministry of Employment and Labor, and integrated survivor representation in the national task force.



Photo: Surviviors Contribute to DRC Roadmap



Photo: Joseph Murhula, DRC Government, Europe Forum

Now the DRC has a new roadmap and an expanded task force that reflects the needs and voices of survivors of modern slavery and trafficking. Ms. Bernadette Agano, a survivor of trafficking in the DRC and the FTS Country Coordinator for DRC, is the representative of survivors at the national task force.

The national coordinator of Alliance 8.7 submitted its first report in 2023 on the implementation of the roadmap. The report includes the contributions from survivors and civil society organizations that are part of the Alliance 8.7 process in the DRC.

The work of the DRC to eliminate forced labor, modern slavery, human trafficking, and child labor, thus achieving progress for SDG 2030, paid off. In the 2024 TIP Report of the US State Department's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, the DRC improved its ranking from Tier 2 Watchlist to Tier 2, becoming one of the two countries to hit that ranking among its 9 neighboring countries.

In 2024, Free the Slaves invited the DRC government to share its lessons learned and best practices on engaging survivors at the Europe Regional Freedom from Slavery Forum in Brussels, Belgium. The DRC experience was shared with other European pathfinder countries attending the Forum in Brussels.

Latin America Region









Free the Slaves continued to expand its impact in Latin America in 2024 by advancing policy dialogue, supporting Indigenous women's leadership, and amplifying regional collaboration. From contributing to global advocacy on violence against Indigenous women and girls, to guiding conversations on corporate accountability, FTS brought a locally informed, rights-based lens to key regional challenges. Through research, recognition, and relationship-building, we reinforced our commitment to survivor-centered, community-led solutions and strengthened the infrastructure for long-term movement growth in the region.

Supporting Indigenous Women Leaders

In January 2024, Free the Slaves conducted a training session during the annual Diploma Course for Indigenous Women from five continents, hosted by the International Indigenous Women's Forum. This session strengthened our engagement with Indigenous women leaders and deepened our commitment to inclusive, community-centered antislavery efforts. In addition, Free the Slaves supported the development of indicators of violence against Indigenous women and girls for the Global Observatory of Indigenous Women Against Violence. By contributing expertise on human trafficking, forced labor, and modern slavery, we helped ensure that future data collection and advocacy efforts better reflect the lived realities and specific vulnerabilities of Indigenous communities, advancing both community engagement and evidence-based advocacy.

WEBINAR ON CORPORATE DUE DILIGENCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS



Photo: Webinar on Corporate Due Diligence

As a follow-up to the Latin America Regional Freedom from Slavery Forum, Free the Slaves hosted a regional webinar on corporate due diligence laws and their impact on human rights in Latin America, which was attended by 42 participants. The session explored the complexities of implementing due diligence policies that protect labor rights without harming vulnerable communities. This engagement reflects our commitment to policy and advocacy that is grounded in local contexts and informed by those most at risk of exploitation.

Key takeaways included:

- The risks of neocolonial regulatory frameworks that impose external solutions without considering local realities.
- The importance of tailoring corporate policies to regional dynamics to prevent exclusion and ensure effectiveness.
- The need for stronger due diligence practices that prevent labor exploitation and promote meaningful corporate accountability.

Joint Publication of the 2024 Regional Forum Proceedings

On November 15, Free the Slaves released the official proceedings of the 2024 Latin America Regional Forum, produced in collaboration with regional partners including Fundación Libera, Verité, Caribe Afirmativo, CIPDH-UNESCO, ONOTZI, and United Justice. This publication serves as a valuable resource for policymakers, civil society organizations, and businesses working to integrate human rights due diligence into their operations, supporting continuous learning and the dissemination of best practices across sectors.

Download it here

TRANSCRIPCIÓN FORMAL III FORO REGIONAL DE AMÉRICA LATINA CONTRA LA ESCLAVITUD MODERNA

2024

Photo: Latin America Forum Proceeedings

Recognition of FTS Movement Building Efforts in Latin America



Photo: CIDPH Recognition Awards

Photo: Bukeni Waruzi Speaks at CIDPH Recognition Awards

On July 30, 2024, Free the Slaves was honored at the 4th "Recognition Awards to Fighters Against Human Trafficking," hosted by the International Center for the Promotion of Human Rights (CIPDH) under the auspices of UNESCO. The award recognized national and international organizations for their contributions to combating human trafficking. During the ceremony, FTS Executive Director Bukeni Waruzi delivered a speech emphasizing the importance of cross-sector collaboration and collective action to end forced labor and human trafficking. This recognition underscores our leadership in movement building and our commitment to forging lasting partnerships throughout the region.



Middle East and North Africa Region







In 2024, Free the Slaves formally established its presence in the Middle East and North Africa, marking a significant step toward expanding survivor-centered, regionally grounded anti-slavery efforts. Through the launch of new operations, the development of key partnerships with civil society and government actors, and the successful hosting of the MENA Regional Freedom from Slavery Forum, FTS laid the foundation for long-term impact in one of the world's most challenging and under-addressed regions. These early investments in trust-building, movement development, and localized strategy are essential to strengthening protections for migrant workers, displaced populations, and other at-risk communities across the region.

In 2024, Free the Slaves formalized new partnerships in Kuwait to expand its presence and prepare for future antislavery initiatives in the Middle East and North Africa. Agreements were signed with the Kuwait Society for Human Rights (KSHR), the Integrated Community Center (ICC), and En.v, setting the stage for collaborative efforts to address labor exploitation and human trafficking. These partnerships aim to build capacity for victim identification and support, raise awareness among vulnerable communities, and advocate for stronger legal protections and policy reforms.

West Africa Region









Photo: Community Forum Mauritania

Photos: Project Closing Ceremony Senegal

In 2024, Free the Slaves advanced its mission in West Africa through survivorcentered reintegration, public education, and cross-border collaboration. In Senegal, FTS built institutional and community capacity to combat trafficking while supporting at-risk girls with education and livelihoods. Survivor reintegration efforts between Senegal and Nigeria highlighted the power of holistic, dignity-affirming support. Radio campaigns and national stakeholder forums expanded public awareness, while anti-slavery programming in Mauritania engaged youth and supported policy development. Together, these efforts strengthened grassroots resilience, improved national responses, and laid the foundation for sustained, community-led change across the region.

Community and Law Enforcement Capacity Building

To strengthen frontline responses, Free the Slaves led targeted capacity-building initiatives for both community stakeholders and law enforcement. In April 2024, we hosted a workshop in Kedougou to raise awareness among religious leaders, economic actors, and at-risk groups. In collaboration with UNODC and the Association of Senegalese Jurists, we also trained 30 magistrates and law enforcement officials on victimcentered investigation and prosecution strategies.

At the community level, FTS provided 25 vulnerable girls with resources for income-generating activities, ranging from farming equipment and freezers to motorcycles, and distributed school supplies to help them continue their education. These efforts aimed not only to reduce trafficking risks but also to build local resilience to future exploitation.

ADDRESSING SEX TRAFFICKING IN SENEGAL'S GOLD MINING REGION



Photo: Kedougou Region, Senegal

In Senegal's Kedougou region, a modern-day gold rush has drawn thousands of people into informal artisanal mining. While the sector offers economic opportunity, it has also fueled exploitation. A dangerous local belief, that men are more likely to strike gold if they engage in sex beforehand, has intensified the demand for sex in mining areas. This belief has contributed to a rise in the trafficking of women into Senegal, often under false pretenses, to be exploited in the sex trade.

In response to this crisis, Free the Slaves implemented a multi-year, survivor-centered antitrafficking initiative in partnership with the Center on Human Trafficking Research and Outreach (CenHTRO) at the University of Georgia. 2024 marked the final year of the project, which combined community-based prevention, law enforcement training, public awareness, and crossborder reintegration support. Over the course of the initiative, FTS and its partners assisted more than 200 women in escaping trafficking, reconnecting with their families, and building pathways to independence and recovery.

Reintegration and Resilience in Nigeria

As part of our project with the Center on Human Trafficking Research and Outreach at the University of Georgia (CenHTRO), many trafficking survivors were repatriated from Senegal to Nigeria. Aisha* is one of those women.

Aisha is one of the many women trafficked into Senegal who received support through this initiative. Raised by her grandmother in a small Nigerian village, she left home in search of work, only to be coerced into sex work in Kedougou. After enduring prolonged abuse, she was identified through FTS's local network and supported to escape through a coordinated effort involving community partners and law enforcement.

With help from FTS and its partners, Aisha returned safely to Nigeria, where her reintegration journey began. She resumed training in hairdressing, a skill she had long valued, and received the equipment and start-up support needed to open her own salon. Her success has allowed her to repay family debts and build a more stable future, including supporting her grandmother's retirement from farming. Aisha's story is a powerful example of survivor-centered reintegration that restores dignity, autonomy, and opportunity.



Photo: FTS Team Visiting Survivors in Nigeria

Strengthening Youth Engagement and Awareness



Photo: Forum on Modern Slavery, Mauritania

Photo: National Action Plan Workshop, Mauritania

In 2024, Free the Slaves advanced anti-slavery efforts in Mauritania by deepening youth engagement, supporting policy development, and fostering national dialogue on modern slavery. Recognizing the importance of education and youth leadership in dismantling systemic exploitation, FTS led targeted awareness sessions with students from the Haratine community. These sessions, facilitated by trained paralegals, helped young people explore the root causes and long-term impacts of hereditary slavery and other forms of exploitation. Participants were equipped with the tools and knowledge to become peer educators and advocates for change in their communities, advancing FTS's strategic commitment to community engagement and survivor-informed leadership.

To support national-level reform, Free the Slaves contributed to Mauritania's policy development efforts by participating in a workshop in Nouakchott on March 8, 2024. The event focused on validating the country's National Action Plan to combat trafficking, and FTS provided key recommendations to enhance implementation and monitoring.

Later in the year, FTS and its partner organization, the Association de Lutte Contre la Dépendance, cohosted two national forums that brought together a diverse range of stakeholders, including government officials, civil society leaders, journalists, and grassroots advocates. These forums created space for dialogue on the country's progress and challenges in addressing trafficking and forced labor. The events concluded with renewed commitments from government ministries to improve coordination and from media professionals to expand coverage of modern slavery issues. Together, these efforts are laying the foundation for a stronger, more inclusive national movement to end slavery in Mauritania.

RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS THROUGH RADIO AND DIALOGUE



Photo: Awareness Radio Programs, Senegal

To increase public understanding and mobilize local action, Free the Slaves launched a radio awareness campaign as part of the broader project. Between May 7 and May 29, 2024, 180 audio messages were aired across two major community radio stations, reaching an estimated audience of 90,000 to 150,000 listeners. The messages were broadcast three times daily during peak hours. On June 29, 2024, two live radio programs hosted by FTS mobilization specialists featured discussions on trafficking and community-led prevention strategies.

CELEBRATING PROGRESS AND PLANNING FOR SUSTAINABILITY

The official closing ceremony of the Senegal antitrafficking project was held on June 26, 2024, in Kedougou. The event brought together 30 key stakeholders, including the Senegalese Minister of Family and Solidarity, the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to Senegal, and the Executive Director of Free the Slaves. Project achievements were highlighted through banners, printed materials, and a video presentation on survivor reintegration.

A panel discussion featuring representatives from Free the Slaves, CenHTRO, the Association of Senegalese Jurists, La Lumière Shelter, and the Emmanuel World Children Foundation focused on sustainability and the next steps for the region. The project's success has laid the foundation for longterm solutions that prioritize survivor leadership, cross-border collaboration, and systemic change.



Photo: Kedougou Project Closing Ceremony, Senegal

Freedom from Slavery Forums





Photo: Panel Discussion, North America Forum



Photo: Caribbean (top) and North America Forum Participants

In 2024, Free the Slaves convened seven Regional Freedom from Slavery Forums, reinforcing our global commitment to movement building through inclusive dialogue and cross-sector collaboration. These convenings brought together lived experience experts, government leaders, civil society organizations, businesses, and academic experts to address region-specific drivers of modern slavery and advance tailored solutions. Each forum served as a catalyst for knowledge exchange, policy advocacy, and partnership development, enhancing understanding of the complexity of modern slavery and the urgent need for localized, survivor-centered responses rooted in global solidarity.

Forums Held In:

- North America
- Latin America
- Caribbean
- Europe
- Africa
- Asia
- MENA

NORTH AMERICA

The North America Regional Forum was held on March 11-13, 2024, at Miami Dade College in Florida, bringing together 64 stakeholders from the U.S. and Canada under the theme "Mobilizing for Anti-Trafficking Action: Bridging the Gaps and Enabling Collective Awareness Through Technological Advancements." Discussions focused on leveraging technology to combat human trafficking while ensuring it is used ethically. Participants explored how nonprofits can utilize digital tools effectively, while also addressing the risk of traffickers misusing the same technologies. A key takeaway was the necessity for survivor voices to inform the development of artificial intelligence and digital platforms in the anti-trafficking sector.



Photo: Jose Alfaro Speaking at the North America Forum



LATIN AMERICA

The Latin America Regional Forum took place virtually on April 16-17, 2024, gathering over 200 participants. Discussions centered around "Human Rights Due Diligence as a Mechanism to Combat Forced Labor and Human Trafficking," and explored the role of corporate responsibility in preventing labor exploitation. Participants examined the necessity of mandatory due diligence practices, and the role of survivors in shaping corporate accountability. The forum emphasized that businesses must proactively prevent, identify, and address human rights violations within their operations and supply chains.

Photo: Carolina Rudnick Speaking at the Latin America Forum

CARIBBEAN

The Caribbean Regional Forum was held on May 20-22, 2024, under the theme "Demystifying Human Trafficking in the Caribbean Context: The Intersection of Culture and Human Trafficking." The forum explored how cultural factors in the region contribute to human trafficking and how regional coordination can be improved. Discussions focused on enhancing knowledge of how trafficking manifests in the Caribbean, strengthening advocacy efforts, and increasing collaboration between countries to improve antitrafficking responses. A significant outcome of the Forum was a broad stakeholder commitment to form a regional coalition.



Photo: Dr. Cherisse Francis speaking at the Caribbean Forum



EUROPE

The first-ever stand-alone Europe Regional Forum brought together 100 participants from June 10-12, 2024, in Brussels, Belgium, under the theme "Collaboration for Freedom: The Road to 2030." The forum focused on two key areas: how European countries, particularly those designated as Pathfinder Countries, are working to achieve SDG 8.7, which targets the eradication of forced labor, and the implications of the newly introduced **Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence** Directive (CSDDD) and Forced Labor Regulation (FLR). A key takeaway was the importance of ensuring that legal frameworks do not disproportionately burden small businesses or create barriers to market access for vulnerable workers.

Photo: Mustafa Quadri presenting at the Europe Forum

AFRICA

The Africa Regional Forum was held virtually from July 23-25, 2024, under the theme "Actionable Justice: Implementing Effective Strategies and Raising Awareness to Combat Human Trafficking." The forum gathered 373 participants from 188 organizations across 35 countries to discuss how legal frameworks can be strengthened and how grassroots initiatives can be scaled to address economic inequalities, conflictrelated vulnerabilities, and weak governance, key drivers of trafficking in Africa. A major outcome was the commitment to developing national antitrafficking roadmaps and expanding training programs for frontline antitrafficking actors.



Photo: Participants in the Africa Forum



ASIA

The Asia Regional Forum was held on August 6-8, 2024, under the theme "Empower, Expose, Eradicate: Uniting Against Modern Slavery and Exploitation in Asia." The forum brought together 393 participants from 118 organizations across 26 countries to focus on strengthening regional cooperation, legal protections, and survivor rehabilitation. A key discussion point was the growing threat of "scamming compounds," in which victims are trafficked into forced online fraud schemes. Survivors played a central role in shaping discussions, emphasizing the urgent need for trauma-informed support and stronger legal protections. A significant outcome of the forum was the establishment of the South Asia Migrants Network to enhance advocacy and cross-border cooperation.

Photo: Participants in the Asia Forum

MENA

The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) <u>Regional Forum</u> took place online from December 8-10, 2024, under the theme "Strengthening Protections for Vulnerable Populations Against Human Trafficking and Forced Labor in the MENA Region." With 165 participants from 94 organizations across 34 countries, discussions focused on the intersection of conflict, migration, and forced labor, particularly on how displaced populations and migrant workers are disproportionately affected. The forum highlighted the need for stronger labor protections, legal aid, and inclusive policy development. Participants also identified a critical regional need for a MENA-wide digital platform where organizations can share reports, legal resources, survivor testimonies, and advocacy tools.



Photo: Participants in the MENA forum



Photo: Diahann Gordon Harrison Speaking at the Caribbean Forum



Photo: Europe Forum Participants (top) and Panel Discussion

Global Policy and Advocacy











Photo: Government Partner in Cameroon (top) Meeting HRAP Fellows In FTS offices, Washington, D.C.

In 2024, Free the Slaves deepened its influence on global and national antislavery agendas by advancing survivorcentered policy advocacy and strengthening alliances across sectors and borders. From contributing to Pathfinder Country progress reports and U.S. legislative initiatives to piloting sustainable forced labor prevention in supply chains, FTS worked to ensure that legal frameworks and corporate practices are both effective and accountable. Through these efforts, we elevated survivor leadership, shaped international discourse, and reinforced our commitment to systemic change rooted in community and lived experience realities.

Strengthening Regional and International Alliances

In 2024, Free the Slaves expanded its global policy and advocacy efforts by forging new partnerships, engaging in high-level dialogues, and advancing legislative influence. As part of the Alliance 8.7 process, FTS provided expert input on Pathfinder Country progress reports for Germany, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Cameroon, ensuring that anti-slavery strategies reflect the realities of affected communities. Additional engagements with the Organization of American States and the Soroptimist International Caribbean Network reinforced our commitment to survivor-informed advocacy and the strengthening of legal and institutional frameworks to hold both governments and corporations accountable for ending human trafficking and forced labor.

Advocacy in the U.S. Senate: The Anti-Trafficking in Persons (ATIP) Policy Leader Roundtable



Photo: Participants in the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Policy Leader Round Table

Free the Slaves participated in two sessions of the Anti-Trafficking in Persons (ATIP) Policy Leaders Roundtable, hosted at the U.S. Senate Dirksen Office Building. These convenings brought together more than 50 NGOs, alongside bipartisan congressional leaders such as Senator Marsha Blackburn, Senate Judiciary Chair Richard Durbin, Representative Burgess Owens, and Congressman Chris Smith. FTS used this platform to advocate for the reauthorization of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act and for the passage of the Trafficking Survivors Relief Act, ensuring that survivor rights and protections remain central to U.S. anti-trafficking legislation.



THE CAMEROON PILOT PROJECT: TACKLING FORCED LABOR IN COCOA SUPPLY CHAINS

On November 21, 2024, Free the Slaves launched the Cameroon Pilot Project, a two-year initiative developed in partnership with SUCDEN to combat forced labor in the cocoa sector. Operating in four key cocoa-growing areas, Nguilla, Mbangassina, Ntui, and Salakounou, the project is designed to build local capacity for identifying and addressing forced labor risks, while gradually transferring long-term responsibility to regional and national actors.



A cornerstone of the initiative is the creation of Community Vigilance Committees (CVCs), composed of farmers, teachers, local leaders, and youth representatives. From November 13–22, FTS trained community mobilizers to establish these committees and implement grassroots monitoring systems to detect and prevent labor exploitation. By the end of 2024, 37 CVC members had been recruited and trained across the four communities.

Government engagement has also been central to the project's sustainability. FTS secured commitments from the Ministry of Labor, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Commerce, and the French Embassy in Cameroon. This multisector collaboration ensures that community-based action is reinforced by institutional support. By integrating community engagement with local oversight and national policy support, the initiative not only protects vulnerable workers but also strengthens adherence to international labor and supply chain standards, offering a blueprint for future forced labor reduction efforts across West and Central Africa.

The 19th Meeting of the Alliance 8.7 Global Coordinating Group

On December 5–6, 2024, Free the Slaves participated in the 19th meeting of the Alliance 8.7 Global Coordinating Group, hosted by the International Labour Organization in Turin and online. The event convened representatives from Pathfinder Countries, workers' and employers' organizations, governments, civil society, and international agencies to align global efforts to eliminate forced labor, child labor, and human trafficking in pursuit of SDG Target 8.7.

Free the Slaves contributed insights from its country-level advocacy and programmatic work, with a special focus on survivor engagement. A highlight of the event was the presentation of new national roadmaps by Kenya and Brazil. Survivor leader and FTS staff member Fauziah Wanjiru shared firsthand insights on how survivors are shaping national strategies in Kenya, offering a powerful reminder that meaningful progress must center those most affected by exploitation. The gathering strengthened FTS's global partnerships and affirmed the value of survivor-led advocacy in influencing durable policy change.



Photo: Focus Group Discussions at the Allaince 8.7 Annual meeting.

Research Program











Photo: Dr. Furlan Presenting Research in Indonesia (top) and FTS and University of Nottingham Representatives in New York to Present Research Findings at the United Nations

In 2024, Free the Slaves advanced its commitment to continuous learning by producing original research that deepens the understanding of modern slavery and informs more effective interventions. From examining child domestic labor and forced migration to assessing labor exploitation in supply chains, each study was designed to elevate community perspectives and drive evidence-based policy and programming. With survivor researchers playing active roles in several studies, this year's research not only generated critical insights but also modeled how inclusive, participatory methods can strengthen the global movement to end modern slavery.

Modern Slavery at the United Nations Security Council

Free the Slaves, in partnership with the Rights Lab at the University of Nottingham, published Modern Slavery and the United Nations Security Council, a study exploring how modern slavery and human trafficking intersect with the agendas of the UN Security Council. The research analyzed existing UNSC resolutions, policies, and initiatives and provided recommendations for member states to improve their efforts in addressing modern slavery in both conflict and non-conflict settings.

Download Report Here

SURVIVOR ENGAGEMENT IN EAST AND CENTRAL AFRICA

In collaboration with <u>HAART Kenya</u>, Free the Slaves completed a study titled *Survivors and Organizations Working Together Against Human Trafficking: Insights from East and Central Africa*. The research examined how anti-trafficking organizations engage with survivors and identified practical steps to enhance survivor leadership in the movement. Survivors were involved throughout the process, serving as research assistants, conducting interviews, analyzing data, and presenting findings.



Photo: Survivor Engagement Research Launch Event

Wanja Kimani, a survivor leader in Kenya, reflected on her involvement in the survivor engagement research:

"I am very grateful to FTS and HAART Kenya for giving us survivor leaders the platform to learn and be involved from the conception of the research all the way to writing the report and presenting the findings. It has been so fulfilling. Every time we present it, people from other organizations find it fascinating, informative, and inspiring."

Download Report Here

Human Trafficking and Migration Across the Horn of Africa and the Arab Gulf

The report From Illegal Migration to Human Trafficking: Dangerous Journeys across the Horn of Africa and the Arabian Peninsula examined the intersection of human trafficking and migrant smuggling along this migration route. The study documented the vulnerabilities faced by irregular migrants and the forms of trafficking they encounter, providing policy recommendations to regional governments, civil society organizations, and international stakeholders.

Daniel Melese Areda, Founder and CEO of Nigat Global Initiative in Ethiopia, emphasized the impact of research on shaping solutions:

"FTS's online convening on irregular migration and trafficking was a powerful platform for fostering global collaboration, sharing expertise, and exchanging experiences. These discussions are essential to shaping localized solutions to a pressing global issue that affects countless communities."

<u>Download Report Here</u>



Photo: Dr. Marta Furlan Speaking in Ethopia

CHILD DOMESTIC LABOR IN NEPAL

Free the Slaves partnered with <u>CWISH</u> to investigate the realities of child domestic workers in Nepal. The study explored the factors driving children into domestic labor, their working conditions, and their experiences within employers' households.

Gaurav,* a child domestic worker in Nepal, shared:

"I liked taking part in the research workshops. You helped us to understand about child domestic work and our situation. After this knowledge, I am more aware of the issue and now will be able to support myself and also my friends working in the domestic sector."

*not the child's real name



Photo: Research Participants at a Workshop in Nepal



Photo: Research Participant at a Workshop in Nepal

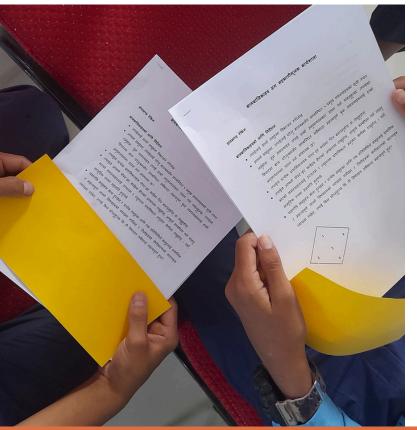
Ranjana Sharma, a researcher with CWISH in Nepal, highlighted the importance of including employers in child labor research:

"Incorporating employers in our research on child domestic work was essential to understand the dynamics of this informal sector. Employers provide unique insights about the pull factors and their rationale for employing children as domestic workers. This research was unique in its capacity to bring the employers' perspective to the table."

Report Coming in 2025

Monitoring and Evaluation





Photos: Workshop Participants in Nepal



Photos: Stakeholder Meetings in Kenya

In 2024, Free the Slaves advanced a more integrated, data-driven Monitoring, Learning, and Evaluation (MLE) approach across 13 countries, enabling stronger insights into program effectiveness and systemic challenges. Community Maturity Tool assessments showed increased awareness of trafficking risks and rights, particularly among women and children. Evaluations from the FFACT project and regional initiatives in Senegal and Nigeria affirmed the long-term value of community-based prevention, survivor reintegration, and policy advocacy.

Our learning this year confirmed that survivor leadership and local capacity-building are essential to lasting impact. MLE data highlighted the need to address intersecting risks such as climate-driven vulnerability, gender-based violence, and digital exploitation. In response, Free the Slaves is refining global indicators to better capture survivor influence, digital safety, and cross-sector coordination, ensuring our strategies remain adaptive and inclusive.

Monitoring the Impact of the Numbers

359	Civil society leaders ensured communities have trusted advocates preventing exploitation and supporting survivors.
152	Government officials strengthened local protection systems and improved survivors' access to justice and services.
1149	Community members increased grassroots vigilance, making it harder for traffickers to operate undetected.
169	Empowered survivor leaders brought lived experience to the forefront, driving more inclusive, effective community solutions.
37	Individuals freed from slavery, create ripple effects of hope, resilience, and mobilization within their communities.
184	Strategic media appearances amplified awareness, helping communities recognize, report, and resist trafficking.
675000+	People reached through media increase awareness, reduce stigma, and strengthen community action to end trafficking.













Communication





Photo: Radio Broadcasts for Awareness, Kenya





Photo: Adrian Alexander Providing Expert Commentary in the Caribbean (top); Bryon Lippincott - Opening Remarks, MENA Forum

In 2024, the communications team played a pivotal role in amplifying Free the Slaves' global impact by enhancing public engagement, supporting program delivery, and contributing to fundraising success. Through a dynamic mix of social media, podcasts, webinars, publications, and live events, the team helped bring survivor voices to the forefront and elevated key messages across platforms. Communications also provided critical support for grant proposals, research dissemination, and regional forums, ensuring cohesive messaging and visibility across the movement. These efforts not only strengthened FTS's public presence but also deepened understanding of modern slavery and inspired action among global audiences.

Conversations on Modern Slavery

In 2024, Free the Slaves published nine new episodes of its signature podcast series, Conversations on Modern Slavery. This platform offers accessible, thoughtful discussions on the root causes, lived realities, and global dimensions of modern slavery. Hosted by FTS staff and featuring voices from the frontlines, including researchers, survivor leaders, and advocacy experts, the podcast helps foster deeper public awareness and catalyze informed action. Episodes explored themes such as disability and trafficking, corporate accountability, child labor research, and the ethics of survivor leadership.

Listen to the Podcast Here

PUBLIC PUBLICATIONS For advocacy

In 2024, Free the Slaves produced two in-depth eBooks that expanded public understanding of modern slavery and showcased the organization's programmatic impact.

The first, *Slavery in History*, invites readers to explore the evolution of slavery across civilizations by tracing the cultural norms, economic structures, and social beliefs that have sustained exploitation through the ages. This companion to our website's interactive timeline deepens historical context and connects the past to present-day realities.

Download the Ebook

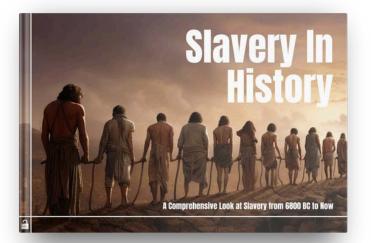


Photo: Slavery In History E-book



In 1833, during the height of the Industrial Revolution, Britain enacted the Factory Act, a pivotal piece of that ushered in improvements to working conditions in the textile industry. This act brought about cruci protect the welfare of factory workers, particularly children who were vulnerable to exploitation and har protections.

The Factory Act of 1833 introduced several provisions. It established a regulated working day for textile providing workers with fixed hours and addressing the issue of excessively long workdays. Moreover, th government inspections to monitor and enforce compliance with the new regulations, ensuring that fac adhered to the improved working conditions. One of the most significant aspects of the act was the ban labor under the age of 9, a vital step towards ending the exploitation of young children in factories. Add limited the workday of children between 13 and 18 years old to 12 hours.

834 the Abolition Act was passed, which brought an end to slavery throughout the British Empire, including the ish colonies in North America. The Abolition Act emancipated enslaved individuals in all British colonies.

der the Abolition Act, nearly 800,000 enslaved individuals were granted their freedom, marking a pivotal shift vards a more just and humane society. The act also addressed the economic aspect of abolition by providing npensation to slave owners, totaling a substantial amount of nearly \$100 million in today's money. This npensation aimed to alleviate the financial impact on those who had previously profited from the labor of laved people.





Photo: Pathways to Safe Migration E-book

The second eBook, *Pathways to Safe Migration*, documents FTS's work in India from 2020 to 2024, focusing on two U.S. State Department-funded projects implemented with Verité. The book captures learnings and achievements from both the Safe Migration to the Gulf initiative and the Fostering Fee Accountability and Cost Tracking (FFACT) project, offering insights into how improved recruitment transparency and migrant protections can drive systemic change.

Download the Ebook



Photo: Volunteer Community Mobilizer from the FFACT Project

Communications Influence



Photo: Bryon Lippincott Facilitating a Workshop at the North America Forum



The Organization







FTS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Amy Wiwi Komoroski Anesa "Nes" Parker Carolyn Long Davina Durgana Fanta Toure-Puri Karen Stauss Lila Leno Moninda Marube Sheila Mahoney Timothy Patrick McCarthy



Photo: Bukeni Waruzi Speaking at the Europe Forum

FTS STAFF LIST

Adrian Alexander Aline Gaju Bernadette Agano Bamba Dansokho Bryon Lippincott Bukeni Waruzi Cinthia Belbussi Claudia Lamptey Dame Ba Dina Jouhar Gema Bardaji **Giselle Balfour** Grace Banasam Issa Saka Jackline Mwende Jaime Saavedra Justine Dery Kuldeep Chauhan Lauren Rice Loriel Sanchez Mame Sow Marie Helene Bouchard Marie-Stella Heiser Mariam Kish Marta Furlan Mohammad Bader Munya Chitambo Papa Fall Rasha Al Manha Romecito Madronio Sokhna Cissokho Sonia Blaise **Tsering Diskit**

Photo: Cinthia Belbussi - Latin America Forum

THANK YOU TO FUNDERS AND MAJOR DONORS

Foundations:

Elkes Foundation Walk Free **Freedom Fund** US Department of Labor CENTHRO InMaat Foundation Sunflower Foundation Pathy Family Foundation US Department of State Dunn Family Foundation Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, UK W. O'Neil Foundation MKM Foundation SUCDEN Group National Endowment for Democracy Verite Embassy of Ireland in Senegal

Individuals:

Anonymous Margaret Graff & Richard Higgins Ninan Chacko Joyce and John Feeney Derek and Sarah Mount John and Marlene Major Foundation

And many more generous individuals and families.



1320 19th Street NW, Suite 600 Washington, DC 20036 USA T: 202.775.7480 F: 202.775.7485 info@freetheslaves.net www.freetheslaves.net Facebook Youtube LinkedIn Instagram Copyright ©2025 Free the Slaves Back *Cover Photo: Jackline Mwenda -Kenya*

Until ALL Are Free

markin. **ENDING THE CONDITIONS THAT**

ALLOW SLAVERY TO EXIST



1320 19th Street NW, Suite 600 Washington, DC 20036 USA T: 202.775.7480 F: 202.775.7485 info@freetheslaves.net www.freetheslaves.net