



Free The Slaves Brazil

Slavery in Brazil

Approximately 25,000 people enter slavery in Brazil each year. Brazilian slaves suffer brutal and degrading conditions, are often trapped by illegal debts, and are forced to perform the harshest possible work. Slave labor is used, for example, to haul wood to make charcoal, which is in turn used to manufacture steel, clear huge tracts of forestry for cattle ranching; till land for soy crops; and harvest sugar cane. Teenage boys leaving school are often the targets for such work, as well as older male migrant laborers. Slavery in Brazil is often used alongside the most environmentally destructive industrial practices.

Free the Slaves and our Brazilian partners operate an innovative model in Brazil that utilizes a unique public-private partnership to cut off both the supply and demand for slave labor. Collaborations between grassroots activists and law enforcement rescue and liberate slaves, interrupt the flow of human beings into slavery, and feed data into a National Pact between the Brazilian government, investigative NGOs, and major businesses that steers purchasing away from proven sites of slave labor. The combined efforts of this unique multi-stakeholder collaboration has led to the release of more than **43,000** Brazilians from slavery.

FTS' approach applies pressure at both the grassroots and corporate levels with mutually-reinforcing strategies:

- *Escravo, Nem Pensar!*: Training and sensitizing activists and community leaders to detect vulnerable people and intervene to prevent trafficking
- *Support for survivors*: to recover, prepare for the future, and seek justice
- *National Pact Against Slave Labor*: A public-private partnership to cut off demand from identified sites of slave labor

Impacts

- Release hundreds of enslaved laborers
- Mobilize 1,800 human rights defenders to lead a movement against slavery
- Commitment from more than 280 major businesses to take concrete steps to combat slave labor



Escravo, Nem Pensar! / Slavery, No Way!

The *Slavery, No Way!* campaign, operated in partnership with the Brazilian organizations Repórter Brasil and the Comissão Pastoral da Terra (CPT), trains teachers, church workers, social movement leaders, and other community leaders to sensitize vulnerable young people and migrant laborers to the risk of enslavement at work sites deep in the Amazon forest. *Slavery, No Way!* teaches vulnerable laborers to recognize human traffickers and equips them with the knowledge of how and where to get help. 1,430 community leaders have been trained in the 12 months since September 2011.

The campaign also provides training to carefully selected community workers to identify slave labor and report it to Brazil's *Mobile Inspection Squads* which investigate slavery, rescue survivors, and add abusive businesses to the *Dirty List* boycotted by signatories of the *National Pact*. In the past 12 months, 234 activists have been trained to intervene against slavery.

Survivor Support

Free the Slaves partners with (CPT) to provide safe harbor to slaves escaping abuse in all 26 states, with a special focus on the 8 most afflicted Amazonian states. Slaves who escape or are rescued from slavery are provided with psychosocial counseling, job skills training, medical care, and support to pursue legal cases against their traffickers.

Survivors supported by CPT are the largest source of leads on slavery to the *Mobile Inspection Squad*. In the last 12 months, CPT has forwarded 68 claims of slavery involving 1,230 individuals.

The National Pact Against Slave Labor

Brazil's National Pact is a unique public-private partnership that empowers businesses to boycott suppliers using slave labor. When the *Mobile Inspection Squad* law enforcement units raid a work site and rescue enslaved laborers, the business owner is added to the *Dirty List* maintained by our partner Repórter Brasil. The signatories of the *National Pact* have agreed not to source any goods from the nearly 300 suppliers on the *Dirty List*. More than 280 businesses have signed the *National Pact*, including the Brazilian affiliates of global corporations like McDonalds and WalMart.

Free the Slaves has launched advocacy for US-based businesses to sign the International Addendum to the National Pact, agreeing to support efforts to end slavery in Brazil.

