

THE ELKES
FOUNDATION

FREEDOM FROM SLAVERY FORUM

2018 REPORT

**DECEMBER 3-5, 2018
BANGKOK, THAILAND**

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SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

THE ELKES FOUNDATION



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Deloitte.



ADDITIONAL THANKS TO

Our Advisory Committee:

- Cecilia Flores Oebanda, Voice of the Free
- Dan Vexler, Freedom Fund
- Marina Sala, Foundation for International Democracy
- Mara Vanderslice Kelly, United Way Worldwide
- Maurice Middleberg, Free the Slaves
- Willy Buloso, ECPAT International

as well as

Jost Wagner, The Change Initiative

Madeline de Figuereido, University of Chicago

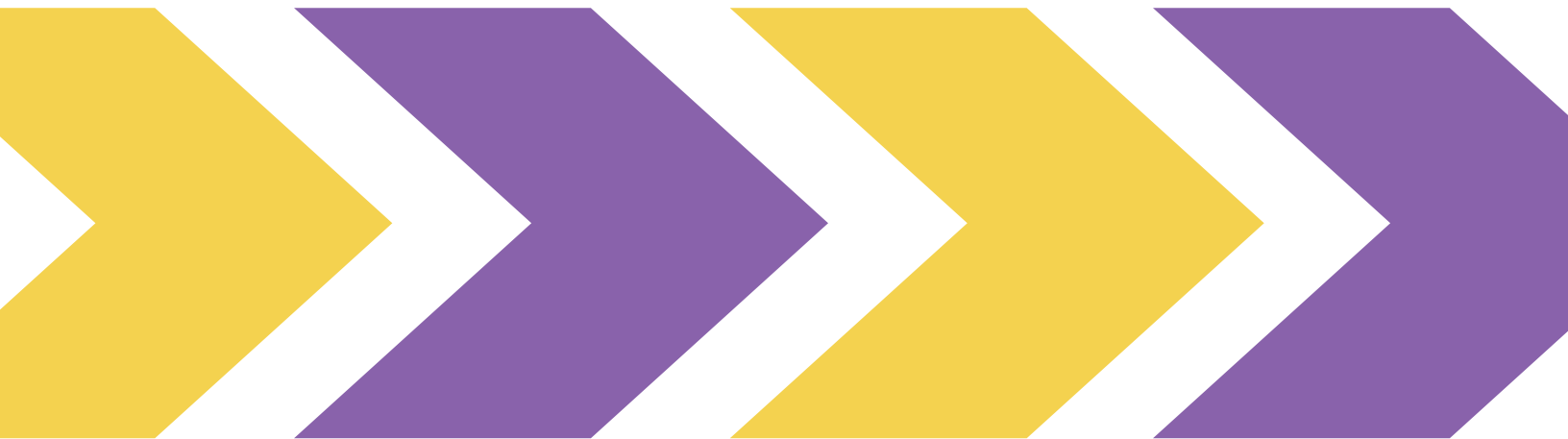


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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The 2018 Freedom from Slavery Forum took place in Bangkok, Thailand from December 3-5, 2018. This iteration of the Forum, the sixth annual, built off the work and goals of years past by bringing leaders from the anti-slavery field together to coalesce, create partnerships, discuss promising practices, and develop a shared agenda for action. Each year, Forum participants build relationships and prioritize actions in areas such as advocacy, measurement, and survivor care, among other themes.

Accordingly, the 2018 Forum was a three day event organized by an Advisory Committee of leaders from the anti-slavery field. Building off feedback from participants of the 2017 Forum, the Committee identified three primary themes to prioritize for the 2018 iteration:

Day One: Learning from One Another

Day Two: Advocacy and NGO Collaboration

Day Three: Achieving Scale as a Movement

On the first day, participants learned about Alliance 8.7's new learning platform, Delta 8.7. Emily Cholette from the United Nations University shared an overview of the new platform and gave participants information on how to effectively navigate and utilize the site.

Later, two sets of simultaneous breakout sessions took place. The first breakout session, *Measuring Slavery*, gave participants the option to attend either *Community Liberation Model: Measuring Community Resistance to Slavery* led by John Whan Yoon of Free the Slaves or *Participatory Learning, Monitoring, and Evaluation on Scale in Contexts of Modern Slavery* led by Bishnu Sharma of ActionAid Nepal and Pauline Oosterhoff of Institute for Development Studies. In the afternoon, during the *Targeting Audiences and Meeting Needs* breakout sessions, participants chose to either attend *Creating Safe Spaces for Survivors of Slavery* with Tina Frundt of Courtney's House and Sophie Otiende of HAART or *Targeting and Reaching Specific Audiences for Human Trafficking Education* with Katherine Jolluck of Stanford University and Dominique Chauvet-Staco of the Pathy Family Foundation.

The first day also utilized "Marketplace Methodology" for a session titled *Innovations and Good Practices*. During this session, the following stations were set up and participants had the opportunity to visit three of them:

1. *Better Data, Better Technology, Better Response* by Andrew Wallis of Unseen UK
2. *Strategic Litigation for Trafficking Victims* by Sarah Bessel of the Human Trafficking Legal Center
3. *Being a Trauma-Informed Organization* by Carol Mortensen of Hagar International
4. *Using Social Media to Engage with Youth in Your Program* by Tina Frundt of Courtney's House

5. *Now You Know: A Call to Action to Fight Slavery* by Marina Sala of the Foundation for International Democracy
6. *Voice of the Free's Holistic Approach* by Cecilia Flores Oebanda of Voice of the Free

Day two of the Forum began with an "Open Space Technology" session during which participants were able to set their own agenda. Various topics were discussed throughout the two hour period. The second session of the day was a "Talk Show" titled *Case Study: NGO Collaboration at Its Best*. During this session, Dan Vexler of the Freedom Fund moderated a conversation with Parinita Kumari, Vandana Kanth, and Sunil Sainju about their organizations' participation with the Human Liberty Network. In the afternoon, Mara Vanderslice Kelly of United Way Worldwide, Willy Buloso of ECPAT International, and Purva Gupta of the Global March Against Child Labour each delivered a "TEDx style talk" about their organizations' perspectives on movement building and the importance of collaboration. Finally, day two concluded with a presentation from the US Department of Labor entitled *From a Funder: Thoughts, Advice, Questions, and More*.

The third and final day of the 2018 Forum began with a session titled Multilateral Organization Perspectives. Facilitator Jost Wagner led a "fish bowl" style conversation with Tara Dermott of the International Organization for Migration and Thomas Wissing of the International Labour Organization. After this session, representatives from Deloitte presented the results of research they conducted in conjunction with Free the Slaves over the past few months. Their study, *Operationalizing the Movement Behind SDG 8.7*, was presented as a draft, and participants were encouraged to offer feedback during the latter half of the session.

The final focus of day three was building the civil society organization movement as a whole. Maurice Middleberg of Free the Slaves, Marina Sala of the Foundation for International Democracy, and Willy Buloso of ECPAT International facilitated a conversation titled *Accelerating the NGO Platform to Address SDG 8.7* and formally introduced the *Civil Society Statement of Principles and Goals*, also known as *The Bangkok Statement*. This statement outlines the civil society perspective on how to effectively achieve Sustainable Development Goal 8.7 and was endorsed by over 70 nonprofit organizations ahead of the 2018 Forum. After Middleberg, Sala, and Buloso introduced *The Bangkok Statement*, participants broke into small groups and discussed how they might use it effectively in their home countries.

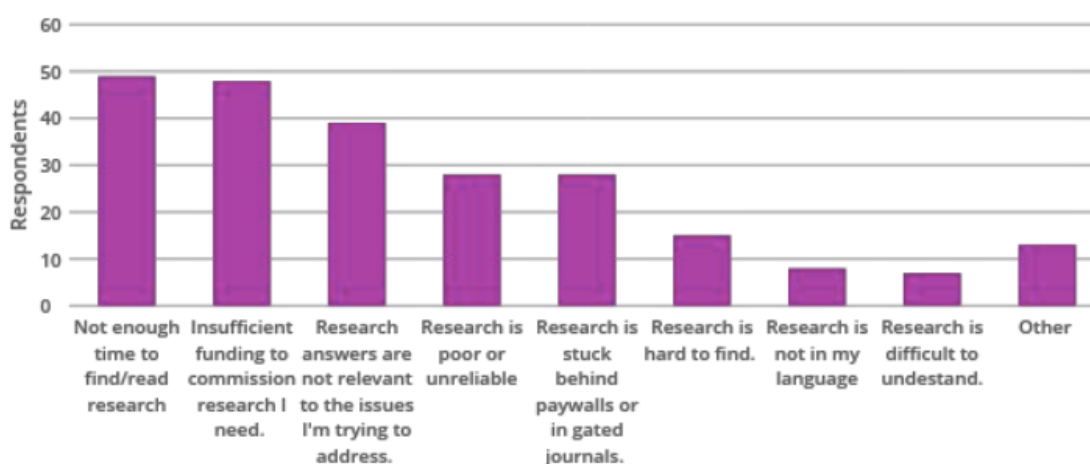
Approximately eighty different organizations were represented at the 2018 Forum, and invitations were extended based on recommendations from the Advisory Committee, sponsors, and past participants. Participants' evaluations of the Forum gave it a 4.5 out of 5 overall, including content and logistics. There was a marked interest in continuing to hold the Forum in 2018 and beyond, with emphasis placed on continuing to build the movement and connect participants between annual convenings.

The 2018 Freedom from Slavery Forum was made possible by the generosity of the Elkes Foundation, the International Labour Organization, United Way Worldwide, and the Freedom Fund, with additional support from Deloitte.

DAY ONE: LEARNING FROM ONE ANOTHER

During the Forum's opening session, Emily Cholette of the United Nations University presented on Delta 8.7, the new Alliance 8.7 Knowledge Platform. During her talk, *Delta 8.7: Using Data and Evidence to End Modern Slavery*, Cholette explained to Forum participants the goal of Delta 8.7, to serve as "a global knowledge platform exploring what works to eradicate forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking, and child labour." She described the need for such a platform, presenting the results of surveys from the anti-slavery field that show a lack of sufficient shared knowledge. For instance, research showed that two-thirds of respondents working on issues of exploitation have four years of public policy or less and half indicated that they were either "somewhat familiar" or "not so familiar" with data and statistics. While this knowledge certainly exists within the field as a whole, Cholette explained that one of the main factors inhibiting its dissemination is limited time (see Figure 1).

Figure 1:



Courtesy Emily Cholette

To address these issues, Delta 8.7 was created as a project of the United Nations University Centre for Policy Research and a contribution to Alliance 8.7. The platform offers nine key thematic overviews:

1. Conflict and Humanitarian Settings
2. Development Assistance
3. Economics
4. Financial Sector
5. Health
6. International Justice
7. Law Enforcement
8. Migration and Displacement
9. Survivor and Victim Support

Each thematic overview contains resources about the impacts of that particular topic on the issues of modern slavery, human trafficking, forced labor, and child labor. “Data Dashboards” also serve as a learning tool for those involved or interested in anti-slavery, as they explain not only the latest data on the issues but also how to properly measure change within the field.

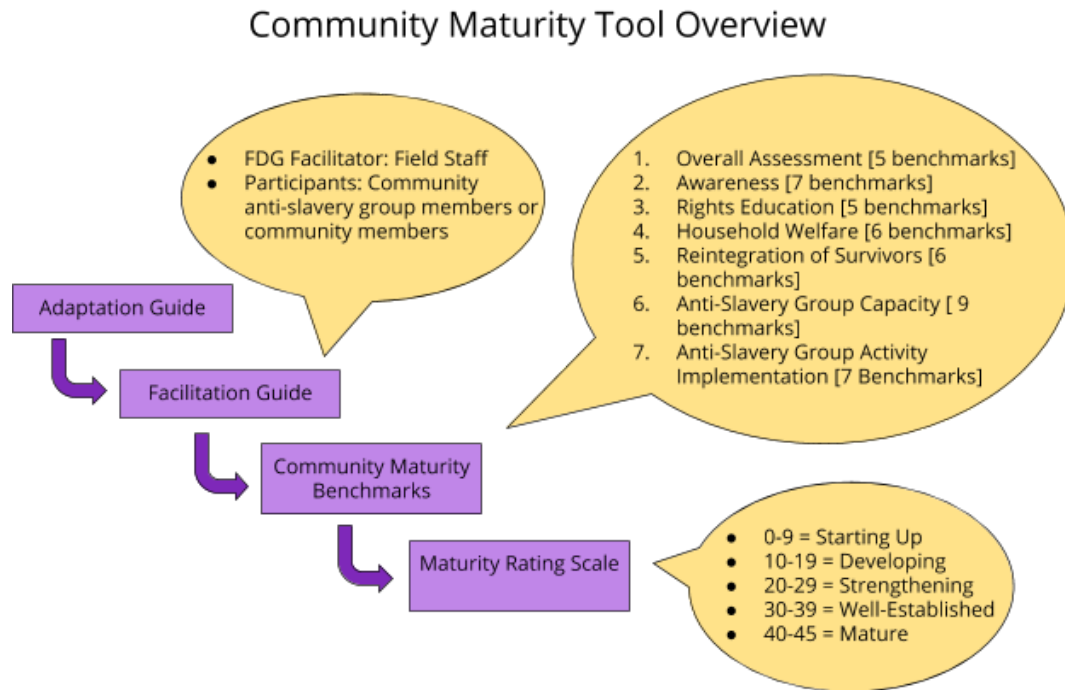
Users can not only learn from the site but also engage with one another through the “Forum” section which serves as a venue for discussion of the relevant and timely data and evidence about modern slavery, human trafficking, forced labor, and child labor.

The final two key features offered by Delta 8.7 are a “Learning Opportunities” section on the website with details and information about relevant webinars, podcasts, and other learning opportunities, as well as a “Call to Action” section. The “Call to Action” page allows users to explore the efforts of particular countries that have endorsed the “Call to Action to End Forced Labour, Modern Slavery, and Human Trafficking,” which was launched on September 19th, 2017 at the 72nd Meeting of the United Nations General Assembly.

After Cholette concluded her presentation of Delta 8.7, participants moved into two groups for the first “breakout session” of the day, *Measuring Slavery*. During this session participants could opt to attend one of two concurrent presentations: *Community Liberation Model: Measuring Community Resistance to Slavery* with John Whan Yoon of Free the Slaves or *Participatory Learning, Monitoring, and Evaluation on Scale in Contexts of Modern Slavery* with Pauline Oosterhoff of the Institute of Development Studies and Bishnu Sharma of ActionAid Nepal.

During his breakout session, John Whan Yoon presented Free the Slaves’ approach to monitoring and evaluating field programs, the Community Liberation Model (CLM). Whan Yoon explained the four key pillars of the CLM: (1) Rule of Law, (2) Education and Mobilization, (3) Access to Basic Services, and (4) Survivor Liberation, Care, and Reintegration. He then walked participants through the tools used to measure each pillar, describing Free the Slaves’ Survivor Reintegration Checklist and Socio-Economic Services Tool, but ultimately focusing on the organization’s Community Maturity Tool (CMT) (see Figure 2). Whan Yoon gave each participant a write up of the CMT before having them break into small groups for discussion.

Figure 2:



Courtesy Free the Slaves

While Whan Yoon presented on the measurement practices of Free the Slaves, Oosterhoff and Sharma's session informed participants about a recent independent academic partnership between Institute of Development Studies (IDS), Praxis, and ActionAid Nepal. The partnership utilized participatory methods to study slavery in India and Nepal, including:

1. Scoping visits that involved interviews with NGOs and other stakeholders, observation, and team facilitation of focus groups in villages.
2. Collection of approximately 350 life stories in each of the two India projects, as well as 156 life stories from the project in Nepal.
 - These life stories were collected through broad, open ended inquiries including story prompts, rather than multiple, focused questions. Some stories focused on respondents' whole lives, while others centered around particular incidents. Respondents were free to share stories that had either positive or negative trajectories.
3. A large scale participatory statistics project in each area involving the collection and analysis of data from more than 8,000 households in India and Nepal.
 - In order to analyze this large amount of data, small groups were established and assigned ten to fifteen stories each. The analyzers were tasked with creating simple thematic analyses by clustering issues and mapping factors.
4. Generation of 26 parallel action research groups.
5. Interviews with 50 to 100 program participants and NGOs in order to triangulate the findings from methods 1-3.

Oosterhoff and Sharma explained how the mix of research, planning, and program development in this project model allowed for robust and expansive data collection processes. The mixed methods approach found strength in its “bottom up” processes for generating indicators and links to global metrics and also effectively facilitated cross-learning on methods and content at the hotspot level. It was not without its challenges, however, as the team did encounter difficulty conducting research, M&E, and learning facilitation roles all at once. To conclude their session, Oosterhoff and Sharma presented both the benefits and challenges of this participatory method before breaking participants into small groups for discussion.

The second half of day one of the Forum began with “Marketplace Methodology” for a session titled *Innovations and Good Practices*. During this session, the following stations were set up and participants had the opportunity to visit three of them:

1. *Better Data, Better Technology, Better Response* by Andrew Wallis of Unseen UK
2. *Strategic Litigation for Trafficking Victims* by Sarah Bessel of the Human Trafficking Legal Center
3. *Being a Trauma-Informed Organization* by Carol Mortensen of Hagar International
4. *Using Social Media to Engage with Youth in Your Program* by Tina Frundt of Courtney's House
5. *Now You Know: A Call to Action to Fight Slavery* by Marina Sala of the Foundation for International Democracy
6. *Voice of the Free's Holistic Approach* by Cecilia Flores Oebanda of Voice of the Free

Finally, Day One concluded with a final set of breakout sessions with concurrent presentations. Tina Frundt of Courtney's House and Sophie Otiende of HAART Kenya led *Creating Safe Spaces for Survivors of Trafficking* while Dominique Chauvet-Staco of the Pathy Family Foundation and Katherine Jolluck of Stanford University presented *Targeting and Reaching Specific Audiences for Human Trafficking Education*.

Otiende and Frundt opened their session by explaining three key topics: (1) trauma-informed care, (2) client centered care, and (3) safe spaces.

1. Trauma-informed care refers to those services that incorporate an understanding of the impact of violence and psychological trauma on the lives of the victims.
2. Client centered care, meanwhile, was defined as care that recognizes the fact that each individual survivor has unique needs and needs services that address these unique needs to help restore their dignity.
3. Safe spaces were defined as spaces that are not only physically safe but also emotionally and socially safe for survivors.

In order to demonstrate best practices regarding these three topics, Otiende and Frundt offered case studies from each of their organizations before opening the session up for participant discussion and interaction.

The breakout session opposite Otiende and Frundt's focused on targeting and reaching specific audiences for anti-trafficking education and began with an overview of Jolluck and Chauvet-Staco's separate work in this space. Chauvet-Staco informed participants about the state of the human trafficking issue in Canada and explained the anti-trafficking strategy of the Pathy Family Foundation.

The Foundation focuses on advancing efforts to end sex trafficking in Canada by (1) expanding prevention programs, (2) empowering survivors of sex trafficking, and (3) supporting data collection analysis in the anti-trafficking sector. Through this work, the Foundation has found that programs are most relevant and successful when they are tailored and address specific community challenges, contain input from survivors, and emphasize collaboration.

For her part, Jolluck gave participants a similar overview of the state of the human trafficking issue in California before. She then shared some of the work she has done as co-founder and steering committee member of No Traffick Ahead (NTA), the largest multi-country, multi-disciplinary work-group in greater North California dedicated to addressing human trafficking.

NTA found that there was a need to engage small businesses in anti-trafficking work, specifically those businesses that are known to encounter issues of labor trafficking. By doing so, NTA found they were able to reach populations vulnerable to human trafficking and possibly in a position to spot it but who would not typically be reached by ordinary human trafficking awareness trainings. Through multi-sectoral collaboration between academia, NGOs, and government, NTA has been able to create online courses specifically for these populations.

Through this work, NTA found it was necessary to clarify the specifics of the group they were trying to reach, as those vulnerable to being trafficked and those in a position to encounter trafficked individuals may be very different groups of people. Further, NTA learned the importance of customizing programs and efforts according to the profiles of groups (i.e. medium, message, language, level of education).

After Chauvet-Staco and Jolluck had introduced each of their own work in anti-trafficking education, they asked participants to break into small groups to discuss the two following questions:

- 1.** How does this presentation relate to your work, particularly in regards to any accomplishments or challenges?
- 2.** Discuss how you have or potentially could customize your approaches and messages to address your specific audiences and find creative and effective collaborators.

DAY TWO: ADVOCACY AND NGO COLLABORATION

The second day of the 2018 Forum began with an “Open Space Technology” session called *Coming Together, Sharing Knowledge, Ending Slavery*. Facilitator Jost Wagner empowered participants to set their own agenda for this two hour session, which allowed for a series of highly collaborative and participatory small group discussions.

After the “Open Space” session, “Talk Show” methodology was used for *Case Study: NGO Collaboration at its Best*, which introduced participants to a few members of the Human Liberty Network (HLN). HLN members Parinita Kumari, Vandana Kanth, Sunil Sainju, and Sister Mary Elise spoke about their work with the network in a conversation moderated by Dan Vexler of the Freedom Fund. The members explained the creation and evolution of HLN, a network that consists of 13 non-governmental organizations working on issues of slavery in Bihar, including districts bordering Nepal and trafficking destinations outside the state. Through collaborative initiatives such as sharing of best practices, joint usage of resources, collective research, and pressure groups and joint advocacy, the HLN has seen much success. Through this session’s discussion, participants learned about (1) the process of forming, implementing, and running a network to combat slavery; (2) the prevention-, prosecution-, and protection-level advocacy initiatives and strategies led by the network; and (3) the importance of sustainable collaboration models to maximize use of limited resources.

After the “Talk Show,” a series of three “TEDx Style” talks were given for a session called *Global Perspectives: Movement Building and Collaborative Efforts Around the World*. Willy Buloso of ECPAT International began the talks, presenting *Network and Coalition Building for SEC Advocacy in Africa: Experience-Sharing from ECPAT International*. In this talk, Buloso introduced participants to the work of ECPAT International before describing the organization’s three key strategies for coalition building in Africa:

1. Creating and developing relationships and alliances with national civil society organizations;
2. Strengthening existing networks and coalitions;
3. Building new networks and coalitions.

Buloso concluded by explaining a few of the lessons learned through employing these strategies. Three important recommendations for coalition building include (1) focus on national coalitions instead of individual non-governmental organizations; (2) take into account the social, economic, cultural, and environmental particularities of each country/sub region; and (3) prioritize large, key countries.

After Buloso’s presentation, Mara Vanderslice Kelly of United Way Worldwide (UWW) gave a talk entitled *Funding the Fight: Anti-Trafficking Advocacy in the United States*. During her presentation, Vanderslice Kelly spoke about the creation and purpose of UWW’s Center on Human Trafficking and Slavery, which launched in 2015 and is dedicated to mobilizing a collaborative effort across

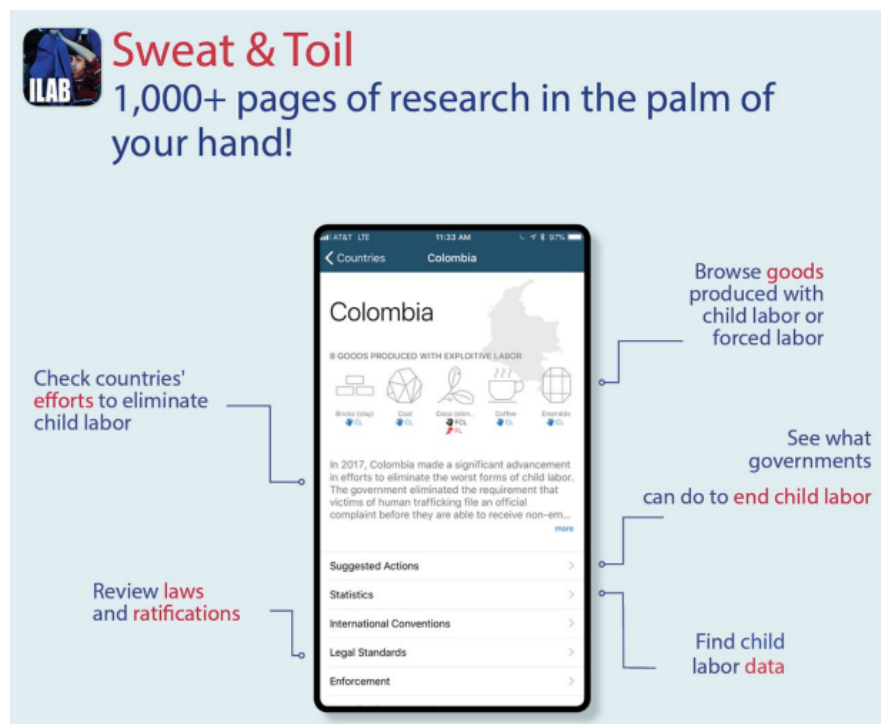
sectors, building public and political will needed to spur greater action, and expanding comprehensive solutions to communities around the world. UWW employs a comprehensive approach to anti-trafficking work that prioritizes collaboration and coalition building and believes that the clearest need for the anti-slavery field today is increased funding to bring efforts to scale.

Concluding the “TEDx Style” session, Purva Gupta from the Global March Against Child Labour presented *Collaboration: “The” Ingredient for Our Success*. In this talk, Gupta detailed a few of the lessons learned by the Global March over the past twenty years, which include (1) “join hands with your relatives;” (2) “leave no one behind;” (3) “partner care is the motto;” (4) “adaptive collaboration” is key.

Gupta’s talk rounded out the conversations about the importance of collaboration for the anti-slavery movement. To finish Day Two of the Forum, representatives of the US Department of Labor - International Labor Affairs Bureau (DOL-ILAB), Maris Ferri Light and Rachel Raba, gave a presentation titled *From a Funder: Thoughts, Advice, Questions, and More*. In their talk, Ferri Light and Raba presented some of the tools and resources available from DOL-ILAB, including:

- The US Department of Labor’s 2017 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor
- The US Department of Labor’s 2018 List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor
- DOL-produced phone applications, Sweat & Toil and Comply Chain (see Figure 3)

Figure 3:



Courtesy US Department of Labor

Next, Ferri Light and Raba gave a brief overview of how to find and apply for funding from DOL-ILAB. They concluded their talk by leaving space for open dialogue with participants in a sort of “facilitated conversation,” rather than straight Q&A session.

DAY THREE: ACHIEVING SCALE AS A MOVEMENT

Day Three of the Forum opened with a conversation between facilitator Jost Wagner, Thomas Wissing of the International Labour Organization, and Tara Dermott of the International Organization for Migration using “Fish Bowl Style” methodology. In this method, the three main speakers sat in a small circle with one fourth chair empty. All other participants sat around them and were invited to join the conversation at any point by sitting in the fourth chair. This session, titled *Multilateral Organization Perspectives*, gave participants the opportunity to learn about the work of the ILO and IOM, specifically Alliance 8.7 and IOMx.

The second session of the day, *Global Coalition Study: An Overview*, was presented and facilitated by a team from Deloitte: Nes Parker, Nahal Jalali-Farahani, Caitlin Ryan, and Amy Coppernoll. The team presented the draft of a recent report written by Free the Slaves and Deloitte, *Operationalizing the Movement Behind SDG 8.7*. This report was the result of months of research that aimed to (1) inform a shared agenda for anti-slavery civil society organizations; (2) unify global civil society organizations around shared priorities; (3) mobilize collective action within the field; and (4) help achieve the goal of abolishing slavery once and for all.

The research for the report was carried out by a joint team of Free the Slaves and Deloitte staff members between June and August 2018. The team identified 54 anti-slavery coalitions from various parts of the world, conducted a survey with 23 of them, and interviewed 13 leaders from the various coalitions. Findings included perspectives on the effectiveness of actors (NGOs, governments, businesses, and trade unions) in fighting slavery and the identification of top priorities for stakeholders (see Figure 4).

Figure 4:

TOP PRIORITIES STAKEHOLDERS SHOULD ADVANCE TO END MODERN SLAVERY



Courtesy Deloitte and Free the Slaves

After presenting the full findings of the draft report, the Deloitte team asked participants to break into groups according to the various stakeholders (NGOs, governments, businesses, and trade unions) in order to offer feedback regarding how the report can be strengthened.

The session facilitated by Deloitte nicely prepared participants for the final key presentation and session of the Forum, *Accelerating the NGO Platform to Address SDG 8.7*. This session, facilitated by Maurice Middleberg of Free the Slaves, Marina Sala of the Foundation for International Democracy, and Willy Buloso of ECPAT International officially introduced *Advancing Sustainable Development Goal 8.7: Civil Society Statement of Principles and Goals*, also known as *The Bangkok Statement*. Middleberg explained to Forum participants how the creation of this statement began years prior and was inspired by the knowledge that successful social movements need to possess a shared narrative in order to effectively achieve their goals. After multiple iterations, feedback from anti-slavery leaders around the world, and thorough research, the statement was finalized and disseminated just prior to the 2018 Forum.

The statement focuses on four main stakeholder groups -- civil society organizations, governments, businesses, and trade unions -- and outlines a series of principles for each. It creates a shared platform of goals and principles that can be used by NGOs in their dialogue with governments, businesses and worker organizations. The authors and signatories believe that the various stakeholders might best participate constructively in Alliance 8.7 and advance the eradication of slavery through abiding by and adhering to the principles set out in *The Bangkok Statement*. As of the Forum, more than seventy civil society organizations had signed on to *The Bangkok Statement*. Concluding this session, participants broke into groups to discuss how they might use *The Bangkok Statement* to further their organization's goals, as well as how they might use the statement when working with the four different stakeholder groups.



2018 Freedom from Slavery Forum Participants

CONCLUSION AND NEXT STEPS

The 2018 Forum finished with a time for plenary reflection, and participants shared their visions for next steps, focusing mainly on how the group might move forward collectively. Final evaluations were conducted before participants departed, and responses indicated a score of 4.5 out of 5 overall, including content and logistics. There was a marked interest in continuing to hold the Forum in 2019 and beyond, with emphasis placed on continuing to build the movement and connect participants between annual convenings.

Since the conclusion of the Forum, more organizations have signed on to *The Bangkok Statement*; as of January 2019 there were roughly 75 signatories. The conveners of the Forum encourage additional organizations to review *The Bangkok Statement* and give serious consideration to signing it as well. The link to *The Bangkok Statement* is: <https://freedomfromslaveryforum.org/cso-platform-of-action/>

APPENDIX

A: Agenda

B: Participant List

C: Links to Presenter Organizations

D: *The Bangkok Statement*

AGENDA

Day One | December 3, 2018

Learning from One Another

- 8:00 Registration and Welcome Coffee
- 9:00 **Welcome Remarks and Introduction**
- 9:50 **Introduction to Delta 8.7**
- 10:20 Sales Pitches: Breakouts and Marketplace Stations
- 10:30 Break
- 11:00 **Measuring Slavery**
Method: Participatory Breakouts
- 12:00 Lunch
- 13:00 **Innovations and Good Practices**
Method: Marketplace
- 14:30 Break
- 15:00 **Targeting Audiences and Meeting Needs**
Method: Participatory Breakouts
- 16:30 **Reflections and Wrap Up**
- 17:00 End of Day 1

Day Two | December 4, 2018

Advocacy and NGO Collaboration

- 8:45 Welcome and Introduction to Day 2
- 9:00 **Coming Together, Sharing Knowledge, Ending Slavery**
Method: Open Space Technology
- 11:00 Break
- 11:30 **Case Study: NGO Collaboration at Its Best**
Method: Talk Show
- 12:30 Lunch
- 13:30 **Global Perspectives: Movement Building and Collaborative Efforts Around the World**
Method: TEDx Style Presentations
- 14:45 Break
- 15:15 **From a Funder: Thoughts, Advice, Questions, and More**
Method: Facilitated Conversation
- 16:00 **Reflections and Wrap Up**
- 17:00 End of Day 2

AGENDA

Day Three | December 5, 2018

Achieving Scale As a Movement

- 8:45 Welcome and Introduction to Day 3
- 9:00 **Multilateral Organization Perspectives**
Method: Talk Show
- 9:45 **Global Coalition Study: An Overview**
- 10:30 Break
- 11:00 **Accelerating the NGO Platform to Address SDG 8.7**
Method: Facilitated Conversation
- 12:00 Lunch
- 13:00 **Building the NGO Movement**
- 14:00 Break
- 14:30 **Presentation of Participant Recommendations**
- 15:00 **Next Steps and Closing**
- 16:00 End of Day 3

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LINKS TO PRESENTER ORGANIZATIONS

ActionAid Nepal | www.actionaid.org/nepal
Alliance 8.7 | www.alliance87.org
Courtney's House | www.courtneyshouse.org
Delta 8.7 | www.delta87.org
Deloitte | www.deloitte.com
ECPAT International | www.ecpat.org
Freedom Fund | www.freedomfund.org
Free the Slaves | www.freetheslaves.net
Foundation for International Democracy | www.fundacionparalademocracia.org
Global March Against Child Labour | www.globalmarch.org
HAART Kenya | www.haartkenya.org
Hagar International | www.hagarinternational.org
Human Liberty Network | www.humanliberty.org
The Human Trafficking Legal Center | www.htlegalcenter.org
International Labour Organization | www.ilo.org
International Organization for Migration | www.iom.int
Institute of Development Studies | www.ids.ac.uk
IOMx | www.iomx.org
No Traffick Ahead | www.notraffickahead.com
Stanford University WSD Handa Center | www.handacenter.stanford.edu
United Nations University | www.unu.edu
United Way Worldwide | www.unitedway.org
Unseen UK | www.unseenuk.org
US Department of Labor, Bureau of International Labor Affairs | www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab
Voice of the Free | www.voiceofthefree.org.ph

ADVANCING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 8.7: CIVIL SOCIETY STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES AND GOALS

The Bangkok Statement

SDG 8.7 Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.

The signatory organizations:

Deploring the persistence of 40 million people trapped in slavery, including 25 million in forced labour and 15 million in forced marriage, as well as 72.5 million children in hazardous labour.

Applauding the adoption of SDG 8.7, which calls for the eradication of human slavery, forced labour, human trafficking; and worst forms of child labour (WFCL);

Supporting the attainment of related Sustainable Development Goals, including SDG 5.2 (eliminating violence against women and girls); SDG 5.3 (eliminating harmful practices); SDG 16.2 (ending abuse, exploitation and trafficking of children); and SDG 10.7 (orderly, safe and responsible migration);

Sharing the aspiration of accelerating progress towards SDG 8.7;

Recognizing that advancing SDG 8.7 requires a multi-sectoral approach, including the indispensable contribution of civil society;

Calling for substantive and constructive collaboration among all the sectors participating in Alliance 8.7;

Building on the collective experience and expertise possessed by civil society;.

Agree upon the following Statement of Principles and Goals:

I. Civil Society

Civil society organizations (CSO) are entrusted with resources to serve the public and must therefore abide by the highest standards of conduct. The credibility of civil society as an advocate on behalf of those afflicted by slavery, forced labour and trafficking in persons (TIP) is predicated on sustaining trust.

1. Governance

CSOs must have in place an independent governing body that holds their leadership to account for effectively serving the organizational mission and adherence to high ethical standards.

2. Transparency and Integrity

CSOs must openly report to concerned stakeholders, using appropriate measures, progress and obstacles in meeting their goals and require that all employees, contractors, consultants and other agents act with honesty and transparency.

3. Finance

CSOs must act as the good faith stewards of the financial and other material resources entrusted to them, using them solely for the purposes intended by contributors and for the benefit of the populations they serve. Appropriate safeguards and transparent reporting must be in place to ensure all resources are used in accordance with applicable laws and that there is accountability to stakeholders.

4. Build Community

CSOs must seek to optimize collaboration so as to make best use of limited resources, avoid duplication of effort, share learning, foster innovation, pursue shared policy goals, resolve conflicts and engage in mutual protection where CSOs are under threat.

5. Equitable and Effective Management of Personnel

CSOs devoted to ending the exploitation of workers must also engage in good labour practices consistent with international conventions and national laws, including good human resources management practices, fair treatment of employees, gender equity and support for diversity.

6. Cultural Competence and Respect

CSOs must demonstrate understanding of and respect for the diversity of communities and cultures they serve, striving to empower at-risk and marginalized populations vulnerable to slavery and WFCL, while also sustaining adherence to widely recognized human rights established by international conventions.

7. Respect for Survivor Leadership and Voice

CSOs must respect the privacy and dignity of human trafficking, slavery and WFCL survivors and honour their leadership roles and unique knowledge. CSOs must stand in solidarity with survivors and ensure that their experiences are at the heart of CSO programming.

8. Develop and Uphold Standards of Practice

CSOs must base their programs on sound social science research; seek the development and promulgation of evidence-based standards of practice; rigorously monitor and evaluate their programs; forthrightly acknowledge knowledge gaps; support methodologically sound research; and, transparently share research findings and practical experiences that can advance the theory and practice of efforts to eradicate slavery, and WFCL.

9. Equal Concern for All Victims and Survivors

CSOs must be responsive, without prejudice, to the full spectrum of TIP, forced labour, worst forms of child labour, forced marriage and slavery victims and survivors, insisting on equal protection

without regard to considerations of type of exploitation experienced, race, religion, gender, ethnicity, immigration status or sexual orientation.

10. Protection of CSOs Under Threat

CSOs must collaborate to safeguard the political, legal, social and physical space to carry out their mission of advancing progress towards SDG 8.7 and collectively resist improper efforts to curtail their efforts.

11. Contribution to National Plans of Action

CSOs must actively contribute to the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of national plans of action, ensuring that their efforts complement those of government and other sectors.

II. Government

Governments must lead in the effort to achieve SDG 8.7, while appropriately engaging the full array of concerned stakeholders to yield the greatest impact with the most efficient use of available resources. Civil society therefore calls upon national governments to fulfill their obligations under the relevant international conventions and protocols, including:

1. Establishing and Implementing an Effective National Plan of Action

In collaboration with key stakeholders, governments must develop, adopt and implement a comprehensive national plan of action for accelerating progress towards SDG 8.7, including linkages to other sectors that have an impact on slavery and WFCL. The national plan of action must establish an empowered interagency and inter-sectoral coordinating body; engage provincial and local governments; include mechanisms for regular stakeholder input; and, require periodic, public reviews of progress, including reporting to the international community. The national plan of action must address all of the items in this Section II.

2. Evidence-based Interventions

The national plan of action must encompass a comprehensive set of evidence-based interventions addressing the full array of context-specific determinants of slavery and WFCL. The formulation, monitoring and evaluation of the interventions must be based on international, national and local research carried out in accordance with international standards. Data and lessons learned must be shared within and across nations.

3. Survivor Leadership and Voice

Slavery and WFCL survivors have a unique and indispensable role to play in informing and shaping national plans of action. Governments must therefore ensure that survivor voices are prominent and that there is adequate protection and support for survivor inclusion in policy development and oversight.

4. Survivor Care and Protection

National plans must ensure that survivors of slavery receive the comprehensive, evidence-based care and services they need, with appropriate adaptation to the needs of the diverse populations affected by slavery and WFCL; that there is rigorous monitoring and evaluation of survivor care programs; and, that programs adapt in response research finds and evolving best practices.

5. Protections for Civil Society

Civil society is critical to development and implementation of any national plan for reducing slavery and WFCL. Governments must therefore be engaged in an open, productive and candid dialogue with non-governmental organizations. Governments must ensure respect for the protections for civil society embedded in international law, including freedom of association, assembly, expression, communication, and cooperation, as well as the rights to seek and secure resources and operate without unwarranted state interference. National governments have a positive duty to ensure civil society organizations can operate in accordance with the foregoing principles.

6. Addressing Vulnerability and Inclusion of All At-Risk Populations

Slavery and WFCL are rooted in vulnerability, including extremes of poverty, inability to assert human rights, lack of access to essential social and economic services and failures to extend the protection of the law to all people and communities. Slavery and WFCL are profoundly linked to discrimination rooted in gender biases and marginalizing ethnic, religious, tribal and other groups. National plans must address these basic injustices and anti-slavery programs must be adapted to the diverse needs of at-risk people and communities.

7. Accountability for Perpetrators

Governments must adopt and support legal responses that hold perpetrators accountable and help deter forced labour, commercial sexual exploitation, debt bondage, forced marriage, human trafficking, WFCL and other slavery and slavery-like practices. This includes adequate financing and support for policing and prosecution of all forms of slavery and WFCL; enforcement of penalties commensurate with that imposed for other serious crimes; implementation of policies for civil restitution for survivors; legal relief for persons convicted of crimes committed under compulsion while in a condition of slavery; effective screening measures to identify slavery and WFCL victims; accountability for government agents complicit in perpetuating slavery and WFCL; and, support for policing and prosecution of financial crimes associated with slavery and WFCL, such as money laundering for traffickers. Governments should also consider mechanisms that allow for the alternative of community-based reconciliation with perpetrators making bona fide efforts at reform.

8. Adequate, Effective, and Efficient Resource Allocation

Governments must ensure that national plans receive adequate financial support and that funds are rationally allocated among the elements of a national plan, including, but not limited to, prevention, protection and care for survivors, prosecution, research and knowledge sharing, crisis response, partnership building, and funding innovative solutions. Funding must be allocated and/or

renewed for programs that demonstrate evidence-based solutions, achieve impact at scale, do not duplicate existing efforts and support productive partnerships among government, civil society and business actors, including financial support for non-governmental organizations. Where appropriate, national governments must join regional and global efforts to address issues that transcend borders.

9. Full Range of Government Policies

Governments can use their broad array of legitimate powers to promote behaviors and incentives that discourage slavery and WFCL. These include refusing to purchase goods and services from companies that are complicit in slavery or WFCL or fail to make good faith efforts to remove slavery and WFCL from their supply chains; refusing importation of goods made with slave or hazardous child labour; requiring transparency and accountability from businesses; and, divesting from any companies that fail to take appropriate measures to prevent exploitation of their employees or in their supply chains. Governments can also foster a supportive environment for the anti-slavery and child labour movement by upholding labour rights as defined by the core labour standards of the International Labour Organization.

10. International Collaboration and Support

Human trafficking is frequently a transnational crime requiring collaboration between governments. Government must develop and/or implement protocols that provide for cooperative efforts to prevent human trafficking; intelligence sharing; interdiction of trafficking across borders; cooperation in identifying, apprehending and holding accountable perpetrators; and protecting the human rights of victims and survivors, including voluntary repatriation with appropriate safeguards and prohibiting the arrest and prosecution victims. Governments must comply with international standards and conventions that reduce slavery and WFCL, as well as vulnerability to slavery and WFCL. Financial and technical support must be provided by wealthier countries to countries that are making good faith efforts to address slavery but lack the means to enact national plans of action. Progress towards SDG 8.7 must be integrated into the diplomatic engagement between and among countries as a matter of priority.

III. Business

Of the 25 million people in forced labour, 16 million are in the private economy, with domestic work, construction, manufacturing, agriculture and fishing accounting for more than two-thirds (68%) of the total. Another 4 million are subjected to forced labour by governments. The active cooperation of business is therefore essential to the eradication of forced labour and WFCL. While much of hazardous child labour consists of work within the family, especially on family farms, approximately 13.5 million children are engaged in hazardous work in the industrial sector. The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and Principles and Recommended Practices for Confronting Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery developed by the Interfaith Center of Corporate Responsibility serve as the basis for civil society's call to the businesses community:

1. Compliance with Laws and Policies Against Forced Labour and WFCL

National governments have a responsibility to ensure that businesses adhere to human rights laws and principles, including laws aimed at reducing slavery and WFCL, both within their jurisdictions and in the extraterritorial operations of companies based in their country. Businesses are responsible for compliance with such laws and for instituting supportive policies and practices throughout their operations.

2. State Enterprises Free from Forced Labour and WFCL

National governments must ensure that businesses in which the government has an interest or which are partially or wholly controlled by the government are free of forced labour, commercial sexual exploitation and all forms of slavery, including WFCL.

3. Government Procurement Prohibiting Goods and Services Made with Forced Labour or WFCL

National governments must use their purchasing power to encourage businesses from which they purchase goods and services to act aggressively to root out forced labour and WFCL in both their operations and supply chains. Businesses that are negligent in or complicit with forced labour and/or WFCL must be barred from government procurement until appropriate remedial action is taken.

4. Trade Policy Discouraging Forced Labour and WFCL

Governments must adopt and businesses must support policies that prohibit export and import of goods and services produced with forced labour or WFCL and creating incentives for businesses that adhere to best practices.

5. Respect for Labour Rights and Worker Organizations

Slavery and WFCL are the far end of a continuum of labour abuse and denial of labour rights. A broader context of support for labour rights is conducive to the eradication of slavery and WFCL. Businesses have a responsibility to comply with the core labour standards adopted the International Labour Organization, including freedom of association, right to collective bargaining, elimination of forced labour, abolition of child labour, and elimination of discrimination.

6. Business Policies and Practices Against Sex Trafficking

Businesses must adopt policies and practices that are consistent with the Luxor Implementation Guidelines for the Athens Ethical Principles, which address sex trafficking, and the ECPAT Code of Conduct for preventing sexual exploitation of children.

7. Business Policies and Practices Against Forced Labour

Businesses must adopt policies and practices aimed at eradicating forced labour and WFCL in their supply chains, including, but not limited to a prohibition of recruitment fees charged to workers; holding suppliers accountable for eliminating forced labour and WFCL in their production processes; conducting regular, rigorous audits of labour practices; ensuring that workers and other stakeholders have unfettered access to effective grievance mechanisms; and, negotiating fair prices that do not create incentives for forced labour.

8. Demonstrable Impact

Businesses should take all necessary steps to rigorously monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of their policies against forced labour and WFCL, using both qualitative and quantitative methods and indicators.

9. Transparency

Businesses must make available for public inspection their policies and practices with regard to the elimination of forced labour and WFCL in their operations and suppliers, the results of all assessments of progress in eliminating forced labour and WFCL, and any remedial measures instituted in response to deficiencies and lessons learned.

10. Accountability and Remediation

Business must have in place policies and practices that provide appropriate remedies for individuals and groups that have been victimized by forced labour and WFCL in the course of business operation. These remedial measures must be undertaken with labour and civil society organizations to ensure appropriate representation of labour voices and delivery of needed services to the affected workers.

11. Sector-wide Efforts

Businesses should support and join efforts within their and/or across business sectors to encourage the formulation, adoption and full implementation of business policies and practices that reduce forced labour and WFCL, including educational programs, joint research, advocacy for anti-slavery government policies; incentives for businesses adhering to high standards; and, sanctions for those violating anti-slavery policies and practices.

IV. Worker Organizations and Trade Unions

Worker organizations, including trade unions, are a bulwark against forced labor and WFCL. A fundamental purpose of worker organizations, including unions, is to protect and advance core labour rights and promote decent work as defined by the ILO. The right of workers to organize, join unions, represent themselves in their workplaces, have agency and a voice in their workplace is among the best ways to eliminate forced labor and WFCL. The persistence of forced labor and WFCL is an affront to labour rights. It also undermines the broader effort to advance workers economic, political and social rights by creating illicit channels of free labour that are forced to work under extremely arduous and exploitative conditions. Both the mission and the interests of worker organizations are advanced through their contribution to advancing SDG 8.7. Key actions for worker organizations, including trade unions, are as follows:

1. Promoting the Relevant ILO Conventions

ILO Conventions 29 and 105, the Protocol and Recommendation of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention (P029; R203), and Convention 182 create the internationally accepted legal barriers to forced labour and WFCL. Worker organizations, especially trade unions, can make an important contribution to SDG 8.7 through systematic and continuing advocacy with governments to abide by these conventions, monitoring government compliance, and engaging businesses to abide by the conventions. This promotion of the ILO conventions should include educating key stakeholders,

such as labor inspectors, immigration officials, police, parliamentarians, and social service agencies about the realities of forced labour and WFCL.

2. Raising Awareness Among Worker Organization Members

Union member and members of worker organizations may not be well versed in the problems of forced labour and WFCL. Educating the membership of unions and worker organizations is an important role for their leaders. Encouraging members to be fully aware and engaged, monitor their workplaces, act as whistleblowers, and support active measures by the organization can add critical voices and an important political constituency.

3. Organizing and Educating Vulnerable Workers

The historic role of unions in educating and organizing vulnerable workers is of special salience to at-risk groups, such as informal economy and migrant workers. By educating at-risk workers about their rights, learning from workers about the conditions they face, mobilizing and organizing workers into unions, engaging in collective bargaining to ensure fair workplaces, and serving as their advocate, unions play a critical role in preventing, detecting and publicizing forced labor and WFCL, as well as holding perpetrators accountable.

4. Intervention and Assistance for Victims

Union and worker organization contact with at-risk workers will likely lead to uncovering instance of forced labour and WFCL. Unions and worker organizations can play a vital role in removing workers from such situations, appropriately documenting these cases, and serving as advocates for survivors to secure essential support services, including legal, medical and psychological care, restitution, police protection, training and other social services. Union legal aid centers play an important role in helping survivors secure remedies such as back wages and other forms of owed compensation. Worker organizations should bring such cases to the attention of appropriate authorities, such as labor inspectors and police (when it is safe to do so), and encourage assertive action to hold perpetrators accountable and change exploitative practices.

5. Monitoring, Recruitment, and Employment Agencies

Exploitative recruitment and employment agencies are a major conduit for forced labor, debt bondage and WFCL. Union and worker organization members and their families often have close links to communities vulnerable to exploitation. Unions and worker organizations can play a critical role by advocating for appropriate government regulation of recruitment and employment agencies, including an absolute ban on recruitment fees to workers, monitoring compliance with laws and regulations in the vulnerable communities, and holding businesses/employers accountable for unethical recruitment practices, in accordance with the ILO Principles and Operational Guidelines on Fair Recruitment.

Commitment:

We, the undersigned organizations, are fully committed to participating constructively in Alliance 8.7 and advancing the eradication of slavery and WFCL as called for in SDG 8.7 and other forms of egregious human rights violations addressed by related Sustainable Development Goals. This Civil Society Statement of Principles and Goal has been developed as the basis for fruitful dialogue with other sectors and in the expectation that common ground can be found. We pledge to abide by the principles enunciated for civil society so that we make our maximum contribution and to evaluate our own adherence to those principles. In that same spirit, we urge governments, businesses, worker organizations, and multilateral organizations to support the principles set forth in this Statement, all of which are grounded in established international conventions and laws. We call upon the ILO, other concerned multilateral organizations, governments, businesses and worker organizations to engage with civil society as a full and equal partner in shaping a future free of forced labour and WFCL.