

# Assessing the case for a Global Commission on Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking

## Annexes

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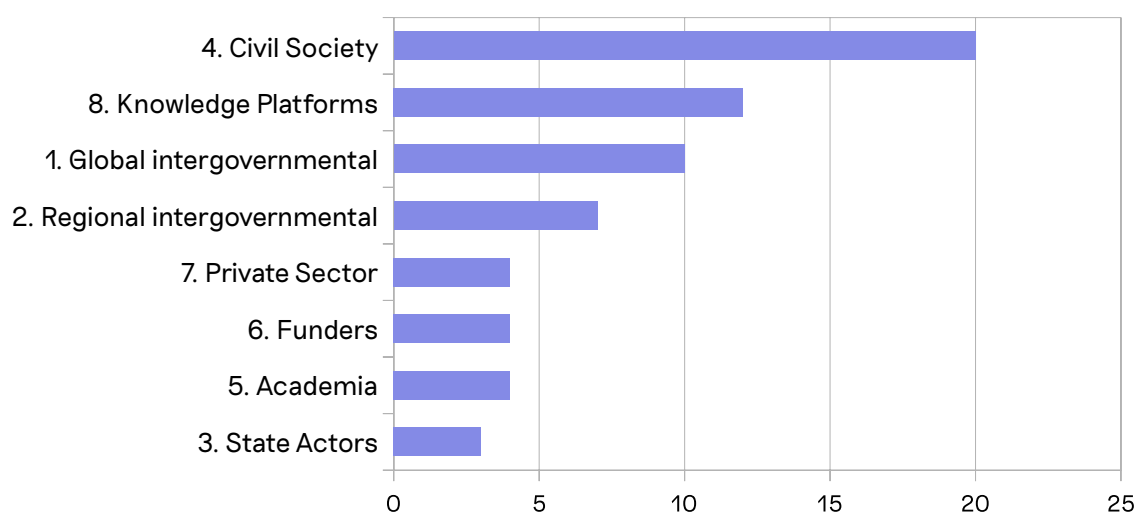
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## Annex I: Sectors and key international actors

The following key international actors were mapped, based on the selection criteria outlined in Chapter 2. The actors were categorised into the following eight sector categories. These actors fell within eight categories: global intergovernmental actors, regional intergovernmental, state actors, civil society, academia, funders, private sector and knowledge platforms.

Sectors of mapped international actors



### 1. Global Intergovernmental organisations

Alliance 8.7

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association UK

Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT)

International Labour Organization (ILO)

International Organisation on Migration (IOM)

OHCHR – Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

United Nations Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons

United Nations Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of slavery, including its causes and consequences

United Nations Working Group on Business & Human Rights

## 2. Regional Intergovernmental organisations

African Union

Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN)

Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime

Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA)

Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Office of the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

Organisation of American States (OAS)

The Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons, and related Transnational Crime

## 3. State Actors

UK Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner

US State Department Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (TiP Office)

US State Department Program to End Modern Slavery (PEMS)

## 4. Civil Society

Anti-Slavery International

Arise Foundation

Coalition Against Trafficking in Women (CATW)

Cotton Campaign

ECPAT International

Free the Slaves

Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women (GAATW)

Global Sustainability Network (GSN)

Hope for Justice

International Justice Mission (IJM)

International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)

Issara Institute

Justice and Care

La Strada International

McCain Institute for International Leadership

Shift

Survivor Alliance

The Santa Marta Group

Verité

Walk Free

<b>5. Academia</b>
Human Trafficking Research Initiative (HTRI)
Re:Structure Lab
The Rights Lab, University of Nottingham
United Nations University Centre for Policy Research (UNU-CPR)
<b>6. Funders</b>
Global Fund to End Modern Slavery (GFEMS)
Humanity United
Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
The Freedom Fund
<b>7. Private Sector</b>
Child Labour Platform
ILO Global Business Network on Forced Labour
International Organisation of Employers
Responsible Business Alliance
<b>8. Knowledge Platforms</b>
Code 8.7
Commonwealth 8.7 Network
Delta 8.7
Ethical Trade Initiative
Freedom Collaborative
Freedom United
Global Labor Justice – International Labor Rights Forum (GLJ – ILRF)
Know the Chain
Liechtenstein Initiative for Finance Against Slavery and Trafficking (FAST)
OSCE International Survivors of Trafficking Advisory Board (ISTAC)
The Global Action against Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants – Asia and the Middle East (GLO.ACT Asia and the Middle East)
UN Global Compact

## Annex II: Landscape mapping approach and limitations

### Approach

**Finding out what each actor does:** Information about each actor was drawn from their publicly available online materials. The scoping team's focus was on ongoing activities and projects only. For each attribute an actor could have multiple options listed (for instance, if they focussed on both forced labour and child exploitation), but these were only included if they were ongoing priority initiatives for that actor (rather than a single short-term report). Many of the mapped actors were also interviewed by the team as part of the stakeholder engagement activity (see Chapter 3), however these interviews did not cover the organisational activities considered during the mapping activity, and data from the interviews did not feed into the mapping exercise.

**Mapping actor 'attributes':** The mapped attributes were selected because the complexity of anti-trafficking and modern slavery work reflects the complexity of the problem itself and its varied manifestations: 'anti-slavery work' takes as many forms as there are actors. This therefore necessitates separating out the harm (exploitation type), the subject matter focus (or intervention focus) and only then parsing out the form the work itself takes (intervention type), and the eventual targets of this work (more information on the various attributes can be found in Annex III).

The scoping team mapped the following attributes of the identified key international actors (see Annex III for more details regarding each):

- Sector
- Region(s) of operation
- Region of headquarters
- Exploitation type – e.g. forced labour, forced marriage, debt bondage.\*
- Intervention focus – e.g. systemic causes, supply chain risk, law enforcement
- Intervention type – e.g. awareness raising, capacity building, policy advocacy
- Target sectors – e.g. policy makers, civil society, business actors
- Industry – e.g. agriculture, construction, domestic work

*\*The terms 'modern slavery' and 'human trafficking' are defined differently by different bodies and States, so to more accurately map the landscape, the scoping team identified specific types of exploitation. Descriptions of these specific types of exploitation were drawn from relevant international legal instruments and resources including the ILO, UNODC, ASI, Interpol, Unseen UK, and the OSCE. The original list was supplemented during the mapping activity, and in response to stakeholder feedback.*

**Recording additional relevant information:** Descriptive notes were also taken of each actor's mandate, funding structure, partners and networks, and the scoping team noted any other major attributes not reflected in the above categories.

## Limitations

1. The findings describe trends and patterns at intergovernmental level and reflect the activity of a relatively small number of global actors. They are not indicative of the activity of the modern slavery field more broadly. The findings would be very different, for example, were the mapping focus to have been grassroots activity.
2. The act of applying these criteria resulted in a list that is heavily Europe and North America-based. This issue is discussed further in the findings, however it should be noted that the lack of global south representation in the initial mapping is indicative of a systemic representational issue and power imbalances in the sector. By prioritising actors that already have a coordinating function in this space, there are risks of path dependency in terms of reifying existing problems, however this exercise was undertaken to identify the work already being done in the international space, which is not necessarily a guide of work that should be done.
3. Traits and other aspects mapped were those which the actor identified as priority areas in their online materials. This study does not comment on the efficacy of each actor's work on the identified issues. Similarly, due to time and resource constraints, the scoping team have not weighted the actors: there is no single criteria that could usefully compare actors at either input or output level.
4. Finally, during the Scoping Study the scoping team did not engage with material in languages other than English, or groups which published exclusively in languages other than English. Many of the actors mapped operate in multiple languages including English, so this did not present a major barrier at the mapping stage.

## Annex III: Key international actor trait definitions and further information

Trait	Typology	Justification
Sector	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Global Intergovernmental</li> <li>2. Regional Intergovernmental</li> <li>3. State Actor</li> <li>4. Civil Society</li> <li>5. Academia</li> <li>6. Funder</li> <li>7. Private Sector</li> <li>8. Knowledge Platform</li> </ol>	Identified sectors of actors operating in the existing "international" modern slavery landscape.
Region(s) of operation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Africa</li> <li>Asia-Pacific</li> <li>Central America and Caribbean</li> <li>East Asia</li> <li>Europe</li> <li>International</li> <li>Middle East and North Africa</li> <li>North America</li> <li>Russia and Eurasia</li> <li>South America</li> <li>South Asia</li> </ul>	Because the focus is on the international landscape, most mapped actors have 'International' operations.
Region of headquarters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Africa</li> <li>Asia-Pacific</li> <li>Central America and Caribbean</li> <li>East Asia</li> <li>Europe</li> <li>International</li> <li>Middle East and North Africa</li> <li>North America</li> <li>Russia and Eurasia</li> <li>South America</li> <li>South Asia</li> </ul>	Where the actor is headquartered. Many actors have a presence in multiple jurisdictions, for example many are registered as charities in both the UK and the US, so the designation would be made depending on where the secretariate is operating from, or where leadership appear to be based.
Actor	[Name of organisation]	
Mandate	[Descriptive text]	International organisations often operate under a specific mandate, some set up by international instrument. This is captured here – CSOs' mission statements also relevant.



Trait	Typology	Justification
Exploitation type	Forced Labour Sexual Exploitation Labour imposed by state authorities Domestic work Organ removal Debt bondage/bonded labour Descent-based slavery Child exploitation, inc. child soldiers Forced and early marriage Criminal exploitation Forced begging Internet-facilitated exploitation	<p>Modern slavery-related terms which are defined under international law include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slavery</li> <li>Institutions and practices similar to slavery</li> <li>Servitude</li> <li>Forced or compulsory labour</li> <li>Trafficking in persons</li> </ul> <p>Other related forms of exploitation as defined or adopted by international organisations working against 'modern slavery' or 'trafficking in persons' include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forced Labour</li> <li>Sexual Exploitation</li> <li>Labour imposed by state authorities</li> <li>Domestic work</li> <li>Organ removal</li> <li>Debt bondage/bonded labour</li> <li>Descent-based slavery</li> <li>Child exploitation, inc. child soldiers</li> <li>Forced and early marriage</li> <li>Criminal exploitation</li> <li>Forced begging</li> <li>Internet-facilitated exploitation</li> </ul> <p>These latter terms are used in the MS International Landscape Mapping to categorise which forms of exploitation each mapped actor is working against (whether they themselves use the term or not). The terms of 'modern slavery' and 'human trafficking' are defined differently by different bodies and States, so to more accurately map the landscape, it is more useful to identify the specific types of exploitation being worked against, rather than just the term being used (many actors will use trafficking in persons as a term to cover all types of exploitation contemplated under 'modern slavery', for example). These terms for forms of exploitation are drawn from relevant instruments and civil society resources.</p> <p>The initial list of exploitation types was drawn from the resources of the ILO, UNODC, ASI, Interpol, Unseen UK, and the OSCE. The list was then expanded and edited throughout the mapping.</p>

Trait	Typology	Justification
Intervention focus	Systemic causes Supply chain risk Regulation Law enforcement Demand for services Vulnerability of potential victims Access to Justice Conviction rates Victim identification Survivor recovery Finance industry Corporate accountability Migration Conflicts and Humanitarian Settings Climate impacts Gender	<p>The '3Ps' rooted in US legislation (TVPA 2000) and the Palermo Protocol, adopted by the UN system, are often used as the framework for action by international organisations. This was the starting point here also for classifying actions, and more were added throughout the mapping.</p> <p>There might be an internal gender-framing of projects but since the scoping study team did not have access to this information, it could not be captured.</p>
Intervention type	Awareness raising Capacity building Capacity building: Care providers Capacity building: Law enforcement Development of tech tools Development of tools/models Engaging civil society Engaging private actors Facilitate collaboration Policy advocacy Research Research: Prevalence Survivor support Funding	This list was built throughout the mapping process.
Target actor(s)	Academia Business actors Civil society Consumers Financial sector Perpetrators Policy makers State body (other) Law enforcement Survivors Vulnerable groups Workers Migrants Media	This list was built throughout the mapping process. The distinction between "policymakers" and "state body (other)": Different state bodies, offices and institutions are engaged by key international actors and these are distinct from the policy-making arms/executive functions of a government.

Trait	Typology	Justification
Industry	Agriculture Apparel and Manufacturing Begging Commercial sexual exploitation Construction Domestic work Finance Hair/Beauty Salon Hospitality Maritime/fishing Mining/extractives Organ/tissue removal Recruitment Tech	<p>The initial list of industries was drawn from the UN Sherlock database of domestic trafficking caselaw. All domestic litigation regarding trafficking in persons documented within the database fit within these industries (at the time of this report): Agriculture (39); Begging (43), Construction (23), Commercial sexual exploitation (1034); Domestic servitude (93); Factory/Manufacturing (19); Hair/Beauty Salon (8); Hotel/Restaurant/Bar (137); Mining (2); Organ/tissue removal (16); Other sectors (87). Note this does not reflect actual prevalence of exploitation within these industries, merely the cases that were identified and prosecuted.</p> <p>Subsequent additions were made throughout the mapping, as actors indicated commercial sectors on which their interventions focused.</p>
Type of funding schemes / project duration	[Descriptive text]	<p>This section was included to attempt to capture different funding schemes and funding relationships. This funding structure can give insight into the nature/depth of the actor’s interventions/activities. For some actors this is not made clear/only limited information is available, and more useful information is likely to be gained during the interviews rather than through publicly available info.</p>
Partners / networks	[Descriptive text and list of organisations]	<p>Most organisations work in consortiums or are institutionally affiliated with other MS actors. Others also fund or run other initiatives. These connected institutions, CSOs, funders, States and other actors are captured here.</p>
Notes	[Descriptive text]	<p>The above categories allow for a level of comparison, however in the Notes, specific details around the organisational structure, priorities and outputs are written.</p>
Links	[<link>; <link>.]	<p>Links for the organisation and important outputs.</p>

## Annex IV: Landscape mapping outcomes

The following tables contain the mapping outcomes for the following traits of key international actors in the modern slavery and human trafficking landscape:

1. Exploitation types focused on by international actors
2. Intervention focuses of international actors
3. Types of interventions by international actors
4. Targets of international actors' work
5. Focus industries for international actors

During the mapping, if it was not relevant, possible or appropriate to assert that an actor undertook an activity or demonstrated a trait, for that trait they were labelled 'n/a'. For example, if the actor is the secretariat for a large network in which individual members focussed on various industries in their work, but the secretariat does not designate particular industries as priority areas for the network, it would be misleading to say the actor does not undertake any industry targeted work, however it would be impossible in this mapping to accurately capture which industries are targeted.

To accurately then reflect the landscape's concentration of activity, these 'n/a' could not be considered either positive or negative, and so were removed from the calculation of percentages. The conclusions are drawn only from the actors that were mapped for that trait. To see how this operated in practice for each trait, see the tables below.

### Focus types of exploitation for international actors

Exploitation type	Number of appearances	% of 64 (total actors)	% of 55 (removing n/a)	Percentage of actors with this focus
Forced Labour	50	78.1%	90.9%	91%
Child exploitation, inc. child soldiers	39	60.9%	70.9%	71%
Sexual Exploitation	33	51.6%	60.0%	60%
Labour imposed by state authorities	15	23.4%	27.3%	27%
Forced and early marriage	14	21.9%	25.5%	25%
Domestic work	12	18.8%	21.8%	22%
Internet-facilitated exploitation	11	17.2%	20.0%	20%
Debt bondage/bonded labour	10	15.6%	18.2%	18%
Organ removal	6	9.4%	10.9%	11%
Descent-based slavery	5	7.8%	9.1%	9%
Criminal exploitation	4	6.3%	7.3%	7%
Forced begging	2	3.1%	3.6%	4%

## Intervention focuses of international actors

Intervention focus	Number of appearances	/64	/58 (removing n/a)	Percentage of actors with this focus
Supply chain risk	36	56.3%	62.1%	62%
Migration	31	48.4%	53.4%	53%
Regulation	30	46.9%	51.7%	52%
Law enforcement	28	43.8%	48.3%	48%
Survivor recovery	27	42.2%	46.6%	47%
Systemic causes	22	34.4%	37.9%	38%
Vulnerability of potential victims	21	32.8%	36.2%	36%
Access to Justice	15	23.4%	25.9%	26%
Conflicts and Humanitarian Settings	15	23.4%	25.9%	26%
Corporate accountability	14	21.9%	24.1%	24%
Victim identification	11	17.2%	19.0%	19%
Gender	11	17.2%	19.0%	19%
Finance industry	10	15.6%	17.2%	17%
Conviction rates	6	9.4%	10.3%	10%
Demand for services	5	7.8%	8.6%	9%
Climate impacts	5	7.8%	8.6%	9%

## Types of interventions by international actors

Intervention type	Number of appearances	/64	/62 (removing n/a)	Percentage of actors undertaking this intervention
Facilitate collaboration	40	62.5%	64.5%	65%
Research	38	59.4%	61.3%	61%
Policy advocacy	35	54.7%	56.5%	56%
Development of tools/models	32	50%	51.6%	52%
Awareness raising	31	48.4%	50.0%	50%
Capacity building	31	48.4%	50.0%	50%
Engaging civil society	30	46.9%	48.4%	48%
Engaging private actors	29	45.3%	46.8%	47%
Survivor support	12	18.8%	19.4%	19%
Capacity building: Law enforcement	9	14.1%	14.5%	15%
Research: Prevalence	9	14.1%	14.5%	15%
Development of tech tools	8	12.5%	12.9%	13%
Funding	7	10.9%	11.3%	11%
Capacity building: Care providers	4	6.3%	6.5%	6%

## Targets of international actors' work

Target actor(s)	Number of appearances	/64	/60 (removing n/a)	Percentage of actors targeting this sector
Policy makers	42	65.6%	70.0%	70%
Civil society	35	54.7%	58.3%	58%
Business actors	33	51.6%	55.0%	55%
State body (other)	33	51.6%	55.0%	55%
Law enforcement	25	39.1%	41.7%	42%
Survivors	19	29.7%	31.7%	32%
Vulnerable groups	16	25.0%	26.7%	27%
Migrants	14	21.9%	23.3%	23%
Workers	13	20.3%	21.7%	22%
Academia	10	15.6%	16.7%	17%
Consumers	8	12.5%	13.3%	13%
Financial sector	8	12.5%	13.3%	13%
Media	4	6.3%	6.7%	7%
Perpetrators	1	1.6%	1.7%	2%

## Focus industries for international actors

Industry	Number of appearances	/64	/36 (removing n/a)	Percentage of actors targeting this industry
Apparel and Manufacturing	18	28.1%	50.0%	50%
Agriculture	16	25.0%	44.4%	44%
Recruitment	16	25.0%	44.4%	44%
Commercial sexual exploitation	15	23.4%	41.7%	42%
Tech	14	21.9%	38.9%	39%
Maritime/fishing	13	20.3%	36.1%	36%
Domestic work	9	14.1%	25.0%	25%
Mining/extractives	8	12.5%	22.2%	22%
Construction	7	10.9%	19.4%	19%
Finance	6	9.4%	16.7%	17%
Organ/tissue removal	5	7.8%	13.9%	14%
Hospitality	3	4.7%	8.3%	8%
Begging	2	3.1%	5.6%	6%

## Annex V: Stakeholders consulted during the Scoping Study

50 entities

Name	Organisation
<b>International or Regional Intergovernmental Organisation</b>	
Thomas Wissing, Michaelle De Cock	Alliance 8.7; International Labor Organization (ILO)
Jon Davies	Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
Petya Nestorova	Convention on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings, Council of Europe; Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA)
Valiant Richey	OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings
Antonio Guterres	UN Secretary General
Professor Tomoya Obokata	UN Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery
Ilias Chatzis	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons (ICAT)
Alice Eckstein	UNU Centre for Policy Research; Delta 8.7
<b>Civil society organisations</b>	
Willis Okumu	ADS Kenya
Jasmine O'Connor	Anti-Slavery International
Luke de Pulford	Arise Foundation
Azadi Kenya team	Azadi Kenya
Guillaume Landry	ECPAT International
Dr Leona Vaughn and Andy Shen	Finance Against Slavery & Trafficking (FAST)
Nick Grono and Yuki Lo	Freedom Fund
Sophie Otiende and Jean Baderschneider	GFEMS
Bishop Alastair Redfern	Global Sustainability Network; The Clewer Initiative
Philippa Roberts	Hope for Justice
Tamara Barnett and Phil Brewer	Human Trafficking Foundation
Jenni Sorensen	Innovations for Poverty Action
Peter Williams	International Justice Mission (IJM)
Shandra Woworuntu	Chair of the International Survivors of Trafficking Advisory Council (ISTAC)
Christian Guy and Nicole Munns	Justice and Care



Bradley Myles	Panorama Global
Hannah Lerigo-Stephens	Stronger Together
Minh Dang	Survivor Alliance
Dr David Ryall	The Santa Marta Group
Andrew Wallis	Unseen
Grace Forrest and Katharine Bryant	Walk Free
Geoffrey Omony	YOLRED Uganda
International Trade Union	
Kan Matsuzaki	IndustriAll
Jeroen Beirnaert	International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)
Research	
Áine Clarke	Business & Human Rights Resource Centre (BHRRC)
Chris Ash, M.A.	Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking
Jessie Brunner	Re:Structure Lab; Stanford University's Center for Human Rights and International Justice
Sutirtha Sahariah	Regional Consultant for Asia
Benedetta Wasonga	Regional Consultant
Wendy Asquith & Alex Balch	University of Liverpool
Dr Andrea Nicholson	University of Nottingham
Allen Kiconco	University of the Witwatersrand
Policy & Government (State-level)	
Brima Abdulai Sheriff	Consultant and Former Commissioner for the Human Rights Commission of Sierra Leone
Agnes Igoye	Deputy Chair of the National Prevention of Trafficking in Persons office – Uganda
Barbara Woodward accompanied by James Roscoe	UK Ambassador to the UN
Karen Pierce	UK Ambassador to USA
Andrew Patrick	UK Envoy to the UN on Migration and Modern Slavery (UK)
Sara Thornton	UK Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner
Amy O'Neil Richard, with Sonia Dentzel and Anna Patrick Fraser	United States Department of State, Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons
Private sector/business networks	
James Corah	CCLA
Peter McAllister	Ethical Trade Initiative
John Studzinski	PIMCO

## Annex VI: Questions asked of stakeholders

### A. The potential need for a Global Commission in the 'modern slavery and human trafficking' field

- What do you see as your organisation's top priorities in relation to addressing modern slavery and human trafficking?
- Do you consider that the international community is on track to achieve the SDG 8.7? If not, why not?
- How might a Global Commission address this?
- In your view, which interventions at the international level have worked well? Are there any that you think work less well?
- Aside from SDG 8.7, what other international targets or agreements could provide an impactful basis for the work of a Global Commission? The 2017 Call to Action?

### B. The Commission's role in complementing and amplifying existing international collaborative work

- How might a Commission complement and amplify existing international collaborative work?
- How could a Global Commission help the work of your organisation? Do you have any concerns that it could hinder it?
- How could a Global Commission complement and amplify any international collaborations of which your organisation is a part?

### C. Narrowing down, what do you see as the key evidence gaps in this area, including in relation to the drivers of modern slavery and effective responses?

### D. How might a Global Commission be configured?

- How should a Global Commission be configured?
- How might we ensure that meaningful survivor engagement is embedded in both its governance and work?
- How might we ensure that there is substantive input from stakeholders across all regions?

## Annex VII: Landscape research themes (extended version)

*For a summary version of the below, along with analysis of potential implications for a Global Commission, see Chapter 4.*

There is a significant body of research on existing and emerging issues in the modern slavery landscape and a comprehensive literature review of this work is beyond the remit of this study. Instead, this chapter provides a brief overview of key themes in the international field at the beginning of 2022, as articulated in existing written work by actors in the field.<sup>1</sup> Priority was given to the outputs of the mapped key international actors (see Chapter 2). Supplementary material was gathered through the databases listed in Annex I. The materials consulted are almost exclusively public outputs and reports by civil society and intergovernmental bodies, rather than findings shared through academic journals (though it should be noted that much of the referenced research was done by, or in collaboration with, academics). Since the focus was on contemporary issues and latest developments in the field in 2022, the most recent outputs were prioritised.

The following priority areas were identified (in no particular order):

1. The role of crisis – Covid-19 and conflict displacement
2. Climate change
3. Structural causes of vulnerability
4. Labour exploitation in supply chains
5. Importance of implementation and evaluation

Together, these sections illustrate prevailing concerns in the field, and at the same time, shed light on current evidence gaps and/or areas where a Global Commission (GC) could add value. The sector has also done a deal of self-reflection on the meaningful engagement of people with lived experience in all aspects of anti-modern slavery work: this is discussed in more depth in Chapter 7 of this report.

### 1. The role of crisis – Covid-19 and conflict displacement

Existing vulnerabilities are exacerbated by crisis<sup>2</sup>, and new vulnerabilities emerge in response; therefore, some responses need to be structural and exist outside of times of crisis, and others are more immediate and reactive to ongoing events. Much of the material cited below on the relationships between unfolding climate crisis and vulnerability to trafficking, for example, is relevant for other types of crises. More general analysis of the relationship between crisis and human trafficking was previously undertaken by Delta 8.7 and the Rights Lab, including analysis of evidence regarding effective policy

1. A list of databases which are regularly maintained is provided at Annex 1. Of note are the themes highlighted by the Human Trafficking Research Initiative (HTRI) run by Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA), who in 2021 set out a series of learning questions that the field needs to address. Additionally, as part of the 'From Research to Action: Using Knowledge to Accelerate Progress in the Elimination of Child Labour and Forced Labour' (RTA) project, in May 2022 the ILO and IOM released five questions/ themes to shape the 'Global Research Agenda'.

2. The operational definition of crisis used by Delta 8.7 in their Crisis Policy Guide is also adopted here: "Crisis represents a critical threat to basic human rights of a community or other large group of people, usually over a wide area. It requires a unified response from multiple actors, which may involve an international or cross-border response. It can include conflict and natural disasters (including pandemics)," for more information see: Delta 8.7, Crisis Policy Guide, Delta 8.7 Policy Guides (United Nations University, 2021), [http://collections.unu.edu/eserv/UNU:8065/Delta87\\_CrisisPolicyGuide.pdf](http://collections.unu.edu/eserv/UNU:8065/Delta87_CrisisPolicyGuide.pdf).

responses.<sup>3</sup> The Modern Slavery PEC has released a policy brief<sup>4</sup> outlining the evidence on links between modern slavery and seven international development issues (including climate change, conflict and humanitarian crises).

In response to Covid-19, and in light of other future crises, the US Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons (TIP Office) has proposed four main considerations that might “mitigate impacts of crises and guide the path forward for the anti-trafficking community”:

1. “The value of collaboration between anti-trafficking actors.
2. The need to incorporate anti-trafficking efforts into existing responses in other contexts, such as in humanitarian settings.
3. The importance of proactive response and crisis mitigation planning to anti-trafficking activities.
4. The application of equity-based approaches.”<sup>5</sup>

## Covid-19

Covid-19 has served to exacerbate existing inequalities. UNODC’s 2020 report, for example, describes how “global suffering has vastly increased vulnerabilities to trafficking. Extreme poverty is expected to rise for the first time in decades, with the continuing Covid-19 crisis casting a long shadow over our societies and economies.”<sup>6</sup> Myriad outputs were produced regarding the impact of Covid-19 on modern slavery and human trafficking both during the unfolding of Covid-19 and in its continued aftermath.<sup>7</sup> Quick-response research and analysis regarding the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic has shown how the pandemic exacerbated existing vulnerabilities,<sup>8</sup> and how mitigation responses to the pandemic have generated “economic and social distress” which in turn have exacerbated risks of trafficking for vulnerable groups:<sup>9</sup>

*“The unprecedented crisis caused by Covid-19 has affected all segments of the population on a global scale, but the social and economic consequences of the outbreak have been particularly detrimental to those who were already in vulnerable situations before the crisis.”<sup>10</sup>*

3. Delta 8.7, Crisis Policy Guide, Delta 8.7 Policy Guides (United Nations University, 2021), <http://collections.unu.edu/eserv/UNU:8065/Delta87-CrisisPolicyGuide.pdf>.

4. Olivia Hesketh and Alex Balch, ‘Modern Slavery and International Development’, Policy brief (Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre, 14 April 2021), <https://modernslaverypec.org/resources/modern-slavery-international-development>.

5. U.S. Department of State, ‘2021 Trafficking in Persons Report’ (Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, July 2021), <https://www.state.gov/reports/2021-trafficking-in-persons-report/>, p 21.

6. UNODC, ‘Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2020’ (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.20.IV.3, January 2021), [https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/tip/2021/GlobalReport2020\\_15jan\\_web.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/tip/2021/GlobalReport2020_15jan_web.pdf), p 4.

7. For a summary of the impact of Covid-19 on modern slavery, containing findings from PEC research projects and the wider evidence base, see: Olivia Hesketh and Owain Johnstone, ‘Impact of the Covid-19 Pandemic on Modern Slavery’, Policy brief (Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre, 17 November 2021), <https://modernslaverypec.org/resources/covid-modern-slavery>.

8. “We express grave concern that the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic has exacerbated existing situations of vulnerability to trafficking in persons.” in UNGA, ‘Political Declaration on the Implementation of the United Nations Global Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking in Persons (2021)’ (UN (New York), 9 November 2021), <https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/3948046>, para 11.

9. U.S. Department of State, ‘2021 Trafficking in Persons Report’ (Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, July 2021), <https://www.state.gov/reports/2021-trafficking-in-persons-report/>, p 2.

10. Tomoya Obokata, ‘Impact of the Coronavirus Disease Pandemic on Contemporary Forms of Slavery and Slavery-like Practices: Report of the Special Rapporteur on Contemporary Forms of Slavery, Including Its Causes and Consequences’ (United Nations Human Rights Council (A/HRC/45/8), 4 August 2020), <https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/G20/201/21/PDF/G2020121.pdf?OpenElement>, p 4.

Child labour is one particular area which has seen progress be actively undermined by the pandemic: “The Covid-19 crisis threatens to further erode global progress against child labour unless urgent mitigation measures are taken. New analysis suggests a further 8.9 million children will be in child labour by the end of 2022 as a result of rising poverty driven by the pandemic.”<sup>11</sup>

Further, Covid-19 and mitigating responses had massive disruptive impacts on supply chains, starkly exposing existing exploitative structures<sup>12</sup> as these were brought under pressure.<sup>13</sup> This in turn has strengthened calls for more effective regulation.<sup>14</sup>

*“‘Just-in-time’ sourcing has broken down with the disruption of logistics infrastructure. Component parts and even chemical precursors are either not available or not in the right place at the right time. Companies that sought to retain profits during the pandemic through increased forced overtime or worker abuse are being exposed in the press and by regulators... Further, the pandemic has exposed the general public to the existence and nature of the interconnected global supply chain and how it affects our daily lives.”<sup>15</sup>*

## Conflict displacement

There has been rapid response analysis of the trafficking risks attendant on the mass movement of refugees within Europe provoked by the Russian invasion of Ukraine – the largest movement of refugees in the region since World War II.<sup>16</sup> La Strada International, commissioned by Freedom Fund, identified groups who are particularly vulnerable to trafficking, factors which increase vulnerability (“some of which apply to all crises, and some that are specific to the situation of war in Ukraine”) and priority areas for action.<sup>17</sup>

Over six million refugees have fled Ukraine since 24 February 2022,<sup>18</sup> with over eight million displaced internally.<sup>19</sup> Both within and without Ukraine, risks of trafficking and modern slavery for displaced populations are continuing to increase as the conflict

11. This is within the context: “Global progress against child labour has stagnated since 2016. The percentage of children in child labour remained unchanged over the four-year period while the absolute number of children in child labour increased by over 8 million. Similarly, the percentage of children in hazardous work was almost unchanged but rose in absolute terms by 6.5 million children.” International Labor Organisation (ILO) and United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), ‘Child Labour: Global Estimates 2020, Trends and the Road Forward’, Report (ILO and UNICEF, 10 June 2021), [http://www.ilo.org/ipec/Informationresources/WCMS\\_797515/lang-en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/ipec/Informationresources/WCMS_797515/lang-en/index.htm), p 8.

12. “If there were any doubts about the precarity in the world of work, COVID-19 has dispelled them for everyone.” in Bandana Pattanaik, ‘Can Anti-Trafficking Measures Stop Trafficking?’, GAATW (blog), 29 July 2020, <https://gaatw.org/blog/1057-can-anti-trafficking-measures-stop-trafficking>.

13. Re:Structure Lab, ‘Re:Structure Lab Blueprint’ (Sheffield: Sheffield, Stanford, and Yale Universities, 2021), [www.restructurelab.org/blueprint](http://www.restructurelab.org/blueprint), p 7.

14. “HRDD is a key tool in the global efforts to build forward better in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic.” Working Group on Business and Human Rights, ‘Mandatory Human Rights Due Diligence (MHRDD)’, OHCHR, 2022, <https://www.ohchr.org/en/special-procedures/wg-business/mandatory-human-rights-due-diligence-mhrdd>.

15. Re:Structure Lab, ‘Re:Structure Lab Blueprint’ (Sheffield: Sheffield, Stanford, and Yale Universities, 2021), [www.restructurelab.org/blueprint](http://www.restructurelab.org/blueprint), p 7.

16. Suzanne Hoff and Eefje de Volder, ‘Preventing Human Trafficking of Refugees from Ukraine: A Rapid Assessment of Risks and Gaps in the Anti-Trafficking Response’ (La Strada International and The Freedom Fund, May 2022), [https://freedomfund.org/wp-content/uploads/UkraineAntiTraffickingReport\\_2022\\_05\\_10.pdf](https://freedomfund.org/wp-content/uploads/UkraineAntiTraffickingReport_2022_05_10.pdf), p 1.

17. Suzanne Hoff and Eefje de Volder, ‘Preventing Human Trafficking of Refugees from Ukraine: A Rapid Assessment of Risks and Gaps in the Anti-Trafficking Response’ (La Strada International and The Freedom Fund, May 2022), [https://freedomfund.org/wp-content/uploads/UkraineAntiTraffickingReport\\_2022\\_05\\_10.pdf](https://freedomfund.org/wp-content/uploads/UkraineAntiTraffickingReport_2022_05_10.pdf), p 2, 3.

18. At time of writing: “Refugees fleeing Ukraine (since 24 February 2022): 6,312,255 (Last updated 17 May 2022)” see: UNHCR, ‘Ukraine Refugee Situation’, Operational Data Portal, accessed 18 May 2022, <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/situations/ukraine>.

19. 8,029,000 EST. internally displaced within Ukraine as of 3 May 2022 – 13,686,000 EST. total displaced: IOM, ‘Ukraine – Internal Displacement Report – General Population Survey Round 4 (29 April – 3 May 2022)’, 10 May 2022, <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/ukraine/document/iom-ukraine-internal-displacement-report-general-population-survey-round>.

continues.<sup>20</sup> Anti-trafficking actors have been quick to respond to the Ukraine crisis,<sup>21</sup> both at the intergovernmental level and in civil society. For example, in the context of reports of human traffickers waiting at border control checkpoints for incoming refugees arriving from Ukraine, INTERPOL deployed an Operational Support Team to Moldova.<sup>22</sup> Another major response has been the establishment of an Anti-Trafficking Task Force<sup>23</sup> by the Protection Cluster (led by UNHCR).<sup>24</sup>

Before this specific crisis began, the Delta 8.7 Crisis Policy Guide outlined the general risk that mass displacement poses for increasing vulnerability: “movement or displacement may make it difficult for local governments and protection actors to identify and respond to these risks and can create circumstances in which opportunistic individuals and criminal networks may take advantage.”<sup>25</sup> Though speaking specifically about child labour, ILO and UNICEF provided pertinent insight into the need for a multi-disciplinary and multi-institutional response to modern slavery and trafficking risks in humanitarian crises: “Child labour concerns should factor in all phases of humanitarian action – from crisis preparedness and contingency plans to humanitarian responses to post-crisis reconstruction and recovery efforts.”<sup>26</sup>

With more time, as countries start to emerge from pandemic-induced restrictions and other exceptional measures, further lessons are likely to be drawn.

## 2. Climate change

### Urgent research and political advocacy is growing the understanding of and raising the political profile of the relationship between climate events and trafficking

The 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26)<sup>27</sup> and the 2022 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reports<sup>28</sup> have spurred a renewed

20. Miriam Berger, ‘Human Trafficking Likely to Increase as Ukraine War Drags, Groups Warn’, Washington Post, 10 May 2022, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2022/05/10/human-trafficking-ukraine-war-russia-refugees/>.

21. “Early action by civil society and governments to protect refugees at border crossings probably helped stave off initial nightmare forecasts.” in Miriam Berger, ‘Human Trafficking Likely to Increase as Ukraine War Drags, Groups Warn’, Washington Post, 10 May 2022, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2022/05/10/human-trafficking-ukraine-war-russia-refugees/>.

22. “Coming at the request of Moldova’s INTERPOL National Central Bureau (NCB) in Chisinau... the INTERPOL team will provide immediate field support to law enforcement and humanitarian organizations and help evaluate the situation on the ground, identifying needs in order to provide relevant training, analysis and operational support. The mission will be based in Chisinau and different refugee camps hosting those who have recently fled Ukraine.” INTERPOL, ‘Ukraine Conflict: INTERPOL Deploys Team to Moldova’, 25 March 2022, <https://www.interpol.int/en/News-and-Events/News/2022/Ukraine-conflict-INTERPOL-deploys-team-to-Moldova>.

23. “The Task Force (TF) will convene under the leadership and auspices of the Protection Cluster in Ukraine, and will be co-chaired by IOM Ukraine and La Strada-Ukraine during the timeframe of the Task Force,” see the TOR here: [https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/www.humanitarianresponse.info/files/documents/files/ukraine\\_anti\\_trafficking\\_task\\_force\\_tors\\_.pdf](https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/sites/www.humanitarianresponse.info/files/documents/files/ukraine_anti_trafficking_task_force_tors_.pdf)

24. For more information, see: <https://www.humanitarianresponse.info/en/operations/ukraine/protection>

25. Delta 8.7, Crisis Policy Guide, Delta 8.7 Policy Guides (United Nations University, 2021), [http://collections.unu.edu/eserv/UNU:8065/Delta87\\_CrisisPolicyGuide.pdf](http://collections.unu.edu/eserv/UNU:8065/Delta87_CrisisPolicyGuide.pdf), p 2.

26. International Labor Organisation (ILO) and United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), ‘Child Labour: Global Estimates 2020, Trends and the Road Forward’, Report (ILO and UNICEF, 10 June 2021), [http://www.ilo.org/ipcc/Informationresources/WCMS\\_797515/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/ipcc/Informationresources/WCMS_797515/lang--en/index.htm), p 10.

27. ‘COP 26: Climate Change and Modern Slavery’, Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner, 31 October 2021, <https://www.antislaverycommissioner.co.uk/news-insights/cop-26-climate-change-and-modern-slavery/>.

28. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), ‘Sixth Assessment Report (AR6)’, April 2022, <https://www.ipcc.ch/assessment-report/ar6/>.

focus on the nexus between modern slavery, trafficking and climate change.<sup>29</sup>

For example, the Rights Lab at Nottingham University has a dedicated research strand on Ecosystems and the Environment,<sup>30</sup> and the IOM runs the Environmental Migration Portal to promote research concerning what they term the “migration, environment and climate change (MECC) nexus”<sup>31</sup>. Since 2020 the UK-based International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) has been undertaking a research project with Anti-Slavery International to explore the link between climate-driven migration and displacement and an increased risk of trafficking and slavery.<sup>32</sup>

*“Climate change acts as a stress multiplier to factors driving trafficking. While several socioeconomic, political, cultural and institutional vulnerabilities act as drivers to modern slavery, they are increasingly being considered to be worsened by climate change impacts and environmental degradation... increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather disasters such as floods, droughts and megafires due to climate change is resulting in devastating effect on food security and livelihoods of those already living in poverty and marginalisation.”<sup>33</sup>*

### Climate events displace people and stimulate unsafe migration

‘Risky’ internal and external migration can be caused by both slow and rapid onset-events.<sup>34</sup> The World Bank has predicted that without effective mitigation, slow-onset climate events could forcibly displace as many as 216 million people by 2050.<sup>35</sup> The IIED researchers suggest that social protection mechanisms must be strengthened to address the vulnerabilities which are being heightened by the climate crisis,<sup>36</sup> and safe migration opportunities created.<sup>37</sup> Consideration should be given to specific geographies, like Pacific Island countries, which will be particularly affected<sup>38</sup>, and to the ways in

29. See: S Coelho, ‘The Climate Change–Human Trafficking Nexus’ (International Organization for Migration, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, 2016), [https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/mecc\\_infosheet\\_climate\\_change\\_nexus.pdf](https://publications.iom.int/system/files/pdf/mecc_infosheet_climate_change_nexus.pdf); Doreen Boyd et al., ‘Modern Slavery, Environmental Degradation and Climate Change: Fisheries, Field, Forests and Factories’ (University of Nottingham and the Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner, October 2018), <https://www.antislaverycommissioner.co.uk/media/1241/fisheries-field-forests-factories.pdf>;

Will Nichols, ‘How Climate Change Will Drive Modern Slavery’, Verisk Maplecroft, 25 September 2019, <https://www.maplecroft.com/insights/analysis/modern-slavery-risks-set-to-rise-as-number-of-climate-migrants-surge/>; Chris O’Connell, ‘From a Vicious to a Virtuous Circle: Addressing Climate Change, Environmental Destruction and Contemporary Slavery’ (Anti-Slavery International, April 2021), [https://www.antislavery.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/ASI\\_ViciousCycle\\_Report\\_web2.pdf](https://www.antislavery.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/ASI_ViciousCycle_Report_web2.pdf);

Bethany Jackson et al., ‘Modern Slavery, Environmental Degradation and Climate Change: Present and Future Pathways for Addressing the Nexus’ (World Wildlife Fund for Nature U.S, 2021), <https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/research/beacons-of-excellence/rights-lab/resources/reports-and-briefings/index.aspx>; Cockayne, J. (2021). Developing Freedom: The Sustainable Development Case for Ending Modern Slavery, Forced Labour and Human Trafficking. United Nations University, New York; Jessica L. Decker Sparks et al., ‘Growing Evidence of the Interconnections between Modern Slavery, Environmental Degradation, and Climate Change’, *One Earth* 4, no. 2 (19 February 2021): 181–91, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.oneear.2021.01.015>; Kevin Bales and Benjamin K. Sovacool, ‘From Forests to Factories: How Modern Slavery Deepens the Crisis of Climate Change’, *Energy Research & Social Science* 77 (1 July 2021): 102096, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2021.102096>; among others.

30. For more information, see: ‘Ecosystems and the Environment’ at <https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/research/beacons-of-excellence/rights-lab/programmes/ecosystems/index.aspx>

31. For more information, see: ‘The Environmental Migration Portal’ at <https://environmentalmigration.iom.int>

32. See their project page ‘Climate-induced migration and vulnerability to modern slavery’: <https://www.iied.org/climate-induced-migration-vulnerability-modern-slavery>

33. Ritu Bharadwaj et al., ‘Climate Change, Migration and Vulnerability to Trafficking’ (Publications Library (IIED), 2021), <https://pubs.iied.org/20581iied>, p 4.

34. Ritu Bharadwaj et al., ‘Climate Change, Migration and Vulnerability to Trafficking’ (Publications Library (IIED), 2021), <https://pubs.iied.org/20581iied>, p 5.

35. Viviane Clement et al., ‘Groundswell Part 2: Acting on Internal Climate Migration’ (Washington, DC: World Bank, 13 September 2021), <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/36248>.

36. Ritu Bharadwaj et al., ‘Climate Change, Migration and Vulnerability to Trafficking’ (Publications Library (IIED), 2021), <https://pubs.iied.org/20581iied>, 5.

37. Ritu Bharadwaj et al., ‘Climate Change, Migration and Vulnerability to Trafficking’ (Publications Library (IIED), 2021), <https://pubs.iied.org/20581iied>, 6.

38. Walk Free, ‘Murky Waters: A Qualitative Assessment of Modern Slavery in the Pacific Region’ (The Minderoo Foundation, December 2019), <https://www.walkfree.org/reports/murky-waters/>, p 35.

which climate and environmental crises increase the already-heightened vulnerability to exploitation of indigenous communities.<sup>39</sup>

Vulnerability has also been increased by other forms of environmental degradation. For example, other environmental crises such as overfishing and the resulting collapse in fish populations are also increasing vulnerability for migrant fishers:

*“Decades of overfishing activity has caused industrial vessels to venture further into the high seas in order to find a profitable catch. This practice of distant-water fishing (DWF) happens way beyond the exclusive-economic zone (EEZ) of a nation, meaning that vessels may be able to get away with committing illegal activities away from the jurisdiction and prying eyes of coastal nations.”<sup>40</sup>*

### 3. Structural causes of vulnerability

**The social and economic vulnerability of individuals is a risk factor for human trafficking.**

*“Child labour, forced labour and human trafficking are rooted in the social and economic vulnerability of individuals, workers and their families, and preventive measures to address such vulnerabilities are the necessary starting points for efforts to end these fundamental labour rights violations.”<sup>41</sup>*

The vulnerability of individuals identified above by the ILO as a risk factor for human trafficking, is in part an outcome of transnational business practice, and the design of transnational supply chains, as discussed below.

Causes are complex and multi-dimensional:

*“At an individual or household level the root causes of vulnerability stem from exclusion, marginalisation, poverty, unemployment, lack of education, low skill level, lack of access to resources and basic services, lack of alternatives and low socioeconomic status. It is worth noting that these factors are interlinked and quite often it is social inequality and the resulting power imbalances that create vulnerability to slavery. At community level, the drivers of risk include weak institutions and decision-making bodies with lack of resources and democratic processes, access to poor infrastructure and basic services such as schools, health facilities, economic and political instability.”<sup>42</sup>*

There is a lot of discussion regarding ‘vulnerability’ to exploitation, drivers of which are “complex, cross-cutting and impacted by multidimensional layers of risks,

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39. ‘Climate Inaction Is Undermining Anti-Slavery Efforts’, Freedom United (blog), 20 August 2021, <https://www.freedomunited.org/climate-inaction-is-undermining-anti-slavery-efforts/>.

40. Serikat Buruh Migran Indonesia (SBMI) and Greenpeace Southeast Asia, ‘Forced Labour at Sea: The Case of Indonesian Migrant Fishers’ (SBMI and Greenpeace Southeast Asia, 31 May 2021), [https://www.greenpeace.org/static/planet4-southeastasia-stateless/2021/05/ef65bfe1-greenpeace-2021-forced-labour-at-sea-digital\\_final.pdf?mc\\_cid=dba97f2afd&mc\\_eid=96ce13ad78](https://www.greenpeace.org/static/planet4-southeastasia-stateless/2021/05/ef65bfe1-greenpeace-2021-forced-labour-at-sea-digital_final.pdf?mc_cid=dba97f2afd&mc_eid=96ce13ad78), p 4.

41. International Labor Organisation (ILO) et al., ‘Ending Child Labour, Forced Labour and Human Trafficking in Global Supply Chains’ (Alliance 8.7, 2019), [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_norm/---lpec/documents/publication/wcms\\_728062.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---lpec/documents/publication/wcms_728062.pdf) p 14.

42. Ritu Bharadwaj et al., ‘Climate Change, Migration and Vulnerability to Trafficking’ (Publications Library (IIED), 2021), <https://pubs.iied.org/20581iied>, 3.



which encompass social, economic, political, cultural, and institutional factors.”<sup>43</sup> This necessitates moving beyond a purely criminal justice response,<sup>44</sup> which though important, treats the symptoms rather than the societal and structural causes at scale:

*“The definition in the Palermo Protocol gave us guidance regarding the elements that constitute trafficking. The Protocol was aiming to address a crime that was exceptional, a form of exploitation that was extreme. Looking at the realities around labour and migration today, we find that elements of trafficking are more likely the norm than exception. Even if the state and non-state actors were to create mechanisms to identify all the victims of trafficking and assist them, would those measures stop human trafficking? They most certainly will not. This then might be the moment to note that the anti-trafficking framework was simply not designed to deal with exploitation at such a large scale.”<sup>45</sup>*

One such approach was that explored by the Developing Freedom study, which found that sustainable development and work against modern slavery are intertwined.<sup>46</sup> With this framing, ‘fighting’ modern slavery essentially involves “maximizing people’s economic agency – their ability to make choices, for themselves, about how to develop and use their own capabilities and how to use factors of production such as land, labour and capital.”<sup>47</sup>

Another societal cause was explored in recent work by the Freedom Fund: more than two-thirds of modern slavery victims identified worldwide are women and girls, “an inevitable consequence of the gender inequality that oppresses the lives of women and girls everywhere.”<sup>48</sup> Their report explored in depth how inequality between men and women, and discrimination against women and girls increases their vulnerability and the risk of trafficking and exploitation. Responses then must then address the wider societal causes, rather than symptoms: “systemic inequalities and structural [gender] discrimination that fuel exploitation run deep and need to be tackled to achieve sustainable change.”<sup>49</sup>

If the modern slavery and human trafficking field is to take a greater focus on structural causes of vulnerability, this will necessitate also breaking down silos between ‘anti-trafficking’ work and other disciplines, as argued by Bandana Pattanaik, the International Coordinator of the Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women (GAATW):

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43. Ritu Bharadwaj et al., ‘Climate Change, Migration and Vulnerability to Trafficking’ (Publications Library (IIED), 2021), <https://pubs.iied.org/20581iied>, 3.

44. The Justice evidence review of the hypothesis that “Over-prioritisation of criminal justice mechanisms and responses impedes effective prevention, identification, and support” found that “studies in this group highlighted a range of negative outcomes arising when antislavery actors over-prioritised criminal justice approaches to the problem of modern slavery and human trafficking. Although several studies noted the importance of criminal justice mechanisms, records across the group highlighted that treating this as the primary focus of antislavery and anti-trafficking responses had adverse impacts on prevention and protection efforts.” In Katarina Schwarz et al., ‘What Works to End Modern Slavery? A Review of Evidence on Policy and Interventions in the Context of Justice’ (Delta 8.7 and Rights Lab, 2020), <https://delta87.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Justice-Report-141220.pdf>, p 36.

45. Bandana Pattanaik, ‘Can Anti-Trafficking Measures Stop Trafficking?’, GAATW (blog), 29 July 2020, <https://gaatw.org/blog/1057-can-anti-trafficking-measures-stop-trafficking>.

46. “Most development entities continue to assume that all people – at least all adults – control their own basic economic choices. Most development actors fail to account meaningfully for the economic implications of the loss of agency experienced by 40.3 million people. 67 per cent of development practitioners surveyed said their organizations perceive slavery not as an economic, trade or industrial policy concern, but as a social or criminal justice policy concern.” James Cockayne, *Developing Freedom: The Sustainable Development Case for Ending Modern Slavery, Forced Labour and Human Trafficking* (New York: United Nations University, 2021), <https://www.developingfreedom.org/>, p xv.

47. James Cockayne, *Developing Freedom: The Sustainable Development Case for Ending Modern Slavery, Forced Labour and Human Trafficking* (New York: United Nations University, 2021), <https://www.developingfreedom.org/>, p xi.

48. Freedom Fund, ‘Gender Inequality and Modern Slavery: How to Break the Cycle of Women and Girls’ Exploitation’ (Freedom Fund, March 2022), [https://freedomfund.org/wp-content/uploads/GenderInequalityModernSlaveryWeb\\_2020\\_02.pdf](https://freedomfund.org/wp-content/uploads/GenderInequalityModernSlaveryWeb_2020_02.pdf), p 30.

49. Freedom Fund, ‘Gender Inequality and Modern Slavery: How to Break the Cycle of Women and Girls’ Exploitation’ (Freedom Fund, March 2022), [https://freedomfund.org/wp-content/uploads/GenderInequalityModernSlaveryWeb\\_2020\\_02.pdf](https://freedomfund.org/wp-content/uploads/GenderInequalityModernSlaveryWeb_2020_02.pdf), p 26.

*“Our social analysis needs to take into account a wide range of policies around development, economic growth and various forms of social injustices. We need to analyse various sectors of work, both formal and informal, understand the conditions of migrant and local workers and advocate for creating or strengthening opportunities for freedom of association and collective bargaining. We need to engage in workers education and inter movement dialogues.”<sup>50</sup>*

#### 4. Labour exploitation within supply chains

##### **There is a political shift towards more binding measures**

Legislative moves by large economies signal a strong shift towards more binding measures to root out forced labour and significant human rights violations hidden within often complex and opaque transnational supply chains: significantly, early 2022 saw the European Commission adopt a proposal<sup>51</sup> for a corporate sustainability due diligence directive.<sup>52</sup> While this is a major step toward more binding corporate regulation, over 220 civil society organisations have flagged “significant flaws” in the proposal, including the decision to mandate due diligence on only “established business relationships” rather than the entire value chain.<sup>53</sup> The U.S. House and the Senate recently passed the *Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act*<sup>54</sup>, which bans import of all goods originating wholly or in part from China’s northwestern Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, unless evidence is given that the particular goods “were not produced wholly or in part by convict labor, forced labor, or indentured labor under penal sanctions.”<sup>55</sup> Measures like these come in the wake of growing evidence that materials produced through state-sponsored forced labour are permeating transnational supply chains.<sup>56</sup> These measures represent in some aspects a hardening of non-binding but broadly accepted intergovernmental standards on responsible business conduct, such as the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs),<sup>57</sup> the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) *Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, Due Diligence Guidance on Responsible Business Conduct*; the ILO *Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy*; and the IOM’s ethical recruitment standards; among others.

50. Bandana Pattanaik, ‘Can Anti-Trafficking Measures Stop Trafficking?’, GAATW (blog), 29 July 2020, <https://gaatw.org/blog/1057-can-anti-trafficking-measures-stop-trafficking>.

51. ‘Just and Sustainable Economy: Commission Lays down Rules for Companies to Respect Human Rights and Environment in Global Value Chains’, European Commission, 23 February 2022, [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_22\\_1145](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_1145).

52. For a summary of the directive and comparison with other European measures, see: ‘Comparative Table: Corporate Due Diligence Laws and Legislative Proposals in Europe’, ECCJ, 21 March 2022, <https://corporatejustice.org/publications/comparative-table-corporate-due-diligence-laws-and-legislative-proposals-in-europe-2/>.

53. ‘Civil Society Statement on the Proposed EU CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY DUE DILIGENCE DIRECTIVE’, May 2022, [https://corporatejustice.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/CSO\\_statement\\_CSDDD\\_EN.pdf](https://corporatejustice.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/CSO_statement_CSDDD_EN.pdf).

54. H.R.1155 – 117th Congress (2021-2022): Sec. 3 “It is the policy of the United States –(1) to prohibit the import of all goods, wares, articles, or merchandise mined, produced, or manufactured, wholly or in part, by forced labor from the People’s Republic of China and particularly any such goods, wares, articles, or merchandise produced in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region of China;” see: <https://www.congress.gov/bills/117th-congress/house-bill/1155/text>

55. Sec 4 (b) H.R.1155 – 117th Congress (2021-2022)

56. Laura Murphy, et al, ‘Laundering Cotton: How Xinjiang Cotton Is Obscured in International Supply Chains’ (Sheffield, United Kingdom: Sheffield Hallam University Helena Kennedy Centre, November 2021), <https://www.shu.ac.uk/helena-kennedy-centre-international-justice/research-and-projects/all-projects/laundered-cotton>.

57. Unanimously endorsed by the UN Human Rights Council in 2011: ‘Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework’ (United Nations Human Rights Council (A/HRC/17/31), 2011), [https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/publications/guidingprinciplesbusinessshr\\_en.pdf](https://www.ohchr.org/sites/default/files/documents/publications/guidingprinciplesbusinessshr_en.pdf).

How forced labour manifests in the high risk tea and cocoa supply chains, for example, was explored by Genevieve LeBaron: “employers use forced labour to reduce their costs of doing business... [and] to generate revenue... In the tea industry, employers seek to generate revenue by lending money or providing services to workers and charging high interest on debts, thus engendering situations of debt bondage.”<sup>58</sup>

### Researchers need better access to corporate data if they are going to produce useful research

A particular issue identified by researchers, which inhibits their progress, is the lack of transparency<sup>59</sup> surrounding private company’s supply chains, and lack of availability of data for analysis. Researchers creating the Markets Policy Guide for Delta 8.7 argued that: “Experts and researchers, specializing in forms of exploitation described under Target 8.7, can provide invaluable insight to the private sector, but only if they have access to their comprehensive and holistic datasets.”<sup>60</sup> Potential strategies have been proposed for overcoming these obstacles.<sup>61</sup>

### Patterns of forced labour are context, region and sector specific

Particular sectors and circumstances present higher forced labour risks. For example, child labour risks are highest in the informal small enterprises which operate in the lower tiers of supply chains.<sup>62</sup>

### Understanding is hampered by the isolated nature of some exploitative workplaces

Opacity of operations and isolation of workplaces are also raised by researchers as potential contributing factors which increase vulnerability:

*“Most at risk are sectors where work is undertaken in isolated circumstances such as in the fishery, construction and agriculture sectors and domestic work. Recruitment and exploitation for forced labour are often facilitated by recruiting agencies and labour intermediation and sub-contracting at the local or international levels increase the opacity of labour relations and risks of abuse. This opacity facilitates the integration of trafficking victims’ exploitation into the supply chain of the legal economy through private sector organizations that may be accomplice or may be unaware of the exploitation.”<sup>63</sup>*

58. Genevieve LeBaron, ‘The Global Business of Forced Labour: Report of Findings’ (SPERI & University of Sheffield, 2018), <http://globalbusinessofforcedlabour.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Report-of-Findings-Global-Business-of-Forced-Labour.pdf>, p 2, 3.

59. “Experts found that their knowledge of past and ongoing efforts within the private sector was not reflected in the research base, with an overwhelming lack of data apparent in the evidence base.” Delta 8.7, Markets Policy Guide, Delta 8.7 Policy Guides (United Nations University, 2021), [http://collections.unu.edu/eserv/UNU:8066/Delta87\\_MarketsPolicyGuide.pdf](http://collections.unu.edu/eserv/UNU:8066/Delta87_MarketsPolicyGuide.pdf), p 2.

60. Eleanor Harry, ‘Delta 8.7 Policy Guides and Data Patterns’, Delta 8.7 (blog), 30 April 2021, <https://delta87.org/2021/04/delta87-policy-guides-and-data-patterns/>.

61. For more information, see: Florian Ostmann et al., ‘Data for Investor Action on Modern Slavery: A Landscape Analysis’ (Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre, 14 June 2021), <https://modernslaverypec.org/resources/investors-data>.

62. International Labor Organisation (ILO) and United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), ‘Child Labour: Global Estimates 2020, Trends and the Road Forward’, Report (ILO and UNICEF, 10 June 2021), [http://www.ilo.org/ipec/Informationresources/WCMS\\_797515/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/ipec/Informationresources/WCMS_797515/lang--en/index.htm), p 10.

63. UNODC, ‘Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2020’ (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.20.IV.3, January 2021), [https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/tip/2021/GlobalReport\\_2020\\_15jan\\_web.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/tip/2021/GlobalReport_2020_15jan_web.pdf), p 18.

The Indonesian Migrant Workers Union (SBMI)<sup>64</sup> and Greenpeace Southeast Asia recently produced an in-depth study into one such isolated sector, investigating reported cases of labour abuses for indicators of forced labour among migrant fishers from Southeast Asia.<sup>65</sup> The study found an increase in reported cases of forced labour in the sector. To reduce exploitation and the vulnerability of migrant fishers, the researchers recommended: “time bound and immediate steps and measures to prevent, protect, and prosecute such forced labour must be dealt with at every segment of the supply chain from the manning agencies, fishing vessels, processors, buyers and traders.”<sup>66</sup> The vulnerability of migrant workers is further heightened in some contexts, to the point of systemic exploitation: A recent GFEMS-funded study estimated the prevalence of forced labour among Kenyan migrant workers in Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries to be 98.24%: “in essence, practically everyone heading to the GCC as a migrant worker from Kenya would become a victim of forced labor at some point.”<sup>67</sup>

### Voluntary guidelines are increasingly considered to have been ineffective

Proposed responses are now leaning heavily towards mandatory, binding measures in light of the perceived failure of voluntary guidelines to reduce forced labour:

*“Voluntary efforts to eliminate forced labour from global supply chains are failing. A decade after the introduction of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs), most of the world’s largest companies have yet to implement even baseline human rights due diligence... voluntary action [needs] to be strengthened with robust regulatory requirements for companies to identify human rights risks and prevent abuse.”<sup>68</sup>*

Reporting requirements and modern slavery statements have not proven to discernibly improve company action on modern slavery.<sup>69</sup> The UK Financial Reporting Council analysed company modern slavery statements written in response to UK Modern Slavery Act 2015 (MSA 2015) Section 54 and concluded that the poor quality of company reporting on modern slavery is “concerning.”<sup>70</sup> A Business & Human Rights Resource Centre (BHRRC) compliance assessment of over 16,000 modern slavery statements between 2015 and 2021 found persistent non-compliance and concluded that the Modern Slavery Act 2015 reporting requirements had “failed to drive systemic corporate action to expunge forced labour, even in high-risk sectors.”<sup>71</sup> Similarly, analysis of the

64. Serikat Buruh Migran Indonesia

65. Serikat Buruh Migran Indonesia (SBMI) and Greenpeace Southeast Asia, ‘Forced Labour at Sea: The Case of Indonesian Migrant Fishers’ (SBMI and Greenpeace Southeast Asia, 31 May 2021), [https://www.greenpeace.org/static/planet4-southeastasia-stateless/2021/05/ef65bfe1-greenpeace-2021-forced-labour-at-sea-digital\\_final.pdf?mc\\_cid=dba97f2afd&mc\\_eid=96ce13ad78](https://www.greenpeace.org/static/planet4-southeastasia-stateless/2021/05/ef65bfe1-greenpeace-2021-forced-labour-at-sea-digital_final.pdf?mc_cid=dba97f2afd&mc_eid=96ce13ad78).

66. Serikat Buruh Migran Indonesia (SBMI) and Greenpeace Southeast Asia, ‘Forced Labour at Sea: The Case of Indonesian Migrant Fishers’ (SBMI and Greenpeace Southeast Asia, 31 May 2021), [https://www.greenpeace.org/static/planet4-southeastasia-stateless/2021/05/ef65bfe1-greenpeace-2021-forced-labour-at-sea-digital\\_final.pdf?mc\\_cid=dba97f2afd&mc\\_eid=96ce13ad78](https://www.greenpeace.org/static/planet4-southeastasia-stateless/2021/05/ef65bfe1-greenpeace-2021-forced-labour-at-sea-digital_final.pdf?mc_cid=dba97f2afd&mc_eid=96ce13ad78), p 32.

67. Sheldon Zhang et al., ‘Forced Labor Among Kenyan Migrant Workers in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Countries: A Prevalence Estimation Report’ (University of Chicago (NORC) and Global Fund to End Modern Slavery (GFEMS), December 2021), <https://www.gfems.org/reports/prevalence-estimate-forced-labor-among-kenyan-workers-in-the-gulf-cooperation-council/>.

68. Know the Chain and Business and Human Rights Resource Center, ‘Closing the Gap: Evidence for Effective Human Rights Due Diligence from Five Years Measuring Company Efforts to Address Forced Labour’ (Know the Chain and BHRRC, 18 January 2022), <https://knowthechain.org/wp-content/uploads/2022-KTC-mHREDD-brief.pdf>, p 4.

69. Lisa Hsin et al., ‘Accountability, Monitoring and the Effectiveness of Section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act: Evidence and Comparative Analysis’ (Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre, 2021), <https://modernslaverypec.org/assets/downloads/TISC-effectiveness-report.pdf>.

70. The Financial Reporting Council Limited, ‘Review of Corporate Governance Reporting’ (FRC, 2021), [https://www.frc.org.uk/getattachment/b0a0959e-d7fe-4bcd-b842-353f705462c3/FRC-Review-of-Corporate-Governance-Reporting\\_November-2021.pdf](https://www.frc.org.uk/getattachment/b0a0959e-d7fe-4bcd-b842-353f705462c3/FRC-Review-of-Corporate-Governance-Reporting_November-2021.pdf), p 27.

71. Patricia Carrier, ‘Modern Slavery Act: Five Years of Reporting’ (BHRRC, February 2021), <https://www.business-humanrights.org/en/from-us/briefings/uk-modern-slavery-act-missed-opportunities-and-urgent-lessons/>.

Australian Modern Slavery Act 2018 (Cth) (MSA) has found that companies are “failing to comply with the mandatory reporting requirements ...[and] are failing to identify or disclose obvious modern slavery risks...[or] demonstrate effective actions to address risks.”<sup>72</sup>

In 2020, Walk Free and the Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI) assessed Commonwealth governments’ actions toward achieving their SDG 8.7 commitments and found these to be largely inadequate. On the need for eradicating exploitation from supply chains their call for government action included: identifying sectors at high risk of forced labour, working with businesses and civil society to mitigate risks and “strengthen(ing) laws and policies applicable to public procurement and business supply chains, including by implementing mandatory transparency requirements and mandatory human rights due diligence.”<sup>73</sup>

### Governments have a key role to play through a shift towards binding regulation

The ILO points to the fact that all the intergovernmental standards on responsible business conduct highlighted above promote due diligence as the appropriate framework to mitigate supply chain risks of child labour, forced labour and human trafficking.<sup>74</sup> Due diligence has also been promoted as the necessary response to identify risk of state-sponsored forced labour.<sup>75</sup>

Governments have a “critical role” in spurring company action to address child labour, forced labour and human trafficking risks in their supply chains through binding regulation:

*“Such governance is particularly important as businesses operate increasingly across countries with different regulatory environments,, Further efforts are needed at the national level to promote policy coherence and to ensure maximum impact of any measures undertaken.”<sup>76</sup>*

### Criminal Justice is not the appropriate frame for modern slavery in supply chains

Any approach to the issue of modern slavery, forced labour and human trafficking in supply chains requires a re-framing of the issue, moving from a criminal justice problem of isolated incidents to rather seeing it as a natural consequence of current transnational business practice:

*“Rather than resulting from a few ‘bad apple’ employers, the business of forced labour is widespread at the base of global supply chains and is bound up with broader structural dynamics that create a business demand for labour exploitation... forced labour is driven by*

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72. Amy Sinclair and Freya Dinshaw, 'Paper Promises? Evaluating the Early Impact of Australia's Modern Slavery Act' (Human Rights Law Centre, Uniting Church in Australia, UNSW Sydney, University of Melbourne, RMIT University, 7 February 2022), <http://hdl.handle.net/11343/297535>, p 2.

73. Further actions included: supporting survivors, strengthening criminal justice, improving coordination and accountability, and addressing risk factors: Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative (CHRI) and Walk Free, 'Eradicating Modern Slavery: An Assessment of Commonwealth Governments' Progress on Achieving SDG Target 8.7' (The Minderoo Foundation and CHRI, 2020), <https://www.walkfree.org/reports/eradicating-modern-slavery/>, p 9.

74. International Labor Organisation (ILO) et al., 'Ending Child Labour, Forced Labour and Human Trafficking in Global Supply Chains' (Alliance 8.7, 2019), [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/--ed\\_norm/--ipec/documents/publication/wcms\\_728062.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/--ed_norm/--ipec/documents/publication/wcms_728062.pdf) p 17.

75. Laura Murphy, et al, 'Laundering Cotton: How Xinjiang Cotton Is Obscured in International Supply Chains' (Sheffield, United Kingdom: Sheffield Hallam University Helena Kennedy Centre, November 2021), <https://www.shu.ac.uk/helena-kennedy-centre-international-justice/research-and-projects/all-projects/laundered-cotton>.

76. International Labor Organisation (ILO) et al., 'Ending Child Labour, Forced Labour and Human Trafficking in Global Supply Chains' (Alliance 8.7, 2019), [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/--ed\\_norm/--ipec/documents/publication/wcms\\_728062.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/--ed_norm/--ipec/documents/publication/wcms_728062.pdf) p 15, 16.

*uneven value distribution along supply chains, including the low prices that producers receive for their products compared to the high profits of retail and brand firms, as well as irresponsible purchasing practices. Unless these core drivers of forced labour are tackled, efforts to address forced labour in supply chains are likely to fall short.*<sup>77</sup>

Binding measures will force a reckoning of these aforementioned factors which make forced labour a core element of current business practice. If trafficking and modern slavery are reconsidered as labour rights issues first and foremost, and the most extreme manifestation of exploitative work, this requires a more holistic approach to strengthening labour rights and protections:

*“Although patterns of trafficking for forced labour vary across economic sectors, one aspect is true for all sectors: it is generally the result of a deterioration of labour rights, such as lower salaries, longer working hours, reduced protections and informal employment.”<sup>78</sup>*

### The lens needs to widen to accommodate all forms of labour exploitation and not simply the most extreme forms

Companies’ obligations under any proposed due diligence requirements should not be restricted to finding only the most extreme forms of labour exploitation.<sup>79</sup> For example, a recent deep dive report featuring testimonies from women in major garment-producing hubs in India revealed widespread gender-based violence and harassment (GBVH): “Every single woman we spoke to reported either directly experiencing or witnessing GBVH in their factories, perpetrated by male supervisors and managers who drive them to meet unreasonable production targets set by fashion brands.”<sup>80</sup> Any HRDD requirements developed to tackle forced labour should also incorporate obligations to detect GBVH and other ‘less extreme’ forms of exploitation which are endemic within transnational supply chains.

### There is a growing body of work attempting to articulate what equitable supply chains could look like

Some concrete suggestions as to what a more equitable supply chain structure might look like have been offered by Re:Structure Lab, a cross-institutional initiative between Yale, Stanford, Simon Fraser University and University of Michigan. The Lab has produced a Blueprint based on a series of Forced Labour Evidence Briefs exploring how to “restructure business models and supply chains to promote equitable labour standards and protect workers from forced labour and exploitation.”<sup>81</sup> The Blueprint proposes a ‘re-structured’ global supply chain with the following features:

77. Genevieve LeBaron, ‘The Global Business of Forced Labour: Report of Findings’ (SPERI & University of Sheffield, 2018), <http://globalbusinessofforcedlabour.ac.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Report-of-Findings-Global-Business-of-Forced-Labour.pdf>, p 4.

78. UNODC, ‘Global Report on Trafficking in Persons 2020’ (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.20.IV.3, January 2021), [https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/tip/2021/GLOTIP\\_2020\\_15jan\\_web.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/tip/2021/GLOTIP_2020_15jan_web.pdf), p 4.

79. “The range of exploitative working circumstances is often not acknowledged. However, it is important to not look solely at the extreme manifestations, but at the entire spectrum that keeps people in this loop” in Ritu Bharadwaj et al., ‘Climate Change, Migration and Vulnerability to Trafficking’ (Publications Library (IIED), 2021), [https://pubs.iied.org/20581iied\\_4](https://pubs.iied.org/20581iied_4).

80. Business & Human Rights Resource Centre (BHRRC), Asia Floor Wage Alliance (AFWA), and Society for Labour and Development (SLD), ‘Unbearable Harassment: The Fashion Industry and Widespread Abuse of Female Garment Workers in Indian Factories’ (BHRRC, AFWA and SLD, April 2022), [https://media.business-humanrights.org/media/documents/2022\\_GBVH\\_Briefing\\_latvnJb.pdf](https://media.business-humanrights.org/media/documents/2022_GBVH_Briefing_latvnJb.pdf).

81. For more information, see: <https://www.restructurelab.org/the-project>

*“more equitable value redistribution; contractual language with consequences for abuse; worker participation in standard-setting; workplace inspection and reviews that are designed and executed with worker input and real remedies; policy and practice claims assessed for actual impact rather than mere articulation; penalties for interference with audits or educational efforts; and effective labour and criminal law enforcement that is serious (and costly enough) of a threat to incentivise firms to enforce a rights-respecting, sustainable culture internally.”<sup>82</sup>*

## 5. Importance of implementation and evaluation

### A lack of credible evaluations hampers the understanding of ‘what works’ – ICAI

There is emerging evidence that for both governments and civil society actors delivering anti-trafficking and anti-slavery programming, a greater focus on implementation is needed in tandem with robust monitoring and evaluation. The question of “what works” is becoming increasingly pressing, and even now there are few answers.

In its 2020 assessment of the government’s aid programme’s approach to tackling modern slavery, the UK Independent Commission for Aid Impact revealed a major evaluation gap, which they felt was undermining the impact of programmes and the ability to rapidly share understandings of what works:

*“There is a lack of credible evaluation evidence on what works, due in large part to the difficulty of measuring impact. The literature suggests that modern slavery is a complex, multidimensional challenge that requires multi-component interventions, targeting different groups and addressing both the supply of and demand for trafficked individuals. The field is marked by major evidence gaps on the incidence of modern slavery, the characteristics of victims that make them vulnerable, their lifetime experiences (including reintegration), and the drivers of modern slavery in particular countries and industries.”<sup>83</sup>*

### Implementation needs to be a priority focus – Delta 8.7

In 2020–2021 Delta 8.7 undertook three reviews of policies and interventions in the contexts of Crisis, Justice and Markets. Resulting Policy Guides reviewed “what works” in reference to Target 8.7 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.<sup>84</sup> The prevailing issue identified in the review on Justice was the manner in which measures are implemented, not necessarily issues with the measures themselves:

*“Commitment to evidence-based, victim-centred antislavery efforts requires reflection and dedication to ensuring that policy is translated into practice, and that this practice produces positive outcomes for those experiencing, or vulnerable to, exploitation.”<sup>85</sup>*

82. Re:Structure Lab, ‘Re:Structure Lab Blueprint’ (Sheffield: Sheffield, Stanford, and Yale Universities, 2021), [www.restructurelab.org/blueprint](http://www.restructurelab.org/blueprint), p 8.

83. Independent Commission for Aid Impact, ‘Literature Review: The UK’s Approach to Tackling Modern Slavery through the Aid Programme’ (ICAI, 14 October 2020), <https://icai.independent.gov.uk/html-version/the-uks-approach-to-tackling-modern-slavery-through-the-aid-programme/#section-6>, ‘Conclusions’.

84. For more information, see: <https://delta87.org/2021/04/delta87-policy-guides-and-data-patterns/>

85. Katarina Schwarz et al., ‘What Works to End Modern Slavery? A Review of Evidence on Policy and Interventions in the Context of Justice’ (Delta 8.7 and Rights Lab, 2020), <https://delta87.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Justice-Report-141220.pdf>, p 4.

## Priority research questions

The Human Trafficking Research Initiative (HTRI) run by Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) undertook a desk review and consultation process of the modern slavery and human trafficking field in 2021. From this research, HTRI set out a series of learning questions that the field needs to address:<sup>86</sup>

1. “How can counter-trafficking actors disrupt behaviors and social norms that normalize or promote human trafficking and related forms of exploitation? (Prevention)<sup>87</sup>
2. How can counter-trafficking actors most effectively support trafficking victims and improve short- and long-term outcomes for trafficking survivors? (Protection)<sup>88</sup>
3. How can governments improve judicial effectiveness, combat corruption, and disrupt criminal networks and systems that allow trafficking to continue? (Prosecution)<sup>89</sup>
4. How can the private sector strengthen its actions and accountability to eliminate human trafficking in global supply chains?<sup>90</sup>
5. How can all counter-trafficking actors leverage technological advancements to combat trafficking?”<sup>91</sup>

As part of the ‘From Research to Action: Using Knowledge to Accelerate Progress in the Elimination of Child Labour and Forced Labour’ (RTA) project, in May 2022 the ILO and IOM released the results of a comprehensive participatory exercise to determine five broad themes to shape the ‘Global Research Agenda’.<sup>92</sup>

1. “Research on risk factors for vulnerability: social, economic, health, historical, political, or cultural dynamics and practices with influence on CL, FL, and HT on which there are still knowledge gaps.
2. Assessment of what works and what does not work: research on whether and how policies, programmes and interventions are successful to prevent or eliminate CL, FL, and HT, under what circumstances and with which populations.
3. Technology and Artificial Intelligence (AI): make use of technology and AI in data collection, processing, and analysis.

86. ‘Research and Learning Agenda: Human Trafficking Research Initiative’, Innovations for Poverty Action, 13 September 2021, <https://www.poverty-action.org/publication/research-and-learning-agenda-human-trafficking-research-initiative>, p 7.

87. ‘Research and Learning Agenda: Human Trafficking Research Initiative’, Innovations for Poverty Action, 13 September 2021, <https://www.poverty-action.org/publication/research-and-learning-agenda-human-trafficking-research-initiative>, p 8.

88. ‘Research and Learning Agenda: Human Trafficking Research Initiative’, Innovations for Poverty Action, 13 September 2021, <https://www.poverty-action.org/publication/research-and-learning-agenda-human-trafficking-research-initiative>, p 13.

89. ‘Research and Learning Agenda: Human Trafficking Research Initiative’, Innovations for Poverty Action, 13 September 2021, <https://www.poverty-action.org/publication/research-and-learning-agenda-human-trafficking-research-initiative>, p 17.

90. ‘Research and Learning Agenda: Human Trafficking Research Initiative’, Innovations for Poverty Action, 13 September 2021, <https://www.poverty-action.org/publication/research-and-learning-agenda-human-trafficking-research-initiative>, p 21.

91. ‘Research and Learning Agenda: Human Trafficking Research Initiative’, Innovations for Poverty Action, 13 September 2021, <https://www.poverty-action.org/publication/research-and-learning-agenda-human-trafficking-research-initiative>, p 22.

92. International Labour Organization, ‘Global Research Agenda: Building the Evidence Base for Informed Policy Action against Child Labour, Forced Labour, and Human Trafficking’, From Research to Action (RTA) Project (ILO, May 2022), [http://www.ilo.org/ipec/projects/global/from-research-to-action/WCMS\\_845264/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/ipec/projects/global/from-research-to-action/WCMS_845264/lang--en/index.htm).



4. Monitoring and measurement: aspects related to address challenges related to sampling in the context of CL, FL, and HT (e.g., sampling of mobile, elusive or hidden populations), expanding research method, and clarifying related definitions and concepts (e.g., modern slavery, FL, HT).
5. Research on economic, environmental, and social costs: research on CL, FL, and HT in specific economic sectors, including supply chains or complex global issues such as climate change and Covid-19.<sup>93</sup>

*Evaluation approaches and methodologies need to be routinely funded by donors, and need to improve to have useful effects on the design of future programs – Walk Free*

Walk Free also asked the “what works” question of their Promising Practices Database, a publicly-available collation of program and impact evaluations of anti-slavery and counter trafficking programs.<sup>94</sup> The comparative evaluation of modern slavery interventions demonstrated the ongoing need for those undertaking them to use “reliable evaluation methodologies, outline measurable objectives, and clearly articulate the link between these objectives to the overarching theory of change.”<sup>95</sup> Monitoring and evaluation also needs to be factored into funding: Walk Free recommends that program funding from should support more innovative techniques for evaluation, and more long-term programme implementation, since it is often impossible to assess the impact of an approach on actual prevalence of modern slavery within existing short programme deadlines.<sup>96</sup>

93. International Labour Organization, 'Global Research Agenda: Building the Evidence Base for Informed Policy Action against Child Labour, Forced Labour, and Human Trafficking', From Research to Action (RTA) Project (ILO, May 2022), [http://www.ilo.org/ipec/projects/global/from-research-to-action/WCMS\\_845264/lang-en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/ipec/projects/global/from-research-to-action/WCMS_845264/lang-en/index.htm), p 3.

94. For more information, see: <https://www.walkfree.org/projects/promising-practices/>.

95. Walk Free, 'Promising Practices: Five Years of Lessons Learned' (The Minderoo Foundation, 2021), <https://www.walkfree.org/projects/promising-practices/promising-practices-five-years-of-lessons-learned/>, p 20. For further analysis of the dataset, see also Katharine Bryant and Todd Landman, 'Combatting Human Trafficking since Palermo: What Do We Know about What Works?', *Journal of Human Trafficking* 6, no. 2 (2020): 119-40, <https://doi.org/10.1080/23322705.2020.1690097>.

96. Walk Free, 'Promising Practices: Five Years of Lessons Learned' (The Minderoo Foundation, 2021), <https://www.walkfree.org/projects/promising-practices/promising-practices-five-years-of-lessons-learned/>, p 20.

## Annex VIII: Non-exhaustive list of resource aggregation sites

Resource	Organisation	Link
Antislavery Legislation Database	Antislavery in Domestic Legislation Project, University of Nottingham Rights Lab, Monash University	<a href="https://antislaverylaw.ac.uk">https://antislaverylaw.ac.uk</a>
Anti-Trafficking Review (open access, peer reviewed journal dedicated to the issue of human trafficking)	Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women (GAATW)	<a href="https://www.antitraffickingreview.org">https://www.antitraffickingreview.org</a>
Counter-Trafficking Data Collaborative	International Organization for Migration	<a href="https://www.ctdatacollaborative.org/about-us">https://www.ctdatacollaborative.org/about-us</a>
Delta 8.7 (the Alliance 8.7 Knowledge Platform)	Alliance 8.7	<a href="https://delta87.org">https://delta87.org</a>
Freedom Collaborative	Liberty Shared, with support from Chab Dai International	<a href="https://freedomcollaborative.org/resources">https://freedomcollaborative.org/resources</a>
Global Modern Slavery Directory (GMSD)	Polaris, Eurasia Foundation	<a href="https://globalmodernslavery.org/">https://globalmodernslavery.org/</a>
Global Resource Database	Human Trafficking Search (HTS)	<a href="https://humantraffickingsearch.org/traffickingresources/">https://humantraffickingsearch.org/traffickingresources/</a>
Interactive Map for Business of Anti-Trafficking Organisations	The Global Business Coalition Against Human Trafficking (GBCAT); The Responsible and Ethical Private Sector Coalition against Trafficking (RESPECT) Initiative; The United Nations Global Compact (UNGC)	<a href="https://www.modernslaverymap.org">https://www.modernslaverymap.org</a>
OSCE Compendium Database [on ethical sourcing and prevention of trafficking in human beings for labour exploitation in supply chains.]	Office of the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings	<a href="https://communities.osce.org/display/CTHBSOURCE">https://communities.osce.org/display/CTHBSOURCE</a>
RESPECT Initiative Resource Centre	The Responsible and Ethical Private Sector Coalition against Trafficking (RESPECT) Initiative	<a href="https://respect.international/resource-centre/">https://respect.international/resource-centre/</a>
Slavery Research Library	Freedom Fund	<a href="https://freedomfund.org/programs/community-building/slavery-research-library/page/2/">https://freedomfund.org/programs/community-building/slavery-research-library/page/2/</a>
UN Global Compact Library	United Nations Global Compact (UNGC)	<a href="https://www.unglobalcompact.org/library">https://www.unglobalcompact.org/library</a>

## Annex IX: Resources

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## Annex X: Embedding Lived Experience in the Work of a Global Commission – lessons from other Commissions

Commission on Social Security (CSS) led by Experts by Experience and the Poverty Truth Commissions (PTC) and Poverty Truth Network (PTN) – Lessons for the Global Commission on Modern Slavery

### 1.1 Commission on Social Security (CSS) led by Experts by Experience

The CSS was output focused: its aim was to produce a White Paper setting out proposal for a better social security system. Experts by experience lead: a project initiation group comprised 8 experts by experience, a funder (Trust for London) representative, and the lead academic. The Commission's approach 'involves a radical inversion of standard power relations; the Experts by Experience are the decision makers and the support team work as directed by them.'

The working methodology that has evolved is: (i) Commissioners decide the strategy; (ii) the support team prepare briefings containing possible – but not exclusive – options; (iii) the Commissioners then decide how to proceed.

### 1.2 Practices of the CSS that are relevant to the GC<sup>97</sup>

The CSS led by Experts by Experience's working methodology could inform the overall approach of the GC and/or shape issue-specific 'Commission of Inquiry' type work with specific survivor groups (e.g. a Commission of Inquiry led by Experts by Experience looking at the impact of immigration policy; or looking at experience of unsafe migration routes, for example). The principle of rebalancing the proportion of experts by experience to experts by training seems to be a useful one.

### 2.1 PTCs and PTN Context

**Poverty Truth Commissions:** 'Poverty Truth Commissions, seek to discover the answer to the question, 'what if people who struggled against poverty were involved in making decisions about tackling poverty?' The commissioners for each Commission comprise two groups of people. Around half of the commissioners are people with a lived experience of the struggle against poverty. The other half are leaders within the city or region. Collectively they work to understand the nature of poverty, what are some of the underlying issues that create poverty and explore creative ways of addressing them.'

**The Poverty Truth Network:** The Poverty Truth Network sits underneath these regional Poverty Truth Commissions and network trustees are drawn from the commissions. The network does four things: it nurtures new commissions, supports current ones, amplifies local voice, networks and partners with other anti-poverty organisations. There is an annual gathering of commissions. Peer support is offered to commission facilitators.

97. For more information, see: <https://www.commissiononsocialsecurity.org/>

## 2.2 Practices of the [Poverty Truth Network](#) that are relevant to the GC<sup>98</sup>

The Network/Commission model. The Regional Coordinator model being trialled by the Kiconco/Asquith/Balch FCDO Survivor Inclusion project, could be adopted by the GC. These Regional Coordinators and their regional contacts would take the positions of the Poverty Truth Commissions above. A *Panel of Experts by Experience* could be drawn from these Regional Coordinators. The model allows for expertise to be shared and communicated from a large number of people, and facilitates the diversity of perspective that Kiconco suggested was currently missing from the intergovernmental landscape.

### More information on the CSS

The Commission's premise is that: (i) the current social security (welfare benefits) system is failing, but there is no agreement on ways forward; (ii) ideas for a better social system need to be set out (i.e. a solutions-focused approach); (iii) Experts by Experience must be central in policy development and building consensus is vital.

They had a focus on a specific outcome: the development of a "White Paper" setting out proposals for a better system.

In order to ensure the work not only involves Experts by Experience but is led by them, a Project Inception group was formed comprising 8 experts by experience and 2 others (one from the funder, one academic)

The Project Inception group made decisions about how the project would proceed including: a Commission of Inquiry model would be used; all Commissioners would be Experts by Experience; a support team (secretariat), working under the direction of the Commissioners, would be set up. Through the Project Inception group's networks 16 Commissioners, became involved from a variety of claimant and user-led groups and Deaf and Disabled People's Organisations.

The Commission's approach 'involves a radical inversion of standard power relations – the Experts by Experience are the decision makers and the support team work as directed by them.'

The working methodology that has evolved is:

- (i) Commissioners decide the strategy
- (ii) The support team prepare briefings containing possible – but not exclusive – options
- (iii) The Commissioners then decide how to proceed

The Commission takes a one step at a time approach, enabling process and practice to develop on an organic and reflective way.

It is notable that Commissioners as Experts by Experience cut through organisational and interest group silos and fragmented debates about poverty, instead providing a holistic perspective, with an ability to focus on fundamental core issues and anchored in lived experience of the system.

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98. For more information, see: <https://povertytruthnetwork.org/>



### The commission of inquiry model:

A commission of inquiry is **a tool to enable the investigation of matters of public concern in a public forum other than in an ordinary court**. Commissions are aimed at encouraging transparency through fact finding and providing input for future investigation or criminal proceedings, if necessary.

A commission of inquiry is **a tool to enable the investigation of matters of public concern in a public forum other than in an ordinary court**. Commissions are aimed at encouraging transparency through fact finding and providing input for future investigation or criminal proceedings, if necessary

<https://www.commissiononsocialsecurity.org/supporting-papers>

### More information on the Poverty Truth Network

‘Nothing about us, without us, is for us’ is the starting point for the Poverty Truth Commissions, and this is also a slogan used in the modern slavery space. The rationale: that lasting social change only happens when those who experience the struggle participate in generating change, is also familiar in MS circles.

*“By listening to each other, sharing wisdom and building empathy, trusting relationships are formed to have difficult conversations and find the way forward. Poverty Truth Commissions are places where those transformational relationships are formed and nurtured.”*

The model is that the network supports regional truth commissions. It sits underneath the commissions and offers support bottom up. Network trustees are drawn from commissions around the UK. The network does four things: it nurtures new commissions, supports current ones, to amplify local voice, to network and partner with other anti-poverty organisations. Annual gathering of commissions. Peer support offered to commission facilitators.

## Annex XI: Global Commission on Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking – draft terms of reference

### Mandate

Modern slavery and human trafficking constitute one of the greatest global challenges of our time. Vulnerability to such exploitation has dramatically increased as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, war and conflicts both new and protracted, and the direct effects of climate change. With the number of people forcibly displaced worldwide now exceeding 100 million for the first time in history, the world is set to see a significant increase in the numbers vulnerable to modern slavery and human trafficking. The scale of such vulnerability to exploitation means that all countries of the world are affected, whether countries of origin, transit or destination.

Yet, just as vulnerability to exploitation has dramatically increased, there has been a loss of international political momentum behind efforts to eradicate it. The issue has slipped down the global political agenda, displaced by the very events – the pandemic, conflict and climate change – which are responsible for the significant increase in vulnerability to exploitation. There remain significant obstacles to international collaborative action and partnerships, and the evidence and knowledge base remain under-developed.

Wishing to respond to the recent dramatic increase in vulnerability to exploitation by bringing about a step-change in international efforts to eradicate modern slavery and human trafficking, and with the support and encouragement of the UN Secretary-General, [insert names of Convening States – the UK, ...?], together with [insert name of Co-Convening international organisation if relevant], have decided to establish a Global Commission on Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking.

The Convening States were subsequently joined by [insert names of other supporting States] to form a Core Group of Governments who support the establishment and the work of the Commission. Membership of the Core Group of Supporting States is open to any State which supports the objectives of the Global Commission. The Core Group constitutes a Reference Group of States for the Global Commission.

The Global Commission was launched by the UN Secretary-General and the Co-Convening States on [insert date] in [insert place]. It started work in [insert date – autumn 2022?] and will produce its initial Report by [insert date – March 2024?].

## Objectives

### **The Global Commission has three clear Objectives:**

#### **1. Provide high-level political leadership**

The Global Commission will provide high level political leadership at the global level by bringing together influential figures of international renown from politics, international organisations, civil society, business and research to restore lost political momentum. It will raise the profile of modern slavery and human trafficking on the international agenda, advocate for long term and structural action to tackle vulnerability to exploitation, and catalyse action by states and other stakeholders.

#### **2. Build the evidence and knowledge base and mobilise research**

The Global Commission will build the evidence and knowledge base needed to support global efforts to eradicate modern slavery and human trafficking by proactively identifying evidence or knowledge gaps and mobilising the research, reviews or syntheses required to fill those gaps. It will ensure that high-level political leadership on modern slavery and human trafficking are better grounded in high quality research and the best evidence, so that relevant laws, policies and practices are fully informed by appropriate expertise. It will also aim to localise best practice by translating international norms and frameworks in collaborative ways which are sensitive to local contexts.

#### **3. Promote and facilitate international collaborations and partnerships**

The Global Commission will promote and facilitate international collaborations and partnerships between states, multilateral organisations, civil society, businesses, researchers and people with lived experience, as well as between the global, regional and national levels. It will aim to complement and amplify existing collaborative efforts.

## Areas of Focus

### **The Global Commission has three substantive areas of focus:**

#### **1. Tackling forced labour in global supply chains**

The Global Commission will focus on the need for both business and states to take greater responsibility for forced labour in their supply chains and to be more proactive both in eradicating it and in regulating to accelerate such eradication. It will seek to catalyse both business and state action on corporate accountability, including through reviewing the effectiveness of emerging policy responses, and building the evidence base on best practice in reducing exploitation within supply chains.

#### **2. Effective national implementation by States of their international commitments**

The Global Commission will enable States which support the 2017 Call to Action to demonstrate their commitment to it by helping them to report in detail on the actions taken at the national level to implement their international commitments and to make their national legal frameworks more effective in practice.

### 3. Increasing the engagement of civil society capable of protecting the vulnerable in crises

The Global Commission will increase the engagement of large international NGOs which work directly with those most vulnerable to exploitation during crises, such as the major disaster and humanitarian relief organisations, to ensure that preventing modern slavery and human trafficking is an integrated part of crisis preparation and response. It will aim to improve the interaction of such international NGOs with more specialist regional and local NGOs engaged in tackling modern slavery and human trafficking.

#### Ways of Working

The Global Commission works to complement and amplify existing international collaborations on modern slavery and human trafficking so as to maximise their impact. It consults closely and seeks to work collaboratively with other key actors in the field, including GFEMS, Alliance 8.7 and ICAT, and aims to reduce obstacles to international collaboration.

The Global Commission ensures that lived experience of modern slavery and human trafficking are central to its work. The design of the Commission, its governance structures and the way in which it carries out its mandate embeds lived experience in all aspects of its work. In addition to representation on the Commission and its governance bodies, a Panel of Advisers with Lived Experience inform and help to plan the Commission's work and there are clear targets for measuring how effectively lived experience is embedded in the work of the Commission.

#### Phasing

The Global Commission will have two phases. In Phase 1 it will produce an Initial Report [by March 2024?] setting out its detailed recommendations to States, international organisations, and other stakeholders on how to accelerate progress towards the eradication of modern slavery and human trafficking, within the framework of SDG 8.7, the 2017 UN Call to Action, and the 2019 Principles to Guide Government Action to combat human trafficking in Global Supply Chains. In Phase 2 [2024-2030] the Commission will work with stakeholders to implement the detailed recommendations in its Phase 1 Report.

#### The Commission

The Global Commission is an incorporated independent body comprising not less than 20 and not more than 25 Commissioners. Commissioners serve in their personal capacity.

It is chaired by [insert name of Chair and country], with [a Deputy Chair [insert name and country]] and three Vice-Chairs who ensure that all regions of the world are represented in the Commission's leadership.

The overall composition of the Commission aims to reflect an appropriate balance in terms of geography, gender and professional expertise. To ensure that the Commission's recommendations are capable of commanding broad political support, Commissioners will be eminent and well-respected personalities of international renown.

Following its initial constitutive meeting [in autumn 2022], the Commission will meet twice a year, once physically, in different regions of the world at the invitation of Governments and other interested organisations, and once on-line. Regional meetings will be opportunities for outreach by the Commission with key regional stakeholders.

The working language of the Commission is English but summaries of the Commission's reports will be available in all of the UN's official languages.

### Secretariat

The Global Commission's Secretariat is [independent/provided by [insert name of host institution]]. The Secretariat's physical office is in [insert place] but it operates largely virtually, building on lessons learned about effective virtual working during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Secretariat supports the work of the Commission by providing strategic and executive leadership, research and analysis, policy impact advice, stakeholder engagement, communications, and operational, administrative and logistical support.

The Secretariat is responsible for the Commission's overall Strategic Delivery Plan, its detailed work plan, and financial management of its budget. It provides the necessary operational, administrative and logistical support for all the Commission's activities, including its meetings in different regions of the world.

The Secretariat has primary responsibility for collecting, analysing and producing information to support the Commission's work. It conducts some research and knowledge mobilisation in-house and commissions research and analysis from external sources where necessary for the work of the Commission.

The Secretariat may provide secondment opportunities for Governments and other institutions.

The Commission has its own distinct identity, branding, website and social media presence.

# MODERN SLAVERY & HUMAN RIGHTS

POLICY &  
EVIDENCE  
CENTRE

Led by the Bingham Centre

The Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre (Modern Slavery PEC) was created by the investment of public funding to enhance understanding of modern slavery and transform the effectiveness of law and policies designed to address it. The Centre funds and co-creates high quality research with a focus on policy impact, and brings together academics, policymakers, businesses, civil society, survivors and the public on a scale not seen before in the UK to collaborate on solving this global challenge.

The Centre is a consortium of six academic organisations led by the Bingham Centre for the Rule of Law and is funded by the Art and Humanities Research Council on behalf of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI).

Our partners:



University of  
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The Modern Slavery and Human Rights Policy and Evidence Centre is funded and actively supported by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), part of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), from the Strategic Priorities Fund.

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