

Who Are The Most Vulnerable?

Anyone can become a victim of modern slavery.

The most vulnerable groups are women, children and migrants.

People escaping poverty, conflict, natural disasters, and marginalisation are also at greater risk.



WOMEN



CHILDREN

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Migrant workers are particularly vulnerable to:

- **Debt bondage** - through recruitment fees.
- **Forced labour** - Traffickers often exploit migrant workers' uncertainties about their rights and status, holding and removing documents to force labour under terrible conditions.

Migrant workers are

3X

more likely to be a victim of

FORCED LABOUR

How to Expose Trafficking in Supply Chains

Businesses, organisations and governments must conduct a complete risk assessment of their entire supply chains. Each link must be assessed for its risk of worker exploitation and remediation provided for any abuses found. This exercise is often called supply chain mapping.

At each stage, suppliers, sub-contractors, workplace locations and the conditions of workers must be identified and published.

When conducting this exercise, careful attention should be paid where key risk factors are present:

1. Location

Where are the work sites located? Are they isolated? Are they subject to labour inspections?

2. Vulnerable population

Are any vulnerable groups working in this industry?

3. At risk products

Which products in the chain are known to be at risk?

Businesses and governments must prioritise actions that deliver workers' protection. They must respond to identified risks through action plans and specific strategies, including continuous engagement with suppliers.

Sometimes businesses may have to use their economic leverage over suppliers to seek greater transparency over working conditions.

Businesses should regularly engage and monitor suppliers, encouraging transparency and the reporting and remediation of any risks. Strong relationships between suppliers and buyers are essential.

Tackling Trafficking in Supply Chains...

As a legislator

Parliamentarians are uniquely placed to address this issue by passing or strengthening legislation. This requires an effective campaign.

Before tabling legislation:

- **Build common ground with cross-sector organisations** - relevant businesses, NGOs, CSOs, Trade Unions, Voluntary Sector Bodies.
- **Seek cross-party support** - parliamentarians and local/regional government.
- **Engage** with relevant **ministers** and **civil servants**.
- Galvanise **support** from the **Media** to raise awareness.

Legislators can use unique parliamentary instruments to raise awareness, identify points of consensus, and introduce early ideas and solutions. Legislators can:



As a constituency representative

Protect victims

- **Support** victims - knowing where to **direct** them is especially important.
- Work closely with **law enforcement** and relevant **agencies** to build **knowledge** and bring traffickers to **justice**.

Prevent new victims

- **Raise awareness** to your **constituents**, teach them how to **spot the signs** of modern slavery.
- Encourage **constituents** to **engage** with **representatives**, **law enforcement** and **civil society** on these matters.
- Organise **social activities** to engage constituents and **raise awareness**, which can be strengthened with **media** support.

As a committee member

Parliamentary committees are an important and high-profile means to scrutinise the work of government and hold ministers and officials to account.

Effective committees:

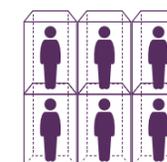
- Work **across party lines** to **inform policy** and legislation.
- **Engage** and **draw evidence** from a wide range of **stakeholders** before reporting on their findings and making **recommendations**.
- Identify **gaps** in existing **legislation** and **scrutinise government** action.
- Recommend measures to **streamline** the **implementation** of supply chain transparency, **bolster human rights** due-diligence, and **close the loopholes** that traffickers exploit.

Resources

<https://www.gla.gov.uk/who-we-are/modern-slavery/who-we-are-modern-slavery-spot-the-signs>
<https://www.walkfree.org/global-slavery-index/>
https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/forced-labour/publications/WCMS_854733/lang-en/index.htm
<https://www.osce.org/files/f/1/536001.pdf>
https://www.uk-cpa.org/media/2376/e-handbook-modern-slavery_webpdf.pdf

Human Trafficking & Modern Slavery in Supply Chains

SPOT THE SIGNS



What is Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery?

Human Trafficking is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.

An internationally accepted definition adopted by the UN in 2000 under the Palermo Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children.

50 MILLION
People are living in modern slavery

Modern Slavery is everywhere, in every region and every country. It touches every sector.

10 MILLION
More people since 2016

Provided by Walk Free's Global Slavery Index

Other Key Definitions

Forced Labour is a situation in which an individual involuntarily performs any type of work or service. The involuntary nature of the situation means that the person is required to work under some sort of threat. The threat can be real or implied but has such an implication that the individual feels unable to refuse. The two key elements of forced labour are the exercise of coercion and the denial of freedom.

Debt Bondage is also known as 'bonded labour' or 'debt slavery'. It occurs when a person is required to perform work or services in order to pay off a debt. Most or all of the money they earn goes to pay off their loan. The value of their work becomes greater than the original size of the loan.

Modern Slavery has many forms but is identifiable through its common traits:



What is Modern Slavery in Supply Chains?

Every product and service we encounter undergoes a journey from raw materials and resources to its final purchased form. A **supply chain** represents this journey, tracing the various suppliers and sub-contractors which contribute to any component of the product.

Human Trafficking or Modern Slavery in Supply Chains refers to instances of labour exploitation occurring at any stage in a product's development.



Generally, as the supply chain goes down, the visibility over **workers and their conditions** decreases.

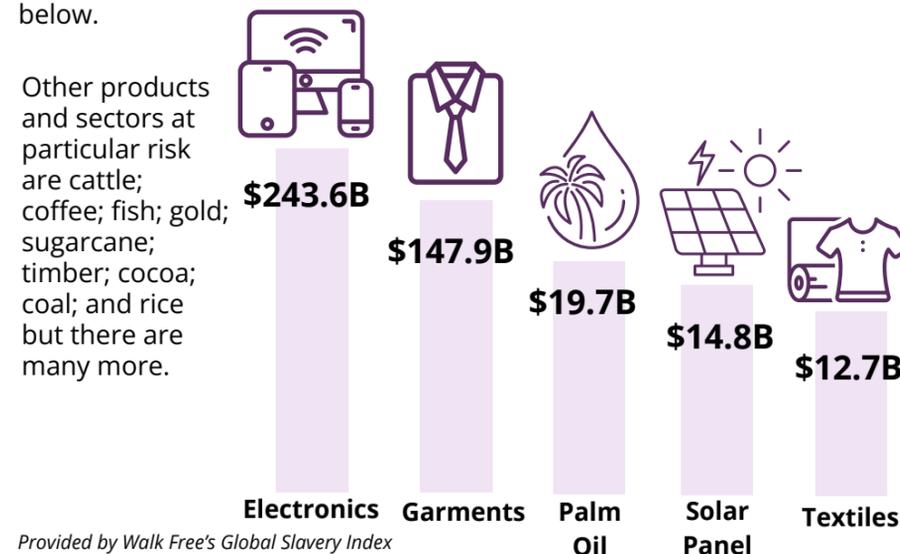
The Impact of Globalisation

Globalisation has enabled businesses to access materials, production methods and labour from around the world. As a result, supply chains have become increasingly complex - it is more challenging to trace the path from raw materials to finished products.

It is more difficult to know who has worked on a product. And under what conditions.

The scale of global supply chains means that many products and services are tainted by cases of labour exploitation.

Most recently, G20 countries are estimated to have imported US\$468 billion worth of goods at risk of modern slavery, the top five are listed below.



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The Importance of Legislation

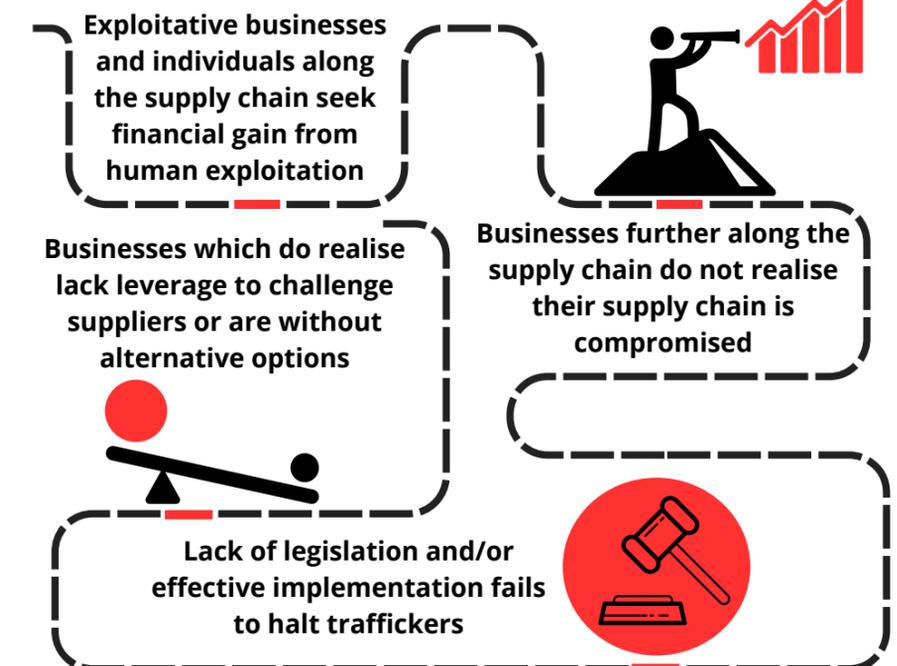
Strengthening legislation is the first and most crucial step to protect workers from exploitation. Nations around the world recognise this.

In September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly voted to adopt the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

In SDG Target 8.7, nations agree to "Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and...by 2025 end child labour in all its forms".

Many governments around the world are working to achieve this shared goal. However, legislation is failing to protect workers from exploitation.

Why does Modern Slavery Persist?



To identify and remove risks of worker exploitation, the supply chain must become fully transparent.

Yet, the majority of legislation does not set the legal requirements which are necessary to achieve fully transparent supply chains.

A **transparent supply chain** is one in which the labour conditions of workers - working hours, pay, treatment, workers' age, and freedom to end employment - are fully known and accessible to any business further along in the supply chain.

Challenges for Legislators

The enormous scale and complexity of global supply chains pose challenges for legislators - regulation requiring greater due diligence and transparency in supply chains may be perceived to place pressure on businesses and have economic consequences which may prove difficult to win support for.

It is the duty of legislators to work with businesses and civil society to overcome such challenges.

Effective legislation requires a cross-sector approach.