# MEASUREMENT ACTION FREEDOM

An independent assessment of government progress towards achieving UN Sustainable Development Goal 8.7

**MINDEROO FOUNDATION**

**WALK FREE**

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**University of Nottingham**
Rights Lab

**CHRI**
Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative
working for the practical realisation of human rights in the countries of the Commonwealth

Regenesys

# WORK TOGETHER TO **DEVELOP** INDICATORS AND **ADOPT** THESE TO TRACK PROGRESS TO **ERADICATE** ALL FORMS OF **MODERN SLAVERY** UNDER SDG 8.7.

# LEADERS SUPPORTING
# MEASUREMENT, ACTION, FREEDOM:

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*Civil Society needs an accurate roadmap to effective and ineffective government action in ending modern slavery. The SDG 8.7 is a huge opportunity in our engagement with government to inspire strategic actions that identify and serve the needs of survivors, prosecute offenders and tackle socio-economic injustices.*

*Walk Free's 'Measurement, Action, Freedom: An independent assessment of government progress towards achieving UN Sustainable Development Goal 8.7' report is a useful roadmap and tool to help us understand and focus our advocacy efforts at the national and regional levels. This report also provides a landscape for us on the ground and helps us navigate our strategies in engaging with governments to realize and localize SDG targets.*

*This report's inclusion of survivor experiences and healing is a powerful example of how we can optimise survivor voice and their experiences to freedom in our advocacy and policy work to end modern slavery. Walk Free's integration of the services of Regenesys, a survivor-employing data collection service is a strong example of meaningful engagement with survivors at every level of research.*

*Finally, the report correctly highlights the still limited role of the private sector in tackling labour exploitation. Civil society needs to engage with local businesses to expand economic opportunities for families and communities to help address the root causes of trafficking.*
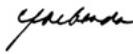
*Cecilia Flores-Oebanda*
*CEO, Voice of the Free (formerly Visayan Forum Foundation)*

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*Measuring the response to modern slavery is difficult. The data is hidden and hard to get at. We know that in order to eradicate a crime that affects over 40 million people worldwide, government action and collaboration to achieve UN Sustainable Development Goal 8.7 are crucial. Yet, it has been challenging to pinpoint how and where governments can take targeted, effective measures to eliminate forced labour, human trafficking and child labour.*

*That's why the new report by Walk Free, 'Measurement, Action, Freedom: An independent assessment of government progress towards achieving UN Sustainable Development Goal 8.7', is such an important tool for the anti-slavery movement. This report will galvanize action to achieve SDG 8.7 and help those in the anti-slavery community better understand the role of government in combatting modern slavery.*

*From my perspective as the chief executive of an organization that is dedicated to ending modern slavery – and deeply committed to improving the knowledge base – Walk Free's new report is a big step forward. In a field that still remains far too uncoordinated, this report takes an important look at what governments around the world can and must do to end modern slavery. The Freedom Fund welcomes this effort, and we are hopeful it will drive real progress against the ambitious goal of eradicating slavery by 2030.*

*Nick Grono*
*CEO, Freedom Fund*

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*Walk Free's 'Measurement, Action, Freedom: An independent assessment of government progress towards achieving UN Sustainable Development Goal 8.7' report highlights governments' performance on addressing the issue of human trafficking. Advocacy can be extremely difficult without data and information that can guide civil societies on the areas of focus. Our hope is that this report will help in identification of these areas of focus and begin a conversation on what government progress looks like and can be improved.*

*Sophie Otiende*
*Programme Consultant, Awareness Against Human Trafficking (HAART Kenya)*

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*A man holds a photo during a protest against slavery in Libya in front of the Libya embassy in Madrid on 26th November, 2017. Those protesting were angry at evidence of migrants in Tripoli being auctioned off, as well as European policies that have led to the forcible return to Libya of migrants trying to reach Europe via the Mediterranean. Refugees and migrants are particularly vulnerable to modern slavery and many countries across the world are increasingly closing their borders to those seeking to migrate. Credit: Juan Carlos Lucas/NurPhoto via Getty Images.*

Measurement, Action, Freedom

# FOREWORD

## BY ANDREW FORREST

Its victims are bound to toil for little or no pay, are forced to engage in exploitative sex work, or are married against their will. Its cost is individual freedom and economic stagnation. Its impact is global, and no country is immune.

Modern slavery is a human rights abuse of our own making. Ending it is a choice the world can make.

In 2015, government leaders agreed to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to help achieve fair, inclusive, and sustainable development by 2030. SDG 8.7 calls on all governments to take immediate and effective measures to end forced labour, modern slavery, and human trafficking, as well as child labour in all its forms.

But since then, progress made toward ending these abhorrent practices has been *disgracefully marginal*. The world must accelerate action to end this crime. We must ensure our leaders do more and hold them accountable to delivering on their commitment.

But how?

I subscribe to the belief that if you can't measure something, you can't fix it. If we want to achieve SDG 8.7 by 2030, we need to know more about where, why, and how people are enslaved, and what progress we are making in freeing them. We need to know which governments are tackling this crime and what measures they are taking. We need to understand what responses are working and how we can have the greatest impact.

Measurement has long been a core focus of Walk Free's work. Our Global Slavery Index is the world's only country-by-country estimate of people living in modern slavery. It is through this work, and our partnership with the International Labour Organization, that we know how and where 40.3 million people are being exploited.

Only with this visibility can we pursue effective strategies to end modern slavery and hold governments accountable for their actions. This report is an important contribution to those efforts. It provides a baseline of current government action and a roadmap for progress and, significantly, it calls for the United Nations and member states to develop indicators to track progress towards the eradication of modern slavery under SDG 8.7. The status quo does not drive the accountability needed to achieve this crucial target — without indicators to report on, and measure progress against, the visibility and pressure on governments necessary to drive change doesn't exist.

It's like hoping your team scores a goal ... on a field where there are no goalposts. It will never happen.

In this report, we find encouraging examples of governments taking action that has resulted in an increase in prosecutions, the extension of victim support services, and the ratification of ILO instruments.

Overall, however, the measurements in this report underscore that global progress in tackling modern slavery has been hugely disappointing. We know that 47 countries globally have not yet recognised human trafficking as a crime in line with international standards. Nearly 100 countries still fail to criminalise forced labour or, if they do, the penalty for this form of exploitation amounts to nothing more than a fine. Less than one-third of countries protect women and girls from the terrible harm of forced marriage. This is not a situation that any of us should tolerate.

The findings in this report tell us that the world will not deliver on SDG 8.7 by the 2030 target date, forgoing the unique opportunity the Sustainable Development Agenda provides the international community to effect change as part of a global movement.

Accordingly, we must redouble our efforts and mobilise the full power of businesses, faiths, and the global community toward a common purpose: energising and galvanising governments to do more — much more — to end modern slavery in their countries.

We must all hold ourselves and each other to account for ending the misery of our fellow human beings.
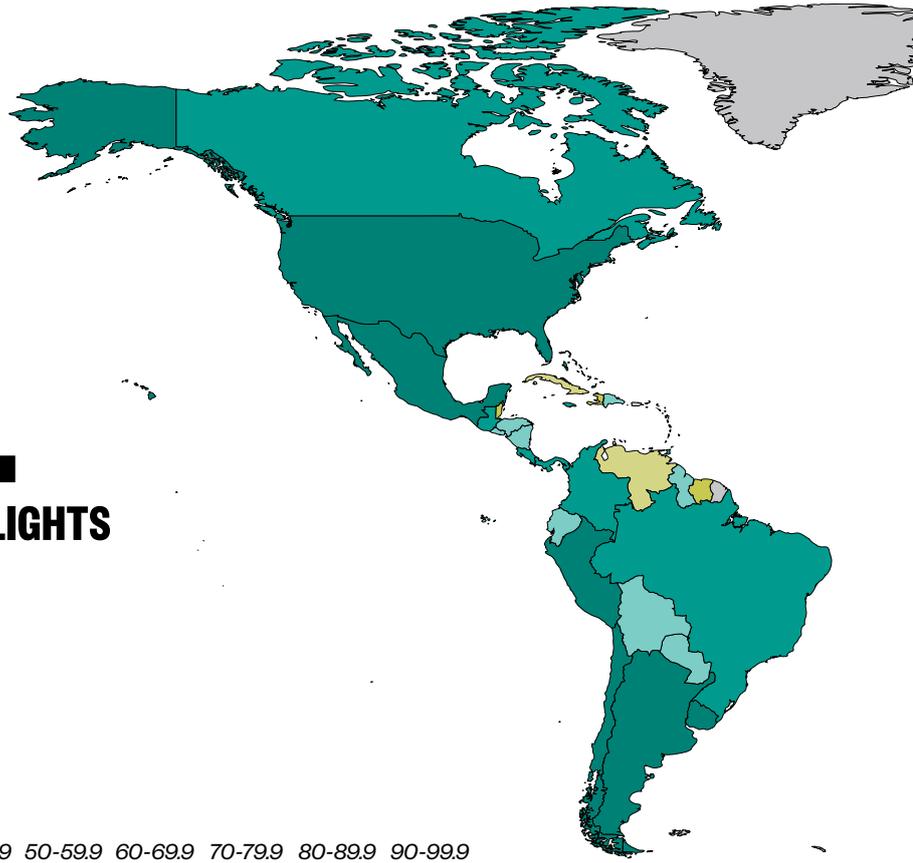
# GLOBAL
## GOVERNMENT RESPONSE HIGHLIGHTS

## AVERAGE GOVERNMENT RESPONSE SCORE

| % | <0-9.9 | 10-19.9 | 20-29.9 | 30-39.9 | 40-49.9 | 50-59.9 | 60-69.9 | 70-79.9 | 80-89.9 | 90-99.9 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Not Rated | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7* | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| | | | | 2015 | 2019 | | | | | |
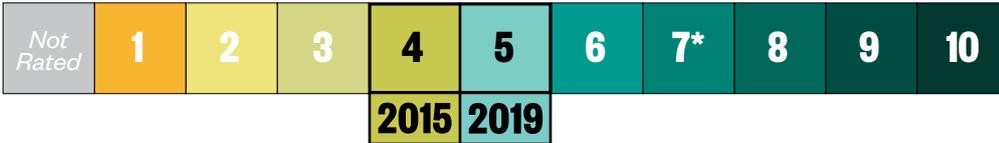
*\* No country can be awarded above a 7 if there are any negative indicators in their score*

## LEAST ACTION

| |
|---|
| NORTH KOREA |
| ERITREA |
| LIBYA |
| IRAN |
| EQUATORIAL GUINEA |
| BURUNDI |
| DEM. REP. CONGO |
| CONGO |
| RUSSIA |
| SOMALIA |

## MOST ACTION

| |
|---|
| THE UNITED KINGDOM |
| NETHERLANDS |
| THE UNITED STATES |
| PORTUGAL |
| SWEDEN |
| ARGENTINA |
| BELGIUM |
| SPAIN |
| CROATIA |
| AUSTRALIA |
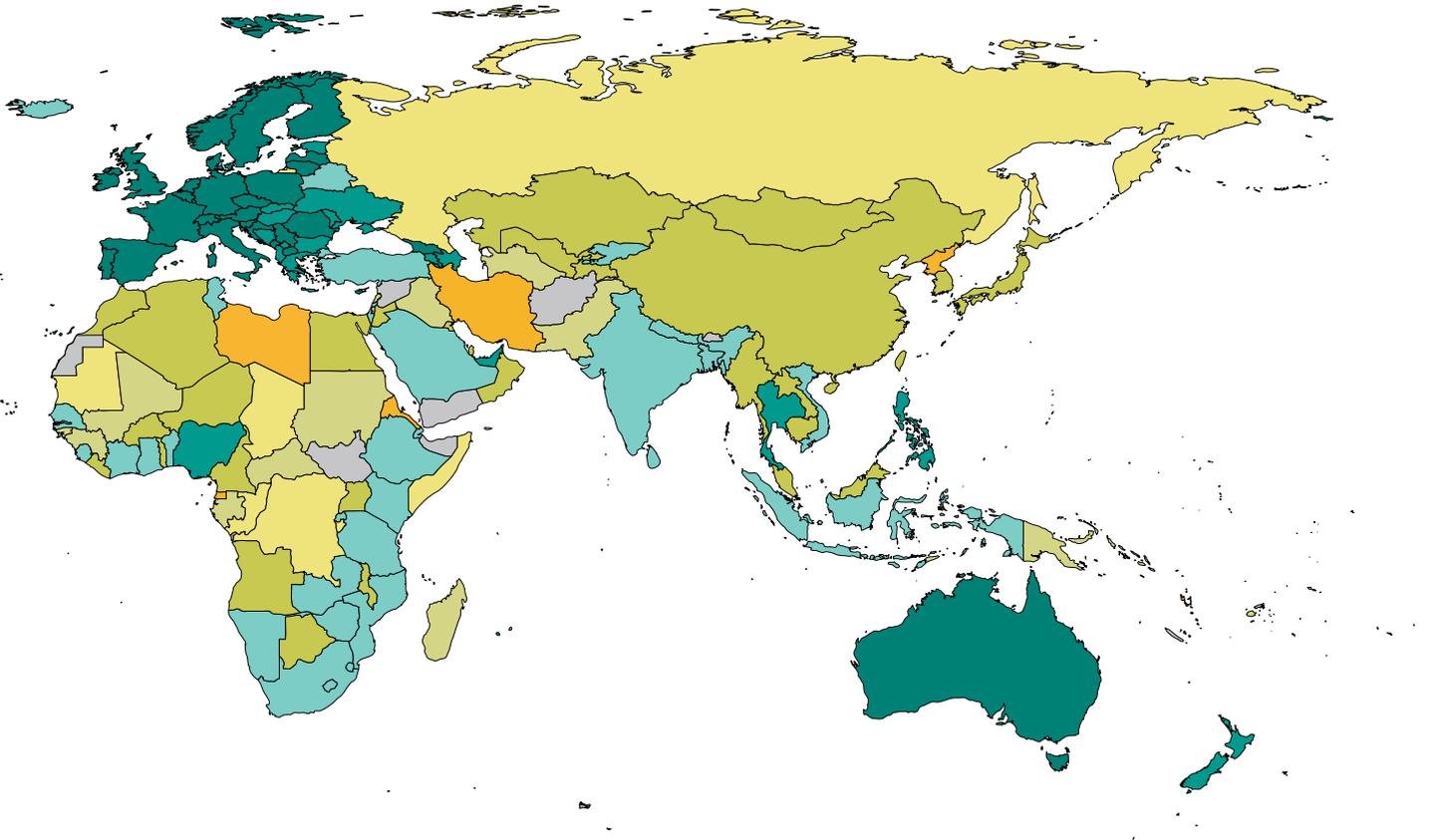
## KEY GAPS IN RESPONSE

Of the 183 countries in this report:

| **95** | **133** | **60** | **20** | **146** |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| do not provide support services for all victims of modern slavery | have not criminalised forced marriage | deport or detain foreign victims for immigration violations | have state-imposed forced labour | do not address risks in business supply chains |
| M1 | M2 | M3 | M4 | M5 |

## WEAK RESPONSE RELATIVE TO WEALTH*

| QATAR |
|---|
| SINGAPORE |
| KUWAIT |
| BRUNEI |
| HONG KONG, CHINA |
| RUSSIA |

*Gross Domestic Product (Purchasing Power Parity) Per Capita*

## STRONG RESPONSE RELATIVE TO WEALTH*

| GEORGIA |
|---|
| NIGERIA |
| UKRAINE |
| MOLDOVA |
| ETHIOPIA |
| MOZAMBIQUE |

*Gross Domestic Product (Purchasing Power Parity) Per Capita*

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

No country in the world is exempt from modern slavery. Regardless of size, population or wealth, this insidious crime permeates national borders and global supply chains. Even in countries with seemingly strong laws and systems, there are critical gaps, particularly for the most vulnerable. Serious, collaborative action to respond to modern slavery is long overdue.

Four years since all UN member states reached agreement on the Sustainable Development Agenda, progress to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 8.7, which aims to eradicate modern slavery, has been incredibly slow. Beyond honouring their commitment to the SDGs, there is a moral imperative for governments to respond to this gross abuse of human rights. If the world is serious about ending the enslavement of 40.3 million people, governments will need to redouble efforts to identify victims, arrest perpetrators, and address the drivers.

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*Lamia Haji Bashar is pictured during an AFP interview in Stuttgart, southwestern Germany, on October 28, 2016. Nadia Murad and Lamia Haji Bashar, who survived a nightmare ordeal of kidnapping, rape and slavery at the hands of ISIS jihadists, won the European Parliament's prestigious Sakharov human rights prize in 2016. Credit: Thomas Kienzle/AFP/Getty Images*

At the UN level, progress towards the SDGs is measured by a global indicator framework and Voluntary National Reviews, where governments report on their own activities against these indicators. This approach is hampered, however, by the lack of indicators on all forms of modern slavery under SDG 8.7, as well as the voluntary nature of this reporting. Without clear indicators to measure progress toward the 2030 goal, governments are not able to report systematically and consistently, nor can they be held to account.

In the absence of official indicators, this report, *Measurement, Action, Freedom*, provides an independent assessment of 183 governments and their responses to the challenge of modern slavery. In it, governments are assessed against their ability to identify and support survivors, to establish effective criminal justice systems, to strengthen coordination mechanisms and be held to account, to address underlying risk factors, and to clean up government and

business supply chains, all in order to eradicate modern slavery. The findings shine a light on those taking strong action, identify those that are lagging, and highlight the activities that should be prioritised.

## FINDINGS AT THE GLOBAL LEVEL

Governments are not on track to eradicate modern slavery and achieve SDG 8.7 by 2030. Although there is a trend toward improvement, with the global average score since 2015 increasing from 4 out of 10 to 5 out of 10, the pace of change falls far short of what the scale and severity of modern slavery demands.

While the improved responses in approximately 50 percent of countries are acknowledged, this means that half of all countries in this report have not reported any meaningful change in their response or have taken a backward step. Governments are falling short even in the most fundamental aspects of a strong, committed response.

Some of the key gaps include:

- **Of the 183 countries assessed, only 31 have ratified the ILO's 2014 Forced Labour Protocol.** Forty-seven countries have not criminalised human trafficking in accordance with the definitions outlined in the UN Trafficking Protocol; a further 96 countries have not criminalised forced labour, and 133 have not criminalised forced marriage. Ratifying the Forced Labour Protocol and criminalising all forms of modern slavery are the most basic steps a country can take, but we find that many countries have failed to take these actions.

- **Victims are not being identified.** Despite the large number of countries that have provided training to their police (166) and to immigration officials, border guards, or labour inspectors (141) on how to identify victims, the rates of identification remain extremely low. An estimated 40.3 million men, women, and children were living in modern slavery in 2016. In the same year, the number of victims identified globally was a fraction of that. Governments cannot extend protection to victims they cannot reach and, at present, they are failing at the first step – identification.

- **Survivors are being let down by a lack of services,** with limited options for men, children, and migrant populations in 95 countries. Many victims are also subject to re-traumatisation due to officials' limited understanding of their needs. In 71 countries, victims face criminal charges for crimes committed while exploited, and in 60 countries, victims are deported or detained for immigration violations. These figures are likely to be underestimated, with limited publicly available information on these issues. Survivors are also largely excluded, with few governments taking concrete action to engage directly with them to strengthen their policy response.

- Despite there being an estimated 16 million people in forced labour exploitation in the private economy worldwide, **engagement with business is limited.** Only 40 countries have investigated public or business supply chains to tackle labour exploitation. This includes mandatory reporting legislation in Australia, the UK, and the US, as well as the establishment of guidelines for public procurement specialists across the EU.

## COUNTRY-LEVEL ACTION...AND INACTION

Despite the slow progress, the 10 countries taking the most action to respond to modern slavery are:

1. The United Kingdom
2. The Netherlands
3. The United States
4. Portugal
5. Sweden
6. Argentina
7. Belgium
8. Spain
9. Croatia
10. Australia

These countries are characterised by strong political will, high levels of resources, and a strong civil society that holds governments to account. However, not all of these countries have matched good policy with effective enforcement. There are low numbers of identified victims, as in Croatia, or few prosecutions for labour exploitation, as in the Netherlands. Countries with otherwise strong responses also may have restrictive and discriminatory migration policies, which continue to be a key driver of modern slavery, as is the case in the EU, UK, the US, and Australia.

The 10 countries taking the least action to respond to modern slavery are:

1. North Korea
2. Eritrea
3. Libya
4. Iran
5. Equatorial Guinea
6. Burundi
7. Democratic Republic of the Congo
8. Congo
9. Russia
10. Somalia

According to the 2018 Global Slavery Index, approximately 6.9 million people were in some form of modern slavery in these countries. This amounts to 17 percent of the total number of people in modern slavery living where there is limited, if any, government action. These countries are characterised by government complicity (North Korea and Eritrea), low levels

of political will (Iran), high levels of corruption (Equatorial Guinea), or widespread conflict (Libya). Few victims are being identified and there are even fewer prosecutions. There is also evidence that governments are actively enslaving part of their population in some of these countries. In North Korea, there are reports that prisoners are forced to labour in camps under threats of violence, and actual violence, to themselves and their families.

## TAKING ACCOUNT OF CAPACITY TO RESPOND

When correlated against GDP (PPP) per capita, some countries stand out as taking relatively robust action when compared with those that may have stronger economies and a greater capacity to act. Countries such as Georgia, Nigeria, Ukraine, Moldova, Ethiopia, and Mozambique are notable for taking steps to respond to modern slavery despite having limited resources. Both Mozambique and Ethiopia have criminalised human trafficking in line with the UN Trafficking Protocol; in Mozambique, victims who participated as witnesses in criminal proceedings were able to access witness protection programs in 2018. In contrast, there are wealthier countries that have done little when it comes to combating modern slavery. Qatar, Singapore, Kuwait, Brunei, Hong Kong, and Russia stand out as taking relatively limited action despite the size of the problem they confront and the national resources at their disposal. In Hong Kong, evidence suggests that victims are increasingly being treated as criminals for conduct that occurred while under the control of their exploiters.

## THE WAY FORWARD

At the current rate of progress, achieving SDG 8.7 is impossible. Based on best available estimates, we need to free some 10,000 people per day in order to eradicate modern slavery by 2030. *Measurement, Action, Freedom* highlights that the rate of change required to achieve this goal must be far more aggressive. Without renewed commitment from every country and effective measurement, millions will continue to be enslaved. We are calling on all governments to:

Work together to develop indicators and adopt these to track progress to eradicate all forms of modern slavery under SDG 8.7.

Based on our analysis of current government responses to SDG 8.7, we urge that all governments, at a minimum, take the following actions:

1. Increase identification of, and improve assistance for, modern slavery victims.

2. Ratify the ILO Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930.

3. Strengthen existing modern slavery legislation to ensure that all forms of exploitation are criminalised and penalties are severe.

4. Empower women and girls by providing primary education for all.

5. Strengthen national laws to protect labour rights for all workers in both the formal and informal economy.

Beyond these minimum requirements, we recommend that governments:

6. Ensure survivor voices are included in all aspects of the response by consulting with victims and providing avenues for their input.

7. Enforce legislation by providing training and resources for police, prosecutors, judges, and defence attorneys.

8. Remove barriers to victim participation in the criminal justice system, such as ensuring access to visas, compensation, and restitution.

9. Develop evidence-based National Action Plans or strategies.

10. Engage with business and strengthen strategic partnerships to tackle modern slavery.

The SDGs were not meant to be divisible nor achieved by a single government acting alone. Therefore, cooperation and coordination are crucial. Governments should participate in regional and bilateral fora to share resources and expertise. International organisations should provide technical capacity to implement the above recommendations, while civil society should work together to hold governments to account.

Through the precise *measurement* of progress and identification of gaps in current responses to SDG 8.7, we can galvanise immediate and effective *action* towards the eradication of the most extreme forms of exploitation, and bring about the *freedom* of 40.3 million people in modern slavery.

Together, we all have a role to play in ending modern slavery.

# MEASURING PROGRESS TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 8.7

*Kiev, Ukraine, October 20, 2018. Ukrainian women silently protest against exploitation to raise awareness of human trafficking and slavery. Credit: STR/NurPhoto via Getty Images*

In 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a set of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In doing so, member states signalled their commitment to collectively address global challenges in order to achieve peace and prosperity for all by 2030. There are no "easy" SDGs and achieving them requires that, as a global community, we aggressively pursue their implementation and monitor our progress throughout.

> "Without evidence of where we stand now we cannot confidently chart our path forward in realizing the Sustainable Development Goals"[1] — António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations

At the UN level, progress towards the SDGs is measured by Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs), where governments report on their progress, against the UN's global indicator framework.[22] This framework is comprised of 232 indicators reviewed and developed by the Inter-agency and Expert Group on SDG Indicators (IAEG-SDG), which is composed of representatives from member states. Essentially, governments help shape the framework against which they report on a voluntary basis.

In his foreword to the 2018 Sustainable Development Goals Report, UN Secretary-General António Guterres concluded that despite encouraging progress in some areas, *"progress is insufficient to meet the [Sustainable Development] Agenda's goals and targets by 2030."* The measurement of progress towards certain SDGs remains hampered by the lack of reliable, timely, accessible, and disaggregated data. In addition, there remain many challenges

in the collection, processing, and analysis of comparable data across UN member states. For some SDGs, such as SDG 8.7, measurement is hampered by a more fundamental problem — the absence of indicators required for assessing progress.

## THE STATE OF MEASUREMENT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 8.7

While the measurement issues faced by other SDGs also apply here, the measurement of progress to end modern slavery is prevented by the lack of clear indicators. As with other SDGs, 8.7 is ambitious in committing all nations to:

> "Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms."[3]

Currently, there is only one indicator for SDG 8.7 and that is the proportion and number of children aged 5 to 17 years engaged in child labour by sex and age. Some forms of modern slavery are covered under SDGs 5.3, which is dedicated to eliminating child, early, and forced marriage and 16.2, which seeks to end abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against children. The indicators respectively measure the proportion of women aged 20 to 24 who were married before age 15 and before age 18, and the number of victims of human trafficking per 100,000 by sex, age, and form of exploitation.[4] However, there are no indicators relating to forced labour, modern slavery, the worst forms of child labour, and the recruitment and use of child soldiers.

## THE PROCESS OF SETTING AN INDICATOR

The IAEG-SDG classifies each indicator into a three-tier system based on its level of methodological development and the availability of data at the global level. While initially classifying the sole indicator for SDG 8.7 at Tier 1, it was subsequently downgraded to Tier 2, reflecting a conclusion that data are not regularly produced by countries. The indicator for SDG 16.2 was similarly downgraded based on data availability.[5] The downgrading means countries are

not required to regularly report against these measurements, which prevents the establishment of a baseline and subsequent benchmarking, and hinders the official measurement of progress towards SDG 8.7 and related targets.

The IAEG-SDG's 2020 Comprehensive Review will include consideration of the refinement, adjustment, deletion, or addition of indicators. The IAEG-SDG has indicated that additional indicators could be considered in exceptional cases where a crucial aspect of a target is not being monitored by current indicators or when a goal has very few Tier 1 or Tier 2 indicators.

## VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REVIEWS

In recent years, the usefulness of Voluntary National Reviews has been called into question. Despite noting an improvement in standards from earlier years, an assessment of the 46 VNRs submitted at the 2018 High-Level Political Forum found that fewer countries prepared an assessment of the SDGs in terms of policies or data that could inform the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.[6] The assessment by the Canadian Council for International Cooperation also identified a lack of baselines from which to measure progress and found that information on data availability, including disaggregated data, was often unclear or not articulated.[7]

Reporting on SDG 8.7 — against the single indicator on child labour — is particularly weak. A recent report indicates only 25 of the 46 2018 VNRs reported on SDG 8.7 in some form.[8] Two nations that have been active and committed to tackling modern slavery have considered themselves unable to report on the child labour indicator. Australia reported that it is unable to report on this indicator or the indicator on early marriage under SDG 5.3, due to there being no existing suitable data sources.[9] Canada advised that its VNR did not report on SDG 8.7, noting that the child labour indicator is "not applicable in the Canadian context."[10]

In sum, the first two years of the Voluntary National Reviews have revealed serious limitations in the national reporting of progress to achieve SDG 8.7.

## THE WAY FORWARD

In 2016, there were an estimated 40.3 million people in modern slavery. Without concerted action to tackle this serious issue, these individuals are in danger of being left behind. The action required should begin with the setting of clear indicators to measure the problem and our progress tackling it. With this in place, governments would be able to report systematically and consistently on their progress to eradicate all forms of modern slavery and be held accountable for their progress.

The 2020 IAEG-SDG Comprehensive Review of the SDG Indicators provides a possible opportunity for reform. However, this will only come to fruition if member states and national statistics offices begin to revitalise their data collection tools, in particular by using the International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) guidelines concerning the measurement of forced labour.[11]

International agencies and partnerships also have a clear role to play. The Addis Ababa Action Agenda notes that, in order to strengthen the means of implementation of the SDGs, data from a country's national statistical system should be supplemented with data from civil society.[12] The involvement of multiple stakeholders in the process of data collection and the mobilisation of support through partnerships to strengthen national capacity are also emphasised by the 2018 Voluntary Review Synthesis.[13]

In the interim — while additional indicators are developed, support is given to national statistical offices, and partnerships are formed — it falls to civil society to provide the impetus to ensure countries are held accountable for their SDG commitments. The International Labour Organization and Minderoo Foundation's Walk Free initiative (Walk Free), in partnership with the International Organization for Migration, have already contributed to SDG 8.7 by publishing the 2016 Global Estimates of Modern Slavery, which aims to provide accurate and reliable data to raise awareness and enable policy makers to take strategic decisions based on evidence.[14]

In the absence of an official indicator, this new report, produced solely by Walk Free, provides a comprehensive and independent assessment of the measures taken by governments that contribute to eliminating modern slavery. It provides a platform for civil society to advocate reform agendas in individual countries and adds to other civil society efforts such as the Sustainable Development Solutions Network, Delta 8.7, and many other NGOs trying to fill the gaps in official SDG measurements. Through the precise *measurement* of progress and identification of gaps in current responses to SDG 8.7, we can galvanise immediate and effective *action* towards the eradication of the most extreme forms of exploitation, and bring about the *freedom* of 40.3 million people in modern slavery.

# TOGETHER WE ALL HAVE A ROLE TO PLAY IN ENDING MODERN SLAVERY

# ENDNOTES

1   United Nations 2018, *The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2018*. Available from: https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/report/2018/TheSustainableDevelopmentGoalsReport2018-EN.pdf. [14 June 2019].

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4   United Nations Statistics Division 2019, *SDG Indicators: Metadata repository*. Available from: https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/. [14 June 2019].

5   Indicator 5.3.1 on proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18 was reclassified as Tier 1 in May 2019. See UN Stats 2019, *Tier Classification for Global SDG Indicators 22 May 2019*. Available from: https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/files/Tier_Classification_of_SDG_Indicators_22_May_2019_web.pdf. [25 June 2019].

6   Kindornay, S 2019, *Progressing National SDG Implementation: An independent assessment of the voluntary national review reports submitted to the United Nations High-level Political Forum in 2018*, Canadian Council for International Co-operation. Available from: https://ccic.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/EN-Executive-Summary-Progressing-National-SDGs-Implementation-2019.pdf. [14 June 2019].

7   As above.

8   White & Case 2018, *Voluntary National Review (VNR) Analysis 2018 Aggregated Chart*, Global Alliance for Reporting Progress on Peaceful, Just and Inclusive Societies. Available from: https://docs.wixstatic.com/d/51bba1_0ceaf969541f4fcc89295a6c4b9fa64e.docx?dn=Doc%203%20-%202018%20VNR%20Chart.DOCX. [16 May 2019].

9   Australian Government 2019, *Sustainable Development Goals: Goal 8 Decent work and economic growth*. Available from: https://www.sdgdata.gov.au/goals/decent-work-and-economic-growth. [16 May 2019].

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*Children, some as young as seven, found working inside aluminium pot making factory in Dhaka, Bangladesh on May 23, 2017. Children are forced to work in terrible conditions. Many children do not have access to education, which increases their vulnerability to exploitation.*
*Credit: Zakir Chowdhury/ Barcroft Images / Barcroft Media via Getty Images*