The UN Voluntary Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery
“Modern slavery is a crime. People who perpetrate, condone or facilitate it must be brought to justice. Victims and survivors have a right to remedies and reparations. For more than 20 years, the UN Fund on Contemporary Forms of Slavery has helped restore human rights and dignity to tens of thousands of children, women and men. I urge continued support for this vital initiative.”

Ban Ki-moon
UN Secretary-General
The UN Slavery Fund

Supports projects with a clear victim-centered focus, through annual grants averaging USD 15,000. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis and can be renewed if conditions are met. A call for applications is issued every year in January.

Assistance to victims can take the form of humanitarian, medical, psychological, legal and financial aid.

Was established by General Assembly resolution 46/122 in 1991 to extend humanitarian, legal and financial aid to individuals whose human rights have been severely violated as a result of contemporary forms of slavery.

Provides direct assistance to victims of modern slavery through grants awarded to non-governmental channels of assistance, including NGOs, victim associations and family members.
Contemporary Forms of Slavery assisted by the Fund may include:

- Traditional Slavery
- Worst Forms of Child Labour
- Trafficking for sexual exploitation and forced labour
- Bonded Labour
- Forced Labour
- Early and Forced Marriage
- Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
- Sexual Slavery
- Widow inheritance
- Serfdom
- Sale of wives
- Other emerging contemporary forms of slavery
Re-integrating victims of the worst forms of child labour through social and educational assistance

Restavek Haiti, awarded US$14,880 for 2015, provides social and educational assistance to “Restavek” or child domestic workers
Comité Contre L’esclavage Moderne France, awarded US$15,000 in 2015, uses strategic litigation and legal representation to assist victims of trafficking for forced labour.
ADPARE Romania, awarded US$14,000 in 2015, provides psychological assistance to victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation and forced labour.
One grantee in Iran, awarded US$15,000 in 2014, provides holistic assistance to victims of forced marriage and sexual slavery.

Providing shelter and support through holistic assistance.

Providing shelter and social assistance to reintegrate victims of sexual violence in conflict.
CDVDH Brazil, awarded US$15,000 in 2015, rescues victims of bonded labour and supports their re-integration into society.

Rescuing and rehabilitating victims through socio-legal assistance.
Management of the Fund

The Fund is

- Subject to UN Rules and Regulations;
- Managed by the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on behalf of the Secretary-General, with the advice of a Board of Trustees;
- The Board of Trustees is composed of five experts with wide experience in human rights, acting in their personal capacity.
Accountability

The Fund Secretariat applies a well-established monitoring and evaluation methodology to ensure accountability in the use of grants:

- As a rule, first-time applicants are visited in order to verify admissibility and feasibility of the project;
- Awarded grantees are visited by OHCHR staff and the Fund’s Board trustees;
- Grantees are required to provide yearly narrative and financial reports on the use of the grants.
Since 1991 the Fund has awarded more than 450 organizations worldwide assisting victims of slavery.

In 2015, the Board recommended grants to 44 projects for a total of US$588,034. An additional US$ 20,000 is set aside to support inter-sessional emergency projects.

In 2015, through these grants, 29,014 victims of slavery will be assisted. Of those, 15,603 are women (54%) and 13,411 are men (16%) and 9,560 (33%) are children.

In 2015, 30% of the projects supported by the Fund assist victims of forced and bounded labour, 23% victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation, 23% victims of the worst forms of child labour, 9% victims of traditional slavery, 7% victims of trafficking for forced labour, 4% victims of forced and early marriage and 4% victims of sexual slavery.
Amounts awarded per region in 2015

- **Asia**: $215,074
- **Africa**: $153,440
- **Eastern Europe**: $67,640
- **GRULAC**: $59,380
- **WEOG**: $92,500
Financial situation of the Fund
Contributions 2002-2014 in USD

- $208,827.00
- $250,286.00
- $259,491.00
- $338,870.00
- $633,018.00
- $659,059.00
- $477,622.00
- $502,650.00
- $547,034.00
- $547,034.00
- $477,034.00
- $886,487.00
- $887,017.00
- $89,009.00
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Appeal for Funding

- Slavery practices remain prevalent worldwide;
- Donations do make a difference;
- The UN Slavery Fund, like all UN Trust Funds, can only receive earmarked contributions;
- USD 2 million is needed to adequately respond to demands for assistance on a yearly basis.
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