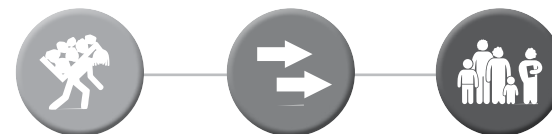


SLAVERY-FREE & SLAVERY-RESISTANT COMMUNITIES

# Catalyzing a Civil Society Movement Against Slavery



 **FREE THE SLAVES**  
FREEING SLAVES • ENDING SLAVERY



# A Community Solution to a Global Crisis



## One of the Great Human Rights Challenges of our Time

Tens of millions of women, men and children are brutalized in forced labor, forced prostitution or forced marriage. Trapped through force, fraud or coercion, they are kept in place through violence and intimidation. The products they make flow into our homes, offices, churches and schools.



## The Community is the Key to Freedom

There's an urgent need for effective and efficient methods to liberate those in bondage, help them rebuild their lives, and ensure that no one is enslaved in their place. That is why Free the Slaves has pioneered a community-based strategy to free slaves and change the conditions that allow slavery to persist. The vulnerabilities that cause modern slavery typically affect everyone in a village or neighborhood. By working to build slavery resistance for an entire community, we ensure that rescuing people from slavery reduces the problem instead of displacing it from one victim to the next. Those who break free remain free because the drivers of modern slavery are no longer present.



## Historic Partnerships to End Slavery Forever

Free the Slaves has designed the Community Liberation Model to be integrated into other international development efforts. Modern slavery is a barrier that prevents education, health care, food security, gender equality, microenterprise investment, civic engagement and other development projects from reaching everyone in a target community. By integrating anti-trafficking activities, other projects can improve their reach while simultaneously eradicating modern slavery. Ending slavery is both the right thing to do and the smart thing to do.

# What Causes Slavery?

Slavery flourishes where vulnerable people cannot meet basic needs, lack access to basic services, and aren't protected by honest government. Slavery is concentrated in sectors with high levels of physical labor, such as agriculture, mining, construction, logging and fishing.



**“We would have guys coming in and just help themselves with our bodies. Eventually you lose your mind.”**



**“Working like this, there is no difference between an animal and a human being.”**



## KEY VULNERABILITIES LEADING TO SLAVERY

Lack of awareness of one's rights or how to assert rights

Lack of awareness of the risks posed by what seem like plausible schemes presented by traffickers

Norms that foster hierarchies and discrimination

Limited reach of strong protective community organizations that serve as buffers against those who perpetuate slavery

Lack of access to affordable credit to avoid usurious money lenders in times of financial crisis

Household insecurity that traffickers can exploit, especially deficits in income, schooling, health care and shelter

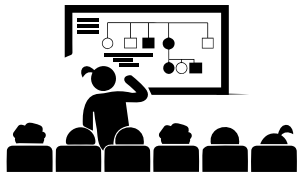
Inadequate legal protections that reduce the risk to slaveholders and traffickers

Survivor vulnerability to re-enslavement fueled by trauma, poverty, inability to attend school, lack of marketable job skills, social stigma, and gender and other discrimination



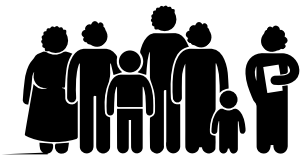
# Four Strategies for Sustainable Freedom

The Free the Slaves Community Liberation Model creates assets to offset liabilities. The four strategies are interdependent, and when implemented simultaneously result in systemic and sustainable change.



## Educate and Mobilize Vulnerable Communities

In many cases, people do not know their basic rights and accept the condition of forced labor. Poor communities often lack effective local organizations to ward off traffickers. Our model mobilizes key community actors to raise awareness about slavery, assert their rights, change harmful norms, like discrimination against women and girls, and organize against predators.



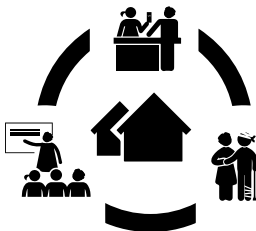
## Liberate Victims, Care for and Reintegrate Survivors

Successful rescues require the coordination of communities, civil society and governmental actors. Effective liberation goes beyond rescues. Medical care, psychological counseling, legal assistance, vocational training and repatriation assistance are essential. Our model helps those in slavery regain their freedom, rejoin their families and communities, and lead fulfilling and productive lives in freedom and dignity. Communities become slavery-resistant.



## Strengthen Rule of Law

Weak laws and lack of enforcement reduce the risk to slaveholders and traffickers. Restitution to survivors is rare. There are few penalties to companies that tolerate slavery in supply chains. Our model supports advocacy for better laws and law enforcement, as well as training for police, judges and other government officials. Community residents become effective advocates.

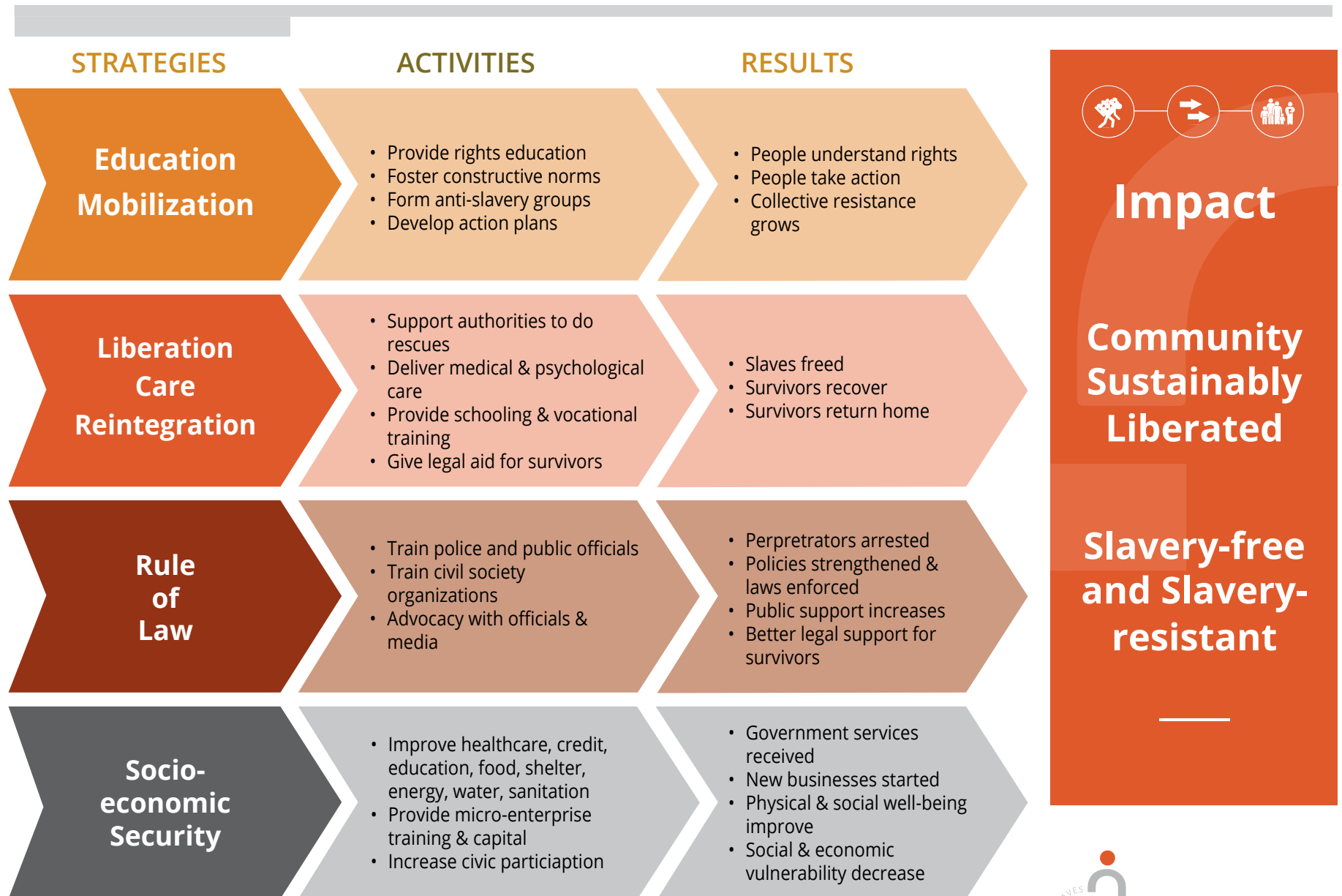


## Improve Household Socioeconomic Security

Household insecurity is a key driver of modern slavery. Our model increases access to essential community services — such as education, health care, vocational training and savings clubs — that act as counterbalances to the vulnerabilities that lead to slavery.



# Free the Slaves Community Liberation Model



A detailed causal-model representation is included in Appendix 1.



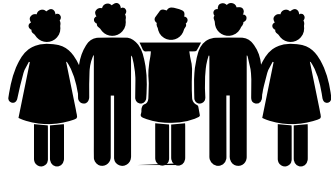
# Growing the Anti-Slavery Movement & Impact

The Community Liberation Initiative is an ambitious but realizable program to make 25,000 communities slavery-free and slavery-resistant by 2030. Free the Slaves plans to partner with 100 high-impact international development organizations across 10 countries, and to facilitate coalitions of anti-slavery institutions. The initiative is built on two key strategies that work synergistically.



## Scaling through Partnerships

Many large-scale relief and development agencies and organizations are serving communities where modern slavery exists, but they are not (or only minimally) implementing anti-slavery interventions. By building on the infrastructure available to major organizations, we can catalyze a large-scale movement against slavery. International development organizations will welcome the integration of anti-trafficking strategies into their core programs because it will help those programs reach a larger percentage of individuals in target populations. Free the Slaves will provide specialized training and ongoing technical assistance.



## Coalitions and Movement Building

Free the Slaves will assist in the formation of national, regional and global coalitions, and serve as a convener as appropriate. These coalitions will help establish common goals and standards for anti-trafficking work, as well as create shared bodies of evidence about the scope and impact of slavery and the effectiveness of interventions. The goal is to increase civil society capacity and strengthen the collective voice of organizations confronting modern slavery.



## Synergistic Approach

The strategies are interlinked. First, by strengthening the capacity of high-impact partners to implement community liberation strategies, Free the Slaves contributes to the global anti-slavery community's goal of taking concrete steps toward eradicating slavery worldwide. Second, by simultaneously fostering collaboration among key actors, Free the Slaves ensures that high-impact partners can operate in an environment that is more adapted and conducive to implementing critical community liberation strategies at scale.

# Free the Slaves Partnerships & Coalitions Model



A detailed causal-model representation is included in Appendix 2.



## Impact

**Slavery  
eliminated  
at scale**

**Anti-slavery  
movement  
stronger**



# Community Liberation Toolkit



## What Trainees Say...

**“Before the training we never realized that slavery exists around us. Now we see it in the street and in factories; we can identify slavery and trafficking. This is a great achievement for us.”**

**“After the training we started thinking how to intervene.”**

*Salvation Army Field Workers, India*

## Engaging International Development Workers

The four-volume toolkit codifies the best practices for enabling communities to become sustainably slavery-free and slavery-resistant. Each module is a means of transferring the strategies and skills that shape the Community Liberation Model to development organizations and agencies so they can integrate anti-slavery interventions into their portfolios. Each module is thoroughly field tested in training workshops and field trials. The modules serve as valuable desk references, and guide week-long workshops and multi-month technical assistance for effective implementation. Each module includes M&E tools to ensure impact can be reliably measured.





## Module 1: EDUCATING & MOBILIZING VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES

Develops understanding of rights under international and national laws, safe migration, and cultivating attitudes and norms that challenge social hierarchies and discrimination that hold people in servitude. Provides training on how to engage highly vulnerable communities in participatory learning and action so that new, protective behaviors emerge, including the fostering of anti-slavery committees that help protect the community from exploitation.

## Module 2: LIBERATION, CARE, REINTEGRATION

Trains participants on indicators of slavery and action steps to take when slavery is suspected under different circumstances. Helps participants develop context-appropriate standards and norms of care for survivors. Educates participants on principles of trauma-informed care. Provides tools for monitoring survivor progress.

## Module 3: STRENGTHENING THE RULE OF LAW

Develops understanding of human trafficking policies and exercises for analyzing national policy. Cultivates policy advocacy skills. Provides essential information for training police, judges and other local authorities on slavery detection and prosecution, as well as justice for survivors.

## Module 4: ENSURING ACCESS TO ESSENTIAL SOCIAL & ECONOMIC SERVICES

Focuses on developing partnerships between anti-slavery organizations and relief and development organizations and agencies. Identifies opportunities and challenges to integrating anti-slavery interventions into development programs. Helps participants develop action plans for integrating anti-slavery interventions into the programs of relief and development organizations, with the aim of increasing vulnerable communities' access to essential socio-economic services and creating new income-generating initiatives.



# Customized Technical Assistance

All training includes developing individual and organizational action plans to use new skills. Free the Slaves technical assistance helps with implementing the plans and overcoming obstacles. Free the Slaves technical assistance enables high-impact partners to integrate essential anti-slavery strategies and activities in their core programming. Partners strengthen their capacity to implement the critical community liberation activities outlined by the four strategies of the Community Liberation Model. The types of support needed, and the configuration of support services, is flexible and determined by the needs of the implementing partner.

## FREE THE SLAVES TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

### Adaptation, Training and Coaching Support

- Embedding Free the Slaves experts
- Contextualizing and translating materials
- Workshop facilitation
- Ongoing site visits

### Decision-making Support

- Creation of implementation manuals
- Performance measurement tools development

### M&E Support

- Impact & measurement tools development
- Data analysis & recommendations



# Rigorous Monitoring, Learning and Evaluation

The Free the Slaves M&E approach is derived from and linked to our approach to community liberation. We conduct in-depth monitoring and evaluation of all programs to ensure continuous improvement across all levels of the Community Liberation Model. Our groundbreaking techniques evaluate improvements in the organizational strength of front-line partners, community resilience and resistance to confront traffickers and overcome slavery over time, and reductions in slavery in communities we help. Free the Slaves provides technical assistance to partner organizations to help them adapt and use the appropriate indicators, facilitating aggregation and comparison across contexts.

## Outputs & outcomes monitored with adaptable data tools

- Community Maturity Tool to assess the resistance/resilience of communities to slavery
- Organizational Capacity Assessment Tool to measure changes in anti-slavery capacity in partner organizations
- Household Socioeconomic Security Tool to measure changes in socioeconomic status of households in target communities
- Survivor Reintegration Checklist to assess survivors' degree of reintegration and support needed for sustained reintegration

## Other M&E methods for program development & documentation

- Focus groups to understand contextual beliefs and behaviors about labor issues
- Social mapping to target interventions; community surveys to understand changes in awareness, knowledge, and behavior
- Key informant interviews

## Key Performance Indicators include

- Number of slaves freed
- Number of freed slaves effectively reintegrated
- Percentage of households that experience improved socioeconomic status improvement
- Percentage of communities that have reached the full maturity of slavery resistance/resilience





# A Model That Works: The Freedom Dividend

The Free the Slaves model is a tested, refined and comprehensive approach. Compelling evidence supports the model, including a U.S. State Department-funded evaluation of the model's use in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. A Harvard University evaluation of the model's use in India yielded a similar finding — reduced risk of debt bondage, the region's predominant form of slavery.

The model yields a freedom dividend — a range of social and economic improvements. As individuals and communities emerge from slavery, well-being improves. The freedom dividend advances the mission of development organizations by eliminating slavery as a contributing cause of socioeconomic challenges; expanding the reach of development programs by removing slavery as an obstacle to accessing essential services; and, enhancing the sustainability of development programs by ensuring beneficiaries are not re-enslaved in the future.



**“The project has succeeded in its goal to increase community-led resistance to slavery.”**

*--Review of model's use in the DRC*

## DOCUMENTED FREEDOM DIVIDEND GAINS

Improved school attendance

Increased health care

Greater household assets

Higher food security

Reduced household debt

Better attitudes about gender violence and child labor

Heightened participation in government programs

More civic participation



# Success Stories: Portraits of Liberated Communities

Two villages in India embody the global potential of the Free the Slaves Community Liberation Initiative. Sakdouri and Kukdaha were both trafficking hot spots with significant percentages of their residents in various forms of modern slavery. Today, after intervention by Free the Slaves and an Indian partner organization, both villages are free. See “Success Stories” on the Free the Slaves website ([www.freetheslaves.net](http://www.freetheslaves.net)) for the complete stories and video mini-documentaries.



## Residents of Sakdouri created a Freedom Song

*“We will stand up for our rights.  
By organizing, we keep our rights.  
We will walk the path of truth.  
We will not fear sticks, guns or slave owners.  
By hard work we will achieve our destiny.  
Now is the time to show our power.”*

## Residents of Kukdaha built their own brick factory

*“Starting our own brick kiln is like starting a family business. With this brick, we build houses and earn our living. This brick is necessary for our progress. This brick means freedom.”*



# A Call to Action



The day will come when slavery is an historic relic. Free the Slaves is doing its part to hasten that date. We are pursuing a bold vision to create the path for slavery's end.

Since our birth in 2000, Free the Slaves has participated in and witnessed important progress in the struggle. Ubiquitous denial of slavery has given way to widespread acknowledgment. Many countries have adopted policies and enacted laws opposing slavery and human trafficking; these national steps have been complemented by international agreements. Resources devoted to abolition have increased substantially. Organizations devoted to ending slavery have proliferated. Experience and evidence about what works and does not work in eradicating slavery have increased.

Yet the scale of the global response remains inadequate. The resources available to fight slavery are a small fraction of the profits accruing to traffickers and slaveholders.

We believe that eradicating slavery at scale is possible. We have therefore set an audacious goal of liberating 25,000 communities by 2030, the target date for the eradication of slavery set by the United Nations in Sustainable Development Goal 8.7. The only strategy for meaningful progress toward that target is to act in partnerships and coalitions. We invite you to join us in making history by making the 21st century's great emancipation a reality.

# About Free the Slaves



**Free the Slaves** is widely regarded as a leader and pioneer in the modern abolitionist movement. We have conducted groundbreaking research, initiated successful advocacy to strengthen anti-slavery laws and rid slavery from manufacturing supply chains and business practices, created award-winning documentaries and books to spread awareness, and spearheaded innovative field programs that free slaves and build sustained community resistance to slavery.

Free the Slaves works with grassroots partner organizations and many other stakeholders, including donors and funding agencies, international organizations such as the International

Labor Organization and UNICEF, governmental agencies, researchers, media, and other NGOs and CSOs working to combat human trafficking around the world. Free the Slaves strengthens the capacity of partner organizations, international NGOs, government agencies, advocacy coalitions, and the media to take action.

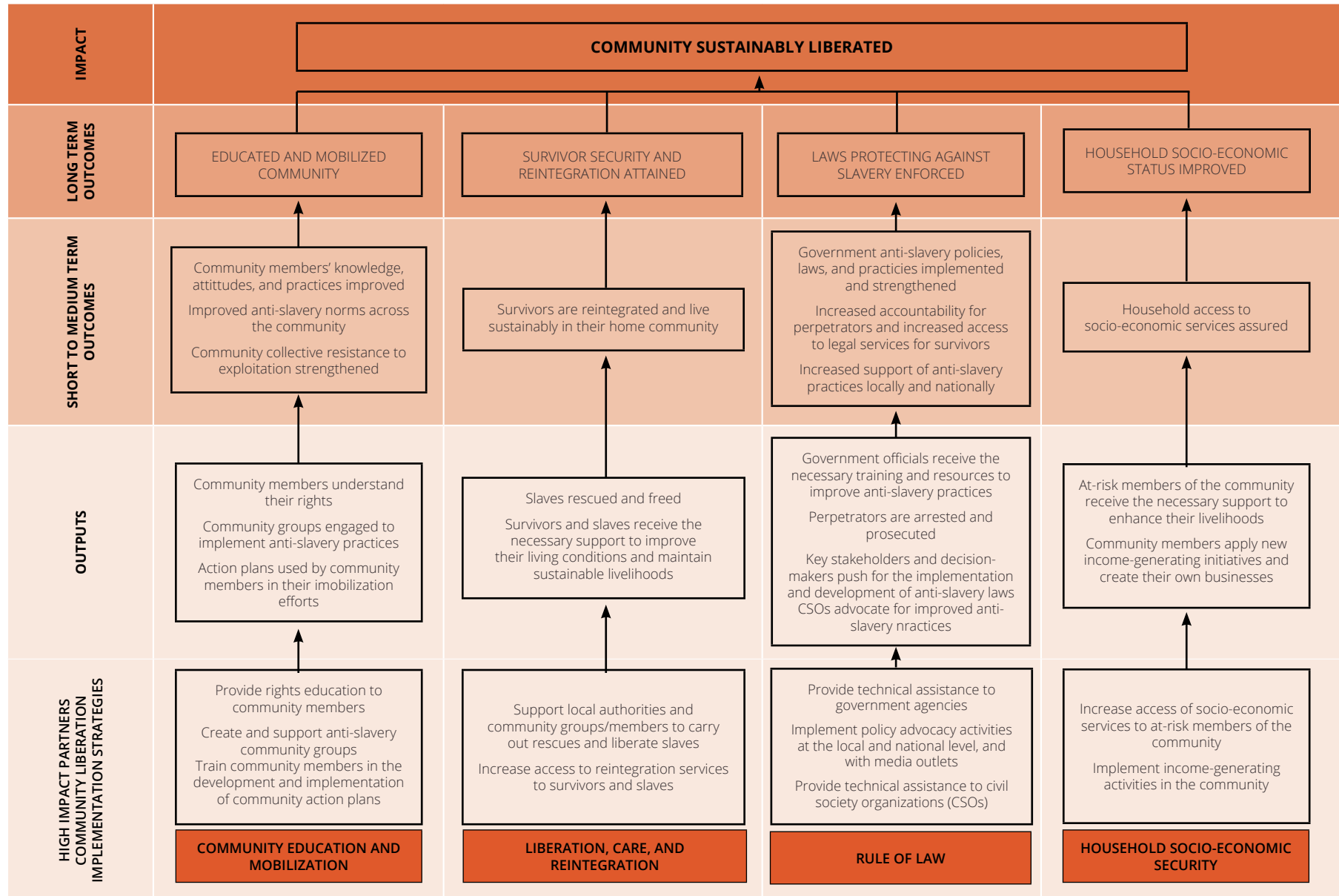
Learn more: [www.freetheslaves.net](http://www.freetheslaves.net).





# Appendix 1 | Free the Slaves

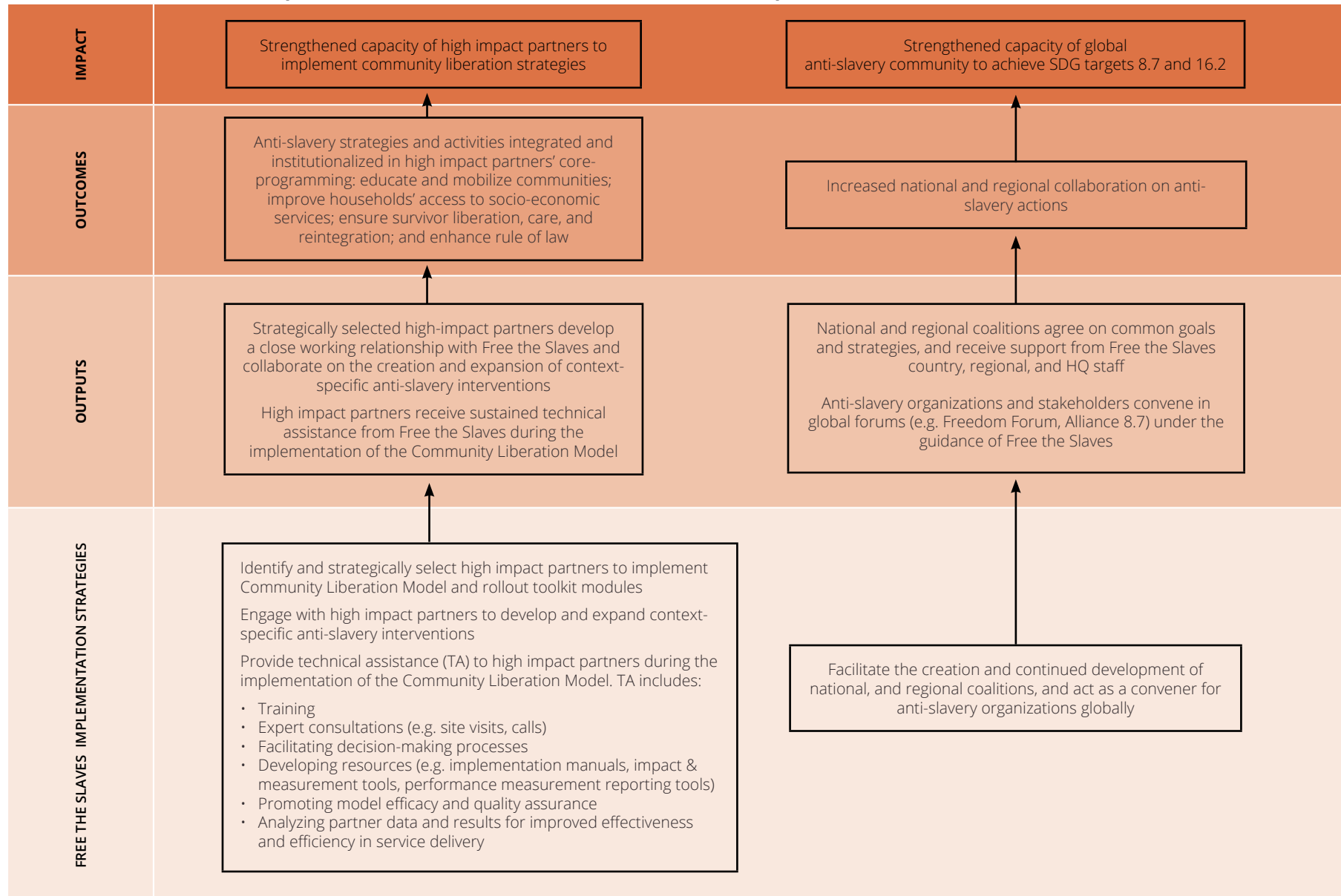
## Causal Model Representation of the Community Liberation Model





## Appendix 2 | Free the Slaves

### Causal Model Representation of the Partnerships & Coalitions Model





Copyright 2018 Free the Slaves

Writers: Kavi Ramburn, Maurice Middleberg, Terry FitzPatrick

Designer: Michael Shelton

Photos: Peggy Callahan, Kay Chernush, Terry FitzPatrick, Zorba Leslie, Pete Pattison, Robin Romano, Emily Teague, Cassie & Jordan Timpy, Alex Woods, and the field partners of Free the Slaves

1320 19th Street NW, Suite 600, Washington, DC 20036, USA

Tel: 202.775.7480 | Fax: 202.775.7485 | [info@freetheslaves.net](mailto:info@freetheslaves.net) | [www.freetheslaves.net](http://www.freetheslaves.net)

[facebook.com/freetheslaves](https://facebook.com/freetheslaves) | [@freetheslaves](https://twitter.com/freetheslaves) | [instagram.com/freetheslaves](https://instagram.com/freetheslaves) | [vimeo.com/freetheslaves](https://vimeo.com/freetheslaves) | [youtube.com/freetheslaves](https://youtube.com/freetheslaves) | [linkedin.com/company/free-the-slaves/](https://linkedin.com/company/free-the-slaves/)

