

Adam Smith International Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery Statement for 2016

Introduction

Human trafficking and modern slavery are grave global human rights challenges that afflict vulnerable groups, undermine good governance and corrupt the international economy. It is estimated that approximately 30 million people are working in enslaved conditions worldwide.

As an international development organisation, we at Adam Smith International (ASI) recognise that we have a leading role to play in minimising the risk of supporting such unacceptable human rights abuses. We are committed to working with our donors, partners and suppliers to apply and extend best practice throughout our supply chains.

This Statement explains our stance and actions relating to modern slavery during 2016. It covers our entire global operations including the activities of our parent companies and our subsidiaries. This Statement has been approved by the Adam Smith International board of directors.

Our business

Our business is the design, management and delivery of complex projects comprising economic growth and government reform initiatives with international development objectives. Since our mission as a whole is to strengthen societies across the world, social responsibility is intrinsic to our daily work. Our work specifically includes the fight against human trafficking and modern slavery, for example, during 2016 we implemented a communications programme for one of our key clients which was designed to reduce the vulnerability of at risk populations within Nigeria from becoming domestic slaves in the UK. Through engagement with government agencies, civil society and victims directly the programme undertook research in both Nigeria and the UK which gave insights into the profiles of potential victims and also into the perpetrators and enablers of this kind of exploitation, as well as the mechanisms and routes by which individuals travel from Nigeria to the UK.

Our workforce

We employ directly approximately 250 individuals worldwide. We also engage a global network of individual consultants to deliver on our programmes and these consultants are a vital part of our workforce. Whilst we operate in some high risk geographies, we believe that the risk of modern slavery in our workforce is relatively low. This is because much of our workforce is educated and skilled therefore the factors most likely to lead to enslaved labour are considerably reduced.

Our supply chains

Our projects require us to mobilise personnel, source equipment, allocate resources and maintain operations in very difficult working environments. We therefore recognise the risks of human trafficking and modern slavery in our supply chains. Our own work is protected by our internal standards as well as those of our clients, and we can insist that our direct suppliers conform to those standards. We recognise that our challenge is to find out about and act against human trafficking and modern slavery which may be taking place further down the supply chains. This is an area we must focus on going forward.

Our Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery Policy

We formalised our stance against human trafficking and modern slavery through a standalone corporate policy in March 2016. Our approach to combatting human trafficking and modern slavery recognises the need for continuous improvement and we will be monitoring and reviewing the policy and adapting as appropriate to reflect evolving business and cultural requirements.

ASI's policy is to oppose human trafficking and modern slavery vigorously:

- We do not and will never tolerate human trafficking or modern slavery in any aspect of our own work.
- We will combat human trafficking and modern slavery across all our supply chains.
- We will collaborate with other organisations to present a united front against human trafficking and modern slavery in our wider working environment.
- We will support our staff to be aware of the risks of human trafficking and modern slavery and to act appropriately when any such risk is detected.

You can access the full policy here: <http://www.adamsmithinternational.com/about-us/policies/human-trafficking-and-modern-slavery-policy/>

Our due diligence processes in relation to human trafficking and modern slavery

We apply a variety of due diligence processes in our work, and we apply these to identify any risk of human trafficking and modern slavery. Project partners, contracted staff and subcontractors are all subject to background checks which identify, amongst other things, any enforcement actions or negative commentary against them including in relation to human trafficking or modern slavery. Different types of transactions are then subject to further managerial and operational controls depending on the context. For example procurement exercises or grant programmes are required to comply with and apply the standards reflected in ASI policies including its Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery Policy. Then we ensure that our operations are managed actively – even at smaller, less formal scales – so as to remain alert to and protect against the risks of human trafficking and modern slavery on an ongoing basis.

These due diligence processes are overseen globally on my behalf by our Chief Financial Officer and the Risk Assurance Advisory Group. All of our employees and contracted staff are obliged to report any known or suspected incidence or risk of human trafficking or modern slavery.

The effectiveness of our efforts to combat human trafficking and modern slavery

Our work through 2016 represents a strong start in focusing efforts more closely against human trafficking and modern slavery. In relation to our own business, we are confident that no human trafficking or modern slavery of any kind is taking place. We are also confident of our ability to make sure that this continues to be the case going forward.

In terms of our supply chains, we have strengthened our existing measures to ensure that direct suppliers and partners are obliged to avoid any human trafficking or modern slavery. We have also sent a strong signal to our wider supply chains that we intend to act vigorously to detect and root out any activities of these kinds. With this in mind, our Risk Assurance Advisory Group has established baseline performance indicators for our effort against human trafficking and modern slavery and I look forward to reporting against those in relation to 2017.

Available training and capacity building

Our Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery Policy includes a commitment to support our staff to be aware of the risks of human trafficking and modern slavery and to act appropriately when any such risk is detected. This year, we have developed an internal training user interface to include materials explaining how to tackle human trafficking and modern slavery and our policy to employees.

Next steps

We will be looking for opportunities to go further in taking action against human trafficking and modern slavery deeper and further down our supply chains. We will be collaborating with our partners and direct suppliers to find ways to assess and reduce such risks.

Furthermore, we intend to solidify our commitment by subscribing to the UK's Transparency In the Supply (TISC) reporting tool (tiscreport.org). As well as committing us to transparency in our progress against human trafficking and modern slavery year to year, this will help fund the UK Anti-Slavery Helpline and Resource Centre and to advance the broader anti-trafficking and anti-slavery causes.

ASI will also remain open to any suggestions – whatever their origin – as to how we might improve our efforts against human trafficking and modern slavery. All suggestions should be directed to the following contact person:

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In closing, I would like to reiterate my personal commitment to leading our effort against human trafficking and modern slavery energetically.

Signed: 283396BD823E40B...

Jonathan Pell
Interim Chief Executive Officer
Adam Smith International
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