



Survivor Leadership Fund

A catalyst for survivor
leadership in the global
movement to end
modern slavery





The Survivor Leadership Fund is a ground-breaking new fund for survivor-led organisations working to tackle modern slavery.

Unrestricted grants from the Survivor Leadership Fund provide freedom and space to survivor-led organisations to build their capacity, improve their impact and focus on doing what they know works best to prevent modern slavery and support victims and survivors of exploitation and trafficking.

By becoming a funding partner for the Survivor Leadership Fund, you can directly support survivor leadership in the global movement to end modern slavery.



Why we set up this fund

The Freedom Fund believes we have a responsibility to support the leadership of those individuals who have experienced exploitation and oppression.

We recognise that initiatives led by those with lived experience play a vital role in meeting the needs of victims and survivors of exploitation. Survivor-led organisations are also ideally placed to provide expertise and leadership in tackling the systems and practices that allow modern slavery to persist.

Yet organisations with survivors of modern slavery in key leadership positions are few and far between. Those organisations which do exist often struggle to access the core funding that enables them to become sustainable and impactful organisations. Too often, they are locked out by the demands of traditional donors, and denied the space to build and grow as an organisation.

That's why the Freedom Fund has created this new, innovative, trust-based approach to funding for survivor-led organisations: the Survivor Leadership Fund.



A new approach to funding

The Survivor Leadership Fund aims to uplift and support survivor-led organisations by providing unrestricted grants. Organisations can use their grant however they think best to build their capacity and improve their impact.

We don't tell them how to spend their grant or set outcomes and objectives. This is a trust-based grant: we trust them to use it in the ways they think best to achieve the aims of their organisation.

We set up the Survivor Leadership Fund because we believe that survivor-led organisations can – and should – lead the way in the global movement to end modern slavery. Survivors with lived experience of exploitation (including human trafficking, forced labour, bonded labour or forced marriage) know what is needed to support people at risk of exploitation, victims and survivors. They have the legitimacy to advocate for the changes in policy and practice that can bring about an end to modern slavery.

An unrestricted grant from the Survivor Leadership Fund is one step towards shifting the power back to those most impacted – and enabling them to make a real difference in the fight against modern slavery.



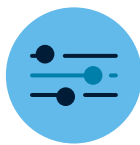
How it works

The first round of grants is for survivor-led organisations in Ethiopia, Kenya or Uganda. The Freedom Fund is reaching out to organisations that have one or more person in a leadership position with lived experience of exploitation, and inviting them to apply.

The application process aims to be as open and inclusive as possible. Applicants can use an online form or submit an application on paper or via email. Applicants who meet the grant criteria are then invited for a discussion about their work with a panel of Freedom Fund staff.

Each grant will be \$15,000. The grant is meant to support the organisation as a whole and can be used wherever the organisation has decided it needs funding. This can be operations, programs, office payments, technology purchases, etc.

The Survivor Leadership Fund is a new and exciting way to get funding direct to survivor-led organisations – and then trust them to decide how best to use it. All we ask is that after six months, the organisation lets us know where the funding went and how it supported the organisation's mission.



Fine-tuning and scaling-up

The goal of the Survivor Leadership Fund is, first and foremost, to support survivor-led organisations which tend to struggle to gain funding. The ultimate aim is to shift power to those on the frontlines and those most impacted by modern slavery.

We will review the first round of grants to gain a deeper understanding of how this type of funding can effectively support survivor-led organisations.

Our ambition is to expand the Survivor Leadership Fund beyond East Africa (Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda – the countries covered by the first round of grants) to other regions, including South East Asia, South Asia and South America.

By becoming a funding partner for the Survivor Leadership Fund, you can directly support a worldwide movement that puts survivor leadership at the heart of the fight to end modern slavery.



Become a funding partner

You can help put survivors at the heart of the global movement to end modern slavery.

Survivor Leadership Fund



Ground-breaking

Innovative trust-based approach gets funding to where it is needed most



Game-changing

Small and nascent organisations get the funds they need to build and grow



Power-shifting

Survivor-led organisations have the power to make their own decisions



Movement-building

Survivor-led organisations are uplifted to lead the fight against modern slavery

Please get in touch to find out more about how you can be part of this innovative and exciting trust-based approach to funding survivor-led organisations on the frontlines of tackling modern slavery. Please contact:

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PHOTOS: The photos in this leaflet are intended to illustrate leadership. The individuals pictured do not specifically represent survivors and/or the activities of survivor-led organisations. Page 1: a participant in business skills training, Kenya, 2016 (Marisol Grandon/DFID; UK Department for International Development flickr; Creative Commons licence). Page 2: women in Bihar, India, 2018 (© Atul Loke/Legatum Limited). Page 3: young women in Ethiopia, pictured for an education program aiming to help girls avoid child marriage, 2014 (Jessica Lea/DFID; UK Department for International Development flickr; Creative Commons licence). All photos modified from original full colour photo.