

UNDERSTANDING MODERN SLAVERY, HUMAN TRAFFICKING & FORCED LABOUR

Bangladesh

Estimated number of victims of modern slavery, human trafficking & forced labour:

592,000

Key organisations

*Bangladeshi Ovhibashi Mohila Sramik Association, www.bomsa.net
*Warbe Development Foundation, www.warbe.org
*Nari Unnayan Shakti, www.nusbd-women.org
*Awaj Foundation, www.awajfoundation.org
*Association for Community Development, www.acdbd.org
*Odhikar, www.odhikar.org
*IOM Bangladesh, www.bangladesh.iom.int
*Aparajeyo, www.aparajeyo.org
*Bangladesh Labour Foundation, www.blf-bd.org

Gender of victims:



78%



32%

Key initiatives:

The government drafted and adopted a 2018-2022 anti-trafficking national action plan, to be funded predominantly by foreign donors. The plan designated the Ministry of Home Affairs as the lead on anti-trafficking efforts, created a supervisory inter-ministerial committee to oversee the plan's implementation and included objectives specifically aimed at investigating and preventing human trafficking of Rohingya.

Biggest challenges in Bangladesh:



Human trafficking has increased, with traffickers targeting Rohingya refugees



50 million people work in the industrial labour sector with 4 million garment workers. Many face slave-like conditions



Number of cases of young men trafficked to the Middle East or Southeast Asia where they are subject to bonded labour

Case study: Migrant Trafficking & Forced Labour

Nazmin Nahar is a 23 year-old Rohingya refugee living in Bangladesh, having fled Myanmar two years ago. She was offered a job in a garment factory by a distant cousin – accepting the offer so she could support her parents. In reality, Nazmin was sold as a maid and taken to Chittagong, 100 miles from her family in Kutupalong refugee camp.

As a maid, Nazmin was tortured and forced to work without pay. She worked all day, never slept properly, wasn't given fresh food and was locked inside.

Nazmin was particularly vulnerable because it is a crime for Rohingya to leave the camp without permission and they do not have the legal right to work.

Nazmin managed to escape by stealing the house key when her owners were asleep one afternoon.