

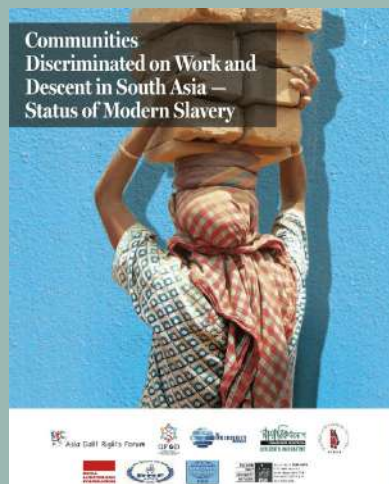
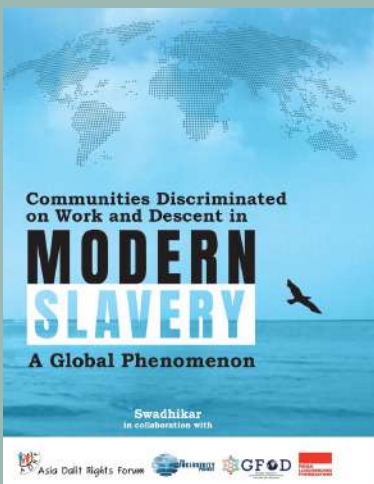
NOVEMBER 2021 | ISSUE 2

# GFOD MATTERS

## COMMUNITIES DISCRIMINATED ON WORK AND DESCENT IN CONTEMPORARY SLAVERY



Asia Dalit Rights Forum and Global Forum of Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent released South Asia and Global Study reports on Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent in Modern Slavery. The release took place at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi along the sidelines of the National Conference on 20 & 21 October, 2021 supported by Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung South Asia.



## NEWS FROM THE ASIAN REGION



### NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Asia Dalit Rights Forum, in collaboration with Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung organised a two day National Conference on Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent in Contemporary Slavery at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi on 20-21 October 2021. The participants were experts, academicians, CDWD individuals, journalists, CSOs, community leaders from India. The event was also attended by participants from all over the world who participated in the presentations and discussions through a virtual meeting platform. The purpose of the conference was the release and dissemination of two key research reports a) *CDWD in South Asia: Status of Modern Slavery*; and b) *CDWD in Modern Slavery: A Global Phenomenon*.



The first day of the conference centred on setting the context of the meeting with specific reference to India through discussion on three major themes: a) *Dalits in India: Status of Bondage* with thematic presentations on bonded labour, human trafficking & abduction and migrant labour;

b) *Bondage in the Informal Sectors: India*, under these themes corporate forced labour, intersectionality transgender and sexual exploitation perspectives, human trafficking and child rights, bonded labourers in informal sectors, Dalit women bondage were being presented and discussed; and c) *Elimination of Modern Slavery*: domestic violence, Devdasi system, policy gaps in the state machinery response implementation, civil society response: gains, gaps and challenges.

On the second day, the conference's focus broadened to the regional and global level, discussing three other major themes. The first, *Bondage and CDWD in South Asia*, in which Ms Reena Tete presented the South Asia study, followed by a brief but comprehensive presentation on Dalits and other CDWDs worldwide followed by video presentations from Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh on the issues and challenges faced by CDWD. Secondly, *Modern Slavery at Global Level* where Dr Avinash Kumar presented the research report on *Global CDWD in Modern Slavery*. Likewise, a thorough presentation on the historical view of global response for CDWD and global networks responding to CDWD were presented, followed by video presentations from Africa, Latin America and Europe. Lastly, under the theme *Effective Elimination of Modern Slavery*, panelists discussed structural understanding of slavery addressing CDWD in contemporary slavery, supply chain labour practices, corporate responsibility and decent work & employment.

[Stay tuned for more on this event](#)



## NEWS FROM THE AFRICAN REGION

Centre for Strategic Philanthropy

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE  
Judge Business School

**#ShiftThePower**  
Building a Movement for Change

A dialogue between Global South sector leaders and their allies in the Global North

Live Online  
7 October 2021  
12:30 - 14:00 BST



**Guest Speaker**  
Briggs Bomba  
Programs Director  
TrustAfrica

Briggs serves as the Programs Director for TrustAfrica, a pan-African foundation that works across Africa to promote democratic governance and equitable development.

As part of the executive management team for TrustAfrica, Briggs provides strategic leadership to the programs team and oversees a diverse portfolio of programmes and initiatives spanning several African countries that deal with a wide array of themes encompassing – Natural Resource Governance and Economic Transformation; Taxation and Illicit Financial Flows; Climate Justice and Food Sovereignty; Citizenship, Rights and Civic Engagement; Gender and Women's Rights; Youth, Education and the Future of Work; as well as African Philanthropy.

In this role, Briggs oversees the implementation of TrustAfrica's strategies that include Grantmaking; Convenings; Knowledge generation and management; Capacity building at well as Advocacy engagement with policymakers at national, RECs and AU levels.

**Revolutionising Transparency in the Third Sector: Driving Better Decisions, Legitimacy and Goodwill**

### #SHIFT THE POWER

TrustAfrica took part in a seminar hosted by the Centre for Strategic Philanthropy at the Cambridge Judge Business School based at the University of Cambridge titled #ShiftThePower – Revolutionising Transparency in the Third Sector: Driving Better Decisions, Legitimacy and Goodwill on the 7th of October 2021. This was part of an online series deconstructing the components of imbalanced power structures between Global North and Global South philanthropy actors, better understanding how change can come about and enabling philanthropy practitioners to define the nature of the change required for the long-term institutionalization of COVID-19-induced changes in best practice.

Mr. Briggs Bomba from TrustAfrica provided insight on themes encompassing Natural Resource Governance and Economic Transformation, Climate Justice and Food Sovereignty, Citizenship, Rights and Civic Engagement, Gender and Women Rights, Youth, Education and Future Works.

### ANNUAL DAY- ERADICATION OF POVERTY

17 October 2021 marked the annual International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. On this day, the international community called for the urgent need to 'Build Forward Together' and end persistent poverty. Thirteen civil society and producer organizations partnered with TrustAfrica joined this call to action and released a briefing that provides three overarching recommendations to make HREDD legislation work for smallholders.

The briefing strongly recommended that the legislation and accompanying guidance should:

1. Focus on living incomes, living wages and responsible purchasing practices to reduce poverty among smallholder farmers.
2. Encourage lasting trade relationships and continuous improvement in global value chains.
3. Require the engagement and active collaboration of rightsholders in all the stages of the human rights and environmental due diligence processes.

Legislating for Impact OCTOBER 2021: Three Recommendations to Make Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence Work for Smallholders

### Legislating for Impact

Three Recommendations to Make Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence Work for Smallholders

## NEWS FROM THE EUROPEAN REGION



### 14TH EUROPEAN PLATFORM FOR ROMA INCLUSION

The European Platform for Roma Inclusion 2021 was held online on 21-22 September by the Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers. The meeting aimed to reaffirm the commitment to Roma equality, inclusion and participation of European institutions and Member States and focus on key thematic areas identified in close consultation with civil society organisation, such as *Mainstreaming and Targeted Policies to Address Antigypsyism in National Roma Strategic Frameworks* and *Tackling unequal access to education to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Roma communities*.

The event was honored with high-level participation on the part of the European Commission, including through a video message – partly in Romanes – by President Ursula von der Leyen, the European Parliament and EU Member States.

Roma and pro-Roma civil society were given center stage in the thematic workshops and had an equal floor during the political panels alongside political leaders.

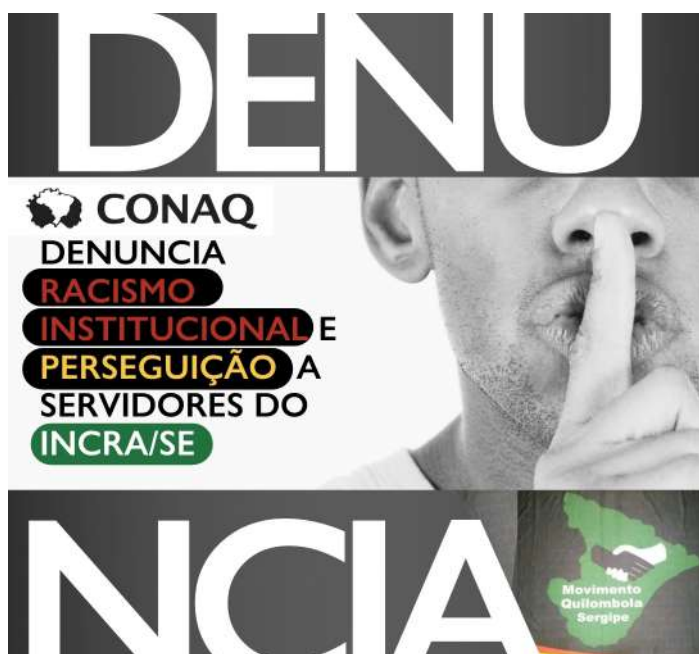
Gabriela Hrabanova, ERGO Network Director, delivered important key messages to the attendees. She strongly expressed the need for national governments to demonstrate that the fight against antigypsyism in their countries does not remain a “buzz” word. She asked Member States to start making amends with their historic past by investing in real recounts about the Roma Holocaust, slavery, forced sterilization and many other dehumanising events in Europe’s history. Member States have a responsibility to help us reconcile as nations, learn about who Roma really are, provide the tools for our children to love each other and live together in a sense of unity, not division.

### National Conference on CDWD in Contemporary Slavery

*Stay tuned for videos and more updates on our social media pages*



## NEWS FROM LATIN AMERICAN REGION



For Biko Rodrigues, the paralysis of extremely important policies for the human development of quilombola families and the persecution of public servants who work in the area provide discriminatory action and institutional racism.

The Quilombola policy came to be embraced by Incra, after Decree 4887/2003, which guaranteed access to and preference for public policies on titling and ethno-development. This policy is reaffirmed by the PNRA and by Incra Ordinance 175/2016. For Biko, it is inconceivable that in the 21st century, racist and persecuting practices persist in public administration.

For the Xifronese leadership, Incra, currently under the command of Deputy Fábio Reis, does not comply with the legal provisions for the concreteness of public policies, with the appointed superintendent “Victor Sande” acting with ignorance of the legislation and persecuting the servants who work in support of the institutional mission of the autarchy. Quilombola communities experience enormous socioeconomic vulnerability, being once again harmed by this type of attitude.

On 4 October 2021, Quilombola leaders part of CONAQ, a partner organization of GFoD, from the state of Sergipe met with representatives of the MPF, Incra and state deputy Iran Barbosa, in order to deal with the impasse related to the total paralysis of land title regularization and development policies. quilombola territories of the state.

November -  
Upcoming Events

- [Asia Democracy Assembly, 2021](#) organized by Asia Democracy Network. ADRF is organizing an opening event titled '*Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent in Democracy*' 20 November 2021 from 11 AM-1 PM IST (virtual)
- [Asia Social Forum](#) preparation Meeting
- [World Social Forum](#) preparations Meeting



Stay tuned for more on these events

## OCTOBER HIGHLIGHTS



The combination of these impacts with ongoing deforestation, pollution and resource scarcity is rendering livelihoods ever more precarious for millions of people in the poorest countries, and driving migration and displacement. To date the relationship between climate change and contemporary slavery has received relatively little attention in the policy, advocacy and academic fields, however.

### 11 OCTOBER 2021

Global Forum of Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent participated in a workshop 'A Holistic Approach to Contemporary Slavery and Climate Change'. The workshop aimed at discussing the issues of Climate change as it poses an immediate and existential threat to many of the most marginalized communities on the planet.

"In many parts of the world, the impacts of this global emergency are being felt right now in the form of both sudden-onset disasters and slow-onset events.

Furthermore, mainstream approaches to both issues have traditionally favoured technocratic or legalistic approaches that place these issues within 'siloes', disconnected from their political, social and economic contexts".

Mr. Paul Divakar, Convener of GFoD, along with other team members and partners took part in the workshop and strongly brought forward the issues of climate change on DWD communities and their further marginalization leading them into contemporary forms of slavery.

### 27-28 OCTOBER 2021

Asia Dalit Rights Forum partnered a discussion on *Feminist Solutions for the Climate Crisis: Building a Green Future*. Ms. Beena Palliccal represented ADRF and talked about the issues of the climate crisis and its impact on Dalit women and Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent in South Asia and globally. As women from DWD communities are present at the lowest of societal strata she talks about more inclusiveness in strategies and policy formations keeping in view the climate issue.

