

Session 2

# How Can ESG Prevent Modern Slavery?

November 28

11:00 – 12:15

Modern Slavery is increasingly seen as an ESG risk, specifically under the 'S.' When investing in specific sectors, geographies, or value chains, financial actors are now paying significantly more attention to the importance of identifying modern slavery risks, managing them, and acting to mitigate them. However, the intersection of environmental and governance risks with the social risks that increase the exposure of workers to modern slavery conditions is less understood.

FAST research into Ghana's cocoa and artisanal gold value chains, for example, found that modern slavery risks were amplified by the climate crisis, and that both sectors were affected by and caused environmental damage. Yet the issues were not being addressed together. The research identified how improved governance, in partnership with financial actors, could tackle the risks collectively on a national and regional scale. This panel explores what a positive ESG framework could look like: a framework which benefits both business and rights holders, and which not only acts to mitigate risks of harm but also implements proactive goals and standards for financial actions that protect both people and planet.

## Moderator

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### **Minh Dang, Executive Director, Survivor Alliance**

Minh Dang is the Executive Director of Survivor Alliance, an international NGO that empowers survivors to be leaders of the anti-trafficking movement. She is also a Research Fellow and Lead in Survivor Scholarship and Wellbeing at the University of Nottingham's Rights Lab. Her doctoral thesis, *Wellbeing in our own Words: Survivors of slavery defining wellbeing*, emphasizes the importance of moving beyond psychopathy when discussing survivors' mental health and focusing on wellbeing.

## Panelists

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### **Martin Buttle, Better Work Lead, CCLA Investment Management**

Martin Buttle is Lead for CCLA Investment Management's Better Work pillar, which includes coordinating the 'Find it, Fix it, Prevent it' programme on modern slavery, as well as broader engagements on Living Wage, Decent Work, and Business and Human Rights. He has sat on a variety of international advisory groups, including OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains in the Garment and Footwear Sector, the UK Sustainable Clothing Action Plan, and Business Commission to Tackle Inequality Working Group.

### **Mustafa Qadri, Founder and CEO, Equidem**

Mustafa Qadri is the Founder and CEO of Equidem, a human rights organization. He provides the overall strategic direction of the organization and oversees a global programme of work that seeks to expose injustice, provide solutions, and build the human rights movement. Mustafa is a human rights research and advocacy expert with over 20 years of interdisciplinary experience in government and public international law, journalism, and the non-governmental sector.

### **Sarah Jane Danchie, Director for Africa, The Social Investment Consultancy**

Sarah is a socio-economist and Director for Africa with The Social Investment Consultancy. She leads evaluation, research, advisory, and advocacy projects ensuring that trade, aid, finance, and investment in Africa responsibly address the Sustainable Development Goals. Sarah's work focuses on economic, environmental, social, and governance (EESG) standards that facilitate more diverse, equitable, inclusive and sustainable development in African natural resource sectors (minerals, oil, gas, agriculture, forests, fisheries, and human resources).

### **Maor (Mario) Levin, Associate Director, Corporate Intelligence, S-RM**

Mario is an Associate Director at S-RM's Corporate Intelligence practice, based in London. A former economist, Mario's work at S-RM focuses on its regulatory and compliance service line, where he manages many of the company's fiduciary and financial sector clients. Since joining S-RM in 2021, Mario has also supported the development of its ESG service line, where he has helped large corporations identify and mitigate ESG risks in their supply chains. Mario previously spent five years as a team leader in two boutique corporate intelligence firms, where he specialized in enhanced due diligence, bespoke investigations, and political risk analysis, focusing on Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East.

### **Eloise Savill, Private Sector Adviser, Anti-Slavery International**

Eloise Savill leads on the implementation of Anti-Slavery International's advisory work with businesses. This involves working as a 'critical friend' with businesses, to identify, prevent, mitigate, and remediate forced labour in global supply chains. She has a background of work and study in modern slavery, with particular interest in working with businesses to develop worker-driven approaches and access to remedy. Before joining the Business and Human Rights Team at Anti-Slavery International, she worked as a Financial Services Project Manager, advising businesses and financial institutions on how to identify human rights abuses in their supply chains and develop meaningful due diligence to address them.

## Resources

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- [Climate-induced migration and modern slavery: A toolkit for policymakers](#) (Anti-slavery and IIED)
- [The EU's ESG reporting directives and expected impact on the construction sector in Spain](#) (S-RM)
- [Social License to Operate: Why dialogue with local communities is vital for mining](#) (S-RM).