



Hagar International UK

Stop slavery. Heal & empower survivors.

What we do

Hagar is a global not for profit organisation dedicated to seeing communities free and healed from the trauma of human trafficking, slavery and abuse.

Hagar was founded in 1994 in response to the prevalence of extreme domestic and community violence affecting women and children in post-civil war Cambodia. What started as a response to a specific need has spread across countries and grown in expertise and experience. Almost 30 years on, Hagar has supported thousands of women and children on their journey to healing and empowerment after experiencing human trafficking, slavery, and abuse.

Our Vision

Communities free and healed from the trauma of human trafficking, slavery, and abuse.

We heal **survivors** through high quality comprehensive services including our world renowned Trauma-Informed care.

We passionately believe that survivors can be **empowered** to contribute to society. **They can be a voice for change.** With the right training and support they can be empowered to be financially independent to support themselves and their families.

But we want to **stop slavery** before it happens. That's why we work to continually scale up our prevention work and increase our capacity. No one should suffer because of human trafficking, slavery, or abuse.



How does Hagar tackle trafficking and slavery?

We work towards our goal of communities free and healed from the trauma of slavery, abuse, and trafficking by applying the 4 Ps - **Prevent, Protect, Prosecute and Partner**

Prevent

We raise awareness of the dangers of trafficking and slavery in vulnerable communities. We do this through education work with individuals, community chiefs, local authorities and governments. And through financial empowerment to eliminate poverty as a contributing factor.

Protect

We work with survivors to protect them once they have been rescued and to help rebuild their lives. This is known as 'The Whole Journey'

Our goal is for each individual to be a champion of change in their own lives and in their community.

Hagar



Prosecute

Our teams work with law enforcement globally to bring about justice - identifying perpetrators and supporting victims through the legal process.

We seek to create legal frameworks at a national level to address the issues of human trafficking, slavery and abuse.

Partner

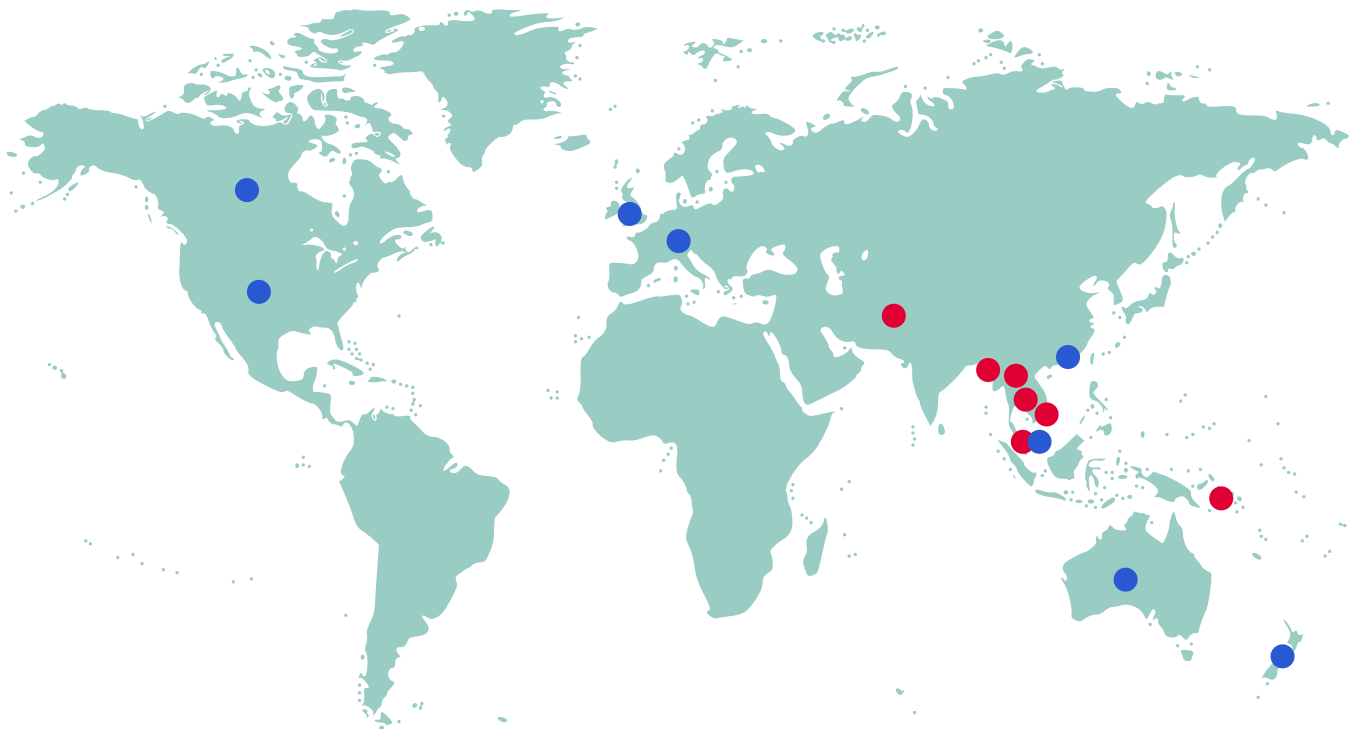
Building our capacity is key to bringing about our vision of communities free and healed from the trauma of slavery, trafficking and abuse. By working with other organisations, more survivors are healed. By partnering with in-country agencies and internationally we are able to work towards systemic change.

Where we work

The Hagar family is made up of Programme Offices and Support Offices.

Our Programme Offices deliver services to beneficiaries both directly and indirectly. Directly means; working to heal and empower survivors and seek justice for them. Indirectly means; local, regional and national structures to protect and prevent individuals and communities from the harm of human trafficking, slavery, and abuse. In addition, Hagar works with partners in-country to deliver our expert Trauma-Informed care Programmes.

Support Offices focus on raising awareness and funds as well as advocacy to enable Hagar to deliver our work.



Programme offices

Afghanistan
Cambodia
Myanmar*
Singapore
Thailand
The Solomon Islands*
Vietnam

**Partner projects*

Support offices

Australia
Canada
Hong Kong
New Zealand
Singapore
Switzerland
UK
USA

The Issue

There are more people living in slavery now than at any other time in history.

- Nearly **50 million** people are currently living in slavery - **an increase of 10 million in the last 5 years.**
- **One in four** are children.
- **Asia Pacific** has the highest enslaved population of any region in the world.
- Only **0.2%** of survivors in the world today have access to support services like ours.
- Of these survivors, Hagar can only help **one in ten** people who are referred to us



The Global Slavery Index estimates that 50 million people are living in situations of exploitation that they cannot escape from because of threats, violence, deception, abuse of power or other forms of coercion. This includes forced marriage, forced labour, state-imposed forced labour and forced commercial sexual exploitation.

Human trafficking is the second most lucrative criminal activity in the world. A slave can cost as little as £74, and unlike other illegal trades, a slave can be resold, generating huge profits for their traffickers.

Whilst modern slavery occurs in every region of the world, some communities are more vulnerable than others. Factors that are driving human trafficking are

- poverty
- climate change
- conflict
- Covid 19

Our Impact



In 2022:

- **505,356** direct and indirect beneficiaries were supported.
- **45,886** direct.
- **1.1 million** people were reached with awareness raising activities.

The Hagar impact is created through partnerships with government and local leaders. We know that this means our impact will have longevity. We currently have training and research partnerships with governments in the countries we work in.

Our Reputation

You may not have come across Hagar before, however, we have been working in difficult to reach areas for nearly 30 years, and we are recognised, by government, large international NGO's and community professionals as experts in the field of Trauma-Informed Care.

Many organisation have funded us to deliver services on their behalf, or directly as Hagar International, working in the hardest to reach places, creating life changing sustainable outcomes for people who have experienced the darkest moments of life.



United Nations



Save the Children



unicef

The Whole Journey

At Hagar we are committed to the Whole Journey. The Whole Journey starts with a survivor - an individual who has experienced severe trauma as a result of slavery, trafficking, or abuse. **No one journey or client is the same.** Our approach is to provide individualised care for every survivor we come into contact with. From the moment that individual enters our care, we work with them to assess their needs, and offer a full range of intensive and individualised services. We rebuild trust and resilience.

We can provide a safe place to live, counselling, case management services, legal support, education, financial support to start a small business or a safe, empowering job and family reintegration. We create opportunities to ensure that the individual is not simply surviving, but thriving. **The Whole Journey encapsulates each step taken by a survivor toward healing.** Our goal is for each individual to be a champion for change in their own life and in the community.

We do whatever it takes for as long as it takes. This means that Whole Journey could take a year, two years, or even longer. We don't put a timeframe on healing.



A story of hope

Anas

“I have found very kind parents here, when I was sad, they provided special care for me”

Anas

Anas and his four siblings lived with his family in Takhar province, Afghanistan. His father, a drug addict, gambled and struggled to hold down a job and so life was hard for the children and their mother.

One day a thief entered their house demanding money. When Anas's mother replied there was none, the thief stabbed her and ran away. Sadly, Anas's mother died of her injuries.

Life became very hard for Anas and his siblings. Whilst grieving the death of their mother, the children were passed around varying family members, but over time resentment grew and Anas and two of his brothers were kicked out and forced to beg on the streets, sleeping on the roof of the mosque at night.

Life on the streets is dangerous, but fortunately Anas ended up being picked up by police. He was brought to Kabul and referred to Hagar's Forgotten No More Shelter.

The Forgotten No More Shelter in Kabul is a centre for boys who have suffered because of sexual or physical abuse or those who are vulnerable to exploitation. The shelter provides a home, food and clothing, Trauma-Informed care, and education - everything the boys needed to rebuild their lives and set them on course for a bright future.

When Anas first arrived at the shelter he was depressed and anxious. He wouldn't talk to the shelter employees and found it hard to trust that he had a safe place to stay.

Over time, the kindness of the shelter staff broke through Anas's anxiety and he began to respond to their care and input. He started joining in with activities and making friends with the other boys.

Now Anas is hopeful for what lies ahead. He is keen to continue his studies and he hopes for a better future.



A story of hope

Lua

Vietnam is one of the top three countries of origin for victims of trafficking in the UK. Hagar works with the Salvation Army and other agencies in the UK to bring survivors back to Vietnam and support them with the Whole Journey Programme. This is the story of one survivor.

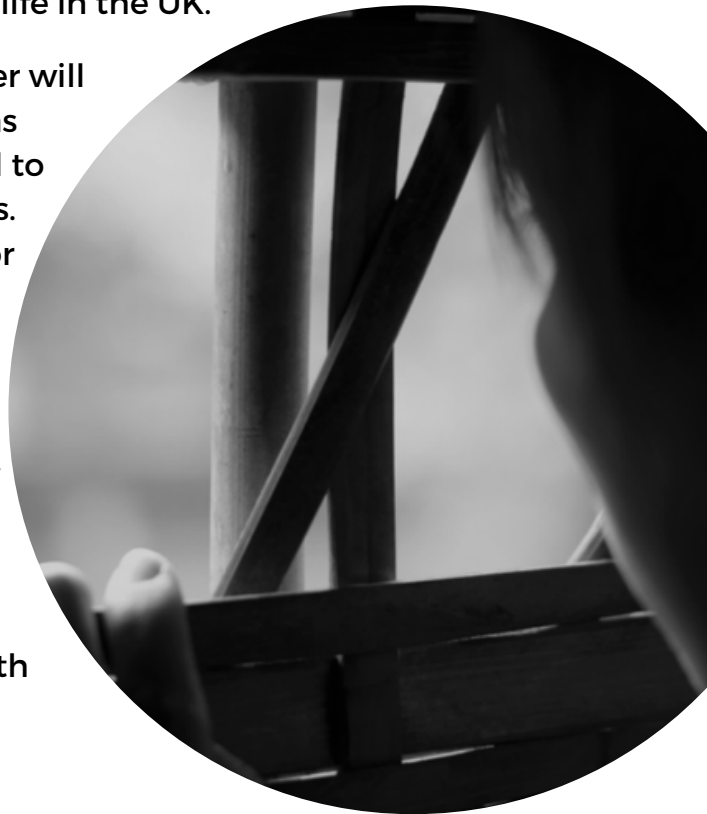
Lua's nightmare began with a simple glimmer of hope - an opportunity to provide her and her daughter with a better life. Income from her sidewalk stall just wasn't enough. In her desperation to make more money, she confided in a seemingly trustworthy customer and was met with promises of a better life in the UK.

It turned out to be a trap. Lua was held against her will and imprisoned by her human traffickers. She was maliciously starved, robbed of dignity, and forced to work on a cannabis farm in deplorable conditions. She endured her captor's inhumane treatment for six long years.

At last, with incredible courage, she broke out of her captivity to seek help nearby. She was free, but deep physical and mental wounds remained.

Thankfully, Salvation Army UK connected her to Hagar Vietnam for support, Lua returned to her homeland. There she joined Hagar's Whole Journey Programme and was provided with immediate psychological first aid, including Trauma-Informed Care.

Lua's strength and courage, along with the support she has received, have helped her overcome her darkness and gain confidence. Lua know's she still has a way to go, but is hopeful for her future.



I am so thankful I have Hagar by my side. I see Hagar as my family member and I feel encouraged and motivated to move my life forward.

Lua

A story of hope

Dan

What is the most precious moment of your life? For Dan, it was her reunion with her mother after 17 years of being trafficked in China.

Dan, aged 15, always tried to work hard to help her mother support the family after her father died. So when a neighbour promised her a well-paid job in the city, she jumped at the chance to help her family,

But rather than a well-paid job, she was trafficked to China and forced to be a sex-worker. If she refused, she was severely beaten.

Dan tried to escape, but sadly she was caught. Her trafficker broke her knee caps with a hammer so she could no longer run away. But Dan was determined to get back home. She finally managed to escape on her fifth attempt with the help of a man who had befriended her. Harrowingly, this was a trick and she was resold to another brothel.

Dan still longed to be free and eventually she escaped through the forests of China and made it to the border with Vietnam.

Dan was rescued by the local authority and referred onto Hagar. Through the Whole Journey Programme, Dan began to process her past through specialised Trauma-Informed care as well as receiving medical care to heal from the injuries she had received from her traffickers.

Once healed and recovered, Dan was safely reintegrated into her family and reunited with her mother. Through Hagar's Economic Empowerment programme, Dan and her family received husbandry support to raise chickens, giving them a stable income.

Today, Dan and her family are thriving - thanks to their resilience and Hagar's support.



HAGAR +



LIFT International is one of Southeast Asia's leading anti-human trafficking organisations. It works to strengthen justice systems, support survivors and hold offenders accountable for crimes of human trafficking and sexual exploitation. Based in Thailand, LIFT is recognised for its operational experience, expertise, impact and partnerships at community, national and international levels.

As of early 2023, LIFT has joined the Hagar family to increase the global impact in the fight against human trafficking and modern day slavery.

"As LIFT joins the Hagar family, we know that our collective impact will only grow," says Hagar International Board Chair, Phil Badger. "Hagar and LIFT share common values and complementary skills. By joining forces in this integration, we will expand Hagar's holistic survivor care and community prevention models and LIFT's multidisciplinary investigation and prosecution work. This integration will have a great, positive impact on the lives of human trafficking survivors, their communities, and the systems that perpetuate abuse."

LIFT bring about justice....

An operation involving the LIFT international team, coordinated by Interpol, led to the rescue of 50 children, as well as the arrest and prosecution of 9 child sex offenders in Thailand, Australia and the United States.

The investigation brought down a site on the dark web with 63,000 users with the main perpetrator receiving a 146 year sentence.

LIFT's investigative team collected evidence, identified victims and social workers, and counselled these survivors to prepare statements for court.

LIFT's legal counsel secured over £7,000 compensation for five of the survivors and was awarded the Outstanding Person Award from DSI.

Blackwrist was remarkable in its impact and reach. It also attracted international attention with coverage on the BBC and CNN.



Please help heal and empower survivors of human trafficking, slavery and abuse.

It costs £1,000 to walk the Whole Journey with a survivor for a year. Your gift will make a huge difference to those who need it most.

THANK YOU

Scan
here



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