



IJM

INTERNATIONAL
JUSTICE MISSION

2020 Mid-Year Report



Thank You.

For millions of children, women and men in our world, slavery and violence are daily realities, and freedom and safety feel like far-off dreams. While they suffer, the criminals who exploit them prosper and profit.

But with your help, people experiencing violence and slavery have hope.

Your life-saving gifts are protecting vulnerable people in more than 20 cities and regions across the world. Your support brings justice and healing through our holistic four-fold model.

WITH EACH GIFT, YOU HELP US:



Rescue

We collaborate with local officials to rescue victims from ongoing violence and bring them to safety.



Restrain

We partner with police to restrain criminals, traffickers and slave owners from hurting others.



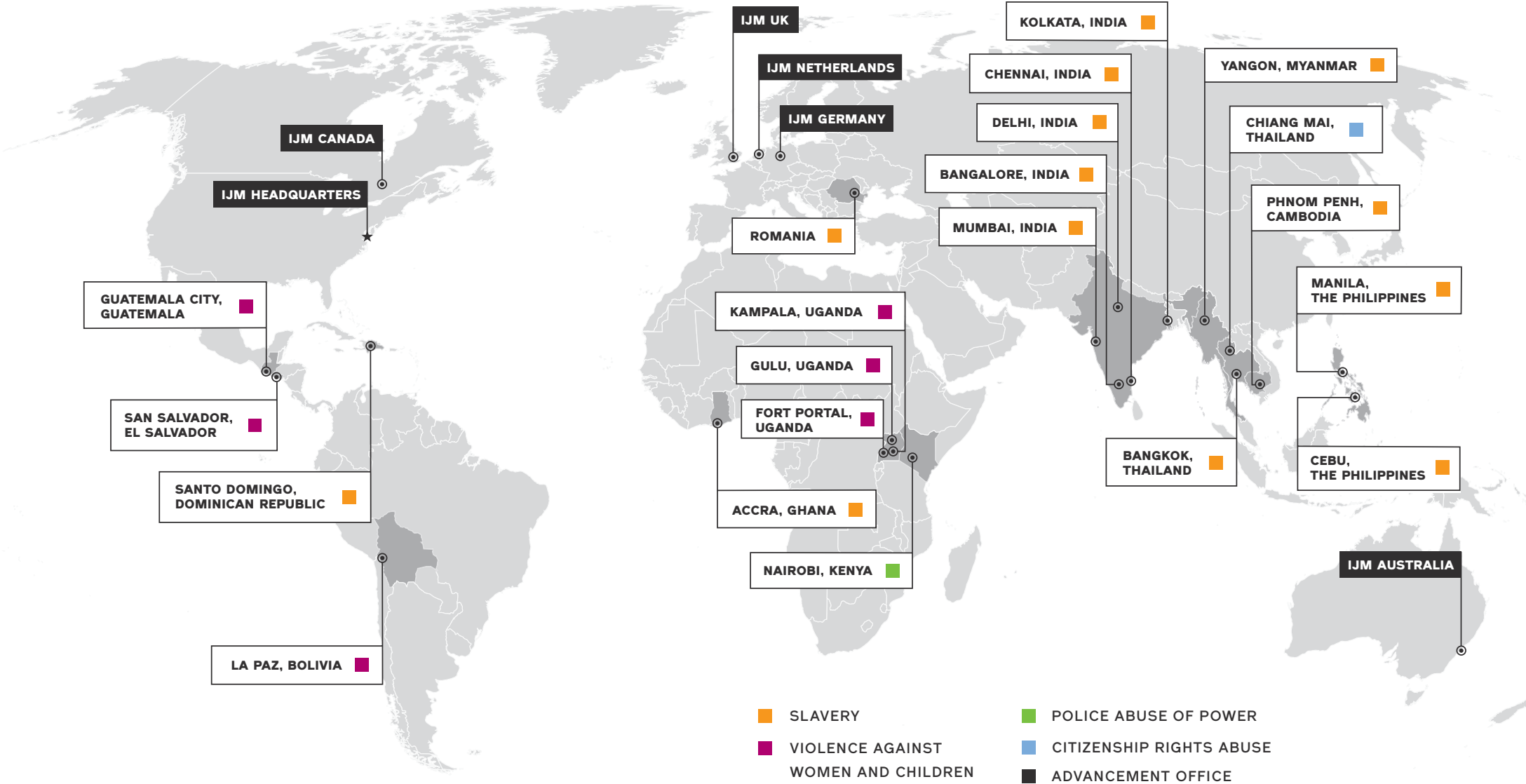
Restore

Survivors are brought to safety and strength through counseling, education and skills training with trusted social workers and aftercare partners.



Repair

We identify gaps in the justice systems where the poor are not protected and then work with local authorities and courts to address these challenges.



JANUARY TO JUNE:
RESULTS FROM IJM,
PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS
AND TRAINED GOVERNMENTS

Your 2020
Impact

6,051 VICTIMS OF
VIOLENCE AND
OPPRESSION
RESCUED

363 SUSPECTED
CRIMINALS
RESTRAINED

86 SURVIVORS
RESTORED TO
SAFETY AND
STRENGTH



COVID-19 Update

The COVID-19 pandemic is affecting the communities we serve in a complex number of ways, and people living in poverty who may be living in close quarters with others, or who have limited access to food and healthcare, are especially vulnerable.

Tragically, we have seen a rise in crimes like domestic violence and the online exploitation of children since the pandemic began and lockdown orders were issued.

In the last few months, every IJM team around the world has made significant changes in the way they work. However, we continue to push forward in the fight for justice.

With your support, we have been working with partners to supply basic needs like continued aftercare, food, and housing, as well as protective equipment and tools to help government partners deal with the crisis. In Uganda, our team has even helped local authorities build temporary shelters for women and children fleeing violence in their homes.

At the same time, your generosity makes it possible for our teams to continue conducting rescue operations and actively investigate cases of increased violence and human trafficking.

With your gifts, you are laying a strong foundation for partnership with governments, protecting vulnerable communities, and addressing urgent COVID-19 issues as they arise.

From the bottom of our hearts, we are so grateful for you.



You are Expanding Rescue to New Places



SOUTHEAST ASIA | MYANMAR

With your support, and in partnership with the Walmart Foundation, a new team has been established in Myanmar to address cross-border trafficking and forced labor in the Thai fishing industry. Since the Thai fishing industry is built on the backs of enslaved people trafficked from neighboring countries like Cambodia and Myanmar, the team in Myanmar will strengthen the work already being done by IJM Bangkok to shut down trafficking corridors between nations.



EUROPE | ROMANIA

Our first-ever field office in Europe was launched because of your partnership. By building our presence there, you are helping us take on cases and begin combating the massive crime of human trafficking in Central and Eastern Europe.

This office will be central in the work of eventually building a regional hub that coordinates anti-trafficking efforts across the entire continent.



AFRICA | TAMALE, GHANA

Last year, you helped us establish a satellite presence in the Tamale region of Ghana, providing our team with access to parts of Lake Volta we previously couldn't reach. This expansion is already making a difference: your gifts recently sent IJM and local officials on a rescue operation that brought freedom to nine children who were trapped in slavery in a remote fishing village!



SOUTH ASIA | INDIA

You are Catalyzing Government Action

When IJM began working in India nearly 20 years ago, we knew that forced labor slavery was a massive issue. But when we took the issue to authorities and government officials, some denied slavery even existed.

Even when a rescue operation was organized, it might have taken weeks or months to get authorities to respond. But over the years, you have helped train officials in India to proactively fight slavery and trafficking across the country.

Early this year, IJM staff heard about 204 laborers who were trafficked across India and trapped in a brick kiln. They faced non-stop abuse for six months, molding bricks in the scorching sun—some as young as 3 years old.

Instead of pushing back the rescue, the government coordinated their own team of 30 officials for back-to-back rescue operations and rescued all 204 laborers—with five IJM staff members assisting.

Within 24 hours of presenting the case to local authorities, police arrested four suspects, filed official reports, provided medical care and warm meals to the laborers, arranged their safe housing for the next several days, and officially declared them free with their own release certificates.

Your gifts are not only sending rescue to thousands of laborers in India, but continue to catalyze momentous transformation in India's justice system.



You are Protecting Women Across Northern Uganda

In Northern Uganda, perceptions about domestic violence in the home used to be accepted as the social norm, with many people believing that some violence was even justified.

With your support, IJM has launched a new pilot project in Northern Uganda fighting domestic violence for women like Alice.

Many women in her community were beaten by their spouses, and Alice grew up witnessing this reality her entire life. First, from her father. Then from her partner, Ivan.

“When we just started together, Ivan was really good,” Alice said. Then the beatings started, and a decade and three children later, he married someone else. With no source of income to support her family, Alice turned

to Ivan for help, who then beat her so badly that she was hospitalized.

In the hospital, Alice heard about IJM, and you helped take her case to court. There, Ivan admitted to the abuse charges and—as part of his sentence—now pays monthly support for the family.

Because of you, Alice can now support her own family through her own source of income, and with counseling, she is challenging social norms about domestic violence.

“There will be a time when men will stop beating up their wives,” she said. *“I see a future for women where if men are spoken to and advised, they’ll come to learn that even women have rights.”*



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ALICE



SOUTHEAST ASIA | THAILAND

You are Ending Slavery in the Thai Fishing Industry

At a young age, Leakhena was left to support himself after his parents died and siblings parted ways. But he couldn't find any work in his province of Cambodia, so he went to Thailand—a place he heard had better job opportunities and good pay.

There, Leakhena met a man who promised him good money as long as he was willing to live on a fishing vessel. But after several horrifying months spent at sea, he knew he was never going to be paid.

Boat captains beat him with stingray stingers, doused him in hot water, and even pumped his stomach full of seawater. This was his life at sea.

"...it was like hell, with no hope," Leakhena said.

The Thai fishing industry is a 7-billion-dollar industry that employs thousands of people and feeds millions around the world. But recent investigations have found that a large number of men in the industry may be trafficked from other countries to work against their will.

We heard about Leakhena when he and eight other fishermen escaped while docked at a Malaysian port, and your support meant we were able to bring these men safely home after years of abuse.

Today, Leakhena is safe, and he hopes his story will help rescue and protect all slaves lost at sea. Because of you, we can keep searching until all are free.





LATIN AMERICA | DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

You are Defending Exploited Children

Julian* and Mariano* are two brave children who are now safe because of you.

These 12- and 14-year-old brothers never knew someone was watching them as they played with their friends after school.

He was a local *buhonero*—someone who sold CDs and cheap trinkets in the streets. He befriended Julian, Mariano and their friends and built their trust by making them laugh. Then he lured each boy to his home and began sexually abusing and exploiting them.

After six months, a neighborhood boy mustered the courage to tell Julian and Mariano's mother, who then reported it to the local anti-trafficking department.

The Dominican Republic has had laws to combat commercial sexual exploitation of children for years. But they haven't had the necessary resources and training to adequately identify, investigate and fight this exploitation—until you showed up.

Since 2013, you have helped train more than 2,000 police, government officials and other vital personnel to protect vulnerable children.

With your support, we took Julian and Mariano's case and got the maximum sentence a person can receive for commercial sexual exploitation in the country—10 years. Because of you, Julian and Mariano can play with their friends without fear!



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INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION is a global organization that protects the poor from violence throughout the developing world. IJM partners with local authorities to rescue victims of violence, bring criminals to justice, restore survivors, and strengthen justice systems.

IJM is committed to modeling and maintaining the highest standards in our work, including our commitment to financial integrity. IJM is recognized by Charity Navigator, Guidestar and BBB for our exceptional commitment to financial responsibility, accountability and transparency. You may view our full audited financial statements at IJM.org/financials.

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*Pseudonyms have been used and images have been blurred for the protection of these IJM clients.

