Predicting forced labor risks in supply chains

Helping businesses predict which parts of their supply chains may be using forced labor

End Forced Labor achieved this using
• SAS® Viya® • Visual Text Analytics • Natural language processing (NLP) • PowerBI • Python
SAS Hackathon 2023 • Regional Winner for Americas • Public Sector Track

Challenge

Around the world, 27.6 million people are in situations of forced labor on any given day.

- Increasingly, customers want to know that they are not buying from companies using forced labor.
- Investors want to know about the ethical background of the companies in which they invest.
- However, it is hard for businesses to assess the risk across their supply chain because data sources are fragmented.

Innovation

This solution provides an interactive dashboard to show forced and child labor by geography and product.

End Forced Labor:

- Used data from research by Vérité on risks associated with particular commodities, the US Department of Labor on goods produced by child and forced labor, and the US Department of State on people trafficking.
- Built an interactive dashboard in SAS® Visual Analytics.
- Showed which products from which countries are most likely to be created using forced and child labor.

Impact

The dashboard is an important first step in enabling businesses to make informed decisions about where they buy raw materials.

- In future, it should be possible to predict which products may be associated with the use of forced labor.
- Predictions should become more precise over time.
- We should be able to identify the next commodity likely to be associated with forced labor.

> "Imagine you're taken to a crowded factory, where you're forced to work 12 hours a day, 7 days a week. The factory isn't safe … Unfortunately for many people, they don't have to imagine."
>
> Marc Stanton • Slave-Free Alliance