

# Official Development Assistance and SDG Target 8.7

Automating Capture of Aid Data to Analyze Commitments to  
Forced Labour, Modern Slavery, Human Trafficking and Child  
Labour

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A decorative geometric pattern at the bottom of the slide, consisting of various colored triangles (teal, purple, light blue) arranged in a complex, overlapping design.



# Overview

## Research Questions:

- How much aid are states committing to achieve Target 8.7?
- Where are they committing those resources, and on what issues?

## To address these questions:

- Guided by earlier work by Ucnikova (2014)
- Focused on one form of public expenditure: Official Development Assistance (ODA)



## Data Issues

- Original study focused on desk reviews, 12 countries featured (Ucnikova 2014)
- Data featured average spending over time and could not be disaggregated by issue
- Utility of drawing from OECD CRS database
- Issues with the project codes being limited
- Useful data within project descriptions



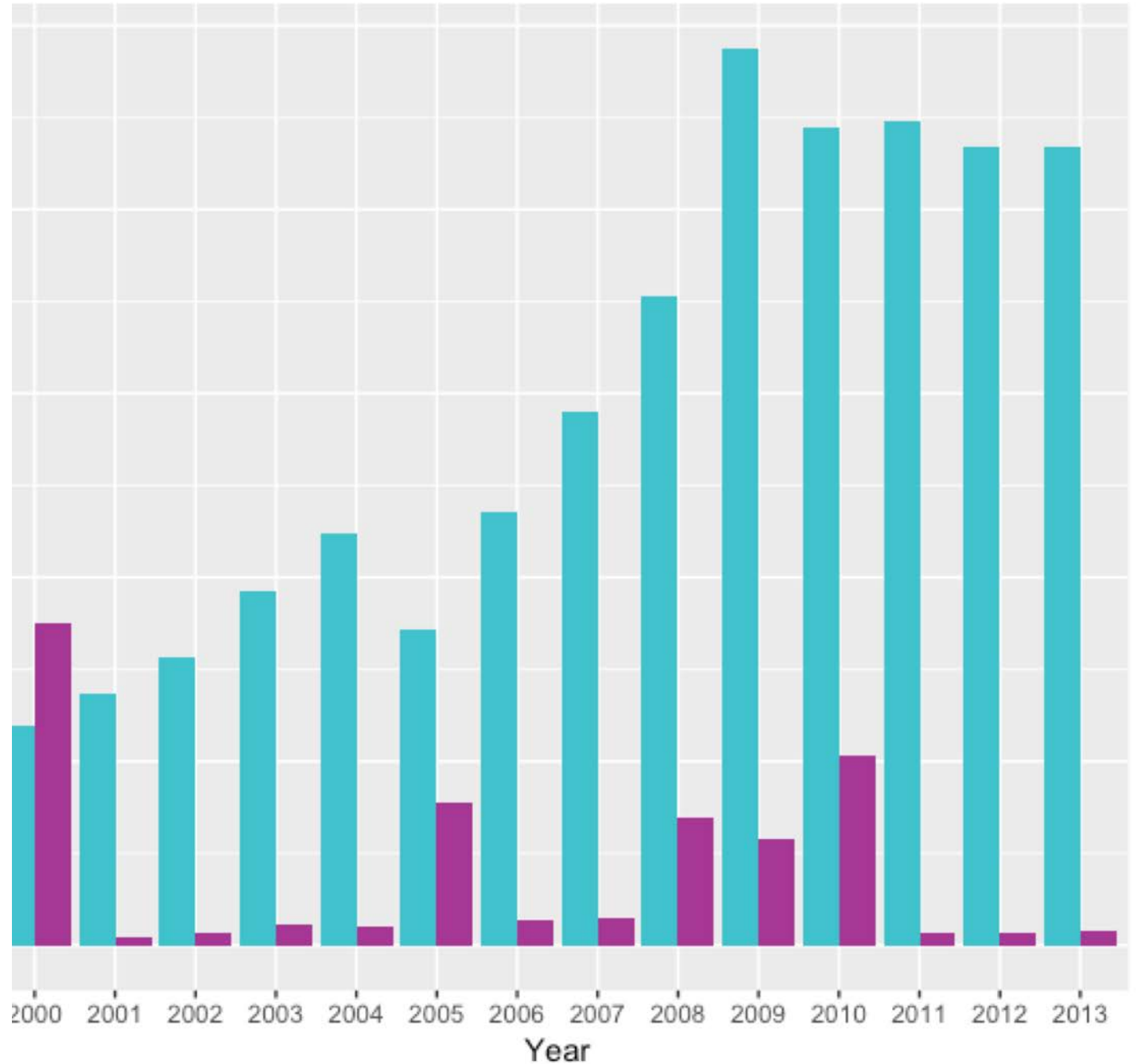
## Methods Solution

- Automate the process of selecting projects based on keywords
- Natural Language Processing method
- Human intervention was required as the algorithm was developed to detect hits and misses
- Saves time, machines do the repetitive tasks
- Can be useful for data collection on any of the SDG target indicators without established codes
- Can be extended to capture data from less structured data sources as well

# Increasing Commitments, Sources Variable

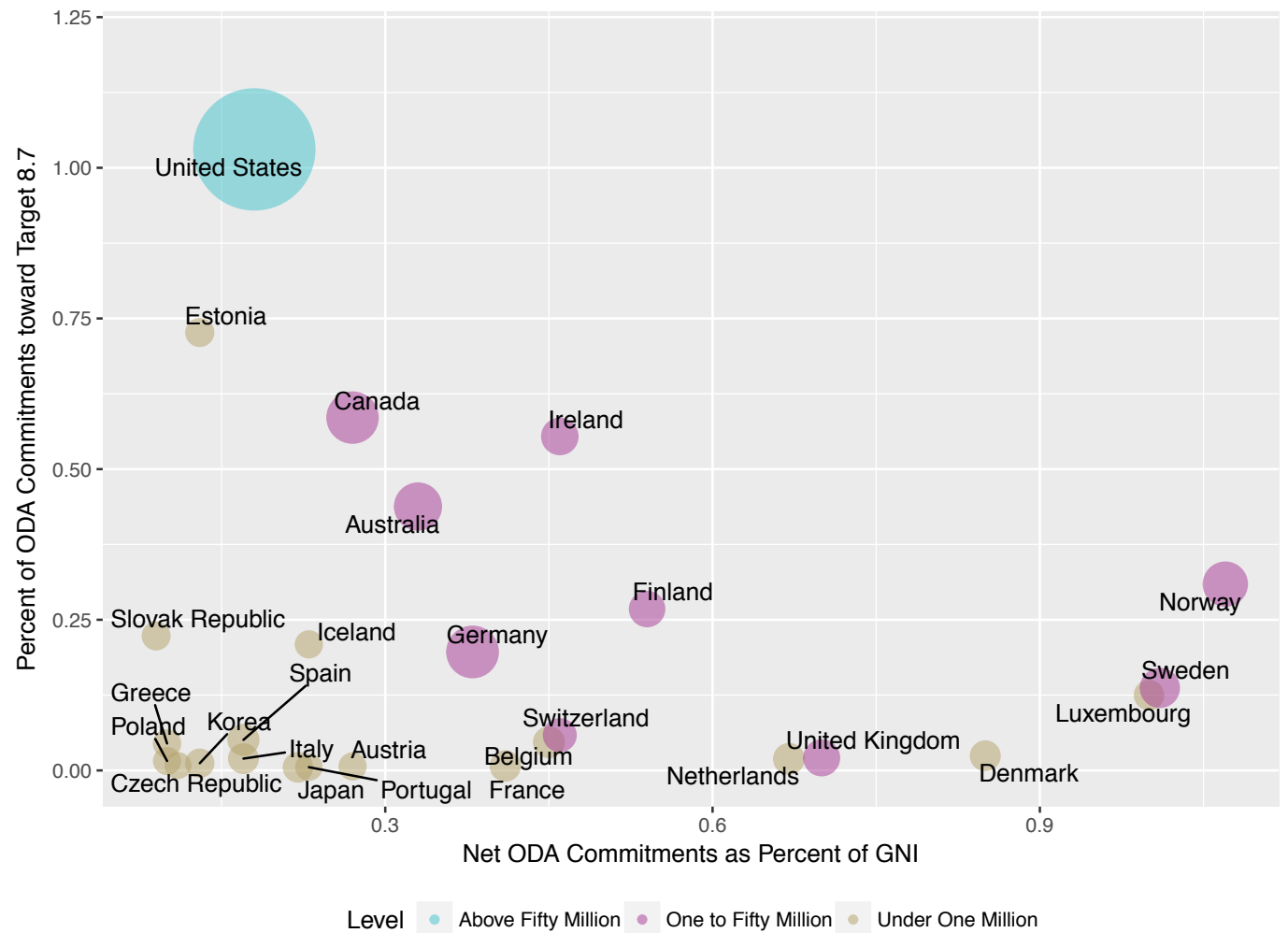
Thirty donor countries committed more than USD 4 billion in ODA funding to Target 8.7 issues between 2000 and 2013.

ODA Donor Types



# Expenditure on Target 8.7

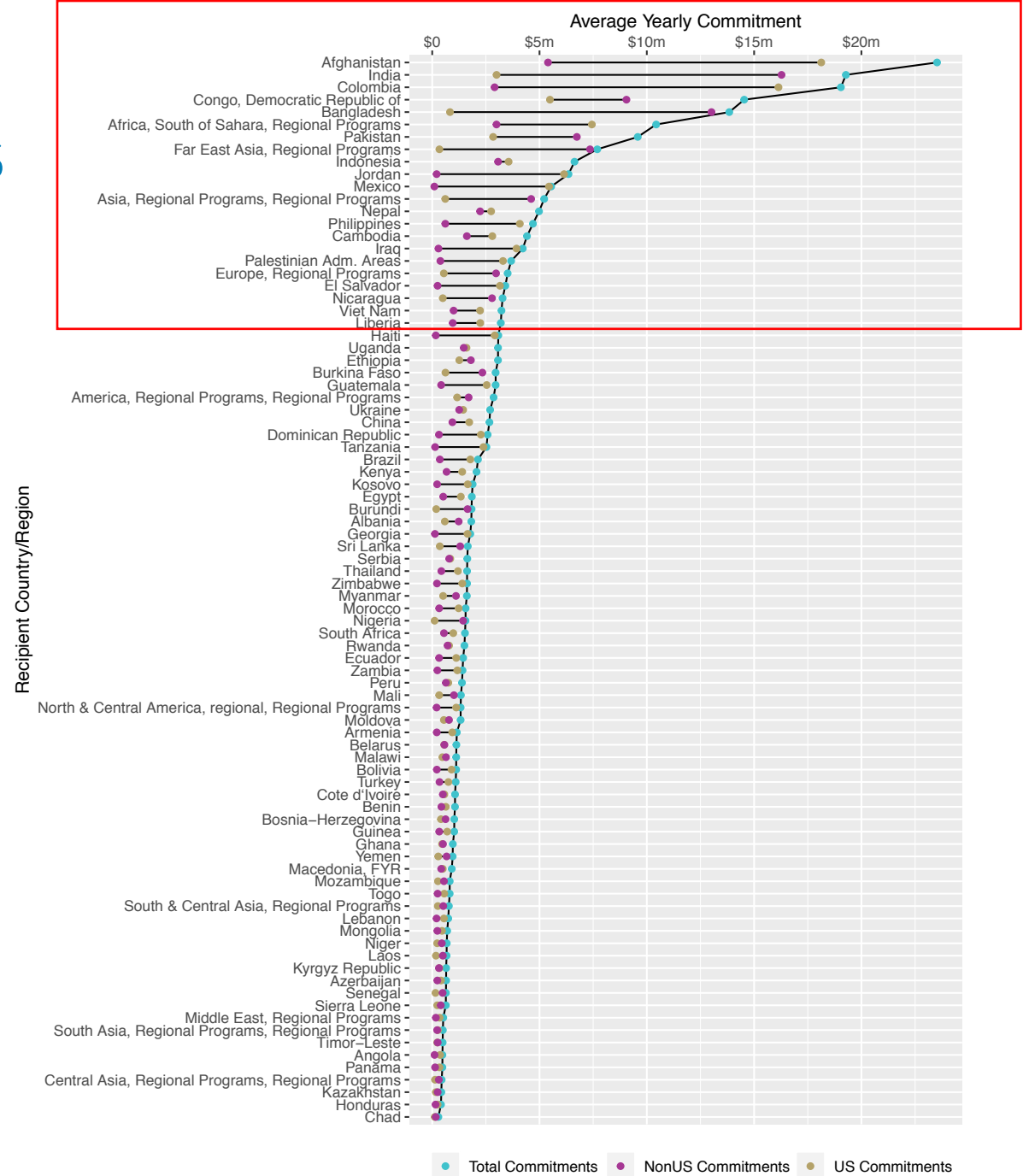
Expenditure does not seem to increase as a country chooses to spend more on ODA in general.



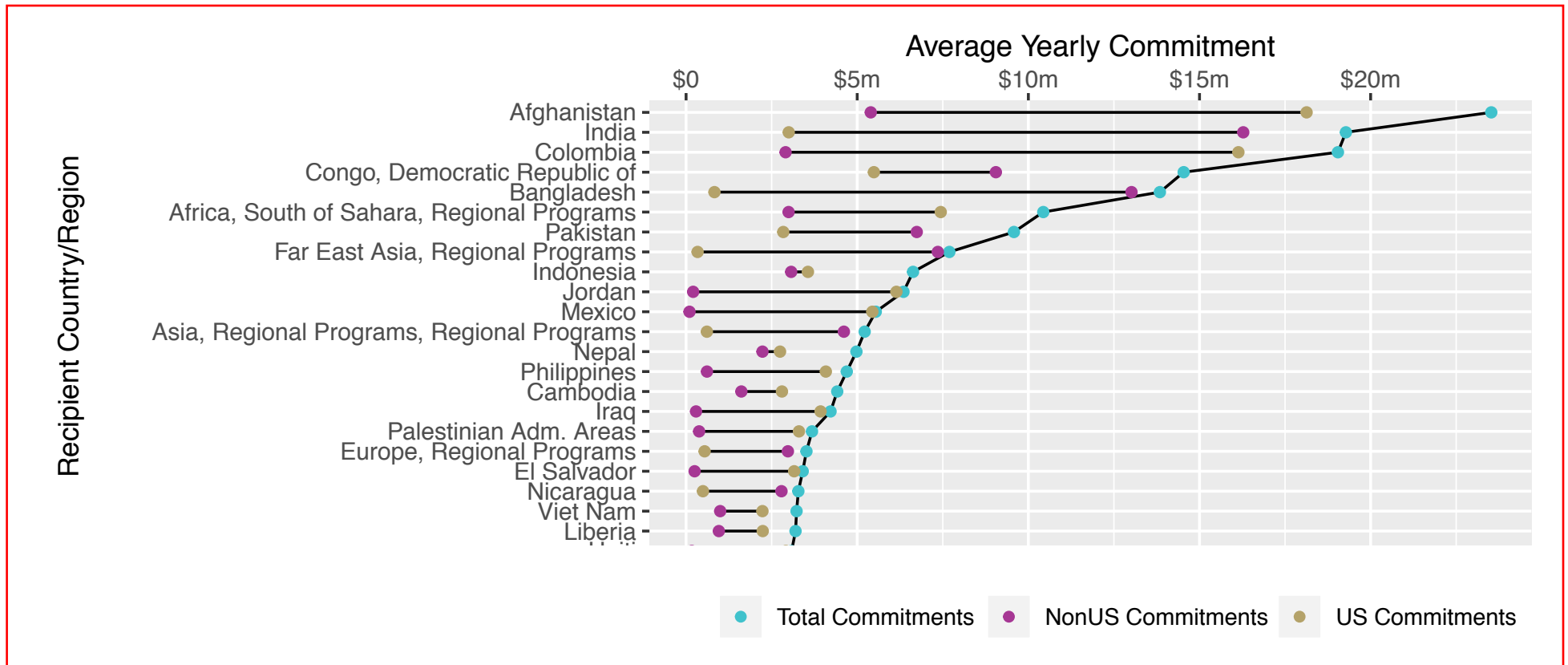
# Recipient Patterns

A handful of countries received the bulk of ODA commitments.

Commitments were targeted differently by different donors.



# Recipient Patterns (continued)

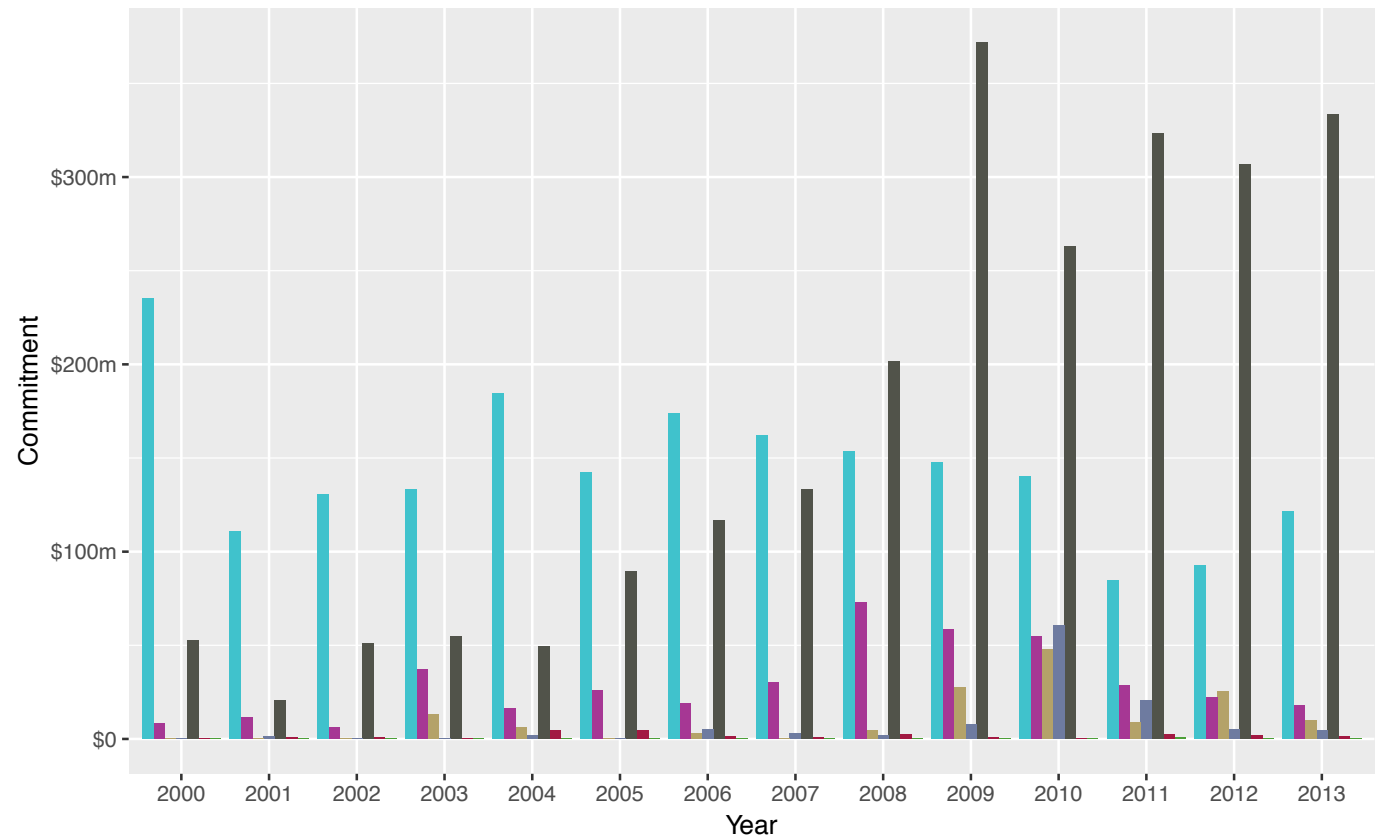




# Spending Varied on Forms of Exploitation

In 2000 ODA commitments aimed at eradicating child labour outpaced those dealing with other forms of exploitation.

By 2008 commitments to combat human trafficking increased.



Forms

- Child Labour
- Child Soldiering
- Forced Labour
- Forced Marriage
- Human Trafficking
- Modern Slavery
- Servitude



# Substance meets Tools

- Background knowledge required to root out the correct data
- Automation removes barriers like time constraints/resources
- Simple machine learning tools can ensure results are obtained in real-time

DELTA8.7



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# Thank you!

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