Fairtrade Coffee Standard Main Changes

Fairtrade Coffee Standard for Small-scale Producer Organizations (SPO) and Traders

The revised Fairtrade Coffee Standard for Small-scale Producer Organizations (SPO) and Traders is the result of a limited review undertaken between July 2023 to November 2023. The revised Fairtrade Coffee Standard was approved by the Standards Committee in November 2023.

This document identifies the key changes made to the Standard and includes a table describing in more detail the extent of the changes made, following the structure of the revised Standard.

This document does not describe the content of the changes in full detail. It does not replace a detailed study of the revised standard and it is not part of the Standard.

Key changes:

➤ Limited review of the standard.

➤ Inclusion of requirements to prevent and monitor deforestation, protection of forest, geolocation and support to SPOs and biodiversity management.

Overview of the new Fairtrade Coffee Standard:

This table shows the most important changes. New requirements or sections are marked as 'New'.

Organizations that begin the certification process after the 01 January 2025 will need to comply with the applicable requirements. Organizations that are certified before 01 January 2025 will need to comply with the requirements as indicated with the requirements as shown un the table at the end of this document.

Overview of the new Coffee Standard:

This table shows the most important changes, specifying if these are modifications or new additions.

Fairtrade Coffee Standards, Main Changes, February 2024

Standard section	Type of change	Revised Standard 2024	Comments
3. Production			
3.1 Environmental development	New	- 3.1.1 on Protection of forest and ecosystems	To strengthen forest cover loss aspects of Fairtrade certification, specifically by including a cut-off date of December 2014 following a reactive approach.
		- 3.1.2 on No deforestation on farms;	To strengthen forest cover loss aspects of Fairtrade certification, specifically by including a cut-off date of December 2018.
		- 3.1.3 on Assessing and monitoring deforestation risk	To strengthen procedures to prevent deforestation, making risk assessment and preventative measures mandatory such as the use of geo location data and deforestation monitoring data.
		- 3.1.4 on Deforestation prevention and mitigation plan	SPOs are asked to create a plan which will enable them to use the results of their risk assessment and monitoring to develop prevention and mitigation activities.
		- 3.1.5 on Supporting producers to prevent and mitigate deforestation	To support the SPO's plan and the related necessary investments, traders should partner with SPOs for these activities.
		- 3.1.6 on Geolocation data	Geolocation data has to be provided for all farm units, so that forest cover loss monitoring can be carried out, and also to enable traceability.
		- 3.1.7 on Sharing geolocation data	Payers/conveyors often collect quite extensive data on SPO members and their farms, and so should share this data with their SPO partners, so that SPOs can analyse this data.

Standard section	Type of change	Revised Standard 2024	Comments
		- 3.1.8 on SPO reporting	The reporting indicators will be shared with Fairtrade International annually, in order to inform Fairtrade interventions and enable aggregated and anonymized reporting.
		- 3.1.9 on Trader reporting	The reporting indicators will be shared with Fairtrade International annually, in order to track Fairtrade's objective of promoting cost sharing across the supply chain. This information will be kept confidential.
		- 3.1.13 on Biodiversity management	SPOs are asked to create a plan which will enable them to use their environmental risk assessment to further protect the biodiversity and their services in the farms.

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Implementation timelines for the new requirements introduced in 2023.

Fairtrade Standard requirement for coffee	For SPOs and traders already certified or having started the certification process before 1 January 2025	For SPOs and traders that have already started the certification process after 1 January 2025
3.1.1 Protection of forests and ecosystems *Applies to: SPOs* *Core, Year 0*	**January 2025**	**January 2025**
3.1.2 Protection of forests and ecosystems *Applies to: SPOs* *Core, Year 0*	**January 2026**	**January 2025**
3.1.3 Deforestation risk assessment and monitoring *Applies to: SPOs* *Core, Year 1*	**January 2027**	**January 2026**
3.1.4 Deforestation prevention and mitigation plan *Applies to: SPOs* *Core, Year 1*	**January 2027**	**January 2026**
3.1.5 Supporting producers to prevent and mitigate deforestation *Applies to: payers and conveyors* *Core, Year 0*	**January 2026**	**January 2025**
3.1.6 Geolocation data *Applies to: SPOs* *Core, Year 0*	**January 2026**	**January2025**
3.1.7 Sharing geolocation data *Applies to: payers and conveyors* *Core, Year 0*	**January 2026**	**January 2025**
3.1.8 SPO reporting *Applies to: SPOs* *Core, Year 1*	**January 2027**	**January 2026**
3.1.9 Trader reporting *Applies to: payers and conveyors* *Core, Year 0*	**January 2026**	**January 2025**
3.1.13 Biodiversity management *Applies to: SPOs* *Development, Year 1*	**January 2026**	**January 2026**