



Interpretation Notes Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa

Version 27.09.2023_v.2.6

Date	28 March 2024							
Reference	<i>Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa for SPOs</i>							
Affected standard requirement(s)	<p>1.1.1 Entry requirement for producer organizations</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="443 678 1390 1272"> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="443 678 1390 723">Applies to: SPOs</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="443 723 560 779">Core</td> <td data-bbox="560 723 1390 1272" rowspan="2"> <p>You demonstrate that you are an established organisation of at least two years prior to requesting certification, with administrative, technical, commercial and financial capacity by providing all of the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • legal registration, • financial statements, • records of commercialization, • business development plan, • General Assembly records <p>You demonstrate that there is Fairtrade market potential for your product of at least two years. Market potential or demand can be demonstrated through a letter of intent or a similar document from an (prospect) end buyer that indicates a two years' commitment and estimated volumes to be bought under Fairtrade terms.</p> <p>Please check the Interpretation Note for the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa here.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="443 779 560 1272">Year 0</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="443 1205 1390 1272"> <p>Guidance: This requirement replaces requirements 1.1.3 and 1.1.4 in the SPO standard. The certification body will check this requirement during the application process.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	Applies to: SPOs		Core	<p>You demonstrate that you are an established organisation of at least two years prior to requesting certification, with administrative, technical, commercial and financial capacity by providing all of the following documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • legal registration, • financial statements, • records of commercialization, • business development plan, • General Assembly records <p>You demonstrate that there is Fairtrade market potential for your product of at least two years. Market potential or demand can be demonstrated through a letter of intent or a similar document from an (prospect) end buyer that indicates a two years' commitment and estimated volumes to be bought under Fairtrade terms.</p> <p>Please check the Interpretation Note for the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa here.</p>	Year 0	<p>Guidance: This requirement replaces requirements 1.1.3 and 1.1.4 in the SPO standard. The certification body will check this requirement during the application process.</p>	
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Interpretation	<p><i>Who is an end buyer in the context of this requirement?</i></p> <p>Here is a list of end buyers according to the context of the requirement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Licensees - as they are the end buyers in a supply chain. • Manufacturers - which are manufacturing finished products. • Retailers buying (or planning to buy) Fairtrade from certified manufacturers or licensees. <p><i>What does a business development plan include?</i></p> <p>The business development plan is expected to include all information related to technical assistance capacities and priorities, work plans, membership development plan and information on production and sales estimates. This document can also serve as the business plan, if sales estimates and buyers' name are included, demonstrating the aforementioned market potential.</p>							



How should the requirements 1.1.1 for producers in the Fairtrade Standards for cocoa be interpreted when Fairtrade certified SPOs decide to set up new legal entities within the existing structure or divide into complete separate legal entities to be in compliance with the EU organic regulation?"

In 2018 the EU published the "Organic Regulation (EU) 2018/848. It has a key section talking about „Groups of operators “: Art. 36. Also, several secondary acts were published. In the Regulation (EU) 2021/279 „Control “(Jan 2021,) clarifies several conditions for the newly defined concept of “Groups of Operators (GoO)”. There are a few elements that are relevant and thus may have an implication for Fairtrade certified organizations. These are:

- ✓ Legal entity composed only of organic or in-conversion farmers
- ✓ All must be within the newly defined farm size or organic turnover limit and
- ✓ Up to a maximum of 2000 members per Group of Operators are allowed

This might lead to Fairtrade certified SPOs creating new legal entities within the SPO or dividing into separate SPOs to comply with the new organic regulation.

In case some members of the SPO decide to create a new legal entity or more for the purpose of managing the Group of Operators and commercialize the product through the original SPO, the Group of Operators structure(s) will not affect the existing Fairtrade certification and will not be considered as a new producer organization under Fairtrade Standards.

In cases, where the original SPO decides to split into a new organization(s), taking up responsibilities beyond managing the Group of Operators, including the commercialization of the product and managing the Fairtrade certification, the new organization(s) need to apply for certification and should be exempted of the need to show the documents named in the entry requirement 1.1.1. and instead submit to FLOCERT the following:

- Organic certificate
- The ID of the Fairtrade certified SPO
- The list of members of the original Fairtrade certified SPO and the list of members of the newly created SPO. Whereby at least 90% of the members should also be in the list of the original Fairtrade certified SPO.

The purpose of this is to make sure that Fairtrade certified SPOs are able to continue with their organic certification following the new EU regulations. All other requirements relevant to the SPO certification remain applicable.



Date	28 August 2024									
Reference	Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa for SPOs									
Affected standard requirement(s)	<p>2.1.1 NEW JULY 2023 Recording Member and Organization Production</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="435 510 1249 808"> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="435 510 1249 553">Applies to: SPOs</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="435 553 507 595">Core</td> <td data-bbox="507 553 1249 595">Once a year you record individual member production and the total production of your organization. This includes both estimated and actual production.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="435 595 507 808">Year 1</td> <td data-bbox="507 595 1249 808"> <p>When estimating member yield you use a consistent and credible methodology that uses farm level data.</p> <p>You compare estimated production with actual production and/or sales at both member and organisational level to check there are no significant differences. If significant differences are recorded at either the individual member or organizational level, you investigate why and take measures to prevent recurrence as applicable.</p> </td> </tr> </table> <table border="1" data-bbox="435 835 1249 913"> <tr> <td data-bbox="435 835 507 913"></td> <td data-bbox="507 835 1249 913">A definition for "credible methodology" and "significant difference" is included in the interpretation note to the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa, which can be found here.</td> </tr> </table> <table border="1" data-bbox="435 925 1249 1126"> <tr> <td data-bbox="435 925 1249 1126"> <p>Guidance: Having accurate information on member production is essential for an organization to operate as a successful farmer business with clear oversight of its cocoa supply. Accurate member production records enable organizations to: forecast their total available supply of Fairtrade certified volumes for the next cocoa trading season, target training and support needs to members for cocoa productivity improvement and provide confidence to buyers of Fairtrade cocoa supply and legitimacy. Members' production and sales information are embedded in the SPOs' internal regulations, therefore there are measures in place in case a member is detected selling more than its estimated production volumes. "Significant difference" refers to a deviation of no more than 20% from the originally estimated production to the actual production and/or sales to the SPO.</p> <p>A guidance document on yield estimation can be found here.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	Applies to: SPOs		Core	Once a year you record individual member production and the total production of your organization. This includes both estimated and actual production.	Year 1	<p>When estimating member yield you use a consistent and credible methodology that uses farm level data.</p> <p>You compare estimated production with actual production and/or sales at both member and organisational level to check there are no significant differences. If significant differences are recorded at either the individual member or organizational level, you investigate why and take measures to prevent recurrence as applicable.</p>		A definition for "credible methodology" and "significant difference" is included in the interpretation note to the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa, which can be found here .	<p>Guidance: Having accurate information on member production is essential for an organization to operate as a successful farmer business with clear oversight of its cocoa supply. Accurate member production records enable organizations to: forecast their total available supply of Fairtrade certified volumes for the next cocoa trading season, target training and support needs to members for cocoa productivity improvement and provide confidence to buyers of Fairtrade cocoa supply and legitimacy. Members' production and sales information are embedded in the SPOs' internal regulations, therefore there are measures in place in case a member is detected selling more than its estimated production volumes. "Significant difference" refers to a deviation of no more than 20% from the originally estimated production to the actual production and/or sales to the SPO.</p> <p>A guidance document on yield estimation can be found here.</p>
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Interpretation	<p><i>What is a consistent and credible methodology when estimating member production?</i></p> <p>To comply with requirement 2.1.1, you need to estimate yields, and you need to analyse the results and take action if necessary.</p> <p>It is also strongly advised to develop procedures in which you describe the methodology used, who will do the estimates, when the estimates are done, and how results are reported. You can use information from this document to develop your procedures.</p> <p>Yield estimates are useful if they reflect as close as possible the expected yield. A consistent and credible methodology will help to get accurate estimates.</p> <p>For a methodology to be consistent, it means that every year the same steps are used to estimate yields and that those estimating yields all follow the same procedures.</p> <p>For a methodology to be credible, it means that it is based on data and not guesses, data used is collected in a reliable and impartial way, and sample sizes, in case they are used, are representative.</p> <p>For more information regarding a consistent and credible methodology, see Guidance Document Yield Estimates.</p> <p><i>What is a significant difference?</i></p> <p>"Significant difference" refers to a deviation of no more than 20% from the original estimated production to the actual production and/or sales to the producer organization. Productivity improvements due to targeted interventions along with</p>									



	<p>changing weather conditions were considered when determining this threshold.</p> <p>For more information regarding comparing estimated and actual yields, see Guidance Document Yield Estimates.</p>				
Date	19 February 2024				
Reference	Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa/ Traders				
Affected Standard requirements	<p>3.2.7 NEW JULY 2024 for traders sourcing from Africa and Asia</p> <p>NEW JULY 2025 for traders sourcing from Latin America and the Caribbean</p> <p>Supporting Producers with Action Plans</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Applies to: Traders</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Core</td> <td> <p>You support the action plans of producer organizations by collaborating on at least one activity that supports the prevention and mitigation of the most serious risks identified.</p> <p>Your support is either direct or through a partnership. It is in the form of funding, training, facilitation of partnerships, advocacy with government, or other ways.</p> <p>Please check the Interpretation Note for the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa here.</p> </td> </tr> </table> <p>Guidance: See requirements 3.2.6 and 3.3.1/3.3.2 for more detail on Action Plans and Monitoring and Remediation Systems as well as Guidance Document "Implementing Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence (HREDD) – Guide for Smallholder Farmer Organizations".</p> <p>This requirement replaces Trader Standard requirements 3.3.2, 3.3.3, and 3.3.6 in terms of support for action plans of producer organisations. All other aspects of the above mentioned Trader Standard requirements still apply.</p>	Applies to: Traders		Core	<p>You support the action plans of producer organizations by collaborating on at least one activity that supports the prevention and mitigation of the most serious risks identified.</p> <p>Your support is either direct or through a partnership. It is in the form of funding, training, facilitation of partnerships, advocacy with government, or other ways.</p> <p>Please check the Interpretation Note for the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa here.</p>
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Interpretation	<p>What is the rule?</p> <p>Traders, defined as exporters, importers, manufacturers, brands and certified retailers, are required to support producers to implement an action plan that supports the prevention and mitigation of the most serious risks identified. This contribution is in addition to the Fairtrade Premium. Support can be direct or through a partnership and in the form of funding, training, advocacy with government, or other ways.</p> <p>How does it work?</p> <p>Support to producer organizations is evidenced annually either via direct interventions or via partner initiatives with relevant government agencies, expert human rights NGOs, traders or similar. Support can also take the form of contributions to Fairtrade’s Child Labour and Forced Labour Prevention and Remediation Programme in West Africa, in case SPOs which supply the trader have identified this risk. For further information, please contact the local National Fairtrade Organisation.</p> <p>How can a trader fulfil the requirement to support producers with action plans?</p> <p>Fairtrade Cocoa Standard requirement 3.2.7 lists a number of methodologies that the trader can use to fulfil the requirement. This interpretation note provides further details on how each of the methodologies can be enacted by the trader.</p>				



	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Funding - a defined amount paid by a trader to SPOs. The amount can be paid in the following ways:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To the Fairtrade Child Labour and Forced Labour Prevention and Remediation Programme directly to Fairtrade International. The trader will provide certification body with evidence of payment. Any payment would be valid as meeting compliance for the 12 months stated by Fairtrade International.<p>It is possible that a National Fairtrade Organisation makes this payment on behalf of the trader and provides the trader with a proof of payment to the programme. This option applies in case the SPOs supplying the trader have identified this risk.</p>• Funding can be paid by a trader to another trader for passing onto an SPO. The trader receiving the funding must issue a receipt detailing the following: which SPO received the funding; the value; the 12-months period for which the payment was due; and the date it was paid. This can be submitted as evidence to the certification body by the traders.2. Training – a defined training activity provided to specific SPOs.<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Where the trader is delivering the training to the SPO the trader must name the SPO and date of training, and the cost of the training, as evidence that the activity was conducted. This could be valid as meeting compliance 12 months from date of training, there is a minimum of one training per year.• Where a trader has instructed another trader or third party to provide training to the SPO the trader or third party providing the training must provide the name of the SPO and the date of the training, as well as the cost. This could be valid as meeting compliance 12 months from date of the training. There is a minimum of one training per year.3. Facilitation of partnerships - a partnership is where funding or training has been delivered to an SPO via a third party. The trader provides proof of the partnership and related activities. The cost of the activities must be stated.4. Advocacy with government – Advocacy activities must be around tangible actions on how the trader is taking responsibility to address child labour and forced labour, and the cost of these activities have to be mentioned. As part of the advocacy work, proposals should aim to seek a specific change for the sector to the governments. There should be a minimum 1 public proposal per year. This could be valid as meeting compliance 12-months from date of communication to the governments. The trader should present evidence to the auditor about the interaction with the governments of the country of production and/or country of consumption.
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5. Other ways –other forms of interventions where quantifiable resources have passed from the trader to the SPO that are not part of the above possible methods. For example, a trader is supporting improvements in educational facilities within farming communities in partnership with an SPO. The resources must have a defined monetary value for each year of implementation. There must be evidence from the trader that the SPO has received the resources through confirmation from the SPO.

Fairtrade recommends a minimum investment of \$19 per tonne of cocoa beans in total for prevention and remediation activities.

What is Fairtrade’s Child Labour and Forced Labour Prevention and Remediation Programme?

Fairtrade’s Child Labour and Forced Labour Prevention and Remediation Programme is designed to assist Small Producer Organisations (SPOs) in co-funding prevention and remediation activities connected to child labour and forced labour. The programme will grant money to producers based on successful application and opened mid-2023 to Ivorian and Ghanaian SPOs with a start-up fund of €450,000. Commercial operators, Fairtrade certified or not, can choose to voluntarily contribute to the programme. Such support is one way to meet requirement 3.2.7 and 3.3.3.

I already support a Child Labour Programme in Ghana/ Cote d’Ivoire. Does this mean I meet requirement 3.2.7 and 3.3.3 or will I be expected to fund Fairtrade’s Programme?

If traders are able to demonstrate annually via evidence that they are supporting/contributing to a child labour programme, requirement 3.2.7 will be met.

Is a minimum financial contribution or the equivalent thereof required for 3.2.7?

Fairtrade does not require a minimum contribution; however, it is recommended that a minimum of \$19 per tonne of cocoa beans for prevention and remediation is paid to Small Producer Organisations. While there is no published data on the average cost of addressing and remediating child labour in Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana, sector experts such as the [International Cocoa Initiative](#) have observed the minimum cost for remediation is \$30 per farmer, per year, spread across all farmers in a Small Producer Organisation regardless of the presence or absence of child labour in the household. To convert this into a per tonne of cocoa beans figure Fairtrade divided \$30 per farmer by the median volume of cocoa beans produced per annum by an Ivorian cocoa farmer, 1.570 tonnes.

I operate mass balance and am further along the supply chain, so I am currently unable to identify the specific SPOs I source my Fairtrade cocoa from. In this instance, how can I meet requirement 3.2.7?



	<p>Not all traders will be able to directly support the specific SPOs they source from due to mass balance. Some operators will be able to verify via their traders the country of origin of their SPOs and potentially narrow it down to a group of Fairtrade certified SPOs. So long as a certified trader can evidence, they pay into a programme that supports either, the group of Fairtrade certified SPOs they source from, or Fairtrade certified SPOs in the country of origin they source from (Côte d'Ivoire and/or Ghana) then requirement 3.2.7. will be met.</p> <p>Fairtrade's Child Labour and Forced Labour Prevention and Remediation Programme enables traders who are not connected to the Fairtrade certified SPOs they purchase from to channel money to Fairtrade certified SPOs who have successfully applied to the programme. Traders can choose this intervention if they are not already engaged in a Child Labour programme to meet requirement 3.2.7.</p>								
Date	<i>04 December 2023</i>								
Reference	<i>Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa/ Traders</i>								
Affected Standard requirements	<p>3.3.3 NEW JULY 2024 for traders sourcing from Africa and Asia</p> <p>NEW JANUARY 2025 for traders sourcing from Latin America and the Caribbean</p> <p>Supporting Producers to Address and Remediate Child Labour and Forced Labour</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="443 1234 1257 1588"> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="443 1234 1257 1279">Applies to: Traders</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="443 1279 571 1473">Core</td> <td data-bbox="571 1279 1257 1473"> <p>You provide resource and support to producer organizations who have identified they are operating in areas of high risk of child labour and/or forced labour. This contribution is in addition to the Fairtrade Premium paid to the producers. Your support is either direct or through a partnership. It is in the form of funding, training, facilitation of partnerships, advocacy with government, or other ways.</p> <p>Please check the Interpretation Note for the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa here.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="443 1473 1257 1547"> <p>Guidance: See requirements 3.2.6 and 3.3.1/3.3.2 for more detail on Action Plans and Monitoring and Remediation Systems and Guidance Document "Implementing Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence (HREDD) – Guide for Smallholder Farmer Organizations".</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="443 1547 1257 1588"> <p>This requirement replaces Trader Standard requirement 3.3.6.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	Applies to: Traders		Core	<p>You provide resource and support to producer organizations who have identified they are operating in areas of high risk of child labour and/or forced labour. This contribution is in addition to the Fairtrade Premium paid to the producers. Your support is either direct or through a partnership. It is in the form of funding, training, facilitation of partnerships, advocacy with government, or other ways.</p> <p>Please check the Interpretation Note for the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa here.</p>	<p>Guidance: See requirements 3.2.6 and 3.3.1/3.3.2 for more detail on Action Plans and Monitoring and Remediation Systems and Guidance Document "Implementing Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence (HREDD) – Guide for Smallholder Farmer Organizations".</p>		<p>This requirement replaces Trader Standard requirement 3.3.6.</p>	
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Interpretation	<p>What is the rule?</p> <p>Traders, defined as exporters, importers, manufacturers, brands and certified retailers, are required to support producers to address and remediate child labour and forced labour when sourcing from producers located in a high-risk area. This contribution is in addition to the Fairtrade Premium. Support can be direct or through a partnership and in the form of funding, training, advocacy with government, or other ways.</p> <p>How does it work?</p> <p>Support to producer organizations is evidenced annually either via direct interventions or via partner initiatives with relevant government agencies, expert human rights NGOs, traders or similar. Support can also take the form of contributions to Fairtrade's</p>								



Child Labour and Forced Labour Prevention and Remediation Programme. For further information, please contact the local National Fairtrade Organisation.

How can a trader fulfil the requirement to support producers to address and remediate Child Labour and Forced Labour?

Fairtrade Cocoa Standard requirement 3.3.3 lists a number of methodologies that the trader can use to fulfil the requirement. This interpretation note provides further details on how each of the methodologies can be enacted by the trader.

1. **Funding** - a defined amount paid by a trader to SPOs. The amount can be paid in the following ways:
 - To the Fairtrade Child Labour and Forced Labour Prevention and Remediation Programme directly to Fairtrade International. The trader will provide certification body with evidence of payment. Any payment would be valid as meeting compliance for the 12 months stated by Fairtrade International.

It is possible that a National Fairtrade Organisation makes this payment on behalf of the trader and provides the trader with a proof of payment to the programme.

- Funding can be paid by a trader to another trader for passing onto an SPO. The trader receiving the funding must issue a receipt detailing the following: which SPO received the funding; the value; the 12-months period for which the payment was due; and the date it was paid. This can be submitted as evidence to the certification body by the traders.
2. **Training** – a defined training activity provided to specific SPOs.
 - Where the trader is delivering the training to the SPO the trader must name the SPO and date of training, and the cost of the training, as evidence that the activity was conducted. This could be valid as meeting compliance 12 months from date of training, there is a minimum of one training per year.
 - Where a trader has instructed another trader or third party to provide training to the SPO the trader or third party providing the training must provide the name of the SPO and the date of the training, as well as the cost. This could be valid as meeting compliance 12 months from date of the training. There is a minimum of one training per year.
 3. **Advocacy with government** – Advocacy activities must be around tangible actions on how the trader is taking responsibility to address child labour and forced labour, and the cost of these activities have to be mentioned. As part of the advocacy work, proposals should aim to seek a specific change for the sector to the governments. There should be a minimum 1 public proposal per year. This could be valid as meeting compliance 12-months from date of communication to the governments. The trader should present evidence to the auditor about the interaction with the governments of the country of production and/or country of consumption.
 4. **Facilitation of partnerships** - a partnership is where funding or training has been delivered to an SPO via a third party. The trader provides proof of the



partnership and related activities. The cost of the activities must be stated.

- 5. Other ways** –other forms of interventions where quantifiable resources have passed from the trader to the SPO that are not part of the above possible methods. For example, a trader is supporting improvements in educational facilities within farming communities in partnership with an SPO. The resources must have a defined monetary value for each year of implementation. There must be evidence from the trader that the SPO has received the resources through confirmation from the SPO.

Fairtrade recommends a minimum investment of \$19 per tonne of cocoa beans in total for prevention and remediation activities.

What is Fairtrade’s Child Labour and Forced Labour Prevention and Remediation Programme?

Fairtrade’s Child Labour and Forced Labour Prevention and Remediation Programme is designed to assist Small Producer Organisations (SPOs) in co-funding prevention and remediation activities connected to child labour and forced labour. The programme will grant money to producers based on successful application and opened mid-2023 to Ivorian and Ghanaian SPOs with a start-up fund of €450,000. Commercial operators, Fairtrade certified or not, can choose to voluntarily contribute to the programme. Such support is one way to meet requirement 3.3.3.

I already support a Child Labour Programme in Ghana/ Cote d’Ivoire. Does this mean I meet requirement 3.3.3 or will I be expected to fund Fairtrade’s Programme?

If traders are able to demonstrate annually via evidence that they are supporting/contributing to a child labour programme, requirement 3.3.3 will be met.

Is a minimum financial contribution or the equivalent thereof required for 3.3.3?

Fairtrade does not require a minimum contribution; however, it is recommended that a minimum of \$19 per tonne of cocoa beans for prevention and remediation is paid to Small Producer Organisations. While there is no published data on the average cost of addressing and remediating child labour in Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana, sector experts such as the [International Cocoa Initiative](#) have observed the minimum cost for remediation is \$30 per farmer, per year, spread across all farmers in a Small Producer Organisation regardless of the presence or absence of child labour in the household. To convert this into a per tonne of cocoa beans figure Fairtrade divided \$30 per farmer by the median volume of cocoa beans produced per annum by an Ivorian cocoa farmer, 1.570 tonnes.

I operate mass balance and am further along the supply chain, so I am currently unable to identify the specific SPOs I source my Fairtrade cocoa from. In this

	<p><i>instance, how can I meet requirement 3.3.3?</i></p> <p>Not all traders will be able to directly support the specific SPOs they source from due to mass balance. Some operators will be able to verify via their traders the country of origin of their SPOs and potentially narrow it down to a group of Fairtrade certified SPOs. So long as a certified trader can evidence, they pay into a programme that supports either, the group of Fairtrade certified SPOs they source from, or Fairtrade certified SPOs in the country of origin they source from (Cote d'Ivoire and/or Ghana) then requirement 3.3.3. will be met.</p> <p>Fairtrade's Child Labour and Forced Labour Prevention and Remediation Programme enables traders who are not connected to the Fairtrade certified SPOs they purchase from to channel money to Fairtrade certified SPOs who have successfully applied to the programme. Traders can choose this intervention if they are not already engaged in a Child Labour programme to meet requirement 3.3.3.</p>																		
<p>Date</p>	<p><i>04 December 2023</i></p>																		
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<p>Affected Standard requirements</p>	<p>3.4.1 NEW JANUARY 2024 Protection of forests and ecosystems</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="470 1079 1209 1581"> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="470 1079 1209 1122">Applies to: SPOs</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="470 1122 587 1176">Core</td> <td data-bbox="587 1122 1209 1176">Your members did not cause deforestation or degradation in primary or secondary forests, protected areas and areas of High Conservation Value or High Carbon Storage to convert land into agricultural production area since 31st December 2018.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="470 1176 587 1312">Year 0</td> <td data-bbox="587 1176 1209 1312"> <p>Production does not occur in officially designated buffer zones, except where it complies with applicable law.</p> <p>Please check the Interpretation Note for the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa here.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="470 1312 1209 1355"> <p>Guidance: Deforestation is the conversion of forest to other land use or the permanent reduction of the tree canopy cover below the minimum 10 percent threshold (The Global Forest Resources Assessment, FAO, 2015).</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="470 1355 1209 1397"> <p>The following activities are not considered 'deforestation':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When a tree crop is replaced by another (for example cocoa, coffee or fruit tree); </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="470 1397 1209 1440"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree management on agro-forestry or home-garden production systems. </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="470 1440 1209 1482"> <p>Your members may identify protected areas with the help of local, regional, or national authorities.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="470 1482 1209 1525"> <p>Please note that this requirement complements SPO Standard requirement 3.2.31 "Protection of forests and vegetation".</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="470 1525 1209 1581"> <p><i>Until requirement 3.4.5 becomes applicable in Latin America and Caribbean, this requirement will be audited similarly to SPO standard requirement 3.2.31 in this region.</i></p> </td> </tr> </table>	Applies to: SPOs		Core	Your members did not cause deforestation or degradation in primary or secondary forests, protected areas and areas of High Conservation Value or High Carbon Storage to convert land into agricultural production area since 31st December 2018.	Year 0	<p>Production does not occur in officially designated buffer zones, except where it complies with applicable law.</p> <p>Please check the Interpretation Note for the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa here.</p>	<p>Guidance: Deforestation is the conversion of forest to other land use or the permanent reduction of the tree canopy cover below the minimum 10 percent threshold (The Global Forest Resources Assessment, FAO, 2015).</p>		<p>The following activities are not considered 'deforestation':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When a tree crop is replaced by another (for example cocoa, coffee or fruit tree); 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tree management on agro-forestry or home-garden production systems. 		<p>Your members may identify protected areas with the help of local, regional, or national authorities.</p>		<p>Please note that this requirement complements SPO Standard requirement 3.2.31 "Protection of forests and vegetation".</p>		<p><i>Until requirement 3.4.5 becomes applicable in Latin America and Caribbean, this requirement will be audited similarly to SPO standard requirement 3.2.31 in this region.</i></p>	
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<p>Interpretation</p>	<p><i>What is the rule and how does it work?</i></p> <p>All SPOs certified in Fairtrade cocoa are required to provide geolocation data for all members' farms to Fairtrade International according to the formats and templates provided on an annual basis to meet the Standard requirements.</p> <p>Where there has been no change to the farm size or location, annual data submission can include data collected in prior years.</p> <p>Where possible the data will be utilised to provide farm-level risk assessments of deforestation and identification of farms in protected areas using deforestation</p>																		

	<p>monitoring technology.</p> <p>The information will be shared with the relevant SPOs.</p> <p>SPOs may receive a report with the results of the monitoring. This may lead to the identification of one or more deforestation alerts on the SPOs' members' farms. It is the responsibility of the SPO to provide deforestation alerts with the relevant member of the SPO.</p> <p>If an alert is determined to be false, the SPO must dispute the deforestation alert by submitting this information to Fairtrade International within 4 weeks of receiving the alert, using the provided template for alert disputes. If alerts are confirmed to be true, the SPO would need to take corrective actions. SPOs will receive instructions at the same time with the alerts from Fairtrade International on how to document the action taken by the SPO to resolve the alert (SPO submitted an alert dispute or if the SPO excluded the associated member from the cooperative or taken any other action). SPOs must submit to Fairtrade International the action taken for each alert within 4 weeks of receiving the alert.</p>						
Date	27 September 2024						
Reference	Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa						
Affected Standard requirement	<p>3.4.4 NEW JANUARY 2025 Supporting producers to prevent and mitigate deforestation</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="443 1167 1393 1507"> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="443 1167 1393 1216">Applies to: Payers and conveyors</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="443 1216 595 1339">Core</td> <td data-bbox="595 1216 1393 1339">You support the SPOs you are sourcing from with their plan to prevent and mitigate any deforestation and degradation of forest, <u>in order to</u> conserve and restore forest and vegetation.</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="443 1339 1393 1507"> <p>Guidance: Your support is either direct or through a partnership. It is in the form of funding, data sharing, training, facilitation of partnerships, advocacy or other ways.</p> <p>You may share any relevant data including deforestation monitoring data you have on the SPO membership or surrounding area to inform and support the SPO's mitigation activities.</p> <p>This requirement replaces Trader Standard requirement 3.3.6.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	Applies to: Payers and conveyors		Core	You support the SPOs you are sourcing from with their plan to prevent and mitigate any deforestation and degradation of forest, <u>in order to</u> conserve and restore forest and vegetation.	<p>Guidance: Your support is either direct or through a partnership. It is in the form of funding, data sharing, training, facilitation of partnerships, advocacy or other ways.</p> <p>You may share any relevant data including deforestation monitoring data you have on the SPO membership or surrounding area to inform and support the SPO's mitigation activities.</p> <p>This requirement replaces Trader Standard requirement 3.3.6.</p>	
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Interpretation	<p>What is the rule?</p> <p>From January 2025, payers and conveyors are required to support producers to implement a plan to prevent and mitigate any deforestation and degradation of forest, in order to conserve and restore forest and vegetation. As the intent is that eventually all traders (including manufacturers, brand and certified retailers) will support producers with deforestation prevention and mitigation, the requirement will become applicable to all traders within the next 12-24 months.</p> <p>The support can be direct or through a partnership and in the form of funding, data sharing, training, facilitation of partnerships, advocacy or other ways. Traders may share any relevant data including deforestation monitoring data on the SPO membership or surrounding area to inform and support the SPO's mitigation activities.</p>						



How does it work?

Support to producer organizations is evidenced annually either via direct interventions or via partner initiatives with relevant government agencies, environmental NGOs, traders or similar.

How can a trader fulfil the requirement to support producers with deforestation prevention plans?

1. Funding - a defined amount paid by a trader to SPOs. The amount can be paid in the following ways.

-Directly to SPOs. The trader will provide the certification body with evidence of payment. Any payment would be valid as meeting compliance for 12 months. The evidence must detail the following: which SPO received the funding; the value; the 12-months period for which the payment was due; and the date it was paid.

- By a trader to another trader for passing onto an SPO. The trader receiving the funding must issue a receipt detailing the following: which SPO received the funding; the value; the 12-months period for which the payment was due; and the date it was paid. This can be submitted as evidence to the certification body by the traders.

2. Training or other forms of material support – a defined training activity or other form of material support provided to specific SPOs.

- Where the trader is delivering the training to the SPO or other forms of material support* the trader must name the SPO and date of training, and the cost of the training, as evidence that the activity was conducted. This could be valid as meeting compliance 12 months from date of training, there is a minimum of one training per year.
- Where a trader has instructed another trader or third party to provide training or other forms of material support to the SPO the trader or third party providing the training must provide the name of the SPO and the date of the training, as well as the cost. This could be valid as meeting compliance 12 months from date of the training. There is a minimum of one training per year.

***Material support** can mean assistance with, geolocation data collection or access to geolocation data collected for the trader. This can include supporting SPO with:

- Access to SPOs of high quality satellite deforestation monitoring data.
- The digital collection and management of geolocation data.
- Access digital first mile digital traceability systems
- Ground truthing - the validating and where necessary disputing satellite generating deforestation alerts
- Reforestation

3. Advocacy with government



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Advocacy activities must be around tangible actions on how the trader is taking responsibility to prevent and mitigate any deforestation and degradation of forest. The cost of these activities have to be mentioned. As part of the advocacy work, proposals should aim to seek a specific change for the sector to the governments. <p>For example the trader could be engaged with Cocoa and Forests Initiative. There should be a minimum 1 public proposal per year. This could be valid as meeting compliance 12-months from date of communication to the governments. The trader should present evidence to the auditor about the interaction with the governments of the country of production and/or country of consumption.</p> <p>4. Facilitation of partnerships</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A partnership is where funding or training has been delivered to an SPO via a third party. The trader provides proof of the partnership and related activities. The cost of the activities must be stated. <p>5. Other ways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Other forms of interventions where quantifiable resources have passed from the trader to the SPO that are not part of the above possible methods. For example, a trader is supporting reforestation of deforested areas in partnership with an SPO. The resources must have a defined monetary value for each year of implementation. There must be evidence from the trader that the SPO has received the resources through confirmation from the SPO. 						
Date	<i>04 December 2023</i>						
Reference	<i>Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa</i>						
Affected Standard requirement	<p>3.4.5 NEW JANUARY 2024 for Africa and Asia NEW JANUARY 2025 for Latin America and the Caribbean</p> <p>Geolocation data</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="448 1534 1386 1872"> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="448 1534 1386 1585">Applies to: SPOs</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="448 1585 598 1653">Core</td> <td data-bbox="598 1585 1386 1653">Geolocation data is available for 100% of your member and farm operator units cultivating cocoa as GPS location points or GPS polygons.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="448 1653 598 1872">Year 0</td> <td data-bbox="598 1653 1386 1872"> <p>As a minimum you have GPS polygons for farms over four hectares. You identify and prioritize which other farm units should be polygon mapped, based upon area risk of deforestation and adopt a phased approach.</p> <p>You use the data to further inform your procedures to prevent deforestation.</p> <p>Please check the Interpretation Note for the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa here.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	Applies to: SPOs		Core	Geolocation data is available for 100% of your member and farm operator units cultivating cocoa as GPS location points or GPS polygons.	Year 0	<p>As a minimum you have GPS polygons for farms over four hectares. You identify and prioritize which other farm units should be polygon mapped, based upon area risk of deforestation and adopt a phased approach.</p> <p>You use the data to further inform your procedures to prevent deforestation.</p> <p>Please check the Interpretation Note for the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa here.</p>
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<p>Interpretation</p>	<p><i>What is the rule and how does it work?</i></p> <p>Geolocation data is available of all plots of land for 100% of their member and farm operator units cultivating Fairtrade certified cocoa. The list below describes the types of geolocation data, either geolocation points or polygons, that will need to be submitted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Polygon data are required for all farms defined as high risk, see below for definition. • Polygon data are required for any single plot of farm land growing Fairtrade certified cocoa 4 hectares or larger. • Point or polygon locations are acceptable for any single plot of farm land less than 4 hectares and not defined as high risk. <p>High risk farms are defined as farms that meet one of these criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of deforestation within 500 meters of farm boundary, for example a deforestation alert from deforestation monitoring technology. Where this analysis is provided by Fairtrade International’s provider that analysis takes precedence over any other. • Farm boundary is within 200 meters of a protected area. 								
<p>Date</p>	<p>28 August 2024</p>								
<p>Reference</p>	<p><i>Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa/ payers and conveyors</i></p>								
<p>Affected standard requirement</p>	<p>3.4.6 NEW JANUARY 2024 Sharing geolocation data</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="443 1149 1385 1576"> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="443 1149 1385 1200"> <p>Applies to: payers, conveyors</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="443 1200 547 1406"> <p>Core</p> </td> <td data-bbox="547 1200 1385 1406"> <p>Geolocation data is available for 100% of the farms units you are sourcing cocoa from as GPS location points or GPS polygons. As a minimum you have GPS polygons for farms over four hectares. You share this data with SPOs so that they can use it to inform their procedures to further prevent deforestation. Please check the Interpretation Note for the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa here.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="443 1406 1385 1503"> <p>Guidance: Regarding 100% of the farm units - in some cases, traceability systems may be in place that allow the Payer/Conveyor to identify specifically the farm units supplying the cocoa they are purchasing. The payer/trader may wish to declare this and submit supporting evidence to the certifier. If no such traceability systems are in place, the Payer/Conveyor can declare the geolocation data of all registered farms associated with the Fairtrade producer organizations they are sourcing from.</p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="443 1503 1385 1576"> <p>At the latest, the geolocation data should be collected upon arrival in port of destination.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Applies to: payers, conveyors</p>		<p>Core</p>	<p>Geolocation data is available for 100% of the farms units you are sourcing cocoa from as GPS location points or GPS polygons. As a minimum you have GPS polygons for farms over four hectares. You share this data with SPOs so that they can use it to inform their procedures to further prevent deforestation. Please check the Interpretation Note for the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa here.</p>	<p>Guidance: Regarding 100% of the farm units - in some cases, traceability systems may be in place that allow the Payer/Conveyor to identify specifically the farm units supplying the cocoa they are purchasing. The payer/trader may wish to declare this and submit supporting evidence to the certifier. If no such traceability systems are in place, the Payer/Conveyor can declare the geolocation data of all registered farms associated with the Fairtrade producer organizations they are sourcing from.</p>		<p>At the latest, the geolocation data should be collected upon arrival in port of destination.</p>	
<p>Applies to: payers, conveyors</p>									
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<p>At the latest, the geolocation data should be collected upon arrival in port of destination.</p>									
<p>Interpretation</p>	<p><i>What is the rule and how does it work?</i></p> <p>Payers/conveyors are expected to have geolocation data of the farms units they are sourcing cocoa from.</p> <p>When geodata is collected from farmer members of a producer organization by the payer/conveyor, the payer/conveyor shares this information with the management of the producer organization.</p> <p>This data should be shared using the formats defined by Fairtrade International. Evidence of the shared file should be available to FLOCERT at audit, e.g., by showing an email. The guidance document can be found here.</p> <p>By default, the Payer/Conveyor declares the geolocation data of all registered farms associated with the Fairtrade producer organizations they are sourcing from. However,</p>								



	<p>if the payer/conveyor is able to demonstrate via documentary evidence that they can identify the sub-section of farm units supplying their cocoa (due to identity preserved/physical traceability system being in place) the payer/conveyor may declare the geolocation date of these farm units only. This same logic applies to the trader reporting requirement 3.4.8 when reporting geolocation data to Fairtrade International.</p>										
<p>Date</p>	<p><i>04 December 2023</i></p>										
<p>Reference</p>	<p><i>Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa/ SPOs</i></p>										
<p>Affected Standard requirement</p>	<p>3.4.7 NEW JANUARY 2024 for Africa and Asia NEW JANUARY 2025 in Latin America and the Caribbean</p> <p>Reporting on Deforestation Prevention</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="451 831 1390 1025"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Applies to: SPOs</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Core</td> <td>You report data to Fairtrade International every year. You present the data in the templates and formats provided.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Year 1</td> <td>Please check the Interpretation Note for the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa here.</td> </tr> </table> <table border="1" data-bbox="451 1072 1362 1332"> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geolocation and Forest Cover Loss Monitoring Data </td> <td>- available geolocation data of member farms units</td> </tr> <tr> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [From JANUARY 2025:] Deforestation Prevention and Mitigation Support </td> <td>- type of support received during the past year, including its estimated monetary value, to prevent and mitigate any deforestation and degradation of forest</td> </tr> </table>	Applies to: SPOs		Core	You report data to Fairtrade International every year. You present the data in the templates and formats provided.	Year 1	Please check the Interpretation Note for the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa here .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geolocation and Forest Cover Loss Monitoring Data 	- available geolocation data of member farms units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> [From JANUARY 2025:] Deforestation Prevention and Mitigation Support 	- type of support received during the past year, including its estimated monetary value, to prevent and mitigate any deforestation and degradation of forest
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<p>Interpretation</p>	<p><i>What is the rule and how does it work?</i></p> <p>Data collected for the purpose of deforestation mitigation, including the geolocation data and the type of support received from traders etc. has to be submitted to Fairtrade International. For deforestation prevention and mitigation support: SPOs report this information on an annual basis via the FairInsight online platform: (https://fairinsight.agunity.com). For geolocation and forest cover loss monitoring data, guidance may be found here on how to prepare the geolocation data in the template provided and submit it to Fairtrade International: https://nextcloud.fairtrade.net/index.php/s/T9FF82xe25GF9Hs</p> <p>SPOs must submit a consent to release form with the geolocation data. The consent form can be found in multiple languages with the geolocation data templates here: https://nextcloud.fairtrade.net/index.php/s/T9FF82xe25GF9Hs.</p> <p>Geolocation data will only be considered if it is submitted with a signed consent form.</p> <p>Data Reporting Data is reported annually in the template provided by Fairtrade International, and</p>										



	<p>confirmed as valid by Fairtrade International. SPO geolocation data is shared with a third-party service provider, Satelligence, for initial data quality checks. Satelligence is bound by confidentiality and will not share the data to other parties without explicit consent. There are two possible outcomes of this data reporting process: the geolocation data is confirmed to be received and valid, or the geolocation data is confirmed to be received but considered not valid because it contains errors.</p> <p>1.The geolocation data is confirmed to be valid by Fairtrade International: in this case, Fairtrade will notify the SPO that the data are valid, the information around data validity is all contained in the geolocation data validation form. Please keep this form for your records to produce at the next audit. This will serve as confirmation that your organization has successfully submitted your geolocation data to Fairtrade for Cocoa Standard requirement 3.4.7</p> <p>2.The geolocation data contains errors identified by Fairtrade International and/or Satelligence: in this case, Fairtrade will notify the SPO that the data are not valid, and corrections are needed, this is all contained in the geolocation data validation form. The SPO needs to correct the errors and re-submit the complete and corrected geolocation data according to the reporting instructions. Fairtrade re-shares the data with Satelligence and once the data are considered valid the SPO will receive a confirmation which is all contained in the geolocation data validation form, this will serve as a proof of compliance during the audit. Auditors need access to the geolocation data validation form during the audit to confirm if the geolocation data sent is validated.</p>								
Date	28 August 2024								
Reference	Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa/ Traders								
Affected standard requirement	<p>3.4.8 NEW JANUARY 2024 Reporting on Deforestation Prevention</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="464 1415 1401 1608"> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="464 1415 1401 1464">Applies to: Payers and conveyors</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="464 1464 611 1608">Core</td> <td data-bbox="611 1464 1401 1608"> <p>You report data to Fairtrade International every year. You present the data in the templates and formats provided.</p> <p>Please check the Interpretation Note for the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa here.</p> </td> </tr> </table> <table border="1" data-bbox="464 1655 1370 1854"> <tr> <td data-bbox="464 1655 919 1727"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geolocation and Forest Cover Loss Monitoring Data (applies to payers and conveyors) </td> <td data-bbox="919 1655 1370 1727"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - available geolocation data of the farm units you are sourcing from (with the appropriate approval from SPOs) </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="464 1727 919 1854"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [From JANUARY 2025:] Deforestation Prevention and Mitigation Support (applies to payers and conveyors) </td> <td data-bbox="919 1727 1370 1854"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - type of support provided to SPOs during the past year, including its estimated monetary value, to prevent and mitigate any deforestation and degradation of forest </td> </tr> </table>	Applies to: Payers and conveyors		Core	<p>You report data to Fairtrade International every year. You present the data in the templates and formats provided.</p> <p>Please check the Interpretation Note for the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa here.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geolocation and Forest Cover Loss Monitoring Data (applies to payers and conveyors) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - available geolocation data of the farm units you are sourcing from (with the appropriate approval from SPOs) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • [From JANUARY 2025:] Deforestation Prevention and Mitigation Support (applies to payers and conveyors) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - type of support provided to SPOs during the past year, including its estimated monetary value, to prevent and mitigate any deforestation and degradation of forest
Applies to: Payers and conveyors									
Core	<p>You report data to Fairtrade International every year. You present the data in the templates and formats provided.</p> <p>Please check the Interpretation Note for the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa here.</p>								
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Interpretation	<p><i>What is the rule and how does it work?</i></p> <p><u>Reporting Geolocation and Forest Cover Loss Monitoring Data</u></p> <p>All payers and conveyors certified in Fairtrade cocoa are required to provide</p>								



geolocation data at farm level to Fairtrade International on an annual basis to be in compliance with the Standard requirements. Where there has been no change to the farm size or location annual data submission can include data collected in prior years.

Payers and conveyors submit to Fairtrade International geolocation data of 100% of the farm units they are sourcing from. By default, the payer/conveyor declares the geolocation data of all registered farms associated with the Fairtrade producer organizations they are sourcing from. However, if the payer/conveyor is able to demonstrate via documentary evidence that they can identify the sub-section of farm units supplying their cocoa (due to identity preserved/physical traceability system being in place) the payer/conveyor may declare the geolocation data of these farm units only.

Data are reported annually by payers and conveyors to Fairtrade International using the provided links and templates. The time at which each payer and conveyor reports their data to Fairtrade is decided by the organization, however the data are reported in the same month each year.

Payers and conveyors write to datareporting@fairtrade.net to request a link where the data can be submitted to Fairtrade International. Do not attach any geolocation data to your email to Fairtrade International, this is not a secure way to share data and any data received via email will not be considered as complying with the standard requirement.

Guidance may be found here on how to prepare the geolocation data in the template provided and submit it to Fairtrade International:

<https://nextcloud.fairtrade.net/index.php/s/T9FF82xe25GF9Hs>

See also Interpretation Note on requirement 3.4.6 above.

It is necessary that traders received the **proper consent** to share the geolocation data with Fairtrade from the SPOs to which the data belong. This should be in the form of written consent given on behalf of the SPO that traders retain a record of. In the written consent, the SPO must be made aware of what data is being shared, with whom and for what purpose. In addition, the SPO should be given the right to revoke consent to sharing of their data at any time. The responsibility of collecting, storing and adhering to the consent agreements of the geolocation data submitted to Fairtrade International remains with the trader organization.

Traders must submit a consent form with the geolocation data indicating they have collected the necessary consent from the SPOs whose farms are included in the data. Further guidance and the trader consent form can be found here:

<https://nextcloud.fairtrade.net/index.php/s/T9FF82xe25GF9Hs>

Geolocation data will only be considered if it is submitted with a signed consent form.

Data reporting



	<p>The geolocation data is confirmed to have been received by Fairtrade International via email. Please keep this email for your records to produce at the next audit. This will serve as confirmation that your organization has successfully submitted geolocation data to Fairtrade for Cocoa Standard requirement 3.4.8</p> <p>A key purpose of requirement 3.4.8 is to support the readiness of traders to fulfil the reporting requirements of the European regulators ahead of placing the product on the market or exporting to the European market. Given that this reporting requirements will become into full force until December 30 2024, in cases where the geolocation data is not available to a 100% the traders may submit partial data and show to the certification body that efforts continue to fulfil the requirement and submit data to a 100% latest by December 30, 2024. It is important to note that traders bear the liability for submission of geo data with European Authorities.</p> <p>Reporting Deforestation Prevention and Mitigation Support Trader reporting on supporting SPO deforestation plans, will apply to traders defined as exporters and importers (payers and conveyors) only, from January 2025. As the intent is that eventually all traders (including manufacturers, brand and certified retailers) will support producers with deforestation prevention and mitigation, the requirement will become applicable to all traders within the next 12-24 months.</p>						
Date	16 May 2023						
Reference	Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa/ SPOs						
Affected standard requirement(s)	<p>4.5.3 NEW JULY 2023 Transparent Processes for Fairtrade Volume Allocation</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="443 1283 1390 1664"> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="443 1283 1390 1339">Applies to: payers, conveyors</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="443 1339 563 1559">Core</td> <td data-bbox="563 1339 1390 1559"> <p>You have a publicly available, documented process in place to allocate the purchase of Fairtrade cocoa volumes to producers supplying you. The document includes the principles and/or the conditions relevant for your purchase decisions. You share the document with producers at the beginning of the cocoa buying season.</p> <p><i>Principles and conditions to be included in the document are outlined in the interpretation note to the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa here.</i></p> </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="443 1559 1390 1664"> <p>Guidance: Principles and/or conditions relevant for your purchase decisions could for example include volume of Fairtrade cocoa. available, previous delivery records or specific customer needs..</p> </td> </tr> </table>	Applies to: payers, conveyors		Core	<p>You have a publicly available, documented process in place to allocate the purchase of Fairtrade cocoa volumes to producers supplying you. The document includes the principles and/or the conditions relevant for your purchase decisions. You share the document with producers at the beginning of the cocoa buying season.</p> <p><i>Principles and conditions to be included in the document are outlined in the interpretation note to the Fairtrade Standard for Cocoa here.</i></p>	<p>Guidance: Principles and/or conditions relevant for your purchase decisions could for example include volume of Fairtrade cocoa. available, previous delivery records or specific customer needs..</p>	
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<p>Guidance: Principles and/or conditions relevant for your purchase decisions could for example include volume of Fairtrade cocoa. available, previous delivery records or specific customer needs..</p>							
Interpretation	<p>What is the rule and how does it work? Traders (payers and conveyors only) have a documented process in place to allocate the purchase of Fairtrade cocoa volumes to producer organizations. The document includes the principles and/or the conditions relevant for the purchase decisions. The document shall include the principles and/or the conditions relevant for the purchase decisions and who is authorised to make those decisions. For example, the document shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Who has the authority to decide the volume allocation for the trader 						



	<p>-A statement that no payment request shall be made to an SPO, by any person claiming to represent the trader, for allocation of Fairtrade volumes</p> <p>-How an individual or group can anonymously raise a complaint of fraud, shall a person claiming to represent the trader request payment for Fairtrade volume allocation</p> <p>-The factors the trader takes into account when allocating volumes to SPOs e.g. previous delivery history, customer specific needs etc</p> <p>Traders share the document with the producers they have contracts with at the beginning of the cocoa buying season. The document can be shared on the traders' website but importantly it is available to any interested party on request.</p> <p>We recommend the documents are also shared with Fairtrade Africa who can ensure SPOs have access.</p>						
Date	July 24, 2019						
Reference	Trader Standard						
Affected standard requirement(s)	<p>4.8.1 NEW Unfair trading practices</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="395 1059 1326 1843"> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="395 1059 1326 1122">Applies to: All traders</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="395 1122 496 1328">Core</td> <td data-bbox="496 1122 1326 1328">Fairtrade does not accept unfair practices that clearly damage producers' or other traders' capacity to compete or the imposition of trading conditions on suppliers that would make it difficult for them to comply with Fairtrade standards. There are no indications that you engage in such practices.</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" data-bbox="395 1328 1326 1843"> <p>Guidance: The EU Green Paper on unfair trading practices describe them as "practices that grossly deviate from good commercial conduct, are contrary to good faith and fair dealing and are unilaterally imposed by one trading partner on another". Unfair trading practices refer to situations of abuse of a relative dominant position and/or abuse of economic dependency, when a stronger party imposes unfair conditions to an economically dependent (and thus weaker) party.</p> <p>Some examples of such practices are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abusive contract terms such as bonded contracts or exclusivity contracts (unless clearly beneficial to the other party) and non-competition clauses. • Generally disadvantageous contracts imposed by abusing the position of creditor. • Excessive transfer of costs or risks to its counterpart such as demanding prices below costs or charging fees for services that are not demanded or are above value. • Misuse of unspecified, ambiguous or incomplete contract terms. • Sudden unfair termination or disruption of a commercial relationship, used as a means to bully a contracting party. • Misuse of confidential information. • Interfering with partner's business such as poaching members from producer organizations or otherwise attempting to weaken existing organizations. </td> </tr> </table>	Applies to: All traders		Core	Fairtrade does not accept unfair practices that clearly damage producers' or other traders' capacity to compete or the imposition of trading conditions on suppliers that would make it difficult for them to comply with Fairtrade standards. There are no indications that you engage in such practices.	<p>Guidance: The EU Green Paper on unfair trading practices describe them as "practices that grossly deviate from good commercial conduct, are contrary to good faith and fair dealing and are unilaterally imposed by one trading partner on another". Unfair trading practices refer to situations of abuse of a relative dominant position and/or abuse of economic dependency, when a stronger party imposes unfair conditions to an economically dependent (and thus weaker) party.</p> <p>Some examples of such practices are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abusive contract terms such as bonded contracts or exclusivity contracts (unless clearly beneficial to the other party) and non-competition clauses. • Generally disadvantageous contracts imposed by abusing the position of creditor. • Excessive transfer of costs or risks to its counterpart such as demanding prices below costs or charging fees for services that are not demanded or are above value. • Misuse of unspecified, ambiguous or incomplete contract terms. • Sudden unfair termination or disruption of a commercial relationship, used as a means to bully a contracting party. • Misuse of confidential information. • Interfering with partner's business such as poaching members from producer organizations or otherwise attempting to weaken existing organizations. 	
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Interpretation	Should traders, at /or beyond the price and premium payer, start charging customers the new Fairtrade Minimum Price and Premium for Cocoa as of 1st October 2019?						



Fairtrade does not require that customer contracts further up the supply chain include the new Fairtrade Minimum Price of \$2400 per MT and Premium of \$240 per MT as of 1st October 2019.

However, Fairtrade expects that Fairtrade payers will charge their customers the new Fairtrade Minimum Price and Premium when the Fairtrade cocoa beans being sold to the customer include Fairtrade cocoa purchased from Small-scale Producer Organizations at the new Fairtrade Minimum Price and Premium.

Consequently, implementation of the new Fairtrade Minimum Price and Premium for customers will vary depending on the certified trader's stock or mass balance volumes of Fairtrade cocoa products as of 30th September 2019.

Fairtrade recommends that suppliers adopt a Transparent Pricing Policy with their customers which details when beans were purchased from Small-scale Producer Organizations e.g. total volumes purchased pre and post the price increase and how this affects the prices of the cocoa products being charged during a particular time period.

Fairtrade considers charging customers at the new Fairtrade Minimum Price and Fairtrade Premium for stock delivered by Fairtrade Small-scale Producer Organizations before 1st October 2019, to be an Unfair Trading Practice as it is an example of "Excessive transfer of costs or risks to its counterpart".

Given that price and premium payers have to pay the Fairtrade Minimum Price differential¹ and the Fairtrade Premium, it is equally considered an unfair trading practice to sell Fairtrade cocoa beans at a price below Fairtrade costs. To ensure fair and sustainable trading practices are applied throughout the whole supply chain and to avoid excessive pressure on suppliers, all traders at /or beyond the price and premium payer, should sell and purchase Fairtrade products covering at least the applicable Fairtrade Minimum Price differential defined by FLOCERT and Fairtrade Premium.

¹ The Fairtrade Minimum Price differential is applicable to cocoa sourced from regulated markets e.g. Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana.