



To: Fairtrade Small-scale producer organizations  
Contract Production organizations  
Cc: Standards Committee

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Executive Director

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Dear Fairtrade partners,

The new European Union Organic Regulation 2018/848 brings new challenges to small-scale producer organizations.

In view of these regulations, we would like to inform Fairtrade certified producer organizations that Fairtrade International is attentive to the developments and has taken measures to support your adaptation journey to comply with the EU regulations and, avoid as much as possible, disruptions to Fairtrade certification.

The measures consider the information and understanding of the potential impact to Fairtrade certified organizations and are meant as guidance for producers. Before taking any adaptation decisions, please reach out to the Fairtrade Producer Network and consult with the organic certification body.

The support measures include:

1. Technical guidance on EU regulation, including examples and implications around Fairtrade certification. This document has been developed together between FIBL, Fairtrade International, and FLOCERT (access the document [here](#)). It includes information materials available on the new regulation.

2. Interpretation notes issued by Fairtrade Standards unit:

- Coffee and Cocoa Standard requirements 1.1.1
- Small-scale Producer Organizations Standard req. 1.1.3

The intention of interpretation notes is to clarify how the above-mentioned requirements should 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 to fit the EU regulation group of operators definition. The interpretation note clarifies the situations of adaptation for all products and, in the cases of coffee and cocoa, the entry criteria is removed. With regard to banana in the

context of the temporary suspension of entry of new fresh banana producers, it allows re-application if the new SPO is applying for certification to comply with EU regulation.

3. In addition, Fairtrade International has provided information webinars about the details of the regulations and potential implications for Fairtrade certification. You may access the recordings following this [link](#) (Passcode: B765\$C9t - make sure to select the preferred language).

Fairtrade International will also provide guidance and support to FLOCERT when assessing the different adaptation measures organizations decide to take as needed, nevertheless considered that in general will follow the guidelines set out in the document referenced in point 1 above.

Fairtrade is committed to supporting producers to maintain market access and we hope these measures will be useful to your organisations. If you have any questions do not hesitate to get in contact with us.

Best regards,



Melissa Duncan