



**FAIRTRADE**  
INTERNATIONAL

To: Fairtrade producers and traders  
Fairtrade members  
cc: Board of Directors  
Standards Committee  
Fairtrade International staff  
FLOCERT staff

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## **Changes to the Fairtrade Standard for Small-scale Producer Organizations and the Fairtrade Trader Standard**

Dear Fairtrade Partners,

During its meeting that took place on 22-23 November 2018, the Standards Committee decided on changes to the Fairtrade Standard for Small-scale Producer Organizations (SPO) and one amendment to the Fairtrade Trader Standard. For details on the decision please refer to the minutes of the Standards Committee meeting available on our [website](#).

The revised - SPO Standard has increased its focus on small-scale producers and family farming; improved Fairtrade Premium planning and introduced measures to improve the transparency of the Premium use; provides more protection for workers; introduced a new gender policy; strengthened management practices and enhanced environmental protection and resilience to climate change, amongst other changes.

In the [Trader Standard](#) a new clause to increase the transparency in the services that traders offer to the organizations has been added.

The revised standards will replace the previous versions and will become applicable as of 1 July 2019. Organizations that start their certification on or after the 1 July 2019 will need to comply with all applicable requirements. For existing producer organizations there are three different transition periods, according to the level of difficulty, and the time and investment needed to implement the changes. The transition periods are indicated in the Standard.

In the following months the Standards Team will further sharpen the SPO definition by defining indicators for a set of highly labour intensive products and maximum land size for selected less labour intensive products. These indicators will be published by July 2019. You will find the project assignment for this work on our [website](#) in the coming days.

The following documents are published on our website:

- [Revised SPO Standard](#)
- [Main Changes document](#)
- [‘At a glance – Revised Fairtrade Standard for Small-scale Producer Organizations’](#), highlighting the key changes and the review process
- [‘Requirements overview’](#) a visual outline of all the requirements and their connection with the Sustainable Development Goals

All documents will soon be available in Spanish, French and Portuguese on the [Fairtrade webpage](#).

The explanatory document is under development and will be published on our website in the coming months.

For more information, please contact Fairtrade Standards ([standards-pricing@fairtrade.net](mailto:standards-pricing@fairtrade.net)).

Best regards,  
Gelkha Buitrago