



FAIRTRADE
INTERNATIONAL

Fairtrade Standards for Tea Main Changes

Fairtrade Standards for Tea for Small-scale Producer Organizations (SPO) and Traders

The revised Fairtrade Standards for Tea for SPOs and traders are the result of a review undertaken between September 2018 and March 2021.

The revised Fairtrade Standards for Tea were approved by the Standards Committee in March, May and June 2021.

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 is not part of the standard.

Key changes:

- **Full review of the standard, alignment with the Fairtrade Standard for Small-scale Producer Organizations and Fairtrade Trader Standard.**
- **New requirements on purchases and sales of green tea leaves and records keeping for exporters of retro-certified tea.**
- **Revised requirements on retro-certification.**
- **Addition of definition section, simplification of wording, reorganization of requirements, deletion of redundancies, added or improved guidance, new standard design.**

Overview of the revised Fairtrade Standards for Tea:

This table shows the most important changes. New requirements or sections are marked as 'NEW', changes in existing requirements or guidance are marked as 'MODIFIED', deletions are also indicated.

Organizations that start their certification on or after the 1 April 2022 will need to comply with the applicable requirements.

Organizations that are certified before 1 April 2022 will need to comply with all applicable requirements following their regular certification cycle.

Fairtrade Standard for Tea for Small-scale Producer Organizations, Main Changes, July 2021

Revised standard section	Type of change	Revised Standard 2021	Comments
Introduction	MODIFIED	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clarity on how to use the standard added - Product description, structure of standard and structure of requirements added - Scope includes geographical regions for tea - Section on definitions added - Modification of application date according to the new changes. - Deletion of previous record of changes 	Modified to align with the new layout of the Fairtrade Trader Standard, and the Standard for Small-scale Producer Organizations
Intent and scope of all sections	MODIFIED	Intent and scope of all sections that remained is modified	Modified to align with the new layout of the Fairtrade Trader Standard, and the Standard for Small-scale Producer Organizations on intent and the scope of requirements in each section
2. Trade			
Traceability, Contracts, Product composition	Deleted	Sections deleted	No additional requirements under this section, the trade section in small-scale producer organization and trader standards apply
4. Business and Development			
Price and Fairtrade Premium	MODIFIED	Title 'Pricing' modified to 'Price and Fairtrade Premium'	To align with Trader Standard
	Deleted	Fairtrade Minimum Prices (4.3.1, Core, Year 0)	Requirement is deleted and description of applicable price is moved to the introduction section of the standard. Requirements under section 4.2 Price and Fairtrade Premium in Fairtrade Trader Standard apply. Requirement on minimum price and premium for instant Tea remained in standard under requirement 4.1.1.
	Deleted	Fairtrade Minimum Price and premium for secondary products (4.3.2, Core, Year 0)	Requirement is deleted and description of applicable price and premium for secondary products is moved to the Introduction section of the standard.
Timely payment	NEW	The section introduced	To align with Trader Standard. The section includes existing requirement on timely payment of Fairtrade Price and Premium

Revised standard section	Type of change	Revised Standard 2021	Comments
Pre-finance	Deleted	Requirement 4.3.1 for Fairtrade payer to make up to 60% of the value of the contract available as pre-finance to the producer deleted	The Trader Standard requirements under section 4.4. Access to finance apply. The onus is on trader to offer pre-finance and producer organization to accept the offer and negotiate the terms or to decline.
Sustaining trade	MODIFIED	The section is renamed and split into two sections - 'sharing risks' and 'sourcing plans'	
Sourcing	NEW	Section added	To align with Trader Standard
	NEW	Purchase and sale of green tea leaves requirement is added (4.4.2, Core, Year 0)	To enhance transparency and negotiation for producers of green tea leaves
Sharing risks	NEW	Section added	To align with Trader Standard
	NEW	Record-keeping for exporters added as a requirement (4.5.3, Core, Year 0)	To improve traceability on transactions and role of exporter in purchase and sale of retro-certified tea volumes and transparency at producers side through timely passed information.