

Project Assignment

Review of the Fresh Fruit, Fresh Vegetables, and Prepared and Preserved Fruit and Vegetables Standards for Small Producer Organizations (SPO) and for Hired Labour (HL) (2024)

This project assignment contains the most important information about the project. For additional information on the project, please contact the project manager (contact details below).

The project will be carried out according to the Standard Operating Procedures for the Development of Fairtrade Standards/Minimum Prices and Premiums. More information on these procedures can be found on the website: <http://www.fairtrade.net/standards/setting-the-standards.html>

Rationale for and justification of need for the project:

The Fairtrade Standards for Fresh Fruit, Fresh Vegetables, and Prepared and Preserved Fruit and Vegetable are due for review, as part of the regular monitoring and review cycle.

Some updates are needed because of changed market realities. Fairtrade International aims at securing current business and enabling new business opportunities, thus increasing the impact for producers.

In a process to reduce the amount of standards in similar topics and simplified the standards applying to producer and trader in the fruit and vegetable supply chains, the review will merge the Fresh Fruit, Fresh Vegetables, and Prepared and Preserved Fruit and Vegetables, into the Fruits and Vegetables Standard.

Risk assessment:

The following risks could affect the success of the project:

- a) Low participation in the consultation process.

Mitigation: Work hand in hand with Producer Networks and NFOs to motivate participation of certified producers and other actors in the value chain.

- b) Stakeholders, with different degrees of engagement with Fairtrade, may expect that their input will lead to a specific standard revision, while not all suggested proposals for revisions from stakeholder are appropriate in a global context.

Mitigation: Stakeholders will be provided with synopsis of all input received in the most transparent way possible, so that they can understand how all input is weighed and solutions are devised for the best possible outcome needed for a generic and global standard. This also holds for the input received from stakeholders with limited engagement with Fairtrade which should not undermine the input from stakeholders actively engaged in the Fairtrade system (SPOs, traders, roasters, PNs and NFOs).

- c) Delay of the project by entering discussions that cannot be solved in a product standard review.

Mitigation: Make the scope of the project very clear from the beginning and include only product specific topics, generic topics to be included in the SPO, HLO or TS monitoring.

- d) Contrasting views by stakeholders which lead to difficult decisions and an outcome of the process that does not meet everybody's needs in the system.

Mitigation: Ensure good communication to all parties involved, be transparent about the consultation and decision-making process, finding solutions by involving all stakeholders and communicate all results and rationales to all parties involved.

Project Start Event:

Sending out the project announcement and the project assignment for feedback

Project Start Date:

23 February 2024

<p>Project End Event:</p> <p>Publication of the revised Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Standard</p>	<p>Project End Date:</p> <p>Q1 2025</p>
<p>Project Goal and Objectives:</p> <p>Goal:</p> <p>To review of the Fruit and Vegetable Standards following the review cycle, while addressing the need to update, consolidate and simplify the relevant standards. The detailed goals are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reduce the number of standards for fruit and vegetables producers. 2. Update the standard according to new market realities. 3. Update the standard according to production realities. 4. Address outstanding topics in the monitoring log of the standards. 5. Update the wage related requirements for banana companies in the standard. 6. Align labour conditions section with the HLO and SPO standards. <p>Objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Merge of the three standards, Fresh Fruit, Fresh Vegetables, and Prepared and Preserve Fruit and Vegetables, into one standard, Fruits and Vegetables Standard. 2. Clarify requirements regarding the quality claim process. 3. Review land size related requirements on pineapple production. 4. Clarify the conditions and processes for declassification of Fairtrade product. 5. Clarify the payment terms in case of retro-certification. 6. Address trading with integrity in the banana sector. <p>Connection with Theory of Change (ToC):</p> <p>This project contributes to the goals of Fairtrade International which is to ensure sustainable production, make trade fair, empower small producers and foster sustainable livelihoods. In particular, it aims to enable resilient and viable producer business, strong and inclusive SPOs, and enhanced benefits for small producers and their communities. For more information on the ToC visit this link.</p>	
<p>Project scope:</p> <p>The geographical scope is global.</p> <p>Full review of the existing requirements in the Fairtrade Fresh Fruit, Vegetables, and Prepared and Preserved Fruit and Vegetables Standards for SPO and HL.</p> <p>Introduction of new requirements as necessary to keep the relevance of the standard in a new market reality.</p> <p>The Fairtrade Standard for Fresh Fruit, Vegetables, and Preserved and Processed Fruits and Vegetables are complementary to the Fairtrade Standard for small-scale producer organizations (Fairtrade Standard for SPOs), the Fairtrade Standard for Hired Labour Organization (Fairtrade Standard for HLO), and the standard for traders (Trader Standard). So, it applies to both producers and traders. For more information on Fairtrade Standards click this link.</p>	<p>Out of scope:</p> <p>Revising the Fairtrade prices and Premium for fruits and vegetables</p> <p>Revising the SPO Standard</p> <p>Revising the Trader Standard</p> <p>Revising the Hired Labor Standard</p> <p>Review of Hazardous Materials List</p>

<p>Project timelines and information on opportunities to contribute:</p> <p>Scoping: Mar 2024 Research: Apr/Jun 2024 Consultation: Aug/Sep 2024 Drafting Final Proposal: Nov 2024 SC decision: Dec 2024 Publication: Feb 2025</p> <p>More information will be provided closer to the consultation period on our website. If you are identified as key stakeholders, you will receive an invitation to participate.</p>	<p>Decision making process:</p> <p>The final decision will be taken by the Standards Committee (SC), a body made up of stakeholder representatives. The SC will aim at making a decision based on consensus. They may reword the final proposal if needed to reach consensus. If consensus cannot be reached, the SC will resort to voting.</p>
<p>Project Owner (Unit):</p> <p>Alina Amador Head of Standards, Standards & Pricing</p>	<p>Project Manager (contact point for the project):</p> <p>Ernesto González Project Manager, (egonzalez@fairtrade.net) +49 228 94923 291</p>
<p>Project Team (Unit):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Silvia Campos (Global Product Manager) - Michael Kitetu (FTA) - Gilbert Ramírez (CLAC) - Manoj Sankethi (NAPP) - Thomas Meyer (FT MHCH) - Neetu Pankaj Singh (FLOCERT) - Harveen Kour (Global Impact) 	<p>Project Environment (stakeholder groups not part of the project team):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All certified fruit and vegetables producer organizations - All certified fruit and vegetables traders - National Fairtrade Organizations - CoE Environment and Climate - Pricing Unit