



**FAIRTRADE**  
INTERNATIONAL

To: Tea producers and traders  
Fairtrade members  
cc: Standards Committee  
Fairtrade International staff  
FLOCERT staff

Gudrun Schloepker  
Director of Standards & Pricing  
[g.schloepker@fairtrade.net](mailto:g.schloepker@fairtrade.net)

23 July 2021

## **Revised Tea Standards for Small-scale Producer Organizations, Hired Labour and Traders**

Dear partners,

During its meetings that took place on 26 March, 7 May and 30 June 2021, the Standards Committee decided on a revised versions of the Fairtrade Standard for Tea for Small-scale Producer Organizations (SPO) and for Hired Labour (HL), respectively. For details on the decision please refer to the minutes of the Standards Committee meeting available on our website [here](#).

The approved changes are the result of a full standards revision as part of the monitoring and review cycle. The revised Tea Standards for SPO and HL are available in English on our website under <https://www.fairtrade.net/standard> (under Tea in [SPO section](#) and [HL section](#)). Translations into Spanish and French will follow soon.

The revised [Fairtrade Standard for Tea for HL](#) has increased its focus on worker participation in Fairtrade through the introduction of a Fairtrade Compliance Committee and has strengthened those requirements related to worker awareness on the company's commitments under Fairtrade standards; new requirements on a rights-based approach are in place for companies to act in case of risks of forced labour and gender based violence and to enhance gender equality with the introduction of a gender policy; more benefits for workers through strengthened requirements to the terms and conditions of employment amongst other changes.

The revised [Fairtrade Standard for Tea for SPO](#) has improved requirements on trade including purchase and sale of green leaves, retro-certification and pre-finance.

The revised standards replace the previous versions and will become applicable as of 1 April 2022. Organizations that start their certification on or after the 1 April 2022 will need to comply with all applicable requirements. For already certified producer organizations there is a transition period for some requirements as indicated in the standard.

A detailed overview of the changes to the Fairtrade Standard for Tea is presented in a separate main changes document, available in English ([SPO](#), [HL](#)) on our website.

For more information, please contact Oksana Forkutsa at: [o.forkutsa@fairtrade.net](mailto:o.forkutsa@fairtrade.net).

Best regards,

Gudrun Schlopker