

Drought, heat, floods – the climate crisis is evident everywhere, especially for people in disadvantaged countries. Although they have contributed little to human-caused climate change, they are the most affected. Their livelihoods are directly dependent on the climate, as sowing and harvesting times change, new pest species and plant diseases spread, and yields decrease. The consequences range from deterioration in food security and destruction of infrastructure to loss of property and flight

Climate justice requires trade justice

Fairtrade strengthens the resilience of small farmers and employees against the climate crisis and promotes sustainable agricultural production methods. Establishing democratic organisational structures reinforces cooperation, enables joint investments in a more climate-resilient future, and promotes knowledge transfer and the development of know-how on climate change. Stable Fairtrade Minimum Prices serve as a safety net, and the additional Fairtrade Premium improves the financial situation.

In the policy on "Sustainable Agriculture" adopted at the end of 2022, Fairtrade decided on agroecology as the guiding principle. With its goal of food security and fairer food systems, agroecology is aligned with the mission and vision of Fairtrade.



Standards

The Fairtrade Standards aim to grow all Fairtrade products in a resource-saving and environmentally friendly manner and to strengthen the producer communities. Climate adaptation and methods for an agriculture that defies climate change are important aspects that are considered when the Fairtrade Standards are reviewed at regular intervals.



Training and further education

The Fairtrade Producer Networks offer local producers training and further education on issues affecting the climate and environment. This also includes direct aid for reconstruction after extreme weather events. Particular attention is paid to including all genders and young people in the activities.



Projects

Fairtrade implements environmental and climate protection projects in disadvantaged countries with trading partners, NGOs and other institutions. In climate projects, the focus is usually on adaptation activities and improving sustainable cultivation methods.



Policy and civil society

Fairtrade conducts campaigns to provide information on the interconnection between trade and climate justice and demands that the voice of smallholders are heard in political decision-making processes and their concerns are taken into account.



Facts and figures

According to the 2021 World Agricultural Report, **more than 2 billion** people live from agriculture. Their existence depends directly on the climate.

Fairtrade works together with **more than 2 million** people in disadvantaged countries for better resilience against climate impacts, for more climate justice and for the mitigation of climate change.

Depending on the Fairtrade standard, **1/4 to 1/3** of the criteria relate to environmental aspects.



Fairtrade climate projects: On-site engagement

The on-site advice and measures are financed by Fairtrade licence fees, which are paid by licence partners for using the Mark. The more Fairtrade products are sold, the greater the opportunities for educational work. In cooperation with trading partners, NGOs and state sponsors and backed by the financial support they provide, Fairtrade develops programs and projects to implement measures on the ground. In climate projects, the focus is usually on adaptation activities and improving sustainable cultivation methods.

The Fairtrade Climate Academy

With the Climate Academy, the Fairtrade Africa Producer Network trains coffee farmers in Kenya, Ethiopia, Tanzania and Rwanda in theory and practice. 4,000 farmers received practical training on climate protection and adaptation measures in field schools, and 215 biogas plants were built to promote green energy use in private households. Improved cookers were distributed to coffee producers to reduce pressure on forests, cut the time spent collecting firewood and mitigate respiratory tract infections. In addition, the producer groups were taught about dealing with Fairtrade Premiums, while management enhanced their knowledge of good corporate governance.

Fairtrade promotes youth inclusion in global supply chains

Fairtrade programs support young people to diversify livelihood opportunities in their communities and, in doing so, to secure intergenerational farming sustainability. Initiatives include carbon credits to invest in climate adaptation; training young people to set up sustainable agribusinesses, incubation and innovation hubs and disruptive technologies; the production and sale of organic fertilizers; and marketing and adding value. Once they have the skills and resources required, young people can apply new technologies to improve productivity and the quality and marketing of their products.



Fair is working together

Fairtrade offers multiple ways that companies and brands can put their values into action. Work with us to transform your supply chain and discover what is fair. For more information visit: fairtrade.ca/issues/climate or contact: license@fairtrade.ca.

