



## ORGANIZATION

Fairtrade International  
pledges to

**Address child labour and its root causes in the  
farming communities with which they work**

## **Fairtrade's holistic approach to tackling child labour**

### **Name:**

To achieve a national social compliance system for the blueberry sector in Argentina with a focus on labour

### **Description:**

Fairtrade takes a rights-based approach to addressing child labour and its root causes in the farming communities with which we work. Throughout 2021, we will continue to develop our actions across multiple fronts: setting robust standards, strengthening audits, leading the push for living incomes, training producer organizations, and developing targeted programmes with partner organizations. In addition, we will accelerate our Youth Inclusive Community Based Monitoring and Remediation (YICBMR) efforts by educating working children, young people, producer organisations, producer households and their wider community in producer countries about child labour regulation, safe remediation and the importance of relevant schooling. In our community based approach, adults, children and youth identify risks to children's wellbeing, map where they feel safe and unsafe, including reasons for these and, together with adults from the community, design preventive projects to enhance children's safety, wellbeing and development. Through household interviews, the YICBMR approach identifies child labour and works with partners to undertake safe withdrawal. Fairtrade's YICBMR system uses an area based approach and requires stakeholder engagement, dialogue and collaboration.

We pledge to build upon our Youth Inclusive Community Based Monitoring and Remediation (YICBMR) efforts in vulnerable regions where child labour is present because those regions are where Fairtrade can contribute to addressing underlying root causes and where we are needed most. In 2021, Fairtrade Producer Networks in Africa and Asia will develop trainings, dialogues with local communities and governments, and reinforce remediation efforts with the objective of tackling the root causes of child labour.

### **Implementation plan:**

Fairtrade's YICBMR efforts will include securing key partnerships with global organizations and local partners to build awareness of child labour remediation best practices; rollout of YICBMR engagement in producer nations and led by producer organizations; and amplified communications efforts across social media channels and global press, emphasizing the necessary holistic approach towards addressing root causes to combat child labour in

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vulnerable communities.

We plan to execute our YICBMR efforts in a number of geographical regions. In Africa alone, in coordination with our Producer Network (Fairtrade Africa), we look to boost efforts to four additional communities in Ghana by training youth monitors, child labour committees and government stakeholders on Child rights and protection, Fairtrade Standard requirements on child and forced labour, as well as the monitoring and reporting protocols involved in our YICBMR approach. In addition, we will build national level stakeholder engagement to help inform existing national level approaches to combating child and forced labour.

**Impact:**

By joining the Child Labour Platform, Fairtrade International will build on the expertise of other members to expand our efforts of working with producer organisations in educating children and youth on how to identify risks to their wellbeing, map where they feel safe and unsafe, and together with adults from their communities, design preventive projects to enhance children's wellbeing and development. In addition, we will share our learnings and experiences with other members to advance the agenda of ending child labour. We will also partner with the ILO and supply chain actors to pilot projects to increase decent youth employment in countries where we have implemented YICBMR, such as Belize.

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