

Project Assignment
Review of Fairtrade Hazardous Materials List (HML) for Flowers & Plants
(16 Dec-24)

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](#).

Rationale for and justification of need for the project:

Fairtrade [Hazardous Materials List](#) is applicable to all products and all supply chain actors. However cut flowers and plants have some unique attributes: they are not eaten, they are almost always produced in a protected environment (greenhouses) and application of plant protection products is different from rain-fed agriculture; cuttings produced in Africa region are out-grown in Europe and so have a different regulatory regime; cut flowers and plants face several import restrictions for pests which make pest-free presence essential. With current Fairtrade HML applicable to all producers and traders, many Fairtrade flower & plants growers may have challenges to continue phasing out materials prohibited by the Fairtrade HML and may be unable to export due to market specific restrictions (quarantine).

The monitoring review of Fairtrade Hazardous Materials List (HML) in 2020 was focused mainly on the group of materials in Orange List. The review resulted in gradual changes in HML, where some materials had to be phased out by 1 July 2020, 1 January 2021 or 1 July 2022.

The review of HML with the scope of flowers production aims to look into feasible approach for Fairtrade flower farms to remain in compliance with HML and to reduce export related challenges. The outcome and findings of this review will be used to explore improvement of the Fairtrade HML during its full review in 2025.

Risk assessment:

- a) Producers' realities whose financial and technical effective capacity to phase out certain materials could be limited in certain cases

Mitigation: Producers' realities and needs must be investigated through data analysis, producers' interviews and consultations

- b) Consumers and civil society expectations (who have high-level demands in terms of eradication of pesticides in Fairtrade products) are not met

Mitigation: Consumers' expectations must be correctly understood and taken into account, by active exchange with the national Fairtrade organizations, and Fairtrade needs to communicate correctly its focus and limitations.

Project Start Event:

Publication of project assignment

Project Start Date:

End of May 2024

Project End Event:

Publication of Flower specific Fairtrade Hazardous Materials List

Project End Date:

Q3 2025

Project Goal and objectives

Goal: To ensure that Flower specific HML meets producer realities and market expectations.

Specific objectives:

- to explore and consider Flowers & plants producer’s challenges in the implementation of the Fairtrade HML
- to explore and consider implications of relevant regulations on proposed changes (e.g. regulation on hazardous pesticides that are prohibited for use in the EU but are allowed for export to third countries (“EU Export Ban”))
- to assess commonalities in lists of prohibited materials between Fairtrade HML and flower specific certification
- to understand (flowers) consumer’s expectations regarding the proposed changes

Connection with Theory of Change (ToC):

This project contributes to the goal of Fairtrade to foster sustainable livelihoods. In particular, it contributes to the wellbeing and resilience among small-scale producers and worker households. Also, to increased environmental sustainability and resilience to climate change.

For more information on Fairtrade’s ToC see this [link](#).

Project scope:

This project covers all regions where the Fairtrade Standard for Flowers and Plants apply, and to relevant producers and traders.

For more information on Fairtrade Standards click this [link](#).

Out of scope:

- Review of environmental strategy
- Review of HML with focus on all Fairtrade products
- Topics that are already covered under Flower Standard review

Project timelines and information on opportunities to contribute:

Scoping: May 2024

Research and development

of proposals: June 2024

Consultation 1st round*: February 2025

Drafting final proposal: February 2025

SC decision: Q2 2025

Publication : Q2 2025

Implementation: Q3 2025

* 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.

Decision making process:

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>Project Owner (Unit): Alina Amador (Head of Standards)</p>		<p>Project Manager (contact point for the project): Oksana Forkutsa (Project Manager) o.forkutsa@fairtrade.net +49 (0) 228 949 23 204</p>												
<p>Project Team (Unit):</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Standards & Pricing Team Members</td> <td>Jebet Yegon</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Global and Regional Product Managers</td> <td>Gonzaga Mungai, FTA Monique Peters-Jong</td> </tr> <tr> <td>FLOCERT</td> <td>Chris Schmelling Kim Penwill</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PNs</td> <td>Michael Kitetu (FTA) Arutselvan A .. (NAPP) Maria Trinidad (CLAC)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NFOs</td> <td>Mahsa Yeganeh - Senior Sustainable Sourcing Manager, FTUK Katharina Schwab- Senior Supply Chain Manager Fairtrade DE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CoE C&E</td> <td>Martin Schüller</td> </tr> </table>		Standards & Pricing Team Members	Jebet Yegon	Global and Regional Product Managers	Gonzaga Mungai, FTA Monique Peters-Jong	FLOCERT	Chris Schmelling Kim Penwill	PNs	Michael Kitetu (FTA) Arutselvan A .. (NAPP) Maria Trinidad (CLAC)	NFOs	Mahsa Yeganeh - Senior Sustainable Sourcing Manager, FTUK Katharina Schwab- Senior Supply Chain Manager Fairtrade DE	CoE C&E	Martin Schüller	<p>Project Environment (stakeholder groups not part of the project team):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Certified producer organizations and certified traders (Flower and plants HLOs and traders) - ISEAL pesticides working group - Research and expert bodies on pesticides related issues (including local manufacturers of crop protection materials) - NFOs - Global Impact at Fairtrade International - Center of Expertise Climate & Environment (CoE C&E) - Civil Society actors
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