

Fairtrade Child Labour and Forced Labour Prevention and Remediation Programme in West Africa

Annual Report

Third edition
August 2026

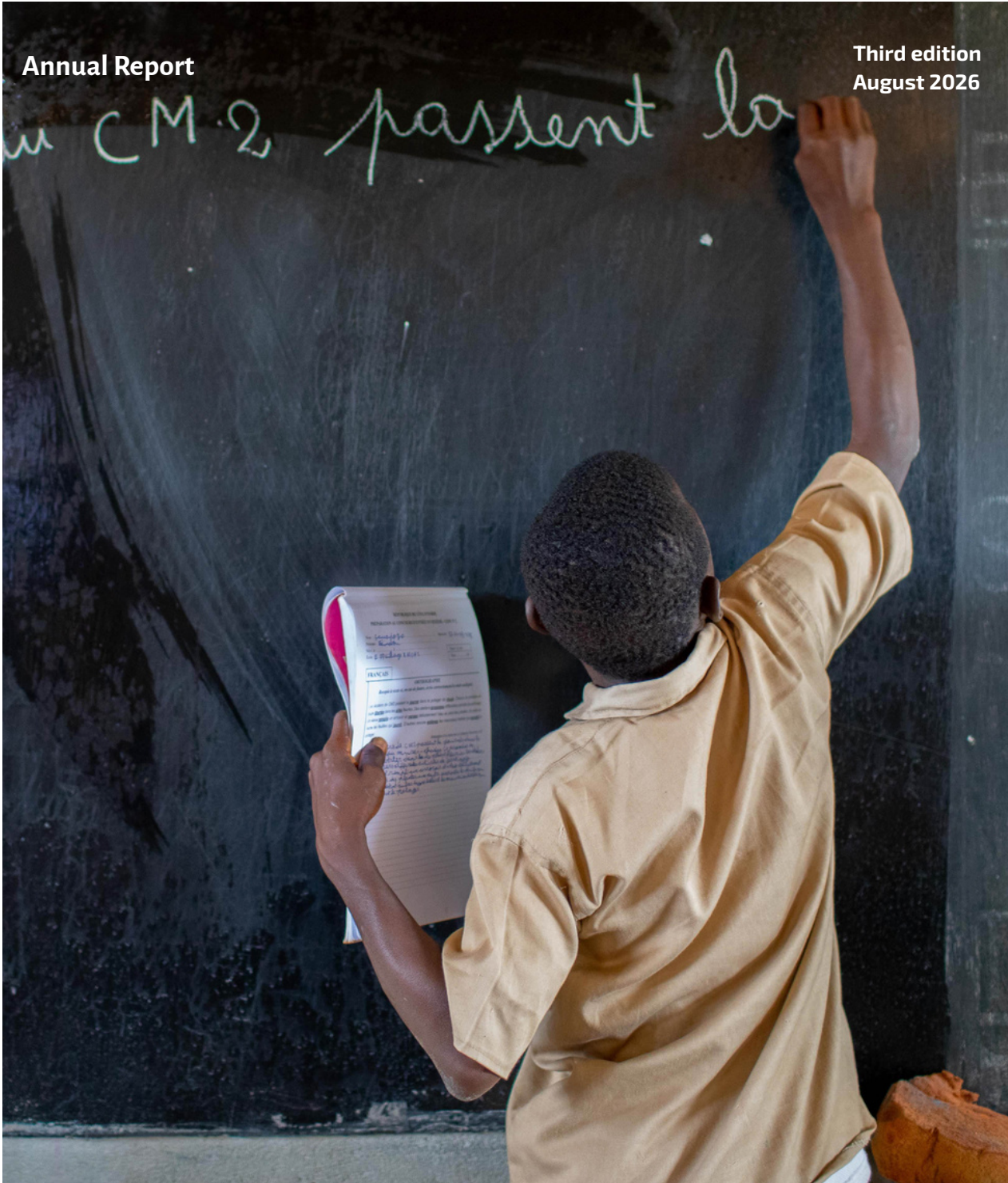


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Introduction

Twelve Fairtrade cocoa cooperatives in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana have applied for and been awarded funding through the Fairtrade Child Labour and Forced Labour Prevention and Remediation Programme since its launch in 2023. This year reflects the third round of funding disbursements. There are three new cocoa cooperatives in the programme this year. Four projects are still ongoing from previous rounds, and eight projects are new, including follow-up projects for prior awardees.

The programme is financially supported by Fairtrade certified chocolate companies, with more than €300,000 distributed or pending delivery to date. The projects are implemented by the cooperatives themselves, with support and regular monitoring by Fairtrade Africa staff in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana.

So far, 5,000 children have been positively impacted by the programme.

This report shares the status of each project, and includes highlights of four recently completed projects. We also report on our partnership with the International Cocoa Initiative in Côte d'Ivoire, which is working with Fairtrade Africa and eight cooperatives to support the construction of school infrastructure related to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), specifically latrines and hand-washing stations.

In 2026, we are carrying out an independent evaluation of the programme, which will be published in early 2027.

If you are interested in contributing to the programme, please contact your national Fairtrade organisation, or Fairtrade International.

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Project highlights

SOCAMEA COOP CA

FLO ID 39094

Bicycles to support school attendance

At a glance

Key focus

Bicycles · School access

Country

Côte d'Ivoire

Fairtrade funding

€16,943

Cooperative co-funding

€3,000

Children impacted

120

SOCAMEA cooperative identified 120 children who live too far away from the school to comfortably walk the distance, which led to lower school attendance rates.

A total of 120 bicycles and helmets were purchased and distributed to the children and their families mid-2025, as well as a bicycle shed to store the bicycles.

The project is now completed, with the bicycles in ongoing use.



“Before, my child used to arrive late at school. Thanks to Fairtrade, since he got this bike, he's always on time. He even passed his last assessment.”

ZONGO BESSIDA

SOCAMEA cooperative member

A new school for children in Ndrikro

At a glance

Key focus

School construction ·
Latrines & hand-washing
stations · School canteen

Country

Côte d'Ivoire

Fairtrade funding

€17,000

Cooperative co-funding

€4,754

Children impacted

281



We have a three-classroom school in Ndrikro which means that today our children are not forced to go far. At the beginning it was a bridging class but today it has become a normal school thanks to this construction.

Today, what could still suit us is a school canteen to allow children from the surrounding camps to stay on site at noon instead of traveling miles at noon to eat and come back in the afternoon."

YAO KOUAME LEOPOLD

Farmer from the Yaokro section near Ndrikro

DAVO cooperative identified an isolated village where the school was a wooden structure with a bamboo and palm roof.

During the rainy season, children abandoned school when it fell into disrepair. This increases the risk of child labour as children are not in school.

The old school was also too small for the number of children, which meant classes were split into shifts.

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The cooperative staff observed more absences of children in the afternoon school shift, also indicating heightened risk of child labour.

The cooperative completed the construction of a three-unit classroom block, a much larger facility that is protected from the elements.

As a follow-up project, the cooperative was granted the funds to start the construction of latrines and hand-washing stations, and a canteen for the school.



I thank you very much [that] today there is a school in Ndrikro. Before [when] we pay for the notebooks, it rains, everything gets wet and we are forced to buy more notebooks. We are very happy and we thank Fairtrade and DAVO Cooperative.”

KOFFI GENEVIEVE
Farmer in Ndrikro

School upgrade and improved sanitation

At a glance

Key focus

Classroom renovation ·
Classroom furniture ·
School kits

Country

Côte d'Ivoire

Fairtrade funding

€18,150 (round 1)

Cooperative co-funding

€3,394

Children impacted

170



The new school has become very beautiful, the classrooms and the office were rehabilitated, windows and doors were installed, the roof was changed.

The students are happy with their school and this encourages them to come to school every morning.

Parents want to bring back their children who had dropped out because of the state of the school. I would like to thank SCOSA-CI: Fairtrade and its partners."

BROU DIBY MATHIEU

SCOSA-CI cooperative member
in Koloukro section

SCOSA-CI cooperative identified that the existing school in their community needed rehabilitation and additional classrooms to meet families' needs. Due to lack of space, the school was run in shifts, which resulted in reduced learning time and greater risk of child labour.

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The cooperative has now completed the renovation of the school. The building has been refurbished, and school furniture has been replaced or upgraded. As a follow-up project, the cooperative was granted the funds to start the construction of latrines and hand-washing stations for the school. Each student also receive school kits with supplies and materials.



Photo rights: NÖM

This project was supported by a programme contribution from NÖM AG (Austria)



Our old school was unfinished. The roof had holes, there were no classroom doors, no offices for the teachers. Today, after rehabilitation, the school is the most beautiful school in the area. The students are very happy when they see their school building.”

KONAN KOUAKOU BERTIN

Chief in Koloukro section

New preschool where younger children can thrive

At a glance

Key focus

Preschool construction ·
Latrines and hand-washing
facilities

Country

Côte d'Ivoire

Fairtrade funding

€ 17,154 (round 1)

Cooperative co-funding

€ 3,573

Children impacted

80



In the past, parents went to the field with a lot of concern because they didn't know where to leave their children. Today, with this nursery school, they can be reassured when going to work. We are happy and the community is happy. We thank the cooperative and its partners.”

BZEHI HERMAN MARCEL

Secretary of the village

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“We are very delighted with the new kindergarten in our village. We will send our children here and they will be able to learn and play. It will encourage our children.”

KOBENAN ERIC

SCOOPS EDIFIE cooperative member



Photo rights: NÖM

This project was supported by a programme contribution from NÖM AG (Austria).

School water, sanitation and hygiene projects in cocoa growing communities together with the International Cocoa Initiative

For schools that are being built or renovated as part of the Child Labour and Forced Labour Prevention and Remediation programme, Fairtrade and its partners aim for the sanitary facilities to comply with national norms.

Fairtrade works in this area with its long-standing partner, the International Cocoa Initiative (ICI). ICI has extensive experience in building schools and associated water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) facilities. For these projects, this includes latrines and hand-washing stations.

In early 2026, Fairtrade commissioned ICI to deliver a training course on WASH infrastructure monitoring, to equip participants with the skills to manage the construction of WASH facilities in the beneficiary communities according to national guidelines. Participants in the one-week training course in Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire) included both Fairtrade Africa staff and staff from the cooperatives receiving project funding.



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The training allowed the participants to familiarise themselves with the vocabulary and the different phases of building WASH infrastructure, including the acquisition of land, pre-studies, execution as well as regular monitoring of the work. The training was completed by a field visit so that participants could apply their newly acquired knowledge on site at project construction sites.

Fairtrade will continue its partnership with the International Cocoa Initiative as part of the programme, with a focus on capacity building and sharing lessons learned and practical experience.

The Fairtrade programme currently has eight WASH project initiatives, all in the implementation phase.



Project details

Côte d'Ivoire

SOCAMEA COOP CA

FLO ID 39094

Award Round 1

Project description	Bicycles, helmets and bicycle shelter	Children impacted	120
Value funded by Fairtrade	€16,943	Status	Project complete, see page 3
Value funded by cooperative	€3,000		

DAVO COOP CA

FLO ID 42457

Award Round 1

Project description	New three classroom school block	Children impacted	281
Value funded by Fairtrade	€17,000	Status	50% funding dispersed, ongoing see page 4
Value funded by cooperative	€4,754		

Follow - up Project

Award Round 3

Project description	School equipment	Children impacted	same as above
	Construction of school canteen		
	Construction of WASH facilities		
Value funded by Fairtrade	€15,700 - School equipment and canteen	Status	Payment in progress, ongoing
	€15,265 - Construction of WASH facilities		
Value funded by cooperative	€2,050		

CANN

FLO ID 18716

Award Round 1

Project description	New three classroom school block	Children impacted	380
Value funded by Fairtrade	€15,300	Status	80% of funding disbursed, ongoing
Value funded by cooperative	€2,700		

Follow - up Project

Award Round 3

Project description	Construction of WASH facilities on two sites	Children impacted	same as above
Value funded by Fairtrade	€22,788	Status	Payment in process, ongoing

COOP SCOSA-CI

FLO ID 31866

Award Round 2

Project description	Renovation of three classroom school, with furniture School kits	Children impacted	170
Value funded by Fairtrade	€19,265	Status	Project complete, see page 6
Value funded by cooperative	€3,394		

Follow - up Project

Award Round 3

Project description	Construction of WASH facilities on two sites	Status	Payment in progress, ongoing
Value funded by Fairtrade	€ 18,264		

SCOOPS EDIFIE DOUKOUYA

FLO ID 36543

Award Round 2

Project description New two-unit preschool

Children impacted 80

Value funded by Fairtrade €17,154

Status Project complete, see page 8

Value funded by cooperative €2,573

Follow - up Project

Award Round 3

Project description Construction of WASH facilities

Children impacted same as above

Value funded by Fairtrade € 13,551

Status Payment in progress, ongoing

SOCAPS

FLO ID 41492

Award Round 2

Project description Renovation of three classroom school block (project updated)

Children impacted 300

Value funded by Fairtrade €17,000

Status 50% funding dispersed, ongoing

Value funded by cooperative €3,256

CAG COOP CA

FLO ID 34666

Award Round 2

Project description	Finalise construction of partially built school (project updated)	Children impacted	128
Value funded by Fairtrade	€14,472	Status	50% funding dispersed, ongoing
Value funded by cooperative	€2,171		

Follow - up Project

Award Round 3

Project description	Construction of WASH facilities	Children impacted	same as above
Value funded by Fairtrade	€14,387	Status	Payment in process, ongoing

CAYEMOS

FLO ID 34662

Award Round 3

Project description	Renovation of three classroom school building and Principal's office	Children impacted	100
	Construction of WASH facilities		
Value funded by Fairtrade	€17,000- Renovation of three classroom school building and Principal's office	Status	50% funding dispersed, ongoing
	€11,037- Construction of WASH facilities		Payment in progress, ongoing
Value funded by cooperative	€3,000		

Award Round 3

Project description	Renovation of school roof	Children impacted	1,600
	School equipment (table, benches)		
	School kits		
	Construction of school canteen, equipment		
	Construction of WASH facilities		
Value funded by Fairtrade	€17,000 - Renovation of school, equipment, school canteen	Status	50% funding dispersed, ongoing
	€12,567 - Construction of WASH facilities		
Value funded by cooperative	€3,000	Status	Payment in process, ongoing

ECOOKIM COOP-CA

FLO ID 18827

Award Round 3

Project description	School equipment (table, benches, books)	Children impacted	710
	Construction of WASH facilities		
Value funded by Fairtrade	€5,000- School equipment	Status	Contract in preparation
	€19,806- Construction of WASH facilities		
Value funded by cooperative	€3,140		

Ghana

ABOCFA

FLO ID 25662

Award Round 1

Project description

Construction of primary school

Status

Project complete

Support for physically challenged community members and their families, alternative livelihood provision, support for children

Training on new Fairtrade requirements for caretakers and sharecroppers

Value funded by Fairtrade

€17,000

Value funded by cooperative

€3,000

KUKUOM

FLO ID 27670

Award Round 2

Project description

Construction of three-classroom school block

Children impacted

782

Value funded by Fairtrade

€12,473

Status

Payment in process, ongoing

Value funded by cooperative

€2,201



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