



To: Certified Gold Producers and Traders
Producer Networks
National Fairtrade Organisations

Andreas Kratz
Director of Standards and Pricing
a.kratz@fairtrade.net

cc: Standards Committee
Fairtrade International staff
FLOCERT staff

25 June 2026

Revised Fairtrade Standard for Gold and Associated Precious Metals for Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining

Dear Fairtrade partners,

The Standards and Pricing unit informs you that the [revised Fairtrade Standard for Gold and Associated Precious Metals for Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining](#) has just been published. The revised standard was agreed by the Standards Committee in September 2024 as well as in March and May 2025; it becomes applicable on **1 July 2027**. The Spanish translation of the standard will be available on the [Fairtrade International website](#) in coming weeks.

The standard underwent a comprehensive review, and the following areas were changed:

- Scope – the standard focusses on Artisanal and Small-Scale Organizations (ASMO) and requires a legal, i.e. tax paying entity in a formalized, democratic organization with legitimate mining concessions and legal rights to mine. There is now a clear definition of organizations with indirect rights to mine (individual members owning the rights to mine) and the ASMO Operators setup (e.g. family business or individual business) has been introduced within the scope of certification. Throughout the standard, some requirements now appear double, each addressing a criterion detailing the specifics per ASMO set up.
- General requirements – this chapter details requirements on certification, includes a clear definition of ASMOs and their responsibilities, describing also the relationship with local communities. Most requirements in this chapter were reworded and amended.
- Trade - here, traceability and segregation (including reprocessing) from mine to market is in the centre, especially with a stronger focus on the financial dimension. In this chapter, main changes include an explanation of the final Fairtrade product, and the Gold Sourcing Program, amendments to the requirements on traceability and product composition, and on the use of the Fairtrade certification mark. Reprocessing of Fairtrade gold is newly introduced to the standard. Requirements focusing on due diligence applicable to traders were amended or newly introduced, some are complementary to requirements in the Trader Standard. Generally, most requirements in this chapter were amended.

- Production – In the section on Occupational Health and Safety, many requirements were strengthened or newly introduced. ASMOs will have to demonstrate prevention measures based on risk and hazard identification and will have to establish clear regulations and procedures to address these. Labour and employment conditions were also reviewed to reflect dynamics in the sector; as well as freedom of association and collective bargaining. The type of mining method, as well as the ASMO's set-up are reflected in the requirements. Further, criteria for management processes, due diligence requirements, the environmental management plan including new impact measurement elements and a thorough focus on managing chemicals and the phase out of mercury were set. Also, the chapter now includes a more detailed management plan for water, waste and mine closure as well as rehabilitation.
- Business and Development - in this chapter the development of the mining organisation and community is in the focus with the concept of the Fairtrade Premium, and the organizational structure addressing democratic processes and transparency. In the revised standard, democratic principles in the administration of the premium are reinforced, and greater clarity is provided regarding the role of general assemblies. For ASMOs with indirect rights, and particularly for Artisanal and Small-Scale Mining Operators, the management of the Fairtrade Premium and its impact on all groups within the production system are defined. Overall, the requirements contribute to strengthening the governance of mining organisations.

If you have any questions, please contact us at standards-pricing@fairtrade.net

Best regards,

Andreas Kratz

Director Standards & Pricing, Fairtrade International