



Researcher for Fairtrade Commodity Risk Maps

Contributing to evidence-based sustainable agriculture for Fairtrade farmers

About the project

Fairtrade is updating the [Fairtrade Risk Map](#) to deepen its assessment of environmental risks in agricultural value chains. The Fairtrade Risk Map supports supply chain actors from smallholder farmer cooperatives to retailers in recognising and addressing the biggest human rights and environmental risks in their operations and value chains.

The Risk Map is also central for Fairtrade's current work of making Fairtrade Standards risk-based, in order to help farmers, workers and businesses prioritise their actions on the most pressing social and environmental challenges they face locally.

Fairtrade International is updating its commodity risk map to make standard requirements simpler and more effective. Instead of applying the same checks everywhere, Fairtrade uses risk mapping to focus audits and requirements on the most relevant environmental and climate risks per commodity and context. This helps reduce unnecessary audit burden, while ensuring that efforts lead to real benefits for farmers and meaningful protection of people and nature.

By grounding compliance in evidence-based research, Fairtrade can simplify the assurance process, better support farmers where risks are highest, and contribute to more sustainable agricultural systems worldwide.

Your research will directly support this shift towards a more targeted, farmer-centred, and impact-driven work.

Who we are looking for

We are looking for a short-term research consultant to support guided desk-based research that will enhance the commodity analysis in Fairtrade Risk Map.

You will contribute to targeted research per commodity, focusing on environmental and climate risk categories defined in Fairtrade's Sustainable Agriculture Policy guided by agroecology principles. The work involves reviewing and synthesising scientific and other literature to help assess where key risks are most relevant and how they vary across commodities and contexts.

This is a structured and guided research role: you will not be expected to define the framework yourself, but to help strengthen it through clear, reliable, and well-organised

research inputs that feed directly into Fairtrade's risk-based assurance and farmer support work. We welcome researchers who:

- Have a strong research background in environmental, agricultural, sustainability or related studies
- Enjoy working with structured analysis
- Are interested in sustainable agriculture, agroecology, and real-world impact
- Can work independently and reliably, with attention to detail
- Prior knowledge of Fairtrade is helpful but not required

Practical information

- Start date: ASAP
- Duration: 15 weeks
- Working hours per week: 32
- Location: Remote
- Application deadline: **3 February 2026**

Please send your cv along with a short cover letter to Brenda Huerta, Senior Advisor Climate & Environment, at b.huerta@fairtrade.net