

FAIRTRADE
NETWORK OF ASIA &
PACIFIC PRODUCERS



What is El Niño?

El Niño is a naturally occurring climate phenomenon caused by the warming of sea surface temperatures in the central and eastern tropical Pacific Ocean. It influences global weather patterns and may result in:



HIGHER-THAN-AVERAGE TEMPERATURES AND PROLONGED HEATWAVES.



REDUCED RAINFALL AND DROUGHT IN SOME AREAS.



GREATER UNCERTAINTY IN SEASONAL WEATHER PATTERNS.



INCREASED FREQUENCY OF EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS.



HEAVY RAINFALL AND FLOODING IN OTHERS.

PRODUCER ADVISORY NOTE: PREPARING FAIRTRADE PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS FOR POTENTIAL EL NIÑO CONDITIONS IN THE ASIA- PACIFIC REGION

JULY 2026

AS IMPACTS DIFFER ACROSS COUNTRIES AND PRODUCTION AREAS, PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS SHOULD CLOSELY MONITOR INFORMATION ISSUED BY THEIR NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES.



POTENTIAL IMPACTS ON AGRICULTURE AND LIVELIHOODS



El Niño may affect agricultural production and rural livelihoods through:



CROP PRODUCTION

➤ Reduced growth, flowering and yields; poor crop quality; increased crop losses.



FOOD SECURITY

➤ Reduced food availability and dietary diversity, particularly for vulnerable farming households.



HOUSEHOLD INCOME

➤ Lower agricultural production and reduced product quality may decrease household incomes and affect livelihoods.



WATER RESOURCES

➤ Water shortages, declining irrigation supplies, flooding and waterlogging in some regions.



SOIL HEALTH

➤ Loss of soil moisture, increased erosion, nutrient depletion and land degradation.



PESTS AND DISEASES

➤ Increased pest populations, changing disease patterns and the spread of invasive species.



WORKERS' HEALTH AND SAFETY

➤ Heat stress, dehydration, reduced productivity and unsafe working conditions during extreme weather events.



RECOMMENDED PREPARATION MEASURES



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Producer organisations are encouraged to take the following proactive actions:

CLIMATE MONITORING



- Regularly monitor weather forecasts and seasonal outlooks.
- Maintain close communication with agricultural extension services and meteorological authorities.
- Share climate information promptly with farmers, workers and management committees.

- Improve irrigation efficiency and protect water sources.
- Harvest rainwater where feasible.
- Maintain drainage systems to minimise flood damage.
- Apply mulching, cover crops and soil conservation practices to improve moisture retention and reduce erosion.

WATER & SOIL MANAGEMENT



CROP MANAGEMENT



- Increase crop monitoring during critical growth stages.
- Implement integrated pest and disease management.
- Diversify crops where appropriate.
- Adjust planting and harvesting schedules based on local technical advice

- Provide adequate drinking water and shaded rest areas.
- Adjust working hours during periods of extreme heat where appropriate.
- Raise awareness of heat-related illnesses and strengthen occupational health and safety measures.

WORKERS' PROTECTION



ORGANISATIONAL PREPAREDNESS

PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS SHOULD:

- REVIEW CLIMATE-RELATED RISKS WITHIN THEIR INTERNAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (IMS).
- UPDATE CONTINGENCY AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PLANS.
- IDENTIFY VULNERABLE MEMBERS WHO MAY REQUIRE ADDITIONAL SUPPORT, INCLUDING ELDERLY FARMERS, FEMALE-HEADED HOUSEHOLDS, REMOTE COMMUNITIES, FARMERS WITH LIMITED ACCESS TO WATER AND HOUSEHOLDS ALREADY AFFECTED BY PREVIOUS CLIMATE-RELATED DISASTERS, AND ASSESS THEIR SPECIFIC SUPPORT NEEDS.
- STRENGTHEN COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS FOR CLIMATE-RELATED EMERGENCIES.



ALSO, IMPORTANTLY:

REPORT SIGNIFICANT CLIMATE-RELATED IMPACTS & EMERGING RISKS TO THE RESPECTIVE FAIRTRADE NAPP PROGRAMME MANAGER TO FACILITATE TIMELY TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND COORDINATED RESPONSE.

FAIRTRADE NAPP'S PLANNED RESPONSE



To support producer organisations, the Fairtrade Network of Asia and Pacific Producers (FAIRTRADE NAPP) will implement a coordinated regional response throughout the El Niño cycle.

PHASE 1 – BEFORE EL NIÑO (PREPAREDNESS PHASE)



DISSEMINATE LOCALLY TRANSLATED ADVISORIES THROUGH FAIRTRADE NAPP PROGRAMME CONSULTANTS AND COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES.



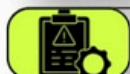
RAISE AWARENESS AMONG FAIRTRADE-CERTIFIED PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS.



ORGANISE REGIONAL AWARENESS WEBINARS WITH CLIMATE SCIENTISTS, METEOROLOGICAL EXPERTS & COMMODITY SPECIALISTS ON EL NIÑO IMPACTS AND PRACTICAL ADAPTATION MEASURES.



FACILITATE INTERACTIVE DISCUSSIONS AND QUESTION-AND-ANSWER SESSIONS FOR PRODUCERS.



SUPPORT PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS TO REVIEW CLIMATE RISK ASSESSMENTS, CONTINGENCY PLANS AND PREPAREDNESS MEASURES WITHIN THEIR MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS.



PHASE 2 – DURING EL NIÑO (RESPONSE PHASE)



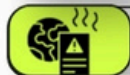
CONTINUE PROVIDING UPDATED CLIMATE FORECASTS, WEATHER INFORMATION AND TECHNICAL GUIDANCE AS CONDITIONS EVOLVE.



DEVELOP AND DISSEMINATE COMMODITY-SPECIFIC TECHNICAL GUIDANCE FOR KEY FAIRTRADE PRODUCTS.



COORDINATE TECHNICAL SUPPORT WITH NATIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS, METEOROLOGICAL AGENCIES AND AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICES.



ENCOURAGE PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS TO REPORT SIGNIFICANT CLIMATE IMPACTS AND EMERGING RISKS TO FAIRTRADE NAPP FOR TIMELY COORDINATION AND SUPPORT.



PHASE 3 – AFTER EL NIÑO (RECOVERY AND LEARNING PHASE)



DOCUMENT LESSONS LEARNED AND GOOD PRACTICES FROM PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS.



PROMOTE KNOWLEDGE SHARING AND EXCHANGE OF SUCCESSFUL CLIMATE ADAPTATION PRACTICES ACROSS THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION.



SUPPORT PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS IN STRENGTHENING LONG-TERM CLIMATE RESILIENCE PLANNING AND IMPROVING PREPAREDNESS FOR FUTURE CLIMATE EVENTS.



RESOURCE MOBILISATION

RECOGNISING THAT CLIMATE ADAPTATION REQUIRES SUSTAINED INVESTMENT, FAIRTRADE NAPP WILL ACTIVELY SEEK PARTNERSHIPS WITH FAIRTRADE INTERNATIONAL, NATIONAL METEOROLOGICAL AGENCIES, RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS, COMMODITY RESEARCH INSTITUTES, DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES AND DONOR ORGANISATIONS TO MOBILISE TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE INITIATIVES. THESE MAY INCLUDE CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE, SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT, EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS, CAPACITY BUILDING, DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS AND CLIMATE RISK ASSESSMENT.



CALL TO ACTION



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**WE ENCOURAGE ALL FAIRTRADE-CERTIFIED PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS:
SMALL PRODUCER ORGANISATIONS (SPOS), HIRED LABOUR ORGANISATIONS
(HLOS), AND CONTRACT PRODUCTION (CP) TO:**



**SHARE THIS ADVISORY
WITH MEMBERS,
WORKERS AND
MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEES.**



**DISCUSS POTENTIAL
CLIMATE RISKS DURING
ORGANISATIONAL
MEETINGS.**



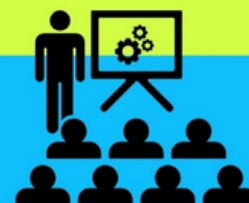
**BEGIN IMPLEMENTING
LOCALLY APPROPRIATE
PREPAREDNESS
MEASURES.**



**FOLLOW OFFICIAL
METEOROLOGICAL
ADVISORIES AND
AGRICULTURAL
EXTENSION GUIDANCE.**



**REPORT SIGNIFICANT
CLIMATE-RELATED
IMPACTS TO FAIRTRADE
NAPP PROGRAMME
MANAGERS WHERE
ADDITIONAL
TECHNICAL SUPPORT
MAY BE REQUIRED.**



**PARTICIPATE ACTIVELY
IN UPCOMING
FAIRTRADE NAPP
REGIONAL LEARNING
EVENTS AND
KNOWLEDGE-SHARING
INITIATIVES.**

CLIMATE RESILIENCE BEGINS WITH PREPAREDNESS. THROUGH TIMELY ACTION, COLLABORATION AND KNOWLEDGE SHARING, WE CAN REDUCE CLIMATE-RELATED RISKS, PROTECT LIVELIHOODS, STRENGTHEN FOOD SECURITY AND BUILD RESILIENT, SUSTAINABLE FARMING COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE, CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND THE FAIRTRADE MOVEMENT.

FAIRTRADE NETWORK OF ASIA AND PACIFIC PRODUCERS (FAIRTRADE NAPP)

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