



FAIRTRADE

LEAVING A GIFT IN YOUR WILL TO HELP BUILD A FAIRER FUTURE

YOUR GUIDE TO LEAVING A LEGACY TO FAIRTRADE

Tomás Pérez, Banana Farmer
at COOBAFRIO, Colombia

A message from Eleanor Harrison, our Chief Executive



At the heart of Fairtrade's ethos is a commitment to fair pay, safer working conditions and climate resilience for farmers and workers.

It is a commitment you have helped carry forward. Every time you have chosen a Fairtrade product, supported a campaign, written to an MP, or simply talked to someone about why fair trade matters, you have helped turn that ethos into something real.

Just a few decades ago, very few people in Britain had heard of Fairtrade. Today, the Fairtrade Mark is recognised across the country, and millions of farmers and workers around the world have benefited from the choices people like you have made.

But fairness is never something we can take for granted.

The world is far more insecure than it was in the mid-1990s. Climate change, global conflicts, and unstable prices have heightened threats to farmers' livelihoods. The progress we have made matters enormously. So does protecting it for the generations that come next.

That is why I hope you will consider leaving a gift to Fairtrade in your Will.

Your first responsibility will, of course, be to the people you love. But after you have looked after them, any gift you choose to leave to Fairtrade can help ensure that the values you have stood for throughout your life continue to make a difference long into the future.

It does not have to be a large gift. Even 1% of your estate can help build a fairer future for farmers, workers and their families - while leaving 99% for the people and causes closest to you.

Whatever you decide, thank you for everything you have already done to make trade fairer.

With my very best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E Harrison".

Chief Executive, Fairtrade Foundation



Why leave a gift in your Will?

You have already spent a lifetime choosing fairness

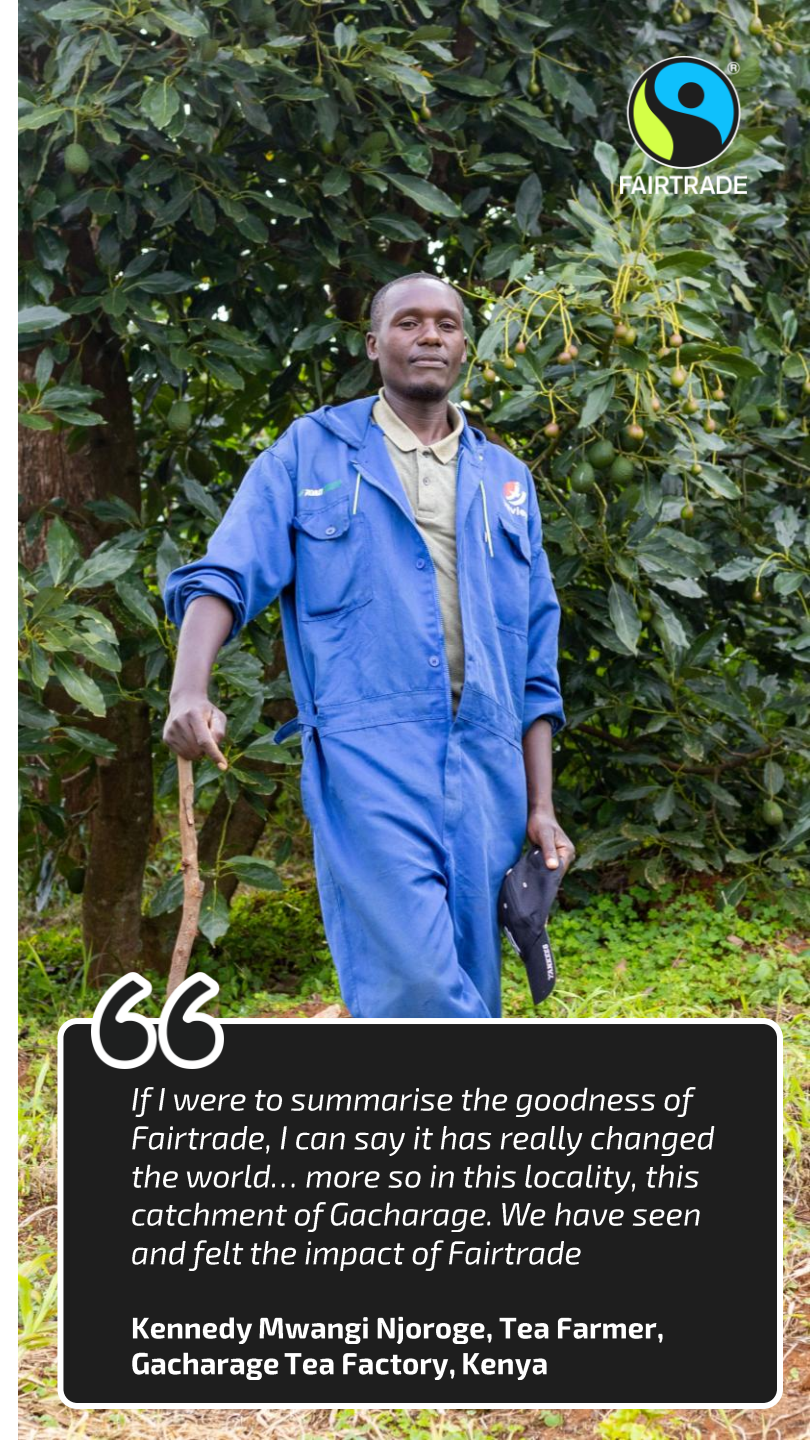
A gift in your Will is perhaps the most lasting of those choices. It costs you nothing today, changes nothing about the way you live, and can keep your support for Fairtrade going for years to come.

We value every gift, whatever its size. Because a gift in a Will can be used where it is needed most, it helps us invest in the long-term work that creates lasting change, supporting farmers and workers, building the Fairtrade movement, and helping to shape a fairer trading system for future generations.

Family and friends come first. Always. But once you have looked after the people you love, even a small share of your estate could carry the beliefs you have stood for throughout your life into the future.

How Fairtrade is financed

Fairtrade's income from partner licence fees plays a vital role in supporting our work. Gifts in Wills provide an additional source of unrestricted income, allowing Fairtrade to invest flexibly and where the need is greatest, to build a strong and sustainable movement for the future. By leaving a gift in your Will, you can help Fairtrade continue to build momentum and drive lasting change for generations to come.



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If I were to summarise the goodness of Fairtrade, I can say it has really changed the world... more so in this locality, this catchment of Gacharage. We have seen and felt the impact of Fairtrade

**Kennedy Mwangi Njoroge, Tea Farmer,
Gacharage Tea Factory, Kenya**

How to leave a gift

After you have taken care of the people you love, there are two simple ways to leave a gift to Fairtrade in your Will.

A share of your estate

This is known as a residuary gift. You leave Fairtrade a percentage of what is left after everything has been taken care of.

Because it is a share rather than a fixed sum, it keeps its value as your circumstances change. Even a small percentage can make a lasting difference.

A fixed amount

This is known as a pecuniary gift. You choose a specific amount of money to leave to Fairtrade.

It is simple to arrange, although its value can reduce over time because of inflation. Your solicitor can advise you on how to keep it up to date.

How much? Try 1%

Most people worry that leaving anything to charity means taking it from the people they love. It does not have to. A small percentage - 1% is where most supporters start - leaves everything else exactly where you want it. Some leave more. Some leave whatever remains once their family are provided for.

On an estate of £300,000, 1% is £3,000 - and 99% still goes to your family and friends.

How will my gift be used?

A gift in your Will can help to build our movement for fairer trade or respond to growing challenges facing farmers and workers. If you're wondering whether to start - we're here to help.

Making or updating your Will

We recommend you use a solicitor. These steps will save you time when you get there.

1

Find a solicitor

We recommend you use a solicitor to make sure all the legal formalities are covered and your Will is valid. To find a solicitor, you can search the Law Society directory.

2

Consider what you have

List what you own and roughly what it is worth, including anything you own jointly. Note any debts too, as these come out of your estate first. Make sure someone you trust knows where the paperwork is kept.

3

Choose your executors

These are the people who will carry out your wishes. They can be family, friends, or professionals. Ask them first - it is a real job, and most people would rather be asked than surprised.

4

Decide on your gift

If you would like to include Fairtrade, your solicitor will need our registered name, address and charity number. They are all on the final page of this document.

5

Make it valid

You must sign your Will in front of two independent witnesses, who must also sign it. They must not be beneficiaries, or anything left to them will fail. Your solicitor will handle all of this.

Already have a Will?

You probably do not need a new one. A codicil is a short, signed addition to your existing Will - usually much quicker and cheaper than starting again. Ask your solicitor about drafting one.

Talking to a solicitor

A little preparation keeps the appointment short and the costs down

We recommend using a solicitor. A straightforward Will need not be expensive, and a solicitor can ensure it is properly drafted.

Here is what to sort out before you go:

- Find a solicitor near you through the Law Society at [lawsociety.org.uk](https://www.lawsociety.org.uk)
- Ask what a simple Will costs when you book. Many solicitors take part in schemes such as Make a Will Week or Will Aid, writing a simple Will at a reduced fee, or in return for a charitable donation – it is always worth asking.
- Take the list from page 5: what you own and roughly what it is worth, any debts, and who you would like to provide for.
- Take the names and addresses of your executors, and check they are happy to act.
- If you already have a Will, ask about a codicil rather than a rewrite. It is usually quicker and cheaper.
- Take our details from page 11, so a gift to Fairtrade is worded correctly the first time.
- Ask about a letter of wishes to accompany your gift in Will. It is not legally binding, but it is where you can say, in your own words, why Fairtrade mattered to you.
- Please also note that gifts to charities may have inheritance tax benefits in some situations – please seek legal and financial advice to understand how this might work in your personal situation.

About Fairtrade

A simple idea that you have helped bring to life

Evolving from a grassroots movement to a truly global phenomenon, Fairtrade has provided over three decades of practical commitment and solidarity to the men and women across the world who grow the products we rely on every day.

Farmers and workers have built healthier, stronger, and more resilient communities. They have responded to the climate crisis by investing in sustainable eco-friendly farming practices. They have raised up their farms and their families in ways unimaginable before. Together, we have revolutionised the way we think about trade, our shopping, and the goods we consume.

Today the FAIRTRADE Mark can be found on coffee, cocoa, bananas, tea, sugar, cotton and flowers, and it is the most recognised ethical label in the world.

30+

Years of Fairtrade in the UK

1,824

Producer Organisations in 67 countries

1.8 million

Farmers and workers make up Fairtrade's Producer Organisations

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A donation from you today can help bring Fairtrade to more small farmers all over the world, so they can earn a fair price for their produce and invest in their futures



Rosine Bekouin, Cocoa farmer, Côte d'Ivoire

What your gift makes possible



A fair price

Every Fairtrade product you have bought supports farmers pushing for better wages and safer conditions. Fair pay starts with producers - but it's powered by people choosing to support a fairer future.



Campaigning and advocacy

Fairness isn't a given. But when we listen to farmers and producers - and put pressure in the right places - we have the power to change that.



Supporting farmers against climate change

Our climate and nature are in crisis. Millions of farmers, workers, their families and communities already live with the impacts of climate change, extreme weather and biodiversity loss. Fairtrade works to address this.



The next generation

Fairtrade supports schools across the UK to teach about global justice, fair trade and sustainability, empowering the next generation of ethical consumers and campaigners.



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Fairtrade is supporting our children's education. Our children should study well... [they] should have a future. Through them, our future will move forward

Ms Saritha Kumari, Tea Plucker at UNTE, South India

Our promises to you

Leaving a gift in your Will is a private decision, and a serious one.

These are the promises we make in return:

- Your family and friends come first. We will never suggest otherwise.
- We will answer any question you have, honestly, including the ones about money.
- You can change your mind at any time, and you never have to tell us why.
- You do not have to tell us you have left a gift at all. If you do, it stays confidential.
- We will not pester you. You choose whether we contact you, and how often.
- We will use your gift carefully and responsibly, directing it where it will have the greatest long-term impact for farmers and workers, building the Fairtrade movement, and helping to shape a fairer trading system for future generations.
- We will keep making the case for fair trade for as long as it needs making.

Commonly asked questions

What happens if I do not make a Will?

If you pass away without making a Will, this could result in your estate not going where you would have wished. If you have no family members to inherit, your entire estate would pass to the Crown. That's why it's better to know that your assets and possessions will go to the people and causes you care about..

Can I change my mind?

Yes, at any time, and you do not owe us an explanation. A Will can be updated for as long as you are able to make one.

How is Fairtrade funded?

Most of our income is licence fees from companies using the FAIRTRADE Mark. That pays for certification.

Only a relatively small proportion of this can be spent on campaigning, education, advocacy and the work which builds our movement now and for the future.

Do I have to tell you?

No. Many people never do, and their gift is just as welcome. If you do tell us, it helps us plan - and it gives us the chance to thank you properly while we still can.

How will my gift be used?

Unless you tell us otherwise, your gift will be used where the need is greatest: reaching farmers and workers who are not yet part of Fairtrade and supporting the ones who are through difficult years.



THANK YOU



How to get in touch

If you have a question about leaving a gift in your Will, or you would just like to talk it through with someone, please get in touch with Sarah Giles.

Email: legacies@fairtrade.org.uk

Tel: +44 (0)20 7405 5942

Find out more at: fairtrade.org.uk

For your solicitor

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