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## Latest news

Hi Ctc,

Throughout 2023, we've been proud to see our whole Fairtrade movement – **you included** – come together to take action for a fairer future.

Whether that action was **picking up an extra Fairtrade product in your weekly shop** or **campaigning for fairer trade, climate justice and a better tomorrow**.

Let's take a look back at exactly how you made a difference...

### **You chose to be the change we need in 2023**

Because every single time you buy Fairtrade, you're making a positive commitment to a fairer deal for families like the Almanzars.



[Watch here as Sol Almanzar talks about how her family used Fairtrade Premium to fund their children's education.](#)

People like you are the part of the reason why across the world

communities are investing **£30m of Fairtrade Premium in locally-led projects**.<sup>[1]</sup>

From **taking on climate change** to **investing in medical facilities**, farmers are using your Fairtrade commitment to change things for the better.

**But our Fairtrade movement is about more than Fairtrade products**

Campaigning for a fairer future is also central to Fairtrade. **And in 2023, so many of you stepped up to do just that.**



[See more key numbers on what it means to campaign with Fairtrade](#)

Your support means that together we can do much more to support Fairtrade farmers' campaigning efforts for fairer prices, more equal global trade rules and climate justice.

**Speaking out for Climate Justice**



[You can still sign your Community Declaration for Climate Justice.](#)

This year we came together to show our strength in numbers. **Over 20,000 of you signed to stand with communities living with the worst effects of the climate crisis.**

By signing petitions, writing to MPs and sharing messages from farmers, you demanded fair funding for farmers and workers taking action to adapt to climate change.

Together we showed politicians that grassroots support for global action on climate justice **can not be ignored.**

### **Local action, global impact**

The Fairtrade campaigning community comes in all shapes and sizes.



*Interested in getting involved? [Visit our website for more information](#)*

In the UK alone, **almost 2,000 active groups** campaign for **Fairtrade**, ranging from schools and universities to local groups, workplaces and places of worship.

**To everyone bringing Fairtrade to their community, thank you for once again spreading the word about the power of Fairtrade!**

### **Fresh Community Commitments**

Since our new, simplified Fairtrade Communities renewal process launched in May, **over 100 Communities** have recommitted to **Fairtrade**.



[Interested in joining these committed communities? Visit the Fairtrade Communities webpage to find out more.](#)

If you are one of them, remember to use our [template press release](#) and [social media graphics](#) to celebrate this milestone.

**Not renewed yet or want to apply for the first time?** Get started by [logging in to the new Communities Space](#). You can find [guides and videos to help you get started on our website](#).

### **Fairtrade on campus**

From growing their Fairtrade procurement so students have more opportunity to purchase ethically while on campus, to influencing and connecting with local campaign groups, Fairtrade Universities have done so much to embed fair trade values throughout their institutions.



To join the Fairtrade University and College Awards, sign up on the [SOS-UK website](#), or email [hello@fairtrade.org.uk](mailto:hello@fairtrade.org.uk) to register your interest.

With over **40 institutions currently working towards achieving their Fairtrade University and College Awards**, the Fairtrade message is louder than ever in higher education.

So as another year comes to a close, we would like to give a huge shout out to all Fairtrade Universities and Colleges, and the brilliant work they have done throughout 2023.

### **Speaking of learning...so many schools have embraced Fairtrade in 2023**

Over 600 schools have achieved a Fairtrade Award, with many more working on it right now. The special school resources on our Fairtrade School websites has had over 100,000 downloads. And during Fairtrade Fortnight, our Big Fairtrade Get Together School Specials were attended by around 250 schools.

# Tens of thousands of children learning in Fairtrade Schools



[Find out more about Fairtrade Schools and our free Fairtrade learning resources on the Fairtrade Schools website.](#)

You don't need to be a maths whizz to realise that altogether this means **tens of thousands of children learning about Fairtrade across the UK!** A huge thanks to all the teachers, school staff, committed students and campaigners who've made this happen.

## **Another Fabulous Fairtrade Fortnight**

Last February there were **over 700 grassroots-led Fairtrade Fortnight events organised** up and down the country.



During that time our dedicated campaigners spread the word that choosing Fairtrade helps build a fairer future for food.

[From ferries to footballers, here's some of the amazing things campaigners got up to last Fairtrade Fortnight.](#)



Fairtrade Wolverhampton teamed up with local Premier League football team Wolverhampton Wanderers during Fairtrade Fortnight 2023. [Read all about it, and other creative campaigning initiatives, in our blog.](#)

It's clear to see that you have been busy this past year, so we hope



you are using the holidays to rest and recharge, as we're making some exciting plans to celebrate **30 years of the FAIRTRADE Mark on UK shop shelves.**

**2024 is the perfect opportunity for us to come together and strengthen the Fairtrade movement.** So let's raise a glass of Fairtrade wine, tea or coffee to another year of Fairtrade producers driving change in their communities, brilliant Fairtrade products, and committed and creative Fairtrade campaigners.

Best wishes,

Sam and the whole Fairtrade team

**P.S.** Want to help us do even more in 2024? Join our focus groups in January, where you will have the opportunity to tell us how we can better support you to spread the word.

Everyone selected to take part will receive a small Fairtrade gift as a token of our appreciation. [Find out more and sign-up here.](#)

**[1]** [Fairtrade Foundation Annual Impact Report 2022](#) (most recent figures currently available)

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