

Becoming a Fairtrade Diocese

What is Fairtrade?

Unfair trade condemns millions of people living in developing countries to poverty.

Fairtrade addresses the injustices of conventional trade, which traditionally discriminates against the poorest, weakest producers. It enables them to improve their lot and to have more control over their lives. More than 7 million producers, workers and their families now get a better deal from Fairtrade.

The FAIRTRADE Mark is an independent consumer label created by CAFOD and other organisations (including Christian Aid, Oxfam and Traidcraft) which can now be found on more than 3,000 different products. The Fairtrade Foundation is the independent non-profit organisation that licenses use of the FAIRTRADE Mark on products in the UK.

“Fairtrade is a good idea and makes a big difference to us. It is marketing our coffee and giving us a fair price. And we know we are not being cheated.”

Oliva Kishero, coffee farmer in Uganda

The FAIRTRADE Mark means:

- a fair and stable price to farmers for their products
- Producers receive additional income to invest in their community
- greater respect for the environment
- a stronger position for small-scale farmers in world markets
- a closer link between consumers and producers.

Why become a Fairtrade Diocese?

Working to become a Fairtrade Diocese is a great way to get more people buying and using Fairtrade products in their everyday lives. The Fairtrade Foundation has worked with CAFOD and others to set five goals for becoming a Fairtrade Diocese (these are listed on the form below).

When you have achieved all five goals, complete this form and return to CAFOD. If CAFOD is satisfied that the goals have been met, we will send you a Fairtrade Diocese certificate for you to display.

Tips for getting started

- Get together a small group of motivated people who are able to give some time to helping the diocese go for Fairtrade status.
- Contact your CAFOD Diocesan Office for advice and to find other CAFOD supporters interested in Fairtrade.
- Get the bishop on your side. Seek his support and, if appropriate, ask his permission to put a proposal to the council of priests or clergy. Every diocese has slightly different structures, so ask his advice on this.
- Write to every parish asking them their current level of Fairtrade activity and their plans for the future. Arundel and Brighton Diocese sent a free Dubble chocolate bar to every priest in the diocese to encourage a good response!

For more ideas and resources, including the Fairtrade Church Action Guide, contact:

CAFOD – www.cafod.org.uk/fairtrade campaign@cafod.org.uk, 020 7095 5692

The Fairtrade Foundation – www.fairtrade.org.uk, faithgroups@fairtrade.org.uk, 020 7405 5942

Traidcraft – www.traidcraft.co.uk, 0191 491 0591

Fairtrade Diocese application form

Name of diocese	
Name of Fairtrade contact	
Fairtrade contact address and post-code	
Fairtrade contact email address and telephone number	

I would like to receive:

- Campaign information and actions from CAFOD by post/e-mail (please select as appropriate)
- Fairtrade Churches email updates (sent by the Fairtrade Foundation)

By filling in this form, you are agreeing to CAFOD passing on your contact details to the Fairtrade Foundation.

Please use the space under each goal for more information about what your diocese has done so far to show its commitment to the goal. Attach any supporting information or use extra sheets. Your diocese must meet all five goals to become a Fairtrade Diocese.

At a diocesan meeting, our diocese has made a commitment to:

- To support and promote Fairtrade, further encourage the use and sale of Fairtrade products and to serve only Fairtrade coffee and tea at diocesan meetings.
- Ensure that half of the churches in the diocese have become 'Fairtrade Parishes' (Please tell us how many parishes are in your diocese and how many have Fairtrade Parish status).
- Encourage parishes and deaneries to adopt a Fairtrade policy. As far as possible, display literature advertising the fact that Fairtrade products are used and served there.
- Attract media coverage and continue raising awareness of the FAIRTRADE Mark.
- Set up a Fairtrade steering group to monitor that goals continue to be met and developed over time.

Please return this form with any accompanying information to:

CAFOD Supporter Services, Romero House, 55 Westminster Bridge Road, London, SE1 7JB