# FAIRTRADE CHILD LABOUR PUZZLE GUIDELINE

This tools is presented as a puzzle consisting of five comic based stories, printed on cardboard cut into various pieces of different shapes that have to be fitted together. This puzzle describes five stories addressing the following concepts:

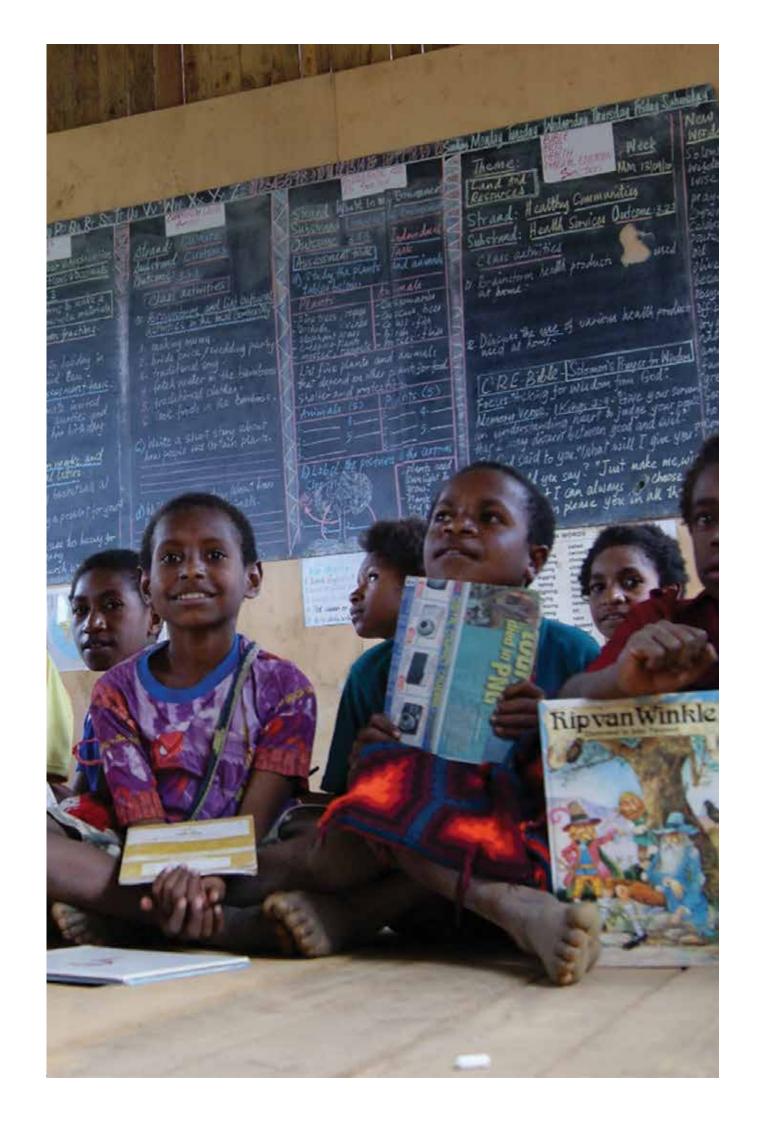
- The definition of child labour as defined by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Convention No. 138 on the Minimum Age for admission to employment, and Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour.
- The type and conditions of permissible work that children between 15 and 18 years old can carry out.
- Community monitoring systems as key for the identification of potential risks of child labour.
- Recordkeeping as a way to monitor changes and potential risks in the membership of producer organisations.
- The role of Fairtrade producers in the prevention and mitigation of child labour situations in their communities.

# **HOW TO PLAY**

5 people can play per group. Players must interpret each strip and narrate the story they see in each illustration. Stories can be based on the players' daily lives or can be entirely fictional.

#### **USE**

The child labour puzzle can be used to introduce the key concepts for the definition and understanding of child labour from a rights-based approach, and to initiate conversation about potential risks in producer communities. The puzzle should be solved in strips starting from the top, allowing gradual analysis through group discussion.



STRIP 01

# **GUIDANCE**

This strip highlights two important elements for the identification of child labour situations: the duration and the type of work performed. The illustrations should be used to talk about the main ILO conventions under which the Fairtrade Standards related to child labour are framed. They should be the starting point for conversations around risky circumstances endemic to the geographical area or crop relevant to the user.

The first set of illustrations describes daily activities that are considered appropriate for a child, emphasising school, rest, play and mealtime.

The second set of illustrations describes a situation in which a child is subjected to forced and hazardous labour. The figure of the trafficker (the man by the river) is introduced here as the person who retains the child against her will.

The last set of illustrations presents a situation where the child is allowed to do light work in and out of the household and under adult supervision, while attending school and resting properly. This introduces the type of work that children under fifteen years old can perform.

# **FAIRTRADE STANDARD**

#### **INTENT AND SCOPE**

This section intends to prevent labour that is damaging to children based on ILO Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour addressing "work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children". On ILO Convention 138 on Minimum Age: "The minimum age specified in pursuance of paragraph 1 of this Article shall not be less than the age of completion of compulsory schooling and, in any case, shall not be less than 15 years."

#### **YEAR 0 CORE**

You and the members of your organization must not employ children below the age of 15 or under the age defined by local law, whichever is higher.

You and the members of your organisation must not directly or indirectly submit workers less than 18 years of age to any type of work which, by its nature or the circumstance under which it is carried out, is likely to jeopardize their health, safety or morals and their school attendance.







STRIP

02

# GUIDANCE

The second strip refers to hazardous labour and unacceptable work for children. This strip can be used to emphasise or introduce ILO Convention 182 (Worst forms of child labour).

The first three illustrations tell the story of a child who works all day in the sugar cane field with sharp tools and heavy loads - jobs that are classified as hazardous by the ILO. The last two illustrations suggest that the child then falls into worse forms of child labour, situations that will compromise his wellbeing and future. By showing a number of children in the same situation, the strip implies that this issue can affect many members of the community.

This strip can introduce a conversation around the worst forms of labour, which can involve slave-like practices, recruitment into armed conflict, sex work and/or illicit activities, all of which could be referred to using the last two illustrations in the strip.

It can also initiate a discussion about the most dangerous tasks related to the relevant crop, as well as the most common illicit activities in the region; it can also aim to prepare participants to conduct gap assessments and set up child-inclusive community-based monitoring systems.

# **FAIRTRADE STANDARD**

#### **YEAR 1 CORE**

If in the past you or your members have employed children under 15 for any type of work, or children under 18 for dangerous and exploitative work, you must ensure that those children do not enter or are at risk of entering into even worse forms of labour including hazardous agricultural work, slavelike practices, recruitment into armed conflict, sex work, trafficking for labour purposes, illicit activities and/or working long hours in domestic labour.





STRIP 03

# GUIDANCE

This third strip refers to the work that can be carried out by children below the age of 18. Children can participate in non-hazardous activities that contribute to the inter-generational transfer of skills and to children's food security.

The strip presents the story of three children between the ages of 13 and 17, carrying out light work. In the first set of illustrations a Fairtrade certified farmer is teaching his son about traceability, while the son supports his father labelling the sacks of the family's produce. In the second set of illustrations, a grandmother teaches her grandson about composting and soil fertility, and in the final set of illustrations, a young girl participates in a reading exercise at the local school.

This strip can be used to distinguish between light work that is not dangerous for children, and child labour or hazardous labour. The first is work performed under training or adult supervision and in a safe environment; and the second is work that interferes with compulsory schooling and threatens health and wellbeing - this is based on working hours, conditions of work, age, activities and hazards involved.



#### YEAR 0 CORE

Your members' children below 15 years of age are allowed to help your members on their farms under strict conditions: you must make sure that they only work after school or during holidays, the work they do is appropriate for their age, they do not work long hours and/ or under dangerous or exploitative conditions, and their parents supervise and guide them.

You and the members of your organisation must not submit workers less than 18 years of age to any type of work which, by its nature or the circumstances under which it is carried out, is likely to jeopardize their health, safety or morals and their school attendance.



STRIP

04

# GUIDANCE

This strip brings attention to the importance of child-inclusive community-based monitoring systems and self assessment as efficient instruments for the identification of risks of child labour situations. The illustration also points out that children must be part of community assessments or monitoring systems.

In the strip, a Fairtrade producer organisation is identifying and documenting circumstances which can lead to child labour. In the first bubble is a group of orphaned brothers who could be forced to take up employment or unsupervised work in order to generate income; in the second bubble is a trafficker, convincing children to leave school to work in an unknown occupation; and in the third bubble, the school is too far away from the community and does not present a safe environment for children. The bubble on the far right highlights that it is useful for producer organisations to keep records of their members, so they can keep track of their ages and the type of work appropriate for each.

This strip can be used to highlight and introduce child labour standards for Year 1 and Year 3, where producer organisations are requested to have and implement policies and strategies for the identification and mitigation of child labour within their communities and organisations. These illustrations can also initiate conversation about the type of risks present in the community, and can be a starting point for community mapping exercises and discussions.

# **FAIRTRADE STANDARD**

#### **YEAR 3 DEV**

If you have identified child labour as a risk in your organisation, you and the members of your organisation must implement relevant procedures to prevent children below the age of 15 from being employed for any work and children below the age of 18 from being employed in dangerous and exploitative work.



STRIP 05

# **GUIDANCE**

The last strip represents the relationship between Fairtrade producer organisations and Fairtrade consumers.

The illustration shows a consumer thinking about a community where children are supported to go to school, and adults are responsible for carrying out agricultural work in a safe environment.

This story can be used to highlight the relationship that Fairtrade facilitates between the members of supply chains. Fairtrade is a certification system that encourages the eradication of poverty through access to the international Fairtrade market.



# FAIRTRADE STANDARD

# ACTIVITY GUIDELINE

METHOD: Group discussion, presentation, community mapping

MEDIA: Fairtrade's Child Labour Puzzle, PowerPoint presentation on Child Labour

Conventions and Fairtrade Standards, butcher paper and markers

**DURATION: 180 mins** 

#### **PROCEEDING:**

Introduce the activity aimed to raise awareness about child protection among producer organisations. Make reference to the child labour requirements included in the Production chapter of the Fairtrade Standards for both Small Producer Organisations and Contract Production.

Ask participants to break into groups of five and choose a spokesperson who will present the group's main ideas. Distribute the twelve puzzle pieces that make up Strip 1 to each group, asking participants to solve the puzzle and identify any situation they suspect to be child labour. After 15 minutes of discussion, the spokespeople should present the outcome of their group's discussion.

Summarise the main points using Slides 1-4 of the PowerPoint presentation on Child Labour Conventions and Fairtrade Standards, presenting ILO Conventions No.138 and No.182. Connect the ILO conventions to Fairtrade's rights-based approach to child labour.

Distribute Strip 2 to each group. Ask participants to make up (written or orally) a short story around the illustrations given; participants should be encouraged to build a fictitious background for the main characters, to describe a situation where characters interact, and to present an ending for the story.

Next, ask participants to share some of the jobs related to their crop which they consider to be dangerous. This should lead to a discussion around why these jobs are not suitable for children. After 15 minutes of discussion, invite a person from each group to present the group's story.

To summarise, outline the main points presented and talk about ILO Conventions 182 and 190 using Slides 5-6 about the type and conditions of permissible work that 15-17 year olds can carry out.

Distribute Strip 3 to each group. Ask participants to identify the type of work that characters are performing and try to identify the age of the main characters. Ask participants to identify the type of work that they consider appropriate for children under the age of 15, both related or not related to agriculture.

After 15 minutes of discussion, invite a person from each group to present the group's opinions. After these presentations, summarise the main points presented and discuss Fairtrade Standards using Slide 7.

Distribute Strip 4 to each group. Ask participants to identify the most important message of this strip. After 5 minutes of discussion, invite a person from each group to present. Summarise the main points presented using Slide 8.

To close this activity, show Slide 9 and ask participants about the meaning of the illustration, bringing attention to the relationship between Fairtrade certified communities and the ethical consumer.

#### SUPPORT DOCUMENTS AND WORKSHEETS

Powerpoint presentation on Child Labour conventions and Fairtrade Standards