Scottish Fair Trade Youth Network

Help shape Fair Trade campaigning in Scotland!

Fair Trade is a way of doing business that seeks to address the root causes of poverty and contribute to sustainable economic growth and prosperity for all. Producers in developing countries give consumers a product they need, and consumers in return give them a fair price whilst being assured that the ingredients have been produced according to social, economic and environmental standards. Transparency, dialogue and respect are at the heart of this trading partnership.

The concept is straightforward but there remains much work to be done in making Fair Trade truly mainstream: farming families are still going hungry, dangerous working conditions are still commonplace and climate change is threatening livelihoods, farming practices and the range and quality of crops available to us all. It is therefore all the more important that consumers are aware of these issues and are aware that buying Fair Trade products can help to overcome them. The Sustainable Development Goals, and Scotland's commitment to them, underpins the need for Fair Trade as a mechanism for ordinary people to contribute to the eradication of poverty (SDG 1), achieve Responsible Consumption (SDG 12) and help achieve many of the other Goals.

In the Year of Young People 2018, the Forum is creating a Fair Trade Youth Network with the aim of empowering young people with the skills, knowledge and resources to create and contribute towards Fair Trade campaigning in Scotland.

We would love to hear from young people, aged 16 to 25, who have a passion for trade justice, an interest in international development and who have the ideas and creativity to drive the future of Scotland as a Fair Trade Nation.

Programme and dates

The programme consists of three core meetings in autumn/winter 2018. Exact dates will be confirmed in due course. Participation in the network is voluntary but travel and subsistence expenses for meetings will be covered.

Eligibility

We are looking for around 10 young people from a range of backgrounds and with a range of experiences to participate in the first programme.

To be eligible to apply, you must be aged between 16 and 25 years old on the day of the application deadline (30 August 2018). You should be able to commit to at least two meetings and be willing to remain in regular contact with the Network throughout the year. On average, this would be one hour per week by email.

You do not necessarily need to have had past involvement with Fair Trade – we are looking for people who are keen to develop their knowledge and most of all, are enthusiastic about working in a team to make a difference to the Fair Trade campaigning landscape in Scotland. We would particularly welcome applications from people who can embrace new and creative thinking.

Applicants may be (but not restricted to):

- young people who are looking to develop their skills through volunteering in order to transition towards employment or more skilled work;
- students who are keen to translate their knowledge of international development into real campaigns; or
- young professionals looking to pursue their interest in Fair Trade on a voluntary basis out with their main employment.

Through participation in the programme, participants will have the opportunity to:

- Develop their knowledge of international development and Fair Trade;
- Gain experience of teamwork, decision-making, project management, communications and the creation of campaigns;
- Meet liked-minded young people from around Scotland;
- Link to the broader Fair Trade campaigner network;
- Receive the Saltire Volunteering Award by recording the hours contributed to the Network;
- Participate in an inspiring programme and make a difference!

Application process

To apply, please complete the attached form and return with your CV to admin@sftf.org.uk by midnight on **Thursday 30 August 2018.**

We look forward to hearing from you!

If you have any questions, just get in touch: admin@sftf.org.uk, tel: 0141 353 5611