



Scottish
Fair Trade
Forum

Annual Review 2021/22



**Fair Trade farmers
on the front line of
the climate crisis**

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Our Vision, Mission and Aims

OUR VISION: A world in which justice, equity and sustainable development are at the heart of trade structures and where Scotland recognises the dignity and rights of producers through a commitment to Fair Trade.

OUR MISSION: The Scottish Fair Trade Forum contributes to building a just, equitable and sustainable world through supporting Scotland to remain a vibrant Fair Trade Nation and working to embed the principles of Fair Trade in all aspects of Scottish society.

OUR AIMS:

1. Develop our role as a hub of expertise for Fair Trade, including Fair Trade Nation status, in Scotland and internationally
2. Increase the market for Fair Trade goods in Scotland
3. Engage Scottish communities in support of Fair Trade
4. Continue to encourage quality education on Fair Trade
5. Improve our sustainability and maintain good governance

Review of the year

“Last year we saw the COP26 climate conference gather in Glasgow and it was a privilege to meet the delegation of Fairtrade producers who came to Scotland. Yet despite some progress at COP26, we see the climate crisis continue. What was clear from our partners in the Global South is that they continue to be the ones most directly feeling the detrimental impact of climate change and also the ones leading the way in highlighting the practical solutions. Yet they are too often not listened to nor in many cases even invited to the table for discussions. The Fair Trade

movement has at its heart the commitment to empowering marginalised producer groups, workers and small-holder farmers. Over the last year, we, as Fair Trade supporters in Scotland, have continued to join our voices with those around the globe calling for trade justice in order to achieve climate justice. In the year ahead we will re-double that effort to achieve the change we need.”



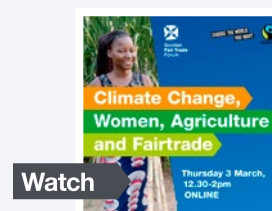
**Martin Rhodes, Chief Executive,
Scottish Fair Trade Forum**

#tradejustice4climate

This year's Fairtrade Fortnight picked up where COP26 left off and asked us all to choose the world we want to see by buying Fairtrade to support farmers during the climate crisis.



We hosted two climate change events for Fairtrade Fortnight. One to explore Fairtrade's bigger picture in the debate surrounding the carbon cost of consumption; and one highlighting the greater impact of climate change on women. Both events gave a voice to producers and farmers, including women involved in agriculture and both events concluded that Fairtrade is a choice for people and the planet. It's one of the ways of consuming ethically; and it gives women farmers the opportunity to offer solutions to the climate crisis. You can watch both events on our [YouTube Channel](#).



Ministerial Message

“Last Autumn the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties brought governments, civil society, businesses and climate activists together to commit to greater action on climate change. COP26 was one of the most important events to be held in Scotland, and for 14 days the eyes of the world were on Glasgow.

I am proud of what was achieved during those two weeks. In addition to the Glasgow Climate Pact and the Scottish Government's commitment to treble our Climate Justice Fund, the First Minister also announced a novel new Loss and Damage Fund. This fund will provide additional financial support for the world's poorest and more vulnerable communities in their efforts to tackle the impacts of climate change. However, with both climate change and COVID-19 continuing to have a devastating impact on the world's most marginalised people, including women and young people, it is only right, ahead of COP27, that we strive to amplify the voices of the people from those marginalised communities in the Global South in climate change discussions.

Fair Trade Farmers are dealing with the sharp end of the climate crisis, whilst at the same time leading the way with sustainable solutions. That is why we must respond to their demand for financing to reach farmers and workers directly, to plant trees, introduce more resilient crops, and adapt to farming through the climate crisis while continuing to grow the world's food. And it is why we must seek to connect them with global decision makers and ensure they have a seat at the table.

We place great importance on Scotland being a good global citizen and I'm proud of how the Scottish Government has risen to the challenges of the last 12 months. Not just in the way we supported the people of Scotland through the pandemic and some of our country's most difficult days, but in the way we continued to play our part in supporting our partner countries through some of theirs. We did this through, not just maintaining but increasing, our Climate Justice Fund and our International Development Fund.



Fair Trade, and Scotland's status as a Fair Trade nation, is a significant component of our support for international development, and awareness amongst the people of Scotland of the importance of global solidarity, the impact the climate crisis is having on farmers, and how Fair Trade makes a difference through its focus on people and planet before profit, has been a big part of the Scottish Fair Trade Forum's work over the course of the last year.

I value the relationship we have built with the Scottish Fair Trade Forum since the Scottish Government first began funding the organisation in 2007, and I'm thankful to their members who continue to support the Forum as they work to promote Fair Trade and build support for the renewal of Scotland's status as a Fair Trade nation. I look forward to working together in the months and years ahead.”

**Neil Gray MSP, Minister for Culture,
Europe and International Development**



The Scottish Fair Trade Forum 2021-22 Highlights

#tradejustice4climate

During COP26 in Glasgow, we represented our Fair Trade Nation by attending official events, creating a **short film** and releasing "**The Faircast**" podcast.

Our Fairtrade Fortnight events have engaged over 1,200 people hearing from 7 Fairtrade farmers from Ghana, Malawi, Ethiopia, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Rwanda and Palestine.

Over 400 people have listened to our **Fair Trade Nation Lecture**, with Sir Geoff Palmer about Slavery and Fair Trade.

We were involved in two professional learning sessions for teachers with Fairtrade Schools and the One World Centre. The sessions explored Fair Trade and Climate Change in the classroom.

We continued our online regional meet-ups with 80 Fair Trade campaigners from 6 regions.

The Cross Party Group on Fair Trade was re-established in the Scottish Parliament after the 2021 Scottish Parliament elections.

We were delighted to welcome three new Trustees and two new staff members during the year.

We successfully partnered with Ollema Fairer Farming Ventures to form **The Alternative Coffee Company** and have engaged with over 20 Scottish roasters.

We provided grant support to 8 Scottish Fair Trade businesses.

Activities and Impact

AIM 1: Developing a HUB OF EXPERTISE for Fair Trade in Scotland

We continue to be members of the World Fair Trade Organization (WFTO) and remain committed to enacting and promoting the **10 Principles of Fair Trade** in all of our work. Over the last year we have collaborated with a wide range of Fair Trade organisations and networks including the Fairtrade Foundation, Fair Trade Wales, Fairtrade Africa, WFTO-Africa, WFTO-Europe, British Association of Fair Trade Shops and Suppliers, and the Fair Trade Advocacy Office.



Following the Scottish Parliament elections in May 2021, the Cross Party Group (CPG) on Fair Trade was reconvened. The CPG brings together MSPs and interested individuals and organisations to discuss policy. Colin Smyth MSP was re-elected as Convenor and Sue Webber MSP as Vice Convenor. The Scottish Fair Trade Forum was again asked to take on the secretariat role for the Group. CPG members agreed that the two key priority areas for this parliamentary session will be the climate crisis and public procurement.



We have continued work with Fair Trade Wales to look at refreshing the Fair Trade Nation criteria to reflect the changes in business, campaigning and society since the criteria were first developed over 15 years ago.



What we learnt and future plans:

- We will continue to advocate for trade justice alongside climate justice, working with sustainability organisations to highlight both the impact of the crisis on farmers and workers, and Fair Trade's role in leading the way with solutions.
- We will keep asking MSPs to support the **Fair Trade Pledge**, and we will extend this ask to Council leaders in order to increase support for Fair Trade in Scotland.

Activities and impact

AIM 2: Increasing THE MARKET FOR FAIR TRADE goods in Scotland

Procurement

To mark Fairtrade Fortnight, we held a roundtable on Fair Trade and public procurement. We brought together over 20 representatives from public contracting authorities and Fair Trade suppliers, to share learning and plan for the future.

We remain committed to monitoring spending on Fair Trade and will be publishing reports from the last 3 years later in 2022. These reports seek to support Scotland's public sector to increase spending on Fair Trade and strengthen Fair Trade policy commitments.



Image: SFTF

Investing in Partnerships

The Fair Trade movement has long recognised the importance of fair value and inclusive and lasting partnerships. With this in mind, last year with small grants, we supported 5 Scottish-based enterprises to develop small, yet creative and impactful project ideas that invested in partnerships with Fair Trade producers and workers.

WFTO Kickstart

We supported 3 Scottish based Fair Trade social enterprises to apply to become WFTO Guaranteed members. Putting people and planet first in everything they do, we're looking forward to seeing Fair Business Alliance, Gogo Olive and Sisal Tech become part of the growing WFTO global community.



Activities and impact

AIM 2: Increasing THE MARKET FOR FAIR TRADE goods in Scotland

The Alternative Coffee Company



We worked in partnership with Ollema Fairer Farming Ventures to establish **The Alternative Coffee Company**. This social enterprise start-up aims to offer a sustainable route to market for Fairtrade Rwandan and Ugandan specialty coffee. Through online events, visits, and mapping activities, we have been able to engage with over 20 Scottish roasters.

Building on the success of the Rwanda Coffee Project, delivered in partnership with Challenges Worldwide, The Alternative Coffee Company has been able to develop pre-existing relationships with Rwandan co-operatives and continue to build the market for Rwandan coffee here in Scotland.



Images: The Alternative Coffee Company

Activities and impact

AIM 2: Increasing THE MARKET FOR FAIR TRADE goods in Scotland

Ethical marketplace

We continued to work with Rainbow Turtle and Ollema Fairer Farming Ventures to explore the potential for “Fair, Green and Scottish” online ethical marketplace.



What we learnt and future plans:

- With the impact of COVID-19 and inflation hitting ethical businesses hard, we see a need for an online marketplace that can platform “Fair, Green and Scottish” businesses, and goods. We are exploring funding and partnership opportunities for the development of this marketplace and will engage with key stakeholders in the sector to catalyse its creation.
- The specialty coffee market is booming, and we will continue to campaign for the need for Fair Trade coffee within it. We seek to build lasting partnerships with coffee roasters in Scotland and encourage cafes to support their local roaster as part of Building Back Fairer. We will be focusing on selling the landed coffee we have available now and placing orders for the next crop year. We will host farmer-roaster online events, so that lasting trading relationships can be built and maintained.
- Building on the success of the WFTO Kickstart programme, we are now working in partnership with WFTO Africa to support 3 Malawi-based Fair Trade enterprises on their journey to becoming WFTO Guaranteed members.

Activities and Impact

AIM 3: Engaging Scottish COMMUNITIES in support of Fair Trade

Building awareness of the impact of the climate crisis on farmers and how Fair Trade makes a difference through its focus on people and planet before profit has been a big part of our engagement of communities, especially with COP26 in Glasgow in November 2021.

- For COP26, we were signatories to a statement putting forward the case that the international community must confront trade injustice, enforce transparency and accountability in supply chains, and secure climate financing mechanisms, living incomes and wages for the world's smallholder agricultural producers, artisans and workers in order to successfully address the climate crisis and guarantee a sustainable future for all.
- We produced a **short film** for COP26 with input from the World Fair Trade Organisation and the Fairtrade Foundation, along with Scottish Fair Trade campaigners to give a voice to Fair Trade farmers for COP26 – the film has been viewed over 1,000 times.
- Our Fairtrade Fortnight events that highlighted Fairtrade as a guaranteed ethical choice for consumers; and women as a solution in tackling climate change, were attended by over 100 people and have been viewed online over 1,100 times.
- The **Faircast**, our podcast for COP26, where we spoke to a number of very interesting Fair Trade advocates doing their bit to make the world more sustainable in 5 episodes has been downloaded 500 times.
- Our 6 regional sessions across the country when we met up with 80 Fair Trade campaigners focused on Fair Trade and climate change – both the impact of the crisis on farmers and Fair Trade as a solution.

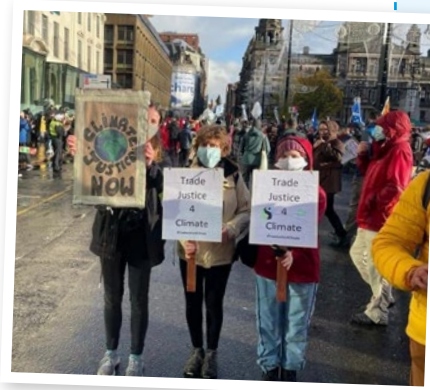
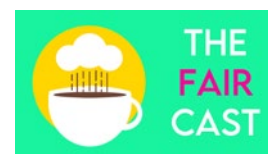


Image: Colleen Tait



Activities and Impact

AIM 3: Engaging Scottish COMMUNITIES in support of Fair Trade

Fair Trade and Young People

We carried out some research this year to find out what young people think about Fair Trade and what gets them campaigning. More than half of those surveyed would buy a product if they knew it was Fair Trade but there is a lower awareness of Fairtrade gold, flowers and beauty products among the age group. Those surveyed care about climate change, global poverty and women's rights and have an interest in the link between these issues and Fair Trade.



Image: Lindsay Dunbar

Online events and producer voice

Our online events continued and allowed us to engage with more than 10 Fair Trade producers, 7 of those during Fairtrade Fortnight from 5 different countries. Their input is vital and we will continue to engage producers, farmers and workers in our online events, and to listen to their voices and requests.

“We use pits with coconut husks to collect rainwater.” Sriyani, Sri Lankan coconut farmer (speaking about how they deal with droughts). “A proper water collection and retention project will be very valuable...” The coconut producers plan to use the Fairtrade premium to support them as they tackle the impacts of climate change.



Image: Ma's Kitchen

“When delegates to COP26 gather in Scotland in a few weeks’ time, they need to put trade justice at the centre of the discussions about climate. The response to the climate emergency needs to be environmental, social and economic. The world won’t create a truly effective plan to tackle the climate emergency unless it deals with the way business and trade is carried out.”

MARTIN RHODES, CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Activities and Impact

AIM 3: Engaging Scottish COMMUNITIES in support of Fair Trade

Scottish Fair Trade Awards 2021

This year, to mark COP26, we had two awards that recognised those working simultaneously on climate justice and trade justice – the Fair Trade and Sustainability Award and the Climate Partnership Award. We were delighted to have 12 winners across 7 award categories, representing the continued dedication of volunteers, campaigners, businesses, nurseries, schools, teachers, colleges and universities, local authorities and faith groups to our Fair Trade Nation.



Image: SFTF

What we learnt and future plans:

- Young people are not necessarily interested in coming along to Fair Trade meetings but they are interested in the link between climate change, global poverty and women's rights and would like to know more about this. We will continue to work to raise awareness of the relevancy of Fair Trade to other campaigns.
- Campaigning for trade and climate justice takes Fair Trade to new audiences and demonstrates the impact now of climate change on those who produce our food, and other products we buy.
- Producers tell the story of Fair Trade and the solutions it offers to people and planet better than anyone else and we must advocate for their voices to be heard, and provide a platform to hear those voices.
- We aim to increase the number of people attending regional events and to facilitate the sharing of ideas to inspire Fair Trade campaigning.

Activities and impact

AIM 4: Encouraging quality EDUCATION on Fair Trade

We linked up with Fairtrade Schools and the One World Centre to deliver two professional learning sessions for teachers exploring Fair Trade and Climate Change in the classroom this year. One session took place in the run up to Fairtrade Fortnight and **The Big Fairtrade CPD** was delivered as part of the Choose The World You Want Festival, with input also from members JTS and Koolskools.

Images: One World Centre



We worked with WOSDEC to deliver a presentation to two secondary schools about the link between Fair Trade and Climate Justice. The presentation is available to watch on our **YouTube channel**.

Image: WOSDEC



What we learnt and future plans:

- Our future education work with schools will be delivered in partnership with the Development Education Centres who work with teachers interested in global citizenship and who are experts in professional training. We will continue to add value with our knowledge and understanding of the 10 Principles of Fair Trade.
- We are currently working with a consultant on the direction of our schools, adult and workplace education work to ensure we are able to make the greatest impact with the resources we have.

Activities and impact

AIM 5: Improve our SUSTAINABILITY and maintain GOOD GOVERNANCE

Our plan to diversify our income base continues and our non-government grant income is over 20% of our total income. In order to develop further our income generation work, supplying advice and consultancy services, proposals have been developed to establish a trading subsidiary.

We have increased our member numbers this year and are delighted to welcome all new and renewing members. Thank you also to South Lanarkshire Council, Scotmid and the Energy Agency who sponsored the Scottish Fair Trade Awards.

Our last AGM saw the election of two new Board members: Pam Robinson of Montrose Fair Trade Forum and Andy Ashcroft of Koolskools.



Image:
Pam Robinson

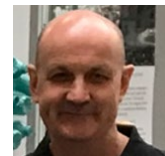


Image:
Andy Ashcroft

We continue to be a Living Wage Employer, and renewed our Cyber Essentials status to ensure our online systems continue to meet high security standards.

We are members of Scotland's International Development Alliance, Stop Climate Chaos Scotland and the Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations.



Message from our Chair

“The Scottish Fair Trade Forum, our members and partners have continued to feel the impact of the Covid pandemic throughout the year. The world is also facing the challenges to food supplies caused by the war in Ukraine and continues to face the huge impact of climate change. It is in this context that it is heartening to read this review. Fair Trade, trade justice and climate justice are more important than ever. This review highlights just some of the activities undertaken over the last year. It is also a reminder of what we can achieve as well as a reminder of how much we still need to achieve. I would like to thank the Forum’s staff, volunteers and fellow Board Members along with the Fair Trade campaigners, businesses and partners across Scotland and further afield for all of their commitment and work over the last year.”



Image: Charles Sim

Charles Sim, Chair, Scottish Fair Trade Forum

If you're not yet a member, please join us.



Join
here



Financial Overview

Statement of Financial Activities (including Income & Expenditure Account) *For the Year Ended 31 March 2022*

Income

Donations and legacies:

Grants	£167,427
Membership fees and donations	£11,002

Charitable activities:

Event and sales income	£750
Consultancy and fee Income	£13,806

Investments:

Interest earned	£1
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TOTAL	£192,986
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Expenditure

Staff costs	£110,274
General campaign work	£41,989
Other projects	£6,332
Office premises	£5,397
Office running costs	£7,768
Compliance and governance costs	£8,775
Depreciation	£679
TOTAL	£181,214

The Scottish Fair Trade Forum would like to thank the Scottish Government, International Social Enterprise Observatory, Scotmid, Energy Agency and South Lanarkshire Council, and also our members and others who donated for their financial support this year.



Our work this year

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Forum's work this year.

Volunteers

Becky Fraser

Humphreys Jalafi

Staff

Catherine Newman, Engagement and Communications Officer – from September 2021

Sissa D Rasmussen, Finance and Administration Officer – from November 2021

Martin Rhodes, Chief Executive

Kiera Wilkins, Development Officer – from November 2021

A special thank you to staff members **Ross Isdale** and **Colleen Tait** who both moved on during the year. We were also pleased to welcome **Catherine Newman** to her new position (former Administration and Communications Assistant).

Board of Trustees

Andy Ashcroft
(appointed September 2021)

Josh Brown

Norman Chipakupaku
(outgoing September 2021)

Angus Coull

Rachel Farey (Vice-Chair)

Senga Gall

Karena Jarvie

Liz Manson (Vice-Chair)

Sarah Middlemiss
(Treasurer)

Aimable Nshimiye

Pam Robinson
(appointed September 2021)

Chris Ross
(resigned August 2021)

Michael Ross
(appointed April 2021)

Charles Sim (Chair)

Nduzani Zaya

Thank you

Thank you to our members for contributing to and supporting such an active Fair Trade Network in Scotland.

Members

49

Individual
Members

A special welcome to the **7** new organisational/group members (in bold) and **5** new individuals who joined us this year.

Aberdeen City Council
Aberdeen For A Fairer World
Aberdeen Unitarian Church
Aberdeenshire Council
Ayr Fairtrade Partnership
BAFTS Fair Trade Network UK
Balldesigner
Bearsden and Milngavie Fairtrade Group
Christian Aid Scotland
Clobber Primary Fairtrade Committee
Cupar Fairtrade Group
Dalgety Bay Fairtrade Group
Dos Mundos
Dumfries and Galloway College
Dumfries and Galloway Council
Dumfries Fairtrade Group
Dundee Fair Trade Forum
Dunscore Fairtrade Group
Earth Squared
East Ayrshire Council
East Ayrshire Fairtrade Group
East Dunbartonshire Council
Edinburgh College
Edinburgh Fairtrade City Group
EE Wholesale UK Ltd.
Fair Business Alliance/Pacari UK
Fair Trade Stirling
Fairlie Fairtrade Initiative
Falkirk Fairtrade Steering Group
Ferry Row B&B
Firpark Secondary School Fairtrade Group
Gavin's Mill Community Project
Glasgow Clyde College
Glasgow Fair Trade Cooperative
Greencity Wholefoods

Greenwood Academy Fair Trade Group

Highland Wholefoods Workers Co-operative
Hillpark Young Co-operative
Huntly Ethical Trading Initiative
Hurlford Primary School Fairtrade Committee
Inverclyde Council
Inverkip Church
Inverness Fairtrade Group
Jubilee Scotland
Just Trading Scotland
Justice & Peace Scotland
Kilmarnock Academy Eco and Fairtrade Student Group
Kingcase Primary School Fair Trade Group
Kirkliston Parish Church Fairtrade Group
Koolskools
Kyle Academy Fairtrade Co-operative
Lenzie Fair Trade Group
Linlithgow Fairtrade Partnership
Melrose & District Fair Trade Group
Montrose Fair Trade Forum
Motherwell Fairtrade Steering Group
Neilston Primary Fair Trade Group
North Ayrshire Fairtrade Zone Group
North Berwick Fairtrade Group
North Lanarkshire Council
One World Shop
Orkney Fair Trade Group
Oxfam Scotland
Palcrafts/Hadeel
Perth and Kinross Council
Perth and Kinross Fairtrade Zone Group
Peterhead & Buchan Fairtrade Group
Queensferry Fair Trade Group
Rafiki Coffee
Rainbow Turtle
Renfrewshire Council
Saorsa Fair Trade Gifts

Sandwood Primary Fair Trade Group

Scotmid Co-operative
Scottish Catholic International Aid Fund (SCIAF)
Scottish Fire and Rescue Service
Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA)
Second Nature Online Limited
Shared Interest

Six Degrees

Society of St Vincent de Paul
South Ayrshire Fairtrade Zone Committee
South Lanarkshire Council
St Andrews Fairtrade Town Campaign
St Silas Episcopal Church
St. Catherine's of Alexandria Church
STC Expeditions

Stonehaven Fairtrade Steering Group

Strathaven Fairtrade Group
Strathpeffer Fairtrade Village Group
The Balerno Fairtrade Village Group
The Co-operative Membership Scotland

The Emporium of Worldly Goods

The University of Edinburgh
The University of Strathclyde
Trade in Space Ltd
Trade Right International/Carishea
Troon Fairtrade Initiative Group
Ullapool Fairtrade Group
University of St. Andrews
Wellington Church

West Dunbartonshire Fairtrade Network Group

West Lothian Council
Westray Chutney
Westray Fairtrade Group
Yho! Yho!
Zaytoun

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Organisations

Support our work



Scottish
Fair Trade
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→ **Donate**

→ **Join as a Member**

→ **Sign up to our emails**

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