

FLO-CERT
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE PILARS OF FAIRTRADE COME TOGETHER
FLO-CERT AuditorsTraining

Fairtrade provides better terms of trade and increased market access for disadvantaged producers and workers in the developing world.

In order to guarantee the credibility of the Fairtrade Certification Mark, FLO-CERT operates an independent, transparent and world wide consistent certification system that meets the ISO 65, the international quality norm for certification bodies, being FLO-CERT the first certification body for economic and social development in the world that meets the ISO 65.

Consumers trust Fairtrade because they know that their purchases directly benefit people. Through the direct assistance guaranteed by each purchase of a Fairtrade product, Fairtrade provides a bridge between the shopper and the producer, a direct link.

The pillars of Fairtrade are an international team of highly qualified and independent auditors who meet with all producers of Fairtrade products at least once every year. These auditors are locally based and familiar with local culture, laws and language, ensuring that audit results are fair.

FLO-CERT uses 2 ways to annually train its inspectors. One way is through the so called 'regional trainings', where the auditors receive targeted training relevant to their regions. The other one is with 'General Auditors Trainings' which include preparation on general auditing practices, Fairtrade Standards, best practices, product, use of pesticides, etc.

The 3rd FLO-CERT's Auditors Training is taking place in Germany. **From the 29th of October to the 5th of November, all Fairtrade auditors are being centrally trained in Bonn.** This is the largest Fairtrade training in history and covers all topics necessary to ensure the high level of quality that is associated with Fairtrade audits. The audit program covers the entire certification system ensuring that the auditors are up to date with new developments. The core of the training focuses on Fairtrade specific audit techniques, teaching auditors to gather the complex and sometimes delicate information behind the Fairtrade system. Because the training brings auditors from around the world together, the main benefit will be the invaluable exchange of information.

FLO-CERT has reserved the first half of the second day (30th of October) for the media, to give you the opportunity to meet its inspectors and attend presentations about the certification system and Fairtrade audits. A time-slot has been dedicated to facilitate media interviews with Fairtrade inspectors about their work.

This General Auditor's training contributes to the trust that makes Fairtrade a success and which drives the growth.

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If you would like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview, please do not hesitate to contact FLO-CERT.