

Cacao Certifié

**FAIRTRADE,  
CLIMATE  
CHANGE  
AND  
ECONOMIC  
JUSTICE**



**FAIRTRADE  
FOUNDATION**



**What made you think 'I need to take action on this' about the Climate Crisis?**



# WHAT DOES THE CLIMATE CRISIS MEAN FOR FAIRTRADE PRODUCERS?



- More volatile, less predictable seasons make agriculture harder
- Heavy rains cause more plant diseases
- Weather extremes lead to a lack of food



- Many Fairtrade crops – especially coffee – are extremely vulnerable to small changes in temperature
- 25% of current coffee farms in Brazil & 37% in Indonesia likely to be lost to climate change if no action is taken
- Huge growth in fungal diseases have destroyed coffee plants in past decade

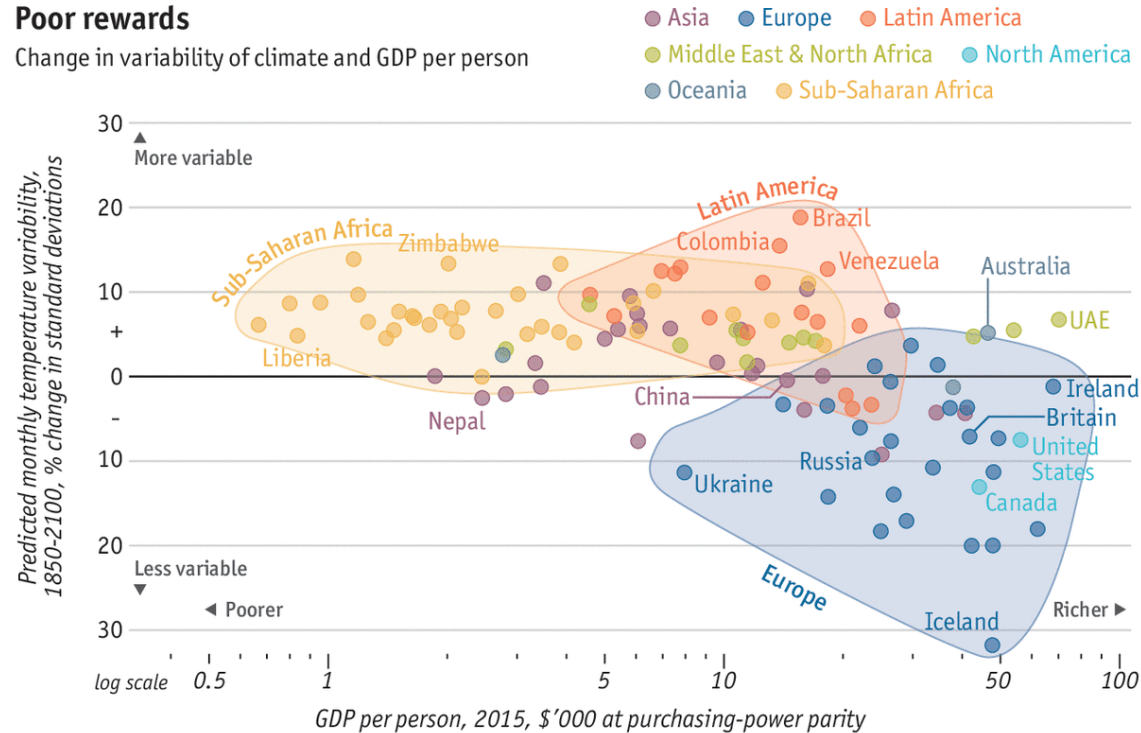


- More frequent droughts, wet seasons and weather extremes hit production & cause plant diseases
- Farmers receive lower incomes
- 97% of tea smallholders in Assam say climate change is threatening their future

# CONTRIBUTED LEAST, GETTING HIT THE HARDEST

## Poor rewards

Change in variability of climate and GDP per person



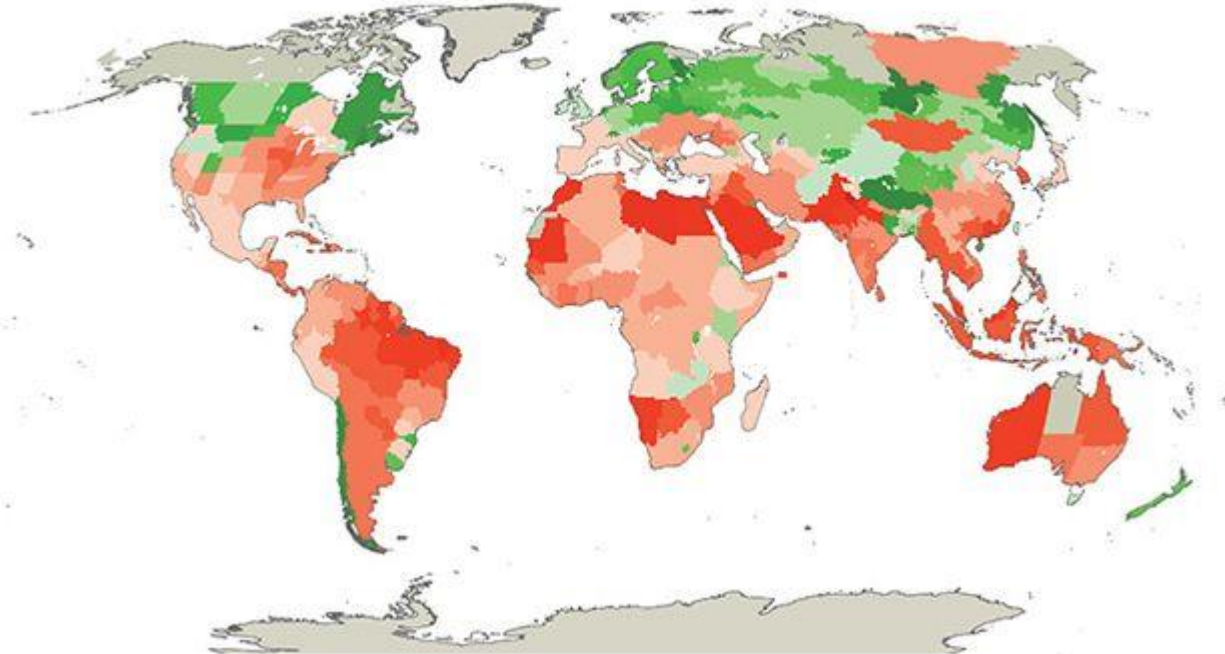
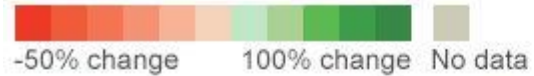
Source: "Climate models predict increasing temperature variability in poor countries", by Sebastian Bathiany, Vasilis Dakos, Marten Scheffer and Timothy M. Lenton, *Science Advances*, May 2018

Economist.com

- Fairtrade farmers contributed the least to climate crisis – but are already feeling the worst effects
- 21 people from Cote d'Ivoire have same carbon footprint as one person in the UK
- Farmers in the Global South have lower resilience to face the impacts of climate breakdown.

# CONTRIBUTED LEAST, GETTING HIT THE HARDEST

Estimated impact of +3 degrees C change on crop yields by 2050



Source: World resources institute

- Too many farmers barely earn enough to make ends meet as it is, even without factoring in declining yields and adaptation costs.
- Farmers need a Living Income, so they have the power to effectively fight the crises affecting their communities and continue with their livelihoods sustainably.

# WHAT WILL HAPPEN WITHOUT ACTION?

- 50% less land suitable for coffee growth across the world by 2050
- Increased weather extremes in India to reduce tea production – and increase diseases that destroy crops
- Wine production in South Africa to fall by 50%, 40% in Chile
- Many current cocoa growing regions in Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire will become too hot to grow cocoa by 2050
  - Higher altitude areas, currently valuable forested, biodiverse areas, will likely be cleared to become cocoa farms

## Say Goodbye to Chocolate: Climate Change Is Destabilizing the Food Supply Chain

Climate change and volatile weather events are turning once-arable land into inhospitable environments for a number of crops.

## Most Coffee Species At Risk Of Extinction Due To Climate Change

**What will this mean for the millions of people reliant on these crops for their livelihood?**



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# WHERE DOES FAIRTRADE COME IN?

**Fairtrade cannot solve the Climate Crisis on its own.** But we can be an important part of tackling it through:

- **Advocacy** – as campaigners in this country making sure producers' pleas for action are heard by policy makers. We are fighting for Living Incomes for farmers around the world to ensure they can afford to act.
- **Adaption** – Climate change is already harming communities. Fairtrade helps them adapt with higher incomes, training and support
- **Avoiding emissions** – Our Fairtrade Standards aim to minimise the emissions produced in any Fairtrade products.



# FAIRTRADE STANDARDS ARE TACKLING THE CLIMATE CRISIS

- All Fairtrade products have to meet the Fairtrade Standards
- Strict provisions on environment, including measures to tackle climate change like:
  - Monitoring and reducing carbon emissions
  - Prohibiting on deforestation
  - Tackling soil erosion
  - Reducing water wastage

**How do you think these Fairtrade Standards help farmers? And how do they link the climate change?**



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# HOW DOES THE FAIRTRADE MINIMUM PRICE AND PREMIUM COMBAT THE CLIMATE CRISIS?

- The higher income that the Fairtrade Minimum Price and Fairtrade Premium can provide is **vital** in allowing Fairtrade producers to focus on better environmental protection
- Allows sustainable, long-term planning
- Allows farmers to invest in and practice more environmentally-friendly farming
- And Fairtrade Premium projects are frequently invested directly in environmental protection measures – **see next slides**

# FAIRTRADE PREMIUM PROJECTS: FIGHTING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

COOCAFE, coffee producing cooperative in Costa Rica



COOCAFE have started a Foundation, part-funded by Fairtrade Premiums, committed to reforestation, water recycling and other environmental initiatives to tackle climate change.



# FAIRTRADE PREMIUM PROJECTS: FIGHTING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Suminter India Organic Farmers, cooperative in Kerala, India



Invested Fairtrade Premium in Solar Panels, meaning halved the amount of wood they need to burn to dry seeds.

# FAIRTRADE PREMIUM PROJECTS: FIGHTING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

## Growing Women in Coffee, Kenya



Invested in biogas stoves so no longer need to cut down nearby trees for firewood. Lessening emissions and protecting local environment.

# FARMERS ARE TAKING ACTION – BUT WHAT CAN WE DO?

**Educate** – Research shows people don't necessarily associate Fairtrade with tackling the climate crisis. We can change that.

**Campaign** – Let's start talking about the links to climate in our campaigning and activism!

And keep on choosing Fairtrade products!

**We don't need to do it alone – which local groups should we work with?**



# WHO CAN WE LINK UP WITH?

- At a national level – Fairtrade is a member of the Climate Coalition
- Many Fairtrade Foundation partner organisations are active in campaigning on Climate Crisis – Oxfam, CAFOD and Christian Aid for example
- At a local level – you know best! Extinction Rebellion? Church groups? the WI?





THANK YOU  
FOR COMING!



"Another World is Not Only POSSIBLE, She is on her Way... on a quiet day, I can hear her breathing" Arunhati Roy

