

# Global wellbeing charter



It's what we do

Communities in the UK and around the world, each and every one of them, have been affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. This crisis is a global humanitarian challenge. Now, more than ever, we must support one another, especially the most vulnerable members of society.

As a co-operative, people are naturally at the heart of everything we do. Our leadership in Fairtrade, robust Ethical Trade programme, campaign against modern slavery and fight for clean water are just a few proof points of how committed we are. A changing environment and food economy brings uncertainty for the people who make the food we love, so it's more important than ever to put measures in place to make sure that everyone gets a fair deal.

## Commitment 1: Protect Fairtrade producers and workers during extreme hardship

£310k has been reallocated to support Fairtrade producers through the Covid-19 emergency.

### Who will benefit from our action

- This includes £42,000 from Co-op and its supplier ICAM Chocolate UK Ltd for Cat-Tocache cocoa co-operative in Peru, who supply the Co-op Irresistible block chocolate. They will be able to get emergency relief food parcels, essential PPE equipment for health personnel and quarantine hostels for people infected with Covid-19 to isolate away from their families
- This is just one of the many projects that will benefit



## Commitment 2: Ensure the world's most vulnerable communities have access to safe drinking water

£647k will be committed to communities for clean water and sanitation projects and to help tackle the spread and impact of Covid-19.

### Who will benefit from our action

- Construction of public and school toilet blocks in the Ashanti region of Ghana
- Drilling and repair of solar pumps in three health centres in Malawi
- Strengthening of water systems in the region of Kasinthula, Malawi
- Strengthening of sanitation systems in Nairobi Informal Settlements
- Improved sector coordination and upgrade of water infrastructure across regions of Ghana



## Commitment 3: Protect human and workers' rights in global labour markets

The onset of the Covid-19 crisis has presented a raft of new challenges, with increased concern about the labour shortages, the halting of essential audits and inspections due to travel restrictions and increased pressures on suppliers to deliver - all of which can quickly compromise welfare standards.

We are working collaboratively to provide support to our suppliers in understanding and addressing the impact of Covid-19 on workers:

- We have taken a leadership role in building a coalition of supermarkets to deliver supplier-facing webinars providing support and guidance
- Put in place regular cross-functional meetings with our key suppliers to understand and address the impact of Covid-19 on people in our global supply chains
- We are exploring new ways to carry out due diligence activities remotely
- We are developing a number of longer term projects to address issues being experienced by the most vulnerable workers in our supply chain and build resilience



## Commitment 4: Take action against climate change

In the same way that Covid-19 required an emergency response so does climate change. It's imperative as we repair and rebuild our economies that a green and fair transition is central to everything we do, as global leaders, businesses and civil society.

- First British retailer to become a signatory of the United Nations Our Only Future campaign
- We joined the United Nations Recover Better campaign
- We've set science-based targets to rapidly decarbonise our business and the products we sell
- We've pledged to further reduce our direct greenhouse gas emissions by 50% by 2025 and to reduce the emissions from our products and services by 11% by 2025



## Commitment 5: Increase the visibility of Fairtrade products

From bananas to coffee through to flowers and wine, with every product that is sold on Fairtrade terms, a bit more money goes to Fairtrade communities. The more sales, the more premium to invest in the community, the more produce is protected by the Fairtrade Minimum Price which ensures that producers should at least get the cost of production in times of global price crash.

To be able to offer our customers the chance to purchase as much Fairtrade produce as possible, we have:

- Protected Fairtrade products within our Co-op range and are looking to increase Fairtrade-branded lines in the upcoming range reviews
- Introduced Divine Chocolate into 481 Co-op stores - including Dark Raspberry, Toffee & Sea Salt bar and Gin and Tonic
- Launched new Co-op products including a Chocolate Coated Honeycomb bag
- Relunched our Core Block Chocolate range in an improved weight - 135g
- Doubled our rate of ordering with South African, Argentinean and Chilean Fairtrade wine producers to protect farmers from expensive loans
- 12 new Fairtrade coffee products launching next month and Co-op Irresistible Coffee will now offer pod, roast and ground, and bean formats
- Promoted the world's only Fair Trade charcoal, certified by Traidcraft, in all our stores

