

Fairtrade Standard for Nuts (01.05.2011_v1.3)

Interpretation Notes

Date	26 Feb 2024
Reference	<i>Fairtrade Standard for Nuts</i>
Affected standard requirements	3.3 Labour Conditions Occupational health and safety There are no additional requirements specific to nuts producers, with the exception of the following additional requirements for producers of cashew nuts: 3.3.1 Workers within the processing units must be adequately protected from cashew nut liquid. 3.3.2 Protective garments and oils must be provided by the employer. 3.3.3 The employer is responsible for ensuring that employees are trained in the use of protective garments and oils. 3.3.4 The employer is responsible for monitoring that employees use protective garments and oils correctly.
Interpretation	Producers of cashew nuts involved in processing have to comply with specific occupational health and safety requirements. Do these requirements also apply to other operators who process cashew nuts? Cashew nuts producers are often not in charge of processing and either subcontract this work to an external operator or this is done by the processor. With regards to occupational health and safety along the supply chain, the Trader Standard requires in 3.1.1 that there must not be any indications that a certified entity violates any of the ILO core criteria. This requirement is audited reactively and does not list specific conditions related to workers' occupational health and safety protection. As some studies indicate that cashew supply chains often have an increased risk of ILO criteria violations, requirements 3.3.1 to 3.3.4 are applicable to all operators who process raw cashew nuts to protect workers from cashew nut liquid. This ensures that the intention to protect workers that underlies the Fairtrade Standard for Nuts and Fairtrade Trader Standard are met. All other actors handling cashew nut kernels are exempted / out of scope.