CLAC

LATIN AMERICAN AND THE CARIBBEAN NETWORK OF FAIR TRADE SMALL-SCALE PRODUCERS AND WORKERS
WHAT IS CLAC?

The Latin American and Caribbean Network of Fair Trade Small Producers and Workers (CLAC) co-owns the Fairtrade International system. CLAC is the network that unites all Fairtrade certified organizations in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Founded in 2004, CLAC’s mission is to represent and promote the interests of small-scale producers and democratically organized workers, under the principles and values of Fairtrade, to ultimately contribute to the strengthening and development of grassroots organizations.

Overall, CLAC’s work provides assistance to producers and workers, promotes the Fairtrade values and influences social, political and economic policies.
WHERE DO WE WORK?
Currently, CLAC has over 800-member organizations in 24 countries across the continent.

CLAC is made up of National Fair Trade Platforms, Product Networks and a Workers Network.

The National Fair Trade Platforms bring together small-scale producers at country level, though they may produce different products.

CLAC’s Product Networks group together producers that harvest the same product, but from different countries and regions.

The Workers Network unites Fairtrade plantation workers on a continental level.
SERVICES AND SUPPORT

With more than 60 technical staff in the field, CLAC provides on-the-ground assistance to producers and workers in 24 countries, with a strategic focus in the following areas:

- Organizational Strengthening and Capacity Building
- Promotion of Fairtrade Values and Principles
- Strengthening and Development of Member Organizations
- Growth and Collaboration with Existing and New Markets
- Advocacy
- Cross-Cutting Themes: Gender Equity, Climate Change, Food Sovereignty, Child Protection, Youth Inclusion, Environmental Conservation and Best Labor Practices
CLAC provides the following services and support to its member organizations:

| Technical staff providing support in 24 countries, reaching 79% of all member organizations |
| Six product specialists → direct commercial and production support in coffee, bananas, sugar, cocoa and honey |
| Fairtrade standard compliance and audit preparation |
| Organizational strengthening and capacity building via workshops and on-site training, based on CLAC’s Cross-Cutting Themes |
| Projects and Programs → implementation and follow-up of projects and programs related to climate change, productivity and quality, among others |
CLAC’s principal products include the following:

- Coffee
- Bananas
- Cocoa
- Sugar cane
- Honey
- Quinoa
- Wine
- Flowers
- Fresh fruits and juices
- Nut and seeds
“Through its support, CLAC has facilitated certification work, improved the relationship between the SPO (small producer organization) and certifier, translated information into our own language, and has also supported us with fairs and international events, which has helped us a lot. Within its lines of work, CLAC allows us to have an active voice in discussions on Fairtrade standards and principles, linking [Latin] American SPOs, providing us strength and knowledge from the experiences of our neighbors. CLAC and its partners have also represented us in seeking out common objectives among certified producers; it’s our strong arm within the Fairtrade system.”

Leonardo Carvalho, Fairtrade Coffee Producer
APROCEM, Brazil
Over 300,000 farming families represented

64% of Fairtrade certified organizations are located in Latin America and the Caribbean

Over 900,000 hectares of Fairtrade farms

81% of all Fairtrade coffee and 94% of all Fairtrade bananas come from Latin America

CLAC delivered over 2,000 activities, including workshops and trainings in 2017

$115 Million (USD) in Fairtrade Premium funds paid in 2016

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