



# Fairtrade & Climate Change in Africa

*Chief Adam Tampuri  
Cashew Farmer & Board Chairman  
Fairtrade Africa*



# How is Climate Change affecting Fairtrade Producers



Hail storm damage, Wupperthal cooperative, South Africa

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Farmers are the ones most affected by the adverse effects of climate change

*“Rains now fall heavily for a short period and our dry season is much longer. The coffee plants are badly affected – flowering is stopping. Last year alone we lost about 40% of our production”.*

Willington Wamayeye,  
Managing Director of Gumutindo Coffee Cooperative in Uganda

# Products experiencing Worst effects of Climate Change



Coffee farmer at ACPCU, Uganda

FA / Nathalie

Product	Threat
Cocoa	Increased vulnerability of trees to drought and newer pests and diseases
Tea	Frost & hail destroying leaves as well as vulnerability of plants to prolonged drought
Coffee	Irregularities in flowering, lower rainfall and higher temperatures
Bananas	Irregular rainfall patterns and damage from heavy storms
Cotton and Sugar	Introduction of newer pests and diseases & higher temperatures leading to reduced yields
Cashew	Strong winds blowing away flowers & introduction of newer pests and disease infestations

# Floods, droughts, storms, bushfires

## Other Impacts of Climate Change



Heavy rainfall, Mabale tea company, Uganda

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Such extreme conditions lead to:

- Reduction in yields and produce quality
- Crop failure leading to two or three times plantings per season
- Unpredictable rainfall patterns
- Increasing poverty & hunger
- Biodiversity loss
- Increased sicknesses & poor health
- Displacement
- Aggravated water stress
- Destruction of infrastructure

# How Fairtrade Producers are Adapting to Climate Change



Biological pest control Gbankuliso, Ghana

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**Fairtrade farmers are devising various mechanisms and using traditional knowledge in adapting to the current of effects climate change by:**

- Integrated pest management using biological control agents
- Planting of disease and drought resistant varieties
- Maintaining water catchment areas by planting bamboo and other recommended indigenous trees
- Digging trenches and applying compost to conserve water and soil fertility
- Planting woodlots to act as buffer zones and increase shade
- Organizing climate change sensitization programs and enforcing stringent by-laws on felling of trees

# How Fairtrade Producers are Adapting to Climate Change



Banana plantation, Volta Rivers Estate, Ghana

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**Fairtrade farmers are doing a lot to impending climate change impacts in their own small ways by:**

- Switching to renewable energy (solar lightening, wind-up radios, cook stoves)
- Using less agrochemical inputs to minimize surface run-off and ground water contamination
- Using integrated farming systems such as crop production with livestock rearing
- Planting indigenous trees as buffer zones leading to biological carbon capture & storage in biomass and soil acting as sinks

# Thank You!

