



## Towards a new Fair for Life scheme

# Change Log – Draft Version V0.1

The Fair for Life and ESR schemes have just published the first draft of a revised offer, merging the two former schemes as part of the important revision process that began in March 2016. The final, single "For Life and Fair for Life" offer will be published in February 2017 to take effect from the second half of 2017.

At this stage, certain important changes have been made in the schemes, with the goal of creating standards that are as clear, simple and robust as possible. The schemes have been restructured and certain changes have been made in terms of standard content. The below table summarizes these main changes. It does not include the minor modifications that were adopted, but aims at giving a first overview of the changes that may affect in the future the FFL and ESR clients.

Theme	REF to draft standard	Key words	First Draft of the Revised Fair for Life standard
<b>Scheme structure</b>	-	Documents	There are two certification options with two distinct documents: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Fair Trade certification ("Fair for Life" -FFL- scheme and label);</li> <li>- Social Responsibility certification ("For Life" -FL- scheme and label).</li> </ul>
	Intro – How to use this standard?	Criteria categorization	The FFL and FL schemes have three types of criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- KO: for serious non-compliances and will jeopardize the certificate with immediate effect;</li> <li>- MUST: are requested by Year (i.e. Year 0 for eligibility criteria, then Year 1, 2, 3 or 4) and are mandatory to achieve conformity;</li> <li>- BONUS: are 'optional' and allow the operator to achieve a higher % of performance.</li> </ul>
	Intro – How to use this standard?	Size of units	There is a new classification of the size categories used to determine what criteria apply to each size of operation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Small-sized Units (S)</li> <li>- Medium-sized Units (M)</li> <li>- Large-sized Units (L)</li> </ul> Such categories are defined based on the number of permanent and total employees hired.
<b>Supply-chain control</b>	Intro – Scope and Supervision system	Supply chain requirements	The schemes have a new way of controlling 100% FFL/FL supply chains (i.e. not including buying from other recognized schemes). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Certification is always required for: Producer Operations, Fair Trade Partners (FFL only) and Brand Holders</li> <li>- Registration is generally required, but certification may be requested for intermediate buyers or subcontracted processors.</li> </ul> More details will be given in a separate "certification process" document, currently undergoing review.

<b>Scope</b>	Intro – Scope and Supervision system	Scope	The scope of the Fair for Life and For Life certifications covers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Agricultural / wild collection / aquaculture / livestock;</li> <li>- Food, textile, cosmetic sectors;</li> <li>- Handicraft.</li> </ul>
<b>Ch. 1 – FFL/FL Eligibility</b>	ELIG 2 & 3	CSR	Before acceptance to the scheme, operators must demonstrate their existing responsible business practices. The company (incl. its affiliated companies if part of a group) must not have been accused/found responsible for substantial ethical or environmental violations in the past 10 years.
	ELIG-6	Identify beneficiaries	Before acceptance to the scheme, FFL Producer operations must prove that the intended beneficiaries are marginalized OR must clearly present the long-term expected impacts of Fair Trade and the benefits to the producers and community.
	ELIG 7 – 9	Eligibility for large farms	Before acceptance to the scheme, producers with more than 100 workers require a recommendation letter and proof of commitment to Social Responsibility over the past 3 years. Eligibility requirements are strengthened and limited for these large farms, who, if not working closely with small producers in their area, must prove exceptional outreach to particularly marginalized groups.
<b>Ch. 2 - FL CSR Policy</b>	POL 6-7	CSR & Ethical sourcing policies	By Year 1 of certification, FL operations must have a responsible sourcing policy in place in addition to a CSR policy (. This is not required to FFL operations, even though ethical values are checked through eligibility criteria for both FL & FFL operations (see ELIG 2 & 3)
<b>Ch. 2 - FFL Fair Trade Policy</b>	POL-8	Identify beneficiaries	By Year 1 of certification, FFL producer operations must have a Fair Trade policy in place that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Analyses the socio-economic situation, marginalisation and needs of the FT target groups;</li> <li>- Identifies disadvantaged minorities;</li> <li>- Defines meaningful FT beneficiaries;</li> <li>- Specifies the FT focus and targeted developments.</li> </ul>
<b>Ch. 3 – FFL Working Conditions</b>	Chapter 3	Social aspects along supply-chain	All operations, no matter their position in the FT supply-chain, need to respect chapter 3 related to human rights & working conditions. Of course, the type of activity, size, country and sector of the operation are considered in order to adapt the control.
	Section 3.0	Other social proofs	For FFL operations, certain other certifications or third-party verification schemes are accepted as proof of social compliance to respond to Chapter 3.
<b>Ch. 3 – FFL/FL Working Conditions</b>	SOC-103	Migrant workers	For FFL and FL operations, migrant workers are afforded protection by prior written agreements with terms of employment and information on housing, food, expenses, safety, duration, etc.
<b>Ch. 4 – FFL/FL Environment</b>	Chapter 4	Environmental aspects along supply-chain	All FFL operations, no matter their position in the FT supply-chain, need to respect chapter 4 related to respect of environment. The activity, size, country and sector of the Operation are considered in order to adapt the control.
	Section 4.0	Other Environmental proofs	For FFL and FL operators, certain other certifications or third-party verification schemes are accepted as proof of environmental compliance to respond to Chapter 4.
	Section 4.0, 4.1 & 4.6	Good farming practices	Organic production is not obligatory for FFL certification; However, the criteria on good farming practices is strengthened for conventional production. Progress towards more organic-type of production is encouraged through MUST and BONUS criteria.
	ENV-75	Packaging	Certain materials are now prohibited in the packaging of certified FFL or FL products, including intermediate products.
	ENV-76	Animal	FFL and FL operators may not carry out or require animal testing.

		testing	
<b>Ch. 5 – FFL/FL Traditional Knowledge</b>	LOC 2 & 3	Traditional knowledge	The criteria related to disputes and recognition concerning local, traditional knowledge are applicable to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FL: All operations</li> <li>- FFL: Producer operations</li> </ul>
<b>Ch. 6 – FL Trading relations</b>	Section 6.1	Implementing Ethical sourcing	This section carries off of the POL-7 requirement of a responsible/ethical sourcing policy and, by Year 2, ensures that all FL operators are respecting and monitoring their commitments. This is not required to FFL operators.
<b>Ch. 6 – FFL Trading relations</b>	TRAD-07	Transparency	More transparent communications between producer operations and Fair Trade Partners is expected by Year 2 with information on premium use, FT sales and upcoming projects.
	TRAD-37	FT premium	Minimum amounts for the FT premiums have been reviewed, for greater flexibility, and to harmonize the ESR & FFL rules. This premium also applies to domestic / North-North fair trade situations.
	TRAD 15 & 16	Pre-financing	Pre-financing is to be available to smallholder Producer organisations, if asked for. It is recommended but not compulsory for other types of producer operations.
	Section 6.4	Product quality	Agreements should exist to handle product quality problems and claims.
	TRAD 26 & 29	Prices to the Producer Operation	FFL Producer operations, no matter their typology, have a negotiated and agreed upon floor price, generally over a 2-year period, based on production costs. They also have agreed sales prices, superior to local or conventional prices, with defined %.
	TRAD 27 & 32	Prices to the Individual producers	FFL producer groups, no matter they typology, buy their FT products to producers at prices superior to local or conventional prices, with defined %, and agree upon a floor price, guaranteed to the producers.
<b>Ch. 7 – FFL/FL Empowerment †</b>	Section 7.1	Producers' interests	The criteria regarding the representation of producers' interests (i.e. in business decisions/negotiations/etc.) in FFL and FL producer operations have been modified, in order to better address a variety of contexts.
	EMP 24 to 34	Premium use & decision process	Rules related to premium use and decision process have been re-written to harmonize the ESR & FFL rules.
<b>Ch. 7 – FFL Empowerment †</b>	Section 7.4	Fair Trade Action Plan	By Year 3, FFL Producer operations are required to implement a Fair Trade Action Plan in order to assess the impact of the FT partnership and premiums on the intended beneficiaries.
	EMP 24, 25 & 34	Continuous improvement †	Criteria are set for updating and improving the Fair Trade action plan and indicators.

<b>Ch. 8 – FFL/FL Traceability / Transparency</b>	Annex I & II	Labelling and composition FFL	The FFL labelling and composition rules have been harmonized. Specifically, a list of ingredients that "MUST BE FAIR TRADE" will be defined in a separate document. More generally, there are two proposals still to decide between: <i>PROPOSAL 1. One labeling category with option to place the FFL seal anywhere on the package as long as the minimum threshold is met: 20% of agricultural ingredients for food and 10% for cosmetics. However, in this proposal, the % of FT content - on the TOTAL of ingredients - must always be indicated directly under the seal.</i> OR <i>PROPOSAL 2. There are two categories of products corresponding to 2 different seals: "Fair Trade" and "Fair Trade ingredients"</i> <i>- The first one is used for a threshold of 80-100% of agricultural ingredients for food, and 70-100% for cosmetics.</i> <i>-The second one is used for a threshold of 20-79% of agricultural ingredients for food and 10-69% for cosmetics. It is always associated with the % of FT content -on the TOTAL of ingredients- (e.g. if on front label: % disclosed below the seal, if back or side of the label: % visually close to the seal).</i>
	Annex I & II	Labelling and composition FL	FL product labelling is restricted: the FL seal can be used only if % of FT content is above 80% of agricultural ingredients for food and 70% for cosmetics.
	Annex IV	Buying from other schemes FFL	We are introducing a new procedure for accepting that ingredients certified according to other Fair Trade certifications (FLO / SPP / FairWild / FTUSA) are recognized as "FFL". In these supply chains: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. All operators "externally" certified will require a FFL declaration;</li><li>2. Physical traceability must be proven, and can be checked (including through spot-check audits) by FFL;</li><li>3. In the case of high risk/high profile ingredients (mass balance, main ingredient or main Fair Trade ingredient), the First Buyer (i.e. the one negotiating with the producer operation) will additionally need to be certified with FFL;</li></ol> Depending on the recognized certification, other restrictions may apply (eligibility / pricing checks, etc.).
	Annex IV	Buying from other schemes FL	The procedure for accepting that ingredients certified according to other certifications are recognized as "FL" has been modified.
	Section 8.4	Non-certified ingredients	The characteristics of the non-certified ingredients in the FL and FFL products are in line with the standard principles of environmental sustainability and respect for the consumer. (i.e. No GMOs, limited use of aids, additives and synthetic preservatives).
<b>Ch. 8 – FFL Traceability / Transparency</b>	Section 8.5	FT Impacts transparency	FFL producers, Fair Trade partners and Brand holders share public information about the FT activities, impacts and supply chains.
<b>Ch. 9 - FFL/FL Management</b>	Section 9.3	Internal Control System	FFL and FL Producer operations have an effective Internal Control System in place to monitor the standard requirements implementation. The aspects checked internally through the ICS are chosen based on the local risks and contexts.
	MAN-10	Workers rep.	An elected workers' representative is responsible for the follow-up of certification and performance. FL: This applies to all Operations FFL: This applies only to Producer Operations (large & medium units)

We welcome you to read through the new standards on our website. There is an online Public Consultation survey active to help record your feedback and opinions. You can access it through our website, [www.fairforlife.org](http://www.fairforlife.org), or by clicking on the link here:

## [GO TO THE SURVEY](#)

*The survey will be open from November 2<sup>nd</sup> to December 5<sup>th</sup> 2016.*