


Fair trade certifiers and membership organizations all agree on these basic fair trade principles:

- ✓ Long-term direct trading relationships
- ✓ Prompt payment of fair prices and wages
- ✓ No child, forced or otherwise exploited labor
- ✓ Workplace non-discrimination, gender equity and freedom of association
- ✓ Safe working conditions and reasonable work hours
- ✓ Investment in community development projects
- ✓ Environmental sustainability
- ✓ Traceability and transparency

▼ Fair Trade validation systems can be grouped into three major categories. The table shows their main attributes and several prominent examples.

Category	Key Attributes	Examples
3rd Party Inspection & Certification	3rd party certifiers field-inspect growing and processing, possibly trading operations and compare performance against a set of FT standards.	Fairtrade International (formally FLO); IMO's Fair for Life; FUNDEPPO's Small Producer Symbol; Agricultural Justice Project     *As of this issue's printing FTUSA standards have not been reviewed.
Membership Organizations	Organization evaluates FT commitment and practice of companies against its membership criteria. No systematic verification of conditions along the value chain.	Fair Trade Federation (FTF); World Fair Trade Organization (WFTO); Domestic Fair Trade Association; Cooperative Coffees    
Brand Programs	Major brands develop in-house FT programs and work with a 3rd party to inspect and certify the company's operations against the standards	Whole Foods (Whole Trade) 

*Effective December 31, 2011, Fair Trade USA resigned from the Fairtrade International (FLO) system and will be an independent organization. As of "For a Better World's" printing, Fair World Project (FWP) has not reviewed FTUSA's new standards and procedures. Upon further evaluation, FWP will determine if it will consider FTUSA a reputable certifier. FLO certified products will be in the marketplace as of 2012 and FWP recognizes FLO as a reputable certifier. For more information on the FTUSA and FLO split, please visit <http://fairworldproject.org/statement>

We acknowledge that other socially responsible systems are available. While they certify for many of the same standards, they do not rise to the level of fair trade.

This chart summarizes the logos of several certification programs and membership organizations. A product sold by a company that is a member of a fair trade membership organization may not have gone through third-party certification; conversely, a product certified as "fair trade" under a certification program does not mean that the company that produces the certified product is a dedicated fair trade company.



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Sue Kastensen is the founder and director of Fair Shake, a web-based prisoner reentry resource center. She is one of the founders of Fair World Project and now serves as an advisor. She created Sun Dog Hemp Body Care. Current board seats include: the Domestic Fair Trade Association, the Hemp Industries Association and the Viroqua Food Cooperative.



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Ryan Zinn is the Fair World Project Campaign Director. Ryan has worked in the food justice movement since 1996 at home and abroad. His work has taken him throughout Latin American while working for the Center for International Law, Friends of the Earth-Paraguay, Global Exchange and the Organic Consumers Association.

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 Cosmic Egg Studios is an eco-friendly design firm that services many of the like-minded companies in this industry.

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