

# Find out about Fair Trade

*Scouts learn about the concept of Fair Trade, and find what products are available to them locally.*

**Section:** All  
**Time:** 1 hour  
**Where:** Home, Den



## PLAN

SDG 17 is quite a complex goal, with many different aspects. However, it all boils down to one simple idea; helping each other out. Much of this is at the level of governments and businesses but we still have a role to play. Discuss with the scouts how they can help by buying products from countries which need to grow their exports to improve their economies for the benefit of their people.

To be sure that the money we spend is giving benefit to the people of that country, we can watch out for Fairly Traded goods. Scouts can do their research from home, or do it together in the den if they have internet access.

## DO

Scouts can do their research by using the following guidance:

- Find a definition of Fair Trade that makes sense to them.
- Figure how Fair Trade helps the producers?
- Systems like this need to be managed properly to be sure that the producers are benefitting. There are different international schemes to ensure fairness. Scouts should identify a few of these and then draw the logos so that they would recognise them when out shopping
- Check in local shops for fairly traded products. Watch out for the logos that they identified already.
- Look in the fruit and vegetable section, then maybe look at chocolates and biscuits.
- Make a list of all products which can be found locally, and in what shops
- Check for shops in the locality, or online, which specialise in these products

## REVIEW

Bring the scouts together to discuss their findings. Gather the list of items that they found in shops to create a definitive list of the Fair Trade goods which can be purchased locally. The scouts could then share this list throughout the group, encouraging scouts and their families to change some of their purchases to Fair Trade goods.

Be sure to bring the focus back to the benefits to the producers, so that the scouts will be properly motivated and know that their efforts can make a difference.



### In a nutshell...

- Scouts learn about the concept of fair trade
- They investigate the certifications and labelling of fair trade goods
- They identify goods available to them locally, and consider switching over some of their purchases.



### Follow-on

Scouts could make a short video for social media, explaining the concept of fair trade, and reporting from local shops to show some of the products which are available to their community. Another option is to compare the price of Fair Trade goods with similar products. Is there much of a difference? If some are more expensive, is it worth paying the extra?



### SDG 17 Partnerships for the Goals

SDG 17 aims to significantly increase the exports of developing countries. By learning about Fair Trade, scouts can see, and promote, ways of increasing exports for these countries, while ensuring that the workers earn a fair wage.



### Find out more!

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