

SPO indicators for Farm Size and Average Number of Workers (version 05.08.2019_v2.1)

In the Standard for Small-scale Producer Organizations (SPO), there are two definitions of small-scale producers depending upon the intensity of labour used in the production of different crops (see SPO requirement 1.2.2). In products that are less labour intensive, small-scale producers are defined as those whose farm is operated /managed by members and their families, where farm work is mostly done by members and their families and where members work on their own-account and do not hire workers on a continuous basis. For more labour intensive products, small-scale producers are allowed to hire workers to work alongside the members and their families. Fairtrade International sets a land size for the relevant product categories to define up to which size members are still considered small-scale producers.

Since the definition of small-scale producers varies in different contexts and products, Fairtrade International develops indicators for the farm size, and the average number of workers in some cases. The development of new indicators or review of the existing ones follows the [procedure for the development of Small Producer Indicators](#).

The indicator “Farm size/member” represents the farm size up until when a member is considered a small-scale producer according to Fairtrade Standards.

The indicator “Permanent Workers” (where defined) represents the maximum number of permanent workers hired by an individual member on average per year.

Country	Dominican Republic	Colombia	Ecuador	Brazil	Chile	Argentina	Brazil
Product	Bananas			Wine grapes			Citrus ¹ (Fresh and processed) and avocados
Farm Size (per member)	Below 10 ha ²	Below 8 ha	Mono-culture: Below 10 ha Agro-forestry: 20 ha	13 ha			4 módulos fiscais
Permanent workers (per member)	Not applicable			2/member			2/member

¹ Citrus fruits: oranges, tangerines, mandarines, clementines, satsumas, lemons, limes and grapefruits

² Hectares

Country	All			
Product	Fruits (fresh and processed) Excl. bananas in Dominican Republic, Colombia and Ecuador, citrus and avocados in Brazil, wine grapes in Argentina, Brazil and Chile	Vegetables	Cane sugar ³	Tea
Farm Size (per member)	10 ha	5 ha	10 ha	5 ha

Change history

Version number	Date of publication	Changes
03.08.2015_v1.0	03.08.2015	First version. Responsibility for the SPO indicators taken over by Fairtrade International. Review of indicators for bananas in Ecuador, Colombia and the Dominican Republic.
03.08.2015_v1.1	01.04.2017	Review of indicators for bananas in Ecuador, Colombia and the Dominican Republic.
03.08.2015_v1.2	01.08.2017	Extension of the indicators for citrus to avocados in Brazil.

³10 ha = indicator to define small farmers. The max land size of a member is equal or below 30 ha. Exception on maximum land size apply to Fiji, Mauritius, Belize and Paraguay for land size equal or below 100 ha for 15% of the members.

05.08.2019_v2.0	05.08.2019	<p>Updated definition of individual small-scale producers in line with the Fairtrade Standard for Small-scale Producer Organizations v2.0</p> <p>Introduction of indicators for highly labour intensive products for fruits, vegetables, sugar and tea for organizations certified after 1 July 2019.</p>
05.08.2019_v2.1	30.01.2020	<p>Extension of indicators for organizations certified before July 2019. Review of the indicator for fruit (except bananas, wine grapes and Brazil).</p>