

ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES

Alongside business investments, the Fairtrade Premium enables farmers and workers to invest in their community to improve access to basic services. Co-operative members or workers on plantations are consulted to identify the most urgent needs and where Premium money can have most impact.

Fairtrade Standards stipulate that farmers or workers decide together how they want their communities to develop, and prioritise and plan projects that benefit as many people as possible. They are also in close contact with other community leaders, such as head teachers and local government authorities, to discuss what's needed. This participation in decision-making offers a sense of ownership and is vital if rural communities are to be sustainable.

Many invest in new infrastructure, such as building roads, which is central to the local economy and provide lifelines for scattered farming families.

Building, refurbishing and equipping local schools, paying teachers' salaries or bursaries for school fees are also priorities. [Research](#) has shown that Fairtrade can have a considerable impact on the education sector in rural regions when collaborating with local institutions. On plantations, [data](#) shows 24 percent of the Premium was used for educational purposes, either to support the education of workers and their families, or to support education and schools in the wider community.

Investments in community health projects are also key priorities, for example using the Premium to part-finance a new clinic or dispensary, providing an immunisation programme for local children, paying part of a doctor's salary or improving access to water.

[Research in Colombia](#) has shown that Premium investments can also boost the local and regional job market.

**OVER £67
MILLION OF
FAIRTRADE
PREMIUM
DELIVERED TO
PRODUCERS IN
2012-13**

**ON PLANTATIONS,
WORKERS SPENT
24% OF
THEIR FAIRTRADE PREMIUM
ON EDUCATION**

24% EDUCATION



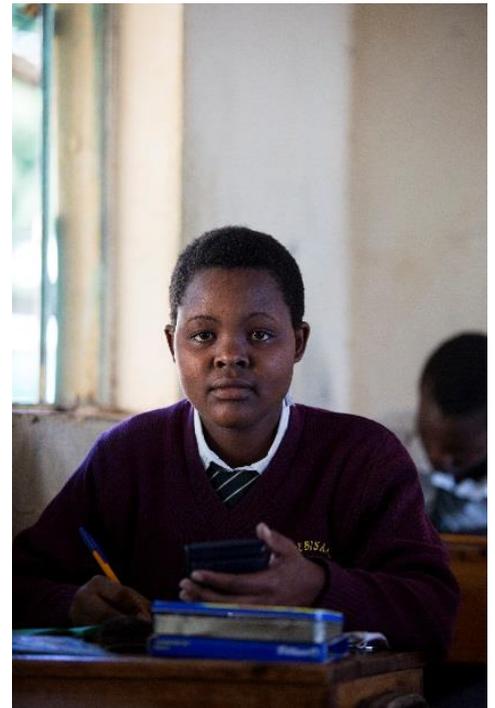
CASE STUDIES

EDUCATION

In a [study](#) conducted by the Institute of Development Studies about the banana sector in Ecuador, Dominican Republic and Windward Islands, three quarters of small producer organisation members reported that there had been improvements in health and food, and two thirds said there had been improvements in their children's education.

17-year-old Doreen Jerono from Kenya is a talented student. Her parents are tea farmers and members of Fairtrade certified co-operative [Sireet OEP](#). They were unable to afford the school fees needed for Doreen to go to secondary school. This meant she felt there was no chance she would be able to achieve her ambition of becoming a lawyer. However, Doreen now receives a bursary through the Premium which has allowed her to continue at school.

'The bursary has changed my life because if it could not be the bursary, I could not be here in school. I feel because I can now pursue my dream and I can be somebody in the future.' *Doreen Jerono, student, Kenya*



Doreen Jerono, student, Kenya

Sugar cane farmers in Orange Walk in Belize felt that investing in a community computer library to improve literacy and learning was a way of contributing to their community's welfare, so they used Premium money to purchase computer screens and support the running of the library.

'To me, literacy is not only being able to hold a book and read. It's also about teaching people computers. When you leave the library, your hands may be empty but up here in your head, you have learnt something, you have gained something.'

Magdalena Carbajo, Senior Assistant at Sandy Hunter Library in Orange Walk, Belize

WATER

Teresa Kurgat is from Kapsean village in the Nandi Hills region of Kenya. She and her husband are tea farmers and he is a member of [Sireet OEP](#). Teresa has benefited from a water tank constructed using Premium money. Before this was built, she had to collect water for her family and animals every day from a stream 1.5km away.

Since the new tank, Teresa's cows can drink whenever they need to and are producing almost double the amount of milk than before. This extra means Teresa has more for the family and she can sell the excess to bring in more money to the household.

Find out more in this [film](#).



Teresa Kurgat, tea farmer in Kenya

IMPROVING HOMES

According to our [latest data](#), workers on banana plantations spend 38 percent of their Premium money on improving and building houses.

[Kasinthula Cane Growers' Association](#) sugar co-operative in Malawi decided to invest their Premium in projects that will bring electricity and lighting to rural households in their communities. These projects will benefit hundreds of households directly, and thousands of people indirectly.

WHAT'S THE LINK TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS?

The [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#) are a new set of global targets for future international development. They follow and expand on the Millennium Development Goals, which expire at the end of 2015. UN member states will be expected to use the SDGs to frame their agendas and policies over the next 15 years.

Fairtrade's work on improving access to basic services delivers towards the following SDGs:

- Goal 3 - ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages
- Goal 4 - ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all)
- Goal 6 - ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all