

## IISD's SSI Review on Standards and Poverty Reduction

### Global Dialogue @ IISD's Trade + Sustainability Hub

#### Session Information

<b>Date and time</b>	Friday 3 December 2021, 13:30-14:45 CET
<b>Host organization(s) name(s)</b>	International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD) & United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)/United Nations Forum on Sustainability Standards (UNFSS)
<b>Final event title</b>	Sustainability Standards & Smallholder Farmers: Opportunities to address poverty through trade
<b>Event description</b>	<p>COVID-19 has slowed progress toward the SDGs by increasing poverty worldwide with severe effects on smallholder farmers — especially in developing and least-developed countries. This underlines the need for a resilient, sustainable trading system that promotes progress toward the SDGs.</p> <p>Voluntary sustainability standards (VSS) are instruments to influence how global value chains operate, to strengthen farmer market access and achievement of sustainable development outcomes.</p> <p>This session will examine VSSs as a collective multi-stakeholder approach toward sustainable trade. It will explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How can voluntary sustainability standards (VSSs) reduce poverty for small-scale farmers in the wake of COVID-19?</li><li>• What determines if small-scale farmers can access VSS-compliant markets?</li><li>• How can governments support positive sustainable development impacts for smallholder farmers through VSS?</li></ul>

#### Agenda

##### Section 1. Opening (5 min)

- Welcome and introductory remarks (5 min) by IISD (Cristina Larrea)

##### Section 2. Sustainability Standards & Smallholder Farmers: Opportunities to address poverty through trade

**(15 min)**

- Presentation by Sara Elder (IISD) on the findings of the IISD SSI Review on Standards and Poverty Reduction

**Section 3. Commentary and Dialogue with Authors**

**(30 min – 5 min each)**

- Commentators provide their viewpoint:
  - Commentator 1: Hon. Christophe Bazivamo, Deputy Secretary General, East African Community
  - Commentator 2: Norbert Tuyishime, Program Officer, Eastern Africa Farmers Association (EAFF)
  - Commentator 3: Henk Gilhuis, Manager Research & Impacts, Rainforest Alliance
  - Commentator 4: Marike de Pena, Managing Director of Banelino
  - Commentator 5: Private Sector Actor TBC
- Lead author (Sara) opens dialogue with Commentators and invites Co-Authors to engage and comment

**Section 4. Q & A**

**(15 min)**

- Q & A from the audience

**Section 6. Concluding remarks**

**(5 min)**

- Closing remarks (Santiago Fernandez de Cordoba, UNCTAD)
- Closing remarks (Cristina Larrea, IISD)