

Cocoa policy

Cocoa is an important ingredient in both the food and beverage industry and the most essential ingredients in the production of chocolate. Unlike many other crops, the cocoa beans used for cocoa is mainly grown in small family-owned farms.

The cocoa industry is also an industry facing numerous challenges like child labour, high poverty and deforestation. The low income of most cocoa farming families increases the risk of abusive child labour used on the farms and expansion of cocoa cultivation and uncontrolled use of forest drives deforestation.

Salling Groups goal of this policy is to minimize the risk of the negative challenges hereunder especially deforestation in the cocoa industry and lift the social conditions for cocoa farmers to achieve better living conditions.

Scope

This policy applies to all food products within Salling Group's own brands containing cocoa (cocoa powder and cocoa butter).

Supplier Requirements

The supplier is obligated to work towards the outlined standards as set below, and have this fully implemented by the end of 2025:

1. All private label cocoa food products must be certified against an acceptable standard (Fairtrade, Rainforest alliance or Cocoa Horizon)
2. The vendor of food products containing cocoa must outline at least all producers of the final product (tier 1) in Salling Group's Responsible Sourcing system.
3. If the producer of the final product (tier 1) for the product containing cocoa is located in a high-risk country according to amfori's latest version of high-risk classification list, a valid social audit must be provided.

In our work with our assortment of cocoa products, Salling Group will follow industry advice and good practises and consulting with organization such as Fairtrade, Cocoa Horizon.