

Cocoa



We expect all our suppliers to adhere to our [Ethical Trade Requirements](#). Over and above this we have a number of commitments which we are working collaboratively with our suppliers to achieve. This statement outlines our commitment concerning cocoa.

Target

By 2025, all cocoa and cocoa-based ingredients used across our business and in the products we sell will come from globally recognised more sustainable sources*

Deadline

2025

What is cocoa/cacao?

For the purpose of this statement we will use the term cocoa. Cocoa beans are a globally traded commodity used in chocolate production.

What's the issue with cocoa?

According to [WWF](#), most of the cocoa sold in the world is grown in Western Africa (70%), (primarily Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire), a region that faces significant social and ecological challenges in the forms of poverty, large-scale deforestation and human rights abuses including forced and child labour.

It is estimated that 70% of West Africa's illegal deforestation is related to cocoa farming. Furthermore according to WWF, during the 2013–14 growing season, an estimated 2 million children were engaged in hazardous labour throughout Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire.

The European Union is the largest consumer of cocoa, responsible for [60%](#) of global imports and [half](#) of the UK's imports are estimated to originate in Ivory Coast (Côte d'Ivoire).

What is Selfridges' position on cocoa?

We work with our partners and suppliers to promote responsible sourcing practices, including sustainable forest management and upholding human rights.

In the lead-up to our target deadline of 2025 when the following criteria will become mandatory, we encourage our partners and suppliers to:

- Have a publicly available responsible sourcing policy which includes cocoa.
- Engage with and adhere to globally recognised standards and certification programmes, such as [Rainforest Alliance/UTZ](#), [Fairtrade](#), [Organic](#) and/or:
- Establish single-origin, traceable-to-plantation 'bean to bar' supply chains by working directly with farmers to help mitigate the risks of deforestation, address human rights abuses and ensure fair trade principles are applied.

*In exceptional circumstances we will review and consider other third-party certification programmes and/or internal supplier global traceability programmes which are third-party audited and meet the same standards as our criteria or higher.