



# **Report on the revision of the UEBT standard**

**July 2020**

## **UNION FOR ETHICAL BIOTRADE**

UEBT is a non-profit association that promotes sourcing with respect. We work to regenerate nature and secure a better future for people through ethical sourcing of ingredients from biodiversity. We aim to contribute to a world in which all people and biodiversity thrive.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1. BACKGROUND ON UEBT AND THE ETHICAL BIOTRADE STANDARD .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2. INTRODUCTION TO THE STANDARD REVISION PROCESS.....</b>	<b>3</b>
A.    NEED FOR REVISION.....	4
B.    OBJECTIVES OF THE REVISION .....	4
<b>3. STANDARD REVISION PROCESS .....</b>	<b>4</b>
A.    WHAT WAS CONSULTED ON? .....	4
B.    WHO WAS CONSULTED?.....	5
C.    CHANNELS USED.....	5
D.    PROCESS FOLLOWED .....	6
E.    FIRST AND SECOND PHASE OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION .....	6
<b>4. ANALYSIS OF THE COMMENTS RECEIVED AND MAIN CHANGES TO THE ETHICAL BIOTRADE STANDARD.....</b>	<b>8</b>
A.    HIGHLIGHT OF CHANGES IN THE STANDARD.....	8
B.    TERMS AND DEFINITIONS.....	8
C.    INDICATORS: LEVELS OF IMPORTANCE .....	9
D.    CHANGES PER PRINCIPLE.....	9
<b>CONCLUSION.....</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>ANNEX 1: TERMS AND DEFINITIONS.....</b>	<b>16</b>

## 1. Background on UEBT and the Ethical BioTrade Standard

UEBT is a non-profit association that promotes sourcing with respect. It works to regenerate nature and secure a better future for people through ethical sourcing of ingredients from biodiversity. Its vision is to contribute to a world in which all people and biodiversity thrive.

The Ethical BioTrade Standard – also referred to as the UEBT standard – was launched in 2007 and developed based on the United Nations Conference Trade and Development (UNCTAD) BioTrade Initiative Principles and Criteria.

The UEBT standard was revised in 2012 and 2019, considering experiences and inputs from its users, feedback from public multi-stakeholder consultation processes and evolving legal and policy frameworks. The UEBT standard is aligned with international instruments such as the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The Ethical BioTrade Standard defines practices that respect people and biodiversity in the way ingredients from biodiversity are grown, collected, researched, processed and commercialised. Companies and other organisations use the Ethical BioTrade Standard to promote such practices in their operations and along their supply chains – all the way to the cultivation or wild collection sites.

Its principles are:

1. Conservation of Biodiversity
2. Sustainable use of Biodiversity
3. Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits
4. Socio-economic Sustainability
5. Compliance with National and International Legislation
6. Respect for Human Rights of Actors
7. Clarity about Land Tenure, Right of Use and Access to Natural Resources.

The UEBT Standard guides commitments of UEBT members, is used for the UEBT ingredient and sourcing system certifications, the UEBT/Rainforest Alliance Herbs & Spices program currently being developed.

Implementation of the Ethical BioTrade Standard contributes to achieving UEBT's mission which is to regenerate nature and secure a better future for people through ethical sourcing of ingredients from biodiversity.

## 2. Introduction to the standard revision process

The Union for Ethical BioTrade is a member of ISEAL Alliance (International Social and Environmental Accreditation and Labelling), and the Ethical BioTrade standard has been designed in accordance with the ISEAL code for standard setting. This includes the need to periodically review the standard, at least every five years, as well as ensuring stakeholder engagement throughout the consultation process.

The Standardization process to review an existing standard consists in carrying out two public consultation phases. After each of these phases, the UEBT Secretariat supported by the UEBT Standard and Assurance Committee addresses the comments received in drafting a revised standard. The revised standard is then revised and approved by the UEBT Standard and Assurance Committee, which provides recommendations to the UEBT Board of Directors to formally endorse it before its publication. To read more about the standardization process, please refer to the [UEBT Standardization procedure](#).

In 2018, a revision process (1<sup>st</sup> public consultation) started, the consultation was run between May 1<sup>st</sup> 2018 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2018, following which the UEBT secretariat developed a revised version of the UEBT standard to be used for the 2<sup>nd</sup> consultation.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> public consultation was run between 20<sup>th</sup> May 2019 and 20<sup>th</sup> September 2019, following which the revised draft of the standard was developed and tested in the field between December 2019 and March 2020.

The draft was revised considering results from the field tests and in May 2020 the draft was shared among UEBT members and stakeholders that participated in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> consultation phase as per the UEBT standard setting procedure for a final input. No member expressed serious concern or objected to the standard. On July 9<sup>th</sup> 2020, the UEBT Standard and Assurance Committee recommended the adoption of the UEBT July 2020 Standard to the UEBT Board of Directors to formally approve it.

### a. Need for revision

Since the publication of the Ethical BioTrade Standard 2012 version, UEBT and its members have gained significant additional experience with the applications of the standard, including through certification processes. The global regulatory landscape for BioTrade has also significantly evolved since 2012, particularly with regard to Access and Benefit Sharing. The revision process allowed UEBT to consider these experiences and changes. Furthermore, UEBT's procedures foresee that its standards are revised every 5 years, in line with ISEAL codes of good practice. Revision of the standard was foreseen in 2017 but was postponed by the UEBT Board of Directors (BoD) in view of changes in the standards landscape. Thus, the revision started in 2018.

#### UEBT vision

A world in which all people and biodiversity thrive.

#### UEBT mission

To regenerate nature and secure a better future for people through ethical sourcing of ingredients from biodiversity.

### b. Objectives of the revision

The objective of the revision of the Ethical BioTrade Standard was to ensure its continued effectiveness in meeting its goals. The revision:

- Further improved the effectiveness and applicability of the UEBT standard and aligned it with the evolving UEBT vision and mission.
- Incorporated the views and experiences of companies and other stakeholders that have worked with the standard.
- Encouraged wider stakeholder participation, acceptance and recognition of the standard.

## 3. Standard revision process

### a. What was consulted on?

As part of the consultation, comments were provided on the UEBT standard, which includes a brief description of the theory of change, possible application of the standard, as well as principles, criteria and indicators. Documents that were open for public consultation included:

- UEBT Ethical BioTrade Standard
- UEBT field checklist- only in the 1<sup>st</sup> consultation phase

- UEBT/UTZ field checklist used for herbal tea and vanilla-Only in the 1<sup>st</sup> consultation phase

### b. Who was consulted?

A multi-stakeholder consultation process was undertaken with users of the UEBT standard, those subjected to the standard, UEBT partner organizations, as well as other interested stakeholders. These included:

- Cosmetics, pharmaceutical, and food companies
- Companies at all stages of the supply chain (producers, intermediaries, brands)
- UEBT members companies and organisations
- NGOs working on biodiversity and sustainable development
- Academia-universities
- Civil society organizations working on human rights
- Indigenous and/or local communities' representative organisations
- Local communities and suppliers directly affected by UEBT standard
- UEBT qualified certification bodies
- Others standard systems

The stakeholders represent the UEBT classification, as follows:

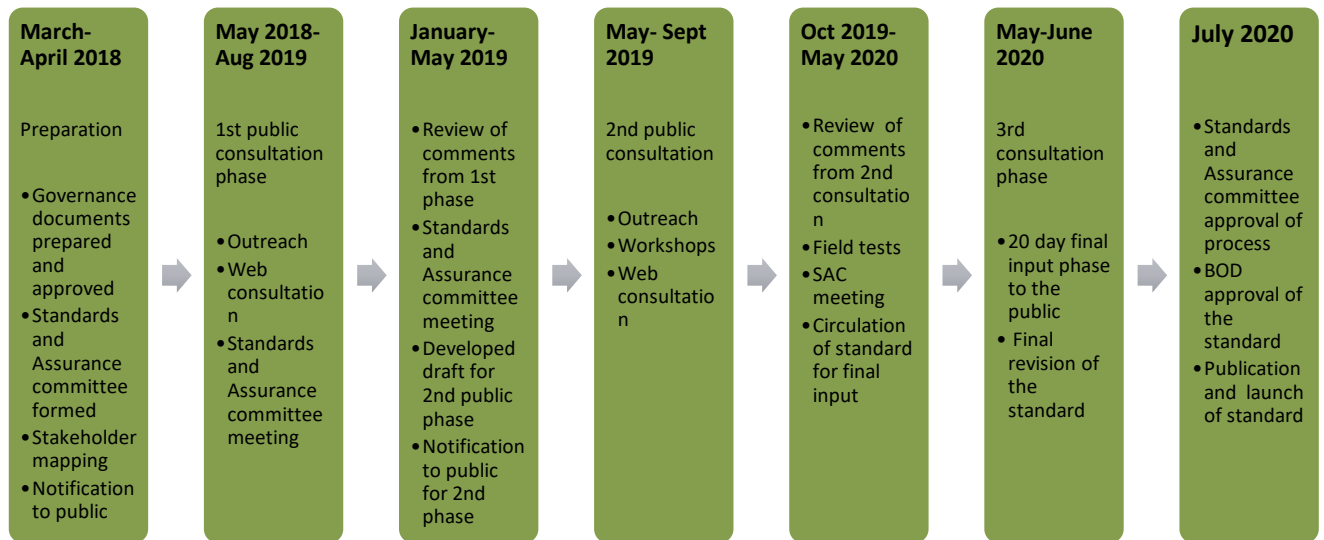
	Economic	Social	Environmental
Developed country economy	X	X	X
Emerging economy	X	X	X
Developing country economy	X	X	X

### c. Channels used

To give relevant stakeholders the possibility to participate, UEBT:

- Widely announced the consultation rounds, including through list-server service, announcement on the UEBT web, press announcements, ISEAL website, ABS CDI newsletter and UEBT newsletters.
- Direct emails to stakeholders
- Public call for comments via LinkedIn, our Web site's home page, newsletter and target emails
- A UEBT email address for comments
- Established various consultation possibilities for its members, both through group meetings and direct outreach at the UEBT general assembly in 2018, in-company workshops.
- UEBT, in collaboration with partners, organized workshops and meetings with local stakeholders in selected regions Myanmar, Vietnam.
- Consultation workshops in Brazil, India, South Africa, Madagascar, Peru as well as in Europe with both UEBT and non UEBT members.
- Consultation workshops with local communities in Madagascar and the Amazon region.
- Technical inputs on UEBT and UEBT/UTZ standard screening and benchmarking by other organisations that did a comparison with their internal company standards.

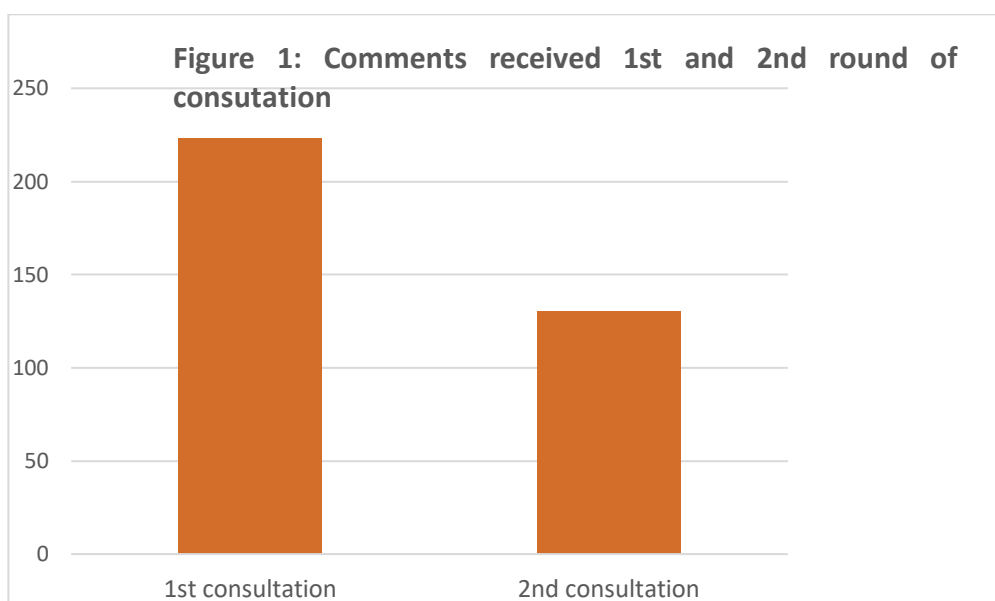
#### d. Process followed



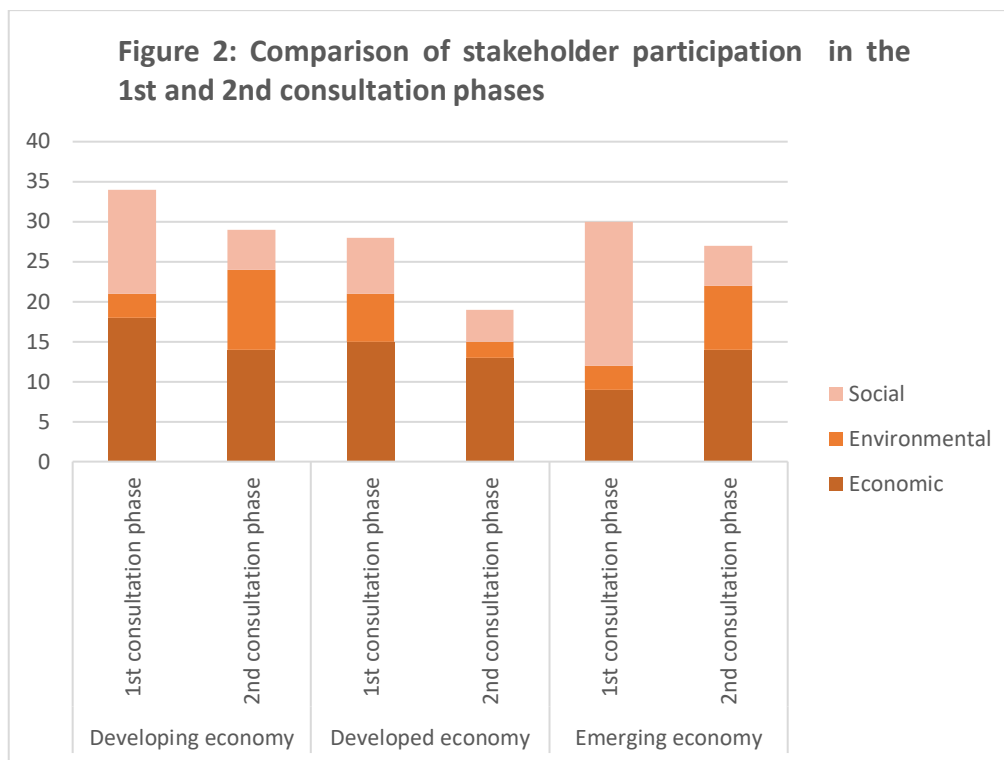
#### e. First and second phase of public consultation

In August 2018, the first consultation phase was completed, UEBT secretariat received and reviewed over 220 comments from both individuals and organizations, with the highest input being recorded from the workshops and the engagement with local communities. These comments informed the development of Ethical BioTrade standard, draft standard V1.0 for consultation only.

The second consultation phase was opened end of May 2019 and was closed early September 2019, The UEBT secretariat received about 130 comments, these comments informed the development of Ethical BioTrade standard, draft standard V2.0 for consultation only.



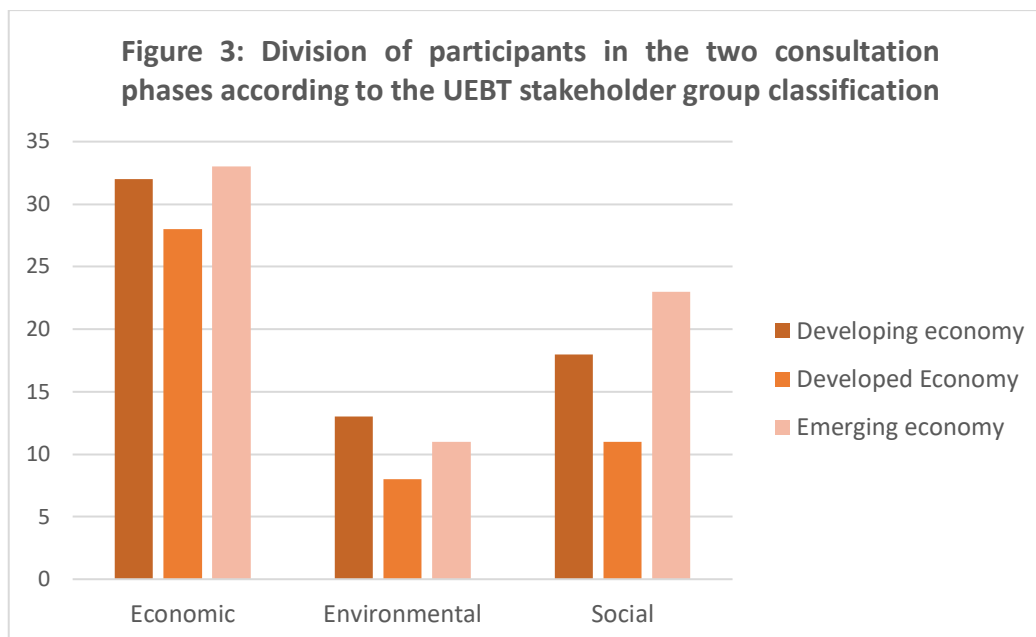
A total number of **353 individual comments** were received over the two consultation periods.



UEBT has reached a significant number of people from developing countries being involved in either economic or environmental sectors.

Thanks to the community workshops, UEBT managed to reach a higher number of representatives from the social sector in both developing and emerging economy countries.

As expected, there was more participation from economic sectors from the developed economy countries.



This shows that a lot of participation throughout the consultation phase was from the economic sector and the least from environmental sector, this is seen across all stakeholder groups.

#### 4. Analysis of the comments received and main changes to the Ethical BioTrade Standard

Below is a brief synopsis of comments received on the consultation process and the main changes that have been made to the Ethical BioTrade Standard.

##### a. Highlight of changes in the standard

- Better defined practices and detailed guidance for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, with an increased focus on regeneration of biodiversity.
- A more outcome-based approach, emphasizing monitoring of actions taken, assessing results and implementing improvements.
- More guidance on cost calculation so that fairer prices are paid to farmers and wild collectors.
- Better alignment with legal and policy developments related to access and benefit sharing (ABS) and the Nagoya Protocol.
- Further alignment with United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and International Labour Organisation conventions.
- A continuous improvement (stepwise) approach, with some actions that can be prioritized in future stages
- Language improved to remove ambiguity

##### b. Terms and Definitions

During the consultation process, a number of comments were made on definitions used in the standard. Some definitions were missing to ensure a consistent and reliable understanding of the Ethical BioTrade Standard while other definitions have since been updated in the industry. In response, the UEBT Secretariat further improved some definitions. The list of new updated definitions can be found in an Annex 1 of this report.



### c. Indicators: Levels of importance

Indicators in the UEBT standard have now been updated different levels of importance, meaning different expectations as to whether and when compliance is required, as explained in the table below. The level of importance of each indicator is noted in the text of the UEBT standard.

Importance	Definition/explanation
<b>Minimum requirements</b>	Compliance is always required for indicators that constitute a minimum requirement. For instance, companies and organisations must comply with these requirements before obtaining UEBT membership.
<b>Critical</b>	Critical indicators are considered essential Ethical BioTrade practices. For instance, compliance is required to receive or maintain UEBT certification of natural raw materials. In the verification of UEBT members or specific supply chains, non-compliance with these indicators must be addressed with priority.
<b>Critical stepwise</b>	For critical stepwise indicators, additional time for compliance is provided. Compliance with these indicators must be achieved in a maximum of three years.
<b>Regular</b>	Regular indicators are focused on promoting positive impact and allow more flexibility in their implementation. For example, UEBT certification of natural raw material requires compliance with a certain number of these indicators.
<b>Regular stepwise</b>	For regular stepwise indicators, additional time for compliance is provided. After three years, these indicators are considered to have “regular” level of importance.

Version 2012 of the standard had only Entry indicators, Critical and Regular criteria.

### d. Changes per principle

#### Principle 1 – Conservation of biodiversity

Following is a summary of comments received for principle 1:

- Guidance needed in carrying out biodiversity conservation assessment
- Simplification of assessment
- Guidance in conduction Conservation in wild collection
- Definition of terms

Following the comments received, criteria in **Principle 1** have been modified as below.

Criteria version 2012 of the UEBT standard	Criteria version 5 July 2020 of the UEBT standard
1.1 Characteristics of ecosystems in which sourcing activities take place shall be maintained or restored.	1.1 Information on biodiversity is collected in cultivation or wild collection areas.
1.2 Sourcing activities shall conserve and restore biodiversity.	1.2 Concrete actions are taken to maintain, regenerate, or enhance biodiversity in cultivation or wild collection areas.
1.3 Sourcing activities shall be aligned with strategies, plans or programmes for conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity applicable to sourcing areas.	1.3 To ensure relevance and continuous improvement, concrete actions are periodically adjusted to changing conditions.

This principle sets out a framework for practices to maintain, regenerate, and enhance biodiversity. The specific practices to be adopted depend on the context. Principle 1 requires assessing the local situation and aligning practices with local strategies. Practices are not restricted to cultivation or wild collection sites, but also include the broader cultivation or wild collection areas.

### Principle 2 – Sustainable use of biodiversity

Following is a summary of comments received for principle 2:

- Give more guidance on good agricultural practices and wild collection practices
- Separate wild collection and cultivation aspects
- Simplify complexities around wild collection practices
- Align list of banned agrochemicals with similar schemes

Following the comments received, criteria in **Principle 2** have been modified as below.

Criteria version 2012 of the UEBT standard	Criteria version 5 July 2020 of the UEBT standard
2.1 The sourcing of the species shall be supported by management documents addressing, inter alia: harvest rates, monitoring systems, productivity indexes and regeneration rates.	2.1 Practices are adopted to ensure sustainable use of the species cultivated or wild collected, and to prevent or mitigate negative impact on other species
2.2 Employees, suppliers and collectors involved in sourcing activities shall be trained in the implementation of good collection, cultivation and quality assurance practices.	2.2 Cultivation and wild collection practices promote climate resilience
2.3 Purchasing schedules shall be organized according to the supply of the sourced species or the harvesting seasons.	2.3 Soil and water conditions are conserved or improved in cultivation and wild collection sites
2.4 Appropriate mechanisms shall be implemented to prevent or mitigate negative environmental impact.	2.4 Practices are adopted to prevent and mitigate the negative impact of the use of agrochemicals
	2.5 Measures are taken to improve energy efficiency and reduce waste and contamination in cultivation and collection sites

This principle fosters cultivation and wild collection practices that advance sustainable use of biodiversity. It encourages cultivation and wild collection practices that promote natural and regenerative processes. This may include organic farming practices, which are promoted but not required. Principle 2 practices concern key components of biodiversity such as species diversity and genetic diversity. These practices also extend to soil, water and air in cultivation and wild collection sites. When practices differ for cultivation or wild collection this is specifically mentioned

### Principle 3 – Fair and equitable sharing of benefits derived from the use of biodiversity

Following is a summary of comments received for principle 3:

- Simplify language

- Make clear the focus
- Clarify which prices are the focus-raw product or finished product
- More guidance on pricing
- update various definitions

Following the comments received, criteria in **Principle 3** have been modified as below.

Criteria version 2012 of the UEBT standard	Criteria version 5 July 2020 of the UEBT standard
3.1 Negotiations related to the sourcing of biodiversity shall be transparent and based on dialogue and trust.	3.1 Prices paid for natural raw materials are fair
3.2 The organisation shall pay equitable prices for the natural ingredients that it sources.	3.2 Sourcing arrangements with producers are based on dialogue, trust and long-term collaboration
3.3 The organisation shall contribute to local sustainable development goals in sourcing areas, as defined by producers and their local communities.	3.3 Local development needs, as defined by producers and their communities in the cultivation or wild collection areas, are supported
3.4 Traditional practices linked to the sourcing of species and ingredients shall be recognized.	3.4 Use of natural raw materials complies with applicable legal requirements on access and benefit sharing (ABS)
3.5 The organisation shall comply with legislative or regulatory requirements on access to biodiversity and associated traditional knowledge for research and development and the sharing of resulting benefits.	3.5 In cases where no legal requirements on ABS apply, the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge accessed from indigenous peoples and local communities respects ABS principles
3.6 For research and development activities, even if there are no legislative or regulatory requirements on access to biodiversity and associated traditional knowledge, such access shall be subject to prior informed consent and based on mutually agreed terms.	3.6 Patents and other intellectual property rights respect the rights of countries, indigenous peoples and local communities over genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge
3.7 For research and development activities, even if there are no legislative or regulatory requirements on the sharing of benefits arising from the use of biodiversity and associated traditional knowledge, as well as subsequent application and commercialisation, benefits shall be shared in a fair and equitable way and based on mutually agreed terms	
3.8 Patents and other intellectual property rights shall be exploited and enforced in a manner that is supportive to the objectives of the CBD and the Ethical BioTrade standard.	

This principle advances long-term relationships and payment of fair prices to producers – that is, the local pickers or farmers collecting or cultivating plants used for natural raw materials. It seeks to ensure

such activities contribute to local development needs in the cultivation and collection areas. Moreover, it promotes compliance with legal requirements and good practices on access and benefit sharing (ABS).

#### Principle 4 – Socio-economic sustainability (productive, financial and market management)

Following is a summary of comments received for principle 4:

- Indicator requiring auditing of organizations financial management systems is not relevant
- Make traceability scope clear

Following the comments received, criteria in **Principle 4** have been modified as below.

Criteria version 2012 of the UEBT standard	Criteria version 5 July 2020 of the UEBT standard
4.1 The organisation shall demonstrate sound financial management.	4.1 Ethical BioTrade practices are promoted through organisational operations and management systems
4.2 The organisation shall integrate the requirements of the Ethical BioTrade Standard into its management system for its operations and supply chains.	4.2 Resources are available to implement Ethical BioTrade practices
4.3 The organisation shall have a quality management system in place, in line with market requirements.	4.3 Quality systems are aligned with market requirements
4.4 A traceability system shall be in place allowing identifying the origin of the natural ingredients.	4.4 A traceability system is in place in line with market, certification and legal requirements

This principle promotes the integration of relevant requirements in the Ethical BioTrade Standard in operations and management systems, including quality and traceability systems. The integration of requirements in criteria 4.1 and 4.2 takes place at the level of UEBT member organisations. Criteria 4.3. and 4.4. also apply at the cultivation and wild collection level (i.e. processing companies).

#### Principle 5 – Compliance with national and international legislation

Following is a summary of comments received for principle 5:

- Give guidance to enable assessment around noncompliance in implementing laws
- Include Additional laws (reference) to topics in the standard

Following the comments received, criteria in **Principle 5** have been modified as below.

Criteria version 2012 of the UEBT standard	Criteria version 5 July 2020 of the UEBT standard
5.1 The organisation shall respect international agreements related to biodiversity, particularly the CBD, the Nagoya Protocol and CITES.	5.1 Activities respect laws and regulations that are applicable and relevant to Ethical BioTrade practices
5.2 The organisation shall respect national and local regulatory requirements related to the use and trade of natural ingredients.	5.2 Activities respect international agreements relevant to Ethical BioTrade practices

5.3 The organisation shall pay legally required fees, taxes and other charges.	
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This principle promotes and facilitates compliance with principles, laws and regulations relevant to the cultivation, collection, supply, research, processing or commercialisation of natural raw materials. It identifies certain national laws and regulations, as well as international agreements, with particular relevance to Ethical BioTrade practices

### Principle 6 – Respect for rights of actors involved in BioTrade activities

Following is a summary of comments received for principle 6:

- Give more guidance to elaborate on social issues like workers’ rights, working hours and health and safety.
- Elaborate on the topic on children rights and protection
- Move topic on food security to principle 7
- Align with expectations of UNGP
- Define terms- workers
- Approach on family labour to be aligned with ILO and UNICEF

Following the comments received, criteria in **Principle 6** have been modified as below.

Criteria version 2012 of the UEBT standard	Criteria version 5 July 2020 of the UEBT standard
6.1 The organisation shall respect human rights.	6.1 Respect for human rights
6.2 The organisation shall respect the rights of indigenous and local communities, as defined by UNDRIP, ILO 169 and national laws, in its sourcing activities.	6.2 Children rights are respected
6.3 The organisation shall provide adequate working conditions for its employees.	6.3 Workers’ rights are respected
6.4 The organisation shall not threaten local food security.	6.4 Health and safety conditions

This principle promotes respect of human and workers’ rights and decent labour conditions along the supply chain, taking into account relevant conventions of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and national regulatory frameworks. It focuses on respect for rights at the level of UEBT member companies, as well as in cultivation and wild collection activities (i.e. producers and local processing companies).

### Principle 7 – Clarity about land tenure, right of use and access to natural resources

Following is a summary of comments received for principle 7:

- More focus on addressing disputes.
- Topic on food security has been included here from previously principle 6
- Respect of indigenous and local communities introduced here (previously in principle 6)

Following the comments received, criteria in **Principle 7** have been modified as below.

Criteria version 2012 of the UEBT standard	Criteria version 5 July 2020 of the UEBT standard
7.1 The organisation shall use land for its sourcing activities with respect of established rights.	7.1 Disputes over ownership or use of land and natural resources are addressed.
7.2 The organisation shall take measures to minimize the illegal use of the sourcing areas it manages by others.	7.2 The rights and traditional practices of indigenous peoples and local communities are respected
	7.3 Cultivation and wild collection activities do not jeopardize local food security

This principle defines practices that respect rights over land and natural resources, particularly the relevant rights of indigenous peoples and local communities in cultivation and collection areas.

## Conclusion

Various important changes have been made to the UEBT Standard in response to the public consultation, in view of changes in international regulatory frameworks and the evolving vision of UEBT.

A significant number of UEBT members and stakeholders participated in improving the Ethical BioTrade Standard. On July 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the UEBT Standards and Assurance Committee recommended the Board of Directors of UEBT to approve the UEBT standard July 2020. This was approved on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2020 and the new standard was published on 15<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

## Annex 1: Terms and definitions

*For the purposes of the Ethical BioTrade Standard, the following definitions apply. Please note that the definitions are not highlighted in the standard itself, so read this section carefully to understand the meaning of these words when used in this standard.*

**Actors:** Persons or organisations directly or indirectly involved in supply chains of natural raw materials.

**Access and Benefit Sharing:** Laws, regulations and best practices, based on the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Nagoya Protocol, that regulate access to biological or genetic resources for research, product development or commercialization and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of these activities.

**Agrochemicals:** Chemicals used in agriculture, such as fertilizers, insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, hormones and other inputs.

**Biodiversity:** See biological diversity.

**Biological diversity:** Variability among living organisms from all sources including, inter alia, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are a part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems. (Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992).

**Child:** A human being below the age of 18 years, unless under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier (United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989)

**Conversion (of intact ecosystems):** Change of an intact ecosystem to another use that results in the destruction of its species composition, structure and function to the extent that their regeneration to the previous state is unlikely and the previous capacity to provide services to the environment and to people is lost. Conversion may occur, for example, when intact ecosystems are changed to plantations, croplands, pastures, water reservoirs, infrastructures, mining, and urban areas with the just described negative impact on the ecosystems. When the described negative impact does not occur, change of an intact ecosystem to another use is not considered conversion and is not banned under this standard. This is, for example, the case of cultivation that contributes to maintaining or restoring intact ecosystems.

**Climate resilience:** The ability to anticipate, absorb, accommodate, or recover from the effects of climate change and related stress and hazardous events in a timely and efficient manner (adapted from IPCC Glossary for Fifth Assessment Report 2014).

**Criterion (plural Criteria):** Actions to guide compliance with the principle.

**Cultivation or wild collection areas:** Area that encompasses the cultivation or wild collection site, but also includes areas that are adjacent and in the vicinity, to the extent these areas may be positively or negatively affected by cultivation or wild collection activities.

**Cultivation or wild collection site:** Terrestrial or aquatic area where cultivation or wild collection of natural raw material is taking place.

**Customary law:** Principles, practices, customs and beliefs so vital and intrinsic a part of a social and economic system that they are locally recognized as laws and internally govern or guide aspects of the lives and activities of indigenous peoples and local communities. (Adapted from CBD and WIPO)

**Deforestation:** A form of conversion which occurs when conversion concerns intact forest ecosystems. Deforestation is a change of an intact forest ecosystem to another use that results in the destruction of its species composition, structure and function to the extent that their regeneration to the previous state is unlikely and the previous capacity to provide services to the environment and to people is lost.



Conversion may occur, for example, when intact forest ecosystems land is changed to non-forest uses as plantation, cropland, pastures, infrastructures, and urban areas with the just described negative impact on the ecosystems. When the described negative impact does not occur, change of an intact forest ecosystem to another use is not considered conversion and is not banned under this standard. This is, for example, the case of cultivation that contributes to maintaining or restoring intact ecosystems.

**Due diligence:** Due diligence refers to the process of gathering, in a systematic way, information to understand conditions along the supply chain, identify risks, and promote good practices.

**Due diligence system:** Policies and procedures that assess and integrate Ethical BioTrade practices in their business operations and supply chains related to natural raw material.

**Due diligence on ABS:** Policies and procedures that systematically identify applicable legal requirements on access and benefit sharing (ABS), as well as good practices defined by the Ethical BioTrade standard, and ensure compliance with such requirements and good practices.

**Ecosystem:** A dynamic complex of plant, animal and microorganism communities and their non-living environmental interacting as a functional unit (Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992)

**Endangered species:** Species facing a threat of extinction and listed as 'endangered' in the IUCN Red List, CITES Annex 1 or Annex 2, or national legislation, or considered 'endangered' by scientific and local knowledge.

**Endemic species:** An endemic species is a native species restricted to a particular geographic region owing to factors such as isolation or in response to soil or climatic conditions (CBD).

**Environmental risk:** any risk to the environment, whether wholly or partially from cultivation, wild collection or related activities.

**Ethical BioTrade practices:** Practices on cultivation, wild collection, or other activities in line with the Ethical BioTrade Standard requirements applicable to the specific organisation and situation.

**Ethical Sourcing System (ESS):** Policies and procedures that promote Ethical BioTrade practices.

**Fair and equitable benefit sharing:** Measures taken to share benefits arising from the utilization of genetic resources and associated traditional knowledge, as well as subsequent applications and commercialization, in line with ABS legal requirements, principles of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Nagoya Protocol on ABS, and good practices defined in the Ethical BioTrade Standard.

**Family labour:** Cultivation or wild collection activities done by children to support family members, which consist of light, age-appropriate duties that give them an opportunity to develop skills.

**Farmer:** A person who owns, works on, or operates an agricultural enterprise, either commercially or to sustain him or herself or his or her family (adapted from Rainforest Alliance).

**Food security:** Physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life. (Adapted from 1996 World Food Summit)

**Genetic resources:** Genetic material of actual or potential value. (Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992)

**Genetically modified organisms (GMO):** Organisms that have been transformed by the insertion of one or more transgenes (FAO).

**Habitat:** Place or type of site where an organism or population naturally occurs. (Convention on Biological Diversity, 1992)

**Indicator:** In a standard, it is the quantitative or qualitative parameter, which can be assessed in relation to a criterion.

**Indigenous peoples:** Descendants of populations which inhabited a country or geographical region during its conquest, colonization or the establishment of present state boundaries and retain some or all of their own social, economic, cultural and political institutions (adapted from ILO Convention 169).

**Intact ecosystem:** An ecosystem that substantially resembles - in terms of species composition, structure, and ecological function — one that is or would be found in a given area in the absence of major human impacts. An ecosystem can be intact despite human activities take place when much of the original species composition, structure, and ecological function are being maintained or regenerated. Examples of intact ecosystems are pristine ecosystems, primary forests, rainforest, peatlands, savanna and other ecosystems with high capacity of carbon storage and intact features.

**Invasive species:** A non-native species that becomes established in natural or semi-natural ecosystems or habitat and threatens native biological diversity (IUCN).

**Land tenure:** Rules, defined by law or custom, that determine rights to own, access, use, control, and transfer land, as well as associated responsibilities and restraints (adapted from FAO).

**Living wage:** Remuneration received for a standard workweek by a worker in a particular place sufficient to afford a decent standard of living for the worker and her or his family. Elements of a decent standard of living include food, water, housing, education, health care, transportation, clothing, and other essential needs including provision for unexpected events (Global Living Wage Coalition).

**Living income:** Net annual income required for a household in a particular place to afford a decent standard of living for all members of that household (Living Income Community of Practice).

**Local communities:** Human populations in distinct ecological areas, depending directly on biodiversity for all or part of their livelihoods and having developed associated traditional knowledge.

**Margin:** Percentage of revenue from natural raw material remaining after all costs and other expenses. No specific percentage is defined in this standard.

**Migrant workers:** Persons that migrating within a country or from one country to another for work.

**Native species:** Species that occurs naturally in a particular ecosystem, rather than through accidental or deliberate introduction by humans.

**Natural raw material:** Raw material derived from components of biodiversity. That is, material or compounds derived directly or indirectly from plants, animals, fungi or microbial organisms. For example, plant parts (e.g. flowers, leaves, roots, stems, fruits or bark) and plant compounds (e.g. plant-based oils, butters, waxes, extracts, flavours, fragrances, colorants). Plant cells, microorganisms, algae and beeswax would also be covered.

**Permanent workers:** Workers employed on an ongoing, year-round basis.

**Picker:** Person involved in the wild collection of natural raw material.

**Prior informed consent:** Requirement for free, prior and informed consent required to access genetic resources and traditional knowledge, among other activities, established by the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Nagoya Protocol on ABS, and other relevant international agreements and laws, regulations and good practices that reflect their principles.

**Principle:** In a standard, principles are the elements that further define and elaborate the goal of the standard.

**Producers:** People or organisations directly involved in the cultivation or wild collection of natural raw material, including farmers, smallholders, farm managers, farmer associations, cooperatives and pickers.

**Protected area:** A clearly defined geographical space, recognised, dedicated and managed, through legal or other effective means, to achieve the long-term conservation of nature with associated

ecosystem services and cultural values (IUCN – World Heritage definition)

**Raw material:** Crude or processed material or substances used for manufacture, processing, or combination of a product. Raw material may be crude, minimally processed or more significantly processed.

**Seasonal workers:** See temporary workers.

**Semi-natural habitat:** Habitat that, though altered by human activity, retains most of the strength and abundance of its processes and biodiversity in relation to its natural state.

**Smallholder:** Small-scale agricultural producer that relies primarily on family or household labour or workforce exchange with other members of the community. A smallholder might hire temporary workers for seasonal tasks or even hire (a few) permanent workers when he or she and his or her family cannot do the work by themselves. (Rainforest Alliance)

**Sourcing:** Process of identifying and selecting suppliers, defining quantity, quality and other specifications, negotiating pricing and other terms of purchase, making the purchases, handling inventory, and processing of natural raw material.

**Supplier:** People and organisations in the supply chain that provide natural raw material for further processing or manufacturing.

**Species:** A type of plant, animal or other biological organism having certain characteristics that differentiate it from other members of the genus.

**Supply chain:** System of organisations, people, technologies, activities, information and resources involved in moving a product or service from supplier to customer. Supply chain activities transform natural raw materials into a finished product that is delivered to the end customer.

**Temporary workers:** Workers engaged only for a specific period of time, linked the fluctuations in demand for labour. It includes workers engaged for seasonal or casual activities and day labourers.

**Threatened species:** See endangered species.

**Traceability:** Ability to identify, track and trace elements of a product from their point of origin and as they move along the supply chain from raw material to finished products.

**Traditional knowledge (associated to genetic resources):** Knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous peoples and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles relevant for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity (Convention on Biological Diversity).

**Utilization of genetic resources.** According to the Nagoya Protocol on ABS, it is “to conduct research and development into the genetic and/or biochemical composition of genetic resources.” In the Ethical BioTrade Standard, it refers to research and development on new properties or applications of plants, animals, fungi or microorganisms, their parts or naturally occurring compounds.

**Wild collection:** Collection of non-agriculturally cultivated natural raw material from natural habitats.

**Worker:** Person hired to perform a task in an organization, whether related to cultivation, wild collection, administrative or other activities.

**Young workers:** Workers between 15 and 18 years of age, performing non-hazardous and age-appropriate work, in line with ILO Conventions 138 and 182.