

FERRERO

FERRERO AUSTRALIA PTY. LTD.

ABN 29 001 249 261

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Contents

1. Statement	2
2. Overview	2
3. Our Human Rights Approach	3
4. Codes and Policies	4
a) Ferrero’s Code of Ethics	4
b) Ferrero’s Code of Business Conduct.....	5
c) Ferrero’s Human Rights Policy Statement	5
d) Ferrero Supplier Code	5
e) Reporting Issues.....	5
5. Our Activities in Addressing Human Rights Issues	5
a) Our Own Operations.....	6
b) Our Supply Chains.....	7
i. Traceability and Certifications.....	8
ii. Responsible Sourcing Supplier Risk Management.....	7
iii. Partnerships and Collective Engagements	8
6. Annex	15



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1. Statement

Ferrero Australia Pty Ltd, as a subsidiary of the ultimate parent company Ferrero International S.A. (referred to herein as “Ferrero”) is committed to and fully support the goals of the Modern Slavery Act 2018 (Cth).

2. Overview

Ferrero began its story in the little town of Alba in Piedmont, Italy, in 1946. Today, with a consolidated turnover of 14 billion euros, Ferrero is amongst the leaders of the Sweet Packaged Foods market worldwide. The Ferrero Group is present throughout the world with more than 41,000 people and 32 production plants.

Ferrero produces many iconic brands that are loved by generations and sold in more than 170 countries these include Nutella, Ferrero Rocher, Tic Tac, Kinder and Raffaello. Our diverse range of products is produced by a value chain across the globe – from sourcing raw materials to the end of life of our products. To make our products, we source raw materials such as cocoa, palm oil, hazelnut, sugar, milk and eggs, relying on long term relationships with suppliers. Find more details [here](#).

- [Our Approach | Ferrero Sustainability](#)
- [Documents | Ferrero Sustainability](#)

The company has been built by generations of people who share a commitment towards continuous improvement to achieve the highest quality and care, this is at the heart of everything we do for our consumers and the communities in which we operate. Our core values provide the foundation for our purpose and are a guiding force for our people and suppliers as our family company continues to grow.

With a vision towards sustainability, improving the conditions of rural areas and the communities where raw materials are sourced, Ferrero has an umbrella programme on the group's engagement in sourcing sustainable raw materials. Learn more in our Sustainability Report ([here](#)).

This report has been produced pursuant to section 13(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2018 (Cth) (“the Act”) and constitutes our slavery and human trafficking statement and report for the financial year ending 31 August 2022.

We do not own or control any other entities and therefore the criteria at section 16(1)(f) of the Act is not applicable.



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3. Our Human Rights Approach

Together with our company values, our respect for human rights guides our strategy, policies and everyday activities across our own operations and supply chain.

Our Group Leadership Team has executive oversight for delivering on our human rights principles, while a Sustainability Operative Committee comprises cross-departmental managers from operations, human resources, brand social responsibility, risk management, corporate communications & institutional affairs, and responsible sourcing. The committee is engaging with stakeholders within and beyond Ferrero to drive and cascade actions and accountability locally and regionally, informing our Group's corporate social responsibility and sustainability function and ensuring the consistency of our human rights approach. As part of our global line manager excellence programme, all Ferrero line managers (at global, regional, and local levels) receive training in accountability for all company policies and practices.

We strongly respect and promote human rights along our value chain, adhering to the Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact. We are committed to preventing, mitigating, and addressing any adverse impact of our operations and supply chain through a due diligence-based approach. Our approach is guided by the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs), the International Bill of Human Rights, and the International Labour Organization (ILO) Fundamental Labour Conventions.

Meaningful stakeholder engagement is fundamental to our human rights approach. We are committed to working with our employees, business partners and relevant stakeholders on a journey of continuous improvement, and strongly believe it will benefit us, our business partners and all communities affected by our operations.

We implement a due diligence-based approach by identifying, preventing, mitigating and addressing any adverse human rights impacts we may cause, contribute to, or are directly linked to our operations, products or services through our business relationships in the value chain. As human rights issues are systemic, we expect our business partners to take appropriate steps and measures to do the same.

Our human rights due diligence principles outline four key steps to identifying and managing human rights risks:

1. **Assess:** identifying, assessing, and prioritising human rights risks, including ethical audits and assessments



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2. **Address:** embedding our human rights policy statement in our activities, addressing identified human rights risks, including measures to prevent, mitigate and remediate
3. **Monitor:** tracking and monitoring our activities and their effectiveness to address risks and continually improve our human rights approach
4. **Communicate:** reporting the implementation progress internally and externally

Today, our approach reflects a series of assessments and strategic multistakeholder partnerships with organisations such as the Consumer Goods Forum (CGF) Human Rights Coalition and Save the Children. We review our salient issues on an ongoing basis, as part of our journey of continual evaluation in the face of evolving risks and local socioeconomic contexts. In this process, we welcome legislations, international consensus and consumer and non-governmental feedback and engagement to ensure we are responsive to risk and proactive to catalysing systemic change. Having now joined Shift's business learning programme, we are implementing its recommendations developed as part of our work with Shift to continuously improve our human rights due diligence approach.

Equally important to our commitments within Ferrero are those we have made to our strategic partners. We will continue to work together to understand human rights risks and contexts, drive improvements and scale what works for convergence and, ultimately, systemic change. We will also join forces with more local expert organisations where this is helpful, as has been seen in our hazelnut work in Turkey for instance. For our partners we are engaging with on this journey, please see our sustainability report.

We are determined to eliminate all forms of modern slavery, forced, compulsory and prison labour, and child labour.

4. Codes and Policies

Our Code of Ethics, Code of Business Conduct, Human Rights Policy Statement and Supplier Code guide our human rights commitments within our own operations and influence business partners' actions across supply chains. Our Codes and internal policies are regularly reviewed and updated.

a) Ferrero's Code of Ethics

Our [Code of Ethics](#) (updated in late 2022) identifies the guiding principles for the resources that operate in and for Ferrero and defines the fundamental obligations for associates and our stakeholders.



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b) Ferrero’s Code of Business Conduct

Our [Code of Business Conduct](#) establishes standards applicable to “business to business” relations, in conformity with the Ferrero Code of Ethics.

c) Ferrero’s Human Rights Policy Statement

Our [Human Rights Policy Statement](#) (updated in early 2022) sets expectations on human rights respect to internal employees and external business partners regarding the 10 salient human rights areas, including forced labour, where we prioritise our human rights due diligence effort across our value chain.

d) Ferrero Supplier Code

Our [Supplier Code](#) outlines what responsible sourcing means for Ferrero, our priorities, and our engagement with suppliers on implementing our 3 responsible sourcing pillars: Human Rights and Social Practices, Environmental Protection and Sustainability and Supplier Transparency. Our Code includes provisions against child labour, forced, bonded and compulsory labour and requires our suppliers to carry out due diligence in their supply chains.

e) Reporting Issues

Our employees and business partners are encouraged to report violations or concerns of the Codes. The [Ferrero Integrity Helpline](#) was set up to enable Ferrero Group employees and those who work with us to ask questions and report issues in relation to our Codes and Policies.

The helpline allows issues to be reported to Ferrero confidentially and, where local law permits, anonymously. It is accessible 24-hours-a-day, 365 days-a-year in 43 languages via a website and toll-free/local numbers in 55 countries where Ferrero operates. Reports are collected by a third-party and made available to a Ferrero Steering Committee, composed of members of the Group’s Management Team, for review and investigation.

5. Our Activities in Addressing Human Rights Issues

Ferrero undertakes on-going human rights due diligence activities to identify, prevent, mitigate, and address any actual and potential adverse human rights impacts in our operations and supply chains. We do this through engagement, collaboration, and partnerships with business partners.

During this reporting period, we analysed our supply chains and operations to identify modern slavery related risks and established a risk register of the key risk



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areas identified. During the assessment process, we identified the areas with the lowest risk, such as local operations handled by staff directly employed by us. Currently our highest risk area lies within our supply chain such as labour recruitment practices in the palm oil sector in Southeast Asia. We continuously assess and monitor modern slavery related risks in our own operations and supply chain.

In 2018, we collaborated with the business and human rights excellence centre [Shift](#), conducting a company-wide human rights approach assessment as part of our due diligence activities. This was used to identify the actual and potential impacts that Ferrero could have on human rights and prioritise the severity and likelihood of those identified impacts in our value chain. The assessment also reviewed our approach to human rights through policy and document analysis, stakeholder interviews and workshops. 10 salient human rights issues were identified from this assessment:

1. Child protection and no child labour
2. No forced, bonded, and compulsory labour
3. Fair wages
4. Working hours
5. Diversity and inclusion, including no discrimination and harassment
6. Freedom of association and collective bargaining
7. Health and safety
8. Privacy
9. Environmental-related human rights issues
10. Rights relating to consumer health and responsible marketing

Since then, Ferrero has extended its collaboration with Shift and joined its Business Learning Program to implement its recommendations to continuously improve our human rights due diligence approach.

a) Our Own Operations

In our own operations, Ferrero takes steps to identify potential human rights issues and monitor our labour and human rights practices through implementing a third-party ethical audit programme. Our operations plants undergo a yearly audit to verify the four-pillar standard within the Sedex Members Ethical Trade Audit (SMETA) approach - a methodology using best practice ethical audit techniques to help auditors conduct high quality audits that encompass all aspects of responsible business practice of labour, health and safety, environment, and business ethics.



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In 2021, we joined the Consumer Goods Forum (CGF) Human Rights Coalition (HRC) and committed to implement and improve our due diligence on forced labour risks in our own operations through industry collaborations.

b) Our Supply Chains

Our responsible sourcing approach is built around traceability, certifications and standards, supplier responsible sourcing management and partnerships and collective engagements.

We carefully assess the risks and opportunities for each raw material to identify the best way to source it sustainably. We apply a deep understanding and knowledge of our ingredients including their origins, the stakeholders involved and the processes they undergo.

We also believe the integration of our responsible sourcing approach is integral to achieving our human rights and responsible sourcing commitments. We provide our buyers relevant tools and trainings, such as training on the Supplier Code.

i. Traceability and Certifications

We can only meet our responsible sourcing commitments including human rights if we know from where our raw materials originate and how they were produced.

Traceability is essential to build a fair and sustainable supply chain and to mitigate potential issues such as forced labour and modern slavery. We expect our suppliers to address this topic with equal care.

Farmer mapping is an important tool for improving the traceability and sustainability of raw materials like cocoa, palm oil and hazelnuts. Knowing the locations and size of farms makes it possible to trace raw materials to farm gate level. This allows us to know where raw materials were grown, by whom and how – so that we can target our interventions to support sustainable livelihoods and ensure we do not source from farms where there are risks of issues such as deforestation, child labour, forced labour and modern slavery. Certifications schemes, when available and robust, are complementary to our approach.

ii. Responsible Sourcing Supplier Risk Management

Responsible sourcing supplier risk management enables us to find ways to measure and improve the responsible business practices of suppliers to address issues of human rights, labour conditions, environmental



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protection and transparency. It is an on-going process that includes risk and opportunities analysis, compliance and improvement, and capability building.

Each supplier is required to acknowledge our Ferrero Supplier Code. The Ferrero Supplier Code contains the key pillars of our Human Rights Policy Statement and engages suppliers on a journey of continuous improvement. It defines our minimum requirements and expectations to suppliers whom we have commercial relationship with. Suppliers are assessed to identify, prevent, and mitigate related risks.

Our due diligence-based approach comprises three steps: prioritisation, assessment, and verification/ audit. Depending on the results and risk categories, we may ask suppliers to undergo internal or third-party audit and assessments – such as risk and impact assessments, certification and accreditation – to ensure they are operating in line with our standards.

Among other tools, since 2015, we have been working with the Supplier Sustainability Assessment platform EcoVadis and the third-party audit management platform Sedex.

To reinforce our commitment to sustainable livelihoods, human rights and environmental protection across our supply chain, we have developed Commodity Charters (e.g., Cocoa, Hazelnut and Palm Charters) which vertically cover Ferrero's requirements and commitments for a specific spend category.

These Charters set out specific minimum requirements our suppliers must meet in full alignment with the Supplier Code and due diligence process and define which sustainability certifications and standards we require for that specific spend category. In addition, the Charter outlines the commitment Ferrero is willing to put forward to further improve the conditions of our supply chain ("Going Beyond"). The Action Plan outlines how we will work towards our ambitions.

To learn more about our Commodity Charters and Actions Plans, see [here](#).

iii. Partnerships and Collective Engagements

Partnerships are critical to addressing complex human rights issues and we collaborate with a variety of stakeholders – including business partners, international organisations, governments, and NGOs – to tackle actual and potential issues in our supply chain.



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AIM-Progress: Ferrero is an active member of AIM-Progress, a consumer goods manufacturers and suppliers forum that promotes human rights best practices in responsible sourcing. We support the process of mutual recognition of supplier audits and assessments to reduce assessment duplication and fatigue, and share challenges and best practices with members on human rights due diligence implementation in supply chain including the topics of modern slavery, responsible recruitments, etc.

Consumer Goods Forum (CGF) Human Rights Coalition: Ferrero joined the CGF Human Rights Coalition in 2021. The Coalition is committed to working to end forced labour in the consumer goods industry and drive collection actions to implement the Priority Industry Principles to eradicate forced labour in own operations and supply chains.

Sedex: Ferrero is a member of Supplier Ethical Data Exchange (Sedex), a global non-profit membership organisation and a collaborative platform for sharing data on supply chains. We use its SMETA methodology to assess our suppliers covering four key areas: labour standards, health and safety, environment and business ethics. We also engage with Sedex and other members to find common solution to addressing specific human rights issues such as modern slavery.

EcoVadis: Ferrero partners with EcoVadis, a supplier sustainability assessment platform, to monitor risks and rate the environmental, ethical, and human rights practices, including modern slavery, of suppliers.

In 2020, Ferrero joined the [Tropical Forest Alliance coalition](#) advocating for a smart mix of measures to foster sustainable supply chains, including the introduction of mandatory due diligence legislation covering human rights and environmental impacts.

Partnerships and Collective Engagement in Key Raw Materials Supply Chains

Cocoa

Ivory Coast and Ghana, two neighbouring countries in West Africa, together account for about 65% of global cocoa production, produced by about 2 million mainly smallholder farmers. We source most of our cocoa from these two countries, complemented by Nigeria, Cameroon, Ecuador, and Colombia. The full list of our cocoa suppliers and farmer groups is accessible [here](#).



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The challenges in the cocoa supply chain, especially in West Africa, are complex. Many farmers live in poverty, which is one of the root causes of other systemic issues, including child labour, forced labour and deforestation.

Breaking the poverty cycle and supporting farmers in making cocoa farming a profitable and sustainable business is key to improving livelihoods. But to be successful, we need a smart mix of initiatives, including those aimed at increasing farms' resilience to climate change, empowering women, providing children access to good education, and well-rounded community development programmes. No stakeholder can solve these complex issues alone. We are therefore collaborating closely with industry, government, civil society and others to address agricultural, social, environmental and business issues in cocoa farming.

Ferrero is a long-standing member of the World Cocoa Foundation (since 2005) and the International Cocoa Initiative (since 2008). We are a founding member of CocoaAction and the Cocoa & Forests Initiative (see here our [Action Plan](#) on key principles and strategies that underpin socially and environmentally sustainable cocoa production). Through collaborative efforts, we engage with these industry and sectoral partners to address and find common solution to tackle forced child and adult labour issues. Ferrero also joined a [coalition](#) of like-minded stakeholders advocating in support of mandatory human rights due diligence.

We also work with partners such as Save the Children to implement Child-Centred Community Development programmes on the ground. The objectives of the collaboration are to put mechanisms in place to protect children, mitigate child and forced labour, and provide opportunities for children through access to quality education, basic facilities like water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH), and good nutrition.

In early 2020, we announced our intention to join forces with a strong coalition of the government of Côte d'Ivoire, leading cocoa and chocolate companies, the Jacobs Foundation and further philanthropic partners to tackle the root causes of child labour in Côte d'Ivoire.

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CASE STUDY

Renewed partnership: Ferrero and Save the Children on Cocoa

In December 2020, Ferrero and Save the Children began a five-year project to protect children in 65 cocoa-growing communities in the Haut-Sassandra region of Ivory Coast, building on the successful three-year project (2017-20) in 20 communities in the Nawa region. Through a holistic approach based on four pillars (Child Protection, Community Development, Access to Education and Youth & Adolescents Empowerment) we aim to reach by the end of the project 37,000 direct beneficiaries (15,000 children) and 90,000 indirect beneficiaries (49,000 children). To ensure coordinated action and impact on the ground, Save the Children works closely with local and national authorities as well as other key stakeholders like the International Cocoa Initiative (ICI), the Jacobs Foundation and the World Cocoa Foundation. In 2021 we started phase 1 involving 32 communities with an estimated population of 65,000 people of which 36,000 were children. The other group of 33 communities will follow in 2022.

Key results achieved in the first year:

- Baseline assessment to identify key issues and needs in 32 communities, including identification of the 900 most vulnerable households.
- Two social centres rehabilitated and equipped to ensure integration of Child Protection Committees in the communities in the national systems for Child Protection.
- Child Protection Committee, Bridge Class and VSLA groups have been established in 31 out of 32 communities (note: in one community the process was delayed).
- 779 out-of-school children aged 9 to 14 enrolled in classes.
- 35 foster families identified, trained and legally recognised.
- Total of 4,767 direct beneficiaries reached, including 929 children.

In addition to the project in Haut-Sassandra region, Save the Children is also providing strategic guidance and technical support to Ferrero and our tier-1 suppliers. The objective is to ensure a harmonised approach on child protection in Ivory Coast and Ghana by all suppliers in our cocoa supply chain by aligning their approach with the programmatic framework developed by Ferrero and Save the Children. The first step in this process is a capacity-building programme for our suppliers that Save the Children launched in 2021.

Palm Oil

We aim to source only RSPO-certified segregated palm oil so we can trace our palm oil back to mill and plantation level. For Ferrero products, 100% used RSPO certified segregated palm oil (of which more than 6% is POIG verified), with 100% traceability to 115 palm oil mills and 99.9% traceability to 579 plantations. We decided to further increase transparency by disclosing on our website every six months the full list of mills we source our palm oil from is accessible [here](#).

We are a member of RSPO (Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil) and POIG (Palm Oil Innovation Group). Through these platforms, we advocate in support of reforms to make sustainable palm oil the norm and we engage in discussions on addressing issues of migrant workers, forced labour and responsible recruitment to drive industry collaboration.

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CASE STUDY

The Earthworm Project in Malaysia

Earthworm Foundation aims to transform people's relationships with nature and use the influence of leaders in the supply chain to create a market for responsible oil. Its traceability efforts help businesses map their palm oil back to mills, farms and plantations.

We launched a new project with Earthworm in 2021, with a focus on human and worker rights. Starting in January 2021, the programme supported two of our third-party suppliers in adapting their labour practices and ensuring fair, safe and decent living conditions. Then, starting in January 2022, a second programme started with one key direct palm oil supplier, with a clear focus on ethical recruitment practices

Hazelnuts

Our hazelnuts come mainly from Turkey, Italy, Chile and the U.S. Risks in the hazelnut supply chain arise from several complex, systemic and deeply ingrained challenges in producing countries. For example, Turkey, among other places, attracts seasonal migrant workers who travel with their families and lack access to schools and childcare. This sometimes results in exploitation, such as bonded labour or child labour, poor working conditions and inadequate accommodation.

Traceability is another challenge. Hazelnuts are grown mainly on small family orchards, so production at scale can involve highly complex supply chains with a variety of intermediaries and data-processing systems. We are working to increase supply-chain traceability and transparency through development programmes designed to fully cover our sourcing areas. Tracing our hazelnuts back to farm level gives us confidence in how they were grown, and enables us to support farmers and developing better social and environmental practices.

Since 2012, we actively participate in the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) project under the membership of CAOBISCO (the European Association of Chocolate, Biscuits & Confectionery Industries) with the International Labour Organization (ILO) on eliminating of the worst forms of child labour in seasonal agriculture in hazelnut harvesting in

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Turkey. The objective is to improve the labour condition in the Turkish hazelnut sector through collaboration.

In November 2020, we established a partnership with the ILO to implement a 40-month project in Turkey to contribute to the elimination of the worst forms of child labour in seasonal agriculture in hazelnut harvesting (see case study below).

This partnership is complementing the CAOBISCO initiative and allowing Ferrero to cover 100% of its sourcing regions in Turkey with ILO specific mitigation programs Ferrero is also partnering with Earthworm Foundation, a non-profit organisation focused on improving value chains, evolving its responsible sourcing approach for hazelnuts.

CASE STUDY

Children's education and seasonal agricultural worker's living conditions

Since November 2020, Ferrero has been working in partnership with the International Labour Organization (ILO), supporting a multi-year project to contribute to the elimination of child labour in seasonal agriculture in hazelnut harvesting in Turkey. This builds on Ferrero's participation in the CAOBISCO and ILO partnership in Turkey, which has been active since 2013.

These projects aim to build capacity, raise awareness, and establish ways to directly intervene against child labour, for example by providing educational activities and material support (education materials, hygiene kits and clothing sets).

Child protection is also an important part of our Ferrero Farming Values (FFV) sustainability programme, which has been active in Turkey since 2012. Our FFV team in Turkey is present on the ground, engaging with farming communities to raise awareness and improve social practices.

Through our FFV programme and our work with the ILO we now cover all our hazelnut

sourcing areas in Turkey. In the 2021 growing season, a total number of 5,070 children of seasonal agricultural workers in Turkey have been reached and provided with educational activities to promote joyful growth in partnership with the ILO and local NGOs.

Despite the challenges created by Covid-19, our FFV teams visited almost 400 orchards a day during the growing season, reaching more than 20,000 farmers overall.

Our FFV teams in Turkey distributed cleaning-materials for 1,000 households and hygiene kits for 4,000 seasonal agricultural workers, as well as supporting the improvement of sanitation facilities to enhance working conditions during the growing season.

Through FFV we also distributed 2,000 educational kits and in collaboration with local municipalities, supported the creation of playgrounds within the temporary accommodation for children of seasonal agricultural workers.

Learn more from our [Sustainability Reports](#).



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This statement was approved by the board of directors and the management team, as the principle governing body, on 31 March 2023.

Signed

Massimo D'Ambrosio
Director of Ferrero Australia Pty Ltd
Cluster Manager, Australia & New Zealand

March 2023



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6. Annex

Annex 1: [Ferrero Human Rights Report](#)