

# Project Timeline – WORKING GROUP ON LIVING WAGES IN THE BANANA SECTOR

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## 2019

- Foundation of the **German Retailers Working Group** on Living Incomes and Wages

## 2021

- (i)** Launch of the working group's project on **Living Wages** in the **banana sector**
- (i)** Definition of the **Project Roadmap** with **key milestones** based on the **strategic project goals**
- (i)** Project provides **guidance** on the **compatibility** of **sector initiatives with antitrust law**  
[Press release German antitrust authority](#)  
[Case study German antitrust authority](#)  
[Factsheet on sector initiatives](#)
- Initial **rollout of the project with Ecuador** as the first implementation country

## 2023

- (i)** First **wage gap report** of Ecuador's banana sector creates **transparency on living wage realities**  
[Further information](#)
- (i)** **Baseline study** assesses **working conditions on banana farms in Ecuador**  
[Further information](#)
- (i)** First **pilot projects** with Rainforest Alliance and Fairtrade test mechanisms **to reduce Living Wage Gaps**  
[Find the full report on lessons learnt here](#)
- (i)** **Cooperation** with Fairtrade and CLAC identifies **key levers for workers' well-being** [Further information](#)

## 2020

- **Joint public commitment of Working Group** at the **International Green Week**  
[Find the commitment here](#)

## 2022

- (i)** Formation of **"Better Together"** retail collaboration: For the first time, European retailers work jointly on living wages  
[Further information](#)
- (i)** **Scoping Study** informs future activities in Ecuador

## 2023

- (i)** Project wins Fairtrade Award as **"Living Wage leader"**  
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- (i)** **Project expansion** to Colombia and Costa Rica  
[Further information](#)

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## 2024

- i** Expanding first pilots: Launch of the **"Living Wage Piloting Programme 2024 (LWPP24)"**  
[Further information](#)
- i** Promoting a **shared understanding on Responsible Purchasing Practices** in the Banana Sector
- i** Examining **structural opportunities and barriers for reliable wage data**  
[Read the full article here](#)
- i** Legal studies identify suitable approaches on paying out **living wage differentials** [Further information](#)
- i** **Strengthening worker representation and institutional capacity** in Ecuador's banana sector with Banana Link  
[Further information](#)
- i** **Baseline assessments map labor conditions** in Colombia and Costa Rica

## 2025

- i** New insights published: **Progress report 2024** highlights findings to drive **systemic change**
- i** The 2024 Piloting Programme provides insights **to scale living wage impact**  
[Read the full learning report here](#)
- i** Scaling up: Launch of the **"Living Wage Programme 2025 (LWP25)"**
- i** **European alignment** on mechanisms for **paying price premiums**  
[Further information](#)
- i** Strategic **cooperation with ILO** opens the pathway to anchoring **long-term processes** beyond the project
- i** **Comprehensive assessment of retailers' purchasing practices**  
[Further information](#)