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Ready for Due Diligence: the German Coffee Association's joint approaches to sustainability regulations





About us

The German Coffee Association represents more than 350 small and large companies along the entire coffee value chain.

We are the largest network for coffee companies in Europe.

DEUTSCHER KAFFEEVERBAND WACH. HEISS. STARK.

Our coffee community

DEUTSCHER KAFFEEVERBAND

WACH. HEISS. STARK.







The German coffee sector:

- 1.1 million tons of green coffee were imported into Germany in 2021.
- Germany is the coffee products exporter powerhouse.
- Coffee is Germany's favorite!



German Act on Corporate Due Diligence Obligations (LkSG)

Scope of application:
1 January 2023: Companies with ≥ 3,000 employees
1 January 2024: Companies with ≥ 1,000 employees



German Act on Corporate Due Diligence Obligations (LkSG)





Early Supporter of LkSG: German Coffee Association

Enables common speed in the coffee sector

LKSG

Sustainability across the board



LKSG



Measures:

Risk Analysis

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Grievance Mechanism





Risk analysis

- German Coffee Association offers analysis of human rights and environment-related risks in 18 most important coffee producing countries (min. 1% import share)
- Benefits:
 - Independent assessment by GRAS
 - Transparent and systematic method based on indices, internet research, grey literature and aggregated 4C audit reports
 - Common understanding of risks in coffee supply chain
 - Starting point for companies' supply chain specific risk assessment

Risk levels



LkSG	(2) 1	(2) 2	(2) 3-4	(2) 5	(2) 6	(2) 7	(2) 8	(2) 9	(2) 10	(2) 11	(3) 4-5
criteria Countries	Child labour	Worst forms of child labour	Forced labour & Modern Slavery	Occupational safety and health	Freedom of association	Unequal treatment in employment	Withholding of adequate wages	Causing harmful soil change, water pollution and noise emission	Unlawful eviction and taking of land, forest, and waters	Inappropriate use of private/public security forces	Use of chemicals under the Stockholm Convention
Brazil	2,13								•		
China	3,00										
Colombia	2,50										
El Salvador	2,63										
Ethiopia	4,00										
Guatemala	2,75										
Honduras	2,75										
India	2,25										
Indonesia	2,25										
Kenya	3,38										
Lao PDR	3,25										
Mexico	2,50										
Nicaragua	3,88										
Papua New Guinea	4,00										
Peru	2,88										
Tanzania	4,00										
Uganda	3,63										
Vietnam	2,63										



Ear4U.org – The joint grievance mechanism of the German Coffee Association







Conclusion

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- DD regulations change the landscape of sustainability
- They create a new momentum for sectorwide efforts
- Stronger focus on compliance
- What level of legal ambition creates the most positive impact?





Thank you for your attention!

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