

NEWSLETTER

July-September 2020 • Volume 6



From the Director:

Given the current status of the COVID pandemic, *trustea* has been working with the program partners to find ways to provide effective support to the *trustea* verified entities to ensure continuity of operation and verification activities. Towards this, *trustea* has launched the remote audit process for renewal audits as well as a hybrid online/offline training programme for small tea growers. We appreciate the work done by the certification bodies and implementation partners in these initiatives.

We are pleased to share that we have recently unveiled the "*trustea* Impact Report". This report documents the impact of the *trustea* program in its journey since 2013. We invite you to read and share the report which is available in the public domain on the *trustea* website via the link <https://trustea.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/trustea-Impact-Report.pdf>

If you would like to share your thoughts/feedback on our newsletter, please feel free to email us at comms@trustea.org.

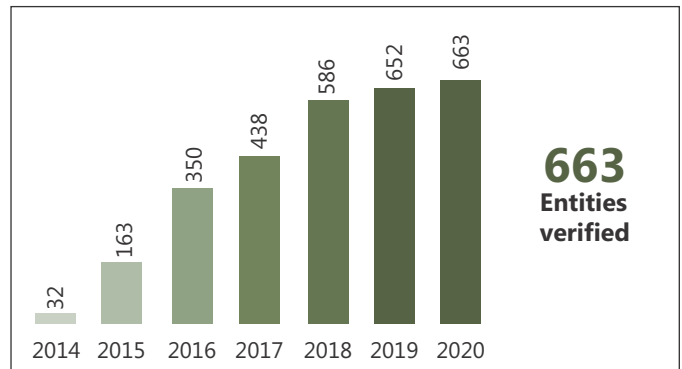
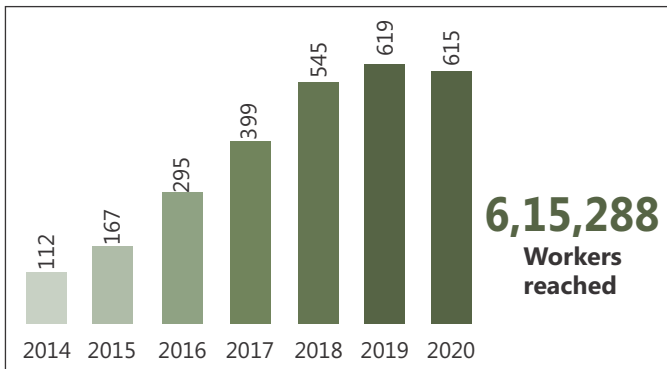
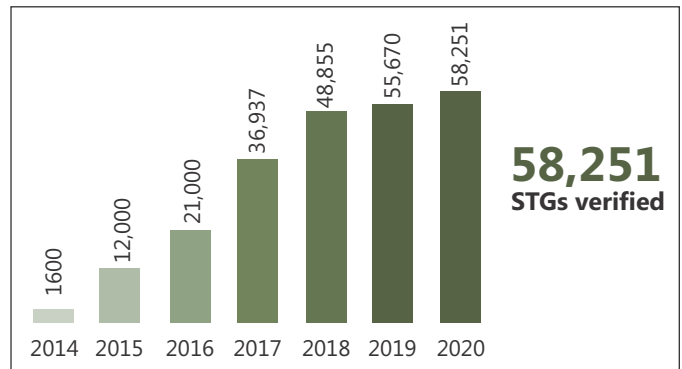
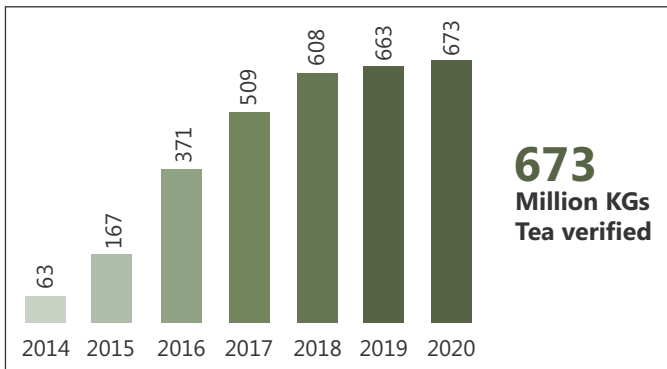
Hope you enjoy reading this newsletter.

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Program Update*



*Data as of Sep'20

Events

Third Council meeting of *trustea* Sustainable Tea Foundation

26th Aug 2020

The third Council meeting facilitated discussions on the crucial items for *trustea* program, besides identifying the challenges and the interventions towards overcoming the challenges.

The Council serves as the platform for leading the multi-stakeholder program towards improving the sustainability of the Indian tea industry through voluntary adoption of the *trustea* code. Currently, *trustea* Council has representation from the various sections of tea fraternity.



trustea Program Partner Conference

21st & 22nd Sep'20

'*trustea* Program Partner Conference' exhibited exchange of ideas and thoughts among 68 diverse participants during the 2-days long virtual conference. The conference was attended by *trustea* program partners that included the following:

- Commercial Partners (CPs) Viz. Hindustan Unilever Ltd., Tata Consumers Products Ltd., Gujarat Tea Processors and Packers Ltd.
- Implementation Partners (IPs) Viz. Action for Food Production (AFPRO), Reviving Green revolution (RGR) - an initiative of Tata Trusts and Tea Research Association (TRA)



- Certification Bodies (CBs) Viz. Control Union, Cotectna, DNVGL, IMO, Indocert, Onecert, SGS, TUV India
- The eminent speakers during the conference included Dr. AK Barooah (Director, Tea Research Association), Mr. Arijit Raha (Secretary General, Indian Tea Association), Dr. Anurag Priyadarshi (Global Sustainability Manager, Tata Consumer Products Limited), Mr. Balan (Proprietor, Yashodha Tea Factory and Westside Tea Factory), Mr. Daleram Gulia (Procurement Manager, Sustainable Sourcing, Tea - South Asia, Unilever), Mr. Prमित Chanda (Country Director, IDH - the Sustainable Trade Initiative). The session on 'Gender Sensitisation' by 'UN Women' was the key highlight of the conference.



Code Corner

Gender in *trustea*

Empowerment of the female workforce and prevention of workplace harassment has been a key focus area of the *trustea* program. To strengthen this aspect of the code, the *trustea* council has approved an amendment which specifically mentions the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act 2013 as a compliance requirement. Although compliance to this act is mandatory for all organizations, this focused amendment will give further impetus towards concrete progress in this crucial impact goal of the *trustea* program. Training of assessors and formulation of *trustea* specific audit guidelines is currently underway.

“The verified facility and its staff shall not engage in the use of corporal punishment, mental, physical or sexual harassment or any kind of intimidation at the workplace and ensure effective implementation of the policies in creating a safe and empowering workplace as per the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 and relevant revisions.”

Latest Updates

ISO 9001:2015 Certification

trustea has successfully implemented the Quality Management System (QMS). Based on the outcomes of this external assessment (by BSI), *trustea* is now ISO 9001:2015 certified.



Remote Audit

Towards helping its verified entities during the pandemic, *trustea* launches the approach for performing audits using remote techniques, based on successful pilots on 'Remote Audit'. *trustea* thanks its Certification Bodies Viz. SGS, TUV India, DNVGL, CUC, Cotecna & Indocert for their support in this initiative.

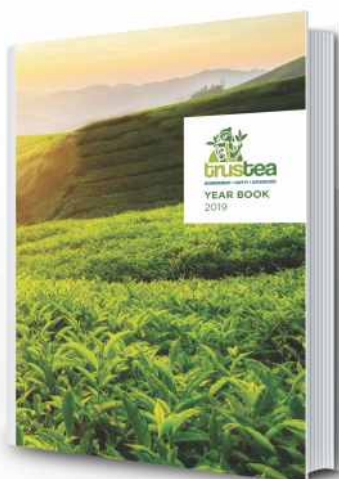
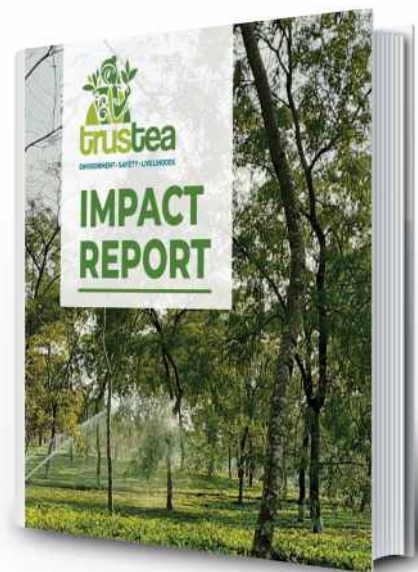


trustea's 'Impact Report'

Towards capturing and documenting the on-ground impact made by *trustea* programme, we are pleased to unveil *trustea*'s 'Impact Report', a chronicle of the *trustea* journey since 2013.

The Impact Report brings insights and testimonials on the interventions, output, outcome and impact pertaining to the programme. It describes how *trustea* has made a visible impact across the tea value chain and positively contributes to many key Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations. Click this link <https://trustea.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/trustea-Impact-Report.pdf> to download *trustea*'s Impact Report.

Thank you for witnessing *trustea*'s successful journey and the impact created alongside!



trustea's 'Year Book 2019'

trustea has come a long way in making on-ground impact, in turn, transforming the Indian tea sector. As an endeavour to document *trustea*'s journey in the year gone by, we are pleased to present the '*trustea* Year Book 2019' that depicts the key milestones and events during the year. Click this link <https://trustea.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/trustea-Year-Book-2019-1.pdf> to download *trustea*'s Impact Report.

Thanking you for your valued contributions in the *trustea*'s journey so far!



For more details on the Program, contact: support@trustea.org