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Information

If you are interested in receiving a newsletter to this project twice a year, please sign up at: www.ecofair-trade.org

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MEMBERS OF THE EXPERT PANEL



Souleymane Bassoum, Senegal, director of AGRECOL-Afrique and a recognized expert on sustainable agriculture policies in the West African region. His main areas of work are ecological agriculture and fair trade. He is a practitioner of organic farming and has a degree in agriculture.

Gonzalo Fanjul, Spain, research coordinator at Intermón Oxfam. Having closely followed the agriculture negotiations at the WTO for the last several years as well as issues concerning the developmental impacts of the **common** agricultural policy of the EU, he has a profound expertise on agricultural trade issues. He has a degree in economics.

Arze Glipo, Philippines, director of the Integrated Rural Development Foundation of the Philippines (IRDF), convenor of the Asia Pacific Network on Food Sovereignty (APNFS). She has developed a profound knowledge on trade related gender and poverty issues. She has a Master's in development economics.

Aileen Kwa, Singapore, currently stationed in Geneva, is a policy consultant on trade issues. She has been monitoring trade negotiations since the Singapore Ministerial in 1996 and has also worked with developing country delegations in Geneva, especially on agricultural issues. She is co-author of the book ,, Behind the Scenes at the WTO: The Real World of Trade Negotiations".

Hannes Lorenzen, Germany, is advisor to the Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development of the European Parliament for the Greens/EFA Group and as such a specialist on **European agriculture policies**. He has a Master's in Sociology and Agriculture and a postgraduate degree in international rural development.

Sophia Murphy, British and Canadian, currently living in Australia, Senior Advisor at the US-base Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP) and an internationally recognized expert in **food and trade issues**. She has a bachelor in politics, philosophy and economics (Oxford) and a Master's in social policy, planning and participation in developing countries (London School of Economics).

Kamal Malhotra, India, currently living in the US, Senior Advisor on Inclusive Globalization at UNDP's where he heads the Bureau of Development Policy and UNDPs globalization, trade and debt sustainability policy work. He has degrees related to development economics and finance from the University of Delhi, the Indian Institute of Management and Columbia University, New York.

Oduor Ongwen, Kenya, country director of SEATINI (Southern and Eastern Africa Trade Information and Negotiations Institute). 2000 - 2004, executive director of EcoNews Africa. He has a Master's degree in economic policy of developing countries and an undergraduate degree in mathematics and chemistry. Expert in world trade issues and sustainability.

Anna Luisa Ferreira Pijnappel, Brazil, consultant for the Department of International Affairs at the Brazilian Ministry of Rural Development (MDA). In this context she follows closely the agricultural trade negotiations at the WTO and MERCOSUR. She has a special focus on the effects of trade agreements on family farming in Brazil. She has a master's in international affairs.

Rita Schwentesius Rindermann, originally from Germany, since 18 years in Mexico, is director of CIESTAAM (Research Center on Economic, Social and Technological Aspects of International Agriculture Policies at Chapingo University). Her specialization is the agricultural chapter of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). She has a Master's in plant production and a Ph.D. in international agricultural economics.

Daniel de la Torre Ugarte, Peru, since 15 years in the USA, associate director of the University of Tennessee's Agricultural Policy Analysis Center. His primary research area is agricultural supply management. Daniel de la Torre's broad list of publications includes the report "Rethinking US Agricultural Policy: Changing Course to Secure Farmer Livelihoods Worldwide" (2003). He has a PhD in agricultural economics.

Wolfgang Sachs (Moderator), Germany, Senior Fellow at the Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy. His primary areas of research are globalization and sustainability, environment and development as well as new models of wealth. He served as the coordinator and lead author of "The Jo'burg Memo. Fairness in a Fragile World" (2002) He has a Master's in sociology and theology and a PhD in social sciences.

Tilman Santarius (Assistant Moderator), Germany, senior research fellow at the Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy. His main areas of work are economic instruments in **climate policy**, global governance and issues regarding trade and the environment. From 2002 to 2004 he served as coordinator of the key project on globalization and sustainability at the Wuppertal Institute. He has a Master's in sociology, anthropology and economics.

ECOFAIR TRADE DIALOGUE New Directions for Agricultural Trade Rules



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THE ECOFAIR TRADE DIALOGUE

is a project carried out by the Heinrich Böll Foundation in cooperation with Misereor and moderated by the Wuppertal Institute for Climate, Environment and Energy.

In virtually no other sector of the world trade regime do different interests and convictions appear so irreconcilable as in agriculture. Conflicting interests are prevalent between developed and developing countries, export-oriented and import-dependent countries, or countries with liberalized markets and countries with a high degree of protection. Conviction conflicts prevail between the promoters of an ever increasing international division of labor and the advocates of a more decentralized economic order. Similarly, views and interests differ between the supporters of a large-scale, industrial and export oriented production model and those who favor small-scale, organic and subsistence farming.

However, the trade agenda pursued since the 1990s reflected and still reflects only parts of these controversies. For example, it does not allow space for trade rules adequate to protect the interests of farmers who produce for the local market, or of those who produce organic food.

Against the background of the existing power imbalances between developed and developing countries, agricultural trade policies have until now been shaped especially to the detriment of the majority of farmers in the South. Many developing countries had to give up market protection measures and have been at the mercy of cheap and often subsidized agricultural imports. In contrast, developed countries have managed to maintain their protection levels largely untouched.

In spite of this, the agricultural trade policies pursued in the last decade have also contributed to a massive price decline and price instabilities for agricultural goods as well as to an increase in market concentration and the industrialization of agricultural production at the global level.

OBJECTIVES AND APPROACH

The overall aim of this project is to enrich the debate on the reform of the current regime of global agricultural trade through the development and advancement of forward looking guidelines and instruments, taking the concepts of **food sovereignty** and **sustainable agriculture** as reference points. A concrete and coherent **reform proposal** which responds to the 21st century's social and ecological challenges to global agriculture is envisaged as the outcome of the **EcoFair Trade Dialogue**. The economic, social and cultural human rights, ecological sustainability and gender equity being the normative basis for its development.

By molding this reform proposal via an international dialogue process, the project wants to contribute to a learning process and consensus building among the NGO- and scientific community as well as to the empowerment of the advocates of food sovereignty and sustainable agriculture. Through the discussion of the proposals with political decision makers and opinion leaders, the project intends to promote an improved linking of normative, civic demands with political decision-making, and to influence policy making processes on agricultural trade in the medium and long term.

The EcoFair Trade Dialogue will deal with means that fit into the current structure of the WTO's Agreement on Agriculture (AoA), such as tariffs and subsidies, as well as with other potential approaches for trade regulation that go beyond that, e.g. supply management, qualified market access, and commodity agreements. Where appropriate, reform proposals might be proposed in a framework outside the WTO, such as the FAO, or UNCTAD.





FOOD SOVEREIGNTY AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE AS REFERENCE POINTS

The concepts of **food sovereignty** and **sustainable agriculture** serve as the reference points for the **EcoFairTrade Dialogue** – two concepts currently marginal to agricultural trade agreements and negotiations, yet of major importance to the more than one billion people whose livelihood depends on agriculture as well as to the environmental condition of our planet.

Food sovereignty is promoted mainly by small farmers' organizations in the South and stands above all for the right of nations to determine their own and appropriate agricultural and food policies.

Sustainable agriculture emphasizes primarily the need for agricultural production patterns that are environmentally and socially friendly and take into account consumer protection needs. In this form, it predominantly finds supporters in the North.

Both concepts put priority on labor-intensive, environmentally sound production by small farmers, principally for regional and national markets and only secondarily for export.



THE DIALOGUE PROCESS

The dialogue process to develop the reform proposal will involve selected experts, representatives of a broad range of civil society organizations, as well as policy makers.

The first phase of the project to be carried out throughout 2005 will consist of a dialogue within a core group of experts from different regions of the world. This group of experts will develop reform proposals to be recorded in a set of policy papers. Views from policy makers will feed into this dialogue through an International Advisory Board. In a second phase in 2006, consultations on a regional level will be held in order to discuss and mirror the policy papers on the different realities around the world. It is intended to involve a broad range of stakeholders throughout the farming community, civil society organizations, the media, and the scientific community, as well as political decision-makers and negotiators at the WTO. After these consultations the policy papers will be revised and a final report will be elaborated. A wide dissemination of the report and a series of further dialogues on its basis are foreseen to follow.

