



# CALL TO ACTION

## towards a Global Green Deal

We, a number of diverse civil society organisations, who are concerned that the European Green Deal (EGD) could fail to deliver the required objectives, believe it essential to transform it into a Global Green Deal<sup>1</sup> (GGD) in order to make it truly socially and environmentally just on an international level, and to ensure it delivers a transition towards fair and green societies. Against the backdrop of mounting criticism of the EGD project and the way it is implemented, it is crucial to make it more social, equitable, and fair in order to recreate a common vision and commitment to its essential goals. So far the EGD does not contribute to Policy Coherence for Sustainable Development (PCSD), nor does it contribute comprehensively to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs); in fact, the impact of the European green transition on partner countries is barely addressed. The GGD vision is of an inclusive European transformative agenda that plainly assumes its responsibilities vis-à-vis third and partner countries with regard to imposed externalities (such as exported greenhouse gas emissions, deforestation and biodiversity loss, violations of International Labour Standards, including forced labour, unsafe and unhealthy working conditions, etc.). Unless such externalities are addressed, the EGD agenda, combined with the re-industrialisation agenda (including the Net Zero Industry Act), may perpetuate an extractive relationship in the global South, whereby the EU exploits the natural and human resources of Global South countries to satisfy its own needs.

Five policy transformations are required to transform the EGD into a GGD:

**1. Boosting access to high-quality, affordable and long-term financing** from both official and private sources in order to give partner countries the chance to implement climate mitigation and adaptation, and support their efforts on the 17 Sustainable Development

Goals (SDGs) - Measures include: *reforming the Global Financial Architecture; providing more and better ODA; revising sovereign credit ratings; applying long-term investment planning; obliging EU countries to use their shareholding power in the IMF and the World Bank to reduce the cost of capital for developing countries; ensuring that money disbursed can quickly reach the sectors of the economy that can leapfrog to more sustainable production methods, free of fossil energies; financially supporting small businesses, including family-owned businesses, small-scale food producers and artisans, as well as workers contributing to the global supply chains on which the EU depends.*

**2. A binding Just Transition strategy - Measures include:** *transforming the economy in a fair and inclusive manner to ensure the maintenance and creation of decent jobs in and outside the EU; establishing a Just Transition Observatory that analyses data and policies from outside Europe; adopting a European Directive for a Just Transition that is sensitive to the need for decent work in the Global South; adopting a strategy concerning living income and living wage, setting up a multi-stakeholder dialogue to tap into opportunities to progress towards sustainable livelihoods, fair prices and sustainable production practices; mobilising resources with a view to scaling up social protection systems in order to increase their coverage and adequacy and to provide high quality public services, particularly in health and education; providing technical and financial support to under-represented/under-privileged stakeholders from the Global South to help them adapt to the new EU legislation; mainstreaming a human-right, gender-based and environmental friendly approach in all EU policies bearing on partner countries; strictly applying due diligence measures, including on the Global Gateway investments and ensuring full transparency on the approved investments, their contractors and sub-contractors; supporting smallholder farmers' ascension*

<sup>1</sup> [The FTAO calls for transforming the European Green Deal into a Global Green Deal - fairtrade-advocacy.org](https://www.fairtrade-advocacy.org/)

in the value chain, diversifying their sources of income, promoting food processing in producing countries and access to markets, including at local and regional level.

### **3. A policy coherence for sustainable development with a continued reform of the EU Trade policy and a major political focus on reducing the spillover effects**

- Measures include: systematically and inclusively applying comprehensive Impact Assessment tools to assess potential negative impacts on partner countries and in particular on human rights, including labour rights and economic and social rights such as the right to an adequate standard of living and the right to fair remuneration; developing knowledge on transboundary spillover impacts that undermine other countries' human right to a healthy environment and their efforts to achieve their climate and sustainable development goals; pursuing the reform of the trade agreement model so that Trade and Sustainable Development (TSD) chapters can be specifically applied on both sides through better enforcement; effective investigation and sanctions of violations of labour and environmental rights, guarantees of redress and access to justice for victims; permanently aligning the EU trade policy with existing, new and upcoming EU legislation such as the EU Directive on Unfair Trading Practices in the agricultural sector, the Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive, the regulation on prohibiting products obtained by the use of forced labour; strengthening the rights of workers in any companies that are part of international supply chains; taking steps to ensure the primacy of international social, human rights and environmental standards over international investment law by terminating or severely limiting Investor-State Dispute Settlement (ISDS) in existing International Investment Agreements; urgently applying the above measures to avoid dumping at Global South markets.

### **4. Mainstreaming Fair Trade (FT) practices and Fair Trade Enterprises to equalise benefits throughout international supply chains.**

Measures include: stressing the value of FT and the role of Fair Trade Enterprises in EU sectoral and horizontal policies relating to business governance, production, consumption and

trade, such as the application of FT criteria in public procurement; retaking the chapter on fair and ethical trade that was present in the 'Trade for all' strategy of 2015 and including commitment to promote fair and ethical trade schemes in the EC specific annual reports on implementation of TSD chapters.

### **5. Turning the Green Deal into a driver of change of the EU economic model**

- Measures include: applying indicators of social progress allowing movement beyond GDP to effectively steer the making and implementing of public policies focused on the wellbeing of people and the planet, across the globe; combatting the root causes of overconsumption of resources; assessing the amount of resources the EU can sustainably and fairly consume within planetary boundaries and stopping the extractive economy that is not only bad for the environment, but also increases worldwide poverty and inequalities; actively promoting the MSMEs (Micro-, Small and Medium Enterprises such as Fair Trade Enterprises, cooperatives, purpose driven enterprises, ...) and their contributions to SDGs and working towards achieving sustainable and resilient economies.

By its very nature, the GGD must be co-designed with EU international partners, with the EU establishing the right conditions for a trustful partnership leading to a common vision of a global sustainability agenda. The latter must be based on achieving a more equal footing between the Global North and the Global South, placing justice and fairness at the heart of its policy-making and implementation. Moreover, the European Commission must create an enabling space for CSOs, local and indigenous communities, ethical business models, SMEs and trade unions from both sides to contribute to the design and implementation of the GGD.

We are committed to making a combination of collective and individual efforts to promote the above policy measures at EU decision-making level. We also invite like-minded organisations to join us in an open and transparent conversation on the next steps of the GGD development.

**solidar**

**Fair Trade**  
ADVOCACY OFFICE



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