



Project co-financed by
the European Union

EFTA
European Fair Trade Association



Fair Procura Newsletter
Issue #5 - January 2007



Welcome to the 5th Edition of the Fair Procura Newsletter. In this edition you will find the latest developments in issues relating to Fair Trade and Public Procurement at EU level. You will also find the latest news from the Fair Procura partner organizations.

Fair Procura is FAIR public purchasing policies and practices

The Fair Procura Project is a three year project (September 2004 – September 2007), co-financed by the European Commission, which aims to increase contributions of public authorities and institutional buyers to sustainable development through public (fair) purchasing policies and practices, and to encourage public authorities to serve as an example of responsible consumption for their citizens.

Fair Procura would like to thank the European Union for its support for this project. It would also like to thank Fair Trade Austria for the use of its photographs for this newsletter.

The project is conducted jointly by EFTA (European Fair Trade Association) in Brussels, CTM Altromercato (Italy), Fair Trade Organisatie (The Netherlands), IDEAS (Spain) and OXFAM Wereldwinkels (Belgium).



This document has been produced with the financial assistance of the European Union. The contents of this document are the sole responsibility of the Fair Procura Partners and can under no circumstances be regarded as reflecting the position of the European Union.

CONTENTS

Fair Procura News

- ❖ “Fair Chocolate, taste and rights in school canteens”
- ❖ The Italian Championship of School Canteens – in the Fair Trade spirit
- ❖ Amendments to the Spanish Draft Law for Public Purchasing
- ❖ I Congreso Andaluz de Compra Pública Ética y Ecológica
- ❖ “Buying matters” - sourcing fairly from low wage economies
- ❖ Fair Trade prizes for three Dutch cities
- ❖ Fair Procura Conference Netherlands
- ❖ Fair Trade, sustainable agriculture and local authorities: a Manifesto
- ❖ The role of local authorities in North-South issues
- ❖ Fair Procura Working Group meeting- 12th of December
- ❖ Fair Procura Final Conference – 19th of April 2007

European and International News

- ❖ Fair Trade at the crossroads? Conference organized by the Fair Trade Centre
- ❖ EU set out new commitments on Aid for Trade
- ❖ Agreement between Irish Fair Trade Network Limited and FLO International
- ❖ “IKEA- un modèle à démonter”
- ❖ How can municipal services promote sustainable consumption?
- ❖ Regional Fairtrade project for Yorkshire and the Humber
- ❖ Launch “Business Unusual: Successes and Challenges of Fair Trade”

Upcoming Events

- ❖ Conference “Textiles and Clothing sector and Public Procurement”
- ❖ World Social Forum
- ❖ 07 Fair Trade Experience
- ❖ Exploring Fairtrade - More than buying chocolate?
- ❖ Fairtrade vs Free Trade - Economics debate
- ❖ IFAT International Conference
- ❖ Fair Procura Final Conference

Publications

- ❖ Business Unusual. Success and Challenges of Fair Trade
- ❖ ICLEI Buy Fair Guide
- ❖ The Millennium Development Goals Report 2006
- ❖ The Scope for Using Social Clauses in UK Public Procurement to Benefit the UK Manufacturing Sector
- ❖ Tourisme équitable et solidaire: un exemple de commerce équitable dans le domaine de services
- ❖ The dos and don'ts of sustainable banking: a BankTrack manual
- ❖ Core labor standards handbook

FAIR PROCURA NEWS

- “Fair Chocolate, taste and rights in school canteens”

This is the title of the brochure targeted to the public administration but also to teachers and the pupils' families, presenting the Chocolate product introduced in the last four years in hundreds of school canteens in Italy by Ctm Altromercato consortium. From the quality of the raw material to the quality of the final product, going through the ethical quality of the producers' lives: a simple chocolate bar becomes, in this way, a tool from informing the children in Italian schools and, at the same time, a tool for guaranteeing the right to education of the children in the Dominican Republic.

The brochure will be distributed to various recipients in over 100 municipalities that have joined the *Ristorazione Solidale Altromercato* project. For ordering the brochure by mail or in electronic format, contact:

Ctm altromercato
Ufficio Ristorazione Solidale
tel. 010 25 18 194
fax 010 86 81 449
e-mail: ristorazione@altromercato.it
www.altromercato.it



- The Italian Championship of School Canteens – in the Fair Trade spirit

Fair Trade is one of the central themes at the 2006 edition of the “School of Flavours – the Showroom of quality school canteens”, featured at the Genova Fair, taking place between the 22 and 24 of November 2006, in the context of ABCD, the exhibition dedicated to the world of education.



The main event is the 2nd Italian Championship of School Canteens, organized in the Fair Trade spirit. Six cooks from the municipal school canteens and three cooks from catering companies will compete in preparing creative and tasty dishes, using Fair Trade ingredients. The former will mainly attempt to use cereals, while the latter will let their imagination free, using aromas, plants and spices. The ones representing hostelry are proposing to the audience a dessert-tasting session.

At the Fair there will also be two interactive displays dedicated to Fair Trade, set up by the canteens department of the Ctm Altromercato consortium. Their topics

will be “The Voyage of Cacao” (“Il viaggio del cacao”) and “The Story of the Banana” (La storia di Bananita”).

The showroom “School of Flavours” is organized by the Municipality of Genova and the Genova Fair and is aimed at professionals from the sector, such as teachers and trainers. All the pupils can attend the event free of charge. For more information, visit www.scuoladeisapori-online.it.

- **Amendments to the Spanish Draft Law for Public Purchasing**

IDEAS has presented amendments to the Spanish Draft Law for Public Purchasing (Ley de Contratos del Sector Público), which is now under discussion in the Parliament. The amendments have been presented through the Spanish Fair Trade Platform (Coordinadora de Comercio Justo).

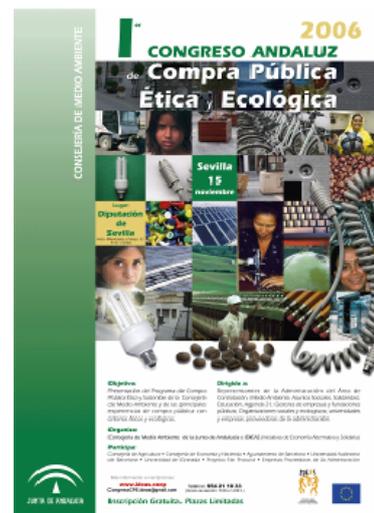


The actual Draft Law includes specific mention of Fair Trade in the introduction. IDEAS proposes to include also the definition of Fair Trade according to the EP Resolution, in order to avoid confusion with other initiatives with lower standards. Moreover, additional reference to ethical standards and Fair Trade should be included in the text of the law.

- **I Congreso Andaluz de Compra Pública Ética y Ecológica**

On the 15th of November 2006 IDEAS organized the second National Conference in collaboration with the Regional Government of Andalusia. The conference, entitled “I Congreso Andaluz de Compra Pública Ética y Ecológica” (First Conference on Ethical and Green Procurement in Andalusia), took place in Sevilla and was attended by more than two hundred participants, most of them representing the public administration and the suppliers.

The Conference provided a very good framework for discussing interesting experiences from the Environmental Ministry of the Central Government, City Council of Barcelona, the Regional Government of Andalusia, Universities, social organisations and companies.





Marzia Rezzin, the European coordinator of the Fair Procura project also participated as speaker.

The Conference contributed to a better understanding of Fair Trade and the Fair Procura project, as well as of the possibilities to introduce environmental and social considerations in public purchasing.

- **“Buying matters” - Sourcing fairly from low wage economies**

Purchasers are operating in an increasingly competitive and challenging environment, driven by supply and demand. To deliver value to their businesses they are dependent on the stability and efficiency of their suppliers. Yet some recent trends in purchasing practice may inadvertently be threatening to undermine the very stability and efficiency of suppliers’ businesses on which purchasers depend.

Purchasing can have a huge impact on suppliers, especially in developing countries. 1.2 billion people worldwide live on less than US\$1 a day. Three-quarters of them live and work in rural areas, and most are dependent on agriculture for their survival. Others work in the manufacturing sector. The opportunity to sell to international buyers is a lifeline for millions of people.

The need to secure a reliable supply of products at the right quality, time and price without creating hidden internal costs is a key driver for better purchasing. Meanwhile reputation risk and the importance of not undermining the long-term business operating environment have prompted some purchasing companies to review their buying practices.

But how can purchasers improve their buying, in ways that deliver for their businesses and for suppliers overseas? Is such a win-win possible? Is it justified to expect companies to buy responsibly?

The Responsible Purchasing project has published a report which is available in printed and digital format (to download the report, see below project websites). It seeks to answer these questions. It looks at the realities of the buying desk and asks what “responsible purchasing” might be. By drawing on four case studies – bananas, coffee, cotton & garments and tea – it suggests ways in which companies



could assess their own purchasing and make improvements. It also recognizes that companies cannot be expected to do everything, and considers the role that governments could play.

There are no quick answers to these questions, which is why this report is a consultation document. It is part of a project being run by four European Fair Trade organizations - Traidcraft (UK), IDEAS (Spain), CTM Altromercato (Italy) and Oxfam Wereldwinkels (Belgium) – to raise debate on this crucial area and develop guidance for businesses on how to buy responsibly.

Information provided by IDEAS, Spain

For more information, contact any of the project partners (see below), or the project websites (download report):

Project website in English: www.responsible-purchasing.org

Project website in Spanish: [www.ideas.coop /CER](http://www.ideas.coop/CER)

- **Fair Trade prizes for three Dutch cities**



This year, Fair Procura Netherlands has cooperated with COS Netherlands to conduct a national measurement of the purchasing methods of the Dutch municipalities. In addition to the mainly environmental criteria that use to dominate this nation wide research, Fair Procura added several questions with regard to 'Fair Trade' purchasing and procurement behaviour. At the end of October, already 103 municipalities (out of 420) have participated in this research.

Among those municipalities Tilburg, Almere and Ede turned out to be the most 'Fair Trade municipalities'. These municipalities had made it their policy to choose Fair Trade products where possible. As results of that policy, Fair Trade products were to be found in the canteens, as work wear and even in the Christmas gift baskets given to the employees of those municipalities. Ultimately, Tilburg, Wageningen and Ede had received the 'Fair Trade prize' at the conference on sustainable purchase co-ordinated by Fair Procura. The prize was handed out by Mike Naholi, a regional manager of IFAT, based in Kenya.

More information on the 'the Benchmark Local Sustainability 2006/2007' is available at: <http://www.duurzaamheidsmeter.nl/english>



- Fair Procura Conference Netherlands



On 12th October 2006, the Dutch Fair Procura conference took place. The conference was organised together with five other organisations concerned with sustainable purchasing. The day was a success; app. 200 institutional buyers and policy makers participated in the conference and attended one of the fifteen workshops concerned with sustainable purchasing. The vice secretary of environmental affairs addressed the conference and one of the Alders of the city of Zutphen was the event host.

The workshops were focused on the possibilities of implementing Fair Trade criteria into European guidelines, the different kinds of Fair Trade products available, e.g. coffee, fruit and work wear and other kinds of textile. Other workshops were dedicated to ways of

introducing Fair Trade and biological products into the canteens, combined purchasing to save on the costs and other practical questions that purchasers and policymakers encounter in their day to day live.

According to the evaluation forms filled in by the participants, the conference was very informative. The biggest desire among the attendees was to receive even more information on introducing social and ethical criteria in to procurements! Fair Procura will keep all the 2500 invitees up-to date about the new guidelines as well as the new products that are of interest for government bodies.

The Dutch Fair Procura Brochure can be downloaded at: <http://www.derdewereldeerstekeus.nl/download.htm>



- **Fair Trade, sustainable agriculture and local authorities: a Manifesto**

The Belgian municipal elections took place on Sunday 8th of October 2006. Municipal counselors were elected in 308 cities in the Flemish region. In autumn, OWW organized three evening meetings aimed at drawing up a Manifesto. The objective was to inform on the potential role of local authorities in Fair Trade and sustainable agriculture issues and to create an exchange of ideas and practices between municipalities.

Based on the conclusions of the meetings a Manifesto was designed on the role of local authorities in Fair Trade and sustainable agriculture issues. As from January on, Worldshop shopkeepers will be able to present this Manifesto to their local authorities. The aim of the Manifesto is to be a useful tool in negotiating a clear municipal policy on Fair Trade and sustainable agriculture for the coming six years.



Meanwhile OWW continues to work with the concept Fair Trade Municipalities. Both initiatives are complementary. We address the Manifesto especially to municipalities that are not yet involved in the Fair Trade Municipalities model.

- **The role of local authorities in North-South issues**

The power and possibilities of local authorities in promoting Fair Trade and sustainable agriculture are limited. Yet a lot is possible and a lot is already happening. Many municipalities in Flanders have a Fair Trade purchasing behaviour. In many municipalities this policy is legalized in a municipal decree. Thus, municipalities not only assume their own responsibility but also become a role model. By buying and consuming Fair Trade and sustainable products, local authorities send a clear message to the population. Setting this good example is often backed by promotion in various municipal media.

A good example is Mechelen. It has a city link with Sucre, a town in Bolivia. Mechelen is actively involved in the Fair Trade Municipalities model and has focused on this model in the city link. Thus, the South becomes clearly visible in Mechelen, and the Fair Trade Municipalities model is introduced to the South as well.

For more ideas and hints on how to work in municipalities on Fair Trade and sustainable agriculture issues, visit the website www.ikbenverkocht.be. As from January on OWW will start a new website regarding their movement on www.oww.be:beweging; this website will include a forum on the Manifesto, with room for creative ideas and relevant questions.

- **Fair Procura Working Group meeting- 12th of December**

On the 12th of December, the partners of the Fair Procura project attended in Brussels the Working Group meeting. Among the main points of the agenda were: the state of affairs of the national campaigns, the transposition of Directive 18/2004 regarding Public Procurement, national Fair Trade legislative processes. The afternoon was dedicated to discussing the possibility of a new project proposal, which would continue and enhance the objectives of the current project Fair Procura.



- **Fair Procura Final Conference- 19th of April 2007**

After three years of transnational cooperation, the five European Partners of the FAIR PROCURA project will organize in Brussels the final European project conference on 19 April 2007.

The aim of this conference is to share views on Fair Trade considerations in public procurements policy and present arguments in favor of fostering Fair Trade products in public purchasing to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns. The definition of Fair Trade and how the Fair Trade initiatives work in practice will be examined. The question of policy coherence and governance will also be considered, by examining which best actions could be put in motion to mainstream Fair Trade consumption and production in all the European Union policies and coherence between local, regional, national and global actions. Last but not least, measures to promote education and public awareness on fair and ethical consumption will be examined.

The conference is targeted to the European Institutions, national public authorities, Fair Trade and consumers associations, European networks, Universities and other relevant actors. The diverse range of guest speakers and participants will enable an open debate and an in-depth exploration of these issues and prospects.

For more information, keep yourself updated by visiting: www.eftafairtrade.org.

EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- Fair Trade at the Crossroads?

In the context of the Fair Trade Week (fifth edition), taking place in Brussels between the 27th of September and the 7th of October, the Fair Trade Centre (BTC) organized on the 5th of October a seminar aimed at debating various issues related to Fair Trade. The seminar was structured in two parts. While the first part discussed the potential synergies between the Fair Trade movement and other initiatives concerned with the social and environmental aspects of South- North trade, the second part focused on the likeliness of having Fair Trade at the local level, both in the South and in the North.

The first panel brought together representatives of various Fair Trade and ethical trade initiatives (Oxfam- Wereldwinkels, Max Havelaar Belgium, GTZ- The Common Code for the Coffee Community, Rainforest Alliance). They debated on the possibilities of cooperation, taking into account the different focus of every actor (social, environmental, etc). Although it was agreed that the complementarity should be used in a constructive manner, some of the participants voiced their concerns that competition between different initiatives might lead to watering down the basic idea of social and ethical considerations in trade. Answering to the question whether the multitude of labels does not create confusion among consumers, the speakers admitted that one single standard guaranteeing every aspect would be the ideal situation, but argued, at the same time, that it is a very long and cumbersome process, due to the variety of interests involved.

The second panel involved representatives of producer organisations from Ecuador, Uganda and Costa Rica. The discussion focused on the idea of empowerment of the producers, their involvement in the different levels of the chain. It was argued that the certification process requires a lot of time and money from the producers while, at the same time, leaves them no other choice if they want to sell their products. The producers think that the multiplicity of initiatives is a positive think; however, they are of the opinion that the standards should be harmonized as much as possible in order to simplify the procedures they have to go through.



The second part of the day was dedicated to the idea of local Fair Trade, both in the North and in the South. The main topics of debate were: the need for North-North / South-South Fair Trade, the appropriateness of using the term “Fair Trade” in connection to North-North trade as well as the alternative of domestic Fair Trade, illustrated by the case of India. The debates were very interesting and lively, touching upon actual controversial aspects of Fair Trade.

- **EU set out new commitments on Aid for Trade**



EU ministers meeting at the General Affairs Council in Luxembourg on the 16th of October 2006 agreed to prepare a strategy setting out the delivery of €2 billion of aid to help developing countries put in place new trade policies to boost their growth and help them integrate into global markets. A substantial part of this increase in aid will be specifically targeted to African Caribbean and Pacific countries to help them put in place Economic Partnership Agreements with the EU which will come into force in January 2008.



The EU commitments include €1 billion of aid managed by the European Commission (announced at the G8 in 2005) and €1 billion of aid from Member States (EU Council conclusions in December 2005). These funds will be earmarked for a category of projects aimed at strengthening the export capacity of developing countries through trade-related assistance. The member states and the Commission agreed to coordinate their spending in order to have maximum impact. The funds come on top of the EUR 22.7 billion that the Council agreed on in June 2005 for the European Development Fund for the 2008 - 2013 period.

EU Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson said: "Aid for trade is a stepping stone to sustainable development, building the capacity to trade. Implementing our new commitments will reinforce Europe's commitment to putting trade at the service of development both in and out of the WTO"

- **Agreement between Irish Fair Trade Network Limited and FLO International**

Irish Aid, a division of the Development Cooperation Directorate of the Department of Foreign Affairs of Ireland, has agreed to donate an amount of EUR 3.5 million to FLO International. The project, called *Building Trade Capacity: Fairtrade and Ethical Trade – A Strategy for Poverty reduction*, aims to provide funding to producer support and capacity building activities. The project will mainly focus on Central American countries (Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica), and has a five year funding cycle, i.e. 2006-2010, starting July 1st 2006.

Some of the first activities to benefit from the funding are: a Credit Fund to fund six producer organizations to increase their access to Fairtrade; a Fairtrade Tourism feasibility study; additional funding for the CLAC producer network (the Latin American and



Caribbean Initiative of Small Fairtrade Producers).

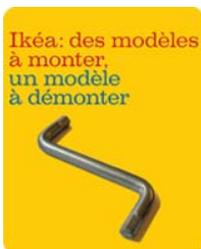
As Peter Gaynor, Fairtrade Mark Ireland Director, explains: “The challenge now is to ensure that producers will benefit from the investment in terms of greater market access on Fairtrade terms, not just in Ireland but internationally”.

Source: <http://www.fairtrade.net/>

For more information, visit www.irishaid.gov.ie.

- **“Ikea, un modèle à démonter”**

On the 21st of September 2006, Oxfam- Magasins du monde launched the campaign “Ikea, un modèle à démonter”. The aim is to raise awareness about the way Ikea is fulfilling its social and environmental commitments. The main concerns are the way workers (mainly in Southern countries) are paid and the conditions they work and live in, as well as the transparency regarding providers.



Part of its campaign, Oxfam published the book “Ikea, un modèle à démonter”, reflecting on how the Swedish giant deals with its social and environmental responsibilities and what is the value added brought by the Ikea code of conduct “IWay” (“The IKEA Way on Purchasing Home Furnishing Products”), introduced in 2000. Studies made in India, Vietnam and Bangladesh show that, even though workers receive the minimum legal salary, this is not enough to ensure a decent living. This leads to the pressure of working extra hours, for complementing the revenue, which, in its turn, constitutes a violation of the code of conduct provisions regarding working hours.

Is Ikea aware of these issues? The Oxfam campaign aims to confront Ikea with the results of the studies conducted and, at the same time, to raise awareness among the consumers of the social and environmental aspects behind the products they are buying.

More information about the campaign can be found at <http://www.madeindignity.be>.

- **How can municipal services promote sustainable consumption?**

Friday, 24th of November, the “Eco- consummation” Network, with the support of the Minister for Environment of the Walloon region Benoît Lutgen organized a one- day training session targeted to newly elected municipal councilors and public servants. The main objectives of this training were: to offer general useful information for implementing a “green procurement” policy and supporting “fair” consumption in Walloonian municipalities; to present “ecological” products and services available and to exchange good practices among municipalities.

For more information on the event, visit:

http://www.achatsverts.be/breve.php?id_breve=7

- **Regional Fairtrade project for Yorkshire and the Humber**

Fairtrade Yorkshire is a regional project bringing together twenty-two local authorities in Yorkshire and the Humber. Their aims are to promote Fairtrade within their communities and to support towns and cities in the region in achieving Fairtrade status. The project takes the shape of a partnership of local authorities and other public sector organizations active in the field, having as target to increase awareness of Fairtrade issues and, at the same time, to increase the use of such products by all sorts of actors, ranging from individuals to businesses and councils.

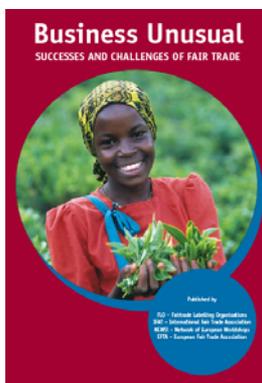


The project is funded by the Yorkshire and the Humber Centre of Excellence (Y&H CoE) (<http://www.yhcoe.rcoe.gov.uk/rce/core/page.do?pagelId=1>), one of nine regional centres of excellence in the UK, originally created in 2004 in order to deliver the National Procurement Strategy.

Great Britain has the largest Fairtrade market in the world; all major supermarket chains as well as some small stores sell Fairtrade products.

For more information see: <http://www.fairtradeyorkshire.org/default.aspx> and http://www.leeds.gov.uk/Business/Tenders_and_contracts/Procurement_policy/page.aspx

- **Launch of “Business Unusual: Successes and Challenges of Fair Trade”**



The book “Business Unusual: Successes and Challenges of Fair Trade” was officially launched on the 28th of November in Brussels. The event was hosted by the Renewable Energy House and offered an opportunity for those interested in Fair Trade to meet and discuss, in an informal environment, the latest developments and initiatives for the future.

Along with the European Fair Trade Association manager Marlike Kocken, among the guest speakers there were representatives of the European institutions (Linda McAvan, Member of the European Parliament, Rupert Schlegelmilch, Head of Unit for Sustainable Development in DG Trade, Michael Schmitt, assistant to F. Schmidt

MEP), but also one representative of the producers organization Apecafe from El Salvador. The final word belonged to Anja Osterhaus, manager of the Fair Trade Advocacy Office and editor of the book. The speakers emphasized the importance of the publication, as it looks beyond Fair Trade, and showed support for the Fair Trade movement, acknowledging its success. "Fair Trade has shown the way and pioneered truly responsible business practices", said Linda McAvan, Member of the European Parliament.



"Business Unusual" is the first book published jointly by the four main international Fair Trade Associations: FLO (Fairtrade Labeling Organizations International), IFAT (International Fair Trade Association), NEWS! (Network of European Worldshops) and EFTA (European Fair Trade Association). The book shows how Fair Trade works in practice, based on the examples of coffee, rice, handicrafts, cotton and textiles.

Written by experts in their fields, the book goes into the pioneering work of Fair Trade Organisations in developing a truly responsible business model.

The English version of the publication is distributed by Fair Trade media in the United Kingdom (www.fairtrademedia.co.uk). You can order a book by calling +44 (0)845 009 9012 or by emailing elainef@pointov.com. The book will also be published in Spanish, German, Dutch, French and Italian.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Conference "Textiles and Clothing sector and Public Procurement"**
 - **24 January 2007**
 - **Brussels, Belgium**
 - http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/textile/conf_tc200701_en.htm

The European Commission's Enterprise and Industry Directorate-General, in co-operation with the textile and clothing social partners and the European federation for the promotion of public procurement of textile and leather, is organising a one-day conference on 24 January 2007 in Brussels. The conference will bring together representatives from the Commission and other

EU institutions, Member States and candidate countries, clothing and textile manufacturers, trade unionists, central and local government officers and representatives from the various public procurement agencies. Among the speakers there are representatives of Eurocities and the European Parliament, supporting the idea of sustainable procurement.

- **World Social Forum**
 - **20-25 January 2007**
 - **Nairobi, Kenya**
 - **<http://wsf2007.org>**

The World Social Forum 2007 will be held from the 20th to 25th of January in Nairobi Kenya at the Kasarani sports complex, at Uhuru Park and at Central Park. If you want to reserve rooms, please let Christine globaljourney@ifat.org and Joan jkaranja@cofta.org know.

- **07 Fair Trade Experience**
 - **3-4 March 2007**
 - **Glasgow, United Kingdom**
 - **<http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/full.shtml?x=544314>**

Scotland's biggest Fair Trade Event - international speakers, 30+ stalls; Fairtrade food & drink, Fair Trade fashion, handbags, jewellery, books, live music & dance, kids activities, sample a delight of Fairtrade products.

- **Exploring Fairtrade - More than buying chocolate?**
 - **3 March 2007**
 - **Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom**
 - **<http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/full.shtml?x=544315>**

The one day conference is arranged by the WEA, Newcastle Fairtrade Partnership and the Co-operative Group with workshops exploring debates about Fairtrade and ways to get involved.

- **Fairtrade vs Free Trade - Economics debate**
 - **10 March 2007**
 - **Woking, United Kingdom**
 - **<http://www.fairtrade.org.uk/full.shtml?x=544315>**

The "Question Time" style debate will involve leading economists and trade experts representing a large range of views.

- **IFAT International Conference**
 - 14 - 18 May 2007
 - Blankenberge (Belgium)
 - <http://www.ifat.org/>

The IFAT International Conference 2007 is taking place in Blankenberge (Belgium) from Saturday May 12 until Thursday May 17th 2007. Arrivals take place on Saturday 12th, with the actual conference running from Sunday 13th until Wednesday 16th evening. On Thursday 17th public events will take place in Brussels, where the Global Journey will end.

- **Fair Procura Final Conference**
 - 19 April 2007
 - Brussels, European Parliament
 - <http://www.eftafairtrade.org>

The aim of the conference is to share views on Fair Trade considerations in public procurements policy and present arguments in favor of fostering Fair Trade products in public purchasing in order to promote sustainable consumption and production patterns. The conference is targeted to the European Institutions, National Public Authorities, Fair Trade and consumers associations, European networks, Universities and other relevant actors.

PUBLICATIONS

- **Business Unusual. Success and Challenges of Fair Trade**
 - Co-ordination and editing: Anja Osterhaus
 - Publisher: FLO (Fairtrade Labelling Organizations)
IFAT (International Fair Trade Association)
NEWS! (Network of European Worldshops)
EFTA (European Fair Trade Association)
 - Date of publication: October 2006

By looking behind the scenes of Fair Trade, *Business Unusual* presents the way Fair Trade works in practice and how it benefits concretely the poor producers from developing countries. Based on examples of coffee, rice, handicrafts, cotton and textiles, the book discussed the difference between Fair Trade and other ethical and sustainable trade initiatives. The aim is to encourage all business actors to apply the principles of Fair Trade and cooperate with the Fair Trade movements.

- **Buy Fair – A Guide to the public purchasing of Fair Trade products**

- Author: ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability
- Publisher: ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability
- Date of publication: 2006
- Available at : <http://www.buyfair.org/>

The Guide provides clear and simple advice for European public authorities wishing to buy Fair Trade products. The Guide contains: an introduction to Fair Trade, advice on minimizing legal uncertainties in procurement, actual text that can be used directly in public tenders as well as suggestions for other complementary activities.

- **The Millennium Development Goals Report 2006**

- Author: United Nations
- Publisher: United Nations
- Date of publication: 2006
- Available at : <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/mdg/Resources/Static/Products/Progress2006/M DGReport2006.pdf>

This publication embodies the collaborative efforts of agencies and organizations within and outside the United Nations system, working through the Inter-agency and Expert Group on MDG Indicators. It contains the latest and most comprehensive figures available through improved data collection and monitoring worldwide.

- **The Scope for Using Social Clauses in UK Public Procurement to Benefit the UK Manufacturing Sector. A Report for the Manufacturing Forum**

- Author: Anthony Collins Solicitors
- Publisher: Crown Copyright
- Date of publication: July 2006
- Available from: Stuart.Barthropp@dti.gsi.gov.uk

The report looks at the way social clauses can be used in public procurement in order to benefit the UK manufacturing sector. After presenting the legal and policy framework, the report introduces a few case studies in order to draw the overall conclusions concerning the advantages brought by the inclusion of social considerations.

- **Tourisme équitable et solidaire: un exemple de commerce équitable dans le domaine de services**

- Author: Samuel Poos
- Publisher: Coopération Technique Belge
- Date of publication: October 2006
- Available from: samuel.poos@btcctb.org

The report presents the main features and principles of “fair tourism” and it analyses the ways it can help reduce the destructive effects of mass tourism. Moreover, “fair tourism” can also be seen as a means of rediscovering traditional craftwork. The paper also explains the practical aspects related to acquiring a “fair tourism” certificate and gives some examples of “fair” tour operators.

- **The dos and don'ts of sustainable banking: a BankTrack manual**

- Author: van Gelder, J.W.
- Publisher: BankTrack
- Date of publication: 2006
- Available at : <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/rdr.cfm?doc=DOC22620>

Aimed at the banking community, this manual provides an overview of actions these institutions can take to become more sustainable. The six commitments are: responsibility, accountability, transparency, sustainable markets and governance, and 'do no harm'. Each section provides practical steps forward, paying attention to both content and implementation aspects.

- **Core labor standards handbook**

- Author: ADB; International Labour Office (ILO)
- Publisher: Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- Date of publication: 2006
- Available at : <http://www.eldis.org/cf/rdr/rdr.cfm?doc=DOC23185>

This handbook provides information about core labour standards (CLS), explains the difference between core and other (non-core) labour standards, and presents examples of good practices in the application of CLS in operations of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). The handbook gives practical knowledge on how core labour standards can be taken into account by ADB staff and their Government counterparts.

*
* *
*