

# Fair Trade Holiday Festival Vendors Commit to the Fair Trade Federation Principles and Practices

Fair Trade Organizations (FTOs) commit to these principles in their trading relationships:

## **FAIR WAGES**

- Producers are paid fairly for their products
- Whenever feasible, workers are paid a living wage in the local context.

## **COOPERATIVE WORKPLACES**

- Cooperatives and producer associations provide a more democratic workplace.
- Workers have a say in how the organization works and they benefit from the success of the product.
- More control and profit stay in the community.

## **CONSUMER EDUCATION**

- FTOs educate consumers about the importance of purchasing fairly traded products which support living wages and healthy working conditions.
- Education can “close the gap” between consumers and invisible workers.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**

- FTOs encourage producers to engage in environmentally friendly practices which manage and use local resources sustainably.
- Producers in regions of high biodiversity are encouraged to develop products based on sustainable use of their natural resources.

## **FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT**

- FTOs often provide financial assistance to producers through direct loans, prepayment or by linking producers with sources of financing.
- Many FTOs ensure prepayment so that producers have sufficient funds to cover raw materials and basic needs during production time.
- FTOs establish long term relationships with their producers and help them adapt production for changing trends.

## **RESPECT FOR CULTURAL IDENTITY**

- FTOs encourage the production and development of products based on producers’ cultural traditions adapted for Western markets. They seek to promote producers’ artistic talents in a way that preserves cultural identity.

## **PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY**

- FTOs practice transparency, meaning their finances, management policies, and business practices are open to the public and may be monitored by the Fair Trade Federation or another auditing or certifying organization.

From: <http://www.fairtradefederation.org>