

Local, fair and solidarity-based trade Declaration

This document sets out the values, principles and intentions shared by many players in the sustainable and fair food sector in French-speaking Switzerland. It was drafted by the 'Local Fair Trade and Solidarity' working group as part of a participatory process.

More information on the drafting process is available on the website : <https://www.commerce-equitable-local.ch>

The strength of the local, fair and solidarity-based trade concept lies in the following elements:

- Prices must include production costs and a **decent income** for the producer.
- A support fund can be created to facilitate **collective local fair development projects**, particularly for the development of processing value chains.
- Contracts between producers, suppliers, distributors and customers should favour **long-term commitments**.
- A **pre-financing mechanism** for agricultural production helps **spread risks**.



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Basic criteria

The following principles guide those involved in the sector:

- The farms identify with **peasant and/or agro-ecological farming** or wish to embark on a similar approach.
- Producers are organised in structures that **operate democratically** and/or identify with the **principles and values of the Social Solidarity Economy (SSE)**.
- **Financial transparency is required** from and towards all structures in the sector.
- **Working conditions** must respect Collective Labor Agreements, comply with national and cantonal laws and the conventions of the International Labor Organization.
- The use of **posted workers** is prohibited. Seasonal workers have official employment contracts and are entitled to the **same pay** as other employees.
- Particular attention is paid to the official recognition of women's work and their social benefits.
- No person throughout the production chain is **discriminated** against on the basis of their gender, ethnicity, religion, nationality, or sexual orientation.
- Attention is paid to **raising awareness** of ecological and social issues among the public.



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Medium-term evolving criteria

- The actors of the entire chain respect the principles of the social and solidarity economy (<https://www.apres-ge.ch/charte>).
- The mode of production is in **conversion** towards the principles of agroecology and/or organic farming.

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Advanced long-term criteria

- Physical traceability of raw materials is required.
- The production method respects the principles of **agroecology** and/or **organic farming** and is committed to continuous improvement.
- **Control of environmental and social criteria** is ensured by an external organization or a participatory system.

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