



**FAIR TRADE
CAMPAIGNS**

Fair Trade Congregations

An Overview

Fair Trade Campaigns is excited to announce **Fair Trade Congregations**, a recognition for congregations and other communities across religious faiths who demonstrate a commitment to Fair Trade. In our globally connected world, equitable stewardship of the planet and its resources, economic justice and fair treatment of those less fortunate are an extension of our worship and relationship to God.

Fair Trade Campaigns is a diverse group of inspired activists, socially responsible businesses and communities of faith. We are committed to raising awareness among our fellow community members that decisions about where we spend our dollars have ramifications that echo across continents, countries, and communities. By initiating a system of recognition for congregations, we seek to engage communities that have been at the forefront of the Fair Trade movement since its inception – communities of faith.

To be recognized as a **Fair Trade Congregation** in the U.S., the following criteria need to be fulfilled:

- **Incorporate Fair Trade into the social teachings of the congregation.** From drawing parallels to scripture and teachings to demonstrating how Fair Trade ties into the core values of your faith, educate members of the congregation as to how purchasing Fair Trade empowers them to live their religious tradition. Use the [multitude of pre-existing resources](#) from many religious traditions, or develop the method that best speaks to your congregation.
- **Replace goods purchased by the congregation with Fair Trade products where and when they are available.** Consider both food and beverage items like coffee, tea, and sugar, communion wine, kosher products, *as well as* artisan and craft products such as tea pots, kitchen items, worship vestments, decorative items and others.
- **Incorporate Fair Trade products into any pre-existing events** (such as holiday sales and festivals) or organize public events during Fair Trade Month (October) and on or around World Fair Trade Day (mid-May). By reaching outside of the congregation to the larger community you are able to inspire and motivate other consumers to make a difference!

Questions? Please contact National Organizer Suzi Hiza at suzi@fairtradecampaigns.org.

More resources are available at fairtradecampaigns.org/resources.