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ENCUENTRO INTERNACIONAL
ECONOMÍAS PARA LA VIDA

ECOOVIDA2024

INTERNATIONAL PACT
**FOR ECONOMIES
FOR LIFE**



The international, national, and territorial platforms and movements gathered in Cali at the **International Meeting of Economies for Life – Ecoovida2024**, from October 22 to 26, under the framework of COP16, have agreed to promote this **International Pact for Economies for Life**, through which we commit to articulating, integrating, and coordinating global and local efforts to promote and strengthen organizations of social, solidarity, popular, and community economies.

The International Pact for Economies for Life aims to unite the efforts of governments, movements, and organizations to implement resolutions, declarations, and agreements that promote solidarity-based development models, the productive inclusion of communities, the protection and safeguarding of nature, and the sustainability of life on the planet. The gathering we have built allows us to integrate purposes, efforts, and resources that place Economies for Life at the center of the development agenda, its financing, the protective policies that governments must materialize, and the collective actions of solidarity movements worldwide.

01

A GLOBAL PACT TO EXPAND INSTRUMENTS TO PROMOTE ECONOMIES FOR LIFE

The organizations, movements, and platforms that promote social, solidarity, popular, and community economies (ESSPC) constitute a diverse and vigorous global force whose task is to promote local and global transformations that put development at the service of life. The social and solidarity movement is the hopeful power that can drive the safeguarding of the planet through cooperation and mutual support. For this reason, from this Pact, **we urge governments to realize national and international instruments, public policies, and collective actions that make the United Nations Resolution A/RES/77/281** a reality, which establishes the links between the promotion of social and solidarity economy and sustainable development.

To apply these international promotion instruments in the territories, a multifactor commitment is required that expresses the diversity of movements, union integration bodies, public bodies, international cooperation, academia, and international, regional, and national networks, among others. To this end, **we propose creating regional monitoring spaces for implementation, which, together with governments and networks of social, solidarity, popular, and community economies, contribute to realizing their contents for the good living.**

We commit to supporting and accompanying **the United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSSSE)** and urge the establishment of regional dialogue spaces to identify common policies that promote social, solidarity, popular, and community economy.

In this sense, we will promote common **agendas leading up to the United Nations Conference on Financing for Development**, ensuring that Economies for Life are at the center of financing policies from multilateral banks, development agencies, public banks, and solidarity banks.

We will promote common monitoring instruments that allow us to document, compare, and systematize concrete experiences in our countries. To this end, we will promote a **Global Observatory for Economies for Life**, whose objective is to ensure shared information and knowledge of collective practices based on cooperation and solidarity.

02 A PACT WITH YOUNG PEOPLE IN ECONOMIES FOR LIFE

We, the youth, recognize ourselves as capable, diverse, and with innovative ideas about the importance of preserving biodiversity to save life. We believe that the current model of production, consumption, and waste inevitably leads to the destruction of nature in our territories and promotes an economy of death. At the same time, there exists a system of domination that undermines differential approaches, feminism, and diversity, promoting exclusion, discrimination based on gender, class, and race, and the instrumentalization of new generations.

Through this pact, we commit to **fostering the active and not merely consultative participation of young people** in decision-making spaces regarding public policies, access to basic services, and connectivity in rural areas (environmentally friendly); dignified educational and labor offerings in the territories we inhabit, allowing for the development of economies for life; expanding the state's vision of care policies, not only for people but also for nature, culture, and our own practices; protecting and recognizing youth leadership and promoting an inclusive popular education system that generates critical thinking with a transversal formation of solidarity, community, and agroecological principles.

03 A PACT WITH WOMEN AND DIVERSITIES IN ECONOMIES FOR LIFE

Women's organizations and diverse groups from different national and international contexts attending the International Meeting of Economies for Life ECOOVIDA 2024 state that ancestral knowledge, advocacy, economic autonomy, and the articulation of public policies with a gender perspective must transform patriarchal imaginaries today. This is essential to stop rendering invisible the sexist, xenophobic, and transphobic practices evidenced by the rising feminicides in Colombia and Latin America. There is an urgent need for organizational and governmental commitments to respond to the needs to prevent and eliminate gender violence against women and the LGBTQ+ community. From this Pact, **we will promote policies of equality and recognition for women and diverse identities, considering rural, ancestral, ethnic, Afro-descendant, trans, and territorial perspectives.** We will promote economies for life for women and diverse groups to avoid the annihilation of water sources, sacred places, knowledge, and feminized bodies by recognizing other subjects, to achieve the influence and power of women and LGBTQ+ communities.

04 A PACT FOR THE CARE ECONOMIES OF LIFE AND TERRITORIES

This Pact emphasizes the importance of developing a comprehensive care system that recognizes and values both those who receive and those who provide caregiving services. It is evident that an effective strategy involves co-responsibility between the state and the community, promoting public policies that ensure access to quality care. Furthermore, the need to incorporate measures that promote gender equality and respect for the labor rights of caregivers and persons with disabilities has been highlighted.

It is essential to advance towards concrete policies that dignify caregiving work and **strengthen community, social, and solidarity structures, thus ensuring a sustainable and supportive approach in attending to those in need, enabling the equitable distribution of resources, and facilitating public care policies** that promote cultural change. New generations must have a structure focused on well-being, good living, and the recognition of bodily, sensory, neurodiverse, and neurodivergent diversities.

05 A PACT FOR LAND REFORM, SOLIDARITY INDUSTRIALIZATION, AND PRODUCTIVE RECONVERSION

It is a historical moment for rural workers. It is the time and place for rural, agricultural, and peasant cooperatives; family economies, charges, and milpas. **The world demands healthy food, native seeds, and space for water and air. This Pact gathers the legitimate demand for access to land, promotes associativity, solidarity marketing, and transitions to sustainable production systems, in balance with nature.** We urge governments to ensure that land reform, food industrialization, and energy transition are carried out hand in hand with peasant communities, with a differential approach that prioritizes peasant, ethnic, and community agriculture.

In response to the economic model of accumulation and competition that degrades local and popular economies, **the consolidation of networks of cooperation and solidarity articulation for peace is necessary.** The agroecological movement is crucial for the recovery of life cultivation; the peasant and rural movements join this pact to make possible the clean reproduction of food and the care of the world's environmental reserves. Organizations from the Amazon urge governments to promote common instruments to safeguard the lungs of the world, including their communities and organizations. Land, water, and peace, with solidarity associativity.

06

**A PACT FOR BIOECONOMY,
AGROECOLOGY, AND THE DEFENSE
OF LIFE**

Economies for life are founded on what the peoples of Pachamama, the sons and daughters of Abya Yala, have been constructing, grounded in other epistemologies and relationships with the land. Nature, understood as a living subject, transcends the notion of an object, merchandise, and resource; we choose new visions of nature, understood as a network of links, interdependence, organicity, and cooperation. **We consider it urgent to reconnect with our profound memories and identities that underlie us and constitute the fundamental support of our humanity.**

Economies for life imply the construction of a "we" that is not only human; it is an ontology of being that, while uniting us with other beings and species, places us in the ecosystemic dimension of which we are an inseparable, interdependent part, anchoring us to Mother Earth as living systems. **These diverse economies, our economies, solidary, social, popular, and community-based, speak to us of collectivity and cooperation,** representing values, principles, and associative links that can confront and substitute the competitive focus and the dualistic, anthropocentric visions of conventional economics.

07

**A PACT FOR SOLIDARY, POPULAR, AND
COMMUNITY EDUCATION**

Solidary, popular, and community education is a fundamental pillar for transitioning towards solidarity-based development models and a culture of cooperation. **It involves forging collective tools for action aimed at the collective protection of common goods and the promotion of a solidarity culture.** This educational approach enables community empowerment, integrates ancestral knowledge, recognizes otherness, and fosters cooperation and solidarity.

It also promotes territorial economic autonomy and the preservation of natural resources. These pedagogical perspectives call us to relearn how to think, feel, and act, to train to care for and collectivize the reproduction of life.

Solidary, popular, and community education should be the foundation of an economic model that does not depend on extractivism and dispossession, but on sustainability, the common good, and peace with nature. From this Pact, we

will promote the **International Chair of Economies for Life**, diplomas, formal, popular, and territorial educational programs, the recognition, validation, and construction of an ecosystem of knowledge aimed at expanding the collective understanding of associativity, solidarity, and the common good.

08

A PACT FOR THE DEMOCRATIZATION OF SOLIDARY CREDIT AND FINANCIAL INCLUSION

It is necessary for public policies and the financial sector to collaborate closely to ensure that these tools reach those who need them the most. The creation of cooperation networks between financial entities and communities is fundamental, as is the promotion of credit models that prioritize solidarity and sustainable development. It is essential to develop inclusive financial education tailored to the Latin American reality, with an active role for the State to strengthen initiatives of the social, solidarity, popular, and community economies.

From this Pact, **we will promote solidary credit and popular initiatives for solidary savings to increase fair trade of the products from our organizations, the global and local marketing circuits, the associative solidarity circuits, and the national and international exchanges of knowledge and productive processes.** We will also emphasize the urgent definition of credit policies for our countries through development banking to promote the integral development of economies for life. **We will advocate for a Common Fund for Economies for Life** as a global tool for governments to foster social, solidarity, popular, and community economies and organizations.

09

A PACT FOR DECENT WORK AND SOLIDARY ASSOCIATIVITY

We recognize the importance of strengthening social and solidarity economies as a pathway to overcoming inequalities and exclusions, placing life at the center. The proposals arising here aim to legislate in favor of decent work and **consolidate a cooperative model that guarantees the dignity of individuals and the care of the environment. The starting point involves recognizing the pre-existing associative and solidarity forms through which millions of workers have managed to confront exclusion from the formal labor market and create their own means of subsistence** while contributing to the construction of the territorial fabric, promoting collective subjects, access to social protection floors, and the recognition

and integration of the management of common-territorial and public resources.

We propose substantial promotion of the horizontal integration of associative initiatives to create productive and organizational ecosystems of solidarity, so that organizations and productive units from popular sectors can be sustainable within these solidarity networks. We recommend the creation of incubators and associative entrepreneurship processes in universities and other forms of popular work organization, social and solidarity economy, as well as implementing programs that promote access to financing and training, alongside the promotion of dignified working conditions, including emotional salary and stability.

These initiatives, combined with the establishment of a Global Observatory for Economies for Life, will allow for better evaluation and monitoring of policies for the development of a solidarity economy. **Our commitment is clear: to work towards a future where work is dignified, just, and sustainable.** From this Pact, we urge governments to materialize and translate the recommendations of the ILO regarding social and solidarity economy into concrete policies as a generator of decent work. We will promote tripartite dialogue that includes the voices of the actors in the Social and Solidarity Economy to advance labor inclusion plans through the organizational forms of the economies of life.

10

A PACT FOR SOLIDARY COMMUNICATION AND THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION

We are united by the desire to build transformative communication that recognizes the territory and its cultures, languages, and traditions—a communication that helps transform thought to change the existing political and social model through a commitment to regenerating the relationships between humanity and nature, from the perspective of popular community, solidarity, and social economy, in favor of biodiversity and the care of life.

We aim to work for solidarity and the collective organization of alternative, community, own, or popular communication media and processes, building Solidary Communication Networks that allow us to weave alliances to energize our territorial actions, expand the quality and reach of the stories we tell, and achieve dignified conditions for those of us who have dedicated our dreams and efforts to the craft of words. Our joint action must strengthen the exchange of experiences and the learning from our successes in communication, giving us a unified voice to be heard by the State and obtain guarantees for freedom of expression and informational pluralism. The world calls for cooperation; life demands that we join

our hands and hearts to sustain life, diverse justices, and good living. In the face of contemporary crises, collective solutions are the only effective path to confront them, to weave the solidarity that will save the planet and return the smiles that nourish life.

Cali, October 26, 2024

Special Administrative Unit of Solidarity Organizations

**Intercontinental Network for the Promotion of Social Solidarity Economy – Latin America and the Caribbean
RIPESS - LAC – Intercontinental**

Social World Forum for Transformative Economies FSMET

Via Campesina International

Latin American Coordinator of Peasant Organizations – CLOC VIA CAMPESINA

Agroecological Movement of Latin America and the Caribbean MAELA

Global Forum for the Social and Solidarity Economy – GSEF

International Social and Solidarity Economy Forum – ESSFI

Campaign for a Global Curriculum of the Solidarity Economy

UNESCO Chair on Social and Solidarity Economy

Euro-Latin American University Network in Cooperative and Social Economy Studies – RULESCOOP

Latin American Confederation of Cooperatives and Worker Mutuals – COLACOT

Italian Rural Association - ARI

International Democratic Federation of Women – FDIM

Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing – WIEGO

Small Farmers Movement - MPA BRAZIL

Network of Transformative and Alternative Economies Colombia - Latin America.

Students and professors from the National University of Colombia, Francisco José de Caldas District University, Cooperative University of Colombia, Santo Tomás University, Autonomous University of the West, National Open and Distance University, Misak University, Intercultural Indigenous Autonomous University, Agrarian University.

Movements, organizations, and national and regional platforms from Colombia participating in the International Meeting of Economies for Life - Ecoovida 2024.



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