



ECOOVIDA 2026
"Solidaridad para Sembrar la Vida"

ECOOVIDA 2026
DECLARACIÓN de
Cartagena de Indias, Colombia
21, 22 y 23 de febrero



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DECLARATION of Cartagena de Indias, Colombia
February 21, 22 and 23

1. We, Indigenous peoples, Native communities, Afro-descendants, Raizal and Palenquero peoples, peasant, community and cooperative organizations, social, popular and solidarity economy networks, rural and peasant movements, territorial platforms and institutional actors, gathered at the International Meeting of Economies for Life ECOOVIDA 2026 in the city of Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on February 21, 22 and 23, hereby declare before the international community our collective commitment to the defense of life, territories and the commons, and present this Declaration as a contribution to the Second International Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ICARRD+20).

2. ECOOVIDA is the result of a collective process that has been consolidating since 2024, when in the city of Cali we signed the International Pact of Economies for Life within the framework of COP16, as an expression of our shared will to move toward development models centered on social, environmental and territorial justice. In 2025, we held the second International ECOOVIDA Forum in Bucaramanga to strengthen this path and consolidate a permanent space for convergence, deepening a shared agenda around popular, social, solidarity and community-based economies.

3. In this third edition, ECOOVIDA 2026 ratifies the International Pact of Economies for Life and we agree that ECOOVIDA now enters a new phase: transforming the consensus achieved into concrete actions that effectively advance the defense of life, territories and the commons among peoples, organizations, platforms and government actors.

4. We recognize that the multiple crises affecting our territories — agrarian, food-related, climate, social and economic — are the result of colonial, extractivist and exclusionary development models

that have concentrated land, water, markets and power, deepening poverty, inequality and rights violations in rural areas. In response, we affirm that agrarian reform and sustainable rural development are not possible without social justice, food sovereignty, protection of the commons and the strengthening of economies for life.

5. In this edition, the panels, forums and dialogue spaces of ECOOVIDA 2026 focused on defining concrete actions aimed at: (1) combating poverty and inequality through a social justice approach; (2) strengthening associative, cooperative and community-based forms of organization as the foundation of economies for life; and (3) consolidating food sovereignty as a strategic pillar to guarantee the right to food, the autonomy of peoples and the sustainability of territories.

6. We propose collective actions by peoples and governments aimed at overcoming poverty and inequality. We reiterate the urgency of transformative social policy that moves beyond assistance-based approaches and integrates productive inclusion, popular education, care systems and organizational strengthening. We promote the establishment of bipartite dialogues between social organizations and public institutions for the participatory design, monitoring and evaluation of poverty and inequality reduction policies.

7. We reaffirm that territorial associativity is the foundation for building economic autonomy, community rootedness and popular power. We propose an alliance for promotion, education and communication led by social, peasant, ethnic, cooperative and solidarity networks, with government support to strengthen our organizational processes through peer-to-peer knowledge exchange and the consolidation of solidarity-based productive and commercial networks. Territorial transformation requires pedagogical and communicative practices that restore bonds, build shared visions and promote social and environmental co-responsibility.

8. We affirm food sovereignty as a right of peoples and an indispensable condition for dignity and life. This entails strengthening peasant and agroecological production, marketing

circuits, fair markets, local consumption and territorial food systems. The transition from assistance to food sovereignty must be a central axis of rural public policy and collective action.

9. We defend water as a common good and fundamental right, inseparable from land and life. We demand the protection of water sources, recognition of peasant practices and knowledge, and the development of productive models that address the climate crisis. There will be no agrarian reform or rural development without environmental justice, community water governance and ecosystem protection.

10. From ECOOVIDA 2026, we call upon ICARRD+20 to effectively incorporate the voices, proposals and experiences of social and solidarity movements, and to conceive agrarian reform and rural development as integral, participatory and territorialized processes based on social, solidarity, popular and community economies, gender equity, differentiated approaches, respect for cultural diversity and environmental sustainability.

11. We urge States, international organizations and cooperation actors to:

- a. Recognize and strengthen the social, solidarity, popular and community economy as a cross-cutting axis of agrarian reform and rural development.
- b. Guarantee the effective participation of territorial organizations in the formulation of public policies.
- c. Promote fair markets, solidarity circuits and equitable productive value chains.
- d. Integrate environmental and climate justice into agrarian, rural and urban policies.
- e. Ensure that land, water and the commons serve life rather than profit.
- f. Recognize that social, solidarity, popular and community economies today enjoy strong backing within the multilateral system, particularly within the ILO and the United Nations, which have established normative frameworks and monitoring mechanisms. This international institutional

framework is essential to advance rural development, agrarian reform and decent work from a perspective of social justice and economies for life.

12. We declare that ECOOVIDA 2026 is an act of memory, of the present and of the future. Memory of historic struggles for land, water and dignity; present-day collective articulation and life-plan building; and future, because we firmly believe that other economies, other forms of development and other ways of inhabiting territories are possible. We commit to continuing this collective path and to articulating our advocacy within ICARRD+20, placing life at the center of all decisions. For this reason, ECOOVIDA 2026 stands as an act of solidarity to sow life.

Signatories:

International Platforms

Argentina - Foro Social Mundial de Economías Transformadoras – FSMET / World Social Forum of Transformative Economies – FSMET

Argentina - Escuela Latinoamericana de Economía Social / Latin American School of Social Economy

Argentina - Territorios en Desarrollo / Territories in Development

Bolivia - Centro de Promoción de la Mujer Gregoria Apaza / Red Insp!r / Gregoria Apaza Women's Promotion Center / Insp!r Network

Bolivia - Fundación Uñatati / Uñatati Foundation

Bolivia - Red de Economía Feminista Alteña / Colectivo Las Martínez / Alteña Feminist Economy Network / Las Martínez Collective

Brasil - Confederación Latinoamericana de Cooperativas y Mutuales de Trabajadores - COLACOT / Latin American Confederation of Workers' Cooperatives and Mutual Organizations – COLACOT

Brasil - Grupo de Trabajo de Mujeres de la Red Nacional de Agroecología - ANA / Women's Working Group of the National Agroecology Network – ANA

Brasil - Movimiento de los Trabajadores Sin Tierra - MST / Landless Workers' Movement – MST

Canadá - Consejo Latinoamericano de Educación Popular / Latin American Council for Popular Education

Canadá - Campaña por un Currículum Global de la Economía Social y Solidaria / Campaign for a Global Curriculum on the Social and Solidarity Economy

Colombia – Foro Social Panamazónico - FOSPA / Pan-Amazon Social Forum – FOSPA

Costa Rica - Asociación Foro Ecuménico para el Desarrollo Alternativo de Guanacaste - FEDEAGUA / Ecumenical Forum for Alternative Development of Guanacaste Association – FEDEAGUA

Costa Rica - Red de Economías Sociales y Solidarias de Costa Rica - REDESS / Network of Social and Solidarity Economies of Costa Rica – REDESS

Ecuador – Movimiento de Economía Social y Solidaria del Ecuador - MESSE / Social and Solidarity Economy Movement of Ecuador – MESSE

El Salvador - Asociación Mundial de Radios Comunitarias – América Latina y el Caribe / World Association of Community Radio Broadcasters – Latin America and the Caribbean

España – Red Intercontinental para la Promoción de la Economía Social y Solidaria – RIPESS / Intercontinental Network for the Promotion of the Social and Solidarity Economy – RIPESS

España – Red Internacional de Agricultura Sostenida por la Comunidad - Urgenci / International Network for Community-Supported Agriculture – Urgenci

Francia - Foro Global de Economía Social / Global Social Economy Forum

Guatemala – Red Latinoamericana de Promoción de la Economía Social y Solidaria – RIPESS LAC / Latin American and Caribbean Network for the Promotion of the Social and Solidarity Economy – RIPESS LAC

Honduras - Federación Democrática Internacional de Mujeres - FDIM / Women's International Democratic Federation – FDIM

Honduras - Coordinadora Latinoamericana de Organizaciones del Campo CLOC - La Vía Campesina / Latin American Coordination of Rural Organizations – CLOC – La Vía Campesina

Honduras - Red Alforja / Alforja Network

México - Juventudes Activas / Active Youth

México - Red Economía Social - ECOSOL / Social Economy Network – ECOSOL

México - Red Mexicana de Comercio Comunitario - REMECC / Mexican Network of Community Trade – REMECC

México – Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México / National Autonomous University of Mexico

México – Universidad Autónoma Comunal de Oaxaca - UACO / Autonomous Communal University of Oaxaca – UACO

Nicaragua – Movimiento Agroecológico de América Latina y el Caribe - MAELA / Agroecological Movement of Latin America and the Caribbean – MAELA

Perú - Grupo Red de Economía Solidaria del Perú / Solidarity Economy Network Group of Peru

Perú - Red Latinoamericana y del Caribe por Justicia Económica, Social y Climática - LATINDADD / Latin American and Caribbean Network for Economic, Social and Climate Justice – LATINDADD

Puerto Rico - Encuentro Nuestra América / Our America Gathering

Suiza – Red Global por el Derecho a la Alimentación y Nutrición - FIAN / Global Network for the Right to Food and Nutrition – FIAN

Uruguay - Coordinadora de Economía Solidaria Uruguay / Uruguay Solidarity Economy Coordination

Venezuela - Central Cooperativa de Servicios Sociales de Lara – CECOSOLA / Lara Central Cooperative of Social Services – CECOSOLA

Organizations and platforms from Colombia participating in ECOOVIDA 2026