



**Maximizing Employment to
Serve the Handicapped**

**“Nobody wants to buy
something that was made by
exploiting somebody else.”**

-Jerry Greenfield

MESH'S FAIR TRADE FACT SHEET:

Why Fair Trade?

Fair trade has always been about first considering the needs of people and communities, a priority often overlooked in conventional trading relationships.



As global trade has become more competitive, outsourcing from global brands has led to a “race to the bottom” in which companies seek the cheapest and fastest means of production.

In this context, dedicated fair trade organizations have a new role to play. Fair trade is seen as a way to lift artisans out of poverty while celebrating their traditional handmade items. At the same time, the partnerships based on fair trade provide workers with the resources to turn their work into viable businesses. By advocating for direct relationships with small-scale producers and shorter supply chains, dedicated fair traders provide an alternative

to the hidden abuses that so often take place in a globalized world.

Benefits of Fair Trade:

1. Fair Trade means fair pay and working conditions for producers:
2. Fair Trade is better for the environment:
3. Fair Trade means high quality goods:
4. Fair Trade supports communities:
5. Fair Trade is committed to strengthening direct partnerships between buyers and producers
6. Fair Trade connects you with other cultures.
7. Fair Trade means sustainable local economies.

WFTO Product Label:

The WFTO Product Label is more than just a Fair Trade symbol. It signifies not only that the practices across the supply chain are checked against the WFTO Fair Trade Standard, but it also represents support to the battle against poverty and inequality. Products carrying the WFTO Label are made and traded by Guaranteed Fair Trade Organizations dedicated to the sustainable Fair Trade economy. Every purchase of products with the WFTO Label supports small producers and their communities.

Reference:

- ♦ <http://www.tenthousandvillages.com/mosaic/handmade-connections-celebrating-world-fair-trade-day/#.VuFRVH197IU>
- ♦ http://www.fairtraderesource.org/downloads/top_10_reasons_to_support_ft.pdf

