

Press release
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How policymakers, employers and civil society organisations can reduce inequalities caused or worsened by the European Green Deal

The European Green Deal foresees efficient use of resources for a circular and clean economy. However, inequalities emerge in the context of its policy and interventions, whether in terms of access to food, energy, mobility, or biodiversity. Through a complex series of research and experimental activities, ACCTING explores the impact of Green Deal policy initiatives on individual and collective behaviours, provides evidence, and empowers policymakers and stakeholders to anticipate policy responses and potential negative influences, and mitigate such impacts in decision-making.

Concluding its first cycle, ACCTING has produced [a set of six factsheets](#) to support **policymakers, employers, and civil society organisations in understanding the effects of Green Deal policies on vulnerable groups, and to suggest practical recommendations to mitigate these effects**. Through these factsheets, ACCTING aims to empower policymakers and other stakeholders to anticipate the potential negative impacts of policies on vulnerable groups in order to avoid increases in inequalities.

Recommendations to local and regional policymakers:

- [Promoting access to healthy and environmentally friendly food for the marginalised and vulnerable.](#)
Access to locally produced, seasonal and healthy food should be a priority, especially in marginalised neighbourhoods. Policies concerning the production and provision of local food, urban mobility and urban green spaces are thus of major concern.
- [Valuing indigenous and local knowledge in disaster management and nature protection.](#)
Until now, the main agents that have produced knowledge and policy guidance for the climate and biodiversity crisis have been intergovernmental bodies and the corresponding national groups; ACCTING argues for a systematic inclusion of indigenous and local knowledge in disaster management and nature protection.

- [Local is beautiful - Gender+ inclusive agricultural policies and civil society practices for and with small farmers.](#)

Agriculture and rural areas are central to the European Green Deal. The majority of the 10 million farms in the EU are small farms, yet existing EU policies fall short of supporting environmentally sustainable, gender inclusive small farming, thereby strengthening existing vulnerabilities and missing opportunities to reach Green Deal objectives. Also addressing civil society organisations, this factsheet calls for closer collaboration with small farmers to move future agricultural policies towards a socially transformative, gender and ecologically-just direction.

Recommendations to employers:

- [Inspiration for corporate social responsibility policies: To contribute to the Green Deal and become more inclusive.](#)
Corporate social responsibility policies can have an impact on achieving an inclusive Green Deal, whether in terms of energy efficiency, transport, food systems, or the protection of biodiversity.
- [Empowering employees to help mitigate Climate Change: A business-employees alliance promoting behavioural change towards achieving Green Deal goals.](#)
Recognising the important role that companies can play towards fighting Climate Change, ACCTING provides a framework for companies to promote inclusiveness and Green Deal policies within their own workforce. The recommendations span aspects such as knowledge creation, incentives, and encouragement of collective initiatives, addressing companies of all sizes, as well as organisations that collectively represent companies at the local or sectoral level.

Recommendations to civil society organisations:

- [Inclusive civil society for an inclusive Green Deal - Towards a civil society with greater social impact, in solidarity with vulnerable groups.](#)
Non-governmental organisations play a key role shaping and implementing European Green Deal policies. However, not all NGOs have successfully embedded democratic legitimacy, diversity in their governance structures, and accountability. For the Green Deal to be just and inclusive, it is crucial for civil society organisations to be inclusive, fully reflecting the diversity of the population and stakeholders.

The EU-funded research project ACCTING aims to understand the impact of Green Deal policies on vulnerable groups and prevent inequalities. The project produces knowledge and innovations to advance behavioural change at individual, group, and societal levels, for an inclusive and equal European Green Deal.

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