

#### WHY MIRROR MEASURES ARE NEEDED FOR THE EU SUGAR SECTOR'S SUSTAINABILITY

EU BEET SUGAR: A GLOBAL LEADER IN SUSTAINABILITY

EU beet sugar complies with the highest sustainability standards in the world. These standards will rise still further with the implementation of the EU's Green Deal ambitions.

## DO YOU KNOW WHERE 20% OF YOUR SUGAR COMES FROM?

Guatemala Belize Cuba Mexico Colombia Guyana Nicaragua Peru Brazil Mozambique Mauritius Zimbabwe Eswatini South Africa countries with environmental, human & social provision violations and lower standards\*

One out of 5 spoons of sugar you consume is imported into the EU

UNITING BEET GROWER



e.g.: water grabbing, forced labour, child labour deforestation, land grabbing, etc.



Some of this sugar would be considered illegal if produced in the EU, because it:

- Uses chemical plant protection products which are banned in 1 the EU
  - Uses child labour and forced labour 2
    - Causes deforestation

### MAND THAT ALL SUGAR MUST

- Comply with all relevant international conventions on labour & social rights & the environment
- Comply with EU legislation & EU standards of production, mainly on chemicals and plant protection products, nutrients management and water management
- Comply with corporate due diligence and corporate accountability, including EU legislation on EU deforestation-free products and value chains

## WHAT ARE 'MIRROR MEASURES'?

Mirror measures require producers selling on the EU market to adhere to EU standards & requirements.

Mirror Measures would ensure a fair trade relationship with third countries based on comparable environmental, health & social standards.

MIRROR MEASURES WOULD ENSURE THE EU CONSUMER THAT ALL SUGAR IN THE EU RESPECTS THE EU'S HIGH STANDARDS AND WOULD HELP RAISE ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH & SOCIAL STANDARDS IN THE EXPORTING COUNTRIES

# **CASE STUDIES**

**Vietnam:** has not signed 1 of the 8



ILO core conventions; huge limitations of human & labour rights foreseen by the criminal code; cases of child & forced labour; cases of water grabbing, soil & water pollution; overuse & improper use of pesticides which are banned in the EU

Guatemala: extreme labour conditions leading to health issues among cane cutters; cases of forced & child labour; use of pesticides banned in the EU causing environmental & health damages in rural areas; cases of land grabbing, water grabbing & biodiversity loss



**Brazil:** has not signed the ILO core Convention on the freedom of association and the right to organise; cases of forced, bonded & child labour; biodiversity loss & deforestation; use of pesticides banned in the EU



**India:** has not signed 2 out of the 8 ILO core conventions; cases of child & forced labour; recently approved additional limitations of labour rights; environmental pollution related to sugarcane producing practices (i.e. cane burning, waste treatments)



**Peru:** discrimination and limitations of labour rights for agricultural workers; repeated cases of land grabbing, violations of indigenous communities & biodiversity loss; long-term uncontrolled use of pesticides banned in the EU

