



Reporting a total turnover of over two trillion USD and focusing on cooperative responses to the Covid crisis and their contribution to SDG13 (Climate Action).

World Cooperative Monitor: new ranking of the largest cooperatives is now available

The International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) and the European Research Institute on Cooperative and Social Enterprises (Euricse) launched today the 2020 edition of the World Cooperative Monitor during an international webinar. This is the ninth edition of the annual report, which explores the economic and social impact of the largest cooperatives and mutuals worldwide, providing a ranking of the Top 300, sector rankings, and an analysis of responses to the current global challenges: COVID-19 and climate change.

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2020 Results - The Top 300 cooperatives and mutuals report a total turnover of over two trillion USD (2,146 billion USD), based on 2018 financial data. These organisations operate in various economic sectors, the agricultural (104 enterprises) and insurance sectors (101 enterprises) being the ones leading the list. The wholesale and retail trade sector represents the third biggest economic sector (57 enterprises).

This year's results show the largest cooperatives performing well, with only slight variations in the top positions across the sectors. In the Top 300 ranking based on turnover, **Groupe Cr dit Agricole** (France) placed first, as it did last year, whereas **Groupe BPCE** (France) swapped with the German **REWE Group**, which is now second. Most of the Top 300 enterprises are from the more industrialised countries such as the USA (74 enterprises), France (44 enterprises), Germany (30 enterprises) and Japan (24 enterprises).

In the Top 300 based on the ratio of turnover over gross domestic product (GDP) per capita ranking - which relates the turnover of the enterprise to the wealth of the country - two Indian producer cooperatives achieved the first and second positions: **IFFCO** and **Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Limited**.

In terms of the most represented sectors, the Agriculture and Food Industries sector is led by **Zen-Noh from Japan**; **Corporaci n Mondrag n** from Spain tops the Industry and Utilities sector and German **REWE Group** leads in Wholesale and Retail Trade

Focus on Covid-19. 2020 will be marked as a year of an unprecedented global crisis: COVID-19. Despite the huge impact the health crisis has had, cooperatives have proven to be resilient and

innovative. The Monitor includes a case study about the freelancers' cooperative **SMART** and its actions towards helping its members, primarily from the culture and creative arts sector.

Focus on SDG 13. This year's report features a special analysis of the Top 300 and the thirteenth United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 13 (Climate Action - SDG 13). It also includes two case studies that show how cooperatives are helping to achieve SDG 13. The report explores Rabobank's (Netherlands) its innovative banking for climate consciousness and features an interview with the Chief Values Officer of the **Midcounties Co-operative (UK), Peter Westall.**

As Bruno Roelants, Director General of the ICA, said:

"The global pandemic has put a strain on many businesses, but as you'll read in this report, many large cooperatives have stepped in to help employees, members, and communities to face the health and economic repercussions of COVID-19. We wanted to thank the newly formed ICA International Cooperative Entrepreneurship Think Tank (ICETT), a group of large cooperatives engaged in strategic thinking around cooperative entrepreneurship, for its contribution to this year's World Cooperative Monitor, as well as the organisations that provided their data, and the supporters of this year's edition for making it possible".

Gianluca Salvatori, Euricse Secretary General, said:

"2020 faced us with the need to address a social emergency without depressing our economies. This has always been the case for cooperatives. So their model is more topical than ever. And the objective of the Monitor is to show how the cooperative model is capable of facing major challenges, activating important resources through large organisations, without any inferiority complex."

EDITORS' NOTES:

About WCM. The World Cooperative Monitor is a project designed to collect robust economic, organisational, and social data about cooperatives worldwide. It is the only report of its kind collecting annual quantitative data on the global cooperative movement. 2020 marks the ninth edition of this annual research report produced by the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) with the scientific and technical support of the European Research Institute on Cooperative and Social Enterprises (Euricse). Two primary rankings are presented, the first based on turnover in USD and the second based on turnover over GDP per capita. Employment data is also presented for the Top 300 where available.

About the International Cooperative Alliance. The International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) is the voice for cooperatives worldwide, representing more than 315 cooperative federations and organisations across 110 countries. The ICA works with global and regional governments and organisations to create the legislative environments that allow cooperatives to form and grow. Operating from a global office in Brussels, Belgium, the International Cooperative Alliance is organised with four Regional Offices (Europe, Africa, Americas, and Asia-Pacific), and eight Sectoral Organisations (Banking, Agriculture, Fisheries, Insurance, Health, Housing, Consumer Cooperatives, and Service and Industry cooperatives). The International Cooperative Alliance is a non-profit international association established in 1895 to advance the cooperative social enterprise model.

About Euricse. EURICSE is a research institute based in Trento (Italy), whose mission it is to promote knowledge development and innovation for the field of cooperatives, social enterprises and other nonprofit organisations engaged in the production of goods and services, and to deepen the understanding of these types of organizations and their impact on economic and social development. Euricse's activities aim to reduce the fragmentation in the research on cooperative and social enterprises, and to enhance the visibility of this sector in the scientific and political debate.