



International
Cooperative
Alliance

ANNUAL REPORT

2020

Index

| | | | |
|--|----|--|----|
| Foreword by ICA President Ariel Guarco | 3 | International cooperative banking association (ICBA) | 37 |
| ICA President in 2020: meeting members and national authorities worldwide | 4 | International cooperative and mutual insurance federation (ICMIF) | 39 |
| 2020 in a few words by ICA Director General Bruno Roelants | 6 | Consumers cooperatives worldwide (CCW) | 41 |
| Cooperatives and the COVID-19 pandemic | 7 | Cooperative housing international (CHI) | 44 |
| The ICA and the pandemic | 9 | International organization of industrial, artisanal and service producers' cooperatives (CICOPA) | 45 |
| Activities of ICA and its bodies, following the ICA 2020-2030 Strategic Plan | 10 | International health cooperative organisation (IHCO) | 46 |
| The activities of the ICA at the global level | 15 | The activities of the ICA thematic committees and youth network | 48 |
| Promotion of the cooperative identity | 16 | Gender equality committee (GEC) | 49 |
| Growth of the cooperative movement | 18 | Global youth network (GYN) | 50 |
| Cooperation among cooperatives | 22 | Cooperative law committee (CLC) | 51 |
| Sustainable development | 23 | Committee on cooperative research (CCR) | 52 |
| ICA bodies in a nutshell | 24 | International cooperative development platform (ICDP) | 54 |
| The activities of the ICA regions | 25 | Dotcooperation | 55 |
| International Cooperative Alliance Africa | 26 | Our team | 56 |
| Cooperatives of the Americas | 28 | Board members | 59 |
| International Cooperative Alliance Asia-Pacific | 30 | Our resources | 61 |
| Cooperatives Europe | 32 | Our members | 62 |
| The activities of the ICA sectors | 34 | | |
| International cooperative agricultural organization (ICAO) | 35 | | |
| International cooperative fisheries organization (ICFO) | 36 | | |



Foreword

2020 will not be an easy year to forget. A pandemic hit us and affected every corner of the planet. Each community where we are embedded suffered an unprecedented situation in terms of health, with social and economic impacts also very difficult to bear.

But, once again, cooperatives are demonstrating their resilience. In all areas, we redoubled our efforts. In every region, in every sector, we did our best to overcome difficulties and help our communities move forward.

For this, we had to modify the way we work, exchange and live experiences. Through new digital platforms, we have kept in touch and have been able to continue to respond to the needs of our members.

The hours of travel that we normally spend to move from one part of the world to another, to hold warm face-to-face meetings, were transformed into incalculable time sitting in front of the devices and in successive gridded screens that hosted those meetings, colder perhaps, but equally productive. So the ICA Global Office, the Regional and Sectoral Offices, the Networks and Thematic Committees, the Global, Regional and Sectoral Boards and every ICA member continued to work. Those of us in leadership roles try to continue to be “in every place”, to continue to be “with” every cooperative colleague with whom we must work to continue to contribute to the growth of our model.

At the same time, we continued to demonstrate to national and sub-national governments and international organisations our resilience to critical scenarios such as this one. Once again, strategic alliances, expressed for example in ICA agreements with other organizations, strengthened this development.

The immediate horizon, which was the 33rd World Cooperative Congress at the end of 2020, had to be postponed. Not so our firm conviction to deepen the Cooperative Identity, an enduring slogan that links directly with the ICA Strategic Plan 2020-2030. The latter is our medium-term horizon. It is the roadmap that we have given ourselves, all of us who are part of this great cooperative family, and which will help us move together towards the exit from the pandemic, making sure that no one is left behind.

It is, as we say in the title of the Strategic Plan, “a people-centred plan”. And that is what marks the most distant horizon, the one that goes beyond this decade and for which we work, in short, day by day. Just as we did so extraordinarily well in that particular 2020, we continue to do so and will do so in the future. We work by, for and from people. Building people’s enterprises, people’s organizations, at the service of a cooperative paradigm where the human being and the environment are paramount.

This is, simply put, Sustainable Development. Planning and working to respond to the current challenges, but knowing that it is possible and necessary to leave to the next generations a planet where it is worthy to live.

Surely, 2020 left us with lessons, pain and some more concerns than those we already had. But it also served to reinforce our conviction that, by cooperating, we can build a more united, fairer and more inclusive world.

Let’s work on it!

Ariel Guarco, ICA President

ICA President in 2020: meeting members and national authorities worldwide

In 2020 ICA President Ariel Guarco continues to meet members both in person and online. Engaged on live conversations by video or through personalised letters, the ICA President has remained close to members in this particularly challenging year. Since his mandate started in 2017, he has visited more than half the countries where the ICA has members. You can find his speeches at www.arielguarco.coop

8 and 9 January:

ICETT activity in Brussels.

3 February:

Global Youth Forum in Kuching, Malaysia.

4 February:

Visit to Malaysian members in Kuala Lumpur.

6 and 7 February:

Visit to Filipino members in Manila.

2 April:

Message "Towards a common destiny, with cooperative values and principles".

28 April:

Conversatory of Co-operatives of the Americas on Cooperative Responses to Covid-19.

13 May:

ICA Asia Pacific Conversation on Cooperative Responses to Covid-19.

3 June:

Webinar Towards the Global Forum of the Social Economy, Mexico City 2021.

22 June:

ICA Africa Conversation on Co-operative Responses to Covid-19.

26 June:

Conversation with the League of Cooperatives of Puerto Rico on Solidarity, Responses and Perspectives on Covid-19

15 July:

Webinar of Cooperatives of the Americas together with the Inter-American Institute for Co-operation on Agriculture (IICA): "Perspective of agricultural co-operatives and their contribution to the post pandemic economic recovery process".

24 July:

13th anniversary of the Federation of Cooperatives of Paraguay (Fecopar) on the challenges of the cooperative movement in the field of education.

28 July:

International Forum University and Cooperativism in action against climate change, organised by the Cooperative University of Colombia.

19 August: Message on the 125th anniversary of the ICA.



17 September:

19th National Congress of the Confederation of Cooperatives of Colombia (Confecoop): “Cooperativism in the hour of opportunities”.

17 September:

Message on the 25th anniversary of the Declaration of Cooperative Identity.

24 September:

International Forum on Social and Solidarity Economy (Mont-Blanc) September 25: National Congress of the National Association of Employee Funds (Analfe), Colombia.

October 9: 42nd anniversary of Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Riobamba, Ecuador.

15 October:

ICA Africa Conference and Assembly.

October 15:

29th anniversary of the Paraguayan Confederation of Cooperatives (Conpacoop): The Role of Cooperativism in the 2030 Agenda.

20 October: Cooperative Opinion Day of the Colombian Association of Cooperatives (Ascoop).

23 October:

Global Social Economy Forum (GSEF)

October 24th:

Credicoop and the Community Day

October 29:

Celebration of 100 years of the Cooperativa Obrera, of the Federación Argentina de Cooperativas de Consumo (FACC).

29 October:

19th Gaucho Seminar on Cooperativism, in Brazil.

November 16:

Symposium for the 100 years of ILO Coop.

20 November:

Assembly of Cooperatives of the Americas.

November 26th:

Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia: III Meeting of Research in Solidarity Economy and Social Innovation

December 21:

Sancor Seguros 75th Anniversary Celebration

Letters to members of countries most affected at the beginning of the pandemic :

United States, Mexico, Colombia, Peru, Brazil, Chile, United Kingdom, Spain, France, Italy, Russia and Iran.

Video messages or through letters to:

Ascoop (Colombia)

Coomeva (Colombia)

Dekopin (Indonesia)

Angkasa (Malaysia)

JWCU (Japan)

JCCU (Japan)

HeW Coop (Japan)

JA Miyagi (Japan)

JA Fukushima (Japan)

JA Zenchu

AIMCoop (Philippines)

Victo (Philippines)

1CISP (Philippines)

Philippine Cooperative Center (Philippines)

Fed of People's Sustainable Dev Coop (Philippines)

SNCF (Singapore)

Uctaib (Spain)

ICBA (ICA)

Moldcoop (Moldova)

NCBA (United States)

2020 in a few words



The COVID-19 pandemic was declared by the World Health Organisation in March 2020, dealing an overwhelming shock to the society and the economy worldwide with its various waves. Social, economic, and family life were abruptly redefined or impacted. The pandemic spurred the redefinition of mobility, business activity, work, and social life, as well as the role of the state and business. While there was an incredibly rapid development of vaccines, the world had to wait until the end of 2020 for them to be ready for distribution, the latter unfortunately marred by various limitations, not least because their access remains highly concentrated in some countries. Working, business, and social gatherings turned virtual, including board meetings and democratic voting¹, with the approval of governments. Global supply chains were heavily disrupted². Inequalities and disparities became bare to eyes, with those in the

informal economy suffering more. When possible, governments gave monetary and fiscal support to maintain businesses and people³. UNHCR reported the highest number ever of internally displaced people due to conflict and violence: 45.7 million by December 2020⁴.

But the pandemic and its direct consequences were not the only challenges met in 2020. We also saw a growing global consensus regarding risks stemming from destabilization of climate systems, without immediate answers, but with a strong mobilization among the youth, even during lock-downs. Social expectations and fears were heightened through polarization and sometimes mind closure, against a backdrop of technological change (AI, social media, malwares etc.) and mistrust of various types of authority, including science. However, by December 2020, operations and optimism started coming back⁵, and we could witness

a start of thinking about post-Covid recovery paths. On the one hand, the redefinition of business, leaving behind profit as the only one goal (August 2019, US Business Roundtable statement⁶), began having an impact not only in the US but also on business schools. On the other hand, the role of the nation-state and industrial policy made a come back: the IMF endorsed that “National governments took bold steps to save lives and put a floor under the world economy, with nearly \$12 trillion in fiscal actions and about \$7.5 trillion in monetary actions”⁷. The OECD welcomed public investments in health, digitalisation, lowering emissions and training as well as providing adequate incentives (e.g., via pricing, regulation or taxes) for firms and households to invest in building resilience and sustainability with respect to incomes, health, environment or supply chains⁸.

¹ See Benton, Meghan, Jeanne Batalova, Samuel Davidoff-Gore and Timo Schmidt. 2021. COVID-19 and the State of Global Mobility in 2020. Washington, D.C., and Geneva: Migration Policy Institute and International Organization for Migration

² PCs, chips and semiconductors, are key examples see <https://www.cnbc.com/2021/04/15/supply-chain-slowdown-hits-at-key-pillars-of-economy-and-will-likely-get-worse-dan-yergin.html>

³ Such financial support reached \$11.5 trillion globally as of September 2020— (IMF Annual Report 2020, page 10)

⁴ a majority in 5 countries, see <https://www.unhcr.org/news/stories/2020/4/5ea7cfd4e4conflicts-push-internal-displacement-record-high.html>

⁵ See <https://www.marketonomics.com/Public/Home/PressRelease/09b26f3466bd42308734b4a196aba5e> and for the Eurozone see <https://www.marketonomics.com/Public/Home/PressRelease/af452762ea2948fa86fe3a8b9ec6483>

⁶ <https://www.businessroundtable.org/business-roundtable-redefines-the-purpose-of-a-corporation-to-promote-an-economy-that-serves-all-americans>

⁷ IMF Annual Report 2020, page 5

⁸ See OECD 2020 “New horizons: Structural policies for a strong recovery and a sustainable, inclusive and resilient future”, OECD Publishing, Paris. Page 37-38

Cooperatives and the COVID-19 pandemic

Like the rest of the economy and society, cooperatives around the world were immediately impacted by the pandemic. However, the resilience of cooperatives, already witnessed in earlier crises, seems to have again prevailed.

Health cooperatives and social cooperatives involved in health-related services found themselves suddenly at the forefront, facing many severe issues and difficulties in caring for their members and their communities. Their staff worked more than ever and put their own lives and those of their family at risk and had to manage the emotional stress of being in the frontline in the most demanding situations, working under psychological strain. Some cooperatives launched psychological support programs for health professionals. Some set up call centres, designed websites and printed leaflets to advise citizens, providing guidance and clarifying queries about coronavirus and safety measures.

Consumer cooperatives also found themselves at the frontline as they supplied their members with goods of basic necessity, medical supplies, protective gear, some establishing telephone and e-hotlines for direct contact with people to provide live updates. At the same time, they managed to maintain employment and salaries, while supporting local producers and suppliers through increased offering of local products. They also offered digital solutions for ordering, paying and home or other form of delivery and extended business hours and free delivery for the ill, senior citizens or others socially disadvantaged, as well as medical staff. They reported a decline in revenues and an increase in costs. They often had to close, partly or completely, various other business activities than retail such as tourism and catering.

The spread of pandemic impacted the normal functioning of many cooperative banks and financial institutions. The mandatory shutdown of non-essential businesses and the confinement of people to their homes triggered off uneven effects. Cooperative banks strived hard to keep open their banking channels during the entire lockdown period, while ensuring social distance and compliance with all regulatory provisions. Some cooperative banks offered rebates in the loan interests to their members or delayed payment deadlines. Significant number of small financial cooperatives found themselves at risk to discontinue their services because of financial disparity, while some large financial cooperatives regularized digital services to their members.

In many agricultural cooperatives, we saw farmers not being able to purchase grains for their cattle, or not able to sell their products while facing the problems to repay their loans. Cooperatives often adopted alternative way to continue their business. Some cooperatives had to halt production because of lack of raw materials, while some sold their products in local markets or delivered seedlings to their members.

In housing cooperatives, we saw moratoria on evictions and members benefitting from payment agreements in order to pay their rent arrears. In some countries, new apartments were shown using digital tools.

Most cooperatives in industry and services halted their activities during the first few months of the pandemic. The impact was particularly severe in some sectors like tourism education, culture, etc, as well as for cooperatives working with disadvantaged groups and people with disabilities.

More generally, coordinated responses from cooperatives and their organisations included cooperative development funds, donations to food banks, delivery of basic goods and medicine to elderly and disabled people, food baskets to the poor and basic food supplies at lowest prices, community kitchens to cater food for the needy people, free legal and economic advice to cooperatives, training sessions, ambulance services to COVID-19 infected patients, etc.

An important finding from cooperatives' action to fight the challenges of the pandemic in 2020 was the range of their services and actions. Cooperatives' *ability to adapt* is perhaps one of the greatest lessons coming out of this crisis. Cooperative institutions, particularly at the national level, also proved to be valuable donors to governments in their fight against the challenges, as well as effective negotiators to accord equal status to cooperatives in qualification of their services as essential.

This mobilization by cooperatives and their organisations in response to the crisis in 2020 followed their inherent character of expressing *concern for the community* and practicing *cooperation among cooperatives* through solidarity, while being democratic, voluntary and member-owned and controlled enterprises, in keeping with their international business model enshrined in the ICA Statement on the Cooperative Identity.

The ICA and the pandemic

As soon as the pandemic was declared in March 2020, the ICA launched a group discussion and information-sharing internet platform for members on www.loomio.coop, and a public webpage dedicated to cooperatives' response to COVID-19 crisis with the release of a world map. With ICA health Sectoral Organisation IHCO, the ICA organised a first webinar under the pandemic on health cooperatives at the forefront.

ICA-Africa organised a series stakeholders' meetings to explore the potential of health cooperatives in member countries. Cooperatives of the Americas held 11 country dedicated online meetings to explore the response to the pandemic, and published a COVID-19 dossier available online. ICA-Asia Pacific made the transition to online platforms and focused on the adoption of new technology, as many of the planned physical activities were put on hold. Cooperatives Europe made a survey on the economic and social impact on cooperatives during crisis, revealing that cooperatives were particularly resilient. CCW (consumers) made a compilation of best practices in national members' efforts to maintain their mission of serving members, consumers and local

communities under the pandemic. More generally, the ICA and all its bodies had to reorganise themselves very rapidly with online solutions, including for their board meetings and assemblies. The staff of all ICA bodies learnt to work and have their working meetings online.

Activities of ICA and its bodies, following the ICA 2020-2030 Strategic Plan

A. Promotion of the cooperative identity

The preparation of the 33rd World Cooperative Congress (to be convened on 1-3 December 2021) and the celebration of the 125 years of the ICA and 25 years of the Statement on the Cooperative Identity took a lot of the ICA's work and energy in

2020. The year also saw a strong and significant acceleration of the legislation work initiated in 2019, including the preparation of the International Law Forum to be held at the end of November 2021, just before the World Cooperative Congress. DotCooperation and the

ICA continued to work closely to promote the cooperative domain name and the cooperative marque, in particular through a series of Cooperative Stories.

B. Growth of the cooperative movement

ICA **membership** continued to grow, including among government agencies. Member offer includes, inter alia, legislation consultation, a specific members' bulletin, and the encouragement of membership of the corresponding sectoral organisations.

The joint **coordination** with both Regions and Sectoral Organisations initiated in 2019 was pursued despite the pandemic. Cooperatives of the Americas established a new Regional Sectoral Organization for agricultural cooperatives, Redacoop, and organized an array of sectoral webinars. Cooperatives Europe brought together European cooperative sectoral organisations

to start a common campaign for a European Green Deal which puts people first. IHCO (health) participated in a conference on cooperative health systems against COVID-19 hosted by Cooperatives of the Americas. ICBA (banking), whose activities were relaunched at the end of 2019, underwent an important development in 2020.

In the field of **partnerships and policy**, the ICA organised the first-ever COPAC online seminar for Coopsday in partnership with UNDESA on the topic of climate action and reinforced its collaboration with several UN agencies, in particular the International Trade Centre and the UN Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSE), and prepared the creation of an ICA G20 Working Group, which was launched in early 2021. ICA-Africa organized an online regional conference on the benefits of the African Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). Cooperatives of the Americas worked with the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Carribbeans (ECLAC) on a joint research about and prepared the creation of an ICA G20 Working Group, which was launched in early 2021. ICA-Africa organized an online regional conference on the benefits of the African Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). Cooperatives of the Americas worked with the UN Economic Commission for Latin America and the Carribbeans (ECLAC) on a joint research about public policy for cooperatives from 8 countries; collaborated with UN Women on a training programme for 20 cooperative women leaders

to adapt the UN principles of gender equality in cooperative organizations; launched a Regional Program to support the digital transition of cooperatives and family farming organization for market access, through its partnership with the IICA (Interamerican Institute for cooperation in agriculture); launched a pilot project on e-commerce, training and technical assistance to cooperatives and family farming organization in several countries of the Region, in partnership with the FAO Regional Office for Latin America. Cooperatives Europe advocated for a level playing field for all cooperatives focusing on specific topics including gender equality, education and finance among others, which was brought to the attention of the European Commission. ICAO (agriculture) began studying the feasibility of opening a Rome office to network and collaborate with the Rome-based international agricultural organizations and organized its first-ever webinar during the year, on the role of agricultural cooperatives in the Post Covid-19 Era, with experts from all 4 ICA Regions and FAO. ICBA (banking) participated in a webinar on Cooperative Financial Institutions, organised jointly by the World Bank and RaboPartnerships.

Other ICA Sectoral Organisations were involved in activities with international organisations, such as ICMIF (insurance) with UNDP and UNDDR, IHCO (health) with WHO, CHI (housing) with Cohabitat, etc.

In **research**, the World Cooperative Monitor again focused its analysis on the SDGs, this time with a focus on climate change and the response to the pandemic. One issue of the ICA Review of International Cooperation was published. The ICA pursued its collaboration on statistics on cooperatives and the social and solidarity economy (SSE) with the ILO, UNRISD and UNTFSE. Further research work on statistics was conducted with the ICA-EU Partnership mapping of Cooperative Actors. We launched a call for abstracts and selection of papers for the ICA International Research Conference to be held in November 2021, just before the 33rd World Cooperative Congress. The 15th ICA-Asia-Pacific Cooperative Research Conference on *Addressing climate change through cooperative enterprise* was attended by 80 individuals from 12 countries. The biannual 11th International Congress of Latin American Researchers on Cooperativism took place online with more than 500 participants.

In **communication**, we experienced a steady growth in the number of followers in all ICA social media platforms. Some initiatives, activities, and events of the ICA-EU Partnership reached over 6,000 impressions on Twitter. A series of short documentary films aroundtheworld.coop, produced in partnership with the ICA, was carried out in 2020. CHI (housing) produced a series of eleven short videos in three languages explaining the basic concepts of housing cooperatives, how they are financed and governed, the benefits of living in a co-op community etc.

Regarding **youth** activities, the Global Youth Forum on Cooperative Entrepreneurship 2020 (GYF20) took place in Malaysia in February, just before the pandemic broke out, and was a real success. Around 200 youth from 50 countries participated to improve their skills and knowledge on cooperative entrepreneurship. In the wake of this event, the global Cooperative Youth Network opened a call for proposals for a Replication Project to provide funds to replicate inspiring youth projects. Nine projects were chosen and started. A global thematic study on the topic of young people and cooperatives, surveying over 400 young people from 20 countries across ICA Regions, was implemented under the ICA-EU Partnership and was published in March 2021. The brand-new edu4all.coop platform was created, featuring recorded training sessions, living entrepreneurship tools and new cooperative faces from across the globe. Two of the initiatives that could be found on edu4all.coop are Coop Academy and YouThink Coop. ICA-Asia Pacific organised a first-ever online Coopathon 3.0.

In **gender** activities, the ICA Gender Equality Committee celebrated the International Women's Day themed "I am Generation Equality", focusing on how the cooperatives can be the tool to reduce the socio-economic injustices faced by women. Cooperatives voices and experiences were disseminated during a UN campaign against Gender-Based Violence called "Orange the World: Fund, Respond, Prevent, Collect!" in order to showcase how the cooperative movement is at the forefront of fighting violence against women. ICA-Africa's gender committee co-organized a gender webinar with We Effect East Africa on the *"Implications of Covid-19 Pandemic on Gender Equality within the Cooperative Movement"*. 8 webinars were organised under ICA-America's Regional Committee for Gender Equality. Cooperatives Europe worked to reduce the gender gap in the cooperative movement through its new Gender Equality Charter.

C. Cooperation among cooperatives

The pandemic did not prevent the recently established ICA think tank ICETT from having its most decisive year since its creation in late 2018, moving forward with its chosen themes and collaborating with the World Cooperative Monitor. It organised its first webinar, on how

cooperatives practice, promote, and protect human rights in value chains during the International Human Rights Day. ICMIF (insurance) launched a knowledge hub website for its members with over 700 searchable assets including case studies, thought leadership articles,

webinars and video presentations from previous events. CCW (consumers) reinforced cooperative to cooperative direct relations through import-export of COOP branded goods of strategic importance.

D. Sustainable development

The **ICA-EU** Partnership programme entered its fifth year with many policy-related, legislation and training activities, in spite of the pandemic.

Six “Tuesday Talks” webinars took place during the year on the work of the cooperative development agencies grouped in the ICA **International Cooperative Development Platform** (ICDP).

Under the leadership of ICDP, an ICA side-event at the United Nations High Level Political Forum (HLPF) was organised on the theme “Cooperatives: a resilient model in time of crisis and beyond”.

The ICA launched a **study** on measuring cooperatives’ contribution to SDGs, to be presented during the 33rd World Cooperative Congress in December 2021 in Seoul and online. Collaboration with UNRISD was pursued concerning the reporting and measurement tools for SDGs. Specific projects were implemented on the SDGs with the ICA Sectoral Organisations.

ICMIF worked with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on the ‘Insurance SDGs’.

All these activities show that, in spite of the pandemic, we were able to continue working for the promotion of the cooperative movement internationally all through 2020, further increasing the added value of the ICA.

Bruno Roelants,
Director General of the ICA



125 years representing, promoting and serving cooperatives worldwide

The ICA is....

the apex body representing cooperatives: around **3 million worldwide**

one of the largest organisations measured by the number of people represented: **more than one billion cooperative members**

one of the oldest non-governmental organisations: we celebrated our **125 anniversary in 2020!**

the global steward of the Statement on the Cooperative Identity – the Values and Principles of the cooperative movement.

the global voice and forum for knowledge, expertise and co-ordinated action for and about cooperatives.

In 2020, the ICA welcomed:
14 new member organisations
4 new member countries: Egypt, Eswatini, Barbados, and the Netherlands.
3.6 million new individual members represented through our membership

The activities of the ICA at the global level

This report is based on the structure of the ICA 2020-2030 Strategic Plan “A People-Centred Path towards a Second Cooperative Decade”, with its 4 key themes focusing respectively on identity, growth, cooperation among cooperatives, and sustainable development.

The COVID-19 pandemic, which was declared in mid March, deeply conditioned our work, not only because we had to start addressing urgent public health, administrative, financial, logistical and HR issues, but also because we had to partly adapt our work to the pandemic as a theme, with new information on our website, a new Loomio platform to allow members to exchange, etc., and because of the difficulties which other organisations, among our membership, ICA bodies, partner organisations etc., were also experiencing.

Promotion of the cooperative identity

The preparation work for the 33rd World Cooperative Congress

has taken much of the time of permanent ICA Global Office staff and of several dedicated part time temporary staff. Apart from the direct preparatory work on the Congress proper in terms of programming, logistics, budgeting, fundraising, Congress narrative, dedicated social media campaign, visual identity, coordination with ICA bodies etc., we have to mention a series of other activities:

- We organised a mission of the ICA Congress Task Force to Seoul in February, which included a Congress launching event gathering all Korean partners and interested parties (different levels of government, cooperative movement, social and solidarity economy organisations etc.), and allowed to meet the various partners individually;
- Two days after the World Health Organisation declared the pandemic, we established a Congress Risk Committee to evaluate the various risks generated by the pandemic regarding the Congress, and drafted several Congress Risk Committee reports to the ICA Board;
- We organised the celebration of the 125th anniversary of the ICA, including the dissemination of briefs from founding members, leaders' videos and social media messaging;
- We organised a two day webinar for the 25th anniversary of the ICA Statement on the Cooperative Identity in partnership with the Co-operative College UK;
- We initiated the preparation of two Congress preparatory conferences, namely the ICA Cooperative Research Conference and the International Cooperative Law Forum, to be held just before the Congress (calls for papers, establishment of scientific committees, etc.),
- We prepared the concept for an intergovernmental round table on cooperatives to be held just after the Congress;
- We started preparations for an innovation fair to be held during the days of the Congress;
- We launched the monthly "Destination Congress" newsletter with stories in English, Spanish, French and Korean distributed to more than 17,000 people.



In the field of **legislation**, 2020 was a breakthrough year following the revival of the ICA Cooperative Law Committee (CLC) in October 2019 in Kigali (see CLC report below). Assistance was provided to 15 countries, as well as to the International Trade Centre. We also collaborated with ICA Regions (ICA-Africa, ICA-Asia-Pacific regarding the South Pacific sub-region) and Sectoral Organisations (housing with CHI, banking with ICBA). In particular, it is worth mentioning collaboration with ICA-Africa on a model law for cooperatives in Africa (see ICA-Africa report below). The Legislation Framework Analysis implemented within the ICA-EU Partnership produced as many as 40 country reports in 2020 out of the 79 that have been elaborated in total.

In the field of communication and branding related to the cooperative identity, the cooperative marque guidelines were reviewed with DotCooperation (see DotCooperation report below). A special dossier of our newsletter *Cooperative Insider* was produced with a focus on the the Cooperative Identity telling cooperative stories from all around the world, interviews and events.

The #WeAreCoops tag started to be used on ICA social media accounts to underline our identity with some concrete stories and cases examples



[Español](#) // [Français](#)

Special Feature:
**Youth
Entrepreneurship**

[Events](#)



COOPERATIVE INSIDER

The eDigest of the global cooperative movement



Message from the President:

Young people are part of social movements that demand human rights, caring for the planet, the end of violence, the right to education and decent work. Cooperatives can be a powerful agent of innovation in terms of sustainable production and consumption, of new forms of work organisation, of women's participation, of new forms of access to financial services, of new ways of producing and sharing renewable and clean energy. **Read more**

Growth of the cooperative movement

The **membership** offer was improved with an in-depth overhaul of the membership brochure. Membership grew tangibly, reaching 317 members (with a net gain of 7 new members) in 112 countries. We gained 3 new associate members being government entities, in 3 new countries, bringing a total of 12 countries for this type of entities.

The updated membership directory was published and sent to members in November 2020. The *membership package* was updated and language revised to be more in line with the new 2020-2030 ICA Strategic Plan. A forum on the Patio platform was opened for the ICA Youth Network, on platform cooperatives, and on workers cooperatives in Japan.

A number of webinars and online discussions were organised for members and the cooperative movement during the year since it was not possible to meet in-person.

We encouraged member participation in relevant sectoral organisations as a concrete benefit by sending personalised letters to members introducing the relevant ICA Sectoral Organisations and encouraging them to join.

Three issues of the Members' Brief newsletter, initiated in 2019 and specifically dedicated to ICA members, were published (in April, June and October), with sections based on the needs identified in the various member surveys and interviews explaining ICA's activities.

The joint **coordination** with both Regions and Sectoral Organisations, which was launched in 2019 with the creation of a Regions-Sectors Working Group (RE-SO), became more regular and systemized with several dedicated meetings. Several meetings of both the membership and communication sub working groups of RE-SO were held, for information and coordination purposes. Regarding the Sectoral Organisations, special attention was focused on ICBA, which had been revived in October 2019 in Kigali (see ICBA report below), and established an MoU with the European Association of Cooperative Banks (EACB) through the ICA's intermediation; ICAO, which is envisaging to open an office in Rome after the pandemic (see ICAO report below) and IHCO, with whom we partnered to make a first webinar under the pandemic on health cooperatives at the forefront (see IHCO report below).



In the field of **partnership and policy**, we deepened our work on the strategy of the UN Committee on cooperatives COPAC, and organised the first-ever COPAC online seminar for Coopsday in partnership with UNDESA. Preparations for the ICA's COPAC rotating chairmanship, which started in early 2021, were implemented.

We reinforced our collaboration with several UN agencies, in particular the International Trade Centre, UNRISD and the UN Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSSSE); several global Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) organisations while publishing a position paper on SSE; the global fair-trade organisations WFTO & FT following up on the "Building back fairer" statement and engaging in a common research report with Concord Europe on "Mind our Business"; as well as with Women Engage for a Common Future (WECF) in facilitation in engaging with local members in a project in Ethiopia.

We organised an ICDP side event within the framework of the UN High Level Political Forum for Sustainable Development (HLPF), with a focus on digital cooperatives (see ICDP report below).

We prepared the creation of an ICA G20 Working Group, with a conceptual preparatory work, and analysis of the ICA membership in the G20 countries. The Working Group was launched in early 2021.

In **research**, the World Cooperative Monitor, firmly supported by the Organisation of Brazilian Cooperatives (OCB) and the members of the ICA think tank ICETT (see the "Cooperation among Cooperatives" section below), further focused its analysis on the SDGs. One issue of the ICA Review of International Cooperation was published. We pursued our collaboration on cooperative statistics and statistics on SSE with the ILO, UNRISD and UNTFSSSE. Further research work on statistics was conducted with the ICA-EU Partnership mapping of Cooperative Actors. Out of 66 national reports currently available on coops4dev.coop, 40 were completed in 2020.

In the field of **capital**, we significantly advanced in our work of preparing the Global Cooperative Impact Fund GCI, with regional stakeholder meetings and meetings with potential funders. 4 Regional Working Group meetings were organised in 2020, bringing together 26 member organisations from all regions. The input delivered has been included in the establishment of a complete Investment Memorandum, gathering in one document the investment theory, a potential pipeline and governance models, as well as legal requirements, of an impact fund. Several meetings with Development Finance Institutions were organised, in order to identify an anchor investor of the Fund.



Regarding **communication**, 4 editions of the newsletter Cooperative Insider were published. Regular social media posting was carried out, with special attention to CoopsDay, the 125th anniversary of the ICA in August and the 25th anniversary of the Statement on the Cooperative Identity, as well as a series of external events, in coordination with the various ICA bodies. We experienced a steady growth in the number of followers in all ICA social media platforms. We produced attractive and dynamic visual material for the promotion of a number initiatives, activities, and events of the ICA-EU Partnership: some of them reached over 6,000 impressions on Twitter. Some social media campaigns, such as the webinar on the International Day of Cooperatives and the SDG campaign in September (during the #GlobalGoalsWeek), engaged important policy actors such as the UN Programme on Youth (@UN4Youth) and the DG International Partnerships of the European Commission (@EU_Partnerships). Additional campaigns such as the World Fair Trade Day reinforced collaboration with the Fair Trade movement. A #IStayAtHome campaign, with a

video involving all ICA regions to show solidarity in the beginning of the pandemic, received high levels of engagement on Twitter. Subsites for three ICA Thematic Committees or networks were created: Global Youth Network, Gender Equality Committee and Cooperative Law Committee, as well as the subsite of the ICA-EU Partnership coops4dev.coop. New pages were created on the ICA website to present the recently established ICA think tank ICETT (see below the section “Cooperation among Cooperatives”).

A series of short documentary films aroundtheworld.coop, produced under the ICA-EU Partnership, was carried out in 2020 and two of them ranked among the top 6 most viewed videos on the ICA YouTube channel within the period. In the context of the UN HLPF side meeting referred to under partnership and policy above, a photo exhibition with images of the aroundtheworld.coop project was organised, and participation with aroundtheworld.coop in the World Social Forum of Transformative Economies (WSFTE) took place. Regarding **youth**, the Global Youth Forum (GYF20) took place in



February under the lead of the ICA Youth Network and the framework of the ICA-EU partnership, where more than 200 young people from all around the world gathered in Malaysia to improve their skills and knowledge on cooperative entrepreneurship, was an undeniable and unprecedented success. The gathering was conceived of to underline the importance of grasping the needs of young entrepreneurs and making the cooperative model as relevant as possible to the new global challenges of work. Given the current policy discourses around the Future of Work and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the event has been the trigger for the majority of participants to get together to drive forward an ambitious Agenda for Advocacy, which was designed and approved at the closing session. The Agenda focuses on five key topics that will lead the youth policy actions in the cooperative movement worldwide: sustainable economies, collective action, digitalization, education and just societies.

The website gyf20.coop was created for the event and further revamped to allocate the recorded session and information on the trainers and additional outcomes of the event, such as the Youth Agenda for Advocacy. The event was made possible thanks to key donations from the International Summit of Cooperatives channeled through the Quebec cooperative apex organization CQCM, and from The French Federation of Savings Banks (Caisses d'Épargne).

In the wake of this event, youth cooperative replication projects were launched with 9 projects, with the balance of the donation from the International Summit of Cooperatives.

The brand-new edu4all.coop platform was created, featuring recorded training sessions, living entrepreneurship tools and new cooperative faces from across the globe. The idea behind the platform was to gather all Coops4dev materials that could support cooperative start-up ideas, strengthen existing cooperatives, or inspire to reach new horizons for professional and entrepreneurs.

Two of the initiatives that could be found on edu4all.coop are Coop Academy and YouThink Coop. Capacity building and sharing knowledge initiatives that aim at offering participants and young cooperators the possibility to develop and strengthen their skills, knowledge while improving their processes, and resources on different topics.

We partnered with the UNDESA Youth Department on the UN HLPF side event mentioned above, and on the World Youth Report 2020.

A global thematic research on the topic of young people and cooperatives under the ICA-EU Partnership was finalised (published March 2021). The research surveys over 400 young people from 20 countries across ICA regions.

Regarding **gender**, we prepared our participation to the UN Commission on the Status of Women, which was cancelled due to the pandemic. A Statement for March 8th was published and disseminated on the ICA website.

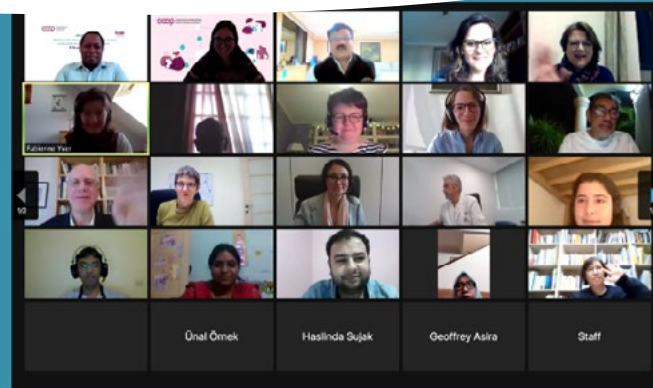


Cooperation among cooperatives

The **Cooperatives Connect** project was launched, with a view to create a digital directory & map of the cooperative movement globally to make it easier for cooperatives to cooperate together.

A **platform on Loomio** was created for members to be able to inform and discuss about the COVID-19 pandemic.

The recently established **ICA think tank ICETT** had a decisive year, moving forward with its 3 chosen themes, namely the future of work, human rights in value chains, and the SDGs linked to the World Cooperative Monitor, and creating a fourth one on cooperative identity as competitive advantage. It held 4 plenary meetings and organised a *webinar* on how cooperatives practice, promote, and protect human rights in value chains during the International Human Rights Day.



Sustainable development

The **ICA-EU** Partnership entered its fifth year with many policy, legislation and training activities, in spite of the pandemic. Some of them have already been reported in the sections above. Whereas the global Policy Forum for Development (PFD) of the European Commission (EC) was cancelled, we participated in 4 regional and 3 thematic PFDs, led by the EC and the PFD Task Team of which ICA is an active member. Members and Regions were mobilised and submitted a written consultation to be considered for the 2021-2027 EU Multi-Annual Indicative Programme (MIP). Guidelines were developed for more effective advocacy of

members towards European Delegations in EU partner countries (EUDs). Five sessions focusing on the contribution of cooperatives to the environment were submitted and approved for the European Development Days (EDDs). Nine ICDP “Tuesday

Talks” editions took place during the year (see ICDP report below). COPAC’s SDG 17 brief was finalised and published. The 4th ICA-EU Partnership interim report was submitted while a 3rd Result Oriented Monitoring (ROM) mission has taken place with great feedback, and maximum scores obtained in 29 out of 30 evaluation points.

A study on measuring cooperatives’ contribution to SDGs

was launched in the framework of the World Cooperative Congress to be held in December 2021 and we promoted sectoral projects on SDG among the ICA Sectoral Organisations. Collaboration with UNRISD was pursued concerning the reporting and measurement tools for SDGs.

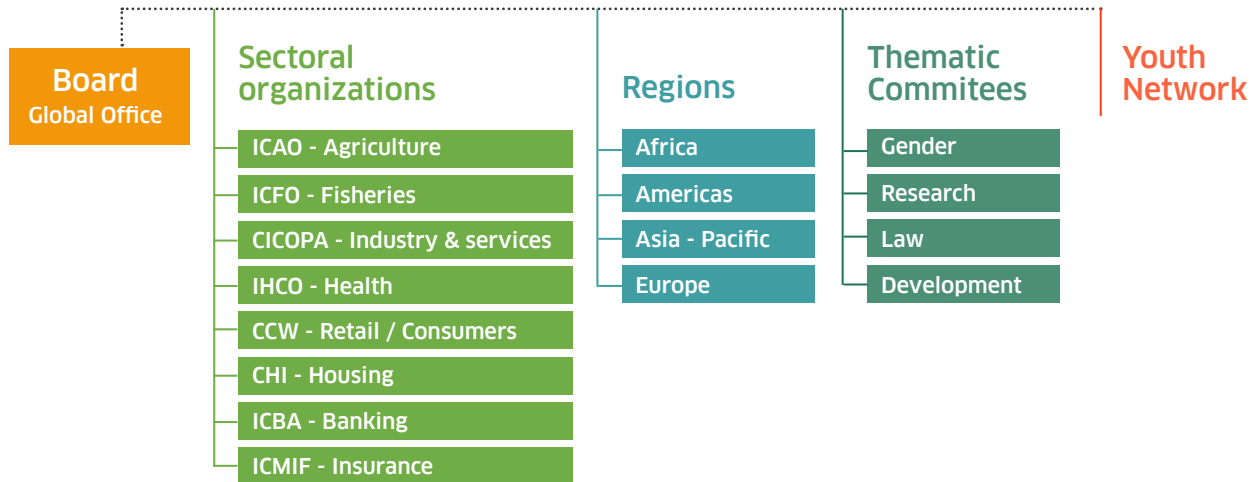
Still in relation to the SDGs, the ICA joined the #GlobalGoalsWeek campaign on social media (September 2020) boosting the collaboration of COPAC members.

Photo of the aroundtheworld.coop video on the COPPALJ cooperative from Brazil. A video produced in collaboration with #coops4dev - @aroundtheworld.coop



ICA bodies in a nutshell

General Assembly



The activities of the ICA regions

International Cooperative Alliance Africa

In 2020, we were able to bring together cooperators, partners and other stakeholders in a regional conference that was held virtually so as to discuss the cooperatives benefit from the African Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and what future negotiations will cover. This was done in form of a regional conference that was held in October, 2020 under the theme *'Fostering Implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) through Cooperatives'*. Before then, we organized for other regional events like the webinar on *"Covid-19 Response and Resilience of Cooperatives in Africa"*, in May 2020.

Under ICA-Africa sectoral and committees' specific activities, the gender committee co-organized a gender webinar with We Effect East Africa on the *"Implications of Covid-19 Pandemic on Gender Equality within the Cooperative Movement"* to deliberate on how best cooperatives can mitigate the impact of Covid-19 pandemic through gender equality. The agriculture sectoral organization Alliance Africa Agriculture Cooperative Organization 'AAACO', on the other hand organized a webinar to engage with its members and different actors around agriculture cooperatives, farmers, agriculture experts, inputs suppliers, technology suppliers and agricultural policy makers on the current identified practices and potential practices to look into in the future. The webinar was themed *"Identified agricultural best practices to sustain livelihoods through Agricultural*

Cooperatives in Africa: Cases and lessons learnt during the Covid-19." While the ICA-Africa Youth Network continued with engaging the youth on the Go Green Campaign 3.0 to display the role of youth and cooperatives in portraying self-help and solidarity. In addition, during the International Youth Day week, we organized for a youth webinar on *"Youth Innovations for Sustainable Livelihoods in Africa: During & Post Covid-19"* in collaborations with We Effect East Africa, Vi Agroforestry, Eastern Africa Farmers Federation (EAFF), Kenya Union of Savings and Credit Cooperatives (KUSCCO) and Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

We are also proud of the ICA Youth Network Replication Project winners from our Region that is, Enhancing Organic Food Cropping Cooperative from Cameroun and Young People's Multi-purpose Cooperative Society from Zimbabwe. The two projects received some funding from the Youth Network so as to realize their ideas and help other youth who would like to replicate the same in their various communities.

Capacity building remains to be our priority activity, thanks to the online platforms that have enabled us to carry out a number of activities in the year 2020. We carried out a training for our members on the *'Cooperation among Cooperatives: Crafting your Covid-19 Response'* in partnership with our member HealthPartners. Continued with the training on *'Functioning and Advocacy towards European Union Delegations'*, to our members. Co-organized for an Inter-Regional capacity building workshop on *'Social and Financial Education for Cooperatives'* with Aflatoun International and ICA-AP. As a follow up to the 2019 conference that was held in Zimbabwe on *'Promotion of Good Health and Well Being in Africa through Cooperatives'*, ICA-Africa

in partnership with its members and stakeholders embarked on stakeholders' meetings to explore the potential of health cooperatives in member countries in Africa. In 2020, four Health Cooperatives Stakeholders Meetings have been held for Kenya, Zimbabwe, Nigeria and DR Congo. It is also important to note that 13 African youth participated in the Global Youth Forum 2020 (GYF20) and were trained on entrepreneurship so as to improve their skills and knowledge. In a number of occasions, we were also able to call for short trainings with the Global Cooperative Entrepreneurs (GCE) ambassadors on the use of different tools and materials and more so the Coopedia knowledge base platform and to exchange on their experiences and how they could carry out their activities as they adapt to the new norm.

In terms of studies carried in 2020, the Legal Framework Analysis researches had published 13 analysis report and 7 research reports on the mapping of cooperative actors in Africa. All these materials can be accessed on the www.coops4dev.coop website.

We were also able to have a number of sessions with the Pan African Parliament Committee on Monetary and Financial Affairs on the proposed Africa Cooperative Model Law. The law that will seek to promote cooperatives in Africa by facilitating an exchange of information on policies that have proved effective.

Visibility has been at the core of our activities in 2020, we are delighted to have increased our engagement and reach on both the digital and online communication. This included uploading of activities materials to the #coops4dev website for public accessibility.

ICA-Africa has a total membership of 40 member organizations spread out in 23 countries in the region and 1 supranational member representing multiple countries in Africa region as shown on the membership [map](#).



Cooperatives of the Americas

A. Partnership and resource mobilization

The strategic dialogue with intergovernmental and international organizations set up along the 2019 produced important results, strengthening and refreshing those partnership already ongoing but especially opening to new **remarkable collaborations:**

- an *MoU with UN ECLAC* was signed and immediately operated: a joint research about public policy for cooperatives from 8 Countries (Argentina, Brasil, Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Uruguay) was run thanks to the funds mobilized by this partner
- a collaboration with **UN Women** was set up and our partner funded a training for 20 cooperative women leader to adapt the UN principles of gender equality in cooperative organizations;
- **Supersolidaria Colombia**, the Regulatory Body for Cooperatives of the Colombian Government mobilized resource and funded the Regional Office to carry on a comparative research on Fintech regulation and cooperatives
- The MoU with the **ICA** (Interamerican Institute for cooperation in agriculture) was updated and this partner mobilized resources for a Regional Program to support the digital transition of cooperatives and family farming organization for market access: currently 4 pilot project in Argentina, Uruguay, Chile and Central America are running;
- The MoU that the ICA and **FAO** Global signed in 2018 continue being executed at regional level and **FAO Regional Office for Latin America and Caribbean** have mobilized resources to fund a pilot project of e-commerce, training and technical assistance cooperatives and family farming organization from Uruguay, El Salvador, Dominican Republic and Costa Rica.

B. Response to Covid-19

- Wee held 11 virtual meetings, country dedicated, to explore the response to COVID-19: published out a COVID-19 DOSSIER available online;
- 17 sectoral webinars have been held, of which 5 for COFIA (Regional Committee of cooperative banking) 1 for CICOPA, 1 for Health, 8 for CREG (Regional Committee for Gender Equality), 2 on Cooperative Law;
- advocacy has been made with the 23 Governments and Ministers of Labor of the Region for the post-COVID19 economic recovery.



C. Relations and funding with EU

The ICA-EU Partnership programme #coops4dev in 2020 allowed to expand the development of cooperatives as well as our visibility through the execution of the planned activities. In particular, during 2020 it has been activated a service centre for member Organizations in the writing of project proposals: in 12 months 10 proposals have been delivered, of which 8 to EU Delegations of the respective countries and 2 to multilateral organizations (ILO, IDB); Kicked off the execution of the “Casas de la Alegria” project, which is funded by the EU DEL in Costa Rica and whose objective is to provide access to social services (education, health) for migrant coffee pickers and their families who arrive from Panama and Nicaragua for seasonal working in a cooperative (CoopeTarrazu) in Costa Rica.

D. Administrative management, capacity development and promotion

Organized and held 1 virtual Regional Assembly plus the 5 Assemblies and elections of the Sectorial and Thematic Committees (COFIA, CICOPA, CREG, CRJ, Redacoop); Held 4 meetings of the Board of Directors and 8 meetings of the Executive Committee; Created a new Regional Sectoral Organization for agricultural cooperatives in the Americas: Redacoop, All the meetings of Sectorial Organizations, Committees and Thematic Networks have reported qualitative and quantitative information, including the financial ones and are available online (access for Board members only); 2 new members joined, reaching a number of 98 in total, from 24 countries of the Region.

International Cooperative Alliance Asia-Pacific

2020 marked the 60th anniversary of the ICA-AP Regional Office. It was opened as the ICA Regional Office and Education Center on 14th November 1960, by late Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, the first Prime Minister of India. Starting with seven members from six countries, the ICA-AP today serves 110 members from 32 countries. The celebrations began with the dissemination of thematic monthly *newsletters* highlighting the achievements of the regional office and the work of its various committees. The anniversary was marked by an online event on 13th November 2020 which featured a lively discussion with cooperators from different parts of the region, many of whom have worked in earnest to help build the office and the cooperative

movement. A dedicated *webpage* has been set up to showcase the congratulatory messages and glimpses of the rich history; a book is planned to capture the work of the past six decades. To recognise the contribution of members and staff, the ICA- AP Regional Office presented them with a 60-year souvenir.

The cooperative movement in the region *showed solidarity* for its members and community during the COVID-19 pandemic. The pandemic disrupted scheduled activities across the region and many of the planned physical activities were put on hold. We made the transition to online platforms and focused on the adoption of technology. Webinars were held on topical subjects

like education, environment, technology, youth, and work. The ICA-AP Committee on Women in collaboration with Working Women's Forum, India and with the support of the Japanese Consumers' Co-operative Union organised a training of trainers (ToT) on digital financial inclusion for women cooperators. The ICA-Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Government of Japan capacity-building training programmes were moved online.



Malaysia hosted the first Global Youth Forum, attended by over 150 participants from 50 countries and 20 trainers, professionals, and experts from around the world. ICA President Ariel Guarco attended GYF and utilised the opportunity to meet with ICA members in Malaysia and the Philippines. We organised [Coopathon 3.0](#), the first-ever online coopathon, to engage youth and source from them sustainable, innovative, and technologically enabled solutions to address the challenges in the social and service sectors. InnoGame Coop from Indonesia won the first prize, MYCOON from India the second, and Design for Impact from India the third prize. Two cooperatives from the region, [RedRoot](#) from the Philippines and [PerMaTa](#) from Indonesia were among the winners of the ICA [Replication Project](#). The 15th ICA-AP Research Conference was held online, and the 2020 Dr. Mauritz Bonow Young Researcher award was given to Mr. Abhishek Saxena, Research Fellow at Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA), India; and Ms. Sreelaksmi C. C., Research Scholar at School of Management Studies, Cochin University of Science and Technology, India.

We celebrated International Day of Cooperatives, Cooperatives for Climate Action and put forth our [position paper](#). The ICA-AP Committee on Youth Cooperation (ICYC) marked the third edition of the Go Green Campaign, 'as the World Goes Green', with Africa, America, Asia and Pacific. The #coops4dev project in its fifth year was active on many fronts. The regional office continued its engagement with Aflatoun International, Asian Farmers Association for Sustainable Rural Development (AFA); Fairtrade Network of Asia and Pacific Producers (Fairtrade NAPP); IRMA; and the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA).

During the year, six new cooperatives joined the ICA - Jiangsu Supply and Marketing General Cooperative (JSMGC) and Fujian Federation of Supply & Marketing Coops (Fujian Coop) from China; National Federation of People-based Coop Enterprises-INKUR, Indonesia; Cooperative Work Agency (CWA), Palestine; CLIMBS Life and General Insurance Cooperative (CLIMBS), Philippines; and the Cooperative Development and Registrar of Cooperative Societies (CDRCS), Sri Lanka.



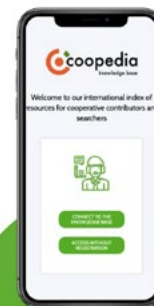
Cooperatives Europe

Though the Covid-19 pandemic largely impacted the activities of Cooperatives Europe, its members and the cooperatives on the ground, the strength of the cooperative movement prevailed, and led to tangible achievements.

The crisis has sparked a renewed interest for a sustainable economy that works for the people. Our survey on the economic and social impact on cooperatives during crisis revealed cooperative values, principles and resilience as key factors for cooperatives faring better - findings that we have since presented to the European Commission. The pandemic has also presented us with an opportunity to build back better and ensure that our recovery actions pave the way for a fairer future, putting people first.

We continued to advocate for a level playing field for all cooperative enterprises, whilst tackling specific topics following the guidance of our members. These include gender equality, education, finance, and social economy, to name a few, which we brought to the attention of European Commissioners (with latest meetings on international development, gender equality, and youth and education). The cooperative voice was also ensured through our role as experts to a number of groups of the European institutions (including SME Envoy and GECES). Importantly, our Director Agnes Mathis' selection as expert to the high-level 'Fit for Future Platform' of the European Commission has achieved better conditions for cooperatives in terms of more favourable EU Laws and reduced unnecessary costs.

As the need for cooperatives grows, so does the need for adequate support for their development. Our projects bring together cooperatives with key stakeholders and provide tools to help them start up and grow. We tackle lack of knowledge of our business model by developing courses and improving their insertion within education systems (Coop4Edu project), bring together communities and cooperatives through collaborative spaces (SCC project), and ensure knowledge on cooperative entrepreneurship is easily accessible thanks to Coopedia – a global search engine.



As a movement, we are united in our diversity. Bringing together European cooperative sectoral organisations, we were able to put a start to a common campaign for a European Green Deal which puts people first. Thanks to our members' participation in dedicated working groups, we are working to reduce the gender gap in the cooperative movement through our Gender Equality Charter, available to all cooperatives. These actions are inspired by a strong governance which, despite a year of communicating online, saw collaboration both at the European level, but also worldwide through the International Cooperation Alliance and its working groups.

Being part of a cooperative also means looking outside of ourselves. In the framework of the ICA-EU Partnership (#coops4dev), we supported the strengthening of the cooperative model outside Europe with the guidance of the Cooperatives Europe Development Platform. Actions implemented cover advocacy, programming, capacity building and research. They include for example participation to the EU Policy Forum on Development, publication of a report with partners Concord and Fair Trade Advocacy Office on strengthening sustainable businesses through EU external action, and contribution to the organisation of the Global Youth Forum in Malaysia.

As the world is changing, the cooperative movement continues to serve as an answer to the challenges we face. The past year has highlighted the need for communities to be at the heart of all our actions, and now is our time to lead the change, one member at a time.



The activities of the ICA sectors

International Cooperative Agricultural Organization (ICAO)

In 2020, despite being unable to hold any physical events, the ICAO made the most of the past year, diversifying our activities and strengthening our organizational structure. Our biggest achievement this year, though, is perhaps that we were able to reconnect with many of our inactive members.

During the first half of the year, we strived to respond more proactively to global issues. In collaboration with an ICA consultant, we surveyed members about their contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and published a report based on the results. Given the Goals are a long-term initiative, we will continue to collect examples of best practice and create content demonstrating the importance of agricultural cooperatives in the global development effort.

Around the same time, we began studying the feasibility of opening a Rome office. Our new office is expected to provide multiple benefits like easier networking and collaboration with FAO, IFAD, WFP, and other Rome-based international organizations. Our Executive Committee has decided to consider the Rome office a long-term project and create a subcommittee to speed up the progress.

In May, an emergency Executive Committee meeting was arranged virtually. The committee shared updates on the situation in their respective countries and agreed to hold this year's events online for the time being.

In September, we organized our first-ever webinar. Held on the theme of the 'Role of Agricoops in the Post Covid-19 Era', the webinar featured agriculture experts from Brazil, Ghana, India, and Turkey, as well as an FAO official dealing with cooperative work. The speakers shared stories of cooperatives taking care of their local communities—donating hygiene supplies and communicating with farmers suffering from disruptions to supply chains—and emphasized the need for engaging with more stakeholders of agriculture, including consumer cooperatives.

In November a working-level meeting was called, where it was proposed that each vice president develop their own project with a view to better meeting the needs of members in different regions. The project proposals will be submitted for approval at the EXCOM meeting scheduled for March next year.



International Cooperative Fisheries Organization (ICFO)

The ICFO that has been established in order to develop the fishery industry through the realization of cooperative values, has 22 member organizations from 20 countries, promoting various projects to revitalize the global fisheries movement and strengthen cooperation with member organizations.

The 2020 COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the ICFO's action plans.

The commemoration ceremony for World Fisheries Cooperative Day (June 16), jointly held every three years by the ICFO and the host country's Fisheries Cooperatives, was replaced with a commemorative speech by ICFO President Im Joon-Taek due to the pandemic. In a commemorative address, President Im said that fishermen and the industry around the world are facing difficulties due to the COVID-19, encouraging them to overcome difficulties through the spirit of cooperatives, "win-win and solidarity".

For the development of fisheries in developing countries, ICFO operates a scholarship program. This program selects two students each year among the students recommended by member organizations, and provides round-trip airfare, tuition, and living expenses. Scholarship students will study at the Graduate School of Pukyong National University in Korea for two years as a fisheries-related major. In 2020, only one student was selected out of an insufficient number of applicants due to the COVID-19 situation. From the first year of 2014 to as of 2020, 18 scholarship students completed the master's program.

The ICFO operates the Knowledge Sharing education program (KSP) every year to share the success stories of the Korean Fisheries Cooperatives and promote the development of the global fishery industry. Fishermen from member organizations of developing countries will be invited to inspect Korea's fisheries cooperatives and major fisheries facilities for 7-10 days. Unfortunately, it was not conducted in 2020 due to the pandemic. We plan to actively promote the KSP program when the COVID-19 crisis is over.

In 2021, we plan to carry out a campaign to increase the membership of ICFO member groups to strengthen the global fisheries cooperation in response to current fisheries issues such as climate change and marine pollution

International Cooperative Banking Association (ICBA)

International Cooperative Banking Association (ICBA), one of the sectoral organizations of ICA was listed on ICA documents without any 'known' activity for years, till it was decided by ICA to reactivate and reconstitute it in October 2019 in Kigali, Rwanda. The quick, active and Positive strategic plan adopted by the ICBA Board with active support of ICA resulted in membership drive, two more Board meetings within a span of initial four months, interaction with members, re-connecting the network and other visible events such as 'connect to Sectoral & Regional Organizations' etc. The work plan of ICBA for the year 2020 has been designed in such a way to work towards the strengthening of Cooperative Financial Institutions (CFIs) aimed to ensure their financial stability and work with freedom of autonomy. Unfortunately, ICBA suddenly encountered a **speed braker** in

the form of the powerful **virus** termed as COVID-19 Pandemic. This break restricted outdoor activities for ICBA and confined to carrying out activities from home for a continuous period of at least nine months in 2020. There was obviously a deviation from the approved workplan.

However, the major emphasis continued to be establishing contacts with members, disseminating information on most important issues, establish networking, carry out the spelt out objectives of ICBA.

In October 2020, ICBA celebrated the first anniversary of its reconstitution by holding its General meeting and Board Meeting 'in Virtual Mode' (in absentia) & through Resolutions by circular by adopting a meticulous methodology.

The need, rationale, importance and justification for the ICBA and its members in addressing the issues emerged out of the spread of COVID-19 has been sufficiently impressed upon including the specific role to be assumed by the CFIs/members of ICBA. The need for the members to lobby with policy makers, regulatory authorities, supervisory organizations, monitoring units has been appropriately spelt out and impressed. The major areas of accomplishments during the year 2020 are illustrated as follows:

1. ICA strategic plan:

Keeping into the overall strategic plan of ICA, ICBA has prepared the workplan for the year 2020. ICBA planned to work to achieve a people-centred Path for a second cooperative Decade -a 2020–2030 Strategic Plan developed by ICA. The ICBA Strategic Plan, is intended to address the areas namely Strengthening & Deepening the cooperative identity, Vision of the Blueprint for a Cooperative Decade, Promotion of the cooperative Identity, promote the cooperative movement and ensure cooperation among cooperatives and contribution to sustainable development.

2. Focus on Research: ICBA commissioned two studies:

- Sustainable development Goals: Contribution of Cooperative Banks: Special message has been recorded by ICA president & Foreword by Director General, ICA to this study.
- Regulation and Sustainability of Cooperative Banks: A cross country Study. Dr. Juan Buchneau, The World Bank wrote Foreword and Director General, ICA recorded Preface to this report .

3. Webinar: ICBA president was one of the panelists in the **Webinar on Cooperative Financial**

Institutions (CFIs): their approach towards & contributions to address the impact of COVID-19, organised on 8th July 2020 Jointly by The World Bank and Rabo Partnerships.

4. ICBA website: The website for ICBA has been developed to be meaningful with transparent information connected to ICA & ICBA. Sincere efforts have been made to establish networking with The world bank, WOCCU and EACB.

5. International Day of Cooperatives (IDC):

ICBA disseminated the messages connected to 'cooperatives for Climate Action' as a part SDG and messages by the President, ICA, Director General, ICA and Director General, ILO on the eve of International Day of Cooperatives (IDC).

6. Membership: ICBA is credited with 45 members by the end of 2020 from 27 countries.

7. Governance issue:

Transparency: Sharing of ICBA activities on regular basis with General members and Board members is among the important features of work. ICBA hope to closely associate with the other sectoral organisations and ICA Regional offices in the ensuing Year 2021 achieve the contemplated activities.

International Cooperative and Mutual Insurance Federation (ICMIF)

Despite the many challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic, ICMIF and its members experienced another very good year in 2020 with numerous successes and stories of growth and accomplishment.

Following government guidance in March 2020, the ICMIF team worked from their home locations and a new structure of very agile working groups, focused on specific projects, was introduced. This new system continues to work very well for ICMIF employees and our members through reports of increased satisfaction from our member companies.

The Federation saw a growth in membership with six new members joining ICMIF in 2020. These included Beneva, the largest insurance mutual in Canada created through the merger of La Capitale and SSQ Insurance.

ICMIF significantly developed its virtual offering in 2020 and now offers all of its services online. ICMIF already had a vibrant programme of regular, member-only webinars and by year-end over 50 webinars had been hosted with over 3500 attendees.

CEO/C Suite strategic forums were launched in October 2020 and offer regular virtual roundtable discussions for strategic leaders on the topic of **the mutual difference, looking** how mutual and cooperative insurers leverage the mutual value proposition to create a positive differentiator and gain a competitive advantage. More than 120 senior executives have participated in virtual roundtables in 2020/2021, representing 60+ member.

ICMIF launched a member-only Knowledge Hub website in 2020 with over 700 searchable assets including case studies, thought leadership articles, webinars and video presentations from previous events.

To satisfy demand from members, we also created a range of online learning and networking products including the *Mutual Leadership: Adapting to a Complex World* online course which was successfully launched in 2020. The course provides extended discussion opportunities with peers from around the globe who are facing similar challenges. A popular, online alumni forum MC2 has since been launched.



Through the use of technology, meetings and conversations with members moved online and discussions took place at all strategic levels within the member organisations. Some of the issues at the forefront of member minds in 2020 include: sustainability strategies; insurtech; leveraging mutuality, the ESG agenda; governance; and member to member exchanges whereby ICMIF introduces members to each other for strategic discussions.

Towards the end of 2019, ICMIF announced three new global partnership agreements which continue to progress well. These partnerships are with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP); the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and Accounting for Sustainability (A4S). ICMIF continues to be represented on the Insurance Development Forum (IDF) a public-private-mutual organisation that is the industry and UN partnership to deliver the UN2030 Agenda. In 2020, we worked with the United Nations Environment Programme – Finance Initiative (UNEP-FI) on two key initiatives: the Net Zero Alliance and the 'Insurance SDGs'. These industry leading initiatives and partnerships include the participation of ICMIF members.

Our work with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) in 2020 involved the identification of examples of ICMIF members working to enable a shift within the insurance industry from a focus on providing risk transfer products and services as a means to protect the insured from disaster risks, to an emphasis on prevention through disaster risk reduction incentives, awareness, capacity and financing. The cooperative and mutual insurance sector is uniquely positioned to take a lead in charting a practical path from risk protection to prevention. Twenty case studies were showcased in a joint report from ICMIF and UNDRR, 'From protection to prevention: The role of cooperative and mutual insurance in disaster risk reduction', which was published in April this year.



Consumers Cooperatives Worldwide (CCW)

The extraordinary circumstances brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic caused considerable turbulence in all areas of life across the world – social, economic, cultural, political, even spiritual. Despite the numerous challenges, our global co-operative movement stayed true to its ideals and historical calling and throughout these difficult times, all resources and capacity was mobilised, allowing co-operative organisations to stay close to their members and to continue successfully serving them and their local communities daily. Whilst the pandemic's initial impact and shock may have remained in 2020, co-operatives still must overcome many challenges. Stability and recovery will be the main objectives in 2021 through mutual co-operation as our movement looks to build back stronger and together.

The 2020 Work Plan & Budget foresaw a number of activities and events. Unfortunately, most had to be postponed to later in the year or to 2021. Our participation in

ICA Africa's Ministerial Cooperative Conference, planned for Lesotho, 10-14th May 2020 was postponed to an online event on 15th October. The CCW seminar *"Global Supply Chains"* and Task Force meeting for the establishment of a consumer co-op CCW regional structure, planned within International Forum AgroCoop in April 2020, Cuiabá, Brazil was postponed for 2021; Our joint seminar with Euro Coop related to the International Day of Co-operatives, within the Euro Coop General Assembly, 3-5 June 2020, Czech Rep. was cancelled; and our global conference in Seoul, December 2020, within the World Co-operative Congress was accordingly postponed to December 2021.

At the onset of the global pandemic, CCW President – Prof. Petar Stefanov addressed all national member organisations. He shared his thoughts and proposals on closer co-operation as a means of successfully mitigating the negative repercussions of the crisis. He shared emphasized the

need to implement our shared principles, values and ethics in order to be of service to our 1.2 billion individual members across the globe and their local communities. On this occasion and with the aim of uplifting members' spirits, Prof. Stefanov shared an original song *"A Co-op Future"*, the text of which he authored. The verse goes by *"I believe that all will pass, all will pass, although I heard the hard news today. We will soon meet in Sofia again and we will start a new TOGETHER."*

4 July 2020 was another occasion for the CCW President to show his recognition of and salute the consumer co-operative contribution to climate action. Furthermore, Prof. Stefanov called on policymakers to prioritise an adequate legal and policy framework conducive to the co-operative model on international and national level, as this would facilitate the co-operative contribution to society through a more sustainable, fair and greener world!

In his celebratory addresses to Dr. Ariel Guarco at the occasion of these two historical anniversaries for the global co-operative movement, the CCW President acknowledged the historic role of the ICA – still valid today - in safeguarding and promoting the interests of our 1.2 billion individual members and their local communities through active collaboration and unwavering adherence to the co-operative principles, values and ethics. Yet again, Prof. Stefanov urged policymakers in realising their shared responsibility with the co-op movement in building a better world for everyone. CCW presented its Strategic Policy Guide “Consumer Co-operatives 2030” at the regional conference dedicated to the theme of “Fostering Implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area through Cooperatives”. The policy guide proposes a methodology to establish action plans for advocacy and representation of consumer co-operatives towards policymakers by focusing on addressing the regulatory, legislative and policy barriers to markets for co-operatives. As such, the presence of government officials, including ministers, and representatives of

national co-operative organisations allowed for constructive discussions on this subject. CCW was a Golden Sponsor of the event.

Mapping of member best practices

The consumer co-op response to the COVID-19 pandemic represented a focal point of the Association’s activities. A compilation of best practices of national members’ efforts to maintain their mission of serving members, consumers and local communities while dealing with the extraordinary and complex repercussions of the pandemic. It was completed in partnership with Euro Coop and published online.

All consumer co-operatives worldwide found themselves in the frontline during the pandemic as they supplied their consumers and members with goods of basic necessity, medical supplies, protective gear and other services. The emphasis in their activity included: protecting the physical health of employees and customers in retail outlets by providing personal protective equipment and disinfectants; stepping-up communication with consumers and people’s awareness, including partnering with national authorities, in order to: call on people to

follow the official health and sanitary measures, inform people on the developing situation around COVID-19, provide useful information and advice to manage the new circumstances, establish telephone and e-hotlines for direct contact with people to provide live updates, cater for their emotional well-being, and maintain calmness, avoid unnecessary panic buying.

Our members were largely successful in: maintaining employment and salaries; supporting local producers and suppliers through increased offering of local products, as well as through offering physical space inside the COOP stores to set up their own stand; freezing retail prices of selected goods; implementing convenient shopping through: digital solutions for ordering, paying and home or other form of delivery, which facilitated maintaining social distancing and avoided queues at the stores, extended business hours and free delivery for the ill, senior citizens or others socially disadvantaged, as well as all professions who were mobilized in the battle against COVID (medical staff).

Coop2Coop direct relations among national structures were reinforced through: import-export of COOP branded goods of strategic importance – items of basic necessity, medical and protective equipment, as well as mobile medical unit (vehicle) and mobile retail units (vehicles) with the purpose of reaching settlements in remote areas; and increased and constant exchange of information, experience, good practices in relation to the extraordinary circumstances.

All the while, consumer co-operatives maintained social responsibility and concern for the community through a plethora of donation campaigns.

In the process, our members had to overcome stark challenges. The financial analysis for the first half of 2020 shows that consumer co-operatives report a decline in revenues and an increase in costs compared to the same period in 2019 mainly due to: reduced purchasing power of the population; extended business hours for the convenience of customers; opening new temporary jobs (cashiers, logistics staff, etc.); establishing and maintaining online platforms for shopping and delivery, especially in countries with

stricter restrictive measures; daily provision of protective equipment and disinfectants to staff and customers in retail outlets; the closure – complete or partial, of various other business activities of consumer co-operatives such as tourism, restaurant, catering.

CCW prepared a survey aimed to identify, qualify and quantify the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic onto national members – taking into consideration their retail operations, other economic activity, membership services, and community engagement and support. The exercise was launched in early 2021. Its feedback aims to generate the basis for the drafting of a thematic report on co-operative identity as a competitive advantage during the pandemic, as well as for the organization of thematic events aimed at exploring C2C collaboration among members in the form of common projects and initiatives. This initiative shall be carried out in collaboration with Euro Coop.

Looking ahead, members delved into internal discussions dedicated to reflecting on the challenges to be faced by the national members in continuing their operations despite the presence of COVID-19 and, respectively, the change in objectives and activities of the Organisation to continuously provide membership benefits.

Collaboration with the other structures of the ICA was also reinforced by our participation in regular meetings initiated and organized by the Global Office and the Director General aimed at facilitating the synergies and closer relations between the Global Office, Regions and Sectors. Discussions included coordination within the 2030 Strategic Plan, the ICA membership and communications strategies, and a framework for a co-operative legislation harmonisation.

Similar to the RESO WG, the Global Office hosted several meetings throughout the year with the participation of the global sectors to discuss closer coordination. CCW participated on all occasions and contributed with input.

Cooperative Housing International (CHI)

On the communications front, in addition to a growing presence on various social media platforms, CHI produced a series of eleven short videos in three languages explaining the basic concepts of housing cooperatives, how they are financed and governed, the benefits of living in a co-op community etc. A new interactive multi-media podcast technology called Remcast was also used to further promote the cooperative housing model.

Earlier in 2020, before pandemic restrictions were in place, CHI's Secretary General travelled to Belgium and Sweden and took the opportunity to film interviews with CHI members, HSB, WeEffect and Riksbyggen which were used extensively in the video series. Site visits in Stockholm and with Dirk Vansintjan, REScoop's President, in Rotselaar, Belgium were also featured in SDG themed videos.

CHI welcomed five new members in 2020 – two student housing cooperatives, Student Cooperative Homes (UK) and North American Students for Cooperation (NASCO-USA/Canada); WeEffect (Sweden); FECOVI (Uruguay); The General Authority for Construction and Housing Cooperatives (Egypt) for a grand total of 32 members.

Capacity building was a big focus in 2020 with CHI hosting three webinars on cooperative housing development, one on the mutual self-help model in Spanish and one on student cooperative housing with new members, NASCO and Student Co-operative Homes UK, CoHabitat partners, and student housing co-ops from Germany, Australia and Switzerland. CHI was also invited to present on financial instruments from around the world for Arkom Indonesia (Community Architects Group using participatory design and planning to develop community-led housing.)

We continue to grow our collaboration with the CoHabitat Network, a group of international organisations developing and promoting community-led housing. Together, we developed a month-long social media campaign on community-led housing during the UN's Urban October along with two webinars, one on student housing cooperatives and the other on community land trusts.

Lastly, CHI identified 11 SDGs that housing coops can most effectively focus on along with targets and indicators specific to housing which are now featured on the website. As a lead up to this exercise, CHI was the cooperative housing representative in an SDG working group led by the Centre of Excellence in Accounting and Reporting for Co-operatives (CEARC) at Saint Mary's University on ways to measure the Canadian cooperative sector's contributions to the UN's SDGs. CHI also produced two videos that share the sustainability best practices of HSB in Sweden.



International Organization of Industrial, Artisanal and Service Producers Cooperatives (CICOPA)

COVID-19 outbreak

In the month of March, we co-signed a [solidarity message](#) with the Presidents of CECOP and CICOPA Americas, to provide words of encouragement and hope to our members and their affiliated cooperatives. In addition, [through this collection of stories](#), we have been promoting our members and affiliated cooperatives capacities to adapt to this ever-changing pandemic situation.

CICOPA in the GYF20

Last February, we participated in [the Global Youth Forum](#) (GYF20) of the ICA on the topic of youth cooperative entrepreneurship. CICOPA staff and members took part in the event as trainers on worker ownership, worker cooperatives' management, democratic governance, platform cooperatives, and much more.

Consultation on SDGs

In the framework of a broader project by the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA), CICOPA surveyed its members on several issues concerning the contribution given by cooperatives in industry and services to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals globally. [Here the report](#) outlining the results of the consultation and related methodology.

CICOPA partner of 'Platform Coops Now!'

CICOPA has partnered with Mondragon University and the New School University in New York who launched the Platform Cooperatives course "Platform Coops Now!". The course has run for 2 successful editions, where several CICOPA members from Europe, the Americas and Asia actively engaged as local partners, providing knowledge and support to new platform coops ideas in their region. [Read more](#)

Coops Day Promotion

In occasion of the Day of cooperatives, in this [video message](#), CICOPA President, Iñigo Albizuri, promoted the role of industrial and service cooperatives as a laboratory of environmental sustainability.

Singapore Project

In September, CICOPA, with the contribution of ICA expertise, won a bid launched by the Singapore Government for drafting a technical guide for freelancers interested in creating or joining cooperatives of independent workers in Singapore. The project has been finalized in 2021 by the Centre of Excellence in Accounting and Reporting for Cooperatives (CEARC) at Saint Mary's University on ways to measure the Canadian cooperative sector's contributions to the UN's SDGs. CHI also produced two videos that share the sustainability best practices of HSB in Sweden.



International Health Cooperative Organisation (IHCO)

The International Health Cooperative Organisation, IHCO, founded in 1996, brings together healthcare cooperatives from 14 countries.

It comprises cooperative businesses active in primary and specialised healthcare, management of hospitals, health insurance, socio-healthcare, health promotion, health literacy and pharmacy distribution.

As an ICA sectoral organisation, IHCO's activity is addressed to showcase cooperatives as an alternative private actor in the health domain which combines economic goals with social values; to highlight the global scale of the cooperative business model in the health sector; and raise awareness about its added value as people-oriented companies.

In 2020, the covid-19 outbreak severely stressed the healthcare sector. Suddenly increasing demand for healthcare facilities and professionals put health systems under pressure, often on the verge of collapse. The pandemic has added to other significant challenges already threatening healthcare before. Cooperatives faced many severe issues and difficulties in caring for their members and communities.

Last year, IHCO focused on two main aims. First, to keep in close contact with members to collect information about covid-19 in order to share it and facilitate the exchange of experiences and knowledge among them. Second, as health has currently been put high on the agenda of governments and many countries are reviewing their health systems, we have reinforced our advocacy action to convey the message about the potential of health cooperatives.



Some highlights of the year's activity are the following:

- Participation in the Alliance of Health Promotion Seminar within the WHO's assembly on 15 May
- Co-organisation with the ICA Global Office of the webinar «Health Cooperatives during covid-19 and in times of crises», on 17 June
- Participation in the conference «The cooperative health system against COVID-19. Experiences, responses and scenarios from the Americas» hosted by Cooperatives of the Americas on 24 September
- Intervention at the Global Social Economy Forum on 29 September

- On 30 September, we took part in the webinar «Health cooperatives and mutuels in Argentina; analysis and perspectives» hosted by Cooperar.
- On 22 October, we gave a presentation on «Health promotion and social determinants of health equity in the covid-19 times» at the 10th Global Forum on Health Promotion, where WHO Director-General and other senior officials participated.

From a governance perspective, we hosted an online General Assembly on 28 October, where members reported on their activities and deliberated on the strategy for the following year.

We were able to carry out our communication strategy. We published a monthly newsletter with the relevant content about members news and updates and were active on social media.

We collaborated with the authors of the recently published book entitled «Health cooperatives, Serbian roots for global development». We also participated in a research study on the contribution of health cooperatives to Sustainable Development Goals.



The activities of the ICA thematic committees and youth network

Gender Equality Committee (GEC)

International Women's Day celebration

As each year, the GEC celebrated the International Women's Day on the 8th of March 2020. This time the committee's declaration focused on how the cooperatives can be the tool to reduce the socio-economic injustices faced by women. Cooperative solutions go beyond business as usual in market economies and can help achieve the Leave no one behind-agenda contributing to "A decade of action and delivery".

Following the 2020 International Women Day's theme **I am Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Rights**, that also marked the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action which recognised the multiple benefits of cooperatives, GEC stated that it is time for the UN and international cooperative development sector to increase and prioritise aid to key development actors that strengthen women's economic, social and political empowerment.

Orange the World: Fund, Respond, Prevent, Collect

Cooperatives voices and experiences during the UN's 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign: "Orange the World: Fund, Respond, Prevent, Collect!"

During the 16 days of activism against gender base violence, cooperatives projects and activities were spotlighted in order to showcase how the cooperative movement is at the forefront of fighting violence against women. The closing of the camping was celebrated with a prerecorded webinar and a call to action written by the GEC's chair, María Eugenia Pérez Zea.

The prerecorded webinar featured video messages from cooperative leaders worldwide, such as the GEC executive committee members and representatives from the self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA), the Italian Alliance Women and Equality Commission and ICA Director General. María Eugenia Pérez Zea, Chair of the GEC, closed the campaign and the webinar with a call to action urging all civil society, governments, social and solidarity economy organizations, public and private enterprises and international organizations to generate public awareness through education, acts large and small, collective and individual, that end violence against women and girls.



Global Youth Network (GYN)

Since 2019, the ICA Global Youth Network has been able to progress rapidly on implementing the Action Plan upon receipt of a donation from the International Summit of Cooperatives.

The March 2020 edition of the Cooperative Insider focused on youth cooperative entrepreneurship. Read it [here](#).

The Youth Network launched their newly designed website at www.globalyouth.coop and also opened a [discussion forum for youth](#).

started a project to [map all cooperative initiatives that empower youth](#). We have hired the same consultant who processed and analysed the first set of responses to do the same for the additional 100+ responses received in the past year. The results are available [here](#).

The Youth Network has put out a call for a consultant to connect and inspire youth by creating a publication of best practice case studies, to be finalized in 2021. The call can be referenced [here](#).

[The Global Youth Forum on Cooperative Entrepreneurship 2020](#) took place 3-7 February in Malaysia. There was excellent participation and amazing trainers. 180 youth participated from 50 countries. Read [here](#) the Youth Agenda for Advocacy passed by the Forum.

The Youth Network opened a call for proposals for the [Replication Project](#) to provide funds to replicate inspiring youth projects. More than 150 proposals were received from already existing youth coops and groups of youth who wanted to create a youth coop. Nine projects were chosen and began their development.



Cooperative Law Committee (CLC)

The ICA Cooperative Law Committee is a Thematic Committee created to offer independent legal advice to the ICA. It comprises of 10 members who are widely known experts in field of cooperative law. The committee was reconstituted in 2019.

The Committee met four times during the year where it elaborated on its strategic objectives, key result areas, method of working and the work plan. The members of the committee collaborated through the year towards providing legal opinions concerning cooperative laws for inter alia agricultural cooperatives in Greece, sale of the Mountain Equipment Cooperative in Canada, Model cooperative law for the Member states of the African Union and regional framework for cooperative legislation in South Pacific Island countries.

In 2020, the committee started its work on the creation of an online platform on cooperative law as well as a discussion forum aimed at networking cooperative lawyers globally, particularly in the context of collecting information concerning legal changes resultant of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The committee also co-organized a special panel discussion on cooperative identity and the law to mark 25 years of the ICA Statement on the Cooperative Identity in September 2020.

Considering the interrelation of the ICA Statement on the Cooperative Identity and cooperative legislation, the chairperson of the CLC was nominated to the Task Force of the 33rd ICA World Cooperative Congress and took part in Congress preparations. The committee has continued to offer support in facilitating the organization of the 3rd International Forum on Cooperative Law to be organized during the 33rd ICA World Cooperative Congress on Deepening our Cooperative Identity.

The CLC started its work on liaising with other international actors in the field of cooperative law.

Committee on Cooperative Research (CCR)

The Committee on Cooperative Research (CCR) serves to provide a bridge between academic research and the co-operative practice. In existence since 1957, the CCR aims to strengthen research activities and increase the visibility of the cooperative movement. The committee is particularly interested in ensuring that co-operative leaders and members have access to the latest research so that the results can inform current co-operative practice.

In 2020, CCR supported regional conferences; published the *International Review of Cooperation*; and contributed to the ICA activities, including the organization of the ICA Cooperative Research Conferences within the framework of the 33rd World Cooperative Congress.

CCR Conferences

- The 11th ICA CCR Latin America Research Conference (5-7 November, 2020, Online) - ICA CCR Latin America Research Biannual 11th Conference 2020 took place virtually with more than 500 participants online. This was the XI International Congress of Researchers on Cooperativism, called in Spanish **Red Latinoamericana de Investigadores en Cooperativismo**. It went successfully in Colombia with the support of **CONFECOOP**, **the National Cooperative Confederation of Colombia** and the **Universidad Católica Luis Amigó**. XI Latin American research conference had 2 ICA leaders actively participating: Carlos Acero, a board member of Cooperatives of the Americas with a speech, and Maria Eugenia Pérez Zea, ICA Global Board Member and Chair of the ICA Gender Equality Committee, who chaired a panel on gender.
- The 15th ICA-Asia-Pacific Cooperative Research Conference (17-18 December, 2020, Online) - The event was attended by 80 individuals from 12 countries, including researchers, policy makers, cooperative practitioners, young scholars and students, who shared their experiences on issues related to the conference theme: *Addressing climate change through cooperative enterprise*. The conference was organised by the ICA-AP Committee on Cooperative Research, with the support of Agricultural Cooperative Staff Training Institute (ACSTI), Government of Kerala, ICA Domus Trust, ICA-EU Partnership on Cooperatives in Development and the Uralungal Labour Contract Cooperative Society (ULCCS).

Publication

Review of International Cooperation (published on 27 February 2020)
- The 105th issue of the Review of International Cooperation looks at the interplay of diversity, inclusion, and social justice with cooperative enterprises in Canada and beyond. Published by the ICA CCR, this special edition edited by Canadian Association for Studies in Co-operatives (CASC) presented a collection of diverse experiences and uses of the cooperative model. The seven articles in the review touch on issues such as indigenous communities, human rights and the values of cooperation; city village cooperatives; the role of cooperatives in reconciliation; female participation in agricultural co-operatives; member wellbeing in worker cooperatives; and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Contribution to the ICA activities

- Organization of the ICA Cooperative Research Conference within the framework of the 33rd World Cooperative Congress – All CCR executive members joined the Scientific Committee for the research conference and contributed to the organization of conference.
- World Cooperative Monitor – All CCR executive members serve as the advisory committee members for the World Cooperative Monitor.

Communication

- Information sharing through CCR mailing list - 32 emails were sent to cooperative researchers through its mailing list (currently 830 recipients) in order to share various information concerning research on cooperative.
- CCR webpage (ccr.ica.coop) – 7 news and 6 calls posted in 2020.

Other contributions (Chair's activities on behalf of CCR):

- Intervention during the ICETT meeting
- Member of the World Cooperative Congress Task Force team.
- Expert advisory role on the UNRISD SDPI project

Besides these ongoing activities, CCR members are regular contributors to research and policy briefings and projects in their regions as experts on cooperatives.

International Cooperative Development Platform (ICDP)

The ICDP

Partnership in all its dimensions is one of the most important tools that the cooperative movement has been using to contribute to sustainable development. Collectively, the global cooperative movement deploys significant resources to lift people out of poverty, to empower local communities and to improve the lives of billions across the globe.

The International Cooperative Development Platform (ICDP), established in 2017 in Malaysia, brings together 35 Cooperative Organisations to promote and support the initiation and furtherance of international cooperative development activities. The Platform serves as a forum for the exchange of experiences and knowledge sharing, the promotion of the cooperative model towards development actors and international institutions, as well as the collaboration within development programs and partnerships.

UN High Level Political Forum

Under the leadership and with main contributions of the ICDP, a side-event at the United Nations High Level Political Forum (HLPF) has been organised. Government and United Nations representatives, together with partners and cooperative development organisations debated the theme of 'Cooperatives: a resilient model in time of crisis and beyond'. It showed how global policies can support the cooperative sector as a vehicle of resilience through this crisis and beyond and the capacity of cooperatives in re-activating local economies, focusing on inclusive and sustainable growth by reaching out to the most vulnerable ones.

Tuesday Talks on international cooperative development

The Tuesday Talks are Webinars about and around the work of the different ICDP members. Each webinar presents one organization under a specific format: a short introduction, vision and mission, main priorities of intervention, link

with SDGs and geographical focus, and main sectoral involvement. Afterwards participants have the occasion to ask questions and interact with the speaker in order to boost dialogue and cooperation. 9 webinars took place in 2020, with a monthly rhythm. All are recorded and can be visualized on ICA's YouTube channel and the www.coops4dev.coop website.

ICDP Directory

The directory is a small booklet, featuring the cooperative development organisations (CDOs) of the platform. Main characteristics of each organization are displayed, such as website, base of operations, year of foundation, main geographic areas of interest, donor collaborations and contact details. It is a 'living' document, continuously updated with latest information about CDOs. A new version will be released in 2021.

Dotcooperation

DotCooperation (www.identity.coop) - home of the .coop domain name registry, the .coop Global Directory, and the Cooperative Marque - promotes and elevates the identity of Cooperatives online and improves their ability to participate and thrive in the digital economy for greater and more equitable access to economic opportunities.

DotCooperation's identity tools have been uniting and promoting the global cooperative movement since 2001, as a global network of businesses with shared values and principles. With the use of the internet in business expanding exponentially since then (along with the introduction of over 1000 new domain name extensions), the .coop domain has both a remarkable legacy and serves an important role going forward, as the online home and identity for cooperatives to stand out globally among all others.

DotCooperation continues to promote entrepreneurship and has welcomed many new organizations in their first step to forming as a cooperative - elevating their identity as a cooperative, creating awareness for their organization, and guiding them to the many regional and specialized resources within the movement to build their business.

DotCooperation and the ICA work collaboratively to promote and support the ICA's regional teams and members. The programs and

DotCooperation's activities to promote Cooperatives include:

- Global Youth Forum – Educational sessions on entrepreneurship and digital branding.
- The International Day of Cooperatives (#coopday) – Mobilizing a global media ambassador program to raise awareness of Cooperatives.
- Cooperative Stories – Numerous publications highlighting the impact of Cooperative businesses around the globe.
- Co-op Academy – Educational webinar of .coop, the online Cooperative identifier and digital brand.

Our team



Bruno Roelants
Director General



Gretchen Hacquard
Director of Membership



Georgia Papoutsi
Policy Coordinator



Joseph Njuguna
Policy Coordinator



Santosh P. Kumar
Director of Legislation



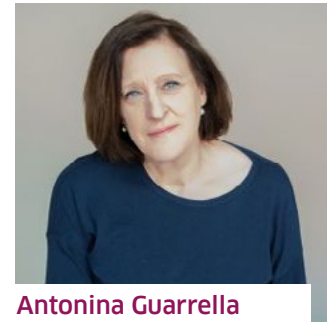
Marc Noël
International Development Director



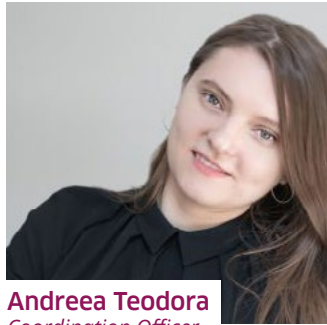
Leire Luengo Eslava
Director of communication



Inés Seguí
Communication officer



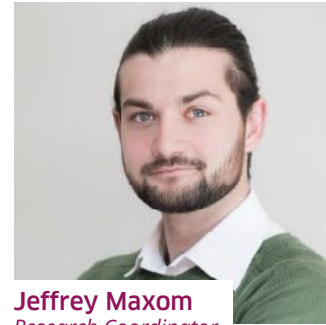
Antonina Guarrella
Events and Office Coordinator



Andreea Teodora
Coordination Officer



Hyungsik Eum
Director of Research



Jeffrey Maxom
Research Coordinator



Véronique Bénet
*Director of Finance
and Administration*



Wendy Winkelhuijzen
*Finance and Administration
Manager*



Alessia Azara
Finance Officer



Silvia Schiavon
Programme Coordinator



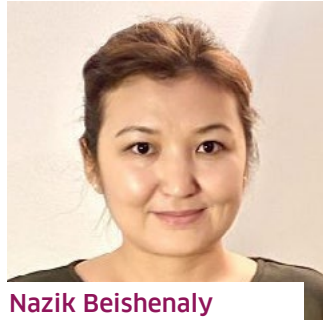
Joanne Lechasseur
*World Cooperative
Congress Event Advisor*



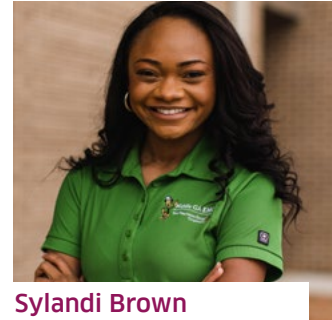
Sumi Cho
*World Cooperative
Congress Local*



Zuraidah Hoffman
*World Cooperative
Congress Communication
Manager*



Nazik Beishenaly
*World Cooperative
Congress Research Advisor*



Sylandi Brown
*World Cooperative Congress
Assistant Event Manager*



Claudia Vasconcellos
*Secretariat Assistant for the
World Cooperative Congress*

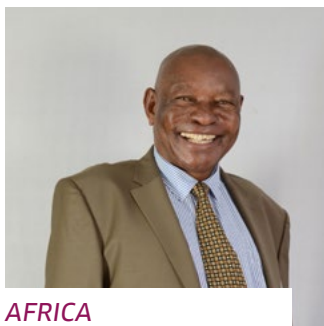
Board of Directors

President



ARGENTINA
Ariel GUARCO

Vice Presidents



AFRICA
Japheth
ANAVILA MAGOMERE



AMERICAS
Graciela FERNÁNDEZ



ASIA-PACIFIC
Chunsheng LI



EUROPE
Jean-Louis BANCEL

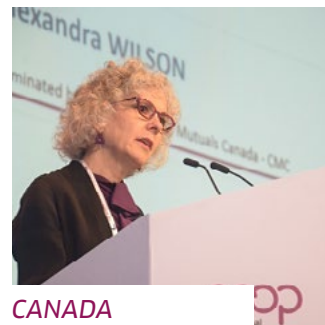
Board members



AUSTRALIA
Gregory WALL



BRAZIL
Onofre Cezário De Souza
FILHO



CANADA
Alexandra WILSON



DENMARK
Susanne WESTHAUSEN



FINLAND
Marjaana SAARIKOSKI



FRANCE
Florence RAINEIX



INDIA
Aditya YADAV



ITALY
Carlo SCARZANELLA



JAPAN
Toru NAKAYA



MALAYSIA
Kamarudin ISMAIL



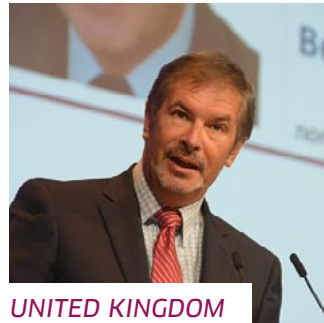
NEPAL
Om Devi MALLA



SINGAPORE
Kok Kwong KWEK
He passed away on 14 November 2020.



SWEDEN
Anders LAGO



UNITED KINGDOM
Ben REID



UNITED STATES
Martin LOWERY

Sectoral Organisation Representatives



BULGARIA
Petar STEFANOV



FRANCE
Isabelle FERRAND



SPAIN
Manuel MARISCAL

Gender Equality Representative



COLOMBIA
Maria Eugenia PÉREZ ZEA

Youth Representative



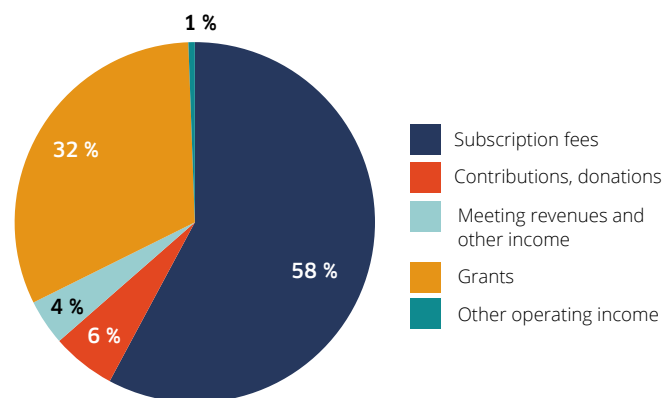
FRANCE
Sébastien CHAILLOU

Our resources

2020 financial results

| in EUR | 2020 |
|---------------------|----------------|
| AFRICA | 3.716 |
| AMERICAS | 38.681 |
| ASIA & PACIFIC | 140.836 |
| GLOBAL OFFICE | - 40.380 |
| ICA CONSOLIDATED | 142.853 |
| COOPERATIVES EUROPE | - 3.415 |
| 50% DOTCOOP LLC | 66.134 |

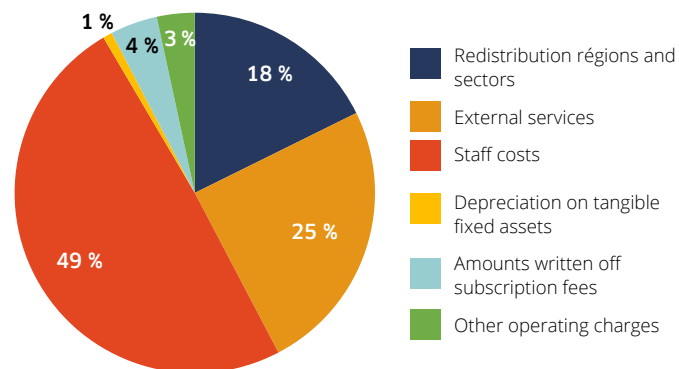
Incomes



Sectoral redistribution

| EUR | 2020 |
|--------------|------------------|
| CCW | € 69.785 |
| IHCO | € 30.656 |
| CHI | € 55.367 |
| CICOPA | € 52.618 |
| ICAO | € 52.424 |
| ICFO | € 19.889 |
| ICBA | € 71.564 |
| TOTAL | € 352.303 |

Expenses



Our members

| REGION | STATUS | COUNTRY | ORGANISATION |
|--------|-----------|-------------------------------|---|
| AF | Member | ANGOLA | Cooperativa De Credito Para Os Funcionários Da Presidência (COOCREFP) |
| AF | Member | BOTSWANA | Botswana Co-operative Association (BOCA) |
| AF | Member | CONGO, Democratic Republic of | Cooperative d'épargne et de Credit de Nyawera (COOPEC NYAWERA) |
| AF | Member | COTE D'IVOIRE | Fédération des sociétés coopératives d'Hévéa de Côte d'Ivoire (FENASCOOPH-CI) |
| AF | Member | COTE D'IVOIRE | Fédération des Unions des Sociétés Coopératives des Producteurs de la Filière Coton de Côte d'Ivoire (FPC-CI Coop CA) |
| AF | Associate | EGYPT (Arab Rep. of) | The General Authority for Construction and Housing Cooperatives (CHC) |
| AF | Associate | ESWATINI | Eswatini Farmers Cooperative Union (ESWAFCU) |
| AF | Member | ETHIOPIA | Oromia Coffee Farmers Co-operative Union (OCFCU) Ltd. |
| AF | Member | ETHIOPIA | Awach Savings and Credit Cooperative (ASCCo) |
| AF | Member | ETHIOPIA | Cooperative Bank of Oromia |
| AF | Member | GHANA | Ghana Co-operative Council (GCC) |
| AF | Member | GHANA | Ghana Cooperative Agricultural Producers and Marketing Association (AGRIC COOP GHANA) |
| AF | Member | GHANA | Easy Investment Co-op Credit Union Ltd. (EICCU) |
| AF | Member | GUINEA | Fédération des coopératives d'approvisionnement et de l'alimentation générale (FECAAG) |
| AF | Member | KENYA | Co-operative Bank of Kenya Ltd (CBK) |
| AF | Member | KENYA | CIC Insurance Group Ltd. |
| AF | Associate | KENYA | The Co-operative University of Kenya (CUK) |

| REGION | STATUS | COUNTRY | ORGANISATION |
|--------|-----------|------------|--|
| AF | Member | KENYA | Kenya Union of Savings and Credit Co-operatives Ltd. (KUSCCO) |
| AF | Member | KENYA | National Co-operative Housing Union Ltd (NACHU) |
| AF | Member | KENYA | The Co-operative Alliance of Kenya (CAK) |
| AF | Member | KENYA | Kenya Co-operative Coffee Exporters Ltd (KCCE) |
| AF | Member | LESOTHO | Co-operative Lesotho Ltd. |
| AF | Member | MAURITIUS | The Mauritius Co-operative Union Ltd (MCUL) |
| AF | Associate | MOROCCO | Office du Développement de la Coopération (ODCo) |
| AF | Associate | MOZAMBIQUE | Associação Moçambicana de Promoção do Cooperativismo MODermo (AMPCM) |
| AF | Associate | NAMIBIA | Namibia Co-operatives Advisory Board (NCAB) |
| AF | Member | NIGER | Fédération des Coopératives Maraichères du Niger (FC-MN-Niya) |
| AF | Member | NIGERIA | Co-operative Federation of Nigeria (CFN) |
| AF | Associate | NIGERIA | Federal Department of Co-operatives, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FDC) |
| AF | Member | NIGERIA | Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation Cooperative Multipurpose Society LTD (NNPC-CMS Lagos) |
| AF | Member | NIGERIA | Odua Cooperative Conglomerate Ltd (OCC) |
| AF | Member | RWANDA | National Cooperatives Confederation of Rwanda (NCCR) |
| AF | Associate | RWANDA | Independent Institute of Lay Adventists of Kigali (INILAK) |
| AF | Member | SOMALIA | Somali Union Co-operative Movement (UDHIS) |

| REGION | STATUS | COUNTRY | ORGANISATION |
|--------|-----------|--------------|---|
| AF | Member | SOUTH AFRICA | South African National Apex Co-operative (SANACO) |
| AF | Associate | TANZANIA | Moshi Co-operative University (MoCU) |
| AF | Member | TANZANIA | Tanzania Federation of Co-operatives Ltd (TFC) |
| AF | Member | UGANDA | Uganda Co-operative Alliance Ltd. (UCA) |
| AF | Associate | UGANDA | HealthPartners Uganda (HPU) |
| AF | Member | ZIMBABWE | Zimbabwe National Association of Housing Co-operatives (ZINAHCO) |
| AM | Member | ARGENTINA | Confederación Cooperativa de la República Argentina Ltda. (COOPERAR) |
| AM | Member | ARGENTINA | Federación Argentina de Cooperativas de Consumo (FACC) |
| AM | Member | ARGENTINA | Instituto Movilizador de Fondos Cooperativos, Cooperativa Ltda. (IMFC) |
| AM | Member | ARGENTINA | Banco Credicoop Cooperativo Ltd. (BCCL) |
| AM | Member | ARGENTINA | Sancor Cooperativa de Seguros Ltda |
| AM | Member | ARGENTINA | La Segunda Cooperativa Limitada Seguros Generales |
| AM | Member | ARGENTINA | Agricultores Federados Argentinos Sociedad Cooperativa Limitada (AFA S.C.L.) |
| AM | Member | ARGENTINA | Confederacion Nacional de Cooperativas de Trabajo (CNCT) |
| AM | Member | ARGENTINA | Cooperativa de Provisión y Comercialización de Servicios Comunitarios de Radiodifusión COLSECOR Limitada (COLSECOR) |
| AM | Member | ARGENTINA | Cooperativa de Trabajos Portuarios Limitada de San Martin (Coop Portuaria) |
| AM | Member | BARBADOS | Barbados Co-operative Business Association (BCBAL) |
| AM | Member | BOLIVIA | Cooperativa de Telecomunicaciones Santa Cruz (COTAS Ltda.) |

| REGION | STATUS | COUNTRY | ORGANISATION |
|--------|--------|----------|---|
| AM | Member | BOLIVIA | Cooperativa Rural De Electrificación R.L. (CRE R.L.) |
| AM | Member | BOLIVIA | Cooperativa Boliviana de Cemento, Industrias y Servicios - COBOCE LTDA |
| AM | Member | BRAZIL | Organização das Cooperativas Brasileiras (OCB) |
| AM | Member | BRAZIL | Unimed do Brasil, Confederação Nacional das Cooperativas Médicas (UNIMED) |
| AM | Member | BRAZIL | Central de Cooperativas e Empreendimentos Solidários do Brasil (UNISOL Brasil) |
| AM | Member | BRAZIL | Central Nacional das Cooperativas Ontontológicas (Uniodonto do Brasil) |
| AM | Member | BRAZIL | Central Nacional Unimed - Cooperativa Central (CNU) |
| AM | Member | BRAZIL | Cooperativa de Crédito de Livre Admissão de Associados Pioneira da Serra Gaúcha - Sicredi Pioneira RS |
| AM | Member | BRAZIL | Unimed Seguros Saúde S.A. |
| AM | Member | BRAZIL | Cooperativa de Trabalho Médico de Ribeirão Preto (COMERP) |
| AM | Member | CANADA | Co-operatives and Mutuals Canada / Coopératives et mutuelles Canada (CMC) |
| AM | Member | CHILE | COOPEUCH Ltda. Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito |
| AM | Member | CHILE | Cooperativa abierta de vivienda Limitada (CONAVICOOP) |
| AM | Member | COLOMBIA | Asociación Colombiana de Cooperativas (ASCOOP) |
| AM | Member | COLOMBIA | Confederación de Cooperativas de Colombia (CONFECOOP) |
| AM | Member | COLOMBIA | La Equidad Seguros |
| AM | Member | COLOMBIA | Cooperativa Médica del Valle y Profesionales de Colombia (COOMEVA) |
| AM | Member | COLOMBIA | Casa Nacional del Profesor (CANAPRO) |
| AM | Member | COLOMBIA | Financiera Progressa |

| REGION | STATUS | COUNTRY | ORGANISATION |
|--------|-----------|--------------------|---|
| AM | Member | COLOMBIA | Cooperativa del Magisterio (CODEMA) |
| AM | Associate | COLOMBIA | Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia (UCC) |
| AM | Member | COLOMBIA | Caja Coperativa CREDICOOP (CREDICOOP) |
| AM | Member | COLOMBIA | Banco Cooperativo Coopcentral |
| AM | Member | COLOMBIA | Cooperativa Empresarial Multiactiva Popular (COEM-POPULAR) |
| AM | Member | COLOMBIA | Asociación Nacional de Fondos de Empleados (ANALFE) |
| AM | Member | COSTA RICA | Banco Popular y de Desarrollo Comunal (BPDC) |
| AM | Member | COSTA RICA | Consejo Nacional de Cooperativas (CONACOOP) |
| AM | Member | COSTA RICA | Sociedad de Seguros de Vida del Magisterio Nacional (SSVMN) |
| AM | Member | COSTA RICA | Centro de Estudio y Capacitación Cooperativa R.L. (CENECOOP R.L.) |
| AM | Associate | COSTA RICA | Instituto Nacional de Fomento Cooperativo (INFOCOOP) |
| AM | Member | COSTA RICA | Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Ande N° 1 R.L. (Coope Ande N°1 R.L.) |
| AM | Member | COSTA RICA | COOPSERVIDORES R.L. |
| AM | Member | COSTA RICA | Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito de Servidores Judiciales R.L. (COOPEJUDICIAL R.L.) |
| AM | Associate | CURACAO | Ministry of Economic Development (MEO) |
| AM | Member | DOMINICAN REPUBLIC | Cooperativa Nacional de Servicios Múltiples de los Maestros (COOPNAMA) |
| AM | Member | DOMINICAN REPUBLIC | Cooperativa de Servicios Múltiples de Profesionales de Enfermería, Inc. (COOPROENF) |
| AM | Associate | DOMINICAN REPUBLIC | Fundación Dominicana para el Desarrollo Social y Cooperativo (FUNDESCOOP) |

| REGION | STATUS | COUNTRY | ORGANISATION |
|--------|--------|--------------------|--|
| AM | Member | DOMINICAN REPUBLIC | Cooperativa de Servicios Múltiples La Telefónica (COOPSEMUTEL) |
| AM | Member | DOMINICAN REPUBLIC | Cooperativa Vega Real (CVR) |
| AM | Member | ECUADOR | Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Policía Nacional (CPN) |
| AM | Member | ECUADOR | Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Río Bamba Ltda. (COAC Río Bamba) |
| AM | Member | EL SALVADOR | Federación de Asociaciones Cooperativas de Ahorro y Crédito de El Salvador de R.L. (FEDECACES) |
| AM | Member | GUATEMALA | Confederación Guatemalteca de Federaciones Cooperativas, Responsabilidad Limitada (CONFECOOP) |
| AM | Member | HAITI | Union Cooperative de Credit Agricole et Rural d'Haiti (UNICAGRIH) |
| AM | Member | HONDURAS | Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito 'Sagrada Familia' Ltda. |
| AM | Member | HONDURAS | Federación de Cooperativas de Ahorro y Crédito de Honduras, Ltda. (FACACH) |
| AM | Member | HONDURAS | Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Educadores de Honduras Limitada (COACEHL Ltda.) |
| AM | Member | JAMAICA | TIP Friendly Society |
| AM | Member | JAMAICA | Jamaica Co-operative Credit Union League (JCUL) |
| AM | Member | MEXICO (Rep. of) | Caja Popular Mexicana SC de AP de RL CV (CPM) |
| AM | Member | MEXICO (Rep. of) | Confederación Nacional Cooperativa de Actividades Diversas de la República Mexicana (CNC) S.C. de R.L. |
| AM | Member | MEXICO (Rep. of) | Federación de Cajas Populares Alianza SC de RL de CV |
| AM | Member | MEXICO (Rep. of) | FENORESTE S.C.L. de C.V. |

| REGION | STATUS | COUNTRY | ORGANISATION |
|--------|-----------|-------------|---|
| AM | Associate | PANAMA | Instituto Panameño Autónomo Cooperativo (IPACOOOP) |
| AM | Member | PANAMA | Cooperativa de Servicios Múltiples Profesionales, R.L. |
| AM | Member | PARAGUAY | Confederación Paraguaya De Cooperativas CONPACOOOP Ltda. |
| AM | Member | PARAGUAY | Cooperativa Universitaria Ltda |
| AM | Member | PARAGUAY | Panal Compañía de Seguros Generales S.A. - Propriedad Cooperativa |
| AM | Member | PARAGUAY | Federación de Cooperativas del Paraguay (FECOPAR LTDA.) |
| AM | Member | PARAGUAY | Confederación de Cooperativas Rurales del Paraguay Ltda. (CONCOPAR) |
| AM | Member | PARAGUAY | Federación de Cooperativas Multiactivas del Paraguay (FECOMULP LTDA.) |
| AM | Member | PARAGUAY | Federación de Cooperativas de Ahorro y Crédito Ltda. (FECOAC) |
| AM | Member | PERU | Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Santa María Magdalena, Ltda. (CACSM) |
| AM | Member | PERU | Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito "Gr. Francisco Bolognesi" Ltda. (C.A.C. FB) |
| AM | Member | PERU | Cooperativa de Servicios Múltiples del Centro Ltda. (CENTROCOOP) |
| AM | Member | PERU | Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito San Martín de Porres Ltda. |
| AM | Member | PUERTO RICO | Cooperativa de Seguros Múltiples de Puerto Rico Inc. |
| AM | Member | PUERTO RICO | Liga de Cooperativas de Puerto Rico (LIGACOOOP) |
| AM | Member | PUERTO RICO | Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito de Arecibo (COOPACA) |
| AM | Member | PUERTO RICO | Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito «Dr. Manuel Zeno Gandía» |
| AM | Member | PUERTO RICO | Banco Cooperativo de Puerto Rico (Bancoop) |

| REGION | STATUS | COUNTRY | ORGANISATION |
|--------|-----------|-----------------------|---|
| AM | Member | PUERTO RICO | Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Vega Alta (VEGACOOOP) |
| AM | Associate | SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS | Caribbean Confederation of Credit Unions (CCCU) |
| AM | Member | UNITED STATES | National Cooperative Business Association CLUSA International (NCBA CLUSA) |
| AM | Member | UNITED STATES | Credit Union National Association (CUNA) |
| AM | Member | UNITED STATES | National Cooperative Bank (NCB) |
| AM | Member | UNITED STATES | National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) |
| AM | Member | UNITED STATES | CoBank, ACB |
| AM | Member | UNITED STATES | National Co-op Grocers (NCG) |
| AM | Associate | UNITED STATES | National Society of Accountants for Co-operatives (NSAC) |
| AM | Associate | UNITED STATES | Land O'Lakes Venture37 |
| AM | Member | UNITED STATES | U.S. Overseas Cooperative Development Council (OCDC) |
| AM | Member | URUGUAY | Confederación Uruguaya de Entidades Cooperativas (CUDECOOP) |
| AM | Member | URUGUAY | Cooperativas Nacionales Financieras Aliadas en Red (CONFIAR) |
| AM | Associate | URUGUAY | Instituto Nacional del Cooperativismo (INACOOOP) |
| AM | Member | URUGUAY | Cámara Uruguaya de Cooperativas de Ahorro y crédito de Capitalización (CUCACC) |
| AP | Member | AUSTRALIA | Capricorn Society Ltd |
| AP | Member | AUSTRALIA | Co-operative Bulk Handling Limited (CBH Group) |
| AP | Associate | AUSTRALIA | Business Council of Co-operatives and Mutuals (BCCM) |
| AP | Member | BANGLADESH | National Co-operative Union of Bangladesh (Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union-BJSU) |

| REGION | STATUS | COUNTRY | ORGANISATION |
|--------|-----------|-----------------|---|
| AP | Member | BANGLADESH | Bangladesh Samabaya Bank Limited (BSBL) |
| AP | Associate | BHUTAN | Department of Agricultural Marketing and Cooperatives (DAMC) |
| AP | Member | CHINA (P.R. of) | All China Federation Of Supply & Marketing Co-operatives (ACFSMC) |
| AP | Member | CHINA (P.R. of) | All China Federation of Handicraft Industry Co-operatives (ACFHIC) |
| AP | Associate | CHINA (P.R. of) | International Committee for the Promotion of Chinese Industrial Co-operatives (ICIC) |
| AP | Member | CHINA (P.R. of) | Heilongjiang Guhe Cooperative Association (Guhe) |
| AP | Member | CHINA (P.R. of) | Jiangsu Supply & Marketing General Co-operative |
| AP | Member | CHINA (P.R. of) | Fujian Federation of Supply and Marketing Cooperatives (FUJIAN COOP) |
| AP | Associate | FIJI | Department of Co-operative Business (DCB) |
| AP | Member | INDIA | Indian Farmers Fertiliser Co-operative (IFFCO) |
| AP | Member | INDIA | Krishak Bharati Co-operative Ltd. (KRIBHCO) |
| AP | Member | INDIA | National Agricultural Co-operative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) |
| AP | Member | INDIA | National Co-operative Agriculture & Rural Development Banks' Federation Ltd (NCARDB Federation) |
| AP | Member | INDIA | National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI) |
| AP | Member | INDIA | National Federation of State Co-operative Banks Ltd. (NAFSCOB) |
| AP | Member | INDIA | National Federation of Fishermen's Co-operatives Ltd. (FISHCOPFED) |

| REGION | STATUS | COUNTRY | ORGANISATION |
|--------|-----------|-----------|---|
| AP | Member | INDIA | Indian Farm Forestry Development Co-operative Ltd. (IFFDC) |
| AP | Associate | INDIA | National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC) |
| AP | Member | INDIA | Co-operative House Building & Finance Corporation Ltd. |
| AP | Member | INDIA | Buldana Urban Co-operative Credit Society Ltd. (BUCCS) |
| AP | Member | INDIA | National Federation of Farmers Procurement, Processing & Retailing Cooperatives of India Ltd. (NACOF) |
| AP | Member | INDIA | Uralungal Labour Contract Cooperative Society Ltd. (ULCCS LTD) |
| AP | Member | INDIA | Tirumalla Tirupati Multistate Cooperative Credit Society Limited |
| AP | Member | INDONESIA | Indonesian Co-operative Council (Dekopin) |
| AP | Member | INDONESIA | National Federation of People-based Co-operative Enterprises (INKUR) |
| AP | Associate | IRAN | Central Organization for Rural Co-operatives of Iran (CORC) |
| AP | Member | IRAN | Central Union of Rural & Agricultural Co-operatives of Iran (CURACI) |
| AP | Member | IRAN | Iran Chamber of Cooperatives (ICC) |
| AP | Member | IRAN | Iran Oilseeds & Vegetable Oil Processing Factories Co-operative (Farda Co-op) |
| AP | Member | IRAN | Supervision and Coordination Central Union of Rural and Agricultural Co-operatives of Iran (SCURA) |
| AP | Associate | IRAN | Tose'e Ta'avon Bank (T.T. Bank) |
| AP | Member | IRAN | Pishgaman Cooperative Union (PCU) |
| AP | Member | IRAN | Rah-e-roshd cooperative educational complex (RCEC) |

| REGION | STATUS | COUNTRY | ORGANISATION |
|--------|-----------|---------|---|
| AP | Member | IRAN | Central Organization for Rural Production Cooperatives of Iran (CURPC) |
| AP | Member | IRAN | Taavon Insurance Co. |
| AP | Member | JAPAN | Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives (JA-ZENCHU) |
| AP | Member | JAPAN | IE-NO-HIKARI Association (Association for Education and Publications on Agricultural Co-operatives) |
| AP | Member | JAPAN | Japanese Consumers' Co-operative Union (JCCU) |
| AP | Member | JAPAN | National Federation of Agriculture Co-operative Associations (ZEN-NOH) |
| AP | Member | JAPAN | National Federation of Fisheries Co-operative Associations (JF-ZENGYOREN) |
| AP | Member | JAPAN | National Federation of Forest Owners Co-operative Associations (ZENMORI-REN) |
| AP | Member | JAPAN | National Federation of Workers and Consumers Kyosai Cooperatives (Kokumin Kyosai co-op) |
| AP | Member | JAPAN | National Mutual Insurance Federation of Agricultural Co-operatives (ZENKYOREN) |
| AP | Member | JAPAN | The Japan Agricultural News (NIHON-NOGYO-SHIMBUN) |
| AP | Member | JAPAN | Japan Workers' Co-operative Union (Jigyodan) (JWCU) |
| AP | Member | JAPAN | The Norinchukin Bank |
| AP | Member | JAPAN | Japanese Health and Welfare Co-operative Federation (HeW Co-op Japan) |
| AP | Member | JAPAN | National Federation of University Co-operative Associations (NFUCA) |
| AP | Associate | JAPAN | Japan Co-operative Insurance Association Inc. (JCIA) |
| AP | Member | JAPAN | National Association of Labour Banks (NALB) |

| REGION | STATUS | COUNTRY | ORGANISATION |
|--------|-----------|---------------------|--|
| AP | Member | JAPAN | Japan Co-op Insurance Consumers' Co-operative Federation (JCIF) |
| AP | Member | JAPAN | Japan Co-operative Alliance (JCA) |
| AP | Member | JORDAN | Jordan Co-operative Corporation (JOR) |
| AP | Member | KAZAKHSTAN (Rep.of) | Union of Consumer Societies of the Republic of Kazakhstan |
| AP | Associate | KIRIBATI | Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives (MCIC) |
| AP | Member | KOREA (Rep. of) | Korean Federation of Community Credit Co-operatives (KFCC) |
| AP | Member | KOREA (Rep. of) | National Agricultural Co-operative Federation (NACF) |
| AP | Member | KOREA (Rep. of) | National Credit Union Federation of Korea (NACUFOK) |
| AP | Member | KOREA (Rep. of) | Korean National Federation of Fisheries Co-operatives (NFFC) |
| AP | Member | KOREA (Rep. of) | National Forestry Co-operatives Federation (NFCF) |
| AP | Member | KOREA (Rep. of) | iCOOP Korea |
| AP | Member | KOREA (Rep. of) | International Solidarity of Korea Cooperatives (ISKC) |
| AP | Member | KUWAIT | Union of Consumer Co-operative Societies State of Kuwait (KUCCS) |
| AP | Member | KYRGYZSTAN | Co-operatives Union of Kyrgyzstan (CUK) |
| AP | Member | MALAYSIA | Malaysian National Co-operative Movement (ANGKASA) |
| AP | Member | MALAYSIA | National Land Finance Co-operative Society Ltd. (NLFCs) |
| AP | Associate | MALAYSIA | Cooperative Institute of Malaysia (CIM) |
| AP | Associate | MALDIVES | Maldives Fishermen's Association (MFA) |
| AP | Member | MONGOLIA | National Association of Mongolian Agricultural Co-operatives (NAMAC) |
| AP | Member | MONGOLIA | Mongolian Co-operative Alliance (MNCA) |

| REGION | STATUS | COUNTRY | ORGANISATION |
|--------|-----------|------------------|--|
| AP | Member | MYANMAR | Central Co-operative Society Ltd. (CCS) |
| AP | Member | NEPAL | National Co-operative Federation of Nepal (NCF) |
| AP | Associate | NEPAL | National Co-operative Development Board (NCDB) |
| AP | Member | NEPAL | Nepal Agricultural Co-operative Central Federation Limited (NACCFL) |
| AP | Member | NEPAL | National Co-operative Bank Ltd. (NCBL) |
| AP | Member | NEPAL | Nepal Multipurpose Central Co-operative Union Ltd (NEMCCU) |
| AP | Member | NEW ZEALAND | Cooperative Business New Zealand |
| AP | Member | PAKISTAN | Karachi Co-operative Housing Societies Union Ltd. (KCHSU) |
| AP | Member | PALESTINE | Palestinian Agriculture Cooperative Union (PACU) |
| AP | Member | PALESTINE | Economic and Social Development Center of Palestine (ESDC) |
| AP | Member | PALESTINE | Union of Housing Cooperatives in Palestine (PUHC) |
| AP | Associate | PALESTINE | Cooperative Work Agency (CWA) |
| AP | Associate | PAPUA NEW GUINEA | Office of Co-operative Societies of Papua New Guinea (OCS PNG) |
| AP | Member | PHILIPPINES | National Confederation of Co-operatives (NATCCO) |
| AP | Associate | PHILIPPINES | Co-operative Development Authority (CDA) |
| AP | Member | PHILIPPINES | MASS-SPECC Cooperative Development Center |
| AP | Member | PHILIPPINES | VICTO National Co-operative Federation and Development Center (VICTO National) |
| AP | Member | PHILIPPINES | Philippine Co-operative Center (PCC) |

| REGION | STATUS | COUNTRY | ORGANISATION |
|--------|-----------|----------------------|---|
| AP | Member | PHILIPPINES | Federation of Peoples' Sustainable Development Cooperative (FPSDC) |
| AP | Member | PHILIPPINES | Aurora Integrated Multipurpose Cooperative (AIMCOOP) |
| AP | Member | PHILIPPINES | Union of Legitimate Service Contracting Cooperatives (ULSCC) |
| AP | Member | PHILIPPINES | Metro South Cooperative Bank (MSCB) |
| AP | Member | PHILIPPINES | 1 Cooperative Insurance System of the Philippines Life and General Insurance (1CISP) |
| AP | Member | PHILIPPINES | Climbs Life and General Insurance Cooperatives (CLIMBS) |
| AP | Member | SINGAPORE | Singapore National Co-operative Federation Ltd. (SNCF) |
| AP | Member | SRI LANKA | SANASA Federation Ltd in Sri Lanka |
| AP | Member | SRI LANKA | National Co-operative Council of Sri Lanka (NCCSL) |
| AP | Member | SRI LANKA | Sri Lanka Consumer Co-operative Societies Federation Ltd (CoopfeD) |
| AP | Associate | SRI LANKA | National Institute of Co-operative Development (NICD) |
| AP | Associate | SRI LANKA | Department of Co-operative Development (DCD) |
| AP | Member | THAILAND | The Co-operative League of Thailand (CLT) |
| AP | Member | TIMOR-LESTE | Con-Federation (CNCTL) |
| AP | Member | UNITED ARAB EMIRATES | Sharjah Co-operative Society (SCS) |
| AP | Associate | VANUATU | Office of the Registrar of Cooperatives and Business Development Services (ORCBDS) |
| AP | Member | VIETNAM | Vietnam Cooperatives Alliance (VCA) |
| EUR | Member | ARMENIA | "Farm Credit Armenia" Universal Credit Organization Commercial Cooperative (FCA UCO CC) |

| REGION | STATUS | COUNTRY | ORGANISATION |
|--------|-----------|-------------------|--|
| EUR | Member | AUSTRIA | Oesterreichischer Verband gemeinnütziger Bauvereinigungen - Revisionsverband (gbv) |
| EUR | Member | BELARUS (Rep. of) | Belarussian Republican Union of Consumer Societies (BELKOOPSOYUZ) |
| EUR | Member | BELGIUM | Febecoop |
| EUR | Member | BULGARIA | Central Co-operative Union (CCU) |
| EUR | Member | BULGARIA | National Union of Workers Producers Co-operatives of Bulgaria (NUWPCB) |
| EUR | Member | BULGARIA | Central Co-operative Bank Plc (CCB) |
| EUR | Associate | CROATIA | Croatian Centre for Cooperative Entrepreneurship (CCCE) |
| EUR | Member | CYPRUS | Co-operative Central Bank Ltd. (CCB) |
| EUR | Member | CYPRUS | Cyprus Turkish Co-operative Central Bank Ltd (KoopBank) |
| EUR | Member | CYPRUS | Civil Servants Co-op Ltd. (ME-KOOP LTD.) |
| EUR | Member | CZECH REPUBLIC | Co-operative Association of the Czech Republic (CACR) |
| EUR | Member | DENMARK | Kooperationen |
| EUR | Member | FINLAND | Pellervo Coop Center |
| EUR | Member | FINLAND | SOK Corporation |
| EUR | Member | FRANCE | Fédération Nationale des Caisses d'Epargne (FNCE) |
| EUR | Member | FRANCE | Crédit Coopératif |
| EUR | Member | FRANCE | Confédération Nationale du Crédit Mutuel |
| EUR | Member | FRANCE | Fédération Nationale des Coopératives de Consommateurs (FNCC) |
| EUR | Member | FRANCE | Coop FR |
| EUR | Associate | GERMANY | Zentralverband deutscher Konsumgenossenschaften e.V. (ZdK) |
| EUR | Member | GERMANY | GdW Bundesverband deutscher Wohnungs- und Immobilienunternehmen e.V. |

| REGION | STATUS | COUNTRY | ORGANISATION |
|--------|-----------|-------------------|---|
| EUR | Member | GERMANY | Dgrv - Deutscher Genossenschafts- Und Raiffeisenverband E. V. |
| EUR | Associate | GREECE | Social Solidarity and Regional Development Network (KAPA Network) |
| EUR | Member | HUNGARY | National Federation of Agricultural Co-operatives and Producers (MOSZ) |
| EUR | Member | IRELAND | Co-operative Housing Ireland |
| EUR | Member | ISRAEL | Central Union for Cooperative Initiative in Israel |
| EUR | Member | ISRAEL | The Kibbutz Movement |
| EUR | Associate | ITALY | European Research Institute on Cooperative and Social Enterprises (EURICSE) |
| EUR | Member | ITALY | Alleanza delle Cooperative Italiane |
| EUR | Member | LITHUANIA | Lithuanian Union of Co-operative Societies (LITCOOPUNION) |
| EUR | Member | MALTA | Koperattivi Malta |
| EUR | Member | MALTA | Malta Co-operative Federation (MCF) |
| EUR | Member | MOLDOVA (Rep. of) | Central Union of Consumer Co-operatives of the Republic of Moldova (MOLDCOOP) |
| EUR | Associate | NETHERLANDS | Agriterrra |
| EUR | Member | NORWAY | Coop Norge SA |
| EUR | Member | NORWAY | Federation of Norwegian Agricultural Co-operatives (Norsk Landbrukssamvirke) |
| EUR | Member | NORWAY | The Co-operative Housing Federation of Norway (NBBL) |
| EUR | Member | POLAND | National Association of Co-operative Savings and Credit Unions (NACSCU) |
| EUR | Member | POLAND | National Auditing Union of Workers' Co-operatives (NAUWC) |
| EUR | Member | POLAND | National Supervision Union of Społem Consumer Co-operatives |

| REGION | STATUS | COUNTRY | ORGANISATION |
|--------|--------|----------|---|
| EUR | Member | POLAND | National Co-operative Council – NCC |
| EUR | Member | POLAND | Auditing Union of Housing Co-operatives |
| EUR | Member | PORTUGAL | Confecoop - Confederação Cooperativa Portuguesa, CCRL |
| EUR | Member | PORTUGAL | Cooperativa António Sérgio para a Economia Social - Cooperativa de Interesse Público de Responsabilidade Limitada (CASES) |
| EUR | Member | ROMANIA | National Union of Consumer Co-operatives (CENTROCOOP) |
| EUR | Member | ROMANIA | National Union of Handicraft and Production Co-operatives of Romania (UCECOM) |
| EUR | Member | RUSSIA | Central Union of Consumer Societies of the Russian Federation |
| EUR | Member | RUSSIA | Moscow Regional Union of Consumer Societies |
| EUR | Member | SLOVAKIA | Co-operative Union of the Slovak Republic |
| EUR | Member | SPAIN | Confederació de Cooperatives de Catalunya (CoopCat) |
| EUR | Member | SPAIN | KONFEKOOP - Confederación de Cooperativas de Euskadi |
| EUR | Member | SPAIN | Fundación Espriu |
| EUR | Member | SPAIN | Confederación Española de Cooperativas de Trabajo Asociado (COCETA) |
| EUR | Member | SPAIN | Confederación Empresarial Española de la Economía Social (CEPES) |
| EUR | Member | SWEDEN | HSB:Riksförbundet (Union of Housing Co-operatives) |

| REGION | STATUS | COUNTRY | ORGANISATION |
|--------|-----------|----------------|--|
| EUR | Member | SWEDEN | Kooperativa Förbundet (KF) (The Swedish Co-operative Union) |
| EUR | Member | SWEDEN | Riksbyggen (Co-operative Housing Union) |
| EUR | Associate | SWEDEN | Coompanion - Kooperativ Utveckling Sverige |
| EUR | Member | SWEDEN | Folksam |
| EUR | Member | SWITZERLAND | Allgemeine Baugenossenschaft Zürich (ABZ) |
| EUR | Member | SWITZERLAND | Baugenossenschaft mehr als wohnen |
| EUR | Member | TURKEY | Central Union Of The Agricultural Credit Cooperatives Of Turkiye (ACC) |
| EUR | Member | TURKEY | The Central Union of Turkish Forestry Co-operatives (ORKOOP) |
| EUR | Member | UKRAINE | Ukrainian Central Union of Consumer Societies (UKOOP-SPIILKA) |
| EUR | Member | UNITED KINGDOM | Co-operatives UK |
| EUR | Member | UNITED KINGDOM | The Midcounties Co-operative Limited |
| INT | Member | BELGIUM-INT | European Association of Co-operative Banks (EACB) |
| INT | Member | KENYA-INT | Africa Confederation of Co-operative Savings & Credit Associations (ACCOSCA) |
| INT | Member | THAILAND-INT | Association of Asian Confederations of Credit Unions (ACCU) |

WE ARE

OWNED AND RUN BY
AND FOR OUR MEMBERS
BASED ON ETHICS, VALUES AND
PRINCIPLES

AT LEAST 12% OF HUMANITY
AND PROVIDE JOBS
TO 10% OF THE EMPLOYED
POPULATION

WE ARE COOPERATIVES



**International
Cooperative
Alliance**

105 Avenue Milcamps,
1030 Bruxelles, Belgique
T +32 2 743 10 30 | ica@ica.coop
www.ica.coop

