

MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE

The Value of Membership

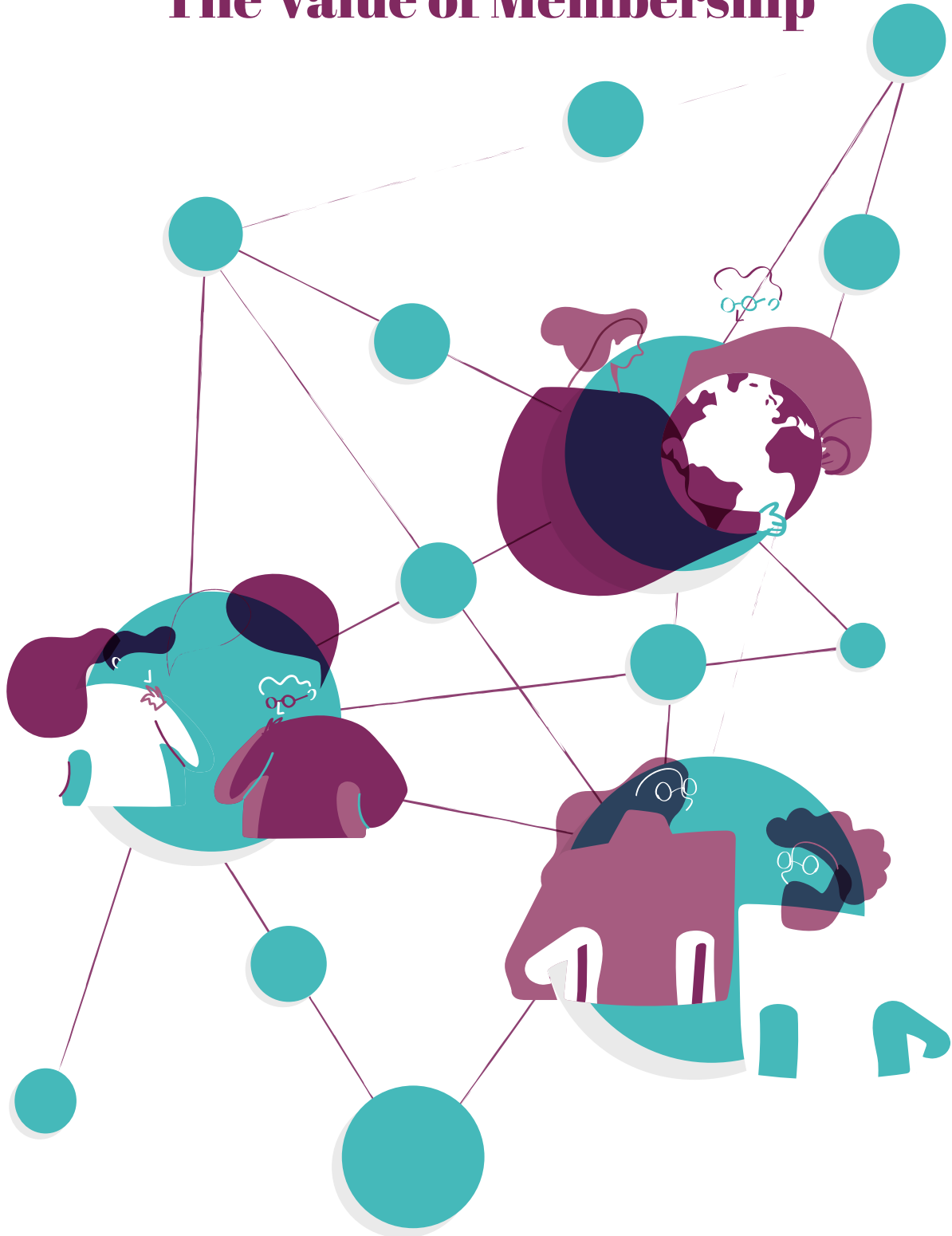


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The Value of Membership

The International Cooperative Alliance represents more than one billion cooperative members worldwide, and I am delighted you are seeking more information on the value our organization provides members and the communities they serve.

Since the ICA's establishment in 1895, we remain committed to serving our members. We continuously seek ways members can learn from each other, share ideas, and also provide a united voice to promote our cooperative ideals and values.

This document serves as an illustration on how the ICA team in the Global Office, as well as our regional and sectoral reach in around the globe, can help you, in your own cooperative movement. As you read through this membership package, my hope is that you will have a deeper and clearer understanding on:

- **Who is the ICA**
- **Our global, regional and sectoral network** and how it can help strengthen your cooperative movement
- **The global, regional and sectoral knowledge** you will gain from other ICA members
- **The global, regional and sectoral representation** the ICA will provide you on myriad platforms to make sure your voice is heard
- **The global, regional and sectoral reach** you will have in every continent



When you complete reviewing this membership package, I hope you will be as inspired as I am by our mission and our members.

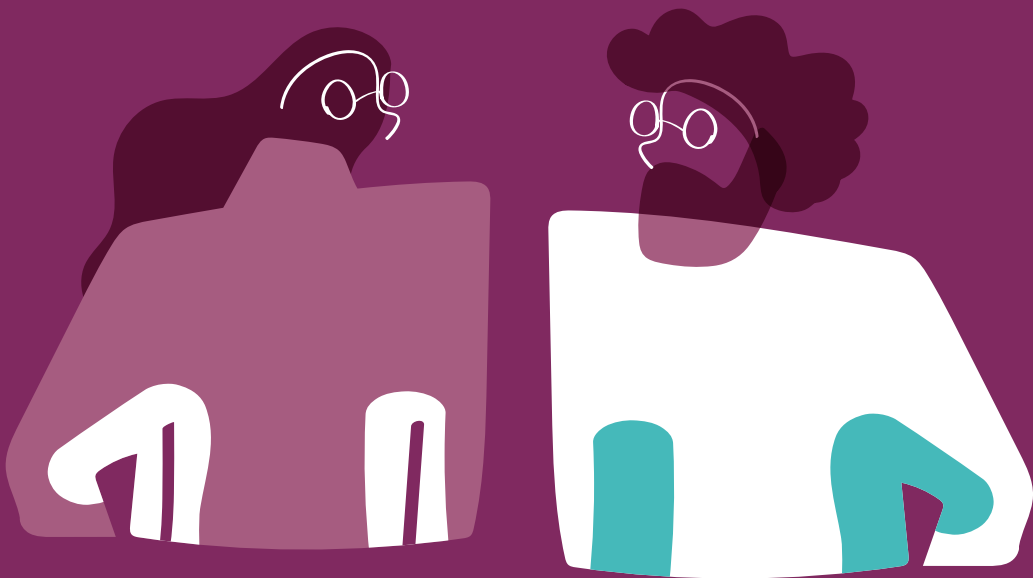
If you have any questions, please contact me (roelants@ica.coop) or our Membership Director Gretchen Hacquard (hacquard@ica.coop).

I remain committed to ensuring that the ICA is the strong voice for the cooperative movement worldwide.



Bruno Roelants | Director General

Who is the ICA?



Who is the ICA?

WE REPRESENT THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT WORLDWIDE

The ICA is an independent, non-governmental organisation established in 1895 to unite, represent and serve cooperatives worldwide. It provides a global voice and forum for knowledge, expertise and coordinated action for and about cooperatives.

The ICA's members are international and national cooperative organisations from all sectors of the economy, namely agriculture, banking, consumer, fisheries, health, housing, insurance, and industry & services. The ICA has members from over 100 countries, representing over one billion memberships worldwide. Today, 280 million people have employment or organise their livelihoods through a cooperative.

The ICA is the custodian of the Statement on the Cooperative Identity, which includes a definition, 10 values and 7 operational principles: it is the minimum common denominator for all cooperatives in all sectors and all regions.

To implement its activities, the ICA is organised with a Global Office based in Brussels, with a global reach (See the “global reach” section for more information). Your single subscription fee entitles you to participate in all ICA bodies that are relevant for your cooperative or cooperative organization. The [staff](#) of the ICA are committed to helping members and the cooperative movement. No matter your questions, we are here to help you find the answers and to serve you in the best way we can.

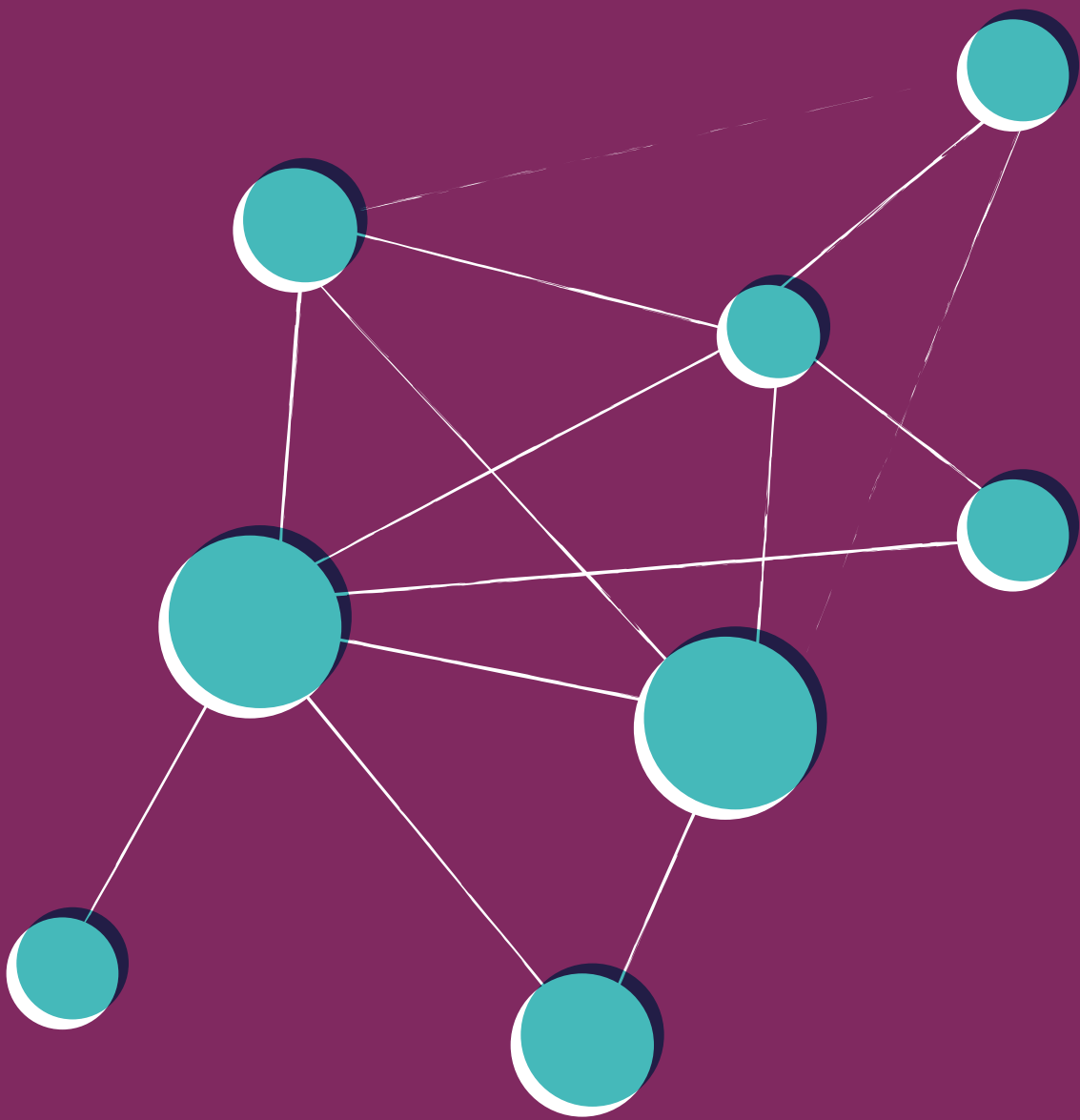
ICA's mission statement

The International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) unites, represents and serves co-operatives worldwide. It is the custodian of co-operative values and principles and makes the case for their distinctive values-based economic business model which also provides individuals and communities with an instrument of self-help and influence over their development. The ICA advocates the interests and success of co-operatives, disseminates best practices and knowledge, strengthens their capacity building and monitors their performance and progress over time.

With the activities that the association will carry out in accordance with its objects, the association pursues the following purpose:

- Promote the world co-operative movement, based upon mutual self-help and democracy
- Promote and protect co-operative values and principles
- Facilitate the development of economic and other mutually beneficial relations between its member organisations
- Promote sustainable human development and to further the economic and social progress of people, thereby contributing to international peace and security
- Promote equality between men and women in all decision-making and activities within the co-operative movement

Network



Network

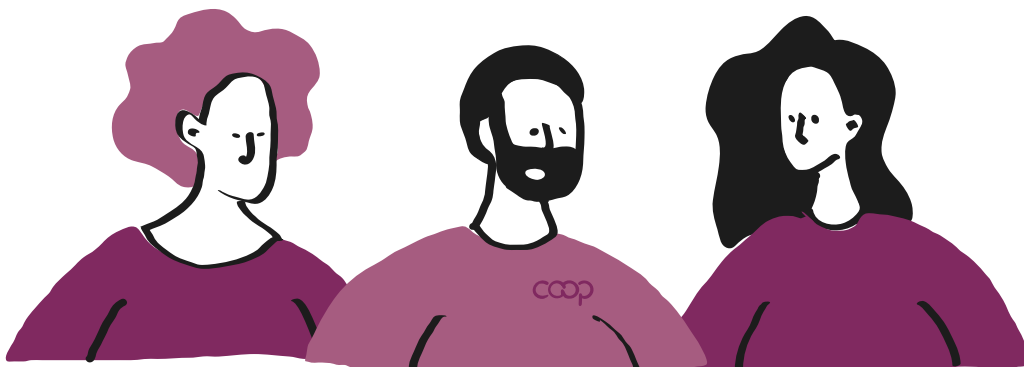
THE ICA'S GLOBAL NETWORK WILL STRENGTHEN YOUR COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT

As a member, you will have access to our global network of 300+ members. We can help expand your global reach and strengthen your cooperative movement locally, because the best ideas come from others. The ICA organises events and offers resources so we can all learn and share ideas.

Global Conference & General Assembly

The ICA hosts global conferences once every two years, which bring together cooperative thought leaders and businesses for learning, debating and networking.

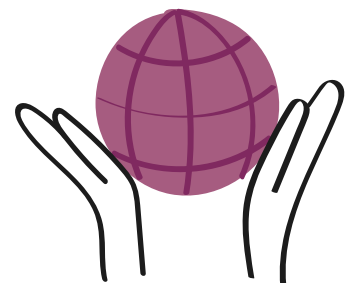
The General Assembly meets every year and consists of representatives appointed by ICA member organisations. The General Assembly meets with a full agenda during the Global Conference, and with a limited agenda the other years. You can learn about ICA's last General Assemblies [here](#).



World Cooperative Congress

On special occasions, the ICA organizes World Cooperative Congresses. The 33rd World Cooperative Congress, called "Deepening our Cooperative Identity" is planned in Seoul, Republic of Korea, in March 2021, to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the ICA and the 25th anniversary of the Statement on the Cooperative Identity. Learn more [here](#).

The complete list of **upcoming events** is on the ICA website [here](#). Not sure where to start? Email us if you have any questions, and we can help you utilise the coop network to find your answers.



¹ The Congress could be postponed later in 2021 for force majeure linked to the pandemic; members will be informed.

The global development network

After several years of advocating and promoting the cooperative model to support development programmes, Cooperatives Europe, the Regional Office of the ICA, facilitated a Framework Partnership Agreement between the ICA and the European Commission in March 2016 to strengthen the efforts of ICA's Global Office and Regions in responding to the development needs of the cooperative movement.

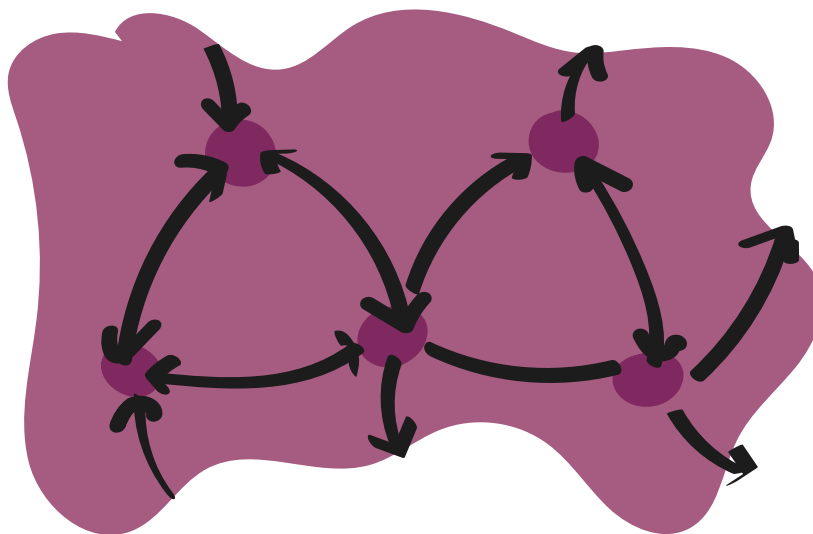
That same year in Quebec, the ICA-EU Partnership Programme launched the International Cooperative Development Platform (ICDP) to bring together cooperative organisations active in international development work. This platform facilitates coordination, joint activities and projects.

The ICA-EU Programme has been instrumental in building or reinforcing relationships within the cooperative movement, with International Institutions and other civil society organisations, such as the International Trade Union Confederation, the Fair-Trade movement and development NGO confederations.

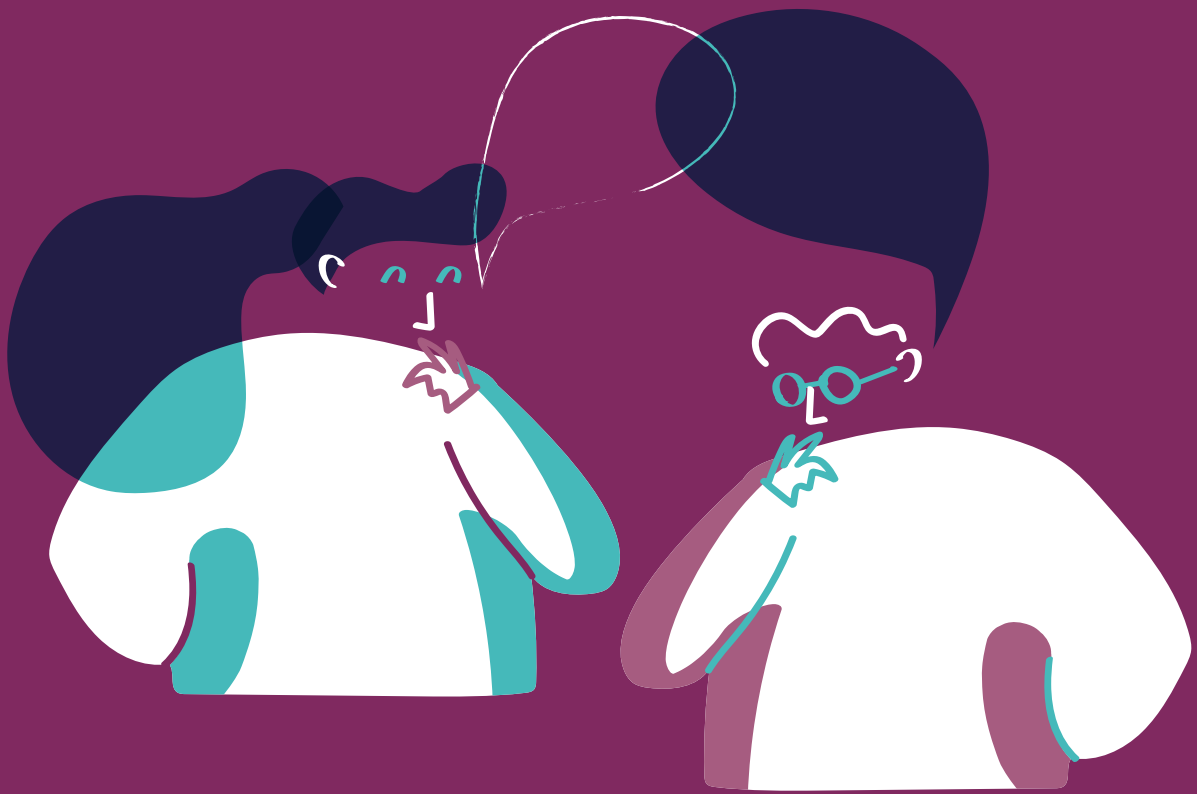
The ICA-EU Programme is also improving members' opportunities, particularly in low-income countries, by training them how to apply for funding, as well as advocating international institutions to provide them with the support and resources they need.

Through the ICA-EU Programme, cooperatives have achieved stronger recognition as development actors and contributors toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Joint projects include creating a map of global cooperative organisations and conducting a review of cooperative legal frameworks worldwide. This provides members better knowledge of the cooperative landscape and tools they need to strengthen advocacy efforts and visibility. This is accessible at www.coops4dev.coop.



Exchange Experience & Knowledge



Exchange Experience & Knowledge

THE ICA CONVENES COOPERATIVE KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND GUIDANCE

- Gain access to the ICA as a resource for cooperative expertise, statistics, information and intelligence
- Participate in capacity building and training programmes
- Exchange information and technical resources
- Receive and access information on cooperatives
- Access member-only resources including member contacts, information reserved just for members, and global cooperative statistics
- Access to our online library [here](#)

UNITING, PROMOTING AND STRENGTHENING THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT

Strategic Plan

The Blueprint for a Co-operative Decade is a strategic document for the global cooperative movement that was approved in 2012 in conjunction with the UN International Year of Cooperatives. In the four years following its adoption, the ICA used the Blueprint as an opportunity to address member needs and build meaningful initiatives that deliver value back to membership. These reflect the 5 key pillars of the Blueprint – areas of cooperative entrepreneurship that are shared across region and sector: Participation (Engagement), Sustainability, Identity, Legal Frameworks, and Capital.

From 2012 to 2016, the ICA successfully engaged with its members to maximise the Blueprint and develop research, measurement guides, and thought leadership.

While the cooperative decade has come to a close, a new 10-year cooperative strategy called **A People Centered Path for a Second Cooperative Decade 2020-2030** was approved at the ICA General Assembly in Kigali in 2019, based on a multi-faceted consultation in which most ICA members participated.

You can download and use the strategy in various languages from our website [here](#).



World Cooperative Monitor

The World Cooperative Monitor, published by the ICA, in conjunction with the European Research Institute on Cooperative and Social Enterprises (Euricse), has become the premier source of annual information on large cooperatives at the global level. It has become a crucial resource for raising the cooperative profile and impact with policy makers, industry professionals and the public at large. It is also an important tool for researchers around the globe.

At the core of the Monitor is a list of the 300 largest cooperatives and cooperative groups in the world, as measured by turnover. In addition, the Monitor presents an analysis of capital in cooperative enterprises, sectorial rankings, and in-depth reviews of sectors or regions.

The benefits of the annual World Cooperative Monitor include the opportunities to:

- Raise the profile of cooperatives within their own industries, countries, and internationally
- Demonstrate the economic and social importance of cooperatives and mutuals to government and regulatory agencies
- Model best practices and highlight successful cooperative business models and innovative approaches
- Create networks between cooperatives and mutuals for greater sharing of information, business intelligence, and business opportunities

For more information, visit www.monitor.coop.

Stories.coop

Stories.coop is the world's first global, digital campaign to spread the benefits of cooperation through the tradition of storytelling. Developed by Euricse and the ICA, the aim of Stories.coop is to present stories of cooperation from around the world by exploring a wide variety of sectors, sizes and countries.

With almost 500 stories available and more added each year, Stories.coop offers a rich database of cooperative experiences. Cooperatives are invited to regularly upload their stories directly to the website (www.stories.coop). Cooperative promoters and academics are invited to use the stories to highlight the worldwide cooperative experience.

International Cooperative Entrepreneurship Think Tank (ICETT)

ICA launched the International Cooperative Entrepreneurship Think Tank (ICETT) to promote entrepreneurial development among our cooperatives. ICETT is an ICA working group focusing on cooperative entrepreneurship and aims at elaborating strategic thinking on carefully selected topics to enhance the competitive advantage in cooperative entrepreneurship, within the framework of the ICA Strategic Plan, and at sharing its outputs within the ICA. ICETT currently work on four themes that include:

- Future of Work
- Human Rights in Value Chains
- World Cooperative Monitor & Sustainable Development Goals
- Cooperative Identity & Competitive Advantage

Ensuring supportive law for cooperatives

ICA members are invited to participate in our efforts to locate, understand and utilise law in the interest of cooperators. ICA members can write to the ICA with specific legal queries concerning the identity of cooperatives in your areas of operation (at the national or international level. In providing information and advice, the ICA Global Office avails itself of the guidance of the Cooperative Law Committee (see section on Thematic Committees and Networks below).

The ICA will respond to you with our opinion and recommendations depending on the resources, relevant expertise, and information available. To submit a request, email legislation@ica.coop.



Global Representation



Global Representation

THE ICA IS THE VOICE OF THE GLOBAL COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT

Members actively participate in ICA's governance. The ICA serves as the voice of its members and the wider cooperative movement in multilateral organisations including the United Nations, International Labor Organization, Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the International Accounting Standards Board and the B20 among others. The ICA jointly owns the global cooperative Marque and a .coop domain name- the symbols of the global cooperative movement and of our collective identity. When the need arises and when requested by members, the ICA promotes and protects the cooperative model with members of the media, policy-makers, and national governments.



ADVOCACY

Within the international arena, the ICA has the influence and connections to advocate for its members and their concerns and interests in global policy. In 1946, the United Nations granted the ICA with a consultative status – the highest status granted to non-government organizations, thereby allowing them to participate in the UN's work. In addition, the ICA's long-standing relationship with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the World Bank allows ICA staff to advocate for its members effectively in a very wide global sphere.

Advocacy and representation are also done at regional and sectoral level by the ICA's regional offices and sectoral organisations. These ICA bodies directly influence regional institutions such as the European Union, Mercosur, African Union, ASEAN, and international organizations like the World Health Organization.

Members benefit from this activity because it creates cooperative awareness and political interest with policy-makers, which often leads to the creation of better legal, administrative and business environments for cooperatives. This activity is particularly important for national cooperative associations because it provides them with the political framework they can use for creating a better enabling environment for them and their members.

Success stories:

- In 2002, the ILO approved [Promotion of Cooperatives Recommendation n° 193](#) a landmark international policy guideline, which provides a modern framework for cooperatives. Since its adoption, over 100 countries have made use of the Recommendation to revise and develop their cooperative policies and laws
- In 2018, the ILO adopted [guidelines concerning statistics of cooperatives](#). The Guidelines are the first international standards on cooperative statistics
- In 2019, ILO committed to support an enabling environment towards cooperatives within its Centenary [Declaration for the Future of Work](#)
- The ICA secured the recognition of cooperatives as [partners for the implementation](#) of the UN 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development

Members also benefit, more directly, from this activity by having access and being able to participate in different expert groups, networks, conferences and more, including, in some cases, access to funding from ICA partners. This participation enables them to provide opinions and recommendations on issues that affect their cooperatives and to have access to knowledge, contacts and expertise.

POLICY

The ICA participates in several high-level multi-stakeholder platforms to increase the cooperative movement's influence in policy processes:

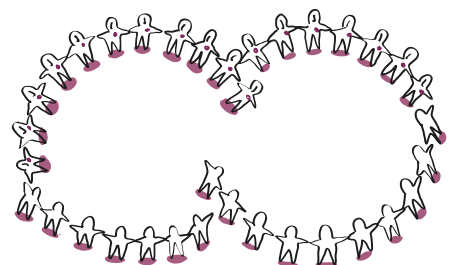
- The UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSE, www.unsse.org)
- The Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives (COPAC, www.copac.coop)
- The Policy Forum on Development in collaboration with ICA Regions

COOPERATIVE SUPPORT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The SDGs have become the most relevant reference allowing the cooperative movement to show cooperatives' global commitments to the society. The SDGs are included as one of four main pillars of the ICA Strategic Plan 2020-2030 and the ICA is developing a general framework from which a global action plan of the ICA and various tools for individual cooperatives will be produced. All information concerning SDGs and cooperatives is available on the dedicated website Coops for 2030 (www.coopsfor2030.coop).

PROMOTING THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT

The ICA has developed a global communication strategy in collaboration with our sectorial and regional organisations to maximize cooperative reach. The goal is to increase synergies between the ICA and its regional and sectorial bodies in order to give the cooperative movement a more cohesive and stronger voice. Several communications projects and campaigns have been launched to achieve this goal. Here are some examples:



Cooperative Identity

The ICA is the global steward of the Statement on the Cooperative Identity – the Values and Principles of the cooperative movement. The cooperative operational principles were debated and enriched three times under its coordination, namely in 1937, 1966 and 1995, when the Statement on the Cooperative identity was approved, and when the concept of a full-fledged cooperative identity was developed. In 2015, after a two-year consultation process with members, the ICA published the Guidance Notes on the Cooperative Principles, available [here](#). The upcoming 33rd World Cooperative Congress will be an opportunity for the cooperative movement to deepen the understanding of the cooperative identity, including its usefulness in social and developmental terms, and also to strengthen the specific entrepreneurial advantages of cooperatives.

The ICA jointly owns the **Cooperative Marque** and **domains.coop** - the symbols of the global cooperative movement and of our collective identity. Today, more than 750,000 cooperatives around the world use the .coop domain, making them instantly recognisable.

When .coop was established in 2002, it was an easy way to find cooperatives online. In the last decade, as more cooperatives added .coop to their online presence, it's helped bring the cooperative movement together virtually.

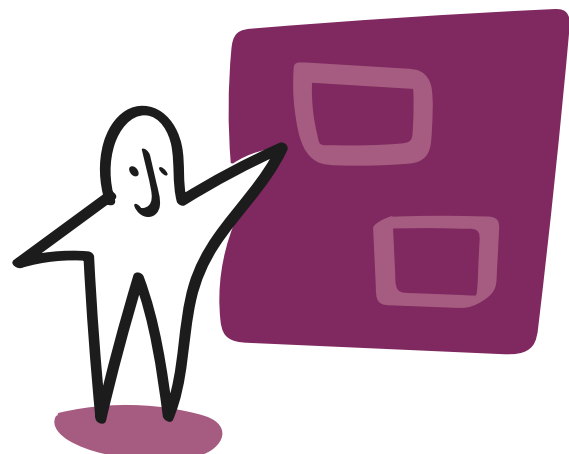


Website

Visit our website at www.ica.coop to learn about the cooperative movement, the ICA, upcoming events, and news about important cooperative topics.

Cooperative Insider

A global newsletter is published quarterly in English, Spanish, and French, reaching all members and subscribers with a special dossier topic by issue linked to the policy agenda, the latest cooperative international news, interviews, etc. Subscribe at <https://www.ica.coop/en/subscribe-to-our-newsletter>



Social media

- **Facebook** – ICA's page has close to 16,000 likes, more than 17,000 followers and uses the platform to engage the community on cooperative topics and events from all regions. <https://www.facebook.com/ICAcoops/>
- **Twitter** – ICA's profile has over 15,500 followers and shares news and comments on current events and issues from all regions, centralizing the information. <https://twitter.com/icacoop>
- **LinkedIn** – ICA more than 1,500 followers and uses the platform for institutional ICA announcements. www.linkedin.com/company-beta/1859523/
- **Youtube** – It is the ICA video channel. On the 2019 International Day of Cooperatives, the official video messages received more than 6,000 views on Youtube, an increase by 3 times compared to the 2018 edition and 5 times the reach in 2017. www.youtube.com/channel/UCcPSQvN3ZR0POuFe0MvspyA
- **#coops4dev** – The visibility strategy for the ICA-EU Partnership, elaborated by all offices to enhance the ICA's overall communication efforts, has been implemented to raise recognition of the cooperative model in international development. The ICA-EU Programme has adopted the hashtag #coops4dev on social media, which is being used by communications staff and members to raise awareness for cooperatives in development and demonstrate the increasing collaboration in the ICA

Global communications campaigns

Every year, ICA launches a worldwide campaign to celebrate the **International Day of Cooperatives**. Activities include an interactive map that displays cooperative participation for this day (developed with DotCoop), a photo competition, a video message from the ICA president, social media campaigns, press releases, all done in collaboration with ICA regional offices. [Click here](#) to learn more about how we celebrate.



Global Reach



Global Reach

THE ICA MEMBERS REPRESENT MORE THAN ONE BILLION PEOPLE WORLDWIDE

Let's take a closer look at who our members are!



ICA members are located in more than half of the countries globally (as of February 2020). A list of all members of the ICA is available [here](#).

Membership Statistics



Membership Statistics

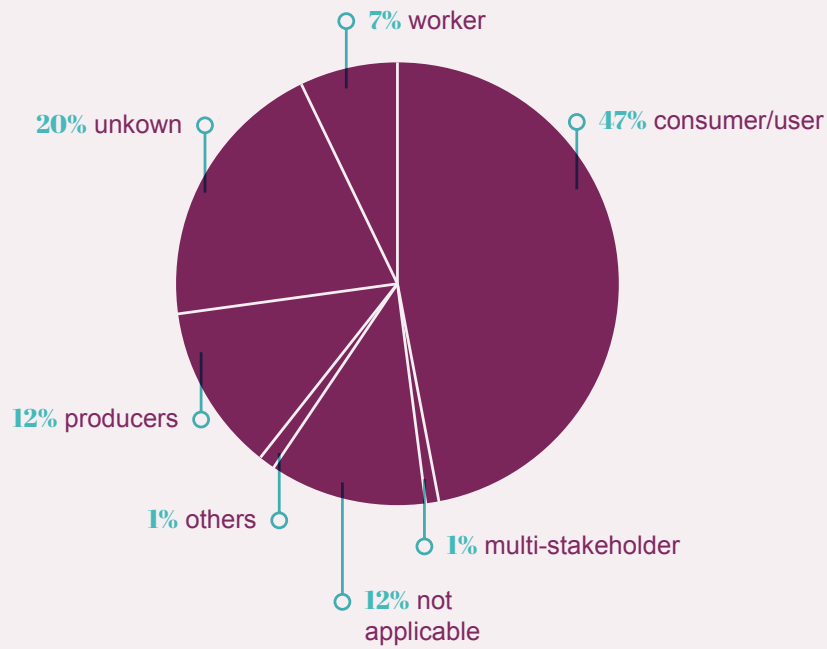
ICA Membership since 1994



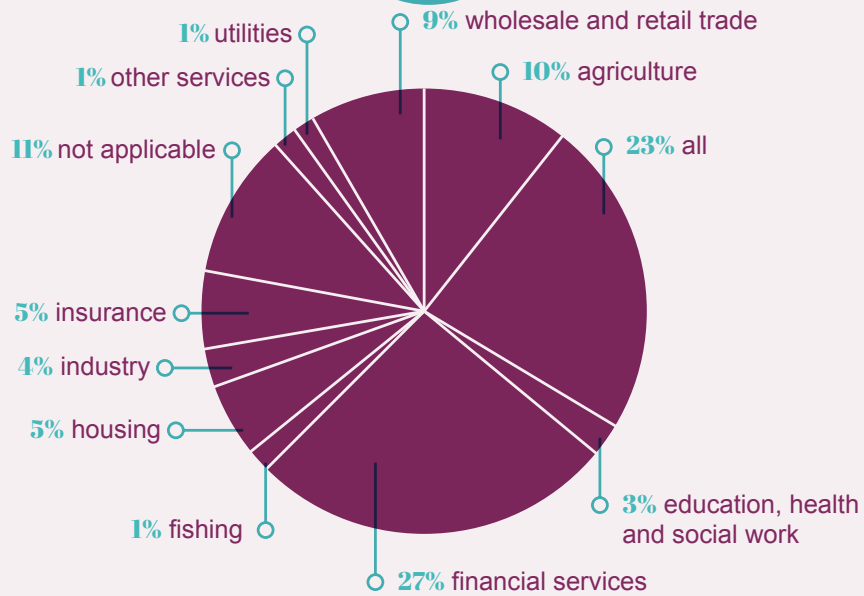
Members by type

Type of membership	Count
Full Members (with voting rights)	268
of which are supranational	3
Association Members	43
of which are government entities	11

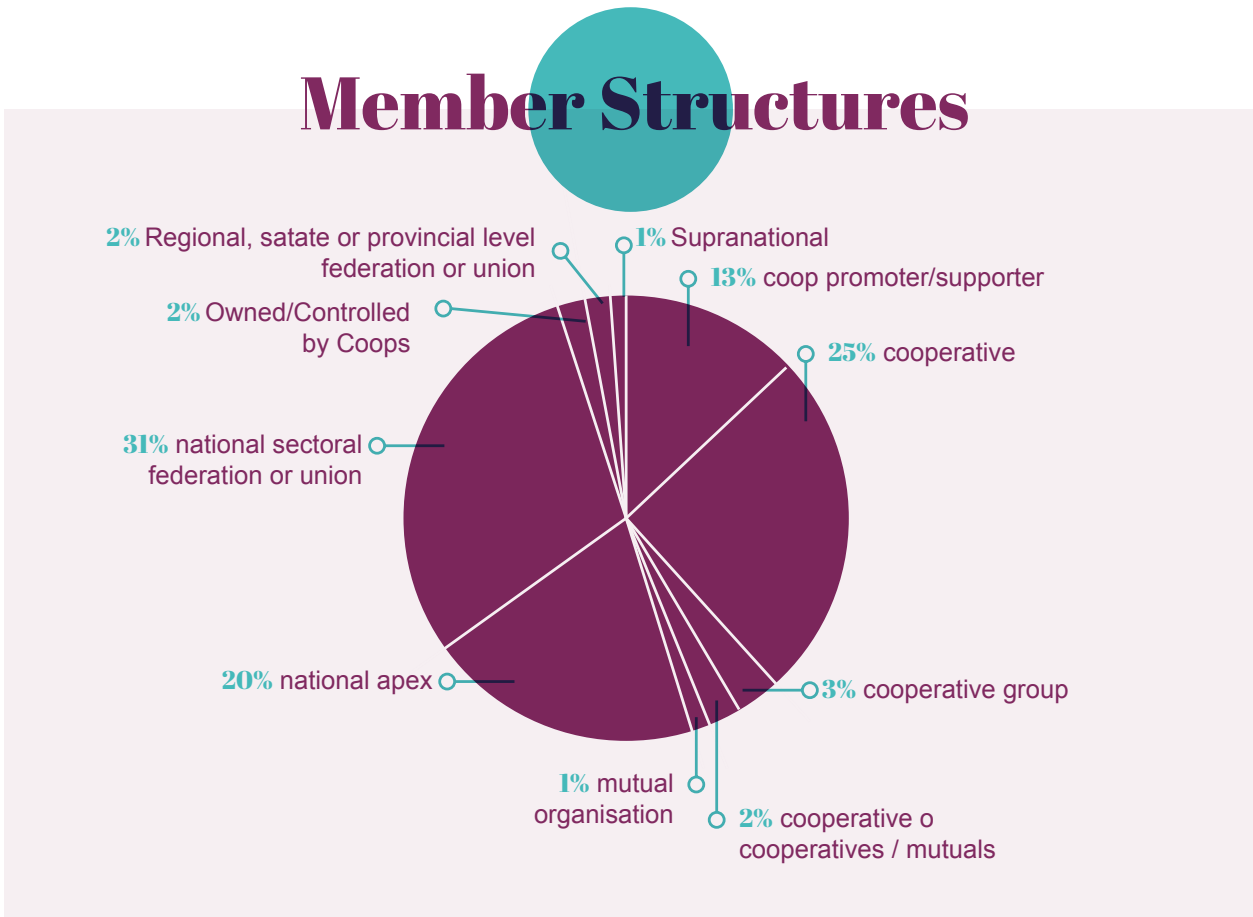
ICA Member Typology



ICA Member Economy Activity

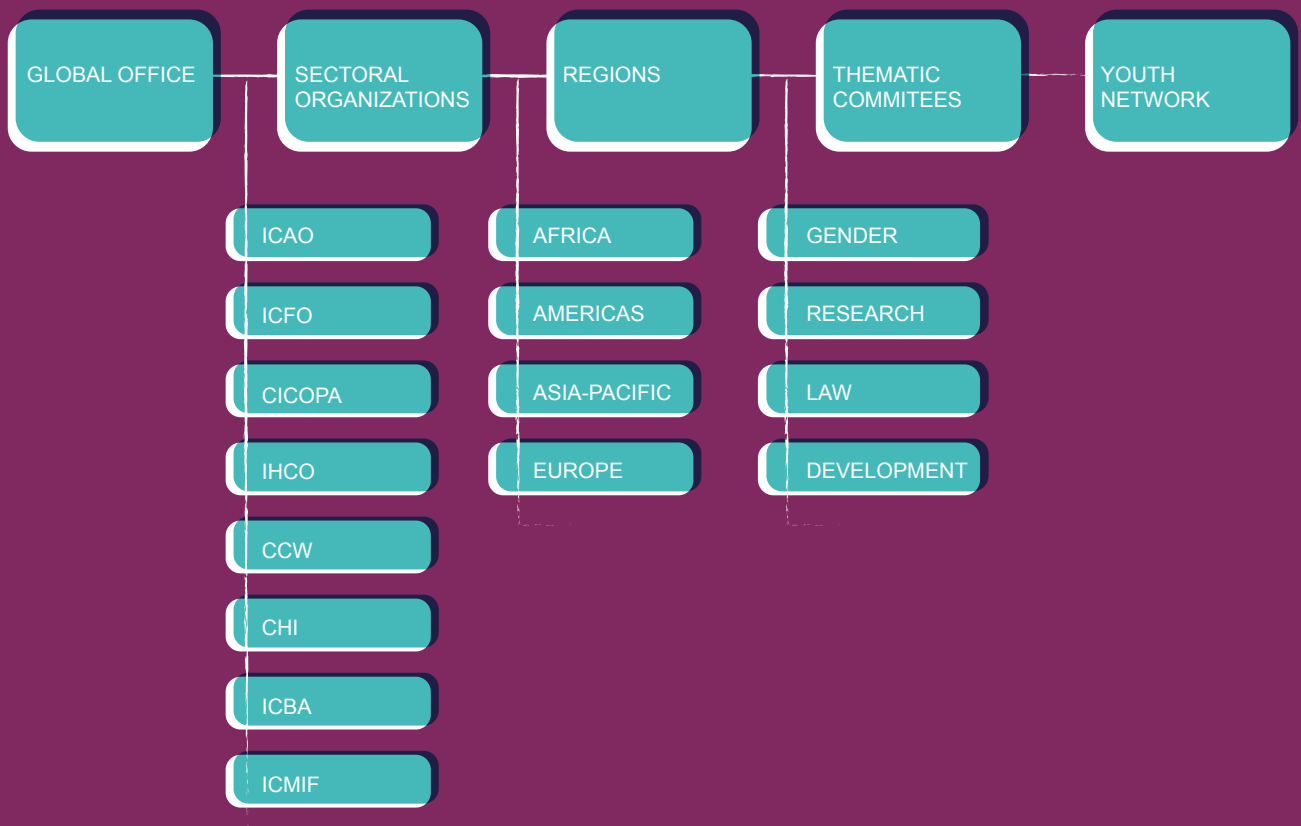


Member Structures



The ICA represents more than 670 million individual members globally through its national members.

Our Structure



Our Structure

ICA REGIONS

The ICA has four Regions, each one with a Regional Assembly, a Regional Board and a Regional Office. Members of the ICA automatically become members of their respective Region.

International Cooperative Alliance – Africa

[International Cooperative Alliance – Africa](#) (ICA-Africa) is one of the four regional offices of the ICA founded in 1968. It serves, unites and represents ICA member organizations in Africa and promotes and strengthens autonomous and viable cooperatives throughout the region by:

- Serving as a forum for exchange of experience and a source of information on cooperative development, research, and statistics
- Providing technical assistance for cooperative development
- Collaborating with national governments, United Nations organizations, and African regional organizations

ICA-Africa strives to promote and strengthen the cooperative movement in the region and provide services such as capacity building training workshops, policy and advocacy engagements forums, knowledge sharing forums, study tours/exchanges among others. ICA-Africa has the following objectives: Promote the cooperative Movement in Africa; Promote and protect cooperative values and principles; Facilitate the development of economic and other mutually beneficial relations between its member organizations; Promote sustainable human development and to further the economic and social progress of people, thereby contributing to peace and security in Africa; Promote equality between men and women in all decision-making and activities within the cooperative Movement; Lobby for an enabling environment for cooperative development in Africa.

Its vision is “Social transformation and sustained economic development” while the mission is “To be the African leader in promoting a dynamic and democratic cooperative movement and to provide effective and efficient services through partnerships and collaboration”.

Currently the ICA-Africa has a total membership of 35 organizations across 22 countries, addressing human development needs of existing and potential cooperatives in the region with special focus on engagement, sustainability, identity, legal framework and cooperative capital as reflected in the Cooperative Blueprint 2020. We also encourage our members to participate in the following regional sectoral organisations, committees and network: Alliance Africa Agricultural Organization (AAACO), Law/Legal Committee, Research and Gender Committee, and Youth Committee.



**International Co-operative
Alliance – Africa**
A Region of the International
Co-operative Alliance

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Cooperatives of the Americas

Cooperatives of the Americas (formerly ICA-Americas) represents the International Cooperative Alliance in the American continent and links regional cooperatives with the world network.

By being part of Cooperatives of the Americas, member organisations have greater means for regional and global linkage, whether through participation in specialized networks in their sector of interest or through interaction with other experiences in diverse arenas. The organisation also participates in policy influencing processes, toward positioning as a leader in the construction of economic, social and environmental sustainability. The actions include generating spaces to spread and debate ideas about the cooperative movement and the challenges it confronts in the region and world. Cooperatives of the Americas provides the following services:

- Cooperative Social Balance Certification
- Cooperative Green Office Certification
- Good Cooperative Government Certification
- Cooperative Education workshops/seminars
- Public Policy Influencing workshops/seminars
- ILO Recommendation 193 workshops/seminars
- Cooperative Identity workshops/seminars
- Training in Cooperative Management and Doctrine
- Training in Gender Equality
- Training in Cooperative Sustainability

Likewise, members of Cooperatives of the Americas benefit from publicising and promotion of their activities among the entire membership through the Region's communication media and social networks. On diverse occasions, Cooperatives of the Americas has provided institutional support in activities and advocacy through the presence of top officers or high-profile actions. Members can participate in the following regional sectoral organisations, committees and networks: CICOPA Americas, COFIA, Agricultural Network, Gender Equity Committee, and Youth Committee.



Co-operatives of the Americas
A Region of the International
Co-operative Alliance

San José, Costa Rica
Tel: +506 2296 0981
Email: member@aciamericas.coop
www.aciamericas.coop

International Cooperative Alliance-Asia and Pacific

International Cooperative Alliance-Asia and Pacific (ICA-AP) currently serves 108 members who are national and supranational cooperative organizations from 32 countries across all sectors of the economy, including agriculture, industry, services, banking, retail, fisheries, health, housing and insurance.

ICA-AP takes forward the mandate of ICA members from Global and Regional Assemblies in its action of uniting, representing and developing cooperatives. The office creates several cooperative platforms and conference instruments to create a congenial environment for cooperative enterprises to thrive in the region. In addition, knowledge reports, newsletters, as well as thematic publications highlighting the work of the ICA and its members are released periodically.

ICA-AP organizes its biennial regional assembly – which is its highest decision-making authority, and helps members elect a regional board. ICA-AP also periodically organizes several high-level conferences and meetings on cooperative policy and advocacy.

All ICA members in the Region can nominate their representatives to specialized regional committees to share and learn on cooperative sectors as well as thematic areas. These committees organize annual meetings and workshops and aspire to closely knit subject matter experts and practitioners. The research conference attracts technical papers on cooperatives every year; the women’s conference brings together women cooperative leaders to chalk the course of action for gender equality in cooperatives, and the youth summit provides a cooperative platform to young persons involved with ethical and value-based enterprises to share experiences and learn new trends. ICA-AP houses 10 committees on the following: Agriculture, Credit and Banking, Forestry, Retail/Consumers, Cooperative Research, Gender, Youth, Cooperatives in Educational Institutions, Human Resource Development, and Cooperative Trade.

ICA-AP designs and implements several training courses in collaboration with different partners for the benefit of members and their staff, and cooperative structures at various levels. The training courses focus on agricultural business, leadership and participation of women in cooperatives. As part of the ICA-EU Partnership Project, the AP is working on three strategic development priorities namely, participation of cooperatives in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Youth inclusion in cooperatives, and exploring work and ownership structures in cooperatives. The ICA-AP also works with the ICA Malaysia Business Office situated in Kuala Lumpur that looks after the trade and business needs of cooperatives in a structured way.



**International
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Asia and Pacific

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Cooperatives Europe

Cooperatives Europe is the voice of cooperative enterprises in Europe. It promotes the cooperative business model in Europe. It advocates for a level playing field between cooperatives and other forms of enterprise.

It works to increase the knowledge of the cooperative business model across Europe and to facilitate the development of cooperative enterprises by implementing programs set up with members and partners. It is focusing more specifically on the following topics:

- SDG's
- Entrepreneurship
- Collaborative economy
- Social Economy
- Youth
- Gender balance
- Legal framework impacting coops
- International development
- Promotion of cooperatives in the global entrepreneurship policy
- Support the European network of young cooperators
- Social economy
- Legal framework
- International development

7 sectoral organizations are also members of Cooperatives Europe: CECOP (Industry – Services) COGECA (Agri), Eurocoop (Consumer coop), EACB (Banking), Housing Europe (Housing), Rescoop.eu (Energy) and UEPS (Pharmacies).



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SECTORAL ORGANISATIONS

Your one subscription fee to the ICA gives you the right to participate in the relevant sectoral organisation(s). You can also designate one of your members to participate, on your behalf, in a sectoral organisation.

The International Cooperative Agricultural Organization

The International Cooperative Agricultural Organization (ICAO) is proud to support 37 member organizations from 29 countries in their pursuit of growing as organizations and better connecting to other agricultural cooperatives and opportunities. ICAO primarily serves as a hub for information, offering regular online posts and biannual seminars, open to all members. In addition, the ICAO hosts a general meeting in conjunction with major regional ICA events each year, in which members are encouraged to network in order to forge business agreements and promote cooperative bonds. Their primary initiatives are highlighted in their Declaration of Ambitions: <http://icaocoop/sub5/sub1.php?mode=detail&no=101>.



Main contacts:

Youn-Soo Kim, Secretariat, nacfico@nonghyup.com



**International Co-operative
Agricultural Organisation (ICAO)**
A Sector of the International
Co-operative Alliance

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Tel: +82 2 2080 6120
Email: nacfico@naver.com and
icaocommunication@gmail.com www.icaocoop

Consumer Cooperatives Worldwide

Consumer Cooperatives Worldwide (CCW) unites 27 national consumer cooperative organisations worldwide, which represent 72 million individual members and combine for a total of 500 billion EUR in annual turnover. CCW promotes the interests of consumer cooperatives and their consumer-members within the work of the International Cooperative ICA and towards external stakeholders. CCW members enjoy the following benefits:

- **Representation** in global forums of consumer cooperatives
- **Expansion** of cooperation and exchange of best practices amongst members
- **Participation** in initiatives to promote the cooperative business model
- **Access to** leading national organizations of consumer cooperatives
- **Establishing** business partnerships with consumer cooperatives of ICA Regions
- **Participation** in the governance bodies of Consumer Cooperatives Worldwide



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Consumer Co-operatives Worldwide

A Sector of the International
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International Health Cooperative Organisation

International Health Cooperative Organisation (IHCO), is an association of consumer, provider and multi-stakeholder health cooperatives which seek to provide high-quality, cost-effective healthcare, based on freedom of choice, integration of services, self-care and ethical working conditions sets. IHCO provides a forum for the discussion and exchange on issues of relevance to its member organizations. IHCO members from different countries worldwide share their model, their know-how and their experience and inter-cooperate to improve citizen's access to healthcare services and professional conditions.

For membership information: <https://ihco.coop/members/how-to-become-a-member/>

More information:

Website: www.ihco.coop

Twitter: @IHCO_coophealth

Linkedin : www.linkedin.com/company/ihco/

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The International Cooperative Banking Association

The International Cooperative Banking Association (ICBA) seeks to facilitate the promotion at the international and regional levels of the distinctive cooperative values of cooperative banks and of the advantages of using them over other banks; to facilitate and encourage the exchange of information amongst members on key cooperative banking issues and foster inter-cooperation in the finding of solutions; to support regional committees and their members, individually or collectively with specific challenge and to encourage inter-cooperation with other types of cooperatives and various bodies of the ICA.



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**International Cooperative
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International Cooperative Fisheries Organisation

International Cooperative Fisheries Organisation (ICFO) was established in 1976. The ICFO contributes to improving the living standards of fishermen, developing fisheries cooperatives within each of the ICFO member countries through research and study of the various problems concerning fisheries cooperative organizations, and promoting better mutual understanding and economic cooperation among fisheries cooperatives.

Some of the Benefits to members offered by the ICFO are:

- Education and training (The Korean fisheries cooperatives' business knowledge sharing education)
- ICFO scholarship program to nurture talents in member countries
- Donation of IT equipment to member countries, etc



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**International Co-operative
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A Sector of the International
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Cooperative Housing International

Cooperative Housing International (CHI) promotes, encourages and helps in the establishment of housing cooperatives in transitional economies and in developing and developed countries. It strengthens and encourages good governance principles and fosters an inclusive cooperative culture.

CHI holds knowledge exchange events for the sharing of best practices in cooperative housing and encourages partnership initiatives among its members, with other cooperatives and community-led housing actors to access financial capital so they can invest in the sustainable development, regeneration and expansion of their housing cooperatives.

Members elect and are eligible for board of director and committee positions who in turn help to define CHI's priorities. CHI's leadership also helps to develop a framework which will lead to the growth of cooperative and mutual housing solutions.

By using the capacity of the ICA, together CHI can increase the influence of housing cooperatives at the global, regional and sectoral levels. Housing cooperatives are more important now than ever and it is by thinking and acting collectively that we can demonstrate the power of the cooperative movement.



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Co-operative Housing International
A Sector of the International
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International Cooperative & Mutual Insurance Federation

International Cooperative & Mutual Insurance Federation (ICMIF).

While ICMIF is formally a sectoral organisation of the ICA, it does not share membership and thus is not highlighted in this brochure as a member service.



International Cooperative and Mutual Insurance Federation

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The International organisation of industrial and service cooperatives

The International organisation of industrial and service cooperatives (CICOPA) currently has a total of 49 members in 33 countries which in turn affiliate 65,000 enterprises employing 4 million persons. Being a member of CICOPA means to contribute and benefit from common knowledge, and highly-qualified expertise. With membership you will increase the visibility of your organisation within the cooperative movement and the international organisations.

The CICOPA Secretariat is actively engaged with its members, organising mutual learning sessions, workshops, conferences, and networking opportunities year-round.

CICOPA has two types of members: Full members and associated members. Full members are representative organisations of cooperatives in the industry and services sectors. Its associated members are support organisations promoting cooperatives in those sectors.

CICOPA has two regional organisations: CECOP and CICOPA Americas

Why become a member of CICOPA? Find out more on their [website](#).



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THEMATIC COMMITTEES & NETWORKS

Gender Equality Committee

As drivers of equality, cooperators can serve as thought leaders for advancing gender equity and women's empowerment. To this end, the ICA coordinates a global-level Gender Equality Committee, which serves as a catalyst for change to make gender equality a reality in all cooperatives and as a forum for the discussion and exchange of experiences and ideas on issues related to gender equality.

The Committee is an opportunity for ICA members to share their expertise on advancing gender issues and serve as thought leaders on gender equality. Through the Committee, the ICA also coordinates a delegation to the UN Commission on the Status of Women, which takes place every March, to advocate for cooperative interests – an important visibility opportunity for all Committee members.

Committee members can also influence ICA policy gender issues and provide feedback on gender-related work. Since the November 2017 the chair of the Gender equality Committee is a member of the board of the ICA.



**International
Co-operative
Alliance**
Gender Equality
Committee

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The Committee on Cooperative Research

The Committee on Cooperative Research (CCR) is a Thematic Committee of the ICA. It serves to provide a bridge between academic research and the cooperative world.

The CCR aims to strengthen research activities and increase the visibility of cooperative research and researchers. It is particularly interested in ensuring that cooperative directors, managers, and employees have access to the latest research so that the results can be applied to current cooperative practice. For example, questions concerning social audit, Cooperative principles and identity, globalisation and the local dimensions of cooperatives, promoting the cooperative advantage, and the emergence of new typologies of cooperatives have all been studied from both a practical and theoretical stance.

As ICA members, organisations can receive information from the CCR, announcing opportunities for cooperative research, expertise, and thought leadership, as well as attend its global and regional conferences by subscribing to its ad hoc emails (to subscribe, please use <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q7GFKYZ>).

In 2014, the CCR inaugurated its Young Scholars Programme (YSP). The objective of this Programme is to encourage and foster the (professional) development of young and emerging scholars of cooperative studies ranging across regions, economic industries / sectors, and academic disciplines. This Young & Emerging Scholars Programme is situated within the CCR global conferences, and the CCR-endorsed regional conferences.

The CCR began its work in 1957 as the Research Officers Group. In the 1970s the group changed its name to the ICA Research, Planning, and Development Group reflecting its widening scope of activities, aspirations, and efforts to provide practical input to cooperatives' economic and social concerns. The CCR today functions as a network open to all those interested in sharing research on the cooperative model of enterprise.



**International
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Committee on
Co-operative Research

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Young Scholars programme:

<https://ccr.ica.coop/en/young-scholarswww.linkedin.com/groups/7039257/profile>

The ICA's Cooperative Law Committee

The ICA's Cooperative Law Committee gives independent advice to the ICA on cooperative law, broadly defined to include all legal rules that shape the cooperative institution and regulate its operations. The committee is a body of legal experts and representative of ICA regions as well as the global cooperative landscape.

The objective of the committee, aside providing legal advice to the ICA through its regions, sectors and global board, is to promote the development of cooperative law and coordinate scholarly works on the topic, in pursuit of which, the committee organizes annual meetings and co-organizes seminars and conferences on cooperative law.



**International
Co-operative
Alliance**
Co-operative Law
Committee

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International Cooperative Development Platform

The objective of the **International Cooperative Development Platform** (ICDP) is to promote and support the initiation and furtherance of international cooperative development activities within and among cooperative development organisations (CDOs), so as to enhance their collaboration as well as social and economic effectiveness.

The Platform serves as a forum for the discussion and exchange of experiences and knowledge on issues related to international cooperative development, the promotion of the cooperative model towards development actors and international institutions, as well as the cooperation within development programs and partnerships.

Recognising the historical engagement of the cooperative community in progressive action, the scope of the Platform is defined to include cooperative response to natural disasters and to refugee displacement.



**International
Co-operative
Alliance**
International Cooperative
Development Platform

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Youth Network

The ICA's **Youth Network** is an advisory, assistance and representation body for the cooperative youth movement with the purpose of organizing to address its singularity and complexity; promoting education and cooperative principles, encouraging the participation and development of youth from all nationalities within the cooperative movement; and undertaking actions to build more just and equitable societies.

The aims of the ICA Youth Network are to provide consultation to the ICA on matters and issues of the cooperative youth movement, support the ICA in defense of the cooperative movement and its' coordination with international and government agencies advocating for policies and programs for youth, promote opportunities for reflection, discussion, exchange, research and training to facilitate the participation and integration of youth in cooperatives, promote the dissemination of information on issues involving cooperative youth, facilitate interaction between regional youth committees, and encourage the work of youth in cooperatives and related associations.



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Youth Network

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