

# 20 ANNUAL REPORT 21



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# Foreword

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by Ariel Guarco,  
President of the ICA

Dear cooperative friends,

It is a real privilege for me to be back in touch with you and to meet you in person, after so many months of isolation, uncertainty and pain caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Even in such a difficult scenario, we continued to carry out many activities and achieved important advances for our organisations throughout this time.

The results expressed in this report are proof of the tireless work of cooperative leadership and staff at the global level, as well as in each of the regions, sectors and committees that make up our International Cooperative Alliance.

Guided by the four key themes of the ICA Strategic Plan 2020-2030 (Identity, Growth, Co-operation among Cooperatives and Sustainable Development), we have been protagonists of milestones such as the 33rd World Cooperative Congress.



There, we heard more than 130 voices that enhanced the debates around the main issues that affect us as a global movement, while more than 1,600 colleagues who were present both in person and online nourished those debates and showed us that one of our main assets is the open and committed participation of our members.

The Congress, as well as other activities carried out during the year, also allowed us to strengthen our links with many actors on the international scene (FAO, ILO, G20, among others) with whom we have been deepening our dialogue towards the construction of a sustainable future.

These actors include many bodies of the UN system, universities, trade unions and governments at both national and local level. Indeed, the day after the Congress, we had excellent exchanges with senior officials from 23 countries, the UN and the European Union.

This growth in our relations with key global entities was matched by the successful conclusion of our five-year partnership with the EU, which enabled us to make great strides in research, legislation, innovation, training, gender and youth, among other areas.

Another great result of our work to go beyond our borders was the launch of the International Coalition of the Social and Solidarity Economy, through which we are strengthening the paradigm of cooperation and mutual aid as key tools of post-pandemic reconstruction.

Indeed, much of our efforts are still focused on helping our communities recover not only from the health impact but also from the economic and social hardship caused by the pandemic.

Many of these efforts were well reflected in the latest edition of the Global Cooperative Monitor, which continues to be a great tool to boost the volume of our movement.

ICETT's contribution in this regard is no less important. The production of information and the exchange of experiences have been a fundamental link towards the construction of inter-cooperative value chains that integrate our

regional and sectoral power on a global scale.

In short, the enormous wealth of actions, meetings and results obtained during this time are the perfect example of how we can deepen our Cooperative Identity, producing concrete transformations that improve the quality of life of one billion co-operators all over the world on a daily basis.

This is the fruit of our Cooperative Principles put into action.

Let's be proud of the work we have done!

Let's keep cooperating!

# Introduction

by Bruno Roelants, ICA Director General



2021 was the year of an unprecedented but uneven global vaccination campaign, in a context of uncertainty. With a sometimes resurgent pandemic and inflationary pressures in developed countries as well as some emerging ones, the year experienced a recovery that was, however, accompanied by low employment levels compared to pre-pandemic times, continuing global supply chains shortages and, in many cases, also labour shortages<sup>1</sup>. The UN noted some progress driven by both public policy and public investment, as well as a rebound in private investment,

while expressing concern about dithering efforts regarding the attainment of the SDGs and climate action commitments<sup>2</sup>. There was no consensus on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic for the coming years. Shared concerns focused on increasing divergence among countries, and disparities and inequality within nation-states. The evolving scenarios heightened business reshoring strategies, the revived role of public policy and intervention, as well as a debate on the future of globalization and resilience.

1 The IMF's Executive Board affirmed in the IMF 2021 Annual Report that "A recovery is underway, but the economic fallout from the global pandemic could be with us for years to come. With the crisis exacerbating prepandemic vulnerabilities, country prospects are diverging. Nearly half of emerging market and developing economies and some middle-income countries are now at risk of falling further behind, undoing much of the progress made toward achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Within countries, inequality is on the rise as well; workers with fewer skills, youth, women, and those informally employed are suffering disproportionate income losses": see <https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/ar/2021/eng/IMF>

2 The United Nations 2022 "Financing for Sustainable Development Report: Bridging the Finance Divide" explained that in 2021 "There was some progress on poverty reduction, social protection, and investment in sustainable development in 2021, driven by actions in developed and some large developing countries, including \$17 trillion in COVID-19 emergency spending". More specifically, the report notes the following features which took place during the year "Increased funding of research and development, green energy and digital technologies, for example from the European Union's Next Generation EU recovery plan and the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act in the USA.

Rebounding of private investment in 2021 — with China and USA accounting for more than 50 per cent of the improvement. Doubling of sustainable bond issuance to over \$1 trillion, while sustainability-themed funds grew 62 per cent from 2020."

See: <https://www.un.org/en/desa/great-finance-divide-amid-covid-19-poses-major-setback-sustainable-development>

The January 2022 World Economic Forum Global Risks Report indicated: ““climate action failure”, “extreme weather”, and “biodiversity loss” ranking as the top three most severe risks. Respondents also signalled “debt crises” and “geo-economic confrontations” as among the most severe risks over the next 10 years”<sup>3</sup>.

Cooperatives, generally, experienced a better year than 2020, in particular in some sectors that had been particularly affected by the pandemic, such as tourism. The feeling that the situation was improving, but also that the world would no longer be the same after the pandemic, could be perceived during the 33rd World Cooperative Congress and its numerous preparatory and follow up meetings and events. This made the Congress theme on “Deepening our Cooperative Identity” even more relevant, in particular how cooperatives, by better using their identity, can strengthen their entrepreneurial edge, while also making them better contribute to the main global challenges which the world is presently battling with, such as the preservation of the environment and the climate, employment, peace, equality, resilience to crises, international and community development, housing, energy, value chains etc. More than

a point of arrival, the Congress appeared as a point of departure for deepening our cooperative identity over the next few years.

Among the other important outputs mentioned in this report and are more specific to 2021, let me highlight the following, among many others:

- the establishment of an **ICA G20 working group**, through which several mentions to cooperatives were published under the Italian G20 presidency;
- the organisation of the **first global meeting with governments**, involving 23 countries plus four UN agencies and the European Union, with the intention to gradually establish a network between the ICA and governments at global level;
- the launch of an **International Coalition of the Social and Solidarity Economy (ICSSE)** with a common charter, together with ICMIIF and AIM for mutuals, plus the GSEF and the SSE International Forum;
- a strong advance in the analysis of **cooperative legislation** across the world, completing 79 country reports which the ICA-EU Partnership produced over the

last few years, and with advisory contributions through cooperative organisations and governments in 11 countries;

- the ICA received the rotating **chairmanship of COPAC**, the UN Committee for the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives, through which the ICA was able to propose a new strategy for this UN Committee and the integration of a new member, the International Trade Centre;
- for the first time, UN DESA partnered with the ICA in **co-organising the experts meeting** which, every two years, feeds the **UN Secretary General’s Report on Cooperatives in Social Development**, which emphasised the link between the cooperative identity and cooperative legislation;
- we started cooperating with **the International Trade Centre** focusing on **cooperative to cooperative trade** through a pilot project;
- the **ICETT think tank had a series of activities**, including public ones, focusing on the future of work, value chains, child labour, cooperative identity, climate change etc;

<sup>3</sup> World Economic Forum Global Risks Report 2022: <https://www.weforum.org/reports/global-risks-report-2022/>

- the **ICA-EU Partnership “Cooperatives in development”** wound up in September after 5 years and a half, with all planned activities being completed and very positive evaluations including from the European Commission;
  - as far as the **ICA Regions** are concerned, it is worth mentioning, among other achievements, the establishment of the ICA-Africa sub regional office for North Africa, the partnerships with ECLAC and IICA elaborated by Cooperatives of the Americas, the activities focused on youth and gender around the cooperative identity organised by ICA Asia & Pacific, and Cooperatives Europe’s focus on the social and solidarity economy while the European Commission is launching its Action Plan on the social and solidarity economy;
  - regarding the **ICA Sectors**, we can mention the celebrations of the 70th anniversary of ICAO (agriculture), the scholarship programme with grants for co-operators from around the world organised by ICFO (fisheries), the relations established or consolidated between ICBA (banking) and the World Bank, WOCCU and EACB, the consolidation of relations with UNDP and UNDRR by ICMIF (insurance), CCW (consumers)’s collaboration with ICA Africa on digital innovation, CHI (housing)’s collaboration with the Cohabitat network, CICOPA’s creation of the CICOPA Asia-Pacific network, and IHCO’s successful advocacy work towards the G20, including B20 and C20;
  - as for the **ICA Thematic Committees**, we can mention the Gender Equality Committee’s study on Women in Leadership Achieving an Equal Future in a COVID-19 World, the Global Youth Network’s replication project for youth cooperatives, the Cooperative Law Committee’s contribution to expert inputs for the UN secretary general’s Report on Cooperatives in Social Development, the Committee on Cooperative Research’s contribution to preparing the ICA International Research Conference preceding the World Cooperative Congress while the CLC contributed to the preparation of the International Law Forum, also preceding the Congress, and ICDP’s mapping work on development projects promoted by cooperative development organisations;
  - Regarding **DotCooperation**, we can mention the mapping of dot coop domains and the stories dot Coop series showing examples of cooperatives around the world using the dot coop domain name.
- 2021 will have been a very exceptional year with the still timid but gradual recovery from the big COVID 19 trauma, and the World Cooperative Congress, the 33rd in the 126 years of the ICA and the 4th in four decades, constituting a link between the past and the present, and hopefully ushering in a significant strengthening of cooperatives’ impact in the incoming post-Covid world.

## ICA President in 2021: meeting members and national authorities worldwide



In 2021, ICA President Ariel Guarco continued to meet members both in person and online and was engaged in live conversations by video or through personalised letters in this second pandemic 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](http://www.arielguarco.coop)

- 10/2** Workshop on Institutions and Policies for the Promotion of Cooperative Enterprises in Latin America (ECLAC)
- 5/3** Certification of Sunchales as a City Developed in School Co-operativism.
- 9/3** Discussion on Cooperative Principles with members represented in the Council of Cooperatives of the Americas.
- 11/3** Message at the National Week of Financial Education (Fecopar, Paraguay)
- 25/3** Global Youth Forum.
- 11/4** Greeting at the Assembly of the Vega Real Cooperative (Dominican Rep.)
- 21/4** Day of Cooperative Opinion (Colombia).
- 9/5** Participation in World Fair Trade Day outreach campaign.
- 13/5** Cycle of Conferences Let's Deepen our Cooperative Identity (FACC, Argentina)
- 19/5** Conversation on the Formation of the Co-operativist Being (Liga Coop de Puerto Rico)
- 1/6** Opening of the ICETT Webinar Series Towards the World Cooperative Congress.
- 16/6** Cooperative Mercosur Conversatory, together with members from Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay and Paraguay.
- 22/6** Solidarity Forum in the Colombian House of Representatives.
- 23/6** Seminar for 30 years of Regional Integration (FCES/Mercosur).

### 29/6 ICA General Assembly

- 1/7** Conference on the day of celebration of the International Day of Cooperatives organised by the Cooperativa de Servicios Múltiples Profesionales.
- 7/7** Participation in Webinar with the ICA working group for the G20.
- 21/7** Solidarity Connection Forum with members from Colombia.
- 23/7** Participation in the 14th Anniversary of the Federation of Cooperatives of Paraguay (Fecopar).
- 27/7** Presentation of the book Cooperative Principles in Action with the Uruguayan members.
- 1 to 5/8** Visit to Egypt. Meeting with members and tour of the new capital city where construction and housing cooperatives are active. Participation in the 60th anniversary celebration of the General Authority for Construction and Housing Cooperatives (CHC) and **opening of the ICA-Africa sub-regional office and ICA-Africa Housing office.**
- 7 to 20/8** Visit to Mexico, meeting with ICA members in different cities and with the president of the National Institute of Social Economy. Participation in the National Dairy Forum.
- 27/8** Message at the Assembly of Banco Credicoop.
- 9/9** 8<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Social Economy Research, organised by CIRIEC Costa Rica.
- 16/9** 20<sup>th</sup> National Cooperative Congress of Confecoop (Colombia).
- 24/9** Greeting message to members from Europe, who held their assembly in Paris.
- 30/9** Closing event of the Coops4Dev programme.
- 4/10** Video message at the Coop Impact Conference (NCBA).
- 25/9** Visit to India, meeting with members, meeting with the Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah, and message at the National Cooperative Conference.



- 26/9** Visit to the ICA Asia-Pacific Region office in New Delhi.
- 1/10** Participation in the International Forum on Consumer Cooperatives organised by Centrosoyuz, in the Russian city of Tula.
- 3 to 6/10** Visit to the Basque Country, Spain, to receive the Denon Artean prize, awarded to the ICA by the Higher Council of Cooperatives of the Basque Country. Visits to government authorities in the Basque Country, Guipuzcoa, San Sebastian, Mondragon and Navarra. Participation in the COCETA Assembly and 2nd Navarre Cooperative Meeting.

- 13/10** Conference organised by the Confederation of Savings and Credit Cooperatives of Mexico (CONCAMEX) under the title «Living the Cooperative Principles», to commemorate 70 years of Savings and Loan Cooperative Societies, the SOCAPs.
- 15/10** Message to the ICA-Africa Annual Assembly.
- 18/10** Workshop on SDGs in Mercosur, organised by the Mercosur Specialised Meeting of Cooperatives, hosted by colleagues from Brazil and with the participation of ICA members in Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay and Argentina.
- 29/10** 60th General Assembly of Grupo Asegurador La Segunda, in the city of Rosario, Argentina.
- 4/11** Regional Conference of Cooperatives of the Americas. Greetings to members and message one month before the World Cooperative Congress.
- 27/11 to 4/12** World Cooperative Congress + pre-congress/parallel events and round table with governments.
- 22/12** Presentation of the book Principios Cooperativos en Acción to the Paraguayan cooperative movement, organised by FECOMULP.

### Virtual meetings with members

of China, Japan, India, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Nepal, Philippines, Iran, Ukraine, Romania, Spain, Italy, Poland, Dominican Republic, Brazil, Uruguay, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, Ecuador, Panama, Chile and Ecuador.

### Messages sent on video or written to

JCCU, Ja Zenchu, Nfuca, HeWCoop, JWCU (Japan)  
 PCC, Mass Specc, Aimcoop, Fed. of Peoples' Sustainable Development  
 Cooperative (Philippines)  
 Nong-Hyup, iCoop (Korea)  
 Angkasa (Malaysia)  
 Iran Chamber of Cooperatives (Iran)  
 Singapore National Cooperative Federation (Singapore)  
 Ukrainian Central Union of Consumer Societies (Ukraine)  
 Pellervo Coop Center (Finland)  
 Confecoop, Ascoop (Colombia)  
 Banco Credicoop (Argentina)  
 Caja Popular Mexicana (Mexico)



## 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.



## Promotion of the cooperative identity

The most important activity in 2021 was, by far, **the preparation and implementation of the ICA 33rd World Cooperative Congress**.

First of all, as of the beginning of the pandemic in 2020 and all through 2021, we had to constantly manage the risks incurred, with the monitoring of the pandemic situation on a daily basis for over one year and a half prior to the Congress, examining all the various types of risks involved (health-wise, financial, logistical, institutional etc.).

The Congress was preceded by an array of preparatory activities all along the year, following the celebrations in August and September 2020 of the 125th Anniversary of the ICA and the 25th Anniversary of the ICA Statement on the Cooperative Identity, which constituted the launch of the Congress period (see ICA 2020 Report). We promoted **activities branded “towards the Congress”**, which involved three ICA Regions and one Sectoral Organisation and, through them, a significant part of the ICA membership and of the global cooperative movement. Also to promote the Congress, we published a series of dedicated bulletins and launched a series on young cooperators called “25 voices”, featuring digital and video content of cooperative youth under

the age of 25 from around the world available on the Congress website at <https://icaworldcoopcongress.coop/>. We also produced a series of videos to promote Congress and distribute a special monthly bulletin called “Destination: Congress”.

We edited a **preparatory document for the Congress on the cooperative identity called “Examining our Cooperative Identity”**, based in great part on the Guidance Notes on the Cooperative Principles, but extended to the definition and values included in the ICA Statement on the Cooperative Identity and referring to the various Congress sessions. We also prepared a **study on cooperatives and the SDGs** from the angle of the cooperative identity, which was presented at the Congress. We prepared a **history exhibition** which was shown at the Congress.

In close interaction with the Congress Task Force, we elaborated the Congress programme around **24 complementary thematic sessions**, in which over 130 panellists took part. We availed ourselves of the participation of the president and deputy prime minister of the Republic of Korea, the deputy prime minister of Spain, the DG of the ILO, the UN Special Rapporteur on Poverty and Human Rights, and

a number of other personalities.

We prepared and organised the two 3-day Congress preparatory conferences, namely the **ICA Cooperative Research Conference** and the **International Cooperative Law Forum**, with the prior selection of over 200 abstracts and over 20 panel proposals. A **pre-Congress programme** took place, featuring the joint conclusions of the two preparatory conferences, a session on the ICA International Cooperative Entrepreneurship Think Tank ICETT (see policy and partnership below) where the World Cooperative Monitor 2021 (see research below) was launched, a session on the new ICA G20 WG (see policy and partnership below), and one on the Global Cooperative Impact Fund project (see capital below). At the Congress opening, film director John Houston presented his film among Canada’s Inuit cooperators, called Atautsikut / Leaving None Behind.

On the day after the Congress, we organised a meeting with public officials from 23 countries, four UN agencies and the European Union, with the aim to gradually create a global network of government entities focusing on cooperatives (see more details under “policy and partnership” below).



The Congress provided the opportunity to also organise meetings of ICA Asia Pacific (one elective General Assembly, two board sessions and several regional committee meetings), several Sectoral Organisations' meetings (see below ICAO, CICOPA and ICBA reports) and a seminar of the Global Youth Network (see under Youth below). We provided logistical support for all these meetings. In all, **9 days of events were held**, which is unprecedented in the history of ICA Congresses.

The Congress was participated by slightly over 1600 participants, including around 1000 participants physically present in Seoul and 600 on line. This was the first-ever experience of a multi-lingual global

event of the cooperative movement held in a hybrid fashion. A significant additional difficulty came from the management of the pandemic situation, in particular with the appearance of the Omicron variant a few days before.

An Innovation Fair was held at the Congress venue, with a number of ICA members and cooperatives exhibiting their goods and services. A stand was also held by the UN International Trade Centre.

We established and implemented a strategy to raise funds in order to financing the Congress and all its preparatory and follow-up activities held during the year. We thank wholeheartedly our sponsors from all ICA Regions, and more in particular our Korean members who were, by far, the biggest contributor to this financial effort without which this Congress could not have been held..

In the field of the **promotion of regulation that protects the cooperative identity**, 2021 was the third year in which we worked on cooperative legislation with dedicated staff, in close connexion with the experts grouped in the Cooperative Law Committee (CLC) and the first year since the ICA global network of cooperative lawyers was initiated by the global office. The ICA-EU Partnership Programme which since 2016 strived to strengthen the institutional

capacities of the ICA in serving its member organizations and the cooperative movement worldwide, also culminated in September 2021. This Partnership through its research activity on legal frameworks for cooperatives, produced in 5 years, 79 national reports and 4 regional reports authored by legal and policy experts from around the world. Our legal resources are maintained on the interactive map on [www.coops4dev.coop](http://www.coops4dev.coop) and on a user-only database managed for the use and information of the ICA network of cooperative lawyers.

In 2021, members of the CLC and the ICA Board Committee on the Cooperative Identity which at the time was involved in organizing the 33rd World Cooperative Congress, worked with the UNDESA in preparing for the 2021 Report of the UN Secretary General on Cooperatives in Social Development and the related Expert Group Meeting on cooperative legislation which took place on **4 June 2021**. The Report elaborates remarkably the nature and purpose of cooperative legislation, its intrinsic relationship with the ICA Statement on the Cooperative Identity and contains findings and recommendations for a better legal environment for cooperatives, from regional as well as thematic points of view.

ICA Global Office engaged directly with cooperative organizations and governments in 11 countries in 2021. These countries include Denmark, Fiji, Ghana, Cameroun, Vietnam, UAE, Mongolia, Kenya, New Zealand, Botswana, and India. In addition, with a view on a long-term goals, the office continued developing specific programmes on sectoral legislation on banking, housing and worker cooperatives. The office participated in two external cooperative law projects namely, the Legal Ecosystem for Social Economy - Peer Learning Partnership of the OECD implemented by Confederación Empresarial Española de la Economía Social (CEPES), and the Cooperative Law and Regulation Initiative (CLARITY) of the Overseas Cooperative Development Council and NCBA-CLUSA. Progress was made on activities of the regional projects of model law for the African Union and Regional Framework for Pacific Islands with ICA Africa and ICA Asia and Pacific respectively.

In 2021, the global office was able to offer legal advice to ICA bodies and partners on matters relating commercial contracts and legal agreements relating to the 33rd World Cooperative Congress, the establishment of the sub-regional office in Cairo, Egypt, and to the DotCoop LLC.



**In the field of communication and branding related to the cooperative identity**, the ICA and DotCooperation are leading the website [Stories.coop](https://www.stories.coop) which scope is being enlarged and its image renewed. The new website is planned to be launched in 2022 with new functions, narrative and image. The Cooperative marque guidelines were reformulated and are available to users on [www.identity.coop](https://www.identity.coop) website together with other materials developed by DotCooperation.

## Growth of the cooperative movement

### Membership

ICA affiliated 11 new members with the addition of two more countries. Members benefited from various offers including four members' briefs, informative webinars and events, individual meetings, personalised connections in the ICA network, infographics, and promotion of members through storytelling.

### Coordination

Regarding the coordination between the Regions and the Sectoral Organisations, 2021 saw the launch of the policy and regulation sub-group of the ICA Regional and Sectoral Coordination Working Group ("RESO"), alongside the previously launched membership and coordination sub groups. The ICA Global Office staff continued to staff and coordinate the 5 ICA Thematic Committee (see Thematic Committees section below).

### Policy and partnership

The ICA took the rotating **chairmanship of COPAC**, the UN Committee on the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives for 2021 and 2022, which has allowed us to coordinate a new

1 Change of guard from Mr. Japheth Mogomere to Chief Ayeola Tajudeen Oriyomi

COPAC strategy and to arrange the membership to COPAC of the UN International Trade Centre.

Upon request of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), the ICA co-organised for the first time with UN DESA the expert meeting which, every two years, provides the material for the UN Secretary General's report on Cooperatives in Social Development<sup>1</sup>: our impact on the contents of this report, which is key for cooperatives' position at global level, has never been so strong. The report emphasises, inter alia, the cooperative identity and the importance of cooperative legislation.

We extended our MoU with **FAO** for another 3 years and jointly elaborated a new work plan, with the involvement of ICAO (see ICAO below). We also worked on the UN Food Systems Summit with ICAO,

in connexion with FAO, with an ICA Declaration emphasising the key role of producers' and consumers' cooperatives in the global food systems.

### Global Round Table meeting of governmental authorities

In a historic event, national and local government authorities met in Seoul on 4th December, immediately after the 33rd World Cooperative Congress, for an intergovernmental meeting organised by the ICA. Public officials from 23 countries, four UN agencies and the European Union met to discuss strategies for the promotion of cooperatives with the aim to gradually create a global network of government entities focusing on cooperatives

Participants examined how governments can develop policies that leverage the cooperative enterprise model for a more





inclusive and resilient recovery, and improve legislative and regulatory frameworks to create a supportive environment. This event also provided a unique global platform for discussions on the recommendations of the 2021 UN Secretary General report on Cooperatives in Social Development (see above) and the role that cooperatives play and the support they can be offered within framework of the UN Agenda 2030 on Sustainable Development.

The Global Round Table also evaluated the growing interest of governments and intergovernmental bodies on the social and solidarity economy and discussed the prominent role of cooperatives, ahead of the 110th Session of the International Labour Conference

in 2022 which held a general discussion on Decent Work and the Social and Solidarity Economy . Aiming at a more inclusive and networked multilateralism, participants envisaged concrete actions for effective collaboration and coordination with the cooperative movement in multiple inter-governmental policy processes. Participants also agreed on the need for national or/and international actions for the creation of enabling legal, regulatory, policy and entrepreneurial environments conducive for the development of cooperatives, and a need to establish a roadmap toward setting up a mechanism for organizing biennial international meetings among National Governments, Local Governments, UN Agencies and the ICA.

### Cooperatives' engagement in the G20 discussions

In April 2021, the ICA established a G20 Working Group (ICA G20 WG), to bring together the most prominent cooperative business leaders from G20 countries with the mission to elevate the benefits of the cooperative business model, establish cooperatives as a viable business solution, and spur meaningful policy discussion at the highest levels of G20 discussions. The ICA G20 WG collaborated with the Italian Cooperative Alliance to contribute to the G20 discussions under the Italian G20 Presidency,

particularly involving the Business 20 (B20) and Civil Society 20 (C20) task forces. The driving concept of the ICA G20 WG is to advance the cooperative movement's priorities, elevate its engagement in the G20 deliberations and attempt to engage in much more extensive and coordinated advocacy efforts among cooperative organisations from the G20 countries than has been the case so far.

There are now more than 30 representatives of the ICA members taking part in the ICA G20 WG from 16 G20 member countries.

ICA in collaboration with the Italian Cooperative Alliance organized several events under the framework of the G20 to elevate the priorities of the cooperative movement and enhance its visibility. In addition, ICA together with the Italian Cooperative Alliance participated actively in the C20 Working Groups, and the B20 taskforces contributing to the realization of the final policy packs. As a result, cooperatives were recognized in the C20 policy recommendations whereby the **C20 Policy Pack** mentioned cooperatives **5 times** recognizing its significance and contribution to building up a sustainable future for all. Cooperatives were also recognized in two **B20 Task Forces** policy paper recommendations; the Task Force on Health and Life Science; and in the Task Force on

### Women Empowerment.

The ICA G20 Working Group aims to move forward and drastically impact the way the world does business for the betterment of the lives of individuals and communities everywhere.

More information regarding cooperatives' engagement in the G20 at the ICA website can be found through this [link](#). To watch the recording of the G20 event during the 33<sup>rd</sup> World Cooperative Congress, use the following link: <https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/704122110>.

### Social and Solidarity Economy

Since 2020, based on the ICA 2020-2030 Strategic Plan which recognized for the first time the need for the ICA to work actively within the framework of the rapidly evolving social and solidarity economy global policy making drive, the ICA drafted a [position paper](#) to reaffirm its commitment to establish strong partnerships with other global bodies in the social and solidarity economy and promote SSE at the international level, and has been pursuing its regular participation, initiated in early 2020, in the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSSSE) which is mandated to raise the visibility of the Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) within the UN system and beyond.

On September 28 2021, ICA and the [Global Social Economy Forum](#) (GSEF), [SSE International Forum](#) (SSEIF), the [Association Internationale de la Mutualité](#) (AIM) and the [International Cooperative and Mutual Insurance Federation](#) (ICMIF) launched the **International Coalition for the Social and Solidarity Economy (ICSSE)**. The objectives of ICSSE are to gather, strengthen and make known a community of SSE actors, to deepen advocacy for the recognition of SSE, and to promote SSE as a field of economic activity that must be recognized and that is useful for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, partly in view of the first discussion on SSE held at the International Labour Conference for the first time ever in June 2022.

At the launching event, the ICSSE members unveiled the SSE Charter which has three objectives. It seeks to **bring together, strengthen and raise the profile of a community of SSE actors** by building a network of organisations and enterprises; strengthening and supporting the work of the the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on Social and Solidarity Economy (UNTFSSSE); and consolidating this block of SSE networks and organisations within the relevant and existing broader international initiatives.

In addition, the ICA held a session on the SSE during the 33<sup>rd</sup> World Cooperative Congress in December 2021 in Seoul, which evaluated how cooperatives live their identity within the SSE. The session also evaluated the best practices on cooperatives partnerships with other SSE organizations and how policies and programs that are favourable to the social and solidarity economy could be developed.

### In the field of research, the following main activities were held in 2021:

The **ICA Cooperative Research Conference** in the framework of the 33<sup>rd</sup> World Cooperative Congress, under the theme “Deepening Our Cooperative Identity”, was organized on 28-30 November 2021 as a preparatory research event. During 56 sessions (40 hybrid sessions / 16 online sessions), 193 presentations were made. All video recordings, the Abstract book (EN, ES, FR) and Extended abstracts are posted on the [CCR webpage](#). Two volumes of “Review of International Cooperation” with the selected papers will be published in 2022.

[The 2021 World Cooperative Monitor 2021](#) was published in collaboration with Euricse. In addition to the data on the top 300 largest cooperatives and mutuals at the global level, and thanks to the contribution of the ICETT members (see ICETT



below), it focused on the reactions of cooperatives to the COVID-19 emergency as well as the actions they plan to implement in the recovery phase and how they are pursuing the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The special issue (volume 106/2021) of the **Review of International Cooperation** on the theme “*Bridging Divides: Promoting Economic, Social and Cultural Democracy*” was edited by the Canadian Association of Studies in Cooperation (CASC). It is published in 2022.

Within the framework of the 33rd World Cooperative Congress, a study on the SDG Framework for Cooperatives, called “**How do cooperatives drive the change?**”, was conducted. Based on the data from ICA members’ website and cooperative research works, the study aimed at providing a general framework with which ICA members and cooperatives can better communicate their contributions to the SDGs. It was presented during the Congress and will be used for follow-up activities of the ICA concerning the SDGs.

A test version of the “[ICA Cooperative Information Review](#)” was made. As a test version, it was shared with the ICA members.

In the field of [capital](#), a Business

Plan for the Global Cooperative Impact Fund (GCI) was finalised and shared with Development Finance Institutions (DFI) and the European Commission. Continuous follow-up conversations were held with DFIs and international institutions on identifying a potential anchor investor.

### [Regarding communication, the main following outputs should be mentioned:](#)

- A new interactive map displaying ICA members information was developed following the Cooperatives connect project initiated with DotCooperation (see Dotcooperation below). New ICA members stories were created regularly with specific profiles created to them and promoted on ICA social media channels and structures.
- 2 issues of the ICA external newsletter **Cooperative Insider** were published each dedicating a special issue on current socio economic challenges: in March 2021 with the [Special Feature: Cooperatives’ answer to COVID-19](#), and in July 2021 with a [Special Focus: #RebuildBetterTogether](#). The newsletter has also been reworked with an image and an easier system to navigate. It is sent to close to 20,000 subscribers worldwide in three

languages, and it is backed by a multichannel campaign implemented throughout the ICA regular social media platforms and live posting.

- A new website for the **International Day of Cooperatives (CoopsDay)**, celebrated during the first Saturday of July, was created to centralise the action’s pack <https://www.coopsday.coop/>. A call to action to cooperators and partners was launched resulting on the collection of more than 10 stories from 35 countries worldwide that are displayed in the CoopsDay map. A poster was designed for helping join the campaign resulting on pictures and videos from all around the world received. We produced a video compiling all the materials received, it can be consulted [here](#). We also created a new logo for CoopsDay, which was translated into 12 languages
- Our work towards **the press** bore some fruits, as the BBC featured the ICA and cooperatives from our network in a piece published in April 2021 and that can be accessed [here](#).

Regarding **youth**, the second edition of the Global Youth Forum (GYF21) was organised in March, this time online. Four workshops should be mentioned, two about the Youth

Replication Project, and two about the ICA Youth Network (see Global Youth Network below).

Regarding **gender**, the Gender Equality Committee (GEC) organised a webinar in March and published «*Women in leadership achieving an equal future in a COVID 19 world*» showcasing examples of women co-operators in leadership during this pandemic from Africa, America, Asia Pacific and Europe (see also GEC section

below). GEC publication on «*women in leadership achieving an equal future in a COVID 19 world*» showcases several cooperative best-case examples from the regions of Africa, America, Asia Pacific and Europe of women co-operators in leadership during this pandemic. With the objective to showcase the perspectives of women and girls co-operators' important role in all spheres and at all stages of pandemic response and recovery.

1 month campaign during March focused on women in leadership for a just recovery with a webinar to engage in the CSW dialogues under the same topic. With UNDESA, ILO and We Effect joining the committee for the discussion

One webinar was organized for the GEC in March, and the presence of GEC representatives was arranged on 5 other webinars organized by different organizations and cooperatives.

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## Cooperation among cooperatives

### ITC-ICA coop-to-coop pilot project

We organised a pilot project with the UN International Trade Centre (ITC) on cooperative to cooperative (C2C) trade, focusing on a few agricultural products produced by African cooperative producers, and retail cooperatives in developed countries. The pilot project was developed to create a proof of concept for an integrated approach to strengthening agricultural coops. The project built the capacity of agricultural cooperatives and facilitated trade, investment and knowledge transfer linkages between buyer / retailer cooperatives and agricultural cooperatives in four pilot countries.

The 7-month pilot project was

successfully completed and most output and outcome indicators were achieved. The key highlights of the project were:

- Securing participation of 6 large retail cooperatives to share lessons with supplier cooperatives
- 2 buyer cooperatives are already discussing business deals with 3 supplier cooperatives.
- 6 supplier cooperatives confirmed having made improvements or are in the process of making improvements due to the project's support.

The project has provided important conclusions on the basis of which

we are now pursuing our work with ITC in view of preparing a larger trade project.

### The International Cooperative Entrepreneurship Think Tank (ICETT)

ICETT holds plenary quarterly meetings to discuss and implement its activities. It also invites leaders from different fields to share their expertise with the ICETT members on how cooperatives can leverage their identity, while developing robust business strategies and marketing their products and services. Some of the guests invited included; The International Trade Centre – the joint agency of the United Nations and the World Trade Organization which is currently collaborating with

ICA to implement a pilot project to facilitate sustainable value chains by enhancing business relations among cooperatives (see above); Dr. Patrick Develtere, Professor International Development Cooperation, KU Leuven University, Belgium to share his experience on think tanks as he is a former Principal Advisor at the European Political Strategy Center (EPSC), an in-house think tank of the European Commission; Martin Lowery, Chair of the 33rd World Cooperative Congress Task Force and ICA Identity Committee shared how cooperatives can translate their identity, values and principles in a more practical manner to be more competitive; Dr. R S Sodhi, Managing Director of Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF) commonly known as Amul, in India, who shared practical elements from Amul's model on how cooperatives

leverage their identity to reinforce competitiveness while developing robust business strategies and marketing their products and services; and lastly, Dr. Carlos Zarco, the President of the International Health Cooperative Organization and Director-General of Fundacion Espriu, a group of health cooperatives in Spain, who shared strategic thinking on cooperative entrepreneurship with the background and success story of the Fundacion Espriu as well as how the health cooperatives have helped in the fight against COVID-19 Pandemic.

ICETT also held a series of activities and events on how cooperative identity help tackle global issues such as the future of work, climate change and human rights in value chains. It organized 3 webinars; on Future of Work – evaluated how

cooperatives can be a laboratory for developing new form of work and quality employment in the future of work. On 3rd June, it organized another webinar to mark World Environment Day and discussed practices and policies put in place by large cooperatives to protect the environment. It also acknowledged the role that cooperatives played in the face of the pandemic. Lastly, on 9th June, ICETT organized a webinar to mark the International Day on Elimination of Child Labour, whereby 2021 was also the UN International Year on the Elimination of Child Labour. The event was organized in collaboration with ILO and shared best cases on how cooperatives help in the fight against child labour.

For more information about ICETT and its activities, please follow this link: <https://www.ica.coop/en/icett>.

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## Sustainable development

### ICA-EU Partnership programme

2021 marked the **end of the five year and a half ICA-EU Partnership programme**<sup>2</sup>.

An array of activities planned under this programme were finalised, in particular in the fields

of legislation analysis, training material, studies, assistance to members to present projects to the European Union delegations of their own countries, and in terms of networking and partnership with other global networks such as in the field of fair trade, gender,

youth and development. The programme considerably increased the credibility of cooperatives in the field of international development cooperation within the European Commission directorate general for partnerships (ex Europaid). After the end of the programme in

<sup>2</sup> A complete overview on the ICA-EU Partnership coops4dev can be found in the 2021 released publication 'Storybook', to be consulted on [www.coops4dev.coop](http://www.coops4dev.coop).



August, we focused on reporting on the whole five years and a half period, and we organised a global webinar participated by European Commission authorities.

The ICA-EU Partnership concluded the following activities in 2021:

### Policy & Advocacy

Engagement and participation in the United Nations Food Systems Summit.

Participation and preparation for 5 meetings of the Task Team of the EU Policy Forum in Development, composed by global Civil Society Organisations and International Institutions

Participation in the 3 Regional Multi-Annual Indicative Program consultations in collaboration and coordination with ICA Regional Offices and ICA members

Targeted advocacy towards EU Delegations for engagement and consultation at national level, with a participation in more than 23 in-country consultations

Elaboration and provision of letters and research material for informing and advocating for the position of cooperatives towards national governments

Joint advocacy work with 'Women

Engagement for a Common Future' within the next programming cycle of the European Commission, 2021-2027. Main outcome is a actor-based approach in the upcoming programming cycle.

Participation in the European Development Days with 2 sessions: a brainstorming on youth entrepreneurship and a project lab dedicated to the contribution of cooperatives in climate action

Preparation and implementation of a side-event at the UN High-Level Political Forum 2021 (HLPF)

### Partnerships & Networking

Joint work on sustainable business models with Fair Trade and the NGO Platform Concord, as well as visibility initiatives for the International Day of Cooperatives - Endorsement of the research on Youth & Cooperatives by World Fair-Trade Organisation, International Labour Organisation, Impact Hub, etc.

Exchanges with the International Trade Union Confederation on the NDICI (Neighborhood Development International Cooperation Instrument) and the Financing on Development Civil Society group

Thematic webinar organised with the ICA Thematic Committee on International Development (ICDP)

around the enabling environment for cooperatives

Additional webinar organized with the ICDP in the form of an internal consultation to gather input for the UN Secretary-General Report on Rebuilding Back better

### Research & Knowledge sharing

Legal framework analysis, elaboration of regional reports in Europe, Asia-Pacific, Africa and Americas, based on the 79 national country reports

Business Plan and Terms of References for the Global Cooperative Impact Fund (GCI) finalised and shared with Development Finance Institutions (DFI) and European Commission. Continuous follow-up conversations with DFIs and international institutions on potential anchor investor

4 seminars organized with the participation of 25 member organisations, in order to gather input on the GCI and finalize the documentation

### Management

Final external evaluation undertaken on the Partnership with recommendations on the way forward

Final narrative and finance reports elaborated, approved by the European Commission.

## Training

Organisation and implementation of the Global Youth Forum 2021, with the participation of 650 young entrepreneurs at 35 different training sessions, organized during 3 days.

Continuation of Coop Academy online training sessions, with invited guests. Uploading of Coop Academy sessions on the new training platform Edu4all.coop platform launched, containing all learning tools and training session videos from the Global Youth Forum, Global Cooperative Entrepreneurs, Coop Academy, Coopedia, etc.

## Youth & Gender

Global Cooperative Entrepreneurs (GCE) activities to answer the many challenges faced by young entrepreneurs starting up cooperatives. Piloted in 9 countries, the mentorship activities take place together with national youth organizations.

A thematic research on youth cooperative entrepreneurship, based on 420 questionnaires and empirical studies in 20 countries.

Global Youth Forum (GYF): the 2020 edition has been followed by an online version of the GYF in 2021.

YouTHink Coop and Coop Academy, online training sessions for entrepreneurs.

High-level policy events on Gender, such as participating in the UN Commission on the Status of Women and Global Cooperative Conference 2019.

## Environment

Research on environment and climate action by cooperatives, including cases from 8 innovative cooperatives.

Campaign on cooperatives for Climate Action for UN International Day of Cooperatives, with a focus on renewable energy sector and SDG 13 Policy Brief co-authored with UN agencies.

## Digital Solutions & Innovation

COOPEDIA, an open-source software indexing resources on cooperative entrepreneurship. This collaborative online platform builds on the global knowledge community for cooperative start-ups and youth entrepreneurship support.

Aroundtheworld.coop, a series of professional documentaries featuring innovative cooperatives and their impact on local communities across all continents.

## Support mechanisms

Supporting cooperative federations: seminars bringing together a large number of members to focus on their ability to advocate for an enabling environment for the cooperative model and engage in programming.

Support setting up of an impact fund by and for cooperatives, such as the Global Cooperative Impact Fund (GCI), dedicated to responding to the many obstacles that cooperatives are facing to access finance

## Partnerships

Partnerships were strengthened at global level, with a focus on the International Labour Organization (ILO), UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), Fairtrade Movement (WFTO and FTAO), Trade Unions (ITUC), NGOs (Forus) and Women Organisations (WECF), leading to joint position papers on inclusive economic models, capacity building activities, collaborations on policy events and advocacy efforts to promote the cooperative model.

Multiple Memorandum of Understandings as well as joint actions were carried out at regional level with key partners and development stakeholders.

## Communications

A communication toolkit was created by the #coops4dev team to facilitate the involvement of partners together with the publication of a guide to organised events and webinars, particularly addressed to the cooperative movement.

# THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ICA REGIONS

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE AFRICA

In the year 2021, we had some notable strides as we adapted and embraced the new ways of working brought about by Covid-19. We continued to engage our members by having some regional events like the Health Cooperative Stakeholders Meeting with our member and other stakeholders in DR Congo. This was a follow-up activity to explore the potential of health cooperatives in member countries in Africa - promotion of good health and well-being. We were also able to connect virtually for most of our statutory meetings throughout the year and only held one in-person meeting in November for the new regional board members. In mid-year, we had a Consultation meeting on Cooperative Identity for members in the (Middle East and North Africa) MENA region that we organized jointly with the ICA-AP. We later organized for a regional webinar on *'Leveraging Digital Innovation to Improve Resilience of Agricultural Cooperatives in Times of Crisis'*. This webinar saw the participation

of government officials, cooperative leaders and other stakeholders to deliberate on some of the strategies agricultural cooperatives can use to expedite digital innovation, especially during times of crisis.

As part of capacity building and training targeting members, we conducted a training on Functioning and Advocacy towards European Union Delegations (EUDs) and did another one on Effective business Communication. Some of our



Change of guard from Mr. Japheth Mogomere to Chief Ayeola Tajudeen Oriyomi

members also benefitted from the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF) Government of Japan partnered with the ICA for a training course that aimed at empowering rural women to improve their leadership and business management in Asia and Africa.

Under research, together with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), we carried out a research on the *Promotion of Micro-Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSME) Formalization through leveraging the cooperative enterprise model*. Notably, we were able to contribute to the global youth research 'Young people and cooperatives: a perfect match', did 11 country researches on Mapping of Cooperator Actors from 11 countries. Nevertheless, we also contributed to the global research on environment and cooperatives 'Cooperation for the Transition to a Green Economy' and managed 18 country researches on the legal framework analysis. In collaboration with the U.S Overseas Cooperative Development Council, we were able to do a research on the 'Adoption of Climate-Smart Agricultural Practices that Contribute to the Resilience of Small-Scale Farmers: Incentives, Barriers and Lessons Learnt from Coffee Cooperatives in East Africa' and we are at the final stage of the report.

In regards to youth participation, we continued to engage the youth in the region through different platforms. Once again, the youth from the region benefitted from the training sessions on cooperative entrepreneurship through the Global Youth Forum 2021. We have been having a close engagement with the Global Cooperative Entrepreneurs (GCE) ambassadors to help them in realizing their ideas as they had planned and also started a scale-up for the same starting with Kenya. Together with Fairtrade Africa, we brought the youth on board to celebrate the milestones that they are making to accelerate sustainable development. We organized for an event in line with the International Youth Day theme - *transforming food systems: youth innovation for human and planetary health*. This focused on acknowledging, recognizing and celebrating youth innovation that has contributed to transforming food systems across the globe.

The follow-ups with the Pan African Parliament's Committee on Monetary and Financial Affairs on the proposed Africa Cooperative Model Law continued through a presentation on the legal basis for a model law on cooperatives in Africa.

In terms of governance, ICA-Africa opened a Sub-regional office for the north Africa in Egypt that will also host the new established African Organization of Housing

Cooperative.– Egypt. This was a vital step in realization of operationalization of ICA-Africa sub-regional offices in all the continent (North, South, Central, East and West).

Finally, the Region held its regional board elections during the 15th Regional Assembly that saw a smooth transition of leadership. Chief Ayeola Tajudeen Oriyomi from the Cooperative Federation of Nigeria (CFN) was elected as the ICA-Africa 3rd President taking over from Mr. Japheth Mogomere who voluntary retired after servicing in the ICA-Africa regional board for 13 years.

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

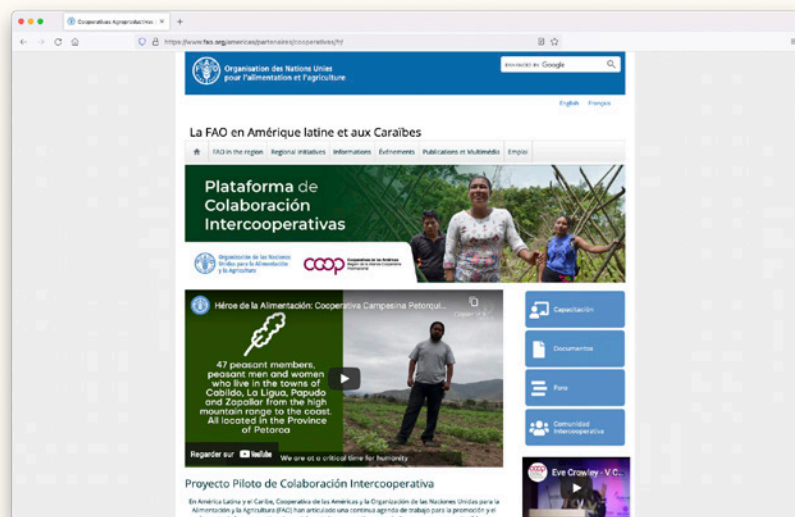
## Cooperative Identity

### Regional contribution

- With the aim of contributing to the global discussion led by the ICA about the Cooperative Identity, ahead of the 33 World cooperative Congress the Regional Office of Cooperatives of the Americas realized a series of 8 episodes called “CoopsTV”, showcasing the features of the regional cooperative movement from a sectorial and a thematic point of view, also highlighting its contribution to the SDGs and the UN2030 Agenda. The episodes report about the cooperative lineage alongside the years, cooperative youth and women leadership, cooperative education, cooperative banking , insurance and mutuals, cooperatives’ contribution to social, civil and environmental rights along the XXI century in the Americas, cooperative agriculture and housing, work and consumer cooperatives, the creative industry and cooperative platform, COP26 and cooperatives for sustainable development.

- Cooperatives of the Americas’ President led the 3.1 parallel session of the 33 World cooperative Congress on “*committing to our cooperative identity for the survival of*

*the planet*”, showcasing best practices of cooperative contribution from all around the world to climate change mitigation, natural resources management, forestry, environmental education, UN Global Compact, COP26 as well as setting up concrete proposal for an ICA global commitment to sustainable development.



## Partnership and resource mobilization

The strategic dialogue with intergovernmental and international organizations set up along-time the last four years produced outstanding results during 2021 strengthening and refreshing those partnership, but also creating concrete opportunities/ services for member organizations:

- with **FAO Regional Office for Latin America and Caribbean** the pilot project started in 2019 created a joint and co-branded online platform for e-commerce, training and technical assistance
- the MoU with **UN ECLAC** signed in 2020 has also produced concrete effects, as the joint study about public policies and promotion for cooperatives from 8 Countries has been released
- the MoU with the **IICA** (Interamerican Institute for cooperation on agriculture) has spawned into 6 coop-to-coop trade relations based on IT transition and upscaled market solutions via digital platforms.

## Response to Covid-19

- The work of the Office has continued under the modality of “remote working” and this produced fixed costs reduction as well as higher efficiency and new

standards of services providing to member organizations.

- Held 8 virtual meetings, with a sub-region focus, to explore cooperative response to COVID-19;
- Held the 22nd Regional Conference in a 100% virtual format: a two days event with the participation of 1,100 cooperators and leaders of the international organizations of the Region (UN ECLAC, FAO, IICA, OIM, ILO, PAHO) showcased cooperatives’ responses as well as the proposal for the regional recovering agenda.

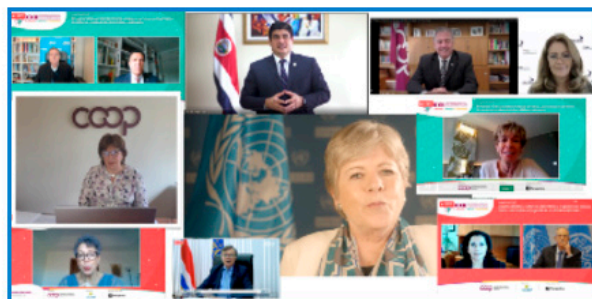
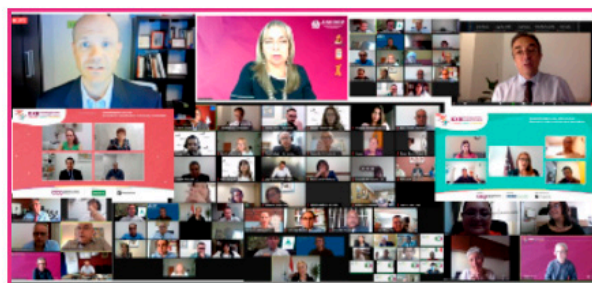
## Relations and funding with EU

- The regional activities of the ICA-EU Partnership “Coops4dev” project have been fully executed. A webinar with the EU Delegations to Brasil was held; a final evaluation with 13 interviews to member organizations and political leadership has been realized by an external consultant. The 5 people of the Coop4dev dedicated staff have been retained in order to take advance of the capacities developed under the ICA-EU Partnership Coops4dev and serve members with renewed service portfolio.
- The “Casas de la Alegria” project,

funded by the EU DEL to Costa Rica and whose objective is to provide access to social services (education, health) for migrant coffee pickers and their families continued been implemented: 4 new social houses were open; two grants of 10,000USD were given to local cooperatives as seed capital for capacity development and community-based initiatives. A research on “cooperative, migration and decent work” has been put into the pipeline.

## Administrative management, capacity development and promotion

- Held 4 meetings of the Board of Directors and 12 meetings of the Executive Committee;
- All the meetings of Sectorial Organizations, Committees and Thematic Networks have reported qualitative and quantitative information, including the financial information, including the financial ones and are available online (access for Board members only);
- Developed a virtual internship for knowledge exchange and cooperation amongst cooperatives from the health sector (Panama - Colombia - Brazil - Puerto Rico - Spain)
- Certified 20 member organizations either for their social-economic impact (*"Balance Social Cooperativo"*) or their commitment with local development and cooperative education.



## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ALLIANCE ASIA-PACIFIC

2021 was a momentous year for ICA Asia and Pacific on many fronts. ICA-AP elected a [new Regional Board](#) at its hybrid 15th Regional Assembly in Seoul, the Republic of Korea. Dr. Chandrapal Singh Yadav (India) was elected as the ICA-AP President and Mr. Cai Zhenhong (China) and Datuk Seri Dr. Abdul Fattah Hj Abdullah as Vice Presidents. The board has representation from across the sub-regions and brings together diverse expertise for the development of cooperatives in the region.

In line with ICA 33rd World Cooperative Congress, the ICA-AP focused on deepening the cooperative identity in Asia and Pacific. To bring the perspective of Asia-Pacific members and stakeholders on the Statement of Cooperative Identity, ICA-AP organised online consultations and events with members, published articles and interviews and relaunched [COOP Dialogue](#), a bi-annual magazine.

Some of the key activities carried out were the [third Asia-Pacific](#)



ICA-AP 15th Regional Assembly



ICA President Ariel Guarco at National Cooperative Conference in India

Cooperative Youth Summit (virtual) which celebrated youth as the torchbearers of Cooperative Identity. The winners of Coop Pitch were: Eco-Clean (Indonesia), a platform cooperative for cleaning-service providers; Himalayan Hemp Cooperative (India), a community of artisans and farmers creating eco-conscious products; and Udara Cooperative (Malaysia), which focused on food production through aquaponics systems. The ICA-AP Committee on Cooperatives in Educational Institutions organized an online global workshop on the theme, ‘Building and Strengthening Cooperative Identity among Youth through Cooperatives in Educational Institutions’ to bring perspectives from experts on global best practices and recommendations to strengthen Cooperative Identity among youth. The Committee on Women organized the 11th Asia-Pacific Cooperative Women Forum, “Why Cooperative Identity matters to Women,” in a hybrid manner in Seoul. The forum deliberated on how the Cooperative Identity positively impacts women cooperative members and the challenges experienced by women in practising cooperative principles and values. The Committee on Consumer Cooperation organized a series of webinars to highlight the role played by cooperatives to bridge the gap between producers and consumers during the pandemic.

In celebration of the International Day of Cooperatives, ICA-AP launched a dedicated webpage and encouraged members to engage in actions to #RebuildBetterTogether for a people-centered and environmentally just recovery. It organised an online Roundtable Discussion to facilitate the exchange of ideas between cooperatives and development actors on international cooperative development. The ICA-MAFF (Government of Japan) training programs continued to be carried out online and was extended to Pacific Island countries. The ICA-EU Partnership on Cooperatives in Development People-Centered Businesses in Action Project successfully ended in August. ICA President Ariel Guarco attended a National Cooperative Conference organised by the Indian cooperative movement on September 25 to felicitate, Mr. Amit Shah on taking over as the first Minister of Cooperation.

The ICA Asia and Pacific Region has 112 members from 31 countries. The Region added six new members from India, Jordan, the Philippines and Sri Lanka. The 22 country snapshots provide a rich overview of the history, policy environment, case studies and international engagement in these countries. We lost some of our friends and ex-colleagues - Dr. Gopal Saxena, Dr. Daman Prakash, Mr. P. Nair, and Mr. Mohammad Sharif Bhajji. They will be dearly missed.

We are thankful to our MBO sponsoring organizations – ACFSMC, ANGKASA, JCCU, and NACF, our partners, and our members for their continued contribution, engagement, and active participation throughout the year. The 2021 Annual Activities Report can be accessed here.

## COOPERATIVES EUROPE

We look back upon a turbulent year for Europe. Cooperatives sought together solutions to deal with the economic and human impact of the Covid-19 crisis. In this context of strong economic and social challenges for Europe, the value of a sustainable business is now promoted more widely. Cooperative values and principles prove to be indispensable in the European Commission's views and plans for a fairer and more sustainable future.

Against this backdrop, we advocate for a stronger role for 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. There is also the recent adoption of the European action plan for the social economy, long-awaited by the sector, in which we and our members and partners have been particularly invested providing input in the past years. Furthermore, through its mandates in different expert groups, such as GECES on the social economy or Fit for Future, on better regulation, Cooperatives Europe also shared proposals and recommendations.

We focused our advocacy work on promoting cooperatives as transversal key economic actors,

capable of combining economic, social and environmental performances while participating in the digital transition. Reaching out to policymakers of all EU institutions, we advocated for a level playing field for all cooperatives. At the same time, we continued to promote an enterprise and industrial policy that does not further burden them but supports them in their journey.

We also concluded the Sharing, Collaboration, Cooperation (SCC) project that was led by Cooperatives Europe and produced a wealth of research materials, tools and methodologies to help transform co-working spaces into collaborative spaces. Cooperatives Europe similarly worked on the continuation of various other partnerships such as CO-FRESH and SE4Ces increasing cooperative impact in the field of education and innovation.

Cooperation does not stop at the European border. The past year marked the end of, the ICA-EU Partnership that brought us great achievements in the area of international cooperative development. Based on this experience and the interests of its members, Cooperatives Europe started to work on the potential continuation of this important activity.



As an association, we must constantly anticipate our place and position in a rapidly changing environment. To be better equipped for the future, we have started

working with our new board, presidency, and members on a multiannual strategy. Additionally, in digitalization and the grown importance of online communication, the revision of our communication tools has focused on a better interconnection with our members. We have renewed our website and newsletter and will continue to improve these tools and channels in the coming years.

Together, we look to leverage our incredible potential with a renewed ambition to build, rebuild, and better position ourselves for the cooperative future.

# THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ICA SECTORS

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## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE AGRICULTURAL ORGANIZATION (ICAO)

In 2021, marking the 70th anniversary of the establishment of ICAO, we practiced a myriad of international cooperation activities with our member institutions to ensure the development and growth of global agricultural cooperatives. Most of all, we actively responded to global issues with our members based on the fundamental spirit of cooperatives, cooperation and solidarity, and focused on discovering sustainable cooperative models and exemplary cases.

In March, the ICAO Executive Committee was held virtually due to the persisting pandemic. In the meeting, 4 regional representatives from Asia-Pacific, Europe, the Americas, and Africa reported the progress of the regional projects that are being carried out in their continents. Japan reported on the brand building project for NAMAC, Poland shared its commitment to reduce food waste, Brazil announced its effort to further strengthen cooperation between

cooperatives in the Americas, and Uganda presented its initiatives on the establishment of an agricultural materials center and the supportive actions for expanding the market for cooperators, and all of the projects were approved as presented. In addition, as a new amendment stipulating an appointment of an auditor selected from the executive members was passed in the 2020 General Meeting, Mr. Kamarudin ISMAIL from ANGKASA was appointed as the auditor of ICAO.

At the beginning of December, the 33rd World Cooperative Congress was held in Seoul, Korea, and just before, at the end of November, the General Meeting of ICAO was held in a hybrid fashion. President Sung-hee Lee, delegates of member institutions, and over 100 cooperators attended the General Meeting online or offline and had an in-depth discussion on “identity of agricultural cooperatives that contributes to the sustainable food system.” In particular, we inspected

the progress of the ICAO regional projects, which are the supporting initiatives for cooperatives in developing countries based on the UN-SDGs, to eradicate poverty and achieve food security. The goal of these regional projects is to contribute to securing a better life for farmers across the world.

The next ICAO General Meeting is scheduled to be held in June 2022 in Seville, Spain. Opportunities to share information among ICAO members and the election to organize a new executive committee are in queue. To ensure the sustainable development of global cooperatives, ICAO will continue its effort to expand its initiatives including on agricultural digitization and training programs for member cooperators in collaboration with member institutions.



## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE FISHERIES ORGANIZATION (ICFO)

In 2021, global pandemic of COVID 19 had a significant impact on ICFO activities. ICFO secretariat focused on executable programs given the circumstances as follows.

ICFO secretariat endeavored to promote and expand the cooperative movement in the fishery sector around the world. Even though there are many countries with fishing industry in the world, the number of ICFO members is not enough to collaborately push the movement in the fishing sector. In order to increase membership, ICFO secretariat searched new members with ICA headquarters. Thanks to the efforts, two new members, Jordan Cooperative Corporation in Jordan and Geraldton Fishermen's Cooperative in Australia received the membership of ICFO.

World Fisheries Cooperative Day was celebrated with delivery of a speech by Chairman Im Joon-taek. In his speech, Chairman Im expressed his concern over significant challenges faced by fishermen and people working for the fishery industry around the world due to depletion of fishery resources caused by over catching, marine pollution, climate change and continued COVID-19

pandemic. Chairman Im urged member organizations to recall the cooperative

spirit to overcome the global crisis and show the power of cohesion through solidarity and cooperation that transcends borders.

In the meantime, the ICFO and Pukyong National University implemented the scholarship program since 2014. The tuition fee is fully funded by Pukyong National University for 2-year master's program and the ICFO offers scholarship benefits such as airfare and boarding expenses. This year's scholarship program went to TUGCE KILIC from Turkey and DWI RAMADYA RISQIANA PUTRI from Indonesia. A total of 17 students completed a master degree program from 2014 when the program was launched.

Lastly, to introduce detailed ICFO activities including a brief history, achievements, the ICFO updated a brochure "The Fisheries Cooperative Movement Around the World" and published a newsletter of 2021.



ICFO scholarship system



ICFO meeting

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE BANKING ASSOCIATION (ICBA)

The International Cooperative Banking Association (ICBA), as a global organisation for cooperative banks and cooperative financial institutions, has the following key aims: to facilitate the promotion of the cooperative values of cooperative banks at all levels 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 challenges, and to encourage inter-cooperation with other types of cooperatives and various bodies of ICA. Keeping into consideration the overall aims of ICBA, the work plan has been developed within the framework of ICA Strategic Plan 2020-2030. The reconstituted ICBA has to work hard to face and address meaningfully, the implications and constraints emerged out due the COVID-19 pandemic. The reconstituted ICBA completed two eventful years by October 2021. It may be worthwhile to peruse some of the important activities of ICBA during 2021.

- 1 Membership Appreciation/ Outreach
- 2 Contribution to Research
- 3 Support to ICA with regular Financial Support/Contributions/ Coordination
- 4 Dissemination of ICA Strategic Plan 2020-2030
- 5 Formulation of Work plans based on ICA strategic Plans with an emphasis on Cooperative Ethics, Values & Principles.

ICBA put efforts to mobilise membership support and the membership rose to 51 by the end of 2021.

ICBA initiated measures to establish cordial & close relations with other very important global Associations, namely:

- World Council of Credit Unions (**WOCCU**). As a part of the measures, preliminary virtual meeting was held with Dr Brian Branch, President cum CEO, and Mr Andrew Price, Vice president (Advocacy), WOCCU with Bhima Subrahmanyam, ICBA President on 25-03-2021 and with ICBA Board on 13 April 2021. The interactions among the members resulted in organising an International webinar jointly by

ICBA and WOCCU, on “Sharing Digitalisation Strategies among Credit Unions and Cooperative Banks”, on 25 May 2021.

- Another very important measure in the process of establishing contacts with international level organisations is **Coordination with The World Bank** to organise Webinar. ICBA established initially contacts with The World Bank in June 2020. ICBA will continue to carry out the contacts with the WORLD BANK. Mr. Toshiaki Ono Senior Financial Sector Specialist, Agriculture Finance Finance, Competitiveness and Innovation is the nodal contact for ICBA.
- Established contact with newly appointed CEO, EACB: Ms Nina Schindler on 15 April 2021 to impress upon the need to jointly organize events for CFIs, pursuant to the execution of MOU between ICBA and EACB. Further, Joined «ICETT online Event on Future of Work - 1st June 2021».
- UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) organized expert

group meetings on Cooperatives in preparation of this year's report of the UN Secretary General on Cooperatives in Social Development on 02 June 2021. ICBA has been associated. Established contact with EURICSE and continued to share Few Facts about ICBA and World Monitoring Monitor (WCM) on 04-06-2021. Participated in the webinar on Cooperative and responsible finance for development» by EURICSE on 17 June 2021. Associated with International Cooperative Governance Symposium on 17 June 2021 on the theme entitled Governance in Cooperatives - Participatory, People-Centred, Democratic - hosted by the International Centre for Cooperative Management, Saint Mary's University (Halifax, Nova Scotia, CANADA).

ICBA participated in the online events organized by COPAC on 02 July 2021 on the eve of International Day of Cooperatives (IDC) on the theme of Rebuild Better Together: Cooperatives for a better Recovery. Virtual Conference was held jointly by APMAS, IRU, ICBA, NAFSCOB on IDC on 03 July 2021.

Retained Ms Nazik and Ms Rubiga to work for ICBA for 4 months or till the conclusion of 33rd world cooperative Congress to be held in Seoul, but not later than January 2022. This has been successfully resulted in organising a Webinar

on "how Financial Cooperatives contribute to sustainable development" based on the findings of the baseline research on 18 November 2021 by ICBA in close association with KCO and KU Leuven Programme. Subsequently, ICBA organised webinar on "**ICBA Members Today: How Do They Contribute and Report On Sustainable Development?**" on two occasions on 30 November 2021.

The following important ICBA events have also been held on 30 November 2021 in Hybrid format, both virtual and Physical, in Seoul, South Korea. Release and Presentation of the following 3 ICBA Publications to Mr Ariel Guarco, President, ICA:

- 1 Sustainable Development Goals & Objectives: Contribution of Cooperative Banks
- 2 Report of Country Papers on 'Regulation and Sustainability of Cooperative Banks'
- 3 A research study on "Regulation and Sustainability of Cooperative Banks-A Cross country Report"

One set of the same publications has been presented to Mr. Jean-louis Bancel, Director on ICA Board and Past President, ICBA.



**ICBA Board meeting and ICBA General Meeting have been organised on 30 November 2021. The meetings were addressed by the Chief Guest, Mr Ariel Guarco, President, ICA who delivered an excellent Key Note address. ICBA Statute has been appropriately perused by Board and General Assembly of ICBA.**

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## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE AND MUTUAL INSURANCE FEDERATION (ICMIF)

The year 2021 was another successful year for both ICMIF and its members. This was despite the challenges of the ongoing global pandemic and ICMIF and its members celebrated many successes and stories of growth and accomplishment.

The ICMIF team adopted a hybrid working arrangement in line with UK government guidelines as the year progressed with many still working from their home locations but collaborating in teams at the head office as and when required. This has proved to be very successful and the structure of agile, focused working groups, adopted in 2020, continued to work well. Both the 2021 ICMIF staff survey and feedback from members demonstrated growing satisfaction with working arrangements.

The Federation saw a growth in membership with 16 new members joining ICMIF in 2020. This included the Aéma Groupe, currently the fifth largest insurer in France.

ICMIF continued to expand its virtual offering in 2021 and offered all of its services online. Traditional face to face events such as the ICMIF Meeting of Reinsurance Officials

(MORO) and the ICMIF Americas Conference were held online, and we also hosted over 30 webinars in 2021. The virtual MORO attracted 125 participants from 55 companies in 32 countries. Just under 300 people from 77 companies in 33 countries attended the virtual ICMIF Americas Conference. There was a total of 3671 webinar participants in 2021.

Our CEO/C Suite strategic forums offered regular virtual roundtable discussions in 2021 for strategic leaders on the topic of **the mutual difference, looking** how mutual/cooperative insurers leverage the mutual value proposition to create a positive differentiator and gain a competitive advantage. More than 110 senior executives participated in virtual roundtables in 2021.

ICMIF continued the development of its member-only Knowledge Hub website in 2021 with a total of over 1200 searchable assets including case studies, thought leadership articles, webinars and video presentations from previous events by the end of the year.

The ICMIF *Mutual Leadership: Adapting to a Complex World* online course was launched in 2020 and a

total of four courses were run during 2021, two in the spring and two in the autumn. The course provides extended discussion opportunities with peers from around the globe who are facing similar challenges. The online alumni forum MC2, for past participants of the course, continues to be popular.

Most of our meetings and conversations with members were online in 2021 and discussions took place at all strategic levels with our member organisations. Some of the issues at the forefront of member minds in 2021 include: sustainability strategies and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs); insurtech; leveraging mutuality; the ESG agenda; governance; and member to member exchanges whereby ICMIF introduces members to each other for strategic discussions.

ICMIF continued to work with its three global partners in 2021: 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 2021, we continued working 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.

ICMIF and the UNDRR’s multi-year collaboration to help address the urgent challenge of reducing disaster risks bore the publication of a report, From protection to prevention: The role of cooperative and mutual insurance in disaster risk reduction, that identified what is needed in practical terms 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. Building on this, we have since launched the online ICMIF Prevention Hub, with the aim to showcase a multitude of risk reduction stories from mutuals around the world.

ICMIF was founded in Rome in 1922, which makes 2022 our centenary year. Throughout the year, we will be hosting a Centenary Conference in Rome (25-28 October); various online events and webinars; producing a digital archive of ICMIF’s history; and sharing video recordings featuring key people from the membership discussing what has changed in the last 25 years and looking ahead to the future. We will showcase how ICMIF has successfully led the mutual and cooperative insurance sector in the past featuring our achievements and we will also look to the future and share our aims and goals. This year will also allow us to recognise 100 years of ICMIF members serving communities – “A global reach for local strength”.

So, we look forward to celebrating our rich history and exciting times to come for both ICMIF and its members. For now, ICMIF and its members remain very well-positioned for the future.



DHAN and CAMIC roundtable news story  
pub March 2022



CLIMBS weather protect insurance payout  
Jan 2022 – Tabang Bohol

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## CONSUMERS COOPERATIVES WORLDWIDE (CCW)

The CCW Secretariat developed and conducted a survey among national members on the challenges of the global pandemic, in particular the visibility of cooperative identity in members' retail operations and their relevant innovative solutions. The objective is to generate information and facilitate closer collaboration between members in the pursuit of recovery and optimization of their activities. A report will be drafted in 2022 highlighting the co-op distinctiveness through leading examples from co-op retail in support of consumer-members, local communities, environmental responsibility and the overall impetus for higher sustainability in all operations.

On the occasion of the International Cooperative Day, 3 July, CCW President Prof. Petar Stefanov made a statement about the importance of cooperative businesses and its resilience to the economic challenges brought by the pandemic. Policymakers at international and national level are reminded to recognise cooperatives' added value to society and the local communities, particularly urging them to prioritise an enabling regulatory and policy environment which would maximise the cooperative contribution to rebuilding better together.

CCW was a golden sponsor of and speaker at the ICA Africa regional webinar on innovation and e-agriculture on 29 July with the theme "Leveraging on Digital Innovation To Improve Resilience of Agricultural Cooperatives In Times of Crisis", where CCW presented members' efforts in transforming food systems by implementing more sustainable practices and digital solutions, such as mobile apps, man-less stores, augmented reality and robotic deliveries. The subject of digital agriculture and its prospects touched upon aspects such as increased productivity, market opportunities, optimised resource use and cost effectiveness, and its challenges – weak technological infrastructure, high entry costs, low e-literacy, weak regulatory framework, among others. CCW proposed key recommendations addressed to policymakers: improving infrastructure and connectivity, education and skills and institutional support; and urged Africa's national cooperatives to explore higher interco-operation at local, national and international level, including between the European and African unions. It was reiterated that co-ops were people-centred businesses, and as such, they are inclusive and generate local added-value, leading to economic prosperity, social value

and environmental sustainability.

In September, Coop Cameroon became CCW's first African member, through its respective national sectoral organization – Coop Cameroon Consumers. We shall work towards the proliferation of consumer cooperatives both in Cameroon and across Africa.

In October, CCW was invited to the 190th Anniversary of the Russian cooperative movement to participate in an international forum together with ICA President Dr. Ariel Guarco along with Valeri Ivanov – BELKOOPSOYUZ Belarus Chairman and Dmitry Zubov – CENTROSOYUZ Russia Chairman. CCW presented five key criteria crucial for the development of consumer cooperatives, such as regulatory framework, education / training, co-op principles in economic activities, harmonisation of national co-op legislation and, of course, co-operation among cooperatives.

CCW spoke at the FACC Argentina University Social Economy Conference on 27 October about the role of consumer cooperatives and their social mission. CCW presented a report on how consumer cooperatives around the world managed the pandemic through

a plethora of successful practices implemented to recover and rebuild. The importance of digitalisation and the inevitable change in consumer behaviour we also discussed. The conclusions were that consumer cooperatives have a great opportunity to reinforce their identity and to provide consumers with added value compared to other retailers because of their intrinsic approach to maximising benefits for their members through constantly remodelling and rethinking operations and entire supply chains while engaging consumers for more sustainable and responsible lifestyles.

In December, within the World Cooperative Congress, CCW organised session 2.2 dedicated to ethical supply chains. Speakers included JCCU (Japan), SOK Corporation (Finland), agricultural co-op Kenya Cooperative Coffee Exporters (KCCE), ILO Chief of the Fundamental Principles and Rights, and International Trade Centre (ITC) Chief of Section “Institutions and Ecosystems“. SOK Finland was the facilitator of the session. Consumer cooperatives were hailed as the economic operators deemed most reliable due to their extensive efforts in ensuring due diligence along the entire supply chain. The conclusions were that cooperatives build more ethical value chains and therefore, international and national policymakers are urged to commit

to an enabling environment for cooperatives.

CCW was invited to speak at session 3.5 dedicated to consumer cooperatives’ experience in managing the COVID crisis. The main points highlighted included the pandemic’s impact on business activities; care for members, consumer & society; the role of digitalisation and the change in consumer behaviour. Consumer cooperatives have prioritised sustainability and responsibility in their activities and in their consumer engagement, parallel to which, they have invested greatly in digitalisation and shall continue to do so because of changing consumer behaviour.

For 2022, CCW has prioritised further facilitating closer collaboration between regions, sectors and national members in view of devising common initiatives and actions to generate knowledge and experience sharing aimed at optimising the economic activities at national level, whilst reinforcing the global movement’s capacity.



## COOPERATIVE HOUSING INTERNATIONAL (CHI)

### Building and Exchanging Knowledge

#### Webinars

- 1 Public Policy and Land Acquisition – May 2021 – CHI discussed public land acquisition policies from different countries that facilitate community-led housing (hosted by urbaMonde)
- 2 Community-led Housing in the Spotlight –Nov 2021 - CHI moderated a discussion with groups from Brazil, Thailand, Vietnam and Namibia – Empowering collective housing solutions (hosted by CoHabitat Network)
- 3 Innovative Cooperative Housing Financing Options Nov 2021 - CHI presented on innovative finance mechanisms being used by cooperative housing organisations (hosted by Habitat for Humanity [AP Housing Forum])
- 4 Asia Pacific Regional Forum - March 2021 - virtual regional forum for cooperative housing organizations with the aim to strengthen the co-op housing movement in the broader region while introducing them to the work of CHI and of the ICA Asia Pacific regional office.

- 5 Leveraging Assets for the Benefit of Future Generations - June 2021 - Studentendorf in Berlin, Community Land Trust in Canada, North American Students for Cooperation (Canada/USA). We presented a variety of cooperative models from Canada, Germany and the USA and shared examples of how co-op asset management is a tool to effect social change.

Panel Discussion on Affordable Housing and Energy Co-ops – Dec 2021 – (ICA Congress-Seoul) - Panel discussion on housing cooperatives can be instrumental in providing clean, affordable energy to their members and opportunities for collaboration with cooperatives in the energy sector.

### Partnerships and Collaborations

ABZ Solidarity Fund - the ABZ board of directors (Zurich) approved the administration of 100,000 CHF by CHI to support projects in the global south and east to help cope with the COVID-19 pandemic. The following cooperatives received funding:

National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka - establish a covid quarantine center at Kahagolla Regional Cooperative Center for Cooperative workers

Happy Homes Housing Cooperative in Philippines- Digital inclusion of people with disabilities during covid-19 pandemic- providing access to digital assistive technologies

Multipro – Nicaragua - Construction of 10 co-op homes to reinforce the credibility of the cooperative model with the population, the municipalities and the organizations supporting social housing and providing much needed shelter during the pandemic

Mushikulu Housing Cooperative in Western Kenya - Sensitize & train members on brick making as an income generating activity to replace livelihoods lost during the pandemic

Production of a case study on Milton Parc Housing Cooperative in Montreal, Canada for the Gold Report- (Global Observatory on Local Democracy and Decentralization by United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG) - a global network of cities and local, regional, and metropolitan governments and their associations to promote dialogue and partnerships between local authorities and national governments, international institutions, academia, the private sector and local stakeholders.



Urban October social media campaign with the CoHabitat Network (World Habitat, urbaMonde) to highlight documented community-led housing projects on the CoHabitat digital platform.

ICA Collaborations

Legal Frameworks Project on aggregating cooperative housing legal framework best practices.

Membership Working Group

Communications Working Group

## Communications

### **a Website**

- 1 Added Housing Cooperatives and the Cooperative Identity as it applies to housing
  - 2 News – publishing three top weekly coop housing news articles
- b. Coop Conversations Podcast -launched a podcast series on the benefits of cooperative housing living featuring interviews with coop housing members and practitioners.

## Governance

- a. Executive Meetings- bi-monthly meetings
- a. Board of directors meetings May 27 & Dec 2 (Seoul)
- a. Member Forums (bi-annual)

## Advocacy

- a. NASCO Global Advocacy Meetings on housing and urban development (including the follow-up and review of the New Urban Agenda

## Membership

- a. Expanded our membership in under-represented regions with three new members.
  - 1 Sostre Civic- Spain
  - 2 Central Housing Cooperative Union (CHCU)-Egypt
  - 3 FENACOHAB – Brazil

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# INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF INDUSTRIAL, ARTISANAL AND SERVICE PRODUCERS' COOPERATIVES (CICOPA)

## CICOPA in Seoul

In 2021, CICOPA held a financial General Assembly in June online and an ordinary General Assembly in November in Seoul, Korea, in the framework of the ICA World Cooperative Congress. Members approved the activities of CICOPA for 2022 and shared their vision on the future of CICOPA identity and the next steps and directions to be taken in this regard.

In celebration of the cooperative identity, CICOPA was gifted the rights of the [BI-Hanka](#) song by the Consejo Superior de Cooperativas de Euskadi which is available for CICOPA's members to use freely in the promotion of worker and social cooperatives across the globe.

## CICOPA Asia Pacific

In Seoul, CICOPA and its member organizations in Asia and the Pacific gathered for the launch of the new regional network "[CICOPA Asia-Pacific](#)". The event was co-hosted by CICOPA and Japan Worker Cooperatives Union (CICOPA member). The purpose of the newly established network is to explore the common identity, exchange

information, and create synergies, thus contributing to the development of worker and social cooperatives in the region of Asia and the Pacific.

## A bigger family

In 2021, the CICOPA family enlarged with three new members: [Mass-Specc](#) from the Philippines, [Coop Cameroon](#) from Cameroon, and [Rah-e-Roshd](#) from Iran. CICOPA now represents 51 members in 35 countries.

## Towards the World Cooperative Congress...

### ... CICOPA Cooptales

As a warm-up for the World Cooperative Congress, CICOPA launched the "[CICOPA COOPTALES](#)", a compilation of written stories showcasing examples of worker and social cooperatives from the ground, affiliated to a member around the globe.

### ... CICOPA Mutual Learning Sessions

In April and November, CICOPA organized two Mutual Learning Sessions. "[Cooperation among](#)

[cooperatives in times of crisis](#)" and "[Internationalisation from the perspective of worker cooperatives](#)". These two activities were aimed for members to learn from each other and strengthen the cooperative impact at the global level, and in the framework of "Towards the World Coop Congress".

## CICOPA communication working group

During the year, the CICOPA Communication Working Group was relaunched. With two yearly meetings, the communication officers representing CICOPA's members got together and shared best practices, upcoming events, as well as updates from their networks.

## Work Together publication

A new edition of [Work Together \(pdf 3,9 Mo\)](#) was released, its specialized publication for cooperatives active in industry and services, the focus being on "Coops and digitalization".

## International Day of Cooperatives (Coopday)

On the 3rd of July, CICOPA joined the ICA in the celebration of Coopsday, the 2021 theme being: “Rebuild better together”. The network celebrated with a [special message](#) from CICOPA President, Iñigo Albizuri.

### Events and Partnerships

Throughout the year, CICOPA was present at multiple events and conferences around the globe such as the [Global Youth Forum 2021](#) online, the Platform Cooperativism Consortium

conference in Berlin, the Global Forum on Democratizing Work online, and the Canadian Worker Coop Federation conference online and pursued its global partnership in the “Platform Cooperatives Now!” a course focused on incubating and accelerating platform cooperatives.

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## INTERNATIONAL HEALTH COOPERATIVE ORGANISATION (IHCO)

The International Health Cooperative Organisation, IHCO, is an international organisation founded in 1996 that brings together 17 entities representing health cooperatives from 16 countries.

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

As an ICA sectoral organisation, IHCO activity is addressed to showcase cooperatives as an alternative private actor in the health domain, combining economic goals with social values. We aim 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.

Over 2021, the world’s population has continued suffering from the consequences of the covid-19 pandemic and health systems have been under severe pressure to meet the demand for healthcare. In many countries, health cooperatives have once again demonstrated their ability to collaborate with public systems to meet the population’s health needs.

IHCO worked to bring this message to international bodies and especially to G20 leaders. We have participated in numerous meetings of the B20 Health and Life Sciences Task Force, the official G20 dialogue forum for the health business sector, and the C20 Global Health Working Group, a gathering of Civil Society Organisations active in the Public Health Domain.

As a result, recommendations in the field of health proposed to heads of state and government at

the Rome Summit included that «There is scope within Value-Based Healthcare approach to harness the potential of the cooperative business model, which is a reliable organisational tool that protects healthcare workers, strengthens Health Systems, and contributes to achieving Universal Health Coverage, especially in mid and low-income countries.» In April, we were invited to the International Cooperative Entrepreneurship Think Tank meeting to discuss the strategic thinking on cooperative entrepreneurship in the health sector.

IHCO President Carlos Zarco participated in May at the International Medical Congress of Ukraine to explain the potential of health cooperatives in strengthening health systems and providing affordable access to healthcare.

On 25 May, we participated in the consultation «Rebuild better together: Cooperatives & Covid-19 recovery» organised by ICA, where IHCO President described the role health cooperatives had in dealing with the covid-19 crisis and their potential in the recovery process.

A major milestone in 2021 was the World Cooperative Congress, where IHCO had an active role. We hosted a session on how cooperatives provide accessible health services with the participation of experts from 6 countries. IHCO President also participated in the plenary session on Cooperative Identity and Sustainable Development Goals.

In October, IHCO held the General Assembly, at which the President was re-elected, and the board of directors was renewed. We also welcomed a new member from Greece, the Federation of Cooperatives of Pharmacists.

Additionally, we enhanced our communication strategy by fully restyling the IHCO website and moving it to the domain health.coop, which increases our visibility on the internet and reinforces our cooperative identity.

# THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ICA THEMATIC COMMITTEES AND YOUTH NETWORK

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## GENDER EQUALITY COMMITTEE (GEC)

The GEC celebrated the International Women's Day on 8 March based on the theme "*Women in leadership – Achieving an equal future*", aligned with the 65th edition of the UN Commission on the Status of Women. The GEC produced a Declaration, in which it stated that "*Cooperatives are contributing to the reduction of gender gaps in many ways, and it is our duty to participate in the design of all necessary policies and strategies required, in order to provide women and girls with the rights and the guarantees to lead a dignified life*".

Based on the above theme, a webinar was organised in March focusing on the importance of "*Women in leadership for a just recovery*".

The GEC published "*Women in leadership achieving an equal future in a COVID 19 world*" showcasing several cooperative best-case examples from the regions of Africa, America, Asia Pacific and

Europe of women co-operators in leadership during the pandemic, with the objective to showcase the perspectives of women and girls co-operators' important role in all spheres and at all stages of pandemic response and recovery.

The GEC issued a declaration in September 2021 against the treatment of women in Afghanistan since the return of the Taliban to power, stating that "*The Gender Equality Committee of the International Cooperative Alliance condemns the acts of violence perpetrated against civilians in the country of Afghanistan, especially the atrocities against women and urgently calls the global community for actions to protect and ensure no further violation of women human rights*".

## GLOBAL YOUTH NETWORK (GYN)

The main aim in 2021 was to complete the harmonisation and reform of the organisation of youth activities within the ICA that began after the Kigali GA in 2019. This work ended in 2021 with several major changes. The «network» disappeared in favour of a very open committee in which each ICA member can support 10 young co-operators under 35. Each member is now also asked to provide the ICA with a pair of equal «youth representatives» who will be responsible for selecting these 10 young people and leading them on the ground. At the global level, coordination will still be ensured by an executive committee chaired by a president elected by direct vote of all members. As a full committee, the Youth Committee will be committed to ensuring a better integration of these activities into those of the ICA and to ensuring greater support.

- The development of the Youth Cooperative Project Replication Programme.

Launched in Malaysia, the programme has attracted more than 100 projects, 9 have been selected, supported and accompanied.

For more info, see <https://www.globalyouth.coop/en/projects/coopyouth-replication-project-winners>

2021 will also have been the year of the Seoul Congress, during which a pre-event was organised, bringing together 50 young people from all over the world and 50 young Korean co-operators for two days of exchange and work. During this event, the «toolbox» was published, the last brick of the ICA Youth Committee action plan adopted in 2018. This toolkit allows any young person who wishes to do so to find answers and enlightening testimonies on the specifically cooperative questions that he or she may encounter in his or her creation or development project.



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## 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 CLC organized four virtual Meetings in 2021, a year that saw a continuation of the pandemic and related restrictions. The Committee also organized several ad-hoc meetings focused on specific

themes and activities covered in 2021. The highlight of year was the engagement of Committee members in the process of developing expert-input on cooperative legislation for the Report of the UN Secretary General on Cooperatives in Social Development which inter alia makes specific reference to the ICA Statement on the Cooperative Identity. The Committee also offered its support to the 3rd International Forum on Cooperative Law which was organized ahead of the 33rd World Cooperative Congress.

Members offered their legal opinions and feedback on ongoing activities of the ICA Global Office concerning legislation, as well as on a host of issues brought up by member organizations and others. The chair of the Committee presented the work and method of the CLC to the Board of the ICA in 2021. The Committee, in collaboration with The Cooperative News, contributed in producing two A/V interviews focused on cooperative law with ICA member organizations.

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## COMMITTEE ON COOPERATIVE RESEARCH (CCR)

The main activities of the Committee in 2021 were:

- Contribution to the 33rd World Cooperative Congress and preparatory research events: All CCR members participated in the scientific committee of the ICA Cooperative Research Conference and actively contributed to the conference as speakers, panel organizers and sessions chairs.
- Nomination of the new new Chair: [Akira Kurimoto](#) (Japan Cooperative Alliance, Japan) was nominated as an interim CCR Chair.
- Support for young scholars:
  - CCR, in collaboration with the Institute for New Economic Thinking, supported young scholars' workshop held during the ICA Cooperative Research Conference. In that workshop, 14 young scholars participated and 7 of them were financially supported.
  - CCR supported the young scholars' workshop in the Conference on Cooperatives and the Solidarity Economy in South Africa.
- Regional research conference: ICA CCR European Research Conference under the theme of "Cooperatives in transitions facing crisis" was held virtually on 7-9 July 2021. It was also an opportunity to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the International Review of Social Economy (RECMA).

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## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT PLATFORM (ICDP)

The International Cooperative Development Platform (ICDP) was established in 2017 in Malaysia and 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.

### Website

A specific Website, dedicated to the International Cooperative Alliance Development Platform was set up. It features a description of the Thematic Committee, its mission and current actions. 10 recorded **Webinars**, as well as a detailed **Directory** with the profiles of the Cooperative Development Organisations can be consulted and downloaded. Further the website provides the links to other cooperative development platforms, such as the Cooperatives Europe Development Platform, the Cooperatives of the Americas Development Platform and the US

Overseas Cooperative Development Council.

### Executive Committee

The Executive Committee has the mandate from the ICDP to ensure guidance and implementation of activities. Discussed were the membership, the webinars as well as actions for a potential future Partnership Agreement with the European Commission.

### Partnership with ODCD

To demonstrate the impact of Cooperative Development Organizations (CDOs) in international cooperative development, the U.S. Overseas Cooperative Development Council (OCDC) and the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) joined forces to create an online global data platform. This data portal will display international development projects run by CDOs, demonstrate the extensive reach and scope CDOs have and invoke greater collaboration with institutions and partners.

The data displayed on this global map will increase access to information from members of the

ICA Development Platform and raise their profile vis-à-vis donors, international institutions, decision makers, partners, and other stakeholders.



# DOTCOOPERATION

DotCooperation ([www.identity.coop](http://www.identity.coop)) - home of the .coop domain name registry, the .coop Global Directory & Map, 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, 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 promotes entrepreneurship and has welcomed many new organizations in their first step to forming as a cooperative. Through our SimplyStart program, new cooperatives have elevated their identity as a cooperative, created more awareness for their organization, and guided them to the many regional and specialized resources within the cooperative network to build their business.

The .coop domain name is available for registration from over 140 domain name registrars, forming a global network of retail partners offering .coop domain name sales and support in your local time zone and language.

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

DotCooperation's programs and activities promoting Cooperatives include:

- ICA Congress – Educational sessions on entrepreneurship and building your cooperative brand online.
- The .coop Global Directory & Map at [www.directory.coop](http://www.directory.coop) – promoting cooperatives and providing a mobile tool to locate a cooperative in your community.
- The Digital Empowerment Learning Hub at [www.identity.coop/learninghub](http://www.identity.coop/learninghub) - Helping Cooperatives improve their digital skills and practices, embracing Cooperative Principle #5 Education, Training, and Information.

- The International Day of Cooperatives (#coopsday) – Mobilizing a global media ambassador program to raise awareness of Cooperatives.
- Cooperative Stories – Numerous publications highlighting the impact of Cooperative businesses around the globe.
- Asia Pacific Cooperative Youth Summit – supporting and training new co-operators in the digital tools for starting new cooperative business.
- Global Youth Forum – facilitated sessions and support for the Youth of the cooperative network.

# ICA 2021 Financial statements

## 2021 Financial statements

in EUR	2021
AFRICA	26 052
AMERICAS	119 287
ASIA & PACIFIC	68 011
GLOBAL OFFICE	-277 770
ICA CONSOLIDATED	67 135
COOPERATIVES EUROPE	104 450
50% DOTCOOP LLC	54 849

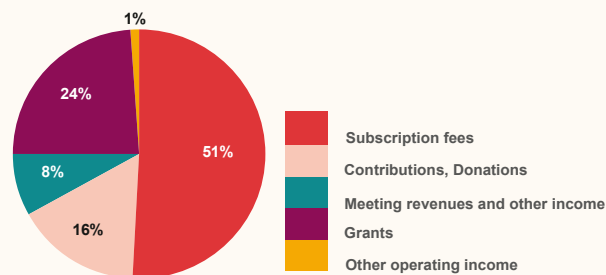
in EUR	2021	%
Subscription fees	2 679 330	51%
Contributions, Donations	850 960	16%
Meeting revenues and other income	409 867	8%
Grants	1 293 842	24%
Other operating income	63 877	1%
<b>Total income</b>	<b>5 297 876</b>	100%

Redistribution Regions and Sectors	785 054	14%
External services	1 967 489	36%
Staff costs	2 348 771	43%
Depreciation on tangible fixed assets	10 139	0%
Amounts written off subscription fees	163 445	3%
Other operating charges	163 142	3%
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>5 438 040</b>	100%

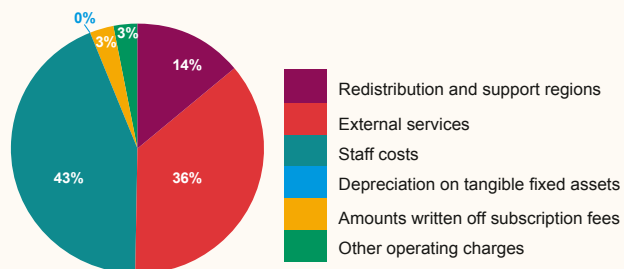
## Sectoral redistribution

EUR	2021
CCW	€72 482
CHI	€59 902
CICOPA	€53 092
ICAO	€62 782
ICBA	€78 466
ICFO	€18 022
IHCO	€31 086
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>€375 832</b>

## Incomes



## Expenses



# Members

REGION	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION
AFRICA	ANGOLA	Cooperativa De Credito Para Os Funcionários Da Presidência (COOCREFF)
	BOTSWANA	Botswana Cooperative Association (BOCA)
	CAMEROON	Alliance Coopératives Cameroun (COOP-CAMEROON)
	CONGO, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF	Cooperative d'épargne et de Credit de Nyawera (COOPEC NYAWERA)
	COTE D'IVOIRE	Fédération des sociétés coopératives d'Hévéa de Côte d'Ivoire (FENASCOOPH-CI)
	COTE D'IVOIRE	Fédération des Unions des Sociétés Coopératives des Producteurs de la Filière Coton de Côte d'Ivoire (FPC-CI Coop CA)
	EGYPT (ARAB REP. OF)	The General Authority for Construction and Housing Cooperatives (CHC)
	ESWATINI	Eswatini Farmers Cooperative Union (ESWAFUCU)
	ETHIOPIA	Awach Savings and Credit Cooperative (ASCCo)
	ETHIOPIA	Cooperative Bank of Oromia
	ETHIOPIA	Oromia Coffee Farmers Cooperative Union (OCFCU) Ltd.
	GHANA	Ghana Cooperative Agricultural Producers and Marketing Association (AGRIC COOP GHANA)
	GHANA	Ghana Cooperative Council (GCC)
	GUINEA	Fédération des coopératives d'approvisionnement et de l'alimentation générale (FECAAG)
	KENYA	CIC Insurance Group Ltd.
	KENYA	Cooperative Bank of Kenya Ltd (CBK)
	KENYA	Kenya Cooperative Coffee Exporters Ltd (KCCE)
	KENYA	Kenya Union of Savings and Credit Cooperatives Ltd. (KUSCCO)
	KENYA	The Cooperative Alliance of Kenya (CAK)
	KENYA	The Cooperative University of Kenya (CUK)
LESOTHO	Cooperative Lesotho Ltd.	
MAURITIUS	The Mauritius Cooperative Union Ltd (MCUL)	

REGION	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION
AFRICA	MOROCCO	Office du Développement de la Coopération (ODCo)
	MOZAMBIQUE	Associação Moçambicana de Promoção do Cooperativismo MÓdermo (AMPCM)
	NAMIBIA	Namibia Cooperatives Advisory Board (NCAB)
	NIGERIA	Cooperative Federation of Nigeria (CFN)
	NIGERIA	Federal Department of Cooperatives, Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (FDC)
	NIGERIA	Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation Cooperative Multipurpose Society LTD (NNPC-CMS Lagos)
	NIGERIA	Odua Cooperative Conglomerate Ltd (OCC)
	RWANDA	Independent Institute of Lay Adventists of Kigali (INILAK)
	RWANDA	National Cooperatives Confederation of Rwanda (NCCR)
	SOMALIA	Somali Union Cooperative Movement (UDHIS)
	SOUTH AFRICA	South African National Apex Cooperative (SANACO)
	TANZANIA	Moshi Cooperative University (MoCU)
	TANZANIA	Tanzania Federation of Cooperatives Ltd (TFC)
	UGANDA	HealthPartners Uganda (HPU)
	UGANDA	Uganda Cooperative Alliance Ltd. (UCA)
	ZIMBABWE	Zimbabwe National Association of Housing Cooperatives (ZINAHCO)
	AMERICA	ARGENTINA
ARGENTINA		Banco Credicoop Cooperativo Ltd. (BCCL)
ARGENTINA		Confederación Cooperativa de la República Argentina Ltda. (COOPERAR)
ARGENTINA		Cooperativa de Provisión y Comercialización de Servicios Comunitarios de Radiodifusión COLSECOR Limitada (COLSECOR)
ARGENTINA		Cooperativa de Trabajos Portuarios Limitada de San Martin (Coop Portuaria)
ARGENTINA		Federación Argentina de Cooperativas de Consumo (FACC)

REGION	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION
AMERICA	ARGENTINA	Instituto Movilizador de Fondos Cooperativos, Cooperativa Ltda. (IMFC)
	ARGENTINA	La Segunda Cooperativa Limitada Seguros Generales
	ARGENTINA	Sancor Cooperativa de Seguros Ltda
	BARBADOS	Barbados Cooperative Business Association (BCBAL)
	BOLIVIA	Cooperativa de Telecomunicaciones Santa Cruz (COTAS Ltda.)
	BOLIVIA	Cooperativa Rural De Electrificación R.L. (CRE R.L.)
	BRAZIL	Central Nacional das Cooperativas Ontontológicas (Uniodonto do Brasil)
	BRAZIL	Central Nacional Unimed - Cooperativa Central (CNU)
	BRAZIL	Cooperativa de Crédito de Livre Admissão de Associados Pioneira da Serra Gaúcha – Sicredi Pioneira RS
	BRAZIL	Cooperativa de Trabalho Médico de Ribeirão Preto (COMERP)
	BRAZIL	Organização das Cooperativas Brasileiras (OCB)
	BRAZIL	Unimed do Brasil, Confederação Nacional das Cooperativas Médicas (UNIMED)
	BRAZIL	Unimed Seguros Saúde S.A.
	CANADA	Cooperatives and Mutuals Canada / Coopératives et mutuelles Canada (CMC)
	CHILE	Cooperativa abierta de vivienda Limitada (CONAVICOOP)
	CHILE	COOPEUCH Ltda. Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito
	COLOMBIA	Asociación Colombiana de Cooperativas (ASCOOP)
	COLOMBIA	Asociación Nacional de Fondos de Empleados (ANALFE)
	COLOMBIA	Caja Coperativa CREDICOOP (CREDICOOP)
	COLOMBIA	Casa Nacional del Profesor (CANAPRO)
	COLOMBIA	Confederación de Cooperativas de Colombia (CONFECOOP)
	COLOMBIA	Cooperativa del Magisterio (CODEMA)
	COLOMBIA	Cooperativa Empresarial Multiactiva Popular (COEMPOPULAR)
	COLOMBIA	Cooperativa Médica del Valle y Profesionales de Colombia (COOMEVA)

REGION	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION
AMERICA	COLOMBIA	Financiera Progressa
	COLOMBIA	La Equidad Seguros
	COLOMBIA	Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia (UCC)
	COSTA RICA	Banco Popular y de Desarrollo Comunal (BPDC)
	COSTA RICA	Centro de Estudio y Capacitación Cooperativa R.L. (CENECOOP R.L.)
	COSTA RICA	Consejo Nacional de Cooperativas (CONACOOOP)
	COSTA RICA	Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Ande N° 1 R.L. (Coope Ande N°1 R.L.)
	COSTA RICA	Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito de Servidores Judiciales R.L. (COOPEJUDICIAL R.L.)
	COSTA RICA	COOPSERVIDORES R.L.
	COSTA RICA	Instituto Nacional de Fomento Cooperativo (INFOCOOP)
	COSTA RICA	Sociedad de Seguros de Vida del Magisterio Nacional (SSVMN)
	CURACAO	Ministry of Economic Development (MEO)
	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Cooperativa de Servicios Múltiples de Profesionales de Enfermería, Inc. (COOPROENF)
	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Cooperativa de Servicios Múltiples La Telefónica (COOPSEMUTEL)
	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Cooperativa Nacional de Servicios Múltiples de los Maestros (COOPNAMA)
	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	Cooperativa Vega Real (CVR)
	ECUADOR	Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Policia Nacional (CPN)
	ECUADOR	Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Rio Bamba Ltda. (COAC Rio Bamba)
	EL SALVADOR	Federación de Asociaciones Cooperativas de Ahorro y Crédito de El Salvador de R.L. (FEDECACES)
	GUATEMALA	Confederación Guatemalteca de Federaciones Cooperativas, Responsabilidad Limitada (CONFECOOP)
	HAITI	Union Cooperative de Credit Agricole et Rural d'Haiti (UNICAGRIH)
	HONDURAS	Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Educadores de Honduras Limitada (COACEHL Ltda.)
	HONDURAS	Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito 'Sagrada Familia' Ltda.

REGION	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION
AMERICA	HONDURAS	Federación de Cooperativas de Ahorro y Crédito de Honduras, Ltda. (FACACH)
	JAMAICA	Jamaica Cooperative Credit Union League (JCCUL)
	JAMAICA	TIP Friendly Society
	MEXICO (REP. OF)	Caja Popular Mexicana SC de AP de RL CV (CPM)
	MEXICO (REP. OF)	Confederación Nacional Cooperativa de Actividades Diversas de la República Mexicana (CNC) S.C. de R.L.
	MEXICO (REP. OF)	Federación de Cajas Populares Alianza SC de RL de CV
	MEXICO (REP. OF)	FENORESTE S.C.L. de C.V.
	PANAMA	Cooperativa de Servicios Múltiples Profesionales, R.L.
	PANAMA	Instituto Panameño Autónomo Cooperativo (IPACOOOP)
	PARAGUAY	Confederación de Cooperativas Rurales del Paraguay Ltda. (CONCOPAR)
	PARAGUAY	Confederación Paraguaya De Cooperativas CONPACOOOP Ltda.
	PARAGUAY	Cooperativa Universitaria Ltda
	PARAGUAY	Federación de Cooperativas de Ahorro y Crédito Ltda. (FECOAC)
	PARAGUAY	Federación de Cooperativas del Paraguay (FECOPAR LTDA.)
	PARAGUAY	Federación de Cooperativas Multiactivas del Paraguay (FECOMULP LTDA.)
	PARAGUAY	Panal Compañía de Seguros Generales S.A. - Propiedad Cooperativa
	PERU	Cooperativa de Servicios Múltiples del Centro Ltda. (CENTROCOOP)
	PUERTO RICO	Banco Cooperativo de Puerto Rico (Bancoop)
	PUERTO RICO	Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito «Dr. Manuel Zeno Gandía»
	PUERTO RICO	Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito de Arecibo (COOPACA)
PUERTO RICO	Cooperativa de Ahorro y Credito Vega Alta (VEGACOOOP)	
PUERTO RICO	Cooperativa de Seguros Múltiples de Puerto Rico Inc.	
PUERTO RICO	Liga de Cooperativas de Puerto Rico (LIGACOOOP)	

REGION	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION
AMERICA	UNITED STATES	CoBank, ACB
	UNITED STATES	Credit Union National Association (CUNA)
	UNITED STATES	Land O'Lakes Venture37
	UNITED STATES	National Co+op Grocers (NCG)
	UNITED STATES	National Cooperative Bank (NCB)
	UNITED STATES	National Cooperative Business Association CLUSA International (NCBA CLUSA)
	UNITED STATES	National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA)
	UNITED STATES	National Society of Accountants for Cooperatives (NSAC)
	UNITED STATES	U.S. Overseas Cooperative Development Council (OCD)
	URUGUAY	Cámara Uruguaya de Cooperativas de Ahorro y crédito de Capitalización (CUCACC)
	URUGUAY	Confederación Uruguaya de Entidades Cooperativas (CUDECOOP)
	URUGUAY	Cooperativas Nacionales Financieras Aliadas en Red (CONFIAR)
	URUGUAY	Instituto Nacional del Cooperativismo (INACOOOP)
	ASIA PACIFIC	AUSTRALIA
AUSTRALIA		Capricorn Society Ltd
AUSTRALIA		Cooperative Bulk Handling Limited (CBH Group)
BANGLADESH		Bangladesh Samabaya Bank Limited (BSBL)
BANGLADESH		National Cooperative Union of Bangladesh (Bangladesh Jatiya Samabaya Union-BJSU)
BHUTAN		Department of Agricultural Marketing and Cooperatives (DAMC)
CHINA (P.R. OF)		All China Federation of Handicraft Industry Cooperatives (ACFHIC)
CHINA (P.R. OF)		All China Federation Of Supply & Marketing Cooperatives (ACFSMC)
CHINA (P.R. OF)		Fujian Federation of Supply and Marketing Cooperatives (FUJIAN COOP)
CHINA (P.R. OF)		International Committee for the Promotion of Chinese Industrial Cooperatives (ICCI)
CHINA (P.R. OF)		Jiangsu Supply & Marketing General Cooperative
FIJI	Department of Cooperative Business (DCB)	

REGION	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION
ASIA PACIFIC	INDIA	Buldana Urban Cooperative Credit Society Ltd. (BUCCS)
	INDIA	Centre for Cooperatives and Livelihoods – Autonomous (CCL) at Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA)
	INDIA	Cooperative House Building & Finance Corporation Ltd.
	INDIA	Indian Farm Forestry Development Cooperative Ltd. (IFFDC)
	INDIA	Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO)
	INDIA	Krishak Bharati Cooperative Ltd. (KRIBHCO)
	INDIA	National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED)
	INDIA	National Cooperative Agriculture & Rural Development Banks' Federation Ltd (NCARDB Federation)
	INDIA	National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)
	INDIA	National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI)
	INDIA	National Federation of Farmers Procurement, Processing & Retailing Cooperatives of India Ltd. (NACOF)
	INDIA	National Federation of Fishermen's Cooperatives Ltd. (FISHCOFED)
	INDIA	National Federation of State Cooperative Banks Ltd. (NAFSCOB)
	INDIA	National Yuva Cooperative Society Ltd. (NYCS)
	INDIA	The Tamil Nadu Small Tea Growers ICTFs Federation Ltd. (INDCOSERVE)
	INDIA	Tirumalla Tirupati Multistate Cooperative Credit Society Limited
	INDIA	Uralungal Labour Contract Cooperative Society Ltd. (ULCCS LTD)
	INDONESIA	National Federation of People-based Cooperative Enterprises (INKUR)
	IRAN	Central Organization for Rural Cooperatives of Iran (CORC)
	IRAN	Central Organization for Rural Production Cooperatives of Iran (CURPC)
	IRAN	Central Union of Rural & Agricultural Cooperatives of Iran (CURACI)

REGION	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION
ASIA PACIFIC	IRAN	Iran Chamber of Cooperatives (ICC)
	IRAN	Iran Oilseeds & Vegetable Oil Processing Factories Cooperative (Farda Co-op)
	IRAN	Pishgaman Cooperative Union (PCU)
	IRAN	Rah-e-roshd cooperative educational complex (RCEC)
	IRAN	Supervision and Coordination Central Union of Rural and Agricultural Cooperatives of Iran (SCURA)
	IRAN	Taavon Insurance Co.
	IRAN	Tose'e Ta'avon Bank (T.T. Bank)
	JAPAN	Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives (JA-ZENCHU)
	JAPAN	IE-NO-HIKARI Association (Association for Education and Publications on Agricultural Cooperatives)
	JAPAN	Japan CO-OP Insurance (Kyosai) Consumers' Cooperative Federation
	JAPAN	Japan Cooperative Alliance (JCA)
	JAPAN	Japan Cooperative Insurance Association Inc. (JCIA)
	JAPAN	Japan Workers' Cooperative Union (Jigyodan) (JWCU)
	JAPAN	Japanese Consumers' Cooperative Union (JCCU)
	JAPAN	Japanese Health and Welfare Cooperative Federation (HeW Co-op Japan)
	JAPAN	National Association of Labour Banks (NALB)
	JAPAN	National Federation of Agriculture Cooperative Associations (ZEN-NOH)
	JAPAN	National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Associations (JF-ZENGYOREN)
	JAPAN	National Federation of Forest Owners Cooperative Associations (ZENMORI-REN)
	JAPAN	National Federation of University Cooperative Associations (NFUCA)
	JAPAN	National Federation of Workers and Consumers Kyosai Cooperatives (Kokumin Kyosai co-op)
	JAPAN	National Mutual Insurance Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives (ZENKYOREN)
	JAPAN	The Japan Agricultural News (NIHON-NOGYO-SHIMBUN)
	JAPAN	The Norinchukin Bank

REGION	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION
ASIA PACIFIC	JORDAN	Educational Cooperative Union of Limited Liability
	JORDAN	Jordan Cooperative Corporation (JOR)
	KAZAKHSTAN (REP. OF)	Union of Consumer Societies of the Republic of Kazakhstan
	KIRIBATI	Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives (MCIC)
	KOREA (REP. OF)	iCOOP Korea
	KOREA (REP. OF)	International Solidarity of Korea Cooperatives (ISKK)
	KOREA (REP. OF)	Korean Federation of Community Credit Cooperatives (KFCC)
	KOREA (REP. OF)	Korean National Federation of Fisheries Cooperatives (NFFC)
	KOREA (REP. OF)	National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF)
	KOREA (REP. OF)	National Credit Union Federation of Korea (NACUFOK)
	KOREA (REP. OF)	National Forestry Cooperatives Federation (NFCF)
	KYRGYZSTAN	Cooperatives Union of Kyrgyzstan (CUK)
	MALAYSIA	Cooperative Institute of Malaysia (CIM)
	MALAYSIA	Malaysian National Cooperative Movement (ANGKASA)
	MALAYSIA	National Land Finance Cooperative Society Ltd. (NLFCS)
	MALDIVES	Maldives Fishermen's Association (MFA)
	MONGOLIA	Mongolian Cooperative Alliance (MNCA)
	MONGOLIA	National Association of Mongolian Agricultural Cooperatives (NAMAC)
	MYANMAR	Central Cooperative Society Ltd. (CCS)
	NEPAL	National Cooperative Bank Ltd. (NCBL)
	NEPAL	National Cooperative Development Board (NCDB)
	NEPAL	National Cooperative Federation of Nepal (NCF)
	NEPAL	Nepal Agricultural Cooperative Central Federation Limited (NACCFL)
	NEPAL	Nepal Multipurpose Central Cooperative Union Ltd (NEMCCU)
	NEW ZEALAND	Cooperative Business New Zealand
	PAKISTAN	Karachi Cooperative Housing Societies Union Ltd. (KCHSU)
	PALESTINE	Cooperative Work Agency (CWA)

REGION	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION
ASIA PACIFIC	PALESTINE	Economic and Social Development Center of Palestine (ESDC)
	PALESTINE	Palestinian Agriculture Cooperative Union (PACU)
	PALESTINE	Union of Housing Cooperatives in Palestine (PUHC)
	PAPUA NEW GUINEA	Office of Cooperative Societies of Papua New Guinea (OCS PNG)
	PHILIPPINES	1 Cooperative Insurance System of the Philippines Life and General Insurance (1CISP)
	PHILIPPINES	Aurora Integrated Multipurpose Cooperative (AIMCOOP)
	PHILIPPINES	Climbs Life and General Insurance Cooperatives (CLIMBS)
	PHILIPPINES	Cooperative Development Authority (CDA)
	PHILIPPINES	Federation of Peoples' Sustainable Development Cooperative (FPSDC)
	PHILIPPINES	MASS-SPECC Cooperative Development Center
	PHILIPPINES	Metro South Cooperative Bank (MSCB)
	PHILIPPINES	National Confederation of Cooperatives (NATCCO)
	PHILIPPINES	Network Consolidated Cooperative Bank (NCCB)
	PHILIPPINES	Philippine Cooperative Center (PCC)
	PHILIPPINES	Union of Legitimate Service Contracting Cooperatives (ULSCC)
	PHILIPPINES	VICTO National Cooperative Federation and Development Center (VICTO National)
	SINGAPORE	Singapore National Cooperative Federation Ltd. (SNCF)
	SRI LANKA	Department of Cooperative Development (DCD)
	SRI LANKA	Matara District Cooperative Hospital Society Ltd.
	SRI LANKA	National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka (NCCSL)
	SRI LANKA	National Institute of Cooperative Development (NICD)
	SRI LANKA	SANASA Federation Ltd in Sri Lanka
	THAILAND	The Cooperative League of Thailand (CLT)
TIMOR-LESTE	Con-Federation (CNCTL)	
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	Sharjah Cooperative Society (SCS)	
VANUATU	Office of the Registrar of Cooperatives and Business Development Services (ORCBDS)	
VIETNAM	Vietnam Cooperatives Alliance (VCA)	

REGION	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION
EUROPE	ARMENIA	"Farm Credit Armenia" Universal Credit Organization Commercial Cooperative (FCA UCO CC)
	AUSTRIA	Oesterreichischer Verband gemeinnütziger Bauvereinigungen - Revisionsverband (gbv)
	BELARUS (REP. OF)	Belarussian Republican Union of Consumer Societies (BELKOOPSOYUZ)
	BELGIUM	Febecoop
	BULGARIA	Central Cooperative Bank Plc (CCB)
	BULGARIA	Central Cooperative Union (CCU)
	BULGARIA	National Union of Workers Producers Cooperatives of Bulgaria (NUWPCB)
	CYPRUS	Civil Servants Co-op Ltd. (ME-KOOP LTD.)
	CYPRUS	Cooperative Central Bank Ltd. (CCB)
	CYPRUS	Cyprus Turkish Cooperative Central Bank Ltd (KoopBank)
	CZECH REPUBLIC	Cooperative Association of the Czech Republic (CACR)
	DENMARK	Kooperationen
	FINLAND	Pellervo Coop Center
	FINLAND	SOK Corporation
	FRANCE	Confédération Nationale du Crédit Mutuel
	FRANCE	Coop FR
	FRANCE	Crédit Coopératif
	FRANCE	Fédération Nationale des Caisses d'Epargne (FNCE)
	FRANCE	Fédération Nationale des Coopératives de Consommateurs (FNCC)
	GERMANY	Dgrv - Deutscher Genossenschafts- Und Raiffeisenverband E. V.
GERMANY	GdW Bundesverband deutscher Wohnungs- und Immobilienunternehmen e.V.	
GERMANY	Zentralverband deutscher Konsumgenossenschaften e.V. (ZdK)	
GREECE	Federation of Cooperatives of Pharmacists of Greece (OSFE)	
GREECE	Social Solidarity and Regional Development Network (KAPA Network)	
HUNGARY	National Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives and Producers (MOSZ)	
IRELAND	Cooperative Housing Ireland	

REGION	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION
EUROPE	ISRAEL	The Kibbutz Movement
	ITALY	Alleanza delle Cooperative Italiane
	ITALY	European Research Institute on Cooperative and Social Enterprises (EURICSE)
	LITHUANIA	Lithuanian Union of Cooperative Societies (LITCOOPUNION)
	MALTA	Koperattivi Malta
	MALTA	Malta Cooperative Federation (MCF)
	MOLDOVA (REP. OF)	Central Union of Consumer Cooperatives of the Republic of Moldova (MOLDCOOP)
	NETHERLANDS	Agriterra
	NETHERLANDS	Nationale Coöperatieve Raad (NCR) – Dutch Council for Cooperatives
	NETHERLANDS	Rabobank
	NORWAY	Coop Norge SA
	NORWAY	Federation of Norwegian Agricultural Cooperatives (Norsk Landbrukssamvirke)
	NORWAY	The Cooperative Housing Federation of Norway (NBBL)
	POLAND	Auditing Union of Housing Cooperatives
	POLAND	National Association of Cooperative Savings and Credit Unions (NACSCU)
	POLAND	National Auditing Union of Cooperatives (NAUWC)
	POLAND	National Cooperative Council – NCC
	POLAND	National Supervision Union of Spolem Consumer Cooperatives
	PORTUGAL	Confecoop - Confederação Cooperativa Portuguesa, CCRL
	PORTUGAL	Cooperativa António Sérgio para a Economia Social - Cooperativa de Interesse Público de Responsabilidade Limitada (CASES)
ROMANIA	National Union of Consumer Cooperatives (CENTROCOOP)	
ROMANIA	National Union of Handicraft and Production Cooperatives of Romania (UCECOM)	
RUSSIA	Central Union of Consumer Societies of the Russian Federation	
RUSSIA	Moscow Regional Union of Consumer Societies	
SERBIA	General cooperative alliance for agriculture and rural development - Belgrade	



REGION	COUNTRY	ORGANISATION
EUROPE	SLOVAKIA	Cooperative Union of the Slovak Republic
	SPAIN	Confederació de Cooperatives de Catalunya (CoopCat)
	SPAIN	Confederación Empresarial Española de la Economía Social (CEPES)
	SPAIN	Confederación Española de Cooperativas de Trabajo Asociado (COCETA)
	SPAIN	Fundación Espriu
	SPAIN	KONFEKOOP - Confederación de Cooperativas de Euskadi
	SWEDEN	Coompanion - Kooperativ Utveckling Sverige
	SWEDEN	Folksam
	SWEDEN	HSB:Riksförbund (Union of Housing Cooperatives)
	SWEDEN	Kooperativa Förbundet (KF) (The Swedish Cooperative Union)
	SWEDEN	Riksbyggen (Cooperative Housing Union)
	SWITZERLAND	Allgemeine Baugenossenschaft Zürich (ABZ)
	SWITZERLAND	Baugenossenschaft mehr als wohnen
	TURKEY	Central Union Of The Agricultural Credit Cooperatives Of Turkiye (ACC)
	TURKEY	The Central Union of Turkish Forestry Cooperatives (ORKOOP)
	UKRAINE	Ukrainian Central Union of Consumer Societies (UKOOSPILKA)
	UNITED KINGDOM	Cooperatives UK
	UNITED KINGDOM	The Midcounties Cooperative Limited
BELGIUM-INT	European Association of Cooperative Banks (EACB)	
ASIA PACIFIC	KENYA-INT	Africa Confederation of Cooperative Savings & Credit Associations (ACCOSCA)
	SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS - INT	Caribbean Confederation of Credit Unions (CCCU)
	THAILAND-INT	Association of Asian Confederations of Credit Unions (ACCU)



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