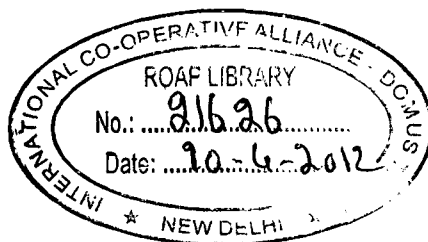


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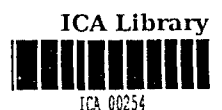
ICA 00254

**A SURVEY OF RESEARCH
REGARDING COOPERATIVES
IN DEVELOPING
COUNTRIES**

Jack Shaller-Dec. 1988



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INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE ALLIANCE



A SURVEY OF
RESEARCH REGARDING
COOPERATIVES IN
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Jack Shaffer
December 1988

This report has been prepared as part of
the requirements of a contract between the
International Cooperative Alliance and the
International Development Research Centre.

I. Introduction

This report has been prepared as part of the requirements of a contract between the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) and the International Development Research Center which provided for a survey of the field of cooperative research in so far as it refers to developing countries.

ICA has undertaken to review the contents of a publication, The Research Register, which has been jointly produced since 1974 by ICA and the Polish and Hungarian Cooperative Research Institutes and to carry out a survey of the 275 organizations which are listed in the ICA Directory of Organizations Engaged in Cooperative Research, a copy of which is attached.

The report is in two sections. The first contains an analysis of the Research Register material, the second an analysis of the twenty-three responses to a survey questionnaire. An attachment containing selected citations from the Research Register is also included.

II. The Research Register and Research About Cooperatives in Developing Countries

A. What is the Research Register?

The Research Register was established in the early 1970s as part of the cooperative movement's response to the Second United Nations Development Decade, a period which the International Cooperative Alliance had also designated as the "Cooperative Development Decade".

The first step in its operation was the publication in early 1974 of a Directory of Organizations Engaged in Cooperative Research. The second stage was the publication in 1975 of the Selected Bibliography-1968-1972 which became Bulletin Number 1 of the Register. This issue included 1790 brief bibliographical citations of literature that had appeared about cooperatives in developing countries during the period covered. Eighteen subsequent issues, called bulletins, have been issued, the last in 1988. The Bulletins have included bibliographical abstracts and reports of actual or projected research studies regarding cooperatives. They cover both published works (books, articles, reports, etc.) and unpublished documents concerning cooperatives in all parts of the developing world.

A total of 9261 items have been included in the 19 Bulletins of the Research Register and they collectively now represent for the period 1968 - 1987 the most comprehensive collection of bibliographical material regarding cooperatives in developing countries in existence. It is an unique source of data for anyone undertaking serious study on this subject.

B. Who Has Been Involved With the Research Register?

The Research Register from its inception has been a joint activity of the International Cooperative Alliance (based first in London and now in Geneva), the Polish Cooperative Research Institute in Warsaw and the Hungarian Cooperative Research Institute in Budapest. Beginning with Bulletin 12 published in 1984 the Committee for the Promotion of Aid to Cooperatives (COPAC), Rome, joined the three collaborating groups and has been the principal source of entries for Bulletins 12 through 18. Data for these issues was generated through annual computer searches of existing automated bibliographical data bases. These searches were made utilizing the facilities of the Library of the Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome.

The data included in the first eleven Bulletins of the Research Register was provided by its three sponsoring organizations augmented by information provided by a group of "Correspondents" from those research institutions which had agreed to collaborate in its preparation. The material collected has been in many cases from secondary sources. This accounts for the limited information available in a number of items included in the Bulletins.

A list of the correspondents who assisted in collection of data for Bulletins 1 through 11 is as follows:

Juan Jose Carrizo
Gabinete Universitario de
Documentacion y Extension
Cooperativa
Universidad Nacional del Sur
Bahia Blanca, Argentina

J. S. Nalson
University of New England
New South Wales, Australia

Prof. W. Weber
Forschungsinstitut für
Genossenschaftswesen an der
Universität Wien
Vienna, Austria

Mr. A. B. M. Nurul Hug
Bangladesh Academy for
Rural Development
Comilla, Bangladesh

Mr. M. S. Haq
Cooperative Department
Dacca, Bangladesh

Mr. A. M. Wolters-Vloeberghs
Brussels, Belgium

Prof. A. Godart
Université Libre de Bruxelles
Brussels, Belgium

Mr. Julio Tumiri Javier
Departamento de Fomento Cooperativo
La Paz, Bolivia

Mr. E. B. Loveridge
Cooperative Development Centre
Gaborone, Botswana

Directeur,
Centre National de Développement
des Entreprises Coopérative
Yaounde, Cameroon

Mr. Olaf A. Turnbull
Cooperative College of Canada
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

Mr. Leonard Harman
Cooperative Union of Canada
Ottawa, Canada

Mr. Roch Bastien
Université de Sherbrooke
Quebec, Canada

Professor J. C. Craig
York University
Downsview, Ontario, Canada

Mr. G. E. Topshee
Coady International Inst.
Antigonish, Nova Scotia
Canada

Mr. Juan Miguel Cartajena
Centro para el Desarrollo
Económico y Social de
América Latina
Santiago, Chile

Mr Juan Carlos de la Jara C.
Centro de Estudios Cooperati-
vos de la Universidad
Católica
Santiago, Chile

Don Fernando Saa Contreras
Santiago, Chile

Mr. Gaston Doroch Gonzalez
Departamento de Desarrollo
Cooperativo
Santiago, Chile

Mr. Fernando Urrea G.
Instituto Universitario de
Economía Social y
Cooperativismo
Bogota, Colombia

Mr. C. M. Londoño
Universidad de Santo Tomás
Bogota, Colombia

Mr. Mario Ortiz de la Roche
Superintendencia Nacional
de Cooperativas
Bogota, Colombia

Mr. M. J. Galrae
Instituto Interamericano
de Ciencias Agrícolas
Turrialba, Costa Rica

Mr. Sixto Davalos C.
Cooperativa de Seguros
del Ecuador
Quito, Ecuador

Mr. R. Prevost
Centre d'Etudes Coopératives
de la Haute Savoie
Annecy, France

Prof. Henri Desroche
College Coopératif
Paris, France

Dr. W. Kruger
Verband der Konsumgenossenschaften
der DDR
Berlin, German Democratic Republic

Mr. W. Haasper
Justus Liebig Universität
Giessen, F. R. Germany

Mr. Klaus-Peter Treydte
Friedrich Ebert Stiftung
Bad Godesberg, F. R. Germany

Dr. Frithojof Kuhnen
Georg-August Universität
Göttingen, F. R. Germany

Prof. Dr. G. Weisser
University of Göttingen
Göttingen, F. R. Germany

Prof. Dr. Th. Bergmann
Universität Hohenheim
Stuttgart, F. R. Germany

Mr. G. Diecke
Dr. D. W. Benecke
Mr. G. Thie
Universität Münster
Münster, F. R. Germany

Dr. Hermann Avenarius
Arnold Bergsträsser Institut
Freiburg, F. R. Germany

Mr. Rolf Konold
Universität Erlangen-Nuremberg
Erlangen, F. R. Germany

Dr. G. C. Kirsch
Forschungsstelle für Internationale
Agrarentwicklung
Heidelberg, F. R. Germany

Frau Gertrud Schröder
Deutsche Stiftung für
Entwicklungsländer
Bonn, F.R. Germany

Mr. David Owusu
Ghana Cooperatives Council
Accra, Ghana

Blanca Lila Villela
Julia Maria Matamoros
Dirección de Fomento
Cooperativo
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Mr. Ramón Velásquez Nazar
Federación de Asociaciones
Cooperativas de Ahorro y
Credito
Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Mr. P. E. Weeraman
Mr. R. Rajaguru
ICA Regional Office and
Education Centre
New Delhi, India

Prof. T. N. Rajarathnam
Sri Ramakrishna Vidyalaya
Coimbatore, India

Shri D. P. Apte
Gokhale Institute of
Politics and Economics
Poona, India

Dr. P. S. George
Indian Institute of Management
Ahmedabad, India

Shri M. D. Desai
Sardar Patel University
Kaira, Gujarat, India

Mr. J. G. Kunte
National Institute of
Community Development
Hyderabad, India

Mr. N. K. Goil
Institute of Economic Growth
Delhi, India

Mr. Wahyu Soekotjo
University of Indonesia
Djakarta, Indonesia

Mr. Kahtan K. Al-Ani
Institute of Cooperation and
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Miss Suad El Ferwzchi
General Cooperative Union
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Mrs. Z. Nahir
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Tel Aviv, Israel

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Food and Agriculture Organization
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Miss N. Di Care
Ente Nazionale delle Casse Rurali
Rome, Italy

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National Centre for the Promotion
of Cooperative Enterprises
Abidjan, Ivory Coast

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University of Botswana, Lesotho
and Swaziland
Roma, Lesotho

Mlle. Elamrani-Jamal Amina,
Bureau pour le Développement de
la Coopération
Rabat, Morocco

Dr. Homero Ferrinho
Centro Mocambicano de Estudos
Cooperativos
Lourenço Marques, Mozambique

Mr. S. Awolalu
Ministry of Trade and Industry
Ikeja, Lagos, Nigeria

Mr. Roger King
Ahmadu Bello University
Zaria, Nigeria

Dr. M. Ali Khan
University of Agriculture
Lyallpur, Pakistan

Dr. R. J. May
Australian National Univ.
Boroko, Port Moresby,
Papua New Guinea

Mr. A. Dudley
Department of Business
Development
Port Moresby, Papua NG

Mr. Clemente E. Terso
Bureau of Cooperatives
Quezon City, Philippines

Mr. V. U. Quintana
Los Banos College
Laguna, Philippines

Mr. Joaquim da Silva Lourenço
Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian
Oeiras, Portugal

Professor Ectaviana Ruiz
Mr. H. Ostaviani
Univerisdad de Puerto Rico
Rio Piedras, Puerto Rico

Mr. F. B. Samura
National Cooperative
Development Bank
Freetown, Sierra Leone

Dr. José Mariá Nasarre
Cascante
Dr. J. Mateo
Centro Nacional de Educación
Cooperativa
Zaragoza, Spain

Mr. G. Dahl
The Agricultural College
Uppsals, Sweden

Mr. R. Louis
International Labour Office
Geneva, Switzerland

Shu-Sheng Yin
Taiwan Provincial Chung Hsing
University
Taipei, Taiwan

Mr. B. K. Zegge
Prime Minister's Office
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Mr. Simon M. Mbilinyi
University College of Dar es Saalam
Dar es Saalam, Tanzania

Mr. K. Verhagen
Mr. O. Odede
ICA Regional Office
Moishi, Tanzania

Mr. P. Yeo
Cooperative College
Loughboro, United Kingdom

Mr. K. J. Mc Cready
F. W. Webster
The Plunkett Foundation for Cooperati
Studies
Oxford, United Kingdom

Miss O. Checkley
University of London
London, United Kingdom

Dr. F. D. Mills
University of Reading
Reading, United Kingdom

Mr. Albert L. Brown
American Technical Assistance
Corporation
Mc Lean, Virginia, USA

S. E. Perry
Center for Community Economic
Development
Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA

Dr. Frank Groves
University Center for Cooperatives
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin

Mr. F. E. Ingalsbe
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C., USA

Mr. Baza-Luemba
Université Nationale du Zaïre
Kinshasa, Zaïre

Prof. D. H. Evans
Rural Development Studies Bureau
Lusaka, Zambia

Mr. Sebisogo-Muhima
Centre Interdisciplinaire
pour le Développement et
l'Éducation Permanente
Kinshasa, Zaïre

Mr. Arne Holmberg
Department of Cooperatives
Lusaka, Zambia

The management, preparation and publication of the Research Register has been under the supervision of an Editorial Committee. Initially made up of one representative of each of the three sponsoring organizations, the committee was renamed the Editorial Board for Bulletin 12 and subsequent issues and was expanded to include a representative of COPAC and of the Advisory Group on International Cooperative Training (AGITCOOP), a specialized committee of the ICA.

The costs of publication of the Research Register, as well as those associated with its preparation, have been borne by the sponsoring organizations and collaborators, with no external resources having been sought or supplied.

Operationally the Polish Cooperative Research Institute has been responsible for the collection, analysis and selection of materials included in the various issues of the Bulletin. This material, in turn, has been provided to the Hungarian Cooperative Research Institute which has responsibility for classifying the data, preparing the text for printing, printing and distribution. Approximately 750 copies of each issue have been printed and distributed.

The participants in the Editorial Committee/Board have included the following persons:

International Cooperative Alliance: Lenore Stettner
L. Dandapani
Trevor Bottomley
Sam Mshiu

Polish Cooperative Research Institute: T. Kowalak
Jan Grosfeld
Zofia Chyra-Rolicz

Hungarian Cooperative Research Institute: A. Geynes
Janos Juhasz

Committee for the Promotion of Aid to Cooperatives : Jack Shaffer
Tristram Eastwood

Advisory Group on International Cooperative Training : Robert Houlton

C. What Has the Research Register Produced?

There have been 9261 references cited in the nineteen Bulletins of the Research Register covering a wide range of topics related to cooperatives in developing countries. The distribution of entries has been as follows:

Bulletin 1 (1975) - 1790	Bulletin 11 (1981) - 256
Bulletin 2 (1976) - 377	Bulletin 12 (1984) - 820
Bulletin 3 (1977) - 234	Bulletin 13 (1984) - Combined with 14
Bulletin 4 (1977) - 321	Bulletin 14 (1984) - 2537
Bulletin 5 (1978) - 226	Bulletin 15 (1986) - 305
Bulletin 6 (1978) - 238	Bulletin 16 (1986) - 290
Bulletin 7 (1979) - 263	Bulletin 17 (1987) - 341
Bulletin 8 (1979) - 244	Bulletin 18 (1987) - 270
Bulletin 9 (1980) - 222	Bulletin 19 (1988) - 272
Bulletin 10 (1980) - 255	

Bulletins 12, 13 and 14 contain data generated by the COPAC search of automated bibliographical data bases covering the period 1968 through 1981. The entries generated by this search were compared with the entries included in Bulletins 1 - 11 and duplications eliminated. In the process of this comparison it was found that of the total entries identified in the COPAC search approximately 75% were new material that had not appeared earlier in the Research Register.

The implication of this fact is that the data included in Bulletins 1 - 11, provided by correspondents and others related to the cooperative movement, has tapped one source of information, mainly cooperative in its origin. The COPAC data base searches have identified another source, mainly representing material that is being written and published outside the cooperative orbit. The fact the first search by COPAC identified materials dating from 1968 forward means that this source is now fully represented in the nineteen Bulletins. The cooperative movement sources are presumably not well represented in Bulletins 12 - 19, a gap which limits the Research Register's ability to represent itself as a comprehensive source of data for the period since 1968.

The Editorial Board of the Research Register is aware of this dilemma but has not had the staff or financial resources available to reactivate the network of correspondents from cooperative institutions which broke down after the first eleven Bulletins.

The materials included in the Research Register have been classified in the Table of Contents of the Bulletins in the following categories. (numbers in parentheses indicate the total number of such entries which have been included in Bulletins 1 - 19):

- I. REFERENCE WORKS (1036)
 - Bibliographies (98)
 - Directories (90)
 - Reports of conferences, seminars, meetings; recommendations and resolutions on cooperatives (848)
- II. GENERAL WORKS (1718)
 - Cooperative theory and doctrine, cooperative principles, theoretical studies (271)
 - Role of cooperative movements in socioeconomic development (792)
 - History of cooperative movements, historical archives (143)
 - Situation of the cooperative movement in general and by country and at different levels (512)
- III. COOPERATIVE TYPES (3050)
 - Agricultural Cooperatives - General (612)
 - Agricultural Marketing Cooperatives (472)
 - Agricultural Machinery Cooperatives (61)
 - Agricultural Supply Cooperatives (24)
 - Cooperative Farming (farming groups) (469)
 - Agricultural Processing Cooperatives (77)
 - Agricultural Irrigation Cooperatives (59)
 - Fisheries Cooperatives (100)
 - Multipurpose Cooperatives (56)
 - Credit and Banking Cooperatives (681)
 - Consumer Cooperatives (124)
 - Workers' Productive Cooperatives/ Industrial Cooperatives (142)
 - Housing Cooperatives (68)
 - Other Cooperatives (67)
- IV. NON-CONVENTIONAL COOPERATIVE FORMS (255)
 - Traditional forms of mutual self-help associations (106)
 - Modern forms of mutual and self-help associations; pre-cooperatives (149)
- V. STRUCTURE OF THE COOPERATIVE MOVEMENT (126)
 - Relationship between cooperatives on the same or at different levels in a country (91)
 - Relationship between cooperative organizations at plurinational and international levels (35)
- VI. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF COOPERATIVES (326)
 - General (122)
 - Rules and by laws; internal administration (78)
 - Democracy in cooperatives; member participation and leadership (94)
 - Personnel policy (32)
- VII. ECONOMICS OF COOPERATIVES (256)
 - Business policy, financing, internal planning

- VIII. SOCIAL FUNCTIONS OF COOPERATIVES (168)
 - IX. EDUCATION, TRAINING AND INFORMATION (362)
 - Education and training of members (235)
 - Training of employees (70)
 - Educational programmes by industrialized countries for cooperators from developing countries (39)
 - Higher education (18)
 - X. COOPERATIVES AND THE STATE (1108)
 - General (209)
 - Laws, legislation, decrees for cooperatives and influencing cooperatives (including tax regulations) (180)
 - Cooperatives and land reform (532)
 - Governmental, advisory and promotional services for cooperatives (included in General, above)
 - Role of cooperatives in all aspects of state planning (187)
 - XI. EXTERNAL RELATIONS OF COOPERATIVE MOVEMENTS (145)
 - Relations with trade unions (48)
 - Relations with intergovernmental organizations (97)
 - XII. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE ACTIVITIES (52)
 - Trade, finance
 - XIII. SUBJECTS RELATED TO COOPERATIVES (372)
 - XIV. RESEARCH (157)
 - Research methods and organizations
- AUTHOR INDEX
- GEOGRAPHICAL INDEX
- SUBJECT INDEX

In a number of cases a particular citation has been indexed in more than one category. For purposes of this review, however, only the primary classification was utilized when compiling the above numbers.

D. Selection of Items From the Research Register for this Report.

The entries in the Research Register all in some way refer to cooperatives. Using Bulletins 11 and 19 as samples it was determined that of the 528 citations included in these two 47.3% contained material dealing exclusively with cooperatives, 30.1% involved cooperatives as one of the major factors covered, and 21.5% dealt with a broad subject where cooperatives were mentioned in passing as a factor that was considered. In selecting items for inclusion in this report almost all items were chosen from the first category - i.e., those that focused

solely on cooperatives. In a few cases, particularly where comparisons may have been made between cooperatives and other types of organizations, these items have also been included.

Since the primary purpose of this review was to help determine the nature of research that has been undertaken in recent years regarding cooperatives the initial category of citations selected were those that were clearly identified as having involved research regarding cooperatives. Included in this category were all items identified as "research" as well as those having been produced as a part of the preparation of academic theses or dissertations. These research items have been identified in the attached compilation with the symbol ●. There are 288 such entries.

The second category of materials included are publications which have dealt at some length with a specific cooperative topic. The assumption in this regard was that in the process of collecting data for such presentations a certain type of research, even if not original, would have been involved. Such publications, it was felt, could constitute useful source material for future researchers undertaking to examine themes similar or related to those covered in these publications. There are 357 such entries included.

The third category are reports of major meetings, seminars, consultations, etc. in which a particular cooperative topic or experience was presented and discussed. The assumption in this case was that reports of such meetings, including discussion papers, represents a "collection of the wisdom" of scholars and practitioners whose experiences and views would provide broad reference points for anyone undertaking future research related to the subjects covered in such meetings. There are 109 such entries included.

The fourth category included were articles perceived to be of particular relevance by the preparator of the report in so far as their content appeared to have broad significance. There are 98 such citations.

Again, it should be noted that country-specific citations, unless they were clearly reports of a particular research effort, were not included. Such country-specific entries constitute the bulk of the Research Register citations.

An added result of taking this more eclectic approach to the materials included in the attached compilation is that this detailed review of the Research Register citations has produced a general bibliography which may have value to persons with interests outside the scope of this report.

E. What Does This Compilation Indicate About Cooperative Research?

An initial observation to be made is that the Research Register is probably misnamed. Only about 3% of the citations included in the

nineteen Bulletins of the Research Register were identified as "research" or as the product of academic theses or dissertations. Even when the broader categories describes above are included, the total is still less than 10% of the total entries. Given this fact, the International Cooperative Alliance may wish to identify it more accurately as a register of "bibliography and research". Such a change would not detract from its usefulness and would more accurately reflect its contents.

Regarding the entries identified and included in the attachment, there is little or no evidence of any over-all planning of the research that has been carried out. Most appears to be individualistic in the interests pursued and the research done appears isolated in that it does seem to have built on previous work done by others. There are only a few longitudinal studies listed and little effort is reflected in the materials to use research studies as a way of resolving differing or conflicting views on cooperative matters.

Some of the "publications" entries selected for inclusion (most from the early 1970s) reflect attempts to make general observations regarding specific types of cooperatives in developing countries or about certain cooperative issues. A number of these were clearly theoretical in their focus. The lack of more recent publications of this sort indicate that the considerable amount of cooperative development experience of the 1970s and 1980s has yet to be analyzed, assimilated with earlier theory and presented in a form which could be of usefulness to the cooperatives in developing countries and to the development organizations which assist them.

Finally, the original goal of the Research Register, to be "a collection of material as complete and accurate as possible" and to "enable at least some degree of coordination in research efforts" does not appear to have been fully met. As noted earlier, the material in the first eleven Bulletins, relying on inputs from cooperative researchers, is different from that generated by computer searches of automated data bases. Whatever else, some considerable amount of cooperative generated material is not reflected in Bulletins 12 - 19, including supervised research at cooperative educational institutions.

The original goals of identifying and tracking and reporting on cooperative research remain valid and useful. Such steps are important if the cooperative movement is to systematically examine and utilize both its theory and experience.

More specific comments and suggestions regarding specific areas of cooperative theory and activity are included in the introductory sections of the subjects covered in the attached compilation of selected citations from the Research Register.

III. Survey of Cooperative Research Organizations

The second undertaking in this study of the status of research on cooperatives in developing countries was a survey of organizations engaged in cooperative research.

One of the first products of the group which organized to establish the Research Register was a Directory of Organizations Engaged in Cooperative Research, published in 1974. This Directory was updated and republished by the International Cooperative Alliance in September 1985. It contains data on 275 research organizations (a copy of the directory is attached).

A survey questionnaire was sent to these 275 organizations in August 1988 with responses requested by November 1, 1988. The data requested was as follows:

- Describe briefly research regarding cooperatives in developing countries which your organization carried out during the period 1977-1987. Please include the following regarding each study:
 - a. Title
 - b. Name of principal researcher(s)
 - c. Organization(s) on which research focused
 - d. Dates during which research was carried out
 - e. Brief description of research conclusions

- Describe briefly research regarding cooperatives in developing countries in which your organization is currently engaged. Please include the following information regarding each study:
 - a. Title
 - b. Name of principal researcher(s)
 - c. Organizations(s) on which research is focused
 - d. Date when research will be completed
 - e. Brief description of major interest of the research

- Briefly describe any research regarding cooperative in developing countries for which your organization has definite plans in the future. Please include the following information on each research effort planned:
 - a. Title
 - b. Name of principal researcher(s)
 - c. Organization(s) on which research will focus
 - d. Dates during which research is expected to be carried out
 - e. Brief description of problem/issue to be researched

- Briefly describe any important areas of research regarding cooperatives in developing countries which your organization feels need attention.

As of December 1, 1988 twenty three organizations had responded. The responding organizations were as follows:

Coady International Institute
St. Francis Xavier University
Antigonish, Nova Scotia, Canada

Cooperative College of Malaysia
Selangor Malaysia

Cooperative Research Institute
Warsaw, Poland

Forschungstelle für Genossenschaftswesen
University of Hohenheim
Stuttgart, Federal Republic of Germany

Indian Society for Studies in Cooperation
Pune, India

Instituto Argentino de Investigaciones de Economía Social
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Instituto Chileno de Educación Cooperativa
Santiago, Chile

Instituto Cooperativa Interamericano
Panama City, Panama

Instituto de Desarrollo y Crédito Cooperativa
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

International Research Centre on Rural Cooperative Communities
Rehovot, Israel

Kooperativa Institutet
Stockholm Sweden

Maharshi Vedvyas Foundation for Studies in Cooperation
Varanasi, India

Marburg Consult für Selbsthilfeförderung
Marburg/Lahn, Federal Republic of Germany

National Research Council
Bangkok, Thailand

Pellervo-Seura Simonkatu
Helsinki, Finland

Scandinavian Institute of African Studies
Uppsala, Sweden

United Nations Research Institute for Social Development
Geneva, Switzerland

Instituto de Cooperativismo
Universidad Santo Tomas
Bogota, Colombia

University Center for Cooperatives
University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin, USA

University of Ankara
Department of Agricultural Economics
Ankara, Turkey

University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois, USA

Department of Social and Political Geography
University of Lund
Lund, Sweden

University of Missouri
Columbia, Missouri, USA

The limited number of respondents is troubling to ICA for either or both of two reasons. First in the time allotted for the survey there was insufficient available, once it became apparent that the responses might be limited, to send out reminder notices or was theirtime or resources for personal or telephone interviews, both of which might have increased the number of respondents.¹ Therefore, there is a feeling that the respondents are not truly representative of all research that has actually been transpiring.

Second, should the group of respondents in fact represent the scope of research activity being undertaken, it would represent a serious lack in this regard.

It would appear evident from this that there is a need for the ICA to devise a system for recording and tracking research being done regarding cooperatives in developing countries. Given the current computer capacity of ICA to record and maintain such a record, a

1. The fact that certain organizations identified in the compilation of selections from the Research Register as having earlier engaged in a number of research activities did not reply would seem to support this view. Among these were organizations such as College Coopératif (Paris), Cooperative College (Loughboro), Centre de Recherche Coopérative (Paris), Bangladesh Academy of Rural Development, University of Münster (FRG), University of Sherbrooke (Canada), Agro-Economic Research Center (India), Sri Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya (India), and a number of other universities in Europe and North America.

capacity lacking at an earlier period, it appears that this should be a first step, building on the responses received to this survey.

Of the respondents, those from industrialized countries appeared to concentrate their research on broad topics involving cooperatives in one or more countries. The responses from developing country institutions (Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Dominican Republic, India, Malaysia) indicate that these organizations tend to concentrate their research attention almost exclusively on cooperative problems or issues within their own countries. Given this, it would seem that ICA has an important coordinating and informing role if this experience within individual countries is to be shared more widely.

None of the respondents reported collaborative research involving a joint effort on the parts of institutions from both industrialized and developing countries. Neither was there evidence of "South/South" collaboration. In the past the Research Register reported some such collaboration organized by the ICA regional offices. The ICA regional office in Abidjan is currently engaged in research studies that involve the cooperative movements in sixteen West African countries.

There was little or no indication from the respondents that particular organization's efforts were related to any overall assessment of research needs or priorities. The few suggestions received in response to the survey question regarding "important areas of research" needing attention do not reflect real consensus regarding research problems and needs. (See listing below.)

The specific research identified by the respondents were as follows ((1) indicates research completed, (2) research currently underway and (3) research planned for the future):

Coady International Institute, St. Francis Xavier University

- Innovations in Asian Cooperatives (1)
- Innovations in Latin American Cooperatives (1)
- Worker Cooperatives (1)

Cooperative College of Malaysia

- Manpower Needs and Training Requirements of Cooperatives in Malaysia - A. Zainudin, I. Kaur, S. Devi, M. Ahlaimuniandy (1)
- A New Dimension in Consumer Cooperation - The KOMART WAY - Susan Tho (1)
- A Study on the Position of Cooperative Accounts and Audit - Indar Kaur (1)
- Accounting System of School Cooperatives in Malaysia - Raja Maimon (1)
- Study on the Benefits Acquired as Members of Cooperatives - Angeline Tay, Sushila Devi (1)

- School Cooperatives in Malaysia - Salbiah Hussain, Abd. Jumaat Mahajar (2)
- Cooperatives Under Government Agencies - Activities, Performance and Prospects - Raja Maimon (2)
- Cooperatives as a Tool Towards the Effectiveness of Using the Mosque Fund - Idris Ismail (2)
- A Study on the Non-agricultural and Non Fishery Cooperatives in Malaysia - Their Performance, Problems and Prospects - Abu Bakar Sidek (2)
- An Empirical Study of Cooperative Cottage Industries with Special Reference to Their Marketing Strategies - Raja Maimon (3)
- The Role of Thrift and Loan Societies in Uplifting the Socio-Economic Status of their Members - Salbiah Hussain (3)
- Computerization Problems Facing Cooperatives in Malaysia - Ms. Mazibah, Mr. Suriani (3)

Polish Cooperative Research Institute

- Cooperatives in the Socio-Economic Development of Agriculture in Latin America - Jan Grosfeld (1)
- Research Register (1) (2) (3)

Instituto Argentino de Investigaciones de Economia Social

- Agricultural Cooperatives - O. Carracedo (1)
- Housing Cooperatives - H. Bonaparte (1)
- Consumer Cooperatives - R. Lenti (1)
- Cooperation in Argentina - H. Bonaparte (2)
- Cooperatives and Public Service (3)

Instituto Chileno de Educacion Cooperativa

- La Participación del Campesinado en las Organizaciones Rurales en Chile - H. Aliaga, L. Barria, J. Katunaric (1)
- El Campesinado Chileno: sus Organizaciones Productivas - L. Barria, L. Cereceda, H. Ortega, H. Aliaga (1)
- Manual de Organización Cooperativa - A Salinas, A. Gross (1)
- Poblacion Rural y Organizaciones Campesinas - H. Aliaga, L. Barria (1)
- Cooperativa Campesina Domingo Mansilla: una experiencia de desarrollo cooperativo con campesinos artesanos - L. Barria, S. Alarcon (1)
- El Corazón de Palquibudis, Experiencia de un Plan Piloto - ICECOOP (1)
- Evaluación Final Proyecto Petorca - Gregorio Correa (1)
- Evaluación y Aprendizaje de una Experiencia de Asesoría y Capacitación a Cooperativas Campesinas de Base - H. Aliaga, L. Barria, S. Alarcon, J. Katunaric, M. I. Ochoa (1)
- Proyectos Productivos para el Sector Rural - L. Barria, M. I. Ochoa (1)

- Estudio sobre la Comunidad El Corazón: el rol productivo de la mujer en una cooperativa campesina - Liliana Barria (1)
- Participación de la Mujer en la Economía Campesina en Chile - L. Barria, P. Gac, M. I. Ochoa, P. Tellez (1)
- Mujeres Rurales: una metodología de trabajo - L. Barria, M. I. Ochoa (1)
- Diagnóstico de la Cooperativa Campesina Cerrillos Limitada - (1)
- Guía para Diagnósticos en las Cooperativas - A. Spencer, H. Aliaga, L. Barria (1)
- Estudios-Diagnóstico de Cuatro Organizaciones Campesinas de la Provincia de Petorca - ICECOOP (1)
- Diagnóstico de las Cooperativas de la VI y VII Regiones - M. I. Ochoa, S. Alarcon (1)
- Construcción catastral, base para Estudios Censales - A. Gross, J. Henriquez, L. Faure (1)
- Recomendaciones Prácticas para el Cultivo del Maíz - Kevin Kelly (1)
- Ensayo de Cultivo bajo Invernaderos en la Comuna de Catemu- Kevin Kelly (1)
- Reforma Agraria: Pago de las Tierras Asignadas - L. Barria, M. I. Ochoa (1)
- Venta de Parcelas del Sector Reformado en la Comuna de Catemu- L. Barria, J. Katunaric (1)
- Aportes al Conocimiento de la Juventud Campesina - L. Barria, P. Navarro (1)
- Comportamiento Económico y Racionalidad del Campesino - L. Cereceda, L. Barria (1)
- Compendio de Legislación Cooperativa - A. Salinas, A. Gross, L. Faure (1)

Instituto de Desarrollo y Crédito Cooperativo (IDECOOP)

Area Pesquera -

- Difusión de Técnicas de Conservación, Deshidratación, Marinado y Ahumado de Pescado en Cooperativas Pesqueras (1)
- Ampliación de la Gerencia Pesquera (1)
- Operación de la Derencia Pesquera (1)
- Proyecto Pesquero Cooperativo para la Región Sur (1)
- Procesamiento del pescado y Formas de Presentación (1)

Area Agropecuaria -

- Rehabilitación Cooperativas Arroceras (1)
- Cultivo de Vegetales (1)
- Desarrollo Hortícola (1)
- Mercado de Productores (1)
- Asentamiento Agrario (1)
- Autosuficiencia Alimentaria (1)
- Integración y Cooperación Rural (1)
- Granjas de Conejos (1)

- Crianza Porcina (1)
- Crianza y Fomento de Gallinas (1)
- Zafra Cafetalera (1)
- Producción de Chivos (1)
- Comercialización de Arroz (1)
- Reproducción y Cría de Caprino (1)

Industrialización y Comercialización -

- Fábrica de Chocolate (1)
- Tienda de consumo (1)
- Planta Mezcladora de Alimentos (1)
- Programa de Venta (1)
- Instalación Panadería y Repostería (1)
- Instalación de Farmacia Veterinaria (1)
- Venta de Estufas y Gas Propano (1)
- Desarrollo de la pequeña Minería (1)
- Extracción, Procesamiento y comercialización de Larimar (Artesanía) (1)
- Proyectos de Ámbar (Artesanía) (1)
- Agroindustrias (Alimentos Balanceados) (1)
- Mujeres aplicadas a la Industria (1)
- Reforestación (1)
- Almacén Central de Consumo (1)
- Tienda de Comercialización de Insumos (1)
- Tienda de Calzados (1)
- Transporte (servicios) (1)
- Transporte Cooperativa (1)
- Ahorro y Crédito (1)
- Seguros (1)

- Proyecto de Fortalecimiento Institucional, Capacitación e Integración - IDECOOP, CODOCOOP, ICI, CCC-CA (2)
- Investigación sobre la Producción y Comercialización; a nivel Nacional e Internacional - IDECOOP (2)

International Research on Rural Cooperative Communities (CIRCOM)

- Correlates of the Paternalistic vs. Emancipatory Approach to Rural Development: A Study of the Role Perception of Change Agents - Yair Levi (2)

Kooperativa Institutet

- Theoretical and Practical Questions Involved in Cooperative-State-Human Resources Interdependence - Alf Carlsson (2)

Maharshi Vedvyas Foundation for Studies in Cooperation

- Function and Working of Central Cooperative Banks in Uttar Pradesh - Ganesh Gupta (1)
- The District Central Cooperative Bank, Kutch (An Evaluation Study) - Ganesh Gupta (1)

- I Got Cooperative Credit - Ganesh Gupta (1)
- Agricultural Cooperative Credit and Communication - Ganesh Gupta (1)
- History of the Credit Union Movement in India - Ganesh Gupta (1)
- Managing Recovery of Cooperative Credit - A Case Study - Ganesh Gupta (1)
- Impact of Savings on Return Behaviour of Agricultural Cooperative Credit - Ganesh Gupta (1)
- Training Technology in Cooperatives - Ganesh Gupta (1)
- Involvement and Contribution of Women in Credit Unions - Sudha Sahu (1)
- Cooperative Banking in India and the Training Needs - Ganesh Gupta (1)
- The Economy of Agricultural Cooperative Credit Societies in India - Ganesh Gupta (1)
- Cooperative Movement and the Youth - Ganesh Gupta (1)
- Human Resources in Cooperative Credit in India - The Situation and the Need - Ganesh Gupta (1)
- Appropriateness of Vocational Training for Rural Development in India - Ganesh Gupta (1)
- The Framework of Cooperative Societies for Rural Development in India - Ganesh Gupta (1)
- Role of District Central Cooperative Bank in Integrated Rural Development of the District, Varanasi - Ganesh Gupta (2)
- Impact of Cooperative Credit on the Economy of Eastern Uttar Pradesh - Ganesh Gupta (2)
- Comparative Study of Cooperative Credit in Developed and Developing Nations - Ganesh Gupta (2)
- Ways for Effective Involvement of Men and Women in Cooperative Activity - Ganesh Gupta (3)
- Strategy for Increasing Loyalty of People in Cooperatives - Ganesh Gupta (3)

Marburg Consult für Selbshilfeförderung

- Initiation, Diversification and De-Officialization of Self-Help Organizations - A. Hanel, J. Kuhn, H. Münkner, J. Röpke (1)
- Approaches to Support Women Through Promotion of Womens' Organizations in Africa South of the Sahara - V. Fuest, J. Otto Muller, M. Obbelode, T. Schwedersky (2)
- Fighting Poverty Through Self-Help Organizations - E. Baltes, R. Eschenburg, A. Hanel, J. Kuhn, G. Mertins, M. Müller, H. Münkner, T. Pfeiffer, J. Röpke, A. Tewinkel (2)

Scandinavian Institute of African Studies

- Development of Marketing Cooperatives in Kenya - Hans Hedlung (1)

Instituto de Cooperativismo, Universidad Santo Tomas

- Derecho Cooperativo y Asociativo - Carmen Aguilera (1)
- Promoción de la Comunidad y Formas Asociativas - Benjamín Ramírez B. (1)

- La Función de las Federaciones Auditoria dentro del Cooperativismo - Benjamín Ramírez B. (1)
- Contabilidad para Empresas de Economía Solidaria - Jorge Bolaños (1)
- La Empresa Cooperativa en el Desarrollo Latinoamericano - Ciudec (1)
- Las Cooperativas Agropecuarias en Colombia - W. Frank et al (1)
- La Administración en las Empresas de la Economía Solidaria - N. Palacios, C. Pineda (1)
- Análisis de la Legislación Cooperativa Colombiana - Carlos Garzon (1)
- Las Cooperativas como Forma Empresarial - Holger Bonus (1)
- Las Cooperativas de Producción y de Comercialización en Colombia - Benjamín Ramírez B. (2)
- Principios y Valores de la Cooperación - Benjamín Ramírez B. (3)

Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Ankara

- Recent Development in Agricultural Cooperation in Turkey - Z. Mülayim (1)
- The View of Atatürk on Cooperatives - Z. Mülayim (1)
- Export Marketing Functions of Turkish Agricultural Cooperatives in Turkey - T. Güneş (1)
- The Supplements to the National Economy by Cooperatives Through Foreign Trade - T. Güneş (1)
- A Comparative Study of Agricultural Cooperatives and Their Marketing Functions on Foreign Trade in Turkey and in the United States of America - T. Güneş (1)
- Cooperatives for Commonly Used Machinery in the Central Anatolian Region - R. Demirci, A. Özçelik (1)
- Agricultural Cooperation in the EC and Turkey - Z. Mülayim (1)
- Consumption Cooperatives - Position and Development Possibilities Within Actions of Union in Turkey - Ahmet Özçelik (2)
- The Share of Cooperatives in Farm Supplies in Turkish Agriculture - Gülen Okumuş (2)

Department of Social and Political Geography, University of Lund

- Agricultural Marketing Cooperatives and Rural Development in Kenya - B. Gyllström, H. Hedlund, A. Hedenmalm, B. Svensson, M. Samuelsson (1)
- Cooperatives in Rural Development (Karnataka State, India) - N. Hatti, F. Rundquist (2)
- Agricultural Cooperatives and Rural Development in Egypt - Hans Holmén (2)
- Agricultural Cooperatives in Ethiopia - Girma Yadeta (2)
- Women Participation in Primary Cooperative Societies in Southern Zambia - E. Grönberg, M. Johansson (2)
- Managerial Performance Profiles of Agricultural Service Societies in Zimbabwe - Magnus Jirström (2)
- Aid and Cooperative Development. A Comparative Study of Donor Assistance to Cooperatives in Kenya and the Sudan - K. Solberg (2)

Department of Agricultural Economics, Univ. of Missouri

- An Economic Appraisal of Agricultural Cooperatives in Tunisia - A. Omezzine, C. Ratchford (1)
- Cooperative Setting in the Rural Economy of Indonesia - B. Nurdin, C. Ratchford (1)
- Cooperatives as a Vehicle to Increase Farmers' Incomes - M. Hendrojogi, C. Ratchford (1)

One would be hard pressed, beyond such broad themes as agriculture, credit, women, etc., to identify common themes and/or continuity in the above list of recent, present and future research activity concerning cooperatives in developing countries. Several of the developing country institutions reflect attempts to address country specific problems and issues regarding the development of the cooperative movements in their countries. In that regard they are presumably providing important objective data for use in planning and decision making by cooperatives and their leadership. The fact that the ICA Directory of Organizations Engaged in Cooperative Research identifies such organizations in only 42 developing countries points up the paucity of such organizations and their potential impact, even if one assumes that they are fully operational and have the funding necessary to develop the empirical base of information which cooperative movements need if they are to develop in patterns which match their aspirations.

One must also be struck when reviewing the preceeding list that there are so few specific research activities planned by these organizations for the future - only seven studies scheduled by four organizations. This fact supports the view that there is little long range planning regarding such research and, one suspects, comparatively little commitment of funds for on-going research.

Only six of the twenty three organizations responded to the request that they identify "important areas of research regarding cooperatives in developing countries which your organization feels need attention". ICA had viewed the responses to this section as particularly important as a way of assessing whether there was any consensus about the thrust of future research. The responses did not reflect any such consensus.

The suggestions made included the following:

Cooperative College of Malaysia

- Comparative studies on successful and non-successful cooperatives from the management point of view
- Interest rates both for savings and investments, and sources of funds in credit movements
- Women in cooperatives - their role as producers, marketers and managers

Instituto Argentino de Investigaciones de Economía Social

- Supervision in cooperatives
- Taxation of cooperatives
- Training and education

Instituto de Desarrollo y Crédito Cooperativo

- Area de Producción Agropecuaria (Agrícola, Ganadera, Avícola y Pesquera)
- Area de Almacenamiento
- Comercialización y Distribución
- Electricidad (locales) pequeños
- Acueductos (locales) pequeños
- Basura (recogida, clasificación, transformación y distribución)
- Transporte
- Area Agroindustrial
- Capacitación
- Area Foresta
- Servicios Médicos
- Servicios Educativos
- Seguros
- Fomento de Cooperativas de Producción y Trabajo
- Fomento de Mediana, Pequeña y Microempresa

International Research on Rural Cooperative Communities (CIRCUM)

- Decooperativization: Tendencies and Processes in Selected Countries
- Traditional and Modern Savings and Loans Organizations: Differences, Complementarities and Scope for Common Action

Maharshi Vedvyas Foundation for Studies in Cooperation

- Increasing peoples' participation in cooperative activity
- Effectiveness of the cooperative system for the betterment of members
- Energization of the staffs of cooperatives in developing countries for actual work in the area

Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Ankara

- Consumer cooperatives
- Agricultural Sales Cooperatives
- Village Development Cooperatives
- Agricultural Credit Cooperatives
- Commonly Used Machinery Cooperatives
- Soil and Water Cooperatives

Acknowledging the fact that the twenty three responses to the ICA survey of 275 organizations may not be a representative enough sample

from which to draw unchallengable conclusions, one must still be impressed with the randomness of what is reflected in the responses. In that regard it reflects similar conclusions that were drawn regarding the review of material found in the Research Register. There seems to be little rhyme or reason, beyond personal interest, to what has been and is taking place. This is not particularly encouraging given that cooperatives continue to grow and proliferate in most developing countries and that many regard them as the type of socio-economic organization which will predominate in these countries in the future. As East/West and North/South tensions moderate and modulate cooperatives are increasingly the common ground upon which many can and will meet.

IV. Some Directions for the Future

The review of the nineteen Bulletins of the Research Register and of the responses to the survey of organizations engaged in research regarding cooperatives has provided some helpful information. They have also raised a number of questions. Some of these relate to the role of the cooperative movement (represented by the International Cooperative Alliance) in the planning and execution of research regarding cooperatives in developing countries. Other questions relate to specific areas which warrant research attention.

A. The ICA and Cooperative Research

Both aspects of this review present a picture of research activity that is limited, opportunistic, episodic and individualistic. There is little or no sense of direction reflected in the materials reviewed. There is no sense that what has been done has been as part of a reasoned plan.

Assuming that some overall planning is desired, one is led to the conclusion that the logical place for this to happen is within the framework of the apex organization of the world's cooperatives - The International Cooperative Alliance.

Thus, the first step toward a different future for research regarding cooperatives in developing countries is for ICA to assume a leadership role in bringing about the needed changes. Such leadership can take the form of either specific ICA programs to organize, plan and implement such a research program or it can be ICA taking leadership to convene the other appropriate organizations to develop a program to be implemented by other parties. No other organization (unless it might possibly be COPAC) is in a position to provide such overall leadership. Unless such leadership is assumed little will change in the pattern of such research.

Assuming that a more activist role will be taken by ICA itself, a basic decision will have to be made as to whether direction for such

research regarding cooperatives in developing countries will be provided by the existing specialized committee within ICA that deals with research or whether that leadership will be provided by the Development Department of ICA. There is a certain logic for either of these to provide such leadership. Both have certain limitations. The research committee has to date given relatively little attention to developing countries. A reorientation to broaden its focus and activity would require a serious commitment followed by serious action. The Development Department is currently not structured to handle such an effort. To expand its mandate to include this would require a commitment of staff and resources. ICA needs to first decide what it will do.

As a beginning move ICA should take steps to expand on the data collected from research organizations for use in this survey. This information should be stored as a specific piece of data in the ICA's computerized information system. Additional information to supplement that available could be solicited by the ICA Documentalist as part of her ongoing work. ICA member organizations could be called upon to help develop additional information from research organizations in their countries. The ICA regional offices could do the same for research organizations in the countries whose movements are members of the regional councils.

ICA leadership should involve the development of an initial working document which could provide the basis for discussions leading to the development of a research strategy and plan. Periodic research conferences could be usefully be held regionally and internationally to both plan and implement research.

The Research Register should be continued. It represents an unique source of information, whether or not it is widely used. Its name might usefully be changed to the "Bibliographical and Research Register" so that it will more accurately reflect what it is.

The Editorial Board of the Research Register should undertake steps to reactivate a group of "Correspondents" who would agree to regularly provide references for inclusion in the Bulletins. When the correspondents are reactivated information should be solicited from them for the period of the entire 1980s. This will help to insure that the references seemingly lost once the Bulletin information began to come primarily from computer searches is retrieved and then maintained. Unless both sources are used the Research Register will not as fully as it can reflect the entire range of data available.

The Editorial Board of the Research Register should also give attention to identifying the specific libraries where the materials cited in the Bulletins can be found and used. They should also examine the existing and emerging technologies available to make these citations accessible to researchers and development practitioners. Because there is little real sharing of information and experience within the cooperative community there is an understandable

tendency for people to repeat and repeat studies and documents. There is a lot of unassimilated experience and information floating around in the uncollected cooperative unconscience.

B. Some Specific Research Needs Identified in this Survey

A major impression from the review made of the Research Register is that there is a lot of material that has been written about a lot of cooperative subjects. There has been a significant number of reports of serious research. Most of it, unfortunately, seems to exist in "splendid isolation".

A first and important step that should be taken, therefore, is to review and summarize this material. Such a step would not only provide useful compilations of experience but would also identify those issues of conflict or contradiction which exist regarding certain experience and thus surface areas around which new and additional research could be organized.

Some specific areas where sufficient information seems available and where such reviews and summaries could be usefully carried out include the following:

- The role of cooperatives in social and economic development
- Cooperative development in Africa
- Cooperative development in Asia
- Cooperative development in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Cooperative development in North Africa/Near East
- Agricultural cooperatives
- Agricultural credit cooperatives
- Cooperative farming
 - The Kibbutz and Moshav in Israel
 - The Ejido in Mexico
 - The Ujaama Villages in Tanzania
 - The Chinese Communes
 - The Indian Experience
- Irrigation cooperatives
- Fisheries cooperatives
- Credit unions
- Housing cooperatives
- Consumer cooperatives
- Cooperatives and land reform programs
- Dairy cooperative development in India
- Industrial cooperatives
- Management and administration of cooperatives
- Cooperatives as employers
- Trade unions and cooperatives
- Social services/functions of cooperatives

Such reviews and summaries should be comprehensive in their focus and should to the maximum degree possible be based on a review of the citations included in the entire Research Register listings for each of these subjects.

Should ICA be able to do itself, or to orchestrate the necessary work by others. to produce this kind of material, it will enhance its status as the depository and synthesizer of a combined cooperative experience.

Second, there are a number of contentious issues which could be enlightened by targeted research. Among these are:

- Cooperatives and marketing boards - including the role of cooperatives in establishing government pricing policies
- Cooperatives and food processing - an accepted mode of operation in industrialized countries but one little developed in the third world
- The single-purpose vs. multi-purpose cooperatives dispute - what has been learned?
- The experience of cooperative participation in national planning
- The comparative impact of different types of organizations supporting cooperative development - governments, intergovernment organizations, bilaterals, cooperative development organizations, non-governmental organizations
- Effectiveness/Impact of cooperatives as "modernizing agents"

Third, there are a number of important though less contentious questions regarding aspects of cooperative development which could be enlightened by thoughtful and collaborative research. Among these are:

- A joint East/West/North/South review of cooperative/collective farming and its future relevance for developing countries
- Cooperative banks - a logical evolution in cooperative systems?
- Cooperative insurance - a logical evolution in cooperative systems?
- Cooperatives as a form for rural electrification in developing countries
- Factors impeding assistance for the development of intercooperative trade between industrialized and developing country cooperatives
- Current status and needs of cooperative education and training in developing countries
- Developing systems for the evaluation of cooperative development
- Factors limiting cooperative development in North Africa/Near East countries
- The impact of ILO Recommendation 127 on governmental relations with cooperative organizations
- Women in cooperatives
- The UN Secretary General's reports regarding cooperatives - issues and action
- The status of democratic participation in cooperatives

A final area, perhaps more information collection than research, is the random nature of the data available on cooperative movements in the developing countries. The ILO, particularly when it was publishing Cooperative Information, has maintained a basic historical data base on the cooperatives in most countries. Organized publication of this material ceased with the demise of Cooperative Information. In recent years COPAC has been publishing Cooperative Information Notes describing the cooperative organizations in individual developing countries. Bibliographical references in the Research Register cite a variety of materials available about different countries.

It would appear that an important project that could/should be undertaken by ICA is to develop a computerized file on the history and current status of cooperatives in each developing country, using as its sources the ILO and COPAC information, data available in publications cited by the Research Register and that can be supplied by national movements.

The existence of this basic material, expanded over time, would enhance ICA's role as the representative and coordinating body of the world's cooperatives. It would also be a data base which researchers could consult as they undertake to examine various facets of cooperative development in the developing countries.