

CA-AP Newsletter  
August Issue.

[View this email in your browser](#)



**International  
Co-operative  
Alliance**  
Asia and Pacific

## In This Edition

[Cooperative Business: Mapping Prosperity in Economic Challenge.](#)  
[Workshop on Cooperative Financial Services and Rural Development .](#)  
[ASEAN Cooperative Summit and ACOTEX 2016.](#)  
[Stakeholders' Meeting on Collective Entrepreneurship.](#)  
[12th Regional Assembly, New Delhi.](#)  
[ICA-AP Committee on Cooperative Research-COOPERATIVES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT](#)  
[Training course on "Improving Capacity of Rural Women.](#)  
[Countdown to the Asia Pacific Co-operative Youth Summit.](#)  
[International Summit of Cooperatives.](#)  
[Upcoming events.](#)

## “Cooperative Business: Mapping Prosperity in Economic Challenge”.



The Universitas Bung Hatta in collaboration with the Department of Cooperative of Padang city and West Sumatra Province organized the 1st International Conference on Cooperative Business and Social Sciences on 25 July 2016, in Padang, West Sumatera, Indonesia. The theme of the conference was, “Cooperative Business: Mapping Prosperity in Economic Challenge”. The university carries the name of Dr. Mohammed Hatta, the “Father of the Indonesian Co-operatives!” As Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia, Dr. Hatta was instrumental in incorporating the co-operative idea into the 1945 Constitution. The growth and prominence of co-operatives were primarily due to his stewardship and he advocated the virtues of people-based initiatives to build co-ops from the ground up. I had the privilege of giving a speech focused on the opportunities that exist for cooperatives to overcome challenges and navigate the existing economic landscape. The speech in its entirety can be [found here](#).

## Workshop on Cooperative Financial Services and Rural Development



*Mr. Li Chunsheng, President of ICA Asia-Pacific and Vice President of ACFSMC addressing at workshop on Cooperative Financial Services and Rural Development.*

A three-day workshop, from July 27 to 29, on Cooperative Financial Services and Rural Development was held in Dali, China. 23 participants from India, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Vietnam attended the workshop supported by the All-China Federation of Supply and Marketing Cooperatives (ACFSMC). Financial services are the bedrock of cooperatives and in many countries, cooperatives had their start by meeting the credit needs of people. At the core of any business is the need to manage finances in an environment that is uncertain and unpredictable. With rapid advancement of technology and new forms of payments and players, the workshop looked at how cooperatives could cope and manages finances. Mr. Li Chunsheng, Vice President ACFSC and President ICA-AP, in his opening remarks stressed on the importance of finance and called for the need to develop innovative delivery systems and transparent mechanisms. The opening ceremony was attended by Mr. Yang Jian, Governor of Dali Autonomous Prefecture, Mr. Li Lingbo, President of Yunan Cooperatives and Mr. Adolfo Ibañez, Chair, NATCCO, Philippines. The resource persons for the two days included, Mr. Huseyin Polyait (Turkey), Drs. Robby Tulus (Canada), Mr. Thierry Weishaupt (France), Mr. Lee Wook (Korea) and Mr. Shen Zato (China). ICA-AP regularly organizes training, workshops and seminars that help development of cooperatives in the region. These are in terms of technical and human resources resources development. This is possible because,

in most cases, the larger and more developed cooperatives in our region step up. The support is not just the finances they provide; it is the genuine interest to see the development of cooperatives. This is a true reflection of Principle 6 – cooperation among cooperatives.

## **ASEAN Cooperative Summit and ACOTEX 2016**



The ASEAN Cooperative Summit and ACOTEX 2016 was held by the ASEAN Cooperative Organization (ACO), DEKOPIN and the Government of Java Barat in Bekasi City on August 2 and 3, 2016. The Summit involved conference, exhibition and business meetings. The Summit was inaugurated by the Honorable Minister of Small and Medium Enterprises and Cooperatives AAGN Puspayoga in the presence of Dr. Ahmad Heriyawan, Governor of Java Barat Province, officials and cooperators from the ten ACO member countries. Minister Puspayoga in his address stressed on the need to reform, reorient and develop cooperatives and laid emphasis in the areas of infrastructure, maritime, energy and tourism. He highlighted the need to develop a sound database of cooperatives and monitor their progress. Governor Heriyawan in his address recalled the significant contributions made by cooperatives in the Java region (25,471 cooperatives with 5.9 million members) and the need to enhance their quality and effectiveness. During the opening ceremony, representatives of ACO took a pledge (The Bekasi Declaration) to commit the power of cooperatives to address social and economic development and to develop trade in the ASEAN region. The Seminar at the Summit focused on the role of cooperatives in the ASEAN region and featured the following speakers - Balu Iyer, Regional Director, ICA-AP; Ms.Netty Prasetyani, Head of West Java Women's Empowerment and Child Protection

Agency; Dr. Shafari Yakuub Executive Director of ACO; and Drs. Robby Tulus.

## Stakeholders' Meeting on Collective Entrepreneurship



*Participants at the Collective Entrepreneurship in India.*

Representatives from co-operatives, academia, and development agencies participated in the two day stakeholders' meeting on collective entrepreneurship, organised at the UL Cyber Park (held by the Uralungal Labour Contract Co-operative Society Ltd. or ULCCS) on 18 and 19 August 2016. The meeting was organised by the ICA Asia and Pacific in collaboration with the National Co-operative Union of India, the National Labour Co-operative Federation (India) and CICOPA (ICA's sectoral organization on artisanal, industrial and service co-operatives) and was co-funded by the European Union under the "Co-operatives in Development – People-Centred Businesses in Action," grant to ICA. The meeting was aimed at providing a platform for sharing expert knowledge on industrial, artisanal and service-provider co-operatives in India in particular and south Asia, in general. The meeting largely focused on 'workers' co-operatives to learn about their ownership and management models as well as 'social' co-operatives and the role they can play in building a sustainable society. The meeting was attended by key stakeholders from the labour co-operative movement of India, the International Labour Organization

(Colombo), Action Aid India, among others. Ms. Vasudha Mishra (I.A.S), Managing Director of the National Co-operative Development Corporation and Mr. N. Prasanth (I.A.S), District Collector and District Magistrate of Kozhikode were the key government representatives who shared their ideas as well as facilitated discussions on the subject matter. Dr. Thomas Issac, noted academic and finance minister of Kerala delivered an address on co-operatives and collective entrepreneurship on 19 August 2016. Mr. N. Satyanarayana , CEO-NCUI and Mr. Balu Iyer, Regional Director, ICA and Mr. Hyungsik Eum, CICOPA, among others facilitated the panel discussion that was organised to determine commitments from stakeholders and future action on the subject. ICA-AP proposed to undertake a report on the status of industrial, artisanal and service-provider co-operatives in India share the same at a regional workshop during the ICA-AP Regional Assembly in New Delhi in November this year.

## **12<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly, New Delhi**

The planning for the Regional Assembly related events are well underway. We encourage members to register at <http://newdelhi2016.coop/> (**last date September 30**) as soon as possible for the Assembly and also book their accommodation at the conference hotels. November is a busy tourist season and hotels will be hard to come by. We have rooms blocked at Hotel Ashok and Hotel for a limited period of time; please avail of this opportunity at the earliest.

### ***Highlights from some ICA-AP committee events***

#### ***Joint seminar of ICA-AP and ICA-AP Consumer Committee Sustainable Supply Chain and Fairtrade***

ICA-AP and ICA-AP Consumer Committee will organize a joint seminar on, “Sustainable Supply Chain and Fairtrade,” on November 16, 2016. In our globalized society, “Supply Chains” have become longer and complex, and involve large number of people in dispersed locations. According to the International Labor Organization (ILO), 453 million people were engaged in global supply chain-related activities in 2013 (ILO,2016). While global supply chains have created access for employment and opportunities to move up the value chain; they have also resulted in violation of labor standards, harm to the environment, and in some instances human rights abuse (Human Rights Watch,2016). As cooperatives we need to ensure there is transparency in the supply chain, respect for

human rights, equity among stakeholders and concern for the environment. These issues resonate with the “Guidance Notes on Co-operative Principles” and are in line with cooperatives ideas of “Fairtrade” and “Coop-2-Coop Trade.” The adherence will benefit both the producer cooperatives, supplier cooperatives and purchaser cooperatives. This seminar is relevant to all forms of co-op business as there is alignment to supply chains and delegates are invited to join the seminar as it will provide an opportunity to learn, discuss and see how to commit to sustainable supply chain. Please contact Ms. Yuki Nishimoto ([yuki.nishimoto@icaap.coop](mailto:yuki.nishimoto@icaap.coop)) for further details.

### ***ICA-AP Committee on Cooperative Research - COOPERATIVES AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT***

The ICA-AP Committee on Cooperative Research invited paper proposals for the 11<sup>th</sup> ICA-AP Cooperative Research Conference to be held on November 15, 2016. The Conference theme is, “Cooperatives and Sustainable Development.” At the end of the deadline for receiving paper proposals, 69 abstracts were received from 12 countries (22 from foreign countries and 47 from India); out of which 54 abstracts have been accepted (16 from foreign countries and 38 from India). A list of each selected abstracts from foreign countries and from India, is available on request. All selected authors have been individually intimated.

For further details, please contact Mr. A. Taneja at [taneja@icaroap.coop](mailto:taneja@icaroap.coop).

### **Training course on “Improving Capacity of Rural Women**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> training course on, “Improving Capacity of Rural Women,” will take place in Thailand and Japan, from September 6 to 30, 2016. Eight (8) participants from Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Thailand and Vietnam will be attending the training course. The objective of the course is to assist in capacity building of leaders of rural women for promotion of more organized business activities. Part-I of the program – field study visits with a focus on observation of the activities of cooperatives/women groups and social institutions – will be held in Thailand from September 6 to 13 September in collaboration with the Cooperative League of Thailand, member organization of ICA. Part-II of the program will be held at the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia from September 14 to 30 and will include extensive classroom work and study visits to agricultural cooperatives in Mie Prefecture. The training course is funded by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Government of Japan.

## **Countdown to the Asia Pacific Co-operative Youth Summit**

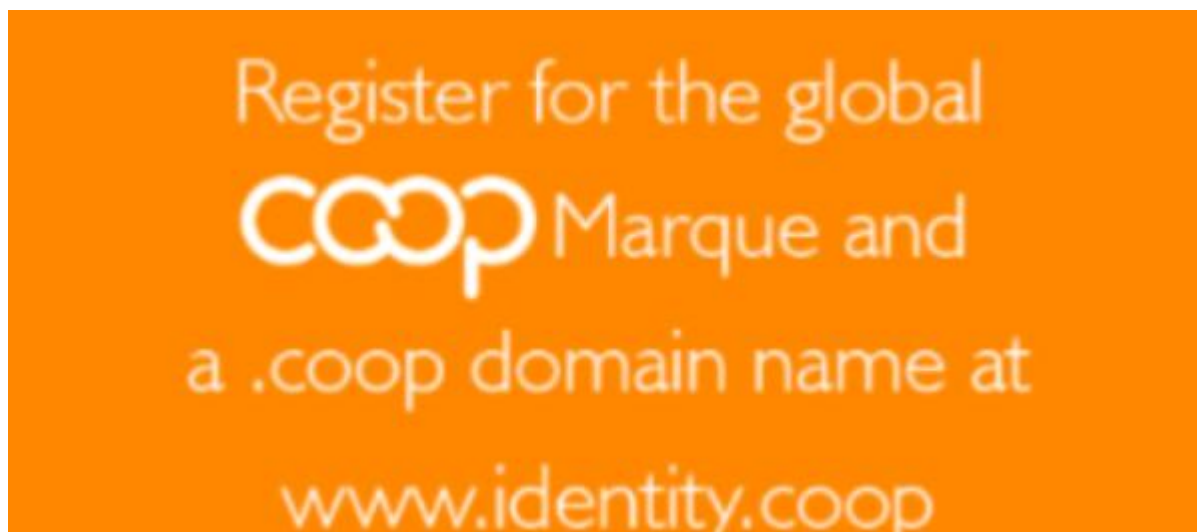
Over 50 youth from over 15 countries will reach Bali, Indonesia on 19 September to participate in the Co-operative Youth Summit and related activities (19-23 September 2016). The theme of this one youth event is '*Youth, Co-operatives and the Power of Entrepreneurship and Innovation*'. The Summit is designed as an experiential event that combines 'action' to involve outdoor activities such as rafting, canoeing etc. and 'reflection' to understand real life challenges vis-a-vis co-operative values and principles. The Summit will feature the 'Coop Pitch', a competition for youth that will allow them to share new and sustainable enterprise ideas for their local communities. An array of internationally recognized young co-operative leaders from seven countries will join the Summit as key speakers and mentors for the participants. The Summit is being organized at the Zizz Convention Hotel, Bali with the support of the Kubu Gunung Credit Union, Bali; the All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Co-operatives, Angkasa, Malaysia; Buldana Urban Credit Co-operative Society Ltd., India; Kopindo and Dekopin from Indonesia. The ICA-AP will also organize a youth policy event on 23 September 2016 with the support of the European Union under the "Co-operatives in Development – People-Centred Businesses in Action," grant to ICA, to share knowledge on youth policies and determine a joint future action plan to ensure promotion of co-operatives by governments as a preferred enterprise model for youth. Wish to Register? [Click Here](#) (subject to availability of spots).

## **International Summit of Cooperatives**

Cooperatives and Mutuals response to natural disasters will be a key topic during the Pre-Summit event on October 10. The United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction – UNISDR – indicates that in 2015, 346 disasters were reported; causing 22,773 deaths, affecting 98.6 million people and incurring economic damage of 66.5 billion USD. These disasters affect all economic sectors and can lead to the total loss of the company to be reconstructed in a devastated and disorganized economy, or even the death of their workforce, managers and leaders. Because of their nature and capacity for resilience, cooperatives and mutual are best positioned to help following a disaster. This pre-Summit activity will address the problems faced by cooperatives and mutuals in their assistance and engagement to affected communities and their businesses, as well as the solutions they have found. It will also study the means implemented by cooperatives and mutuals affected by disasters to restart their businesses. What are the tools available to cooperatives and mutuals? How could they join forces to be more effective? This session has active participation from the Asia Pacific; among those included in the panel are – Mr. Takashi KANNO, President, Fukushima Mirai Agricultural Cooperative, Japan; Mr. Jiro



ITO, Director of Public Relations Division, Japanese Consumer's Cooperative Union; Mr. Luz YRINGCO, Chair of the Resiliency Committee, National Confederation of Cooperatives (NATCCO), Philippines; and the Honorable Keshab Prasad BADAL, Chairman, National Co-operative Federation Ltd (NCFN), Nepal. Fukushima, the movie will also be screened during the session.



- Training course on "Improving Capacity of Rural Women," Thailand and Japan, September 6-30, 2016.
- Youth Summit, Bali, Indonesia, September 20-24, 2016. Please contact Santosh Kumar ([santosh.kumar@icaap.coop](mailto:santosh.kumar@icaap.coop)) for registration details.
- Workshop on enhancing role of women in cooperative business, in cooperation with iCOOP Korea, September. Please contact Savitri Singh ([savitrisingh@icaroap.coop](mailto:savitrisingh@icaroap.coop)) for details.
- MSG cooperatives policy workshop, September 19, 2016, Honiara, Solomon Islands
- International Summit of Co-operatives, Quebec, October 11-13, 2016. Register at <https://www.sommetinter.coop/en>
- 12<sup>th</sup> ICA-AP Regional Assembly and 9<sup>th</sup> Co-operative Forum, New Delhi, India, November 15-19, 2016. Register at <http://newdelhi2016.coop/>
- International Conference in Iran, February 2017. Details forthcoming

- 10<sup>th</sup> Minister's Conference, Hanoi, Vietnam; April 18-21, 2017

---

*Copyright © 2015 ICA-AP, All rights reserved.*

**Our mailing address are:**

9 Aradhana Enclave, R.K. Puram, Sector 13, New Delhi, India 110066

**AND**

Suite 307, Block-A, Glomac Business Centre, Jalan SS 6/3, Kelana Jaya, 47301, Petaling Jaya, Selangor  
Darul Ehsan, Malaysia\*

[www.icaap.coop](http://www.icaap.coop)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)