

ICA-AP NEWSLETTER

News from members, ICA-AP activities,
ICA-EU Partnership update & more!

Mapping the International Day of Cooperatives, 2019



Image credit: ICA

This year's International Day of Cooperatives, July 6, will be celebrated on the topic of 'Coops for Decent Work'. ICA, along with [DotCoop](#) is building a #CoopsDay2109 interactive map which shall show how cooperatives worldwide are celebrating the day. If you have any kind of event or activity planned for the day, submit it [here](#), and make sure it gets included on the map.

ICA-AP ACTIVITIES MAPPING

Philippines Cooperatives facing the INGs and IONs challenges

(written by Mr. Balasubramanian Iyer, Regional Director, ICA-AP)

There are three INGs we are facing these days. This was Ronilo, the Manager of the Tagnanan CARP Beneficiaries Cooperative (TCBC). What are those was my question? Well, he said, "Our members are, "Aging, Ailing, and Dying!" On the one hand, this is not a surprise as some cooperatives are entering their 50th or 60th year of operations with many members who have been with them since the beginning. On the other hand, it speaks to the challenges cooperatives in the Philippines (and in many other countries) are facing, which I call the IONs. Attraction, Succession, and Competition!



The 50th Cooperative Leaders' Congress organised by MASS-SPECC.

I was in Mindano to attend the 50th Cooperative Leaders' Congress organized by our member MASS-SPECC. Having arrived a day before, I used the time to visit three of MASS-SPECC's members - the Tagum Cooperative, TCBC, and the Magsige Multi-Purpose Cooperative. The visits were useful for me to relate to the theme of the Leaders' Congress, "Achieving our Vision through Innovation and Shared Services." For MASS-SPECC the vision is "All Members Enjoy Better Quality of Life" which puts individual members at the center of the cooperative enterprise. Through the visits and talking with members, I was able to connect the theme and the INGs and IONs challenges!

Cincuenta, the coffee table book which Tagum Cooperative brought out to celebrate its 50th anniversary captures their journey from humble beginnings with 38 members and Ph 80 share capital in 1967, to its current 101,883 members and share capital of Ph 2 billion. Tagum cooperative has an amazing 61,000 or 60% youth members! This is one way in which Tagum is addressing the issue of aging, by attracting young members to its fold. This focus on youth was not by accident but through careful design. Way back in 1969, the Youth in Action of Tagum was formed to promote credit unions in schools, colleges and university. The staff at the middle and senior management levels of Tagum Cooperative are young, eager and prepared to take on the mantle, addressing the issue of succession. Competition is intense in Tagum's core business area of savings and loans. Commercial banks, land bank, microfinance institutions, fintech companies, the list goes on. I asked Chairperson, Rosalina Argent, how they kept competition at bay? "We spend a lot of time on education! Every member is taught their role and responsibilities and staff trained on their duties. Members are rewarded based on their participation in the activities of the cooperative. We know many of our members are aging and ailing and having to spend on health. We have a health scheme where preventive as well as curative needs are addressed. We even provide funeral services. We are a womb to tomb cooperative! Which private company is going to do that? Indeed!

The TCBC has its roots in the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP) of the 1990s, which granted farmers secure control over land and encouraged the formation of Agrarian Reform Beneficiary (ARB) cooperatives. Around 336 regular workers of the Tagnanan Estate Incorporated were allotted around 1,000 hectares of coconut plantation. The collective farming in coconut was not working out, so there was a shift to Cavendish banana plantation in a tie-up with a company. The new company, Nova Vista Management and Development Corporation also did not work out well for the farmers as they were just getting paid wages and finding it difficult to make ends meet. In 2009, with the assistance of the Foundation for Agrarian Reform Cooperatives Mindanao, Incorporated

(FARMCOOP), TCBC got into an agreement with Unifrutti Philippines, Inc. (UPI), where TCBC would manage the whole farm and handle the banana growing business and UPI the marketing part. The TCBC members now get 90% of the proceeds with 10% going to the operations of the cooperative. There has been a significant positive change in the lives of the members and their families. TCBC's experience shows that it is not enough to give land and improve inputs; the terms of agreement on the market side needs to also be strengthened to benefit the farmers. The challenge TCBC facing, which agriculture cooperatives are facing in many countries, is the children of farmers seeking newer pastures and fewer people coming into agriculture.

The Manuel Guianga and Sirib Growers and Employees Multi-Purpose Cooperative (Magsige-MPC), was founded in 2008 by Agripino L. Torres to improve the employment status of the employees working in the banana plantations. In 10 years, it has expanded to offer labor services (job contracting services) to agricultural and industrial companies, savings and loan and marketing of basic commodities to its 12,000 plus member-workers. I asked Torres about the controversy surrounding manpower service cooperatives/ companies around the issue of Endo (end of contract; employment that is only for a short period of time) and "5-5-5" (employment setup, under which one can only work for a five-month period and such contract may be renewed again for another period of five months). "In both instances the issue is around nature of contract which prevents workers from acquiring security of tenure and benefits that regular employees enjoy. In our case each member is a co-owner of the cooperative and holds the status of a self-employed worker. They engage in contractual assignments with the cooperative serving as the contracting party." He added, "We are growing our garment business and here the workers will be members and owners!"

The Cooperative Leaders' Congress focused on innovation and shared services. Innovation was seen as doing things better to add VALUE to members in a way which is unique and compelling and meets the needs and circumstances of members. Adding value could take the forms of better products & services (effective use of technology), better processes, and improved management systems. The innovations were there to see in Tagum Cooperative's 'Women to tomb' approach; TCBC's contractual agreement; and Magsige's proposed garment workers cooperative. Shared services are defined as cooperatives working together and combining resources for greater effect which result in efficiencies (processes, cost savings), focuses on activities that support business goals, and delivers quality services. MASS-SPECC used the occasion to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Paramount Life and General Insurance Corp and launch the first of its Shared Services the "Yaman sa Kalusugan" Program – affordable health care services for its members, officers, and staff.

MASS-SPECC the oldest and largest cooperative federation in the Philippines began with mostly parish-based credit unions organized in different dioceses in Mindanao during the 1950s. It provides cooperative education and training through the Institute of Cooperative Studies; operates a Central Fund, which pools surplus funds of cooperatives for on-lending to cooperatives with financing needs; runs an Information & Communication Technology unit that provides software solutions and ATM services; and a Consultancy unit that provides technical support and advice. The influence of MASS SPECC cooperatives has been studied by the School of Economics of the University of Asia and the Pacific (UA&P). In their 2018 report, "Economic and Social Impact Study of Cooperatives," they point out that the average output multiplier effect of MASS-SPECC cooperatives is approximately 4.6 percent of the average GRDP of Mindanao from 2014 to 2016; the spending-induced output multiplier effects through payments of compensation, dividends, and patronage refunds is about 3.8 percent of average GRDP of Mindanao from 2014 to 2016. The combined output multiplier effects of MASS-SPECC cooperatives due to gross sales/revenues, compensation, dividends, and patronage refunds are about 8.4 percent (about 27.97 billion pesos per year) of average GRDP of Mindanao from 2014 to 2016. The average employment multiplier effect of MASS-SPECC cooperatives from 2014 to 2016 is

about 20,648 to 24,089 direct and indirect jobs translating to help reduce the total number of unemployed persons in Mindanao by 4.64 to 5.41 percent from 2014 to 2016.

The findings of this study only reinforce the need for cooperatives, especially those affiliated with the MASS SPECC Federation, to leverage their collective resources to explore better market opportunities, expand their social capital, and to influence cooperative-related policy decisions, to wield positive impact not only in the communities they serve but in the global community that looks forward to a better and sustainable future for all.

The Philippines is not alone. Recently in Korea, around 845 cooperatives from nine regional councils and three sectoral cooperatives (Korea Federation of Workers' Cooperatives, Korea Federation of Civic Development Cooperatives, National Federation of School Social Cooperatives), have come together to form the National Council of Cooperatives. Chairperson SOHN Jong-hyun who was elected as standing representative to lead the council said, "It is really meaningful that cooperatives that were established by the needs of communities and have led the people-centered economy set up a nationwide network. As members of the council, we together should lead people-centered economy and society that live together. If the cooperatives spread in all types of industries, such as co-parenting, IT, and funerals cooperate, as the next level, we may plan cooperative towns or villages. Thus, we will make efforts to create a sustainable cooperative ecosystem."

The views expressed here are in a personal capacity and do not reflect those of ICA or ICA-AP.

NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

3rd ASEAN Entities Forum

(Submitted by Mr. Ilhman Nasai, Director, International Relations, DEKOPIN)

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), an organization of 10 nation states in South East Asia was established in 1967. One of the aims of ASEAN is to promote economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region as well as peace and political stability. ASEAN has ambitious plans to reach its goal of 'one vision-one identity-one community' by 2025.

According to the ASEAN Charter, ASEAN may engage with entities which support the Charter in its intent and purposes. There are currently 72 entities from various sectors associated with ASEAN which represent business organisations, academic institutions, civil society organisations and other stakeholders. ICA had been invited to the Forum as an associated entity and DEKOPIN (the Indonesian Cooperative council; member of ICA) attended the Forum on behalf of ICA.

The 3rd Forum and its associated entities' forums discussed the progress made and how they could strengthen collaboration in achieving a more integrated and people-focused ASEAN. Dr. AKP Mochtan, Deputy Secretary-General (DSG) of ASEAN for Community and Corporate Affairs, in his welcome remarks highlighted how ASEAN and the entities could work closer together in achieving a more people-oriented and people-centred ASEAN. He said, "given the diversity among ASEAN entities as well as the expansive scope that entities cover, there is a big role the entities can play to ensure agility and inclusiveness in our regional integration process."



Group photo at the Forum.

The Government of Thailand is the current Chair of the ASEAN secretariat. The Permanent Representative of Thailand to ASEAN, Mr. Phasporn Sangasubana, underscored that “the forum is a useful initiative by the ASEAN Secretariat as it provides a platform for the entities to interact with the Secretariat as the nerve centre of ASEAN. I’m sure this platform will help strengthen ASEAN community building,” she said.

The breakout sessions of the forum focused on the three pillars of the ASEAN Community; the economic sector, political-security sector, and socio-cultural sector. The participating organisations were divided into groups based on their interest areas within the three sectors.

For the first time, the Forum provided an interface session with the Committee of Permanent Representatives (CPR) of ASEAN. The CPR consists of ten ambassadors from the respective member states. The ambassadors mentioned that the entities accredited to ASEAN can access facilities like the ASEAN office for their activities. This is a great opportunity for all entities including cooperatives to participate in ASEAN Community building.

Curriculum Technical Team and Cooperative Leaders from Nepal Visit India

The fifth cooperative principle, ‘Education, Training and Information,’ speaks of how cooperatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers and employees for their effective contribution to the development of the cooperatives. The principle also emphasizes informing the general public (**particularly young people and opinion leaders**) about the nature and benefits of cooperation.

The National Cooperative Federation (NCF), in cooperation with the Ministry of Land Management, Cooperatives and Poverty Alleviation, and Tribhuvan University plans to develop a ‘cooperative curriculum’ to be incorporated in the formal education system. Ms. Om Devi Malla, Vice chairperson, NCF; Prof. Dilli R. Sharma, Dean, Faculty of Management, Tribhuvan University; and Mr. Khilanath Dhamala, Curriculum Officer, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology visited ICA-AP office to exchange ideas on the design and scope of curriculum on cooperatives in schools and universities of Nepal. The team visited the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI), where NCUI shared material on the Indian cooperative movement, the overall education system in India as well as the certificate courses run by NCUI on cooperatives. The meeting provided the starting point for collaboration between the two national apexes on mainstreaming cooperative education in the formal education system in Nepal. The team also visited the Department of Economics and Cooperative Management in Mysore University; a renowned university established more than a century ago! The representatives from Mysore University shared their experiences of introducing cooperative management courses and their own interventions in introducing cooperatives in school curriculum.



The team from Nepal at the ICA-AP office.

Cooperative on top of a Hill

(Submitted by Mr. R. Ramachandran, Director, IFFCO)

It was in November 2017, that I heard from Mr. Santosh Kumar from ICA-AP, about the Irula snake catchers cooperative at Mahabalipuram near Chennai, in the southern state of Tamil Nadu, India. In April 2019, there arose a need for me to use the services of snake catchers. While searching, I came across another snake catcher's cooperative (name?) existing near Mahalingamalai, near Pudokottai district, Tamil Nadu.

Six to seven families jointly work as a cooperative to catch snakes which venture into homes or poultry farms. These families work laboriously in a profession that is facing near extinction. Yet, they enthusiastically speak of values, hard work and hope for a healthy life. Their job isn't an easy one. They have to conquer their fear of dangerous snakes while simultaneously preventing the disruption of the food cycle. Small cooperatives like these do not feature in plans for training, education or even scaling up. Yet, they're quite significant and thankfully receive medical and insurance support from the government.



Snakes caught at the cooperative.

I learnt lessons on what to do when facing a snake in a high-pressure situation from men and women who had swollen hands infected by venom. They catch dangerous snakes like the cobra as well! As they were preparing to leave having caught several dozen snakes in a jute bag, I wondered that these

cooperators can earn much more if they have knowledge about how the venom can be processed to make medicines etc. Such cooperatives require infrastructural and financial support for their growth. With the kind of potential that cooperatives possess, I do ask myself why are they not allowed to be listed on stock exchanges?

ICA-EU PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM ON COOPERATIVES IN DEVELOPMENT: PEOPLE CENTRED BUSINESSES IN ACTION

In March 2016, the ICA and the European Union signed a Framework Partnership Agreement (Europe Aid/150-053/C/ACT/Multi) to implement a multi-year and multi-country development programme aimed at benefitting and advancing cooperatives worldwide. The Partnership is officially titled "Cooperatives in Development: People Centred Businesses in Action", translated into the social media hashtag #Coops4Dev (cooperatives for development). The Partnership has 8 Result Areas and 33 Activity Streams for delivery by 5 units, one housed in each regional office and one at the coordination level in Brussels. The AP unit has identified three strategic development priorities namely, participation of Cooperatives in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Youth Inclusion in Cooperatives, and Exploring Work and Ownership Structures in Cooperatives. The ICA-AP implements the programme in collaboration with ICA members and in partnership with other stakeholders such as governments, international development agencies, private sector and NGOs in the region. You may read more about the Partnership [here](#).

Research Watch

The following research-based activities were undertaken by ICA-AP from the beginning of 2019 as part of the ICA-EU partnership to improve knowledge on the cooperatives, strengthen the cooperative movement and its capacity to promote international development.

Regional thematic research on Cooperatives in Industrial and Service Sectors (CIS)-

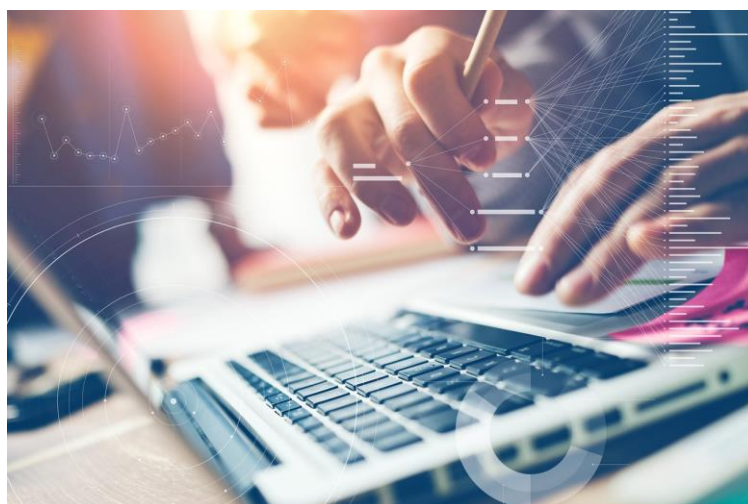


Image credit: 199jobs.com

ICA-AP successfully completed the regional thematic research on Cooperatives in Industrial and Service Sectors in collaboration with CICOPA, the International Organisation of the Industrial and Service Cooperatives. The research was conducted in twelve member countries in the AP region with the objective to understand the contribution of cooperatives to work and employment; role in promoting decent work and in providing workplaces and tools to young people to realize their dream

of securing employment and better economic conditions. The research looked into issues relating to membership, capital, ownership structure and autonomy in cooperatives.

The preliminary insights from the study are presented in this [snapshot](#). The full report will have a detailed analysis of the models of CIS that have emerged, ecosystems in which they thrive and set of recommendations which can be used for advocacy. The report will carry case studies of individual cooperatives, national reports of some countries, and inputs from the Second Cooperative Registrars' Conference held in Vietnam in April 2019.

Legal Framework Analysis Study

The Legal Framework Analysis (LFA) study was launched in 2018 to understand the environment in which cooperatives operate. The objectives of the study are threefold: acquire knowledge of the national legislations on cooperatives; evaluate the national jurisdictions covered based on a scale of their "cooperative friendliness"; and provide recommendations for eventual renewal of the legal frameworks in place. The aim of the study is to provide cooperatives with concrete tools for their advocacy. After concluding the pilot phase of the study with Kyrgyzstan and Vanuatu in 2018, the study has now been launched in all our member countries in the region. Once completed, all national reports and the regional report will be made public on the #coops4dev website.

Global Research on Youth

The global research on youth was launched in five countries- India, Indonesia, Iran, the Philippines and South Korea in March 2019. Through this research, we seek to gather insights from 100 young people (aged between 18 to 35 years) on the challenges faced by youth in their country; actors who they think can help address their issues; young people's views on cooperatives; and the role that cooperatives can play in addressing their issues and challenges. We also asked the respondents if cooperatives are youth-friendly and promote growth and development of young professionals. In this research, we approached a mixed group of young people comprising of cooperators, working professionals, students, academicians and NGO professionals to understand diverse perspectives from both within and outside the cooperative movement.

The initial results from India and the Philippines (which were amongst the first targeted countries) show commonality in terms of challenges faced by youth, solutions proposed, and suggestions for ways in which cooperatives could enhance engagement with youth. Unemployment, lack of adequate job skills, an inadequate or inefficient education system, addiction to drugs, social and cyber-crime, mental health issues – juxtaposed with overarching poverty, were some of the common challenges faced by the youth from both within and outside the cooperative movement. The needs and challenges of youth vis-à-vis the cooperatives were a lack of information about what cooperatives are, how they are formed, and scepticism about career growth in cooperatives. The suggestions for ways in which cooperatives could engage with youth were: youth-based training programs to develop knowledge and skills of youth on cooperatives or cooperative entrepreneurship, tie-up with schools and universities for information exchange, and involving youth in leadership and governance of cooperatives.

Mapping Research-

ICA-AP launched a pilot exercise to map cooperatives in member countries in 2018. The mapping of cooperatives is a global exercise undertaken to collect national level data on cooperatives across sectors. The aim is to provide a broad and reliable picture of the cooperative movement to both cooperators and external stakeholders, use the data to inform policy, and undertake activities to

strengthen the movement. The data from each member country will be published on the #coops4dev website in the form of national reports and key highlights. Two pilot studies were undertaken in Iran and the Philippines and the reports will be made public soon. We will be carrying out the mapping exercise in other countries from June 2019 onwards.

POLICY WATCH

Bank Australia goes 100% renewable



Image credit: Shift Energy Group

An inspiring example of a cooperative proactively working towards protection of the environment has emerged from Australia. [Bank Australia](#), a member of the Business Council of Cooperatives and Mutuals, has become the first bank in the country to switch completely to renewable electricity! They have entered into a 10-year agreement with Pacific Hydro, which is a developer in the renewable energy sector, as part of the Melbourne Renewable Energy Project. They have installed rooftop solar panels at their head office in Melbourne and the National Contact Centre in the Latrobe Valley. According to Damien Walsh, the Managing Director of Bank Australia, by running on 100% renewable energy, the Bank is avoiding 780 tonnes of carbon each year, 'the equivalent of taking 232 cars off the road.' The achievement is made more special by the fact that last month, Bank Australia, joined a global initiative called RE100. Launched by the Climate Group, this initiative currently has 174 businesses committing to going 100% renewable. In 2015, Bank Australia had pledged to switch completely to renewable energy by 2020; it has achieved this a year in advance! True to the spirit of cooperation, Bank Australia intends on sharing its knowledge with other companies to boost the process of 'energy transition' in Australia.

COMMUNICATIONS WATCH

A tête-à-tête with Mr. Sibaditty Baidya who has recently started his summer internship at ICA-AP, on his previous work experience and expectations about learning from the cooperative sector.



Sibaditty Baidya

1. Hi Sibaditty! Welcome to ICA-AP. Please provide our readers with a brief introduction about yourself and your current role in the ICA-AP office?

Hello! I feel honoured to have received this opportunity. Coming from a state located in India's chicken neck, I was born and brought up in a small village called Tulakata Jote, near Siliguri in Darjeeling district, West Bengal. Ever since childhood, despite all the commitments, I tried to excel in studies. Besides that, I was always involved in activities like painting, sports, essay writing and represented my school at various state level competitions. After completing my class 12 from Margaret (S.N) English School, I studied Mechanical Engineering from Asansol Engineering College of West Bengal University of Technology, with the help of scholarships. After completing my engineering in 2016, I opted to join Piramal Foundation as a Gandhi Fellow, in the District Transformation Program of Surat (DTP-Surat). Now, I am pursuing a Post Graduate Diploma in Rural Management from the Institute of Rural Management, Anand, where I am also part of the core committee of the quizzing club of IRMA, JIGYASA. In my leisure time, I like to read, play and follow outdoor sports, especially football! I am a huge fan of Real Madrid F.C, which is also, incidentally, a cooperative!

My summer internship at ICA-AP will entail supporting the research and policy workstreams of the ICA-EU team and I look forward to adding value through my knowledge, passion and dedication.

2. Can you tell us a bit about how your previous work links with your current role at ICA-AP?

At the Piramal Foundation, I worked with the Block Resource Co-ordinator (BRC) and Cluster Resource Co-ordinators (CRCs) to improve the status of education in 41 government primary and upper primary schools. We had a component in the fellowship called Community Immersion (CI), where we had to live in a tribal village with limited resources. The basic idea behind CI was to have a deep understanding of the rural spectrum of the society and to introspect before proposing or implementing ideas.

During the fellowship, I had to establish a learning centre to compensate for the traditional schooling in the village. The learning centre was started as a cooperative, where every child has to contribute Rs.10 per month, to avail education. A local youth was selected by the parents as the instructor. Once the system started working sustainably, we withdrew from the system. Although, this was a small initiative based on the cooperative structure; it gave me first-hand learning of the model. This experience, I believe, will help me to offer different perspectives as well as valuable inputs regarding ground realities in the ongoing research projects.

3. How do you think working with cooperatives ties with your future aspirations?

That is a nice question! As clichéd as it sounds, I want to be happy and the only thing that can make me happy is learning. I look at every day as a new beginning, as an opportunity to learn, grow and contribute to the society to the best of my abilities. ICA-AP, as a body of knowledge and influence in

the realm of cooperatives, will definitely be a big step towards fulfilling my aspirations. I also have nurtured a desire to contribute to social welfare in our society. I joined as a Gandhi Fellow for the same reason. Apart from knowledge, cooperatives will also expand the ways in which I can give back to society.

ANNOUNCEMENT

New member: Department of Cooperative Business from Fiji



Logo of the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism, Fiji.

The Department of Cooperative Business (DCB) from Fiji was admitted to ICA as an Associate Member in May. DCB is a government entity under the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism and is responsible for formulating and implementing policies and strategies to facilitate the promotion, establishment and monitoring of cooperative businesses. Its other key role is to provide trainings and capacity-building to cooperative members and officials.

The total number of ICA-AP members stands at 105 from 34 countries.

AroundTheWorld.coop launches its first video in Asia-Pacific



Ms. Sara Vicari (second from left) with Ms. Meena Pokhrel (center) & members of the Bhabishya Nirman cooperative.

The 'aroundtheworld.coop' project, undertaken by the ICA-EU Partnership and the Association, aroundtheworld.coop, aims to collect and document stories of cooperatives from around the world that have contributed to reducing poverty and promoting sustainable development by using creative and innovative methods. The project's aim is to raise the visibility of the cooperative model in improving people's wellbeing, enhance awareness on the role of collective action developed by cooperatives, and share knowledge on methodologies for participatory action research. To do so, the Association will travel around the world for a year visiting cooperatives and creating short films, case studies and blogs about cooperatives.

In Nepal, the team documented the 'Bhabishya Nirman' Sana Kishan Krishi Sahakari Sastha Ltd. – 'Future Creation' Small Farmers Agriculture Cooperative; an agricultural saving and credit cooperative located in Dakshinkali municipality, in the Kathmandu Valley, Nepal. Founded in 2012, it is a member of the Nepal Agricultural Cooperative Central Federation Ltd. Bhabsihya Nirman has 920 members, of whom 80% are women and 60% are youth! The cooperative has played an important role in improving smallholder farmers' lives, freeing them from debt traps and creating opportunities for income-generating activities such as livestock rearing, organic vegetable farming, poultry farming and other small business activities. Services provided range from saving and credit facilities to training, monitoring, mentoring and marketing. The cooperative also has an agro-input supply shop.

The video produced by the aroundtheworld.coop team is now live and can be viewed by clicking [here](#).

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UPCOMING EVENTS

June 2019

- ICA-ACFSMC Regional Training Program on Development and Practices of Agricultural Cooperatives, Jinan, China, June 10-15
- ICA Regional Workshop for Managers on "Management of Consumer Co-ops", Singapore June 24-28

July 2019

- International Day of Cooperatives, July 6
- Training Programs for Managers of Consumer Co-ops in Japan (Summer), Tokyo/Miyagi, Japan, July 15-28
- 3rd Training Course on 'Empowering women in business and management of agricultural cooperatives', Thailand & Japan, July 14- August 10

August 2019

- Workshop on Strengthening Women Cooperatives in South Asia, Ahmedabad, India, August 8-9
- ICA-AP Women Committee Workshop on Enhancing Gender Equality in Cooperative Businesses, New Delhi, India, August 20-22
- 3rd ICA-Japan Training Course on 'Fostering Agricultural Cooperatives to Build Food Value Chain', Japan, August 19- September 11
- ICYC observes the International Day of Youth, August 12

September 2019

- SDG Seminar in Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, September 4-5
- ICA-MAFF Follow-up Visit, Venue and Dates (tbc)
- Regional Policy Forum on Development, Kathmandu, Nepal, September 24-26

October 2019

- ICA Global General Assembly, Kigali, Rwanda, October 14-17
- ICYC Meeting, Kigali, Rwanda, Date (tbc)

November 2019

- ICA Regional Workshop for Managers on "Management of Consumer Co-ops", Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam, November 3-7 (tbc)
- Training Programs for Managers of Consumer Co-ops in Japan (Winter), Tokyo/Kobe, Japan, November 18- December 1
- Conference on Climate Action (SDG 13), Thailand, Dates (tbc)

December 2019

- ICA-AP Cooperative Research Conference, Newcastle, Australia, December 12-14