

ICA-AP NEWSLETTER

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

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ICA-AP's work with agriculture and forestry cooperatives

In 2020, we mark 60 years of ICA in the Asia-Pacific region, working hand-in-hand with our members to grow and enhance the cooperative movement. Over the years, ICA-AP has worked across many sectors and focused on key development areas such as gender equality, youth inclusion, entrepreneurship, and capacity building. This month, we highlight the work undertaken by ICA-AP and our agriculture and forestry members.

ICA-AP's involvement with agricultural cooperatives has been central as there is high dependence on agriculture and allied activities in the region. More than 25% of ICA-AP members are directly involved in agriculture, forestry, and allied services. One of the main objectives of the establishment of the ICA Regional Office in 1960 in New Delhi, India was to assist agriculture and rural development. Agriculture cooperatives provide value to farmers' associations and agricultural cooperatives by giving farmers stronger involvement in the value chain and increasing their market power. Agricultural cooperatives play a key part in linking farmers to markets, providing a platform for negotiating with buyers, offering products and services (marketing and processing), and delivering training, business planning and capacity building services to their members.

Since 1960, ICA-AP and its regional committees on Agriculture and Forestry have worked with members to improve rural, agricultural and environmental outcomes across the region. The ICA-AP Committee on Agriculture was established in 1967 and had its first formal meeting in Tokyo, Japan in November 1967. The overall aim of the Committee is to promote the development of sound and effective agricultural cooperation and to develop appropriate policies and programmes to protect and promote the interests of farmers. The activities of the Committee were financially supported by the Swedish Cooperative Centre (SCC) for many years until 1995. Over the years, the support to develop agriculture has come from the All China Federation of Supply and Marketing Cooperatives (ACFSMC), the Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Organization (IFFCO), the Central Union of Agricultural Cooperatives of Japan (JA Zenchu) and the National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF) of Korea.

The ICA-AP Committee on Forestry was formed after deliberation during the Regional Board Meeting in Kobe, Japan in 2012. Up until 2012, fishery and forestry cooperatives from the region were involved with the ICA-AP Agriculture Committee. The Forestry Committee was formed in response to the global environmental and climate change threat, more acutely felt in the Asia-Pacific region due to increasing instances of climate related disasters, high deforestation, and low levels of per capita forest cover. The ICA-AP Committee on Forestry was thus formed with the aim of contributing to mitigating climate change, enhancing the socioeconomic status of people through collective action in sustainable natural

resource management, afforestation of wasteland for environment upgradation, employment generation, and integrated rural development.

The ICA-Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MAFF), Government of Japan training courses have been one of the longest standing training programmes in the region. They started in 1986 and are still ongoing! The training course on “Strengthening Management of Agricultural Co-operatives in Asia” was “to help strengthen and improve agricultural cooperatives’ performance in the Asia region in order to bring about a qualitative and quantitative improvement in services to member-farmers at the grassroot levels. At the end of the 20th training course (2005-2006), 291 participants from 16 countries consisting of senior to middle-level managers responsible for the agricultural cooperative development, both men and women, had successfully participated in this program.

Following this, a training course on “Enhancement of Farmers’ Income and Poverty Reduction through Cooperatives” had been developed and agreed upon for implementation through the ICA in 2006, with focus on the strengthening of farm guidance methods, joint collection, shipment, safety and improvement in the quality of farm products aimed at increasing farmers’ income as a new development for the training course. Under this project, five Training Courses on “Enhancement of Farmers’ Income and Poverty Reduction through Cooperatives” were held between 2006 and 2010, with 12 participants in each course.

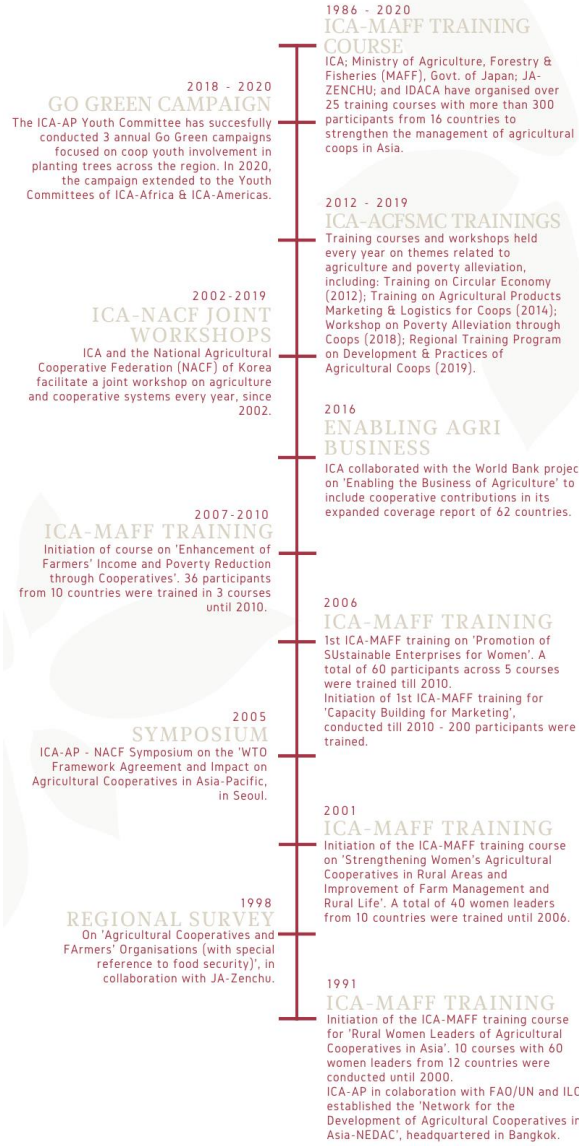
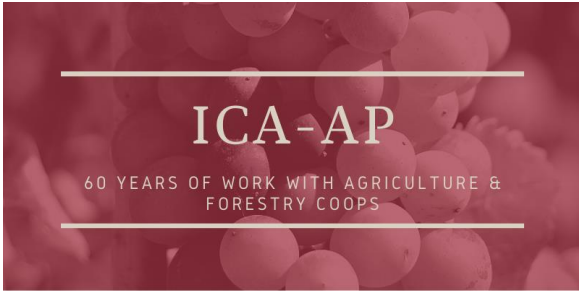
The training course on “Fostering Core Leaders of Agricultural Cooperatives” was developed and agreed upon for implementation through the ICA for three years, between 2011 and 2013, to assist fostering of the core leaders of agricultural cooperatives, who were expected to play leading roles in agricultural cooperatives and farmers’ groups that would contribute to the improvement of agricultural production and income of the farmers in the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) of Mekong River countries, ASEAN and the South Asian Countries.

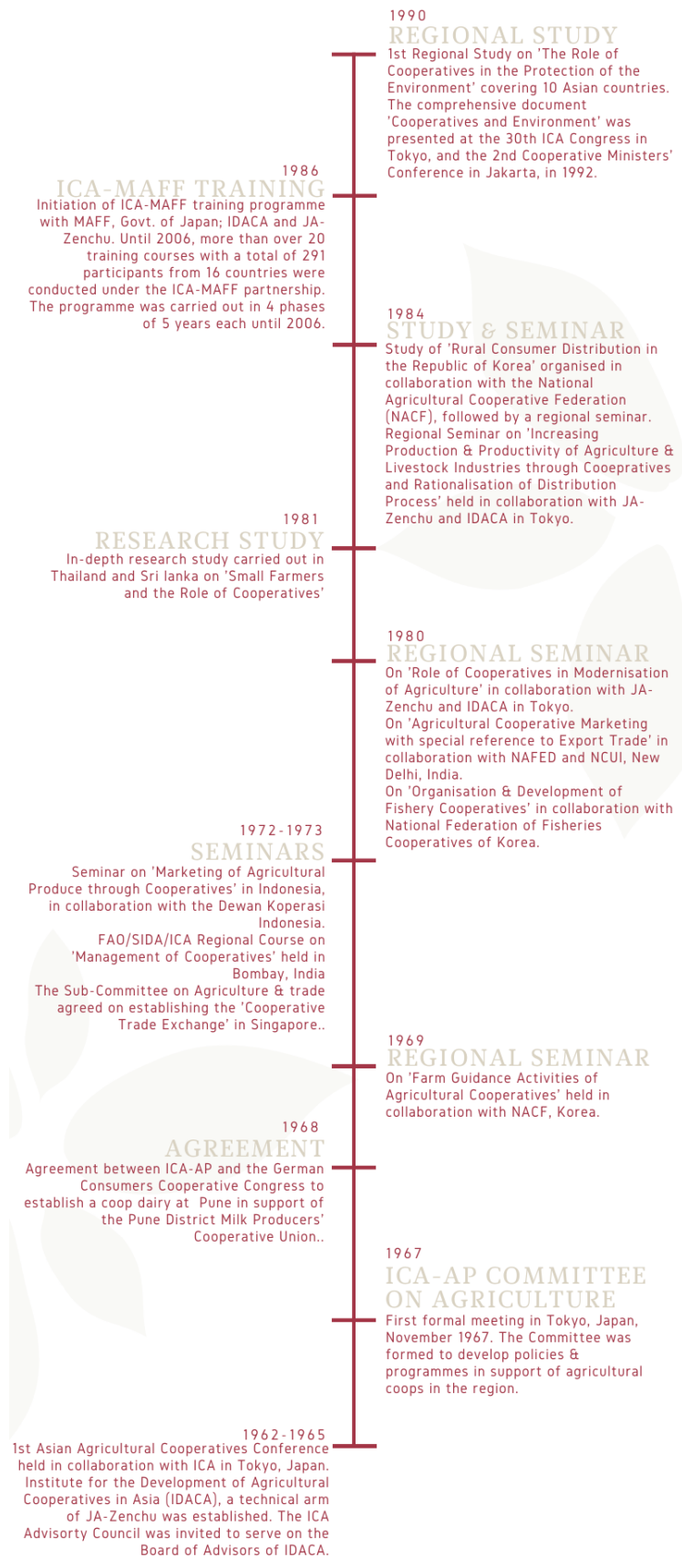
On completion of last training course in the above series in 2013, it was decided by MAFF to extend the above training course for another three years – 2014-2016 under the overall “Japan (MAFF)-ASEAN Project on “Strengthening Capacity Building of Developing Countries in Asia.” After successful completion of the last training course in the above series, the MAFF decided to introduce a new project entitled “Capacity Building for Asian and African Regions” under the Government’s ODA Program. The term of the project would be three years (2018 to 2020).

In these training during the last 34 years, the participants have produced several grassroot development project proposals in the agricultural cooperative sector “aiming at enhancing the participation and income of grass-root level farmer-members.” A number of these projects have already been implemented successfully in many countries. The trainings have benefited not only countries in Asia but also in Africa. Through the trainings, partnerships have been established with a number of institutions: Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives of Japan (JA-ZENCHU); Cooperative Institute of Malaysia (CIM); Cooperative League of Thailand (CLT) / Cooperative Promotion Department (CPD), Bangkok, Thailand; Fertilizer Management Development Institute (FMDI) of IFFCO, New Delhi, India; Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA), Tokyo, Japan; and the Institute of Rural Management, Anand (IRMA), Gujarat; India.

Over the years, ICA-AP has conducted a variety of research projects, training programmes, workshops and conferences in relation to sustainable agriculture, circular economy, climate change, development of farmers' organizations, and the environment.

The timeline below provides a brief glimpse into the initiatives undertaken in the region:





ICA-AP updates

Waking the Asian Pacific Cooperative Potential



Waking the Asian Pacific Co-operative Potential

1st Edition

☆☆☆☆☆ Write a review

Editors: Morris Altman, Anthony Jensen, Akira Kurimoto, Robby Tulus, Yashavantha Dongre, Seungkwon Jang

Waking the Asian Pacific Cooperative Potential, was launched in June 2020. This book is a culmination of five years of research, involving 34 academics across 11 countries in the Asia-Pacific and is based on a cross country comparison methodology of successful cooperatives in different socio-political systems. It provides numerous case studies drawn from successful cooperative organisations; advances a theoretical framework to help readers access and understand the reasons for cooperative success in the Asia-Pacific, and develops tools for practitioners to establish effective cooperatives and restructure them to optimal goals.

The book has been led by an Editorial Board closely associated with ICA-AP research: Professor Morris Altman, University of Dundee, Scotland; Professor Yashavantha Dongre, University of Mysore, India; Professor Seungkwon Jang, Sungkonghoe University, Korea; Professor Anthony Jensen, University of Newcastle, Australia; Professor Akira Kurimoto, Hosei University, Japan; and Drs. Robby Tulus, Credit Union Movement, Indonesia. It comes at a critical time when the Post-COVID 19 world is looking at alternatives to the market driven, inequality widening, consumption led, environment depleting models. There is need to bring attention to the cooperative model with its member focus, democratic control, sustainable business and community concern.

The book can be ordered at: <https://www.elsevier.com/books/waking-the-asian-pacific-co-operative-potential/altman/978-0-12-816666-6>.

Interview with Professor Morris Altman, University of Dundee, United Kingdom

Prof. Morris Altman is one of the key authors and editor of the book *Waking the Asian Pacific Cooperative Potential*. Prof. Altman is the Dean and Chair Professor of Behavioural and Institutional Economics and Cooperatives at the School of Business, University of Dundee, Scotland, United Kingdom. He was formerly Professor and Dean of the Newcastle Business School in Australia.



1. How did you get involved with the book?

I was invited to give a keynote address by Prof. Akira Kurimoto at the annual ICA-AP Research Committee meeting in Bali in 2015. Dr. Anthony Jensen introduced that idea of a research partnership being formed amongst cooperative researchers in the Asia-Pacific. This eventually led to the formation of the Asian Pacific Cooperative Research Partnership (APCRP). Back in Australia Dr. Jensen initiated discussions with me about what concrete and tangible contributions this alliance might make to our research community and co-operators in the region. We ended up discussing the possibility of a research book of cooperatives in the Asia-Pacific. This thought was then brought to the attention of the informal executive of the APCRP, chaired by Dr. Jensen. The idea was favourably received, and I volunteered to locate a leading international publisher that might be interested in this project. Elsevier was quite interested, so we collectively put together a book proposal. Akira Kurimoto, Robby Tulus, Yashavantha Dongre, Anthony Jensen, and I started things off, and Seungkwon Jang and Balu Iyer were soon invited to join the APCRP executive and play an important role in the project. After much work, our proposal was submitted and accepted by Elsevier.

2. What was your experience as you interacted with the editors and authors on the book?

This project was an excellent example of collective action with a clearly defined mission. The editors are a great group of open-minded, innovative and hard-working scholars and it has been a pleasure and honour to be part of the collective.

3. What are the key takeaways from the Asia cooperative experience?

There are many research questions that remain unanswered. This book was an important step in the right direction, that can have significant implications for policy and the wellbeing of Asian-Pacific communities. There is much more work to be done, and the APCRP is well focused on moving forward to develop and facilitate research on cooperatives in the region.

4. You articulate that cooperative principles and values impact the incentive environment of member-owned organisations, increasing efficiency and incentivising technological change. Could you elaborate on incentivising technological change and the benefits it could provide to members and cooperatives?

As long as cooperatives wish to improve the wellbeing of their members whilst remaining competitive in the market, there is an incentive to innovate how output is produced and delivered, how the firm or coop is managed, the quality of output and the type of output that is produced. In investor owned firms there is often the option to remain competitive by reducing wages, working conditions, reducing the quality of output, or relocating production to low wage parts of the world. Firms will still innovate to remain competitive in what is being produced. But coops have an inbuilt incentive environment based on the desire to improve members' wellbeing. However, this depends on members maintaining control of their cooperative and not being run by their managers. Maintaining coop principles is critical to maintain member control.

5. You mention that cultural, ethnic, or religious attributes that are consistent with cooperative principles and values can have a positive effect. Can you give examples from countries where you have seen this?

When culture, ethnicity and religion reinforce cooperative principles they serve to reinforce member control over their destiny and create an environment of cohesiveness and solidarity. But this need not always be the case. And, there can be trade-offs between particular cultural, ethnic, and religious attributes and cooperative principles that can weaken the coop in terms of equity, fairness and competitiveness. These trade-offs require careful consideration.

6. How is this book relevant during the current COVID-19 crisis?

This book does not deal with pandemic situations. However, it does present research on alternative ways of managing organisations and, relatedly, tackling serious and difficult challenges. This book does suggest that there is a cooperative advantage to addressing such challenges as compared to investor-owned or state-owned and highly bureaucratic organisations where workers and consumers and other effective individuals and communities have little or no voice. From this perspective one would expect that cooperatives should have done a better job in tackling the COVID-19 crisis in terms of effectively implementing solutions. But this would only be the case if coop members and leaders had the correct scientific information in hand and had the means to implement and enforce solutions such as the wearing of masks, sanitising oneself and meeting places (place of work, restaurants, etc.), and enforcing social distancing. Cooperative members have an incentive to protect themselves and their communities. But the state still needs to play a supportive and facilitating role.

7. Where do you see opportunities for cooperatives during these times?

Basically, what I've already discussed, but one example would be cooperative aged-care facilities. A very large percentage of COVID-19 related deaths took place in these facilities. I would suggest that coops could have done a much better job with appropriate and well-understood scientific information. We need to research this important area. But I would suggest that had aged-care facilities been run as a coop with patients, their families and their care-givers running the show, COVID-19 deaths might have been much lesser than they currently are. We could have saved, possibly, tens of thousands of lives. Currently over 300,000 people have died from this virus.

Interview with Mr. Robby Tulus, Cooperative Activist, Indonesia

Drs. Robby Tulus pioneered the Credit Union Movement in Indonesia in the late 1960s, and co-founded the Credit Union Counseling/Central Organization (CUCO) in Indonesia. He has served as Regional Director for Asia Pacific of the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA, based in New Delhi and Singapore: 1996-2002). Robby is very active looking at new generation coops with a multi-stakeholder concept.



1. How did you get involved in the book?

In 2014, during the ICA-AP Regional Assembly in Nusa Dua, Bali, I was approached by Prof. Akira Kurimoto and Dr. Anthony Jensen about their initiative to publish a book on Cooperatives in Asia-Pacific that would be written by scholars and researchers from the Asia-Pacific region. The argument was that well-established books on cooperative issues were mostly written by Western scholars and researchers until then, and it would be good if one is written from the perspectives of Asian scholars and/or researchers. Since I have been involved in doing research on cooperatives in Indonesia, and in my previous role as Regional Director of ICA-AP in conducting public policy forums, I was asked to join the Editorial Team of the Asia Pacific Research Cooperative Partnership, chaired by Dr. Anthony Jensen, which I gratefully accepted.

2. What was your experience as you interacted with the editors and authors on the book?

It was a humbling yet awe-inspiring experience to have interacted with so many academics as editors representing their respective universities. Not being a scholar myself, though keen as a cooperative researcher and practitioner, I do not represent any university. However, I am grateful to have had the opportunity of being mentored by (the late) Prof. Dr Ian MacPherson during my time at the Canadian Cooperative Association and ICA-AP, understanding the trajectory of publishing the background paper of the 1995 Statement of the Cooperative Identity, called the “Declaration towards the 21st Century”. More indebted to him after he asked me to join the British Columbia Institute of Cooperative Studies (BCICS) of the University of Victoria, as an Associate, in the early 2000s. Therefore, my interactions with fellow editors who have such distinguished academic credentials on cooperatives, i.e. Anthony Jensen, Morris Altman, Akira Kurimoto, Yashavantha Dongre, and Seungkwon Jang, have been most rewarding as I could witness their high-quality discernment in reviewing the theoretical themes as well as practical case studies on co-operatives.

3. What are the key takeaways from the Asian cooperatives experience?

It reaffirms the immense diversity of cooperatives in Asia-Pacific in terms of size, sector, geography, demography, and stages of development which is obviously a product of the political, socio-economic and socio-cultural realities in the region. While membership and the number of cooperatives in Asia-Pacific are the biggest globally, the size of business and economic infrastructure is nonetheless far less than those in the West, with the exception of more developed economies such as Japan, Korea and Singapore. Case studies in this book substantiated the dominant role still played by governments in the region, and as a result the top-down nature of cooperative development supersedes the bottom-

up approaches. The latter displays a development model that is distinguishable from member-initiated model in the Western world. That being said, best practices of cooperative development in a number of countries in Asia bear evidence of cooperatives becoming more autonomous and independent, emulating good governance and leadership, hence potentially capturing the imaginations of millions of people still left behind. I hope that the second book will gain more research-based case studies with improved and well-designed database that is ostensibly lacking in populous developing countries in Asia. The shortfall of accurate and reliable data in many countries, especially in the developing market economies, is currently posing a formidable challenge in the process of waking the potential of Asian co-operatives.

4. The book states while cultural, ethnic, or religious attributes which are consistent with cooperative values and principles can have a positive effect for cooperatives this has not been incorporated in the Asian context. Can you give direction on how this can be done? Are there countries where we can draw examples from?

A comprehensive theoretical explanation on this important question is credibly captured in Chapter 9 of the book “The theoretical model of Asian capitalism and the varieties of cooperation” by Anthony Jensen. He quoted Gary Cronan’s biological metaphor that “one can plant cooperatives in different soils across Asia and the co-operative will grow differently due to institutional failure, public policy, historical and cultural factors”. The book also illustrates that there is no common “Asian Values” as one would like to admit, apart from a broader characterization of Asians who are generally more tolerant, caring and welcoming.

The credit cooperative sector to which I have been assigned to review, showed that the credit union movement in Asia has been by and large a model which origins was driven by the values inherent in the Jesuit community through SELA (Socio Economic Life in Asia), a religious yet neutral attribute promoting the spirit of self-help and mutual help. The global genesis being the Raiffeisen model, developed from the ground up, is further vertically integrated all the way from local, national, regional and international levels. As a result, operating standards and institutional integration - although not easy - are continuously being pursued in Asia by the Asian Confederation of Credit Unions (ACCU) with great intensity. It could be argued that the savings and loan co-operative sector is less complicated to standardise at various levels – from local to regional to global - compared to the more intricate sector such as agriculture in the countryside, to which governments maintain greater interest, as well as policy justification, to intervene. The efforts undertaken by the ICA Asia Pacific through its well-designed sectoral committees could provide much better answers to this predicament. Historical, political, and cultural factors nationally and sub-regionally must have contributed to the divergent growth of agricultural, consumer and worker co-operatives in the region as illustrated in this book.

On a country level however, positive lessons could be drawn from well-established co-operatives such as the Amul dairy co-operatives and IFFCO’s Fertilizer cooperatives in India, as well as Zennoh in Japan and NACF in Korea. I assume cultural attributes play a role in it too since these successful agricultural-based co-operatives seem more deeply rooted in their local communities and highly integrated all the way from the village, district and state levels, despite active involvement of their respective governments at the outset. In the same manner that the Han cultural norm has been prominent in the Consumer Co-operative movement in Japan that has no government involvement whatsoever. Another people-driven initiative without government involvement is the SANASA case study in this book. Religious underpinnings, notably the Buddhist religion, seem to have played a leading role and showed that the savings and loan co-operatives triggered the establishment of other community-based organisms under the SANASA umbrella to respond to their felt and actual needs. The Case Study of Keling Kumang in Indonesia provides more insight as to how ethnicity (the Dayak Tribe) played a significant role in the development of this credit union. While acknowledging that some of my

arguments contain logical shortcomings, I still firmly believe that the extent to which co-operative development could prevail and be able to sustain depend in large part due to visionary leaders who are identified and democratically elected by well-informed members.

5. How is this book relevant during the current COVID-19 crisis?

An important lesson learned from case studies in this book is that successful cooperatives are driven more by micro than macro factors. Micro factors are represented by self-help and self-reliance, local initiatives, and active member participation. Despite the fact that this book was printed just as the COVID-19 crisis was emerging, one could draw from the case studies that co-operative resilience in the face of disasters and economic crisis was omnipresent. During an International Webinar on 7th May on the occasion of IKOPIN's Anniversary, I showed the resiliency of Keling Kumang credit union in Indonesia, in addition to so many other co-operatives in the Asia Pacific region, not mentioned in this book, that have demonstrated their unfailing responses to the Pandemic by helping members and frontline workers with preventive measures.

Where micro factors are pervasive, case studies in this book showed that cooperatives have succeeded in responding the members' needs first and foremost, and also succeeded in resisting, adapting and even manipulating the macro factors. In other words, strong visionary leadership that has the trust and support from members at the grassroots level, has a trickle-up effect due to local ownership. The book once again shows that successful co-operatives in the region have developed models that are driven by factors internal to the organisation based on local wisdom, hence explaining the inherent attributes of culture, ethnicity and religion.

6. Where do you see opportunities for co-operatives during these times? Could you locate this 1) in the Indonesia context and 2) for credit unions in the region?

As mentioned above, the resilience of cooperatives cannot be undermined. Cooperatives foster the creation of "social capital". While doing business, cooperative places not just the human being at the centre but above all the relations among the human beings. They are important because they constitute the basis for pooling of resources, for the safety and soundness of the business upon which moral communities can be built. Human capital seeks to advance good decision-making, whereas social capital seeks to improve the ability of collective decision making. The following cases demonstrate the opportunities for co-operatives and credit unions during this COVID-19 disruption: One recent case in Indonesia, not covered in the book, is the Livestock and Dairy Co-operative (KPBS) in South Bandung, West Java. While many businesses are collapsing despite instilling cost-cutting measures, the KPBS is growing exponentially. The COVID-19 Pandemic has increased community's awareness of the need for more nutritious diet, primarily fresh milk. Aun Gunawan, Chair of KPBS, stated that demand for fresh milk and its value-added products is rising rapidly. With increasing demand in the market KPBS is being prompted to innovate and has since developed its own mobile application, and established a server with its own data centre. In addition to producing pasteurized milk, KPBS also produced yogurt, cheese and butter. They have 4,229 members on the high plains of Pengalengan, South Bandung, with assets of 146,61 Billion Rupiah (US\$ 10.74 Million) and business turnover of 281,28 Billion Rupiah (US\$ 20.09 Million). KPBS production capacity of fresh milk is 75,000 Kgs per day. In an effort to provide better services to members KPBS has built its own KPBS General Hospital that is currently being readied to become operational. (KOMPAS Newspaper, July 15, 2020)

In the region, the Asian Confederation of Credit unions (ACCU) had recently conducted a comprehensive survey on the credit union response to COVID19. It was an excellent survey, and results from respondents in the Region provide a clear data base for ACCU to advance and broaden its valuable services to members in the Asia region. To avoid being pre-emptive, I wish to just

acknowledge how meticulous data and information have been collected, and present an abbreviated version thereof, as follows: (a) Challenges of COVID-19 to Individual Members of Credit Unions, (b) Challenges of COVID-19 to Credit Union Staffs, and (c) Challenges of COVID-19 to Credit Unions. Based on the baseline data received, ACCU has defined 5 strategic roles to support the member Federations and Credit Unions in responding to the impacts of COVID-19, essentially (a) As a 'Think Tank', undertaking research and development to generate new ideas to motivate members during COVID-19; (b) "Building CU Business Solutions", provide technological and business products to help members; (c) "Development", provide or facilitate financial support to fight COVID-19; (d) "Representation", provide legal/regulatory assistance and networks for members; (e) "Advocacy", lobbying and reaching out to government & global organizations to help members and sustain Co-op Identity.

7. The COVID-19 pandemic has put adoption of technology at the centre. How can cooperatives capitalize on this to improve member engagement?

COVID-19 has shown that while technology could augment and supplement work in a cooperative, it could not replace members' capacity to identify and fulfil their needs and aspirations. However, human and technology are more powerful together than either can be on its own. Consumer co-operatives in particular can capitalize on an integrated member-machine team to get their groceries delivered and thus avoid crowding in consumer stores during this health crisis. To improve member engagement, the path during COVID-19 must be filled with innovations to attain meaningful change. It means putting members' wellbeing front and centre as their physical, mental and financial security are paramount. Innovation means using data-driven approach to better understand members' unique attributes and needs just as the above-mentioned survey of ACCU signifies.

Cooperatives must embrace a future orientation, not just optimizing what is good for today, but also how to create value for tomorrow. The more members feel their needs and aspirations met during the crisis, the more risks can be reduced and values enhanced. In that way cooperatives in Post COVID-19 environment will not be falling behind but are already building sustainability by fulfilling members' needs here and now. Rather than shrinking from the oncoming winds of change, coops have to draw energy from it. In the end analysis, co-operatives remain distinctly human in the current technological-driven world.

Virtual Roundtable – Cooperatives in Education and Training



Dr. K. K. Tripathy, IES,
Director, Vaikunth Mehta National
Institute of Co-operative
Management (VAMNICOM)
& Center for International
Co-operation & Training in
Agricultural Banking (CICTAB),
Pune (India)



Mr. Balasubramanian Iyer
Regional Director, ICA-AP, New Delhi (India)
His experience across Asia extends in the
areas of cooperatives, business
associations, water, food-security,
women's empowerment, and economic
development. He serves as the
Administrator for the ICA Domus Trust.

**Roundtable on
Co-operative
Training and Education
Remote Learning,
ED Tech & COVID-19**

Online Programme
(Date & Time : July 29, 11 am to 12.30 pm IST)



Dr. Burhanuddin Abdullah
Burhanuddin Abdullah (BA),
currently is rector of Institute of
Cooperative of Indonesia (IKORIN).
He received Honorary Doctor in
Economics from University Of
Diponegoro, Semarang, and in
Agricultural Economics from
University of Padjadjaran, Bandung.



Dr. Sidsel Grimstad
Sidsel is a lecturer and Program
Convener for Australia's only degree
in co-operative's organisation and
management taught online at the
University of Newcastle. She is
currently doing research on co-
operative housing and community
renewable energy solutions.



Dr. Harekrishna Misra
Professor, Institute of
Rural Management (IRMA), Anand (India)
Holds a doctorate degree in the
area of Information Systems
Management. He is a member of IEEE,
ACM and Association of Information
Systems, USA.



Mr. Mohd Roslan Bani Amin
Took his A Levels at Harrogate
College of Further Education
Yorkshire England. Now he has been
appointed as the Director General of
Co-operative Institute of Malaysia.



Dr. Dilip Deshpande
Professor, VAMNICOM, Pune (India)
Former Director, Bankers Institute of
Rural Development (BIRD), Lucknow
(India)



Dr. V. K. Dubey
Executive Director of National
Co-operative Union of India (NCUI) &
Director of National Council for
Co-operative Education,
NCCCE, New Delhi (India)

**Vaikunth Mehta National Institute of
Cooperative Management (VAMNICOM)**
(Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India)
Savitribai Phule Pune University Road, PUNE 411007 – India
E-mail : info@vamnicom.gov.in Website : www.vamnicom.gov.in

The COVID-19 pandemic, has caused unprecedented disruption in the entire world. Protocols enforcing social distancing, movement lockdowns, travel restrictions, and other related measures have overnight affected businesses and institutions forcing them to adapt and change quickly. Educational and training institutions are affected drastically as the traditional model of students and trainees physically attending the classes is not possible. To cope with the situation, educational and training institutions have devised strategies like shifting to digital technologies and platform, conducting classes through the video conference, devising e-learning etc. However, this process has several challenges on the part of the teachers/trainers, students/trainees and technology. These interruptions will not just be a short-term issue, but can have long-term consequences to the training and education ecosystem. The current situation has driven everyone to rethink cooperative training and education.

The virtual roundtable organised in collaboration with VAMNICOM aimed to:

- ❖ To understand the impact of COVID-19 on educational and training institutions;
- ❖ To learn from the experiences of countries regarding strategies to adopt digital technologies (like video conferencing, e-learning, etc.), and methods of online teaching/training;
- ❖ To study the financial and social implications of the adoption of different platforms on training institutions, trainers and students;
- ❖ To create an online network of institutions involved in cooperative training/education.

Stay tuned for more details on the virtual roundtable!

New members at ICA-AP

ICA-AP is pleased to welcome two new members from China.

Fujian Federation of Supply and Marketing Cooperatives (FUJIAN COOP)



FUJIAN COOP is a union of all supply and marketing cooperatives across Fujian province. Their direct members are: 1 provincial-level supply and marketing coop; 9 district or municipal level coops; 1 coop in an experimental zone; 68 county-level coops; 938 grassroots coops; 8,199 specialised farmers' coops; and 413 federations of farmers' coops. FUJIAN COOP's services reach 520,000 individual members. Their annual turnover in 2019 was CNY 231.2 billion (EUR 30 billion). Website: www.fjcoop.org.cn



Jiangsu Supply and Marketing General Cooperative is a provincial level federation representing supply and marketing cooperatives. It focuses on providing comprehensive services to the agriculture industry, rural areas and farmers, as well as their daily life. Their direct members are: 13 city-level supply and marketing coops; 81 county-level; and 1,145 farmers' professional primary coops. It has 8,920 farmers professionalised coops, 391 distribution centers, and 56,000 chain outlets. Their services reach 660,000 individual members. Their annual turnover in 2019 was CNY 472.4 billion (EUR 60 billion). Website: <http://gxhzs.jiangsu.gov.cn/index.html>

ICA-AP now has 109 members from 32 countries.

ICA-MAFF Training Project - Report

The 3rd Training Course on “Fostering Leaders for Management and Development of Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia-2019” was held in Thailand and Japan. Part-I of the training was held in Thailand from February 02 to 24, 2020 and Part-II in Japan in collaboration with the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA) from February 25 to March 18, 2020. Six participants (men and women) from Bhutan, Cambodia, Kyrgyzstan, Lao PDR, Nepal and Sri Lanka attended the training. The objective of the training course was to assist fostering of agricultural cooperatives, including farmers' organizations for boosting agricultural production and increasing farmers' income through the development of agriculture as the main industry in the Asian region. The report of the training can be found here.

ICA-AP Regional Director shares his reflections with Sahakari Sandesh

Cooperatives, COVID-19, Climate Action
Balasubramanian Iyer, Regional Director, ICA-AP

The coronavirus pandemic which started as a health crisis, quickly transformed into an economic and social crisis and in a short span has upended lives and changed the way in which we interact in our daily lives. Human behaviour is increasingly influencing the climate, changing the way in which we relate to other species, increasing the risk of infections, and paving way for future pandemics. The 2020 International Day of Cooperatives with its focus on SDG13: Climate Action is an opportunity for cooperatives to reinforce the 7th Cooperative Principle (concern for the community), mobilise members to commit to climate actions and achieve a fair, green and just transition for all communities; and ensure we leave no one behind.

COVID-19

The coronavirus which causes COVID-19 has spread to nearly every country, killed more than 520,000 people and infected over 10 million (data compiled by Johns Hopkins University). While the coronavirus still remains a public health threat, it is also increasingly an economic threat. Studies by the World Bank forecast contraction in economies, prolonged recession, reduction in income, and extended period of uncertainty. The ILO projects that some 1.6 billion people employed in the informal economy – or nearly half the global workforce - could see their livelihoods destroyed due to the continued decline in working hours brought on by lockdowns to curb the spread of COVID-19.

The coronavirus has exposed the fragility of health, social, and political systems. This is seen in the tens of millions of migrant workers streaming out of cities in India, six million claiming unemployment in a week in the United States and one million garment workers in Bangladesh out of jobs. The needs of the poorest and most vulnerable are largely ignored and confinement measures having a devastating effect on their ability to make a living. Gig workers, independent contractors, and freelancers who experienced income losses and were without support of severance or benefits also found that they didn't qualify for benefits under stimulus packages announced by governments. The impact of the pandemic is likely to hit women more than men as they have to deal with more work while stay at home measures are in place. What the pandemic has shown is that, fragility is not a result of the pandemic, but rather measures built into the system which for the most part ignores 'informal,' 'low skilled' and 'vulnerable.' There is realization that issues of poverty and inequality need to be directly addressed and the need is for alternatives to the market driven, consumption led, inequality widening, and environmentally depleting models. In the words of UN Secretary-General António Guterres' "Solidarity is also needed for building back better. Returning to the systems that created the fragility of our current world is out of the question. I have been arguing strongly that all our efforts must go towards building more equal, inclusive, resilient and sustainable economies and societies." This is at the essence of what cooperatives are.

Climate Change

The coronavirus induced lockdown has come with environmental gains. While humans are locked inside their homes, nature is thriving and we are rediscovering what we had lost - cleaner air and rivers, less noise and drop in pollution. Sooner or later the lockdown will be relaxed and the question is how to keep the environmental gains from slipping away.

The global impact of COVID-19 has enhanced the importance of climate action. According to the WHO, "changes in infectious disease transmission patterns are a likely major consequence of climate change. Rising temperatures can create favourable conditions for the spread of certain infections, while

disappearing habitats may force various animal species to migrate, increasing the chances of spill over pathogens between them.” Climate change severely impacts people’s lives and livelihoods around the world. Its impacts will be profound for small businesses and agricultural communities, with the brunt borne by the vulnerable, economically disadvantaged, minorities, and women. The Asia-Pacific has the largest number of vulnerable population and the most disaster-prone region in the world. Cooperatives in agriculture, fisheries, forestry have a large membership base in the region and the effects of climate change are felt directly in the form of crop loss, lower productivity, soil erosion, depletion of forest cover, and loss of cattle; resulting in increasing poverty and food insecurity.

Cooperative response to COVID-19

Cooperatives have stepped up to support their members and communities. In Australia, the Business Council of Cooperatives and Mutuals, the apex body, is providing information to its members on government assistance for coronavirus impacted businesses and what it means. In India, the Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Limited is leading efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19 by organizing social awareness campaigns to highlight the preventive and precautionary measures like social distancing, sanitization, healthy diet and prevention through face masks. In Iran, the Tehran Handicraft Cooperative Union, Iran Chamber of Cooperatives, and Rah-e-Roshd Cooperative School has been running projects in different provinces to produce masks and isolation gowns. In Korea, more than 25 members coops from iCOOP donated goods to health centers, hospitals, and low-income groups. The Palestine Agriculture Cooperative Union is supporting the community by collecting fresh vegetables from members as grants and distributing them to the closed governorates affected by the virus. In the Philippines, cooperatives have launched a nationwide campaign of donations to combat the virus and help the elderly, who are the most vulnerable.

Cooperatives in Nepal have also done their part in responding to the crisis. To mark the 63rd National Cooperative Day, the Nepal Cooperative Federation with the Manmohan Memorial Hospital set up the Cooperatives’ Coronavirus Control Center, and with its members made significant financial contribution to the Coronavirus Infection, Prevention, Control and Treatment Fund established by the National Government. The Nepal Agricultural Central Cooperative Federation managed to collect and sell members' fresh vegetables in Kathmandu during lockdown period, selling products at as low cost as possible. Apart from this, consumer, financial and producer cooperatives are continuing services to their members and facilitating the movement of produce and business operations.

More information about responses from cooperatives in Asia-Pacific can be found at:
<https://www.icaap.coop/COVID-19/COVID-19/index.php>

Cooperatives for Climate Action

The Sustainable Development Goals provides a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity by 2030. Within this SDG 13 Climate Action calls for not only support to vulnerable regions but also develop national strategies to integrate disaster risk measures, sustainable natural resource management, and human security.

The 2020 edition will be the 26th United Nations International Day of Cooperatives and the 98th International Cooperative day and the theme is Cooperatives for Climate Action. The International Cooperative Alliance Asia-Pacific (ICA-AP), representing 107 members from 32 countries would like to use the ICD to reinforce the 7th Cooperative Principle (concern for the community), mobilise members to commit climate actions and achieve a fair, green and just transition for all communities, leaving no one behind. ICA members in Asia-Pacific can facilitate climate action in multiple ways:

Promote the cooperative identity: The real economy of farmers and workers were essential to economies during the pandemic crisis. ICD is an ideal time to engage the public about the cooperative

model and spread awareness about its principles and values. JA-Zenchu in Japan and National Agriculture Cooperative Federation in Korea organise tours for the public to agriculture cooperatives to learn more about the lives of farmers, role of cooperatives, their contributions to sustainable development and give young people hands-on-experience in growing vegetables and urban gardening.

Reduce carbon footprint: The restrictions on movement due to COVID19 has had a positive impact on our natural environment, with clear evidence of less noise, clean air and rivers, and drop in pollution. The ‘new normal’ post-COVID19 will see a continuation of some of the measures in place – physical distance, reduction in travel, work from home. Many members have started taking measures to reduce their carbon footprint. For instance, the Japanese Consumers’ Coop Union has pledged to reduce total CO₂ emissions by 40% through energy conservation and development of renewable energy; LAMAC Multipurpose Cooperative in the Philippines is recognised as a model for sustainable development by the Cooperative Development Authority and Climate Change Commission for their reforestation and recycling work; landowners at the Drawa Block Forest Community Cooperative in Fiji have given up rights to logging timber in exchange for the opportunity to sell rainforest carbon offsets as a way of generating revenue for local economic development.

Greener environment campaign: The ICA-AP Committee on Youth Cooperation will be launching the third edition of Go Green Campaign in July to fit with the theme of ICD. The “World Goes Green with Africa, America and Asia-Pacific,” will link youth and SDGs and create an identity for cooperatives as a sustainable model for environment and society. In India, the Indian Farm and Forestry Development Cooperative is acquiring barren lands and greening them, and several other cooperatives in India are planting thousands of trees in their areas of operations. SANASA Credit Cooperatives in Sri Lanka is promoting Sri Lanka’s NEXT Blue-Green “Lassana Lanka” (Beautiful Sri Lanka) programme for the development of 10,000 sustainable villages. This year, in the spirit of the ICD theme: Climate Action, we urge all ICA members in the region to join the Go Green campaign by adopting tree plantation drives in their communities.

Implement the R and S’s: Refuse, Reduce, Reuse, Repurpose, Recycle, Save and Segregate. These are low-cost and easy changes to implement in offices and homes. ICA-AP invites our members to join us in launching the following actions:

- Refuse and Reduce single-use plastics: avoid single-use plastics and replace with reusable and recyclable materials
- Reuse and Repurpose – cutleries, clothes, furniture
- Recycle – paper, plastics, metal and e-waste
- Save – electricity and water
- Segregate waste: separate wet, dry, recyclable and non-recyclable waste

Create a Fund: The Asia-Pacific is the most disaster-prone region in the world. Nearly 45% of the world’s natural disasters occur in the region, and more than 75% of those affected by natural disasters globally live in the region. Cooperatives in the region have shown solidarity during cyclones, earthquakes, tsunamis and typhoons. The iCOOP Stabilisation Fund and the Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative’s Kisan Sewa Trust are examples of funds which were used in recent times to respond to member needs. ICA-AP would like to propose a cooperative fund created by members in the region, to enable assistance across sectors and countries in times of need.

Environmental Audit: We urge members to look at the SDG13 targets and indicators, commit to the ones they can implement and report on the results. This will help increase visibility of cooperatives and their contribution in the implementation of SDGs. ICA-AP is compiling best cases and practices by

cooperatives in the region and will share with all members and other key stakeholders in the run-up to the IDC.

More information can be found at: <http://icaap.coop/IDC/index.php>

Conclusion

The global impact of COVID-19 has enhanced the importance of climate action as both don't respect borders, affect everyone, can cause irreparable damage, and threaten existence. In response to the COVID-19, cooperatives have responded admirably in meeting needs of members, contributing to disaster relief funds and taking directing members to take advantage of stimulus packages offered by governments. Similar to the spirit in celebrating IDC in 2012, the International Year of Cooperatives, this year, cooperatives need to spread aloud the message that our methods of production and consumption that are constantly attacking the environment cannot go on. We need to ensure production does not take a toll on the very soil it depends, reduce the demands we place on nature by optimizing consumption, build direct supply chains between the producer and consumer, substitute animal proteins with plant proteins, and decrease pollution

Participate: Use the [Cooperator's Communications Guide](#), which will have the communications tools to promote the event in the weeks leading up to the Day. Post your climate actions on the [2020 Interactive Map: A Journey to Action](#).

Promote: #CoopsDay and #Coops4ClimateAction widely on all your social media channels.

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News from our Members

NZ Coop – Co Lab

NZ Coop, the peak body of cooperatives in New Zealand is organizing a virtual based forum to enable peer-to-peer engagement to discuss the challenges and opportunities for cooperatives to thrive and prosper in a rapidly changing business environment. Prime Minister, the Rt Hon Jacinda Adern will address the Forum, along with the Deputy Leader of the Opposition, the Hon Paul Goldsmith. Both of them will speak to “New Zealand’s future and the role of cooperatives in shaping its success.”

Driven by **ICE**

11/08/2020

TUE 11 AUGUST 2020
8.30am - 12.30pm
Hosted on a Virtual Platform

nz.coop
Presents
CO-LAB 2020

Enabling collaboration among co-operatives to find solutions and opportunities to leverage NZ Inc.

A virtual based forum to enable peer to peer engagement to discuss the challenges and opportunities for co-operatives to thrive and prosper in a rapidly changing business environment.

FEATURED SPEAKERS

- Rt Hon Jacinda Adern**
Prime Minister of New Zealand
Leader of the Labour Party & Inc.
Rt Hon Adern
- Hon Paul Goldsmith**
National List MP based in
Egmont, Hawke and
Expenditure Select Committee
Member
- Peter Beldie**
Resilient co-operatives:
A time for vision and
creativity.
CEO, Fairlands
- Kirk Hope**
Energising the New
Zealand Economy
CEO, Teamed
- Bev Henry**
Welcome to
NZ.COOP Representative
CEO, NZ.COOP
- Nuwai Semarakone**
M.C.
NZ Entrepreneur, Multiple
Advisory Board Member &
Emerging Talent Advocate

WORKSHOPS, MEMBER OFFERS & SPONSORED BY

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Silvereye WESTLAKE GOVERNANCE

TICKET INFORMATION
Members Tickets - \$299.00 + GST
Non-Members Tickets - \$375.00+ GST
This link is for MEMBERS ONLY:
<https://bit.ly/2NPuYKs>

Cooperative Development in Vietnam – Report from Vietnam Cooperative Alliance

Development of the cooperative economy and cooperatives in the first 6 months of 2020

Despite being negatively affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing in Vietnam, there was significant growth in cooperatives during the first 6 months of 2020. 752 cooperatives, 10 cooperative federations, 3,000 pre-cooperatives were newly established in the fields of agriculture, industry and services. As of June 2020, there were 25,282 cooperatives, an increase of 2,002 cooperatives over the same period in 2019; with 7.2 million members and 2.5 million workers.

The COVID-19 pandemic, avian influenza and African swine cholera epidemic in many localities as well as saline intrusion due to climate change in the Mekong Delta have affected cooperative effectiveness and operation. Activities of cooperatives in agriculture, tourism, small industry and handicraft and consumer sectors have been affected. Many cooperatives which suffered from the Covid-19 pandemic have mobilized resources to restore and develop production and business by themselves.

Activities of the Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA)

VCA has implemented many activities during the first six months of 2020. The key results for this period were

- To advise and support the establishment of 752 new cooperatives, 10 cooperative federations and restructuring existing cooperatives;
- To promulgate regulations and mobilize resources to set up 63 models of cooperatives with value chains in 63 provinces and cities in Vietnam;
- To promote and raise public awareness on cooperatives economy and cooperatives;
- To continue to provide public services on credit, training, trade promotion ...;
- To prepare for VCA's National Congress term 2020 – 2025 (November 2020);
- To collaborate with the Ministry of Planning and Investment to publish the Vietnam's Cooperative White Paper in 2020; to set up the Strategy for Cooperative Development for 2021 to 2030, the Cooperative Support Program for 2021 to 2025 and VCA's Public Investment Plan for 2021 to 2025;
- To inaugurate the project on "Cooperatives with Uncle Ho" at Kim Lien Special National Historic Site, Nam Dan District, Nghe An province.

International Youth Day Celebrations

ANGKASA organizes webinar on Youth Engagement through Entrepreneurship. August 12 at 12.00 pm (GMT +8) Malaysia Time

Register here: <https://forms.gle/NBCZ1gpeBSHCBt2j9>

*The Zoom meeting session will be hosted by ANGKASA: Session to the link will be given later

Agricultural Co-operative Staff Training Institute (ACSTI), Trivandrum and the Gandhigram Rural Institute (Deemed to be University), Tamil Nadu jointly organise a webinar in the broad area of "Platform Cooperatives: An Opportunity for Youth Entrepreneurship." August 12, 2020 at 10:30 am, India

ICA-EU Partnership: Updates

Youth Replication Project



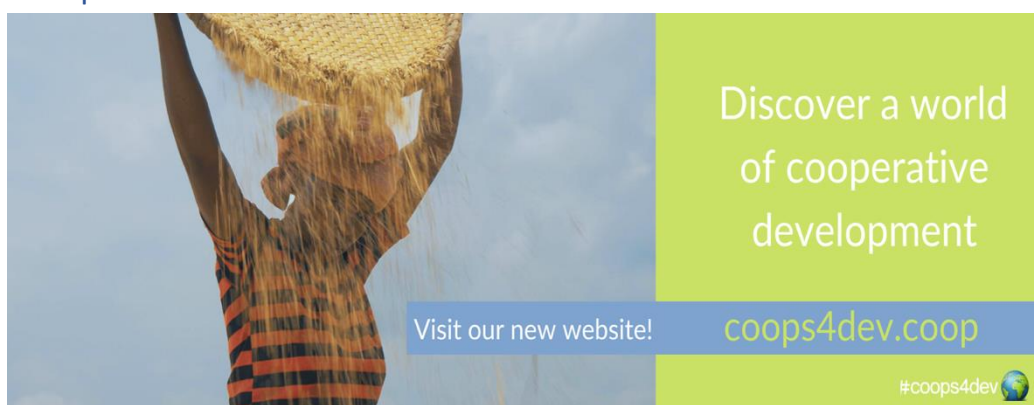
Youth are the future, but, as we all stated in the [Global Youth Forum](#) in Malaysia, are also the present, and the action starts now. With this in mind, the ICA Global Youth Network created the Replication Project with the goal of having young people come together to start new cooperative projects.

The Replication Project is an initiative of the Youth Network, led and managed by the Executive Committee (EC), in order to understand existing cooperative youth projects, and to support replication of existing models and create new ones. The program was launched in mid-2020 and aims to have a global reach. The EC will choose at least 8 projects (two per region) and fund them with a maximum of EUR 10,000 per project. They will also recruit mentors from the ICA network to help support the building of strong foundations and structures.

Applications will be reviewed by the members of the EC and a representative of the International Summit of Cooperatives. A minimum of two projects from each ICA region will be selected and we will fund the creation of different types of coops. The judges will evaluate the applications based on the answers to each question in the application form. The short-listed projects will have a Skype call with one of the EC members in their region and a second neutral evaluator. More information is available [here](#).

The call for applications is open until **16th August (midnight Brussels time)**.

Research updates



Legal Framework Analysis

National Reports of 13 countries can be accessed at [#coops4dev](#).

Mapping of Cooperatives

The mapping research aims to collect and publicise exhaustive and up-to-date statistics of cooperative organisations in different countries. The National Reports for Fiji, Indonesia, Kiribati, Myanmar, Nepal, PNG, Vanuatu, Iran and the Philippines can be accessed at [#coops4dev](#).

Global thematic research on youth

The findings of the global thematic research on youth from all regions have been compiled into a global report. The report looks into concerns expressed by youth in relation to education, employment, entrepreneurship, and inequalities. Stay tuned for updates on the findings!

Country snapshots

Country snapshots for Australia, China, Fiji, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kiribati, Korea, Malaysia, Nepal, New Zealand, Philippines, PNG, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam, and Vanuatu are now available on the [ICA-AP website](#).

Sectoral/thematic snapshots

The snapshot on consumer cooperatives can be accessed [here](#). This snapshot provides one-stop information on consumer cooperatives in the region and includes definition of consumer cooperatives, number of consumer cooperatives by countries and interesting case studies.

Global Thematic Research on Environment

The second global thematic research on environment has been launched under the #coops4dev project. This research aims to provide an overview on how cooperatives are acting to protect the environment and mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change and environmental degradation. It seeks to elaborate the links between Cooperatives and Principle seven, concern for community. The research will draw upon existing literature and resources, highlight a select number of case studies, and showcase a range of innovative practices from cooperative enterprises. Stay tuned for updates on the Global Thematic Research on Environment!

GYF20



On 15th July, in celebration of World Youth Skills Day, ICA launched the newly updated Global Youth Forum (GYF20) website! The Global Youth Forum Cooperative Entrepreneurship 2020 (GYF20) was a first-of-its kind week long immersive training for youth entrepreneurs (ages 18-35) and cooperators from around the world. GYF20 took place in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia from 3rd-7th February 2020 with over 140 youth participants and 35 trainers, professionals and experts from 50 countries. From the Asia-Pacific region, we had participants and trainers from India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Mongolia, Nepal, Pakistan, Palestine, Philippines, Singapore, and Sri Lanka.

Rediscover #GYF20 [here](#).

Announcements

Call for papers



The ICA Asia-Pacific Committee on Cooperative Research (CCR) Research Conference 2020 will be held in Trivandrum, India from the 17-18 December 2020 at the Agricultural Cooperative Staff Training Institute (ACSTI). The conference theme is “Addressing climate change through cooperative enterprise.” The conference is organized by the CCR with the support of ACSTI, Government of Kerala, ICA Domus Trust, Uralungal Labour Contract Cooperative Society (ULCCS) and the ICA-EU Partnership on Cooperatives in Development (#coops4dev). Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the conference will use a hybrid model, combining online and physical meeting to showcase the presentation of papers and discussion.

The ICA-AP CCR will bestow two young researchers (not over 35 years of age) with the Dr. Mauritz Bonow Young Researcher Award. The award will carry cash prize of US\$ 500 and US\$ 300 respectively.

More details about the call for papers can be found here: <https://www.icaap.coop/sites/ica-ap.coop/files/Call%20for%20Papers%20Trivandrum%20Conference.pdf>

All abstracts of the papers should reach the ICA-AP CCR at research@icaap.coop on or before **30th August, 2020**.

Postponement of World Cooperative Congress and 14th ICA-AP Regional Assembly



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the ICA Global Board has decided to postpone the 33rd World Cooperative Congress. This important event will still be held in Seoul, Republic of Korea and is now scheduled to take place between the **1st and 3rd of March 2021**. The preparatory events, namely the **ICA Cooperative Research Conference** and the **International Cooperative Law Forum**, will take place between the 26th and 28th of February.*

As originally defined, the theme of the Congress will still be '**Deepening our Cooperative Identity.**' Looking beyond the COVID-19 pandemic, the Congress we look to deepening understanding of how the cooperative identity has enabled cooperatives to tackle this crisis and how it will overcome other global challenges like climate change, sustainable development, peace and equality. The 33rd World Cooperative Congress will be an opportunity to look back and validate the cooperative movement's resilience, leadership and solidarity during times of crisis. This event will now serve as an important forum to:

- Discuss why the cooperative identity, including definition, principles and values, is needed now more than ever;
- Show cooperative resilience by sharing experiences and testimonies; and
- Discuss how cooperatives can significantly contribute to the global economic, social and environmental reconstruction.

The ICA-AP Regional Board in its online meeting on May 19, decided to postpone the 14th ICA-AP Regional Assembly to 28th February 2021 and hold it in conjunction with the ICA World Cooperative Congress (March 1-3). It also approved the procedures for the board elections to be held during the Regional Assembly.

**The dates for these events are subject to be further rescheduled should the pandemic make it necessary for force majeure.*

Upcoming Events

- International Youth Day webinar by ICA-AP Youth Committee: Youth Engagement in Global Action – August 12, 2020
- Inter-Regional Online Workshop on Capacity Building: Social and Financial Education for Cooperatives – August 13, 2020
- Capacity building workshop on fair trade with cooperatives: Strengthening farmers and workers in the value chain – August 27, 2020
- Webinar: Situation of women co-operators during COVID19 – September, 2020
- Regional consultation meeting to launch the UN Decade of Family Farming in South Asia – October, 2020
- 15th ICA-AP Cooperative Research Conference – December 17-18, 2020 in Trivandrum, India.
- 14th ICA-AP Regional Assembly – February 28, 2021
- ‘Deepening our Cooperative Identity’ World Cooperative Congress – March 1 to 3, 2021

The Covid-19 outbreak has disrupted many scheduled plans and activities across the world. Following WHO guidelines and government advisories, ICA-AP and members have put out on hold physical activities planned for the time being. We will update you as and when the rescheduled dates are available.



The articles related to the ICA-EU Partnership in this newsletter have been co-funded by the European Union. The contents of these articles are the sole responsibility of the International Co-operative Alliance and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.