

Report of Activities – Brazilian Cooperatives

1. Ceremony of delivery of SESCOOP Management Excellence Award 2017

The National Service of Cooperative Learning (Sescoop) held in November 2017 the third edition of the SESCOOP Management Excellence Award. Last year's edition awarded 41 cooperatives, from 10 Brazilian states that stood out in three categories. Brazilian authorities and representatives of cooperatives from all over the country attended the event.

2. Brazilian Meeting of Cooperative Researchers

The fourth edition of the Brazilian Meeting of Cooperative Researchers (EBPC), held in November, was a joint effort between SESCOOP and OCB. The theme was "Developing Inclusive and Responsible Business: Cooperatives in Theory, Policy and Practice", with the aim of highlighting cooperatives as a differentiated business model that needs to be stimulated locally and regionally and promote an approximation between the academic area and the reality of Brazilian cooperatives. Researchers from all over the country, as well as representatives of state units of the OCB System, followed the program based on four guidelines: identity and education, legal framework, governance and management, and capital and finance.

3. Launch of the National Campaign "We Are Co-op"

Launched on the 21st, the *SomosCoop* movement wants to re-signify cooperatives, presenting to society a business model in which everyone wins. The intention is to form a large network between cooperatives, cooperatives and the OCB System team, strengthening the pride of being cooperative. Also launched the first episode of the web series, which talks about the values of cooperatives.

Links: www.somos.coop.br and www.youtube.com/watch?v=jzEgd2zQJ0g

4. Launching of the Brazilian Catalog of Export Cooperatives

OCB launched, at the end of 2017, the Brazilian Catalog of Export Cooperatives. The latest version of the publication listing Brazilian cooperatives engaged in international trade in products and services became available in 10 languages.

6. Meeting with the President of the Republic

The recognition of the adequate tax treatment for the cooperative act, the reform of PIS and Cofins and the maintenance of the payroll exemption of Brazilian companies and cooperatives were the main points discussed by the President of the Republic, Michel Temer, the president of the OCB System, Márcio Lopes de Freitas, as well as representatives of the largest agricultural cooperatives in the country. The Federal Revenue Secretary, Jorge Antonio Deher Rachid, and the Chief Minister of the Civil House, Eliseu Padilha, also attended the hearing.

7. Approval of PLP 100/2011 - Supplementary Law 161/2018

After years of processing in the two houses of the Brazilian Parliament, the Complementary Law 100 of 2011 was approved unanimously, which allows credit cooperatives to move public resources from local governments, as well as resources from the National Cooperative Learning Service. The bill was promulgated through Complementary Law 161/2018 and will allow credit unions, which have experienced solid growth throughout the country, to expand their financial services with municipalities.

Next events

1. OCB General Assembly

The OCB General Assembly will take place on March 28 in Brasilia. Officials from the state units of the OCB present in the 27 units of the Federation will participate in the Assembly. The board will have the opportunity to review the organization's financial reports as well as the indicators of Strategic Planning.

2. Launching the Institutional Cooperatives Agenda

On April 11, the launching ceremony of the Institutional Agenda for Cooperatives 2018 will be held in Brasilia. The document compiles the main demands of the Brazilian cooperative sector for the three branches of the Federative Republic: Legislative, Executive and Judiciary. Brazilian authorities, cooperative leaders and representatives of partner organizations will attend the event.

3. Celebration of Day C and International Day of Cooperatives

The OCB System will hold on June 30 the activities culminating the activities of Day C, a national project that encourages Brazilian cooperatives to develop volunteer projects and community assistance, in accordance with the 7th principle. The event is usually held on the International Day of Cooperatives, having been anticipated this year by virtue of the Football World Cup.