



International  
Co-operative  
Alliance

Join the International  
Co-operative Alliance  
**Be part of the global movement**



## Representing the Global Co-operative Movement

The International Co-operative Alliance is a non-profit international association established in 1895 to advance the co-operative social enterprise model. The Alliance provides a global voice and forum for knowledge, expertise and co-ordinated action for and about co-operatives. The Alliance is the apex organisation for co-operatives worldwide, representing 272 co-operative federations and organisations across 100 countries (figures of January 2014).

Operating from a global office in Brussels, Belgium, the Alliance is organised with four Regional Offices (Europe, Africa, Americas, and Asia-Pacific), and eight Sectoral Organisations (Banking, Agriculture, Fisheries, Insurance, Health, Housing, Consumer Co-operatives, and Worker Co-operatives).

## Blueprint for a Co-operative Decade

The United Nations International Year of Co-operatives marked the beginning of a world-wide campaign to take the co-operative way of doing business to a new level. At the close of the International Year, the Alliance's members in 100 countries approved The Blueprint for a Co-operative Decade. The ambitious plan in this Blueprint - the "2020 vision" - is for the co-operative form of business by 2020 to become:

- The acknowledged leader in economic, social and environmental sustainability
- The model preferred by people
- The fastest growing form of enterprise

The 2020 vision seeks to build on the achievements of the International Year of Co-operatives and the resilience demonstrated by the co-operative movement since the great financial collapse. By pursuing the strategy outlined in this Blueprint, we aim to make 2011-2020 a Co-operative Decade of confident growth.

The International Year of Co-operatives had a number of significant achievements, but they need to be seen in the context of the dominant emerging trends that are likely to shape our politics, societies and economies for the foreseeable future. Co-operatives already make a significant contribution towards alleviating these pressing global problems. But, with appropriate support and greater understanding and recognition, they could contribute much more.

The Alliance is invigorating its commitments to serve the global co-operative community with exciting Blueprint initiatives, and members world-wide are adapting the strategy to their local realities. Join us in achieving our 2020 vision.

## Benefits of Membership

As a member, you will gain from the leadership of the International Co-operative Alliance in a number of areas and be entitled to a number of benefits.

The Alliance is the **Forum for Inter-cooperation:**

- Develop business relationships and partnerships with members
- Trade fairs
- Access to the Alliance's network
- Connection to the global development network

The Alliance is the holder of **Co-operative Knowledge**:

- Gain access to ICA as a resource for co-operative expertise, in particular co-operative statistics, information and intelligence.
- Participate in capacity building/training programmes
- Exchange of information and technical documents
- Receive and access information on co-operatives including regular publications
- Access member only resources including member contacts, member only information releases, and global co-operative statistics as requested.

The Alliance represents the movement as its **Global Voice**:

- The global co-operative marque and a .coop domain name - symbols of the global co-operative movement and of our collective identity. Apply to use the Marque and for a .coop domain name at [www.identity.coop](http://www.identity.coop) and help promote our co-operative difference.
- Defines and promotes the co-operative difference with media and policy-makers
- Represents the co-operative movement in multilateral organisations including the United Nations system, the International Accounting Standards Board, the European Union, and others
- Defence for the co-operative movement with national governments at the request of members
- Participate in the governance of the Alliance

## Who is eligible?

We offer two types of membership: co-operatives and organisations that unite or federate groups of co-operatives may become **Members** while other kinds of organisations that support co-operatives can become **Associate Members**. Membership subscriptions are calculated based on a formula for Members and a flat fee for Associate Members.

Those eligible to become full **Members** are:

- National union or federation of co-operative organisations
- National confederation of co-operative unions (apex organisations)
- National co-operative business organisation with majority individual ownership (a co-operative society working at the national level whose members are not only people but can also be enterprises -- i.e. a mixed membership)
- Individual co-operative organisation (primary or grassroots co-operatives)
- International and regional (supranational) federations or unions of co-operative organisations (organisations with membership in multiple countries)
- Mutual organisations that comply with the ICA Statement on Co-operative Identity.

Those eligible to become **Associate Members** are:

- Organisations that are not otherwise eligible to be full members, including:
  - Organisations that are supporters of co-operatives
  - Government departments and agencies
  - Organisations that are owned and controlled by co-operatives (entities that are not co-ops themselves but that are owned entirely by co-ops (not individuals)
  - Educational, research and other institutions that promote or finance co-operatives and the co-operative movement (training institutions and semi-autonomous institutions with no co-operative members)
- Organisations entitled to full member status, but that are not ready to apply for full membership.

## How to apply

If you'd like to be a part of something really special then please join us! Candidate organisations should complete the Membership Application Form and send the required supporting documents to:

Gretchen Hacquard, Director of Membership

E-mail: [hacquard@ica.coop](mailto:hacquard@ica.coop)

Or post it to the Global Office at the address below.

You can start the application process by speaking to either the global office or any of the regional and sectoral organisations. Your application will be reviewed at the national, global and regional level before it is submitted for consideration by the Membership Committee of the Board. The candidate organisation will be advised of the decision shortly after it is made.

Please contact us if you have any questions.

## Global Office

### International Co-operative Alliance

Avenue Milcamps 105  
1030 Brussels, Belgium  
Tel: + 32 2 743 10 30  
Fax: + 32 2 743 10 39  
E-mail: [hacquard@ica.coop](mailto:hacquard@ica.coop)  
Web: [www.ica.coop](http://www.ica.coop)

## Regional Offices

### Co-operatives Europe

Brussels, Belgium  
Tel: +32 2 280 1609  
E-mail: [k.niederlander@coopseurope.coop](mailto:k.niederlander@coopseurope.coop)  
Web: [www.coopseurope.coop](http://www.coopseurope.coop)

### ICA Africa

Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel: +254 020 23 23 489 & +265 600 7628  
E-mail: [ica@icaafrica.coop](mailto:ica@icaafrica.coop)  
Web: [www.icaafrica.coop](http://www.icaafrica.coop)

### Co-operatives of the Americas

San José, Costa Rica  
Tel: +506 296 0981  
E-mail: [info@aciamericas.coop](mailto:info@aciamericas.coop)  
Web: [www.aciamericas.coop](http://www.aciamericas.coop)

### ICA Asia-Pacific

New Delhi, India  
Tel: +91 11 2688 8250  
E-mail: [info@icaroap.coop](mailto:info@icaroap.coop)  
Web: [www.icaroap.coop](http://www.icaroap.coop)

## Sectoral Organizations

### Consumer Co-operatives Worldwide (CCW)

Brussels, Belgium  
Tel: +32 2 285 0070  
E-mail: [tivanov@eurocoop.coop](mailto:tivanov@eurocoop.coop)  
Website: [www.ccw.coop](http://www.ccw.coop)  
Contact: Mr Todor Ivanov,  
Secretary General

### ICA Housing

Ottawa, Ontario, Canada  
Tel: +1 613 230 2201  
E-mail: [NGazzard@chfcanada.coop](mailto:NGazzard@chfcanada.coop)  
Website: [www.ichousing.coop](http://www.ichousing.coop)  
Contact: Mr Nicholas Gazzard, President

### International Co-operative Agricultural Organisation (ICAO)

Seoul, Republic of Korea  
Tel: +82 2 2080 6120  
E-mail: [nacfico@nonghyup.com](mailto:nacfico@nonghyup.com)  
Website: [www.icaop.coop](http://www.icaop.coop)  
Contact: Mr Won-Byung Choi,  
Chairperson

### International Co-operative Banking Association (ICBA)

Paris, France  
Tel: +33 1 47 24 90 88  
E-mail: [sandrine.rodriques@credit-cooperatif.coop](mailto:sandrine.rodriques@credit-cooperatif.coop)  
Website: [www.icba.coop](http://www.icba.coop)  
Contact: Sandrine Rodrigues, Assistant

### International Co-operative Fisheries Organisation (ICFO)

Seoul, Republic of Korea  
Tel: + 82 (2) 2240-0409  
E-mail: [iktus@korea.com](mailto:iktus@korea.com)  
Website: [www.ifco.coop](http://www.ifco.coop)  
Contact: Mr Jong-koo Lee,  
Chairperson

### International Co-operative & Mutual Insurance Federation (ICMIF)

Cheshire, United Kingdom  
Tel: +44 161 929 5090  
E-mail: [icmif@icmif.org](mailto:icmif@icmif.org)  
Website: [www.icmif.org](http://www.icmif.org)  
Contact: Mr Shaun Tarbuck,  
Chief Executive Officer

### International Health Co-operative Organisation (IHCO)

Madrid, Spain  
Tel: +34 915 957 549  
E-mail: [jperez@fundacionespriu.coop](mailto:jperez@fundacionespriu.coop)  
Website: [www.ihco.coop](http://www.ihco.coop)  
Contact: Mr José A. Pérez,  
Secretariat

### International Organisation of Industrial, Artisanal and Service Producers' Co-operatives (CICOPA)

Brussels, Belgium  
Tel: +32 2 543 1033  
E-mail: [cicopa@cicopa.coop](mailto:cicopa@cicopa.coop)  
Website: [www.cicopa.coop](http://www.cicopa.coop)  
Contact: Helen Robinson, Membership and Administration Officer