

### **ICA-AP NEWSLETTER**

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

# February Newsletter

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#### Call for Humanitarian Aid: Turkey - Syria Earthquake



On 6 February, a powerful earthquake of 7.8 magnitude struck Turkey and Syria. ICA reached out to its members in Turkey to understand the situation of cooperatives and their members. In the need for more comprehensive humanitarian aid, they are inviting donations and documenting the aid via the #coops4TR social media campaign. Read more.

# International Women's Day 2023: Address by Ms. Chitose Arai, Chairperson of ICA-AP Women's Committee



Dear cooperators in the Asia and Pacific region,

Greetings from the ICA-AP Committee on Women!

March 8 is the International Women's Day (IWD) to celebrate the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The theme for this year's IWD is "DigitALL: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality". It focuses on the impact of the digital gender gap on widening economic and social inequalities and the importance of protecting women and girls in digital spaces.

When I was reflecting on this theme, I was taken back to the period of the early 2000s when computers and the internet were making a gradual entry in our lives. Those who were already in their adult life at that time were faced with a new challenge — to either adapt or get left behind. Today, we live in a new, ultra-modern, and a hi-tech world, where all these are part of our daily lives and there is hardly a way that we can imagine ourselves to be living without them. Having said this, while the penetration of innovation, technology, and digitalization is not uniform across countries and among different socio-economic communities, it won't take long before we all are taken into the fold through awareness, access and usage.

Bringing women and other marginalized groups into technology results in more creative solutions and has greater potential for innovations that meet women's needs and promote gender equality. However, growing inequalities are becoming increasingly evident in the context of digital skills and access to technologies, with women being left behind as the result of this digital gender divide. The need for inclusive and transformative technology and digital education is crucial for a sustainable future.

Within the Asia and Pacific cooperative ecosystem, we often hear different terms being used - digitalization, digital innovation, digital inclusion, digital finance, digital media, digital platforms, e-commerce, so on and so forth. Driven by evolving member needs, increasing competition in the market, changing business goals, and external shocks such as the COVID-19 pandemic, cooperatives in Asia and Pacific are adopting innovation, technology and digitalization. For example in India, the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI) has set-up a marketing platform for women called the NCUI HAAT. The NCUI HAAT provides design support and market linkages to women-led cooperatives through tie-ups with the Fashion Design Council of India and the National Institute of Fashion Technology. In the Philippines, a payment platform has been developed by the National Confederation of Cooperatives (NATCCO), Asian Confederation of Credit Unions (ACCU) and the Philippines Federation of Credit Cooperatives (PFCCO). Among the many benefits that the Kaya payment platform provides, it has made it possible for women in rural areas to receive cash from government payouts through Kaya POS. The funds are transferred by the government to cooperatives using Kaya POS, helping women to not queue up for months to get their money. Members of our Women's Committee have from time to time shown us many examples of the measures that their cooperatives have taken and all are worth noting. For example, switching to virtual trainings and meetings, switching to online retail businesses, creating and promoting payment platforms, use of software to maintain credit and savings records, etc.

But the use of innovation, technology and digitalization is costly. Cooperative enterprises are sufficiently endowed to bear monetary costs for the advancement of business and the betterment of members and staff. And other than the monetary costs, the reluctance on part of cooperative leaders and management to invest, the hesitation on part of cooperative

members and staff, especially women, to learn and adapt, and the limited understanding of why and how women can benefit from technology, innovation or digitalization, add to a much higher cost. These costs are more social than financial and related to behavioural change.

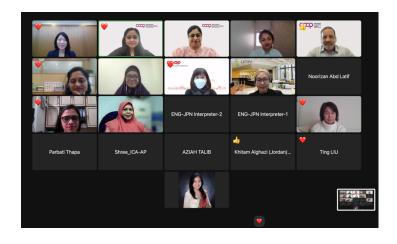
My main message to all cooperators in Asia and Pacific on this International Women's Day is to think collaboratively and creatively on how much we - the women, overall cooperative community and our cooperative businesses can benefit if we work on three main areas – our reluctance, our hesitation, and our understanding. I would also like to urge cooperatives in the region to reflect on how we can make the most of the innovations, technology and digitalization happening around us and use it to our advantage – for the benefit of our business, members, staff, our own selves, communities and economies.

In the context of my message here, we held an online lecture on 7 March to understand why digital inclusion is important for women in cooperative businesses; is digital inclusion enough to make women feel empowered; and how we can protect women's rights and safety in the digital spaces. The insights shared in the lecture have given us all food for thought and ideas for future action. I strongly believe in the saying that "Where this a will, there is a way". I am hopeful that with my message here, we can work on our collective will towards the agenda of "DigitAll" for gender equality and a brighter future of cooperatives in Asia and Pacific.

Best wishes, Chitose Arai, Chairperson, ICA-AP Committee on Women

#### **ICA-AP Updates**

IWD Virtual Lecture on DigitALL: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality

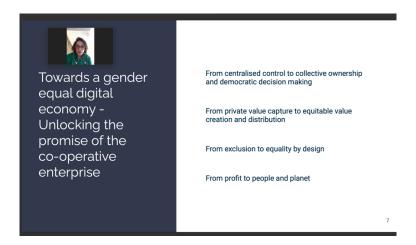


The ICA-AP Committee on Women organized a virtual lecture to commemorate the International Women's Day (IWD) on March 7, 2023. The theme of the lecture was, "DigitALL: Innovation and Technology for Gender Equality."

This was in line with the IWD theme and priority theme for the 67th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW-67) by the United Nations (UN), "Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls."

Committee Chairperson, Ms. Chitose Arai, in her opening remarks, noted the relevance of the theme of this year's IWD. She said "when women are empowered – family as whole benefits; and it helps society to be inclusive and equitable. Cooperatives can help accelerate the digital empowerment of women." Bridging the digital gender divide is important and cooperatives are taking measures to adopt technology, innovation and digital inclusion.

The lecture was split into two parts. The first part focused on understanding "What do we mean by digital inclusion for women in cooperative business?" was addressed by Ms. Anuradha Ganapathy, Research Associate, IT for Change. The second part "How do we protect women's rights and safety in digital spaces?" was addressed by Ms. Malavika Rajkumar, Project Associate, IT for Change.



In her address, Ms. Ganapathy, explained how achieving digital inclusion is about correcting the multi-level power asymmetries that not only exclude women and minorities from reaping the benefits of the digital ecosystem but also shrink the space for their democratic and equitable participation, violating their rights as citizens of the state. She noted that gender inclusion is not only about addressing the inequalities related to access to digital technology but also addressing a wide spectrum of other inequalities. Digital inequality is manifested in many ways. For example, to what extent women are adopting technology, participating in decision making, and reaping the benefits of digital technology at par with men? She stressed five aspects which need attention for reducing digital gender divide – access, adoption, participation, dividends and decision making.

She added that our approach to address the digital gender divide should be rights-based. That is, when we look at digital inclusion, we should also look at how women's rights are being protected.

While explaining digital inequality, she pointed at the inequalities that exist in the labour market. Citing references from ILO, she noted that "Only 2 in 10 workers on online platforms in low and middle-income countries are women, with significant occupational segregation in tasks and earnings between male and female workers on platforms." This directed us to the thought that having women as a workforce in the digital spaces is not enough and the nature of their jobs should be reflected.

Ms. Ganapathy also highlighted the role of cooperatives in bridging the digital gender divide. She noted that cooperatives by their design focus on equality and not on exclusion. They focus on people and the planet over profit. She shared a techno-institutional blueprint for cooperatives. This blueprint

focussed on four aspects: 1) center women's voices which means having consultations with women and having them lead social audits, etc. 2) adopt a rights-based approach with grievance redressal support, 3) prevent value capture which means having control over your data and where and how your data is used, and 4) provide connectivity and capabilities infrastructure so that the support is not limited to access but also technical and general know-how.

Ms. Rajkumar, began her session by throwing light on safety. Safety is a feeling of security and protection, which encourages greater mobility as well as protection from sudden and harmful disruptions in the pattern of daily life. Safety, she added, should be a shared responsibility and its burden should not fall upon any one individual. She spoke about the blurring lines between private and public communication spaces. The internet has fundamentally redefined interpersonal communications, offering a platform for public discussion and discourse. However, the line between the online and offline worlds has become increasingly blurry. What may be considered a public sphere in the context of a virtual interaction can be considered as a private space in another interaction. Traditionally, patriarchal cultures have relegated women to the domestic and private spheres. Public spaces were frequented more by men and there is a certain degree of entitlement over public spaces by men which is visible in many societies. Further, even after women were allowed to participate in public spaces, they faced a considerable amount of harassment which serves to "intimidate" them, and "remind them of their place". These gendered dynamics that govern the public and the private extend to online spaces as well. The online public sphere, an extension of offline interactions, not only replicates the offline hierarchical structures, but also provides novel and dangerous ways of inflicting harm.



In her address, Ms. Rajkumar discussed how cyberviolence is considered less serious or "less real" than offline crimes. Cyberviolence is often treated as a non-corporeal crime since the image that emerges is of mental trauma and not physical aggression. She added that research reflects that women who engage online are subject to violence regularly in many forms. This can be in the form of vocally expressing one's opinion, being active in politics, or simply being conspicuous in public spaces. High profile women, irrespective of profession, are likely to be victims of online gender based violence. She gave examples of different types of cybercrimes specifically targeted towards women: non-consensual intimate image distribution, digital morphing, voyeurism, online sexual harassment, gender trolling, gender-based hate speech, doxing, online intimidation and threats, impersonation and identity theft.

It was noted that protecting women's rights and safety in digital spaces requires a multi-pronged approach that involves individuals, organizations, and governments.

Here are some ways to protect women's rights and safety in digital spaces:

- 1. Raise awareness about threats and information on tools and resources that can be used to deal with threats.
- 2. Digital literacy on how to use technology and identify threats.
- 3. Develop safe digital platforms with features like blocking, muting, reporting, detecting abusive content and users, etc.
- 4. Government should focus on making laws that criminalize online abuse and harassment and ensure that perpetrators are held accountable for their actions.
- 5. Promote gender equality in the digital space by addressing underlying causes for online abuse and harassment.

ICA-AP Regional Director, Mr. Balasubramanian Iyer delivered the vote of thanks. He noted that the safety of women is a shared responsibility and this should reflect in the designs of the digital infrastructure.

This lecture was a starting point to understand what is digital inclusion for women in cooperatives and how can their rights and safety be protected in digital spaces. The committee members who attended the lecture found the presentations insightful and useful.

#### 4<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Cooperative Youth Summit



The Asia Pacific Cooperative Youth Summit (APCYS 4.0) will be held in Sabah, Malaysia from 27 to 30 July and focus on "Cooperation for Sustainable Lifestyles".

APCYS 4.0 will provide a platform for youth to come together and hear about inspiring youth-led sustainable practices and ventures, experience hands-on cooperative activities, share cooperative business ideas, and enjoy the spirit of different cultures and youth cooperativism. The summit will:

Call upon the	youth in the	regio	n to con	ne together a	nd ac	t consciou	ısly to pra	ctice	and
promote sus	stainable lifes	styles,	while 6	embracing th	e valı	ues of co	operation	and	the
cooperative	enterprises	that	places	community	first	through	concern	for	the
environment	t.								

☐ Explore how a newer generation of pragmatic and environmentally conscious youth can be better engaged within the cooperative movement, through cooperative values and principles.

☐ Hear from youth, the new and sustainable enterprise ideas on cooperatives that cater to the needs and aspirations of the youth in their country, through Coop Pitch Competition

The Youth Summit and Coop Pitch Competition registrations will open soon. Stay tuned!

#### 16<sup>th</sup> ICA-AP Regional Assembly – Save the Date



ICA-AP will hold its 16<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly in the Philippines from 6 to 10 November.

The Philippines is hosting the Regional Assembly after two decades under the aegis of the Philippines Cooperative Movement. The Regional Assembly will comprise of the 11<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Cooperative Forum, Regional Board Meeting, various events organized by the Regional Sectoral and Thematic Committees, and the statutory meeting of the Regional Assembly.

The theme for the 16<sup>th</sup> Regional Assembly, 11<sup>th</sup> Cooperative Forum and related events is, "Cooperatives: Our Common Agenda." In September 2015, world leaders adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which set out the road map for a future of shared prosperity and environmental sustainability. Today, the global challenges faced by the world including the Covid-19 pandemic, wars, worsening economic conditions, and irreparable effects of climate change are posing a threat to the fulfilment of the 2030 Agenda to advance global development. To strengthen global governance for present and future generations, the UN Secretary-General has come up with recommendations to advance the common agenda and to respond to these challenges. The Our Common Agenda report looks ahead to the next 25 years and represents the Secretary-General's vision for the future of global cooperation.

Cooperatives, with their human-centric model, concern for community, and cooperatives values and principles, have proven time and again that a better world is possible with cooperation. Having a common agenda and working collaboratively towards it will only strengthen the cooperatives' mission. Through the Cooperative Forum and some of the committee events, ICA-AP will deliberate upon key opportunities and challenges to build a common agenda for cooperatives and chalk out concrete and achievable action points.

Stay tuned for more information!

#### 4th ASEAN-India Youth Summit



To Commemorate 30 years of ASEAN-India relationship, the Government of India in collaboration with the India Foundation and the ASEAN Foundation hosted the  $4^{th}$  ASEAN-India Youth Summit from 12-15 February in Hyderabad. The theme for the Summit was "Strengthening ASEAN – India Partnership in the Indo-Pacific".

Around 100 youth from the ASEAN Member States (AMS) and 75 from India gathered to explore new initiatives to enhance ASEAN and India's physical, economic, digital, and socio-cultural connectivity to strengthen the ASEAN-India Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. The delegates came from diverse backgrounds including politics, media, think tanks, education, business, and science and technology. The Summit encompassed panel discussions on four sub-themes, namely Good Governance & Regional Development, Digital Partnerships for the 21st Century, ASEAN-India Connectivity, and Shared Cultural Ethos and Promotion of People-to-People Ties.

"In realizing the shared goals of the ASEAN and India, it is crucial that the youth, as our current and future leaders, could hone their skills and capabilities for them to contribute to the advancement of peace and prosperity in the region and beyond," said ASEAN Secretary-General Kao Kim Hourn in his virtual message during the opening ceremony. He said the Summit could serve as a platform for the 175 youth leaders "to exchange ideas and perspectives and other important issues facing our world today".

India's Union Minister for Culture, Tourism and Development of North Eastern Region G. Kishan Reddy said that the summit could further explore cooperation in equipping the youth with skills and knowledge in emerging areas such as digital technology and sustainability in economic relations, digital transformation, financial inclusion, climate change and environmental protection. Mr. Alvin Tan, Hon'ble Minister of State for Trade & Industry, and Culture, Community & Youth, the Republic of Singapore, addressed the valedictory session of the Summit virtually.



Mr. Mohit Dave, Head - Partnerships & Resource Mobilisation at ICA-AP participated in the Summit to help create a shared vision for wider regional partnerships across cooperative related issues. He shared that the Asia-Pacific regional office of ICA is based in India and the Business office in an AMS – Malaysia. In 2018, an ICA-AP delegation met with Dr. Aladdin Rillo, the Deputy Secretary General for ASEAN Economic Community. Also, ICA has around 40 members and partners in India and ASEAN countries working across various sectors such as youth & education, financial inclusion, climate change, skills development etc. In the recent past, ICA-AP has contributed to the action plan of the ASEAN roadmap to enhance the role of agricultural cooperatives in the agricultural global value chain.



The confluence of youth leaders from India and the ten ASEAN countries - Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam led to a shared understanding of the challenges we face and the actions that we need to take to strengthen partnerships in all dimensions within the region.

At the Summit, the delegation of each country was given an opportunity to deliver a presentation showcasing the history, politics, culture, and other noteworthy aspects of their respective country. To encourage peer learning, the delegates participated in group discussions on various topics including governance and politics, cultural and historical linkages, entrepreneurship and skills development. The Summit also offered experiential learning with site visits in Hyderabad, tours, and cultural performances.

This Summit was in line with one of the priorities of the ASEAN Work Plan on Youth 2021-2025 particularly in strengthening collaboration with ASEAN Dialogue Partners in youth exchange programmes to foster outward-looking ASEAN youth in the global community. Three previous editions of the ASEAN-India Youth Summit were held in August 2017 in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh; in February 2019 in Guwahati, Assam; and virtually in June 2022. The event is supported by ASEAN and India through the ASEAN-India Cooperation Fund and endorsed by the ASEAN Senior Officials' Meeting on Youth (SOMY). ICA-AP would continue its engagements in the ASEAN and see how cooperatives can contribute and support such cross-border initiatives, especially in terms of capacity building, knowledge transfer and outreach.

Webinar on Potential for Collectives in the Gig and Platform Economy: Insights and International Experiences – Registrations Open!



ICA-AP and ICA Domus Trust are collaborating with NITI Aayog, an apex public policy think tank of the Government of India, to discuss the need and potential of collectives in the Gig and Platform Economy. The webinar will be a starting point to deep-dive into the experience of cooperatives on platforms, bringing together cooperative advocates, practitioners and young scholars from across continents to understand the issues of gig workers; share & discuss international best practices; examine the existing policy environment for the gig work in India; and foster cooperation and dialogue among concerned stakeholders. For program and registration details, click here.

Webinar on Women in Cooperatives: Embrace Equity - Registrations Open!



Commemorating International Women's Day 2023, ICA-AP Malaysia Business Office, ASEAN Cooperative Organization (ACO), and the Malaysian National Cooperative Movement (ANGKASA) are jointly organizing a webinar on March 8, on the theme 'Women in Cooperatives: Embrace Equity'. The webinar will deliberate on socio-economic, cultural, and governance barriers against women's progress in cooperatives and identify support system networks to embrace equity. For program and registration details, click here.

#### **Member Updates**

#### NEFSCUN from Nepal Joins ICA



The Nepal Federation of Savings and Credit Cooperatives Union (NEFSCUN) from Nepal joined ICA in March. NEFSCUN is the member-based national apex organization of Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies (SACCOS and credit unions) and their District Unions (DUs).

It is committed to the development, promotion and strengthening of its member organizations through supporting SACCOS and DUs in their aim to contribute to the upliftment of financial, social and cultural aspirations of individual members of the respective community by following the international credit union principles.

NEFSCUN has reached 76 districts and covered 3.53 Million individuals into the financial mainstream. It provides cooperatives management training for more than 20,000 leaders and

staffs every year and supports in promoting formal finance access to the poor and manage their cooperatives locally with global tools and techniques.

The ICA-AP now has 112 member organisations across 29 countries.

#### BCCM is Celebrating 10 years of Cooperation



The Business Council of Cooperatives and Mutuals (BCCM), and ICA member in Australia is celebrating its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2023. It was formed in 2013 after the United Nations International Year of Cooperatives. This milestone provides an opportunity to reflect on how BCCM has evolved as a peak body and as a movement built on the principles of cooperation – the original social businesses.

Over the last decade, BCCM has brought together member-owned businesses from <u>different industries</u> to <u>advocate</u> for their unique business structures and work to improve the business environment for <u>cooperatives and mutuals</u> (C&Ms).

Some of the key achievements of BCCM include securing enabling legislation to <u>access vital capital</u>, developing <u>education</u> and cooperative development programs to meet the needs of the sector and facilitating the development of sector-wide <u>governance principles</u>, a <u>climate policy</u> and the <u>Mutual Value Measurement Framework©</u> to measure and express mutual value. Their efforts and the benefits of their model have been <u>noticed by the government</u>, which has tasked the BCCM with significant cooperative development projects in agriculture and social care.

To celebrate 10 years of cooperation, BCCM has launched a campaign wherein they will share a story of impact and value from C&M sector every month.

Read more about the campaign here.

Watch BCCM CEO, Melina Morrison's campaign video on YouTube.

CBH Group Registers a Record-Breaking Harvest in its 90-year History



Cooperative Bulk Handling Ltd. (CBH Group), an ICA member in Australia, has set a new receival record, taking more grain during the 2022-23 harvest than last year (21.3 million tonnes), the largest year on record in its 90-year history.

This is a huge achievement for everyone involved in the Western Australian (WA) grain industry, including growers, their families and employees, the CBH team, grower groups, agribusinesses, agronomists, transporters and the communities that support farming in WA. Chief Operations Officer, Mr. Mick Daw acknowledged the contribution of the CBH team in achieving this record and said, "I would especially like to thank everyone – from the frontline employees to the ports and offices across WA - for the part you've played in us being able to reach this record".

In addition to the harvest receivals reaching new highs, CBH's supply chain also set new records. For the first time in its history, CBH has shipped a record 2.18 million tonnes of grain and railed 1 million tonnes in a single month in December 2022 surpassing the previous shipping record of 1.89 million tonnes set in January 2017 by 15 per cent.

Mr. Daw extended his congratulations to the hardworking frontline CBH employees across the state, dedicated transporters and contractors, and the regional communities that support the grain growers of Western Australia.

Read the full report here.

Policy and Legal Watch

Kuwaitis Must Work in Coops – Urgent Steps Being Taken to Modify Demographics



Image Credits: zawya.com

The First Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Interior and Acting Minister of Defense, Sheikh Talal Al-Khalid said the Committee for Amending Demographics and Developing the Labor Market will begin work on imbalances in the demographics and labor market immediately. The committee has approved the executive regulations of draft Law 74 of 2020 which calls for organizing the demographics.

The committee also reviewed the presentation submitted by President of the Union of Consumer Cooperative Societies on the issue of Kuwaitization which encourages nationals to work in cooperative societies by understanding the needs of Kuwaiti society. This will allow creation of about 3,000 job opportunities for Kuwaitis in the cooperatives sector by offering good salaries and financial incentives, in addition to creating opportunities for retirees on the board of directors in the advisory capacity. Read more.

#### Jordan Cooperative Corporation Discusses Amendments to the National Legislation



Image credits: ilo.org

The Jordan Cooperative Corporation (JCC) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) held a workshop to discuss amendments to Jordan's national legislation regulating the cooperative movement. Representatives from key ministries and social partners' organizations and a broad spectrum of key local and international stakeholder institutions

joined the two-day technical workshop on January 27 and 28 at the Dead Sea in Jordan.

The key recommendations from the discussion include the improvement of regulatory, developmental and representational functions of cooperatives in the country. These build upon the <u>national strategy</u> for the cooperative movement that was launched in 2021, and developed with support from the ILO, which seeks to strengthen the role of cooperatives in enhancing decent work and productivity in different economic sectors in Jordan. The proposed modifications to the country's cooperative law are meant to eventually lead to revised legislation, paving the way for an autonomous, inclusive and self-reliant cooperative movement in Jordan.

The workshop was held under the aegis of the <u>PROSPECTS Programme</u>, a global partnership supported by the Government of the Netherlands on improving the prospects for forcibly displaced persons and host communities. In Jordan, the ILO's work on cooperatives focuses on supporting the movement's policy development and legislative reforms, strengthening the JCC, building the cooperatives' institutional capacities and improving their overall management.

ILO PROSPECTS Regional Chief Technical Adviser, Shaza Al Jondi said, "We are delighted to be continuing the discussion concerning the laws regulating the cooperative movement in Jordan with the ministries, the JCC and our partners in the country and across the region. Through the proposed amendments, we hope to further advance livelihood opportunities for Jordanians, refugees, and migrant women and men."

Abdel Fattah Al-Shalabi, Chairman of the JCC, said, "the modernization of the cooperative work will reflect on general growth indicators as well as on the country's families. The effects of the development of the cooperative movement will be especially felt in rural areas across all Jordan's governorates, creating direct and indirect job opportunities."

Read the full news by the ILO here.



- □ Consumer Committee Webinar on "Key Takeaways from the Committees' Workshops and Training Programs" 14 March 2023
- ☐ Webinar on Potential for Collectives in the Gig and Platform Economy: Insights and International Experiences 15 March 2023

Webinar on Financial Literacy by ICA-AP Committee on Youth Cooperation – March 2023
Coop Colloquium by ICA-AP Committee on Cooperative Research – March 2023 (TBC)
ICA-AP Regional Board Meeting in Kathmandu, Nepal – 6 April 2023
Training of Trainers on Climate Change and Action by ICA-AP Committee on Women (Country TBC) - May 2023 (TBC)
Training Program on Consumer Cooperatives Business Models by ICA-AP Committee on Consumer Cooperation in Japan (only for committee members) – May 2023 (TBC)
International Day of Cooperatives – 1 July 2023
Asia Pacific Cooperative Youth Summit (APCYS) 4.0 in Sabah, Malaysia – 27 to 30 July 2023
ICA-AP Committee on Women 25th-anniversary celebration in Tokyo, Japan (hybrid) - 19 & 20 September 2023
16 <sup>th</sup> ICA-AP Regional Assembly in the Philippines – 6 to 10 November 2023