

# ICA-AP Annual Activities Report

# 2025

Celebrating and Strengthening  
the Asia-Pacific Cooperative Movement in  
International Year of Cooperatives 2025





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# 2025 at a Glance

15



New Members Joined

Welcoming new organizations from 5 countries, further strengthening the diversity and reach of the ICA-AP network.

22



Countries Reached

Through regional cooperation, programme, partnerships, member engagement, and cross-border participation in ICA-AP activities.

72



Members Engaged

Representing cooperative federations, apex organizations, sectoral bodies, and development partners.

50



Activities Organized

Across regional programmes, committee initiatives, partnerships, policy dialogues, trainings, and campaigns throughout the year.

5



Training Programmes Delivered

Focused on leadership, communication, sustainable agriculture, women's empowerment, and cooperative development.

25



Knowledge Sharing & Learning Events

Including webinars, colloquiums, consultations, forums, and peer-learning exchanges across sectors and themes.

1



New Strategic Partnership Established

Expanding collaboration and opportunities for joint action, learning, advocacy, and regional impact.

# Leadership Perspectives

## Message from the President and the Regional Director

As we look back on 2025, we do so with a deep sense of pride, gratitude, and optimism. This has been a landmark year for the cooperative movement globally and across our region, as we came together to celebrate the International Year of Cooperatives (IYC) 2025 under the shared vision of building a better world through cooperation.

Throughout the year, ICA-AP remained actively engaged with members, partners, committees, and stakeholders across Asia and the Pacific. This report reflects not only the breadth of activities undertaken, but also the strength of our collective commitment to advancing the cooperative model as a people-centred and sustainable pathway for development.

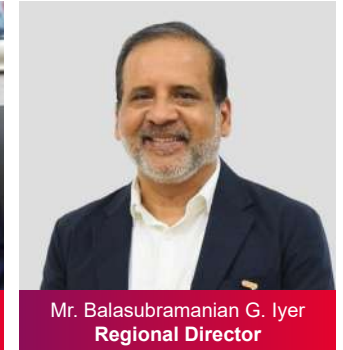
From capacity-building programmes and research initiatives to policy dialogues, strategic partnerships, and regional campaigns, 2025 has been a year of meaningful action and collaboration. Our sectoral and thematic committees continued to provide strong leadership through knowledge exchange, learning programmes, and issue-based dialogue,

ensuring that cooperatives remain responsive to the evolving needs of communities and sectors.

A particularly meaningful moment this year was the 17th ICA-AP Regional Assembly held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, which brought together nearly 450 participants from 22 countries across the region. The Assembly created valuable space for reflection, dialogue, and renewed regional solidarity as members came together. It also marked the election of the new ICA-AP Regional Board for the 2025 - 2029 term, reflecting the diversity and growing inclusivity of our movement, with Jordan joining the Board for the first time alongside other representatives. The Board also took a historic step by approving voting rights for the youth and women's representatives, reaffirming our shared commitment to more inclusive and representative leadership.

This year also saw significant progress through our partnerships, particularly under the ICA-EU and ICA-MAFF programmes, as well as through new collaborations with organisations working in the areas of rural development, youth empowerment, communication, and research. These partnerships have strengthened our regional efforts and opened new avenues for learning and advocacy.

A special highlight of the year has been the increased visibility of the cooperative movement. Through COOP Dialogue, digital campaigns, media outreach, social media engagement, and the launch



of our renewed website and dedicated IYC 2025 regional page, we have amplified stories of impact from across the region and brought the voices of cooperators closer to wider audiences.

At the heart of all these achievements are our members, partners, committee leaders, and colleagues whose dedication and solidarity continue to drive this movement forward. In a world facing complex social, economic, and environmental challenges, cooperatives continue to offer practical, inclusive, and resilient solutions rooted in shared values.

We extend our sincere appreciation to everyone who has contributed to this year's work. As we move ahead, let us continue to build on this momentum and strengthen our shared vision for a more inclusive, sustainable, and cooperative future for Asia and the Pacific.

# The International Year of Cooperatives 2025 – A Recap



IYC 2025 Launch by Indian Prime Minister Mr. Narendra Modi in New Delhi, November 2025



IYC 2025 Launch for Asia-Pacific and Japan at the United Nations University, Tokyo, February 2026

The year 2025 marked a historic milestone for the global cooperative movement. On 19 June 2024, the United Nations (UN) General Assembly proclaimed 2025 as the IYC 2025, under the theme “Cooperatives Build a Better World.” This declaration reaffirmed the critical role of cooperatives in advancing inclusive and sustainable development, while recognizing their contribution toward achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The proclamation set out four key objectives - raising public awareness of the cooperative model, promoting growth and development of cooperatives, advocating supportive legal and policy frameworks, and inspiring leadership, particularly among youth and future cooperative leaders. At a time when the world continues to confront inequality, climate risks, economic uncertainty, and social fragmentation, the UN’s recognition of cooperatives underscored their relevance as people-centred enterprises rooted in democratic governance, equity, and resilience.

A defining global moment in the lead-up to IYC 2025 was its historic launch in New Delhi, India, in November 2024. The launch brought together distinguished international leaders, including Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

of Bhutan H.E. Dasho Tshering Tobgay, Deputy Prime Minister of Fiji Hon. Manoa Kamikamica, and senior representatives from the UN and the global cooperative movement. The event positioned IYC 2025 not only as a celebration but as a strategic platform to amplify cooperative impact worldwide.

For the Asia-Pacific region, IYC 2025 became a rallying point for collective action. As home to one of the world’s most diverse and vibrant cooperative ecosystems, spanning agriculture, finance, consumer, housing, worker, and community-based enterprises, the region embraced the year as an opportunity to strengthen cooperative identity and expand regional solidarity.

The ICA-AP Regional Office, together with its members, initiated a series of strategic activities from launch to conclusion. The official regional launch was held on 20 February 2025 in Tokyo, co-hosted with the IYC 2025 Japan Committee and the ILO Office for Japan. The event convened more than 700 participants, both in person and online, including cooperative leaders, government representatives, youth delegates, and development partners. The launch reinforced the role of cooperatives as drivers of sustainable and inclusive growth in the region.

Under the leadership of Dr. Chandrapal Singh Yadav, President, ICA-AP, the region adopted a strong advocacy and communication agenda. In his messages issued in January and again on International Day of Cooperatives (CoopsDay) in July, Dr. Yadav called upon members to align their actions with the four global objectives of IYC 2025. His messages emphasized cooperative identity, youth engagement, women's leadership, sustainability, technology adoption, and the creation of a long-term legacy beyond 2025.

To support this momentum, ICA-AP undertook a wide range of regional initiatives. These included a storytelling and branding workshop in Malaysia, which trained communication focal points from multiple countries in digital storytelling and strategic outreach. As part of its digital visibility efforts, the Regional Office also launched a dedicated [IYC 2025 web page](#), serving as a central platform to showcase regional activities, member-led initiatives, campaign resources, updates, and stories from across Asia and the Pacific.

The office also aligned its biannual magazine, Coop Dialogue, with the IYC theme through a special issue titled "[Cooperatives Build a Better World: Stories of Action.](#)" Toward the close of the year, ICA-AP further consolidated the regional journey through a year-end [IYC 2025 highlight video](#), capturing key milestones, member country initiatives, campaigns, leadership messages, and the culminating events in Colombo. The video served as a visual reflection of the region's collective achievements and the momentum built throughout the International Year.

A major highlight of the year was the regional collaboration with Heifer International Asia through the campaign [#SeedingStrength: Empowering Farmer Cooperatives](#). Launched around the

CoopsDay, the campaign showcased how farmer cooperatives in the region are enabling smallholders to achieve living incomes, strengthen climate resilience, and build sustainable food systems. The initiative combined webinars, thought leadership pieces, explainer content, and documentary storytelling, generating wide regional and international visibility.

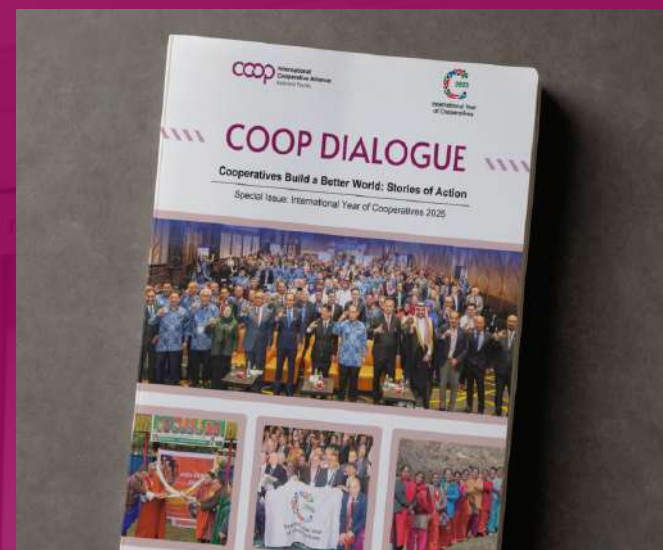
At the national level, member organizations across the region translated the IYC vision into impactful country-led initiatives. Countries including Australia, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran, Japan, Jordan, Nepal, Malaysia, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam organized national launches, policy dialogues, public campaigns, legislative advocacy, and recognition platforms for exemplary cooperatives

Several advocacy milestones emerged during the year. Japan's Diet Resolution in support of cooperatives, India's National Action Plan for IYC 2025, and the establishment of its first National Cooperative University, as well as ongoing legislative reforms in Malaysia, Jordan, and Indonesia, reflected growing policy recognition of the cooperative model.

Creative public engagement campaigns also helped broaden visibility. These included Australia's BCCM Icons campaign, Nepal's National Cooperative Anthem, commemorative stamps and public promotions in India and Jordan, and cooperative awareness campaigns through rail and metro systems in the Philippines.

The 17th ICA-AP Regional Assembly and Cooperative Forum in Colombo served as the culmination of regional IYC activities; the momentum generated throughout 2025 laid a strong foundation

for the future. More than a commemorative year, IYC 2025 was a catalyst for stronger policy frameworks, enhanced communication, youth and women's leadership, and deeper regional cooperation.



Special Issue of COOP Dialogue Commemorating IYC 2025



Delegates at the IYC 2025 Launch at United Nations University, Tokyo

# IYC 2025 in Action Across Asia-Pacific



## Raising Public Awareness

Members across the region amplified cooperative visibility through



National awareness campaigns



Cultural Initiatives



Commemorative songs, product packaging, logos, and stamps



Awards and public recognition programmes



Media and outreach initiatives



### Countries:

India, Malaysia, Australia, Vietnam, Japan, Fiji, Nepal, Jordan, China, Philippines, Iran, Sri Lanka



## Promoting Growth & Development

Cooperatives strengthened enterprise development and member participation through



Youth summits and innovation forums



Cooperative trade fairs and expos



National seminars and networking events



Entrepreneurship promotion initiatives



### Countries:

China, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Bhutan



## Advocating Supportive Legal & Policy Frameworks

Members engaged governments and institutions to strengthen enabling environments for cooperatives through



Formation of national IYC committees



Policy advocacy and consultations



Cooperative law and regulation reforms



Adoption of cooperative resolutions



### Countries:

Australia, India, Fiji, Iran, Japan, Jordan, Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Philippines



## Inspiring Leadership

Leadership initiatives encouraged stronger youth and women's participation in cooperatives through



Youth and women leadership conferences



Capacity-building workshops



Mentorship and networking programmes



Leadership development initiatives



### Countries:

Australia, Philippines, India, Malaysia

# Strengthening the Cooperative Movement

The year 2025 marked a defining moment for the cooperative movement in Asia and the Pacific. Anchored in the UN IYC 2025, ICA-AP advanced its mandate to strengthen governance, reinforce regional solidarity, and elevate the role of cooperatives in addressing economic, social, and environmental challenges.

The 17th Regional Assembly, 12th Asia-Pacific Cooperative Forum, and the related side events provided a comprehensive platform for dialogue, decision-making, and recognition. These milestones collectively reaffirmed the significance of cooperatives in building resilient, inclusive, and sustainable economies across the region.



Dr. Chandrapal Singh Yadav Presents a Souvenir to Hon. Wasantha Samarasinghe in Colombo

## 17th ICA-AP Regional Assembly

The 17th ICA-AP Regional Assembly was convened in Colombo, Sri Lanka, from 24 to 28 November 2025, bringing together approximately 450 cooperative leaders, policymakers, researchers, and partners from 22 countries across Asia and the Pacific. Hosted by the National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka (NCCSL) in collaboration with the Department of Cooperative Development (DCD), SANASA Federation Limited, Matara District Cooperative Hospital Society Ltd, and the National Institute of Cooperative Development (NICD), the Assembly represented the highest decision-making body of ICA-AP and served as a cornerstone event during IYC 2025.

Held under the overarching theme “Cooperatives Build a Better World,” the Assembly reflected both the diversity and strength of the regional cooperative movement. Sri Lanka, as the host country, demonstrated its deep-rooted cooperative legacy and contemporary relevance. With over 9,000 registered cooperatives, more than 10 million members, and a strong presence across sectors

such as agriculture, finance, health, and retail, the country provided a compelling example of how cooperatives contribute to inclusive development, poverty reduction, and sustainable livelihoods.

Hon. Wasantha Samarasinghe, Minister of Trade, Commerce, Food Security, and Cooperative Development, graced the opening ceremony and highlighted ongoing national reforms and the government’s commitment to strengthening the cooperative sector. His remarks underscored the establishment of 1,000 producers’ cooperatives and the modernization of the cooperative legal framework as key steps toward ensuring long-term sustainability and competitiveness.

The opening ceremony also featured two keynote addresses by Mr. Srinivas Tata, Director, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP), Bangkok, and Prof. Ahilan Kadirgamar, Senior Lecturer, University of Jaffna, and Chairman of Northern Cooperative Development Bank.

The Assembly created a space for members to deliberate on regional priorities, review progress, and align strategies in the context of evolving global challenges. The event also facilitated meaningful exchanges between practitioners, policymakers, and development partners, reinforcing ICA-AP's role as a convening platform for regional cooperation.

Beyond administrative sessions, the Assembly week included various side events such as thematic meetings, committee seminars, a study visit, and networking opportunities, allowing participants to engage with Sri Lanka's cooperative ecosystem.

## Board Elections and New Regional Leadership

A key outcome of the 17th Regional Assembly was the election of the new ICA-AP Regional Board for the 2025 – 2029 term. The elections reaffirmed the democratic foundation of the cooperative movement and ensured continuity in leadership while bringing in fresh perspectives.

Dr. Chandrapal Singh Yadav from India was re-elected as President, reflecting the confidence of members in his leadership and vision for the region. He was joined by Vice Presidents Mr. Adili Wubuli from China and Datuk Seri Dr. Abdul Fattah Abdullah from Malaysia, representing the diversity and strength of cooperative leadership across Asia.



The newly elected Board also marked an important milestone in terms of representation and inclusivity. Jordan joined the Board for the first time, and representatives from Japan, Vietnam, Iran, Korea, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Thailand further strengthened the Board's regional composition. Continued youth and women's representation ensured that their perspectives remain integral to decision-making processes.

ICA-AP also acknowledged the valuable contributions of outgoing Board members, whose leadership had helped navigate the organisation through a period of growth and transformation.

## 12th Asia-Pacific Cooperative Forum and the Colombo Declaration

Held alongside the Regional Assembly, the 12th Asia-Pacific Cooperative Forum provided a dynamic platform for reflection, dialogue, and forward-looking engagement. Organised under the theme "Cooperatives Build a Better World: Strengthening Resilience, Sustaining Investment, and Smart Communication," the Forum brought together a wide range of stakeholders to explore how cooperatives can address contemporary challenges and seize emerging opportunities.

The Opening Plenary, titled "[Cooperatives as Catalysts for a Better Future](#)," set the tone for the Forum by reflecting on the significance of IYC 2025 and highlighting the transformative role of cooperatives in the region.

Chaired by ICA Director General Mr. Jeroen Douglas, the plenary featured speakers such as Ms. Joni Simpson, Director, International Labour Organisation (ILO) Country Office for Sri Lanka and the Maldives; Ms. Samadenie Kiriwandeniya, Managing Director, SANASA Federation; Emeritus Professor Tan Sri Dato Seri Dr Noor Azlan Ghazali, Economics Professor at UKM GSB, Malaysia; and Mr. K J Patel, Managing Director, Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd (IFFCO). They shared perspectives on how cooperatives can advance decent work, financial inclusion, climate-resilient development, and cooperative-led investment across the region.

Across the Forum, discussions were structured around three critical themes: resilient financing, progressive policy environments, and strengthening communication and visibility. These themes reflected the core challenges faced by cooperatives and underscored the need for integrated approaches.

Sessions on resilient financing explored innovative mechanisms such as blended finance, green

# Asia-Pacific Cooperative Excellence Awards 2025



Award Recipients (L-R): Mr. Parameswaran Pillai Rajendran for the Kollam District Cooperative Hospital Society Ltd. (India), Mr. Gilbert Llanto (Philippines) and Mr. Khem Bahadur Pathak (Nepal)

investments, and cooperative mutual funds, highlighting the importance of aligning capital with cooperative values. Policy discussions emphasized the role of enabling legal and regulatory frameworks in fostering cooperative development, while also addressing the need for coordinated public support and institutional capacity building. The communication-focused sessions highlighted the growing importance of storytelling, branding, and digital engagement in enhancing the visibility and impact of cooperatives. Participants shared practical experiences and emphasized the need for structured communication strategies, particularly to engage youth and wider audiences.

A key outcome of the Forum was the adoption of the [Colombo Declaration](#) on 27 November 2025. Framed within the context of IYC 2025, the Declaration reaffirmed the cooperative identity and positioned cooperatives as essential partners in achieving the SDGs by 2030. It outlined a clear roadmap for cooperative-led development in the region, serving not only as a statement of intent but as a strategic guide for future action, aligning with the ICA-AP Strategy 2026 – 2030. It called upon governments, cooperative organisations, civil society, and the private sector to work collaboratively in building a more inclusive, resilient, and sustainable future.

The [ICA Asia-Pacific Cooperative Excellence Awards 2025](#), presented during the Regional Assembly in Colombo, recognised outstanding leadership and innovation within the cooperative movement. Established in 2023, the awards aim to celebrate individuals and organisations that have made significant contributions to strengthening cooperatives in the region.

In 2025, the awards process received strong engagement, with nominations from multiple countries across two categories: Inspirational Cooperative Leader and Enterprising Cooperative. A rigorous evaluation process was undertaken by an independent review committee comprising experts from the region, ensuring credibility and transparency.

The Inspirational Cooperative Leader Award was conferred on Mr. Gilbert Llanto from the Philippines, whose leadership has been instrumental in transforming ACDI Multipurpose Cooperative (ACDI MPC) into a large, diversified cooperative serving nearly 300,000 members. Mr. Khem Bahadur Pathak from Nepal was also recognised in this category

for his pioneering work in promoting smallholder agriculture and cooperative development.

The Enterprising Cooperative Award was presented to Kollam District Cooperative Hospital Society (KDCHS) Ltd. from India, acknowledging its achievements in delivering accessible, high-quality healthcare through a cooperative model.

The awards highlighted the diversity and dynamism of the cooperative movement in the region, showcasing examples of excellence that inspire replication and learning across the region.

From convening the Regional Assembly and electing new leadership to fostering dialogue through the Cooperative Forum and recognising excellence, ICA-AP demonstrated its central role in shaping the future of cooperatives in the region.

These milestones, set against the backdrop of the IYC 2025, reaffirmed the relevance of the cooperative model in addressing contemporary challenges and advancing inclusive and sustainable development.

# Inclusive Leadership and Representation

This year, a landmark institutional reform was achieved with the ICA-AP Regional Board's unanimous approval of the proposal to grant full voting rights to the representatives of the Women's and Youth Committees on the Regional Board. This significant decision, later placed before the Regional Assembly, marked a major step toward strengthening inclusive governance, equitable representation, and participatory leadership within the Asia-Pacific cooperative movement.

## Women Leading Change

The ICA-AP Committee on Women continued to strengthen its role as a platform for leadership,

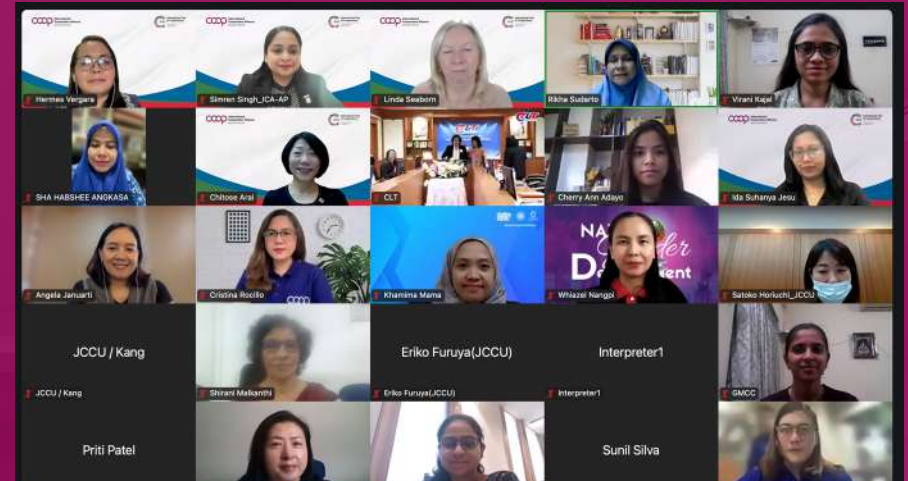
advocacy, learning, and collective action across the Asia-Pacific cooperative movement. Through policy dialogue, capacity building, research, and regional exchange, the Committee advanced women's participation and representation in cooperatives while addressing key social and economic challenges affecting women across the region.

The year began with a strong policy focus through the Committee's virtual side event at the NGO CSW69 Forum, held in March 2025. Marking the third consecutive year of participation at this global platform, the event was organized under the theme "Policy Actions Matter: Cooperatives in Asia-Pacific and Their Initiatives to Foster SDG 5 (Gender Equality)." Bringing together 59 participants from across the region, the session highlighted how cooperatives are contributing to women's empowerment through policy and practice.

The discussion was opened by Ms. Chitose Arai,

Chairperson of the Women's Committee, who connected the conversation to the 30th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the momentum of the IYC 2025. In the keynote address, Ms. Ida Suhanya Jesu, Gender and Inclusion Specialist, ILO Sri Lanka, emphasized cooperatives as vehicles for women's economic empowerment and inclusive development. Expert speakers, Ms. Priti Patel (India), Ms. Linda Seaborn (Australia), and Ms. Hermes Vergara (Philippines), presented concrete policy initiatives on women's leadership, workplace inclusion, gender mainstreaming, and capacity building. The session reinforced the need for stronger policy frameworks, leadership pathways, and continuous capacity building to accelerate progress toward SDG 5: Gender Equality.

Building on this policy dialogue, the Committee moved toward research-based advocacy by launching a Gender Policy Review Study in May



Virtual Side Event at the NGO CSW69 Forum

2025. The study, titled “Review of Gender-Based Policies in Cooperatives in Asia-Pacific,” covered ten countries, including Australia, Fiji, India, Jordan, Malaysia, Nepal, the Philippines, South Korea, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam. Led by Professor Rajeshwari C. of the Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode (IIM-K), India, the study examined existing gender policies and practices within cooperatives and government systems. Its findings will support future advocacy efforts on gender mainstreaming and women’s leadership in the region.

Additionally, the Committee placed strong emphasis on women’s safety and well-being. In June, it organized an online workshop titled [“From Awareness to Action: Recognizing Violence Against Women and Building Coping Capacities.”](#) in collaboration with Sleepwell Foundation India. The session was led by Ms. Arvinder J. Singh, psychologist and consultant to the United Nations, and focused on helping participants identify microaggressions, emotional harm, and invisible forms of violence often experienced in workplaces and family settings.

Participants from multiple countries reflected on issues such as persistent criticism, credit-stealing, emotional manipulation, and lack of voice in decision-making spaces. The workshop created a safe and supportive platform for women to share experiences, understand coping strategies, and strengthen solidarity. This initiative further reflected the Committee’s commitment to building inclusive and empathetic spaces within the cooperative movement.

Environmental leadership continued to be a major focus area. In July, the Committee successfully conducted its second Training of Trainers on Climate Change and Action for Women Cooperators

in Pontianak, West Kalimantan, Indonesia, in collaboration with the INKUR Federation and the National Confederation of Cooperatives (NATCCO), Philippines.

The four-day training brought together 25 women representatives from primary cooperatives and credit unions. Hosted in a region directly affected by deforestation, rising temperatures, and climate-related disruptions, the programme provided both scientific understanding and practical tools on climate mitigation, sustainability, and cooperative action. Sessions led by Ms. Daisybelle Cabal and Ms. Lasalette Gumban focused on greenhouse gas emissions, global warming, and local climate action strategies. The cross-country learning exchange, which included alumni from the first training in Bhutan and a presentation by MSU-IIT National Multi-Purpose Cooperative, Philippines, on innovative green cooperative practices, proved to be a meaningful aspect of the programme. Participants concluded the programme by committing to localized climate action plans, reinforcing women’s leadership in climate resilience and sustainable community development.

The Committee’s work culminated in a powerful regional showcase during the Joint Women & Trade Seminar, held in November 2025 in Colombo as part of the IYC 2025 celebrations. Organized jointly with the ICA-AP Committee on Trade & Business, the event was themed [“Celebrating Women Entrepreneurs in Cooperative Businesses in Asia and Pacific.”](#) The seminar brought together inspiring women cooperative entrepreneurs from across the Asia-Pacific region, creating a platform for learning, exchange, and celebration. Women leaders from India, Vietnam, Malaysia, Japan, and Palestine shared their journeys of building cooperative enterprises in sectors such as handicrafts,

agriculture, silk weaving, tourism, and artisanal livelihoods.

These stories demonstrated how women-led cooperatives are creating dignified livelihoods, preserving traditional knowledge, strengthening communities, and expanding access to markets. More importantly, the seminar highlighted the transformative role of women as leaders, innovators, and community builders within the cooperative ecosystem.

Across all these initiatives, the ICA-AP Committee on Women demonstrated a consistent commitment to inclusive leadership, policy advocacy, and economic empowerment of women. The activities undertaken in 2025 not only strengthened women’s representation within cooperatives but also reaffirmed the Committee’s role in shaping a more equitable and resilient future for the region.



Annual Statutory Meeting of the Women’s Committee in Colombo

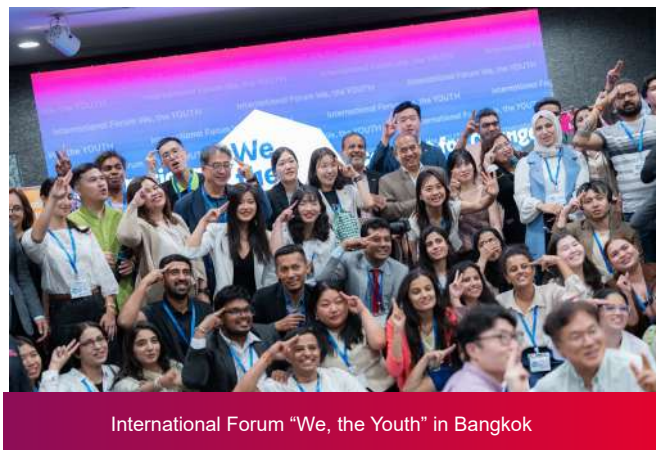
# Youth Shaping the Future

In 2025, the ICA-AP Committee on Youth Cooperation (ICYC) continued to strengthen youth leadership and representation across the Asia-Pacific cooperative movement and created meaningful opportunities for young cooperators to lead, innovate, and shape the future of the movement.

The year began with a strong commitment to sustainability through the seventh edition of the Go Green Campaign (GGC 7.0), held in July in Imus City, Philippines. Organized in partnership with the Rotary Club of Imus and the Rotaract Club of Imus, the campaign focused on empowering young leaders to contribute to a greener and more sustainable future. As part of the initiative, ICYC members and partners planted 30 Banaba saplings along Ragatan Road, a public space identified by the local government for eco-friendly community development. Launched in 2018, the GGC continues to connect youth with the SDGs while reinforcing the identity of cooperatives as socially and environmentally responsible institutions.

Building on this momentum, ICYC played a leading role in the [Asia-Pacific Regional Youth Dialogue: Shaping Tomorrow Together](#), held in August in Bangkok, Thailand, as part of the International Forum “We, the Youth” (IFWY). Jointly organized by ICYC, the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD), and Munhwa Broadcasting Corporation (MBC), and hosted by the Cooperative League of Thailand (CLT), the Dialogue marked an important milestone in youth-led regional engagement. It brought together 50 youth leaders

from across Asia-Pacific, selected from more than 330 applicants, representing countries including Afghanistan, Australia, Bhutan, China, Fiji, Iran, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar, Nepal, the Philippines, and Vietnam. ICYC was strongly represented through 12 members from India, Jordan, and the Philippines, highlighting its commitment to amplifying youth voices within the cooperative sector.



Over two days, participants engaged in thematic discussions on environmental sustainability, economic transformation, social justice and equality, technological innovation and ethics, peace and cooperation, and collective action and solidarity. These sessions encouraged young leaders to co-create practical recommendations and regional solutions to pressing global challenges. The Dialogue concluded with the adoption of [recommendations](#) under the theme “If We Connect for Change: Regional Voices for Sustainable Peace and Cooperation.” These will now contribute to the global IFWY Forum, carrying the priorities of Asia-Pacific youth to the international stage.

The Committee’s role in global youth advocacy further expanded in October 2025 through its participation in the World Food Forum 2025, held in October in Rome. As part of the collaboration between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the ICA, the side event focused on [“Seeds of Inclusion: How women and youth-led cooperatives are transforming agrifood systems.”](#) Representing the region, Ms. Dulce S. Bustamante, Chairperson of ICYC, participated in global youth consultations and policy dialogue. She contributed to the development of the Youth Declaration on Cooperatives in Agrifood Systems, created through a series of preparatory consultations between July and September.

The year concluded with the Youth Talk Show, organized in November 2025 during the 17th ICA-AP Regional Assembly in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Designed in an interactive podcast-style format, the session brought together young cooperative leaders and experts for a dynamic exchange on key youth priorities through the lens of cooperative action. The discussion focused on four major clusters: food security and employment; education, health, and gender equality; environment, peace, and solidarity; and youth rights and participation. The session provided a vibrant platform for young cooperators to share perspectives, reflect on regional priorities, and showcase how cooperatives continue to provide practical solutions for youth-led development.

Together, these initiatives demonstrate how ICYC has continued to position youth not only as future leaders, but as active changemakers of the present. Through action, advocacy, and dialogue, ICYC strengthened youth participation and reaffirmed the central role of young cooperators in building a more inclusive, resilient, and sustainable future for the Asia-Pacific region.

# Committee-Led Sectoral and Thematic Initiatives

ICA-AP's sectoral and thematic committees remained actively engaged in advancing cooperative development across the region through a wide range of programmes, dialogues, trainings, research initiatives, and knowledge-sharing platforms.

## Agriculture and Environment

The ICA-AP Committee on Agriculture and Environment (ICAE), in collaboration with the Network for the Development of Agricultural Cooperatives in Asia and the Pacific (NEDAC), organized the seminar "Furthering Climate Resilient, Smart and Sustainable Agriculture through Cooperatives in Asia and the Pacific" in November 2025. The programme brought together cooperative leaders, practitioners, and policymakers to exchange practical experiences and lessons on climate-resilient agriculture.

Discussions focused on cooperative-led responses to climate risks, sustainable farming systems,

integrated value chains, and rural livelihood resilience. Speakers from India, Japan, and Sri Lanka shared experiences on aggregation benefits, farmer-owned processing, training and advisory systems, responsible market linkages, and sustainable land and water management. The seminar reaffirmed the role of agricultural cooperatives in advancing food security, climate adaptation, and rural transformation across the region.



ICAE-NEDAC Seminar in Colombo

## Credit and Banking

The Committee on Credit and Banking (ICCB) undertook several major initiatives during the year to strengthen cooperative finance systems.

As part of the IYC 2025, ICCB organized a webinar on "Cybersecurity for Credit Cooperatives: Protecting Trust in the Digital Age." Held in collaboration with the Uralungal Labour Contract Cooperative Society (ULCCS), India, and its technology subsidiary UL Technology Solutions (ULTS), the session highlighted the growing importance of digital trust, data protection, and cybersecurity governance as financial cooperatives increasingly adopted integrated digital systems. Discussions covered cyber risk management, artificial intelligence in fraud detection, data ethics, multi-factor authentication, and board-level digital oversight.

The committee also convened a Roundtable on

“Governance and Digital Transformation Priorities” during the Regional Assembly in Colombo. The discussions focused on two major priorities: governance and digital transformation. Experts from Sri Lanka, India, Jordan, and the Philippines emphasized the need for stronger bylaws, risk frameworks, board training, compliance systems, and digital financial services that remain inclusive and member-responsive.

A key highlight of the year was the International Learning Visit to India, organized from 21–24 July 2025 in partnership with the National Federation of State Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (NAFCARD). Delegates from Jordan, Palestine, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, and Nepal visited major apex institutions and cooperative banks in New Delhi, Gujarat, and Anand, including the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI), the National Federation of Urban Cooperative Banks and Credit Societies Ltd. (NAFCUB), the Gujarat State Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Bank (GSCARDB), and the Amul cooperative system. The visit provided practical exposure to cooperative banking structures, rural credit systems, digitization models, and financial inclusion mechanisms, while strengthening peer learning and cross-border collaboration.



ICCB Members during the International Learning Visit to India

## Cooperative Education

The Committee on Cooperatives in Educational Institutions (ICEI) organized a regional webinar on “From Campus to Community: University Cooperatives as Leadership Incubators for Purposeful and Ethical Leaders.”

The programme brought together youth leaders and cooperative practitioners from Japan, Korea, Malaysia, and India to showcase how university cooperatives serve as practical spaces for leadership development, democratic participation, and ethical learning. Presentations highlighted student-led governance models, cooperative entrepreneurship initiatives, health and safety campaigns, and campus-based services that foster leadership and employability.

The discussions reinforced the importance of the 5th Cooperative Principle - Education, Training, and Information, and highlighted the role of student cooperatives in preparing future cooperative leaders.

## Cooperative Research

Knowledge sharing remained an important pillar for the ICA-AP Committee on Cooperative Research through the COOP Colloquium series.



Certificate Presentation at the 19th Asia-Pacific Research Conference

During the year, four colloquiums were organized, each addressing emerging issues relevant to the cooperative movement. The 12th COOP Colloquium, held in February, focused on affordable and sustainable housing through cooperative models, bringing together global experts to discuss cooperative responses to the housing crisis. The 13th edition, held in April, centred on comparative case study methods in cooperative research, with participants joining discussions on research methodologies and strengthening regional research capacity. The 14th edition, convened in July, explored the role of rural energy cooperatives in advancing a zero-carbon and people-centred energy future, highlighting global research and practical pathways for inclusive energy access. The 15th edition, organized in August in collaboration with the Asia Pacific Cooperative Development Platform (APCDP), focused on cross-border collaboration, legal frameworks, digitalisation, and inclusive leadership, reinforcing the importance of global solidarity and shared learning during IYC 2025. The 16th edition, held in September, introduced participants to the Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) competition, a global research communication format developed by the University of Queensland.

The Committee on Cooperative Research (CCR) further strengthened regional research engagement through the [YES Workshop and the annual Research Conference](#).

The YES Workshop (Young and Emerging Scholars), held on 23 November 2025, brought together 26 participants, including 17 young researchers. The workshop focused on research pitching, academic networking, and strengthening cooperative scholarship among emerging researchers. Eleven scholars presented research pitches on sustainability, governance, digital transformation, youth engagement, and community-led development.

This was followed by the 19th ICA Asia-Pacific Research Conference, held from 23 - 24 November 2025 in Colombo in partnership with SANASA Federation and SANASA Campus under the theme “Cooperatives Build a Better World.” The conference brought together researchers, educators, practitioners, and cooperative leaders from across the region. A total of 42 scholars presented papers on topics including climate action, member participation, financial resilience, digital innovation, social cooperatives, and youth engagement.

A major highlight of the conference was the recognition of young scholars through the Dr. Mauritz Bonow Young Researcher Award. First place was awarded to Ms. Sadurya G (India) for her paper Consortium Blockchain in Textile Cooperatives, which explored the use of blockchain to improve transparency, traceability, and democratic governance. Second place was awarded to Ms. Rossalina Christanti (Indonesia) for her research on credit union resilience, focusing on member-centered financial strategies during crises. In addition, Dr. K. Paul Thomas ESAF Cooperative

Young Researcher Award was presented to Ms. Srishti Saxena (India) for her promising scholarship and commitment to cooperative development. The CLIMBS Cooperative Education Award was awarded to Ms. Nilanka Madushani (Sri Lanka), acknowledging her contributions in strengthening cooperative learning and educational engagement. A field visit to SANASA primary societies and SANASA Campus further complemented the conference by linking research discussions with practical cooperative experiences in rural development, environmental initiatives, and cooperative education.

## Trade and Business

The Committee on Trade and Business played a central role in strengthening cooperative participation in regional and global trade platforms.

The ICA Trade and Development Forum, held on 7 November 2025 in Shanghai, focused on [“Cooperatives Empowering Sustainable Trade and Supply Chain.”](#) The forum brought together representatives from multiple countries and highlighted the role of cooperatives in sustainable supply chains, ethical trade, and resilient market systems. Datuk Seri Dr. Abdul Fattah Abdullah, President of the Malaysian National Cooperative Movement (ANGKASA) and the Committee Chair, highlighted the Committee’s role as a key regional platform for strengthening cooperative trade networks, facilitating knowledge exchange, encouraging digital innovation, and enhancing



the position of cooperatives within international trade policies. A key outcome was the Shanghai Declaration: Strategic Education for Strengthening the Future of Cooperative Trade, which outlined strategic priorities related to climate change, artificial intelligence, food security, policy support, and cooperative identity.

The committee also coordinated the ICA-AP pavilion at the [China International Import Expo \(CIIE\) 2025](#), the world’s largest import-focused trade exhibition hosted by the Chinese government, which was held from 5 - 10 November 2025 at the National Exhibition and Convention Center in Shanghai. The Committee’s pavilion brought together 11 cooperative organizations from countries such as India, Nepal, Vietnam, the Philippines, Jordan, Sri Lanka, Fiji, South Korea, Malaysia, and China, showcasing a broad spectrum of cooperative products and services. These included agricultural produce, specialty foods and beverages, traditional handicrafts, textile and art-based items, sustainable tourism offerings, and community-based services. The pavilion promoted business matching, market access, knowledge exchange, and international visibility for cooperative enterprises.

# Partnerships for Cooperative Development

## ICA–EU Partnership Programme

The ICA–EU Financial Framework Partnership Agreement (FFPA) Phase 2 continued to provide an important platform for advancing cooperative development across the Asia-Pacific region through coordinated work on capacity building, research, policy advocacy, and enhancing the visibility of cooperatives. During 2025, the programme supported both regional priorities and global cooperative initiatives, strengthening institutional capacities and amplifying the role of cooperatives in sustainable development.

### Capacity Building

A couple of targeted capacity-building initiatives were undertaken during the year to strengthen leadership, governance, and communication capabilities among member organizations.

In February, ICA-AP organized a virtual training on [“Cooperative Leadership for Social Impact”](#), focusing on governance, leadership competencies, and purpose-driven management in a rapidly changing environment. Conducted in partnership with NATCCO from the Philippines, the training brought together cooperative leaders from across the region and explored how cooperative leaders can drive meaningful impact while balancing economic and social goals. Participants from countries like Bhutan, Jordan, Malaysia, Cambodia, and the Philippines took part in the training. The facilitators discussed the concept of the BANI Framework, the leadership

qualities needed to be cultivated in the BANI world, leadership skills for social impact, and building a culture of excellence, innovation, empathy, and inclusivity.

This was followed by a peer-to-peer communications training programme in Kuala Lumpur, hosted by ANGKASA, under the theme [“Telling Our Stories. Building Strong Cooperative Brands in the Digital Era.”](#) Held in February, the two-day workshop brought together 19 representatives from member organizations across Asia and the Pacific, including India, the Philippines, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Iran, Vietnam, Fiji, and Malaysia. The participants, primarily communication and public relations professionals, engaged in practical sessions focused on enhancing cooperative branding and storytelling in the digital space.



The training covered key themes such as global cooperative identity alignment, including the use of the .coop domain and Coop Marque, digital-first branding, storytelling for impact, emerging media platforms, and data-driven communication strategies. Expert-led sessions and interactive exercises helped

participants strengthen their understanding of how to build stronger online visibility through websites, social media, video content, and mainstream media engagement.

A major outcome of the programme was the development of tailored communication toolkits and action plans by participants, enabling them to apply the learnings within their own organizations and enhance cooperative visibility in preparation for IYC 2025.



Participants at the Communications Training in Kuala Lumpur

## Research

Research remained a major pillar of the partnership programme, with ICA-AP actively contributing to the global harmonized research agenda through the Research Working Group (RWG). During 2025, multiple RWG meetings and technical consultations were held to guide Asia-Pacific's contributions to three key global research activities: SDG reporting, Mapping of Cooperative Actors, and Legal Framework Analysis (LFA).

ICA-AP coordinated with members in Kiribati and Jordan to support the integration of cooperative

contributions into their Voluntary National Review (VNR) 2026 processes, ensuring stronger recognition of cooperatives in national SDG reporting.

For the implementation of a Mapping of Cooperative Actors, the region focused on revisiting and refining the global mapping methodology and tools in close coordination with Euricse and RWG. The process initiated through a joint brainstorming session laid the foundation for reviewing the scope and structure of the mapping exercise.

During the year, eight Country Snapshots (Iran, Bhutan, Australia, Jordan, Cambodia, Japan, Sri Lanka, and China) and one sectoral snapshot (Credit & Banking Cooperatives in Asia and Pacific) were also prepared, contributing valuable regional data and practical insights to inform the global mapping framework.

A steady progress was also made on the Legal Framework Analysis (LFA). Through technical brainstorming sessions, internal consultations, and participation in international legal forums, including the Cooperative Law Summer School in Croatia and the International Symposium on Cooperatives and International Law in The Hague, ICA-AP contributed to the finalization of the methodology and questionnaire for global rollout.

In addition, the team developed a thematic working paper titled "Cooperatives in Asia-Pacific's Renewable Energy Transition: Barriers and Policy Pathways", examining the policy, financing, and regulatory challenges facing cooperative-led renewable energy initiatives.

## Policy and Advocacy

Policy dialogue and strategic advocacy engagements were strengthened considerably under the partnership during the year.

A key highlight was ICA-AP's participation in the [Strategic Dialogue on Cooperative Development for Rural and Agrifood Systems Transformation in the NENA Region](#), hosted in Morocco in collaboration with the FAO and ICA Africa. The dialogue brought together policymakers, government officials, and cooperative leaders to develop a common vision and regional roadmap for cooperative development in rural and agrifood systems. Parallel panels explored four critical areas: 1) Inclusion of women, youth, and indigenous people in cooperatives; 2) Cooperatives as institutions for peacebuilding and resilience; 3) Strengthening cooperative identity in the NENA region; 4) Services and innovation within cooperatives. Further, two high-level roundtable discussions provided a platform for direct engagement between government representatives and cooperative leaders.

The Asia Pacific Cooperative Development Platform (APCDP) also continued to consolidate its role as a regional mechanism for international cooperative collaboration. During 2025, the platform convened three collective meetings and multiple bilateral consultations. The meeting in Colombo, in November, featured a roundtable discussion on ["Changing Context in the Donor Community: What It Means for International Cooperative Development."](#) The discussion examined evolving donor priorities, funding trends, and partnership approaches, while positioning APCDP members to better align and engage.

Distinguished speakers included R.H.W.A. Kumarasiri, Project Director of the Integrated Rurban Development and Climate Resilience Project at the World Bank, and Marian Fernando, National Project Coordinator for the Care Economy Project at ILO, and Jose Capitan, representative from EC DGINTPA delivered special remarks on the Global Gateway initiative.

This culminated in the signing of the APCDP Charter and established a forward-looking action plan for 2026-2027, covering policy engagement, donor dialogue, and member visibility.

At the broader policy level, ICA-AP participated in six regional political dialogue processes, including meetings of the Policy Forum on Development (PFD) and consultations on the EU Regional Multi-annual Indicative Programme for Asia and the Pacific.

The programme also supported advocacy at major global forums, including the World Food Forum side event in Rome, where ICA-AP contributed to the Youth Declaration on Cooperatives in Agrifood Systems, endorsed by young cooperators from 26 countries.

In terms of strategic partnerships, ICA-AP signed new memoranda of understanding with Aflatoun International to promote social, financial, and cooperative education among youth. And with Heifer International for knowledge exchange and mutual learning, research, project co-design and joint programmes, and resource mobilisation, as well as networking, advocacy, and external communication.



Presentation by Mr. R.H.W.A. Kumarasiri at APCDP Seminar in Colombo



APCPD Charter Signing Ceremony in Colombo

## Visibility

The visibility component of the programme focused on strengthening the public presence of cooperatives and showcasing their impact through storytelling and strategic communications.

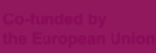
A major regional contribution was the release of the global video "A Day in the Life with Coops", jointly produced with ICA and other regional offices. The video documented how cooperatives shape everyday life across regions through real-life stories. From Asia-Pacific, the story featured Queanna Camaso from the Philippines, highlighting youth leadership, financial literacy, and cooperative education.

The programme also supported enhanced member visibility through the APCDP newsletter spotlight series, featuring four member organizations, including DGRV, ANGKASA, Legacoop, and NCU, and their international development work, and through the MiCDP (Mapping International Cooperative Development Programs) platform, where members were onboarded to improve discoverability and cross-border collaboration.

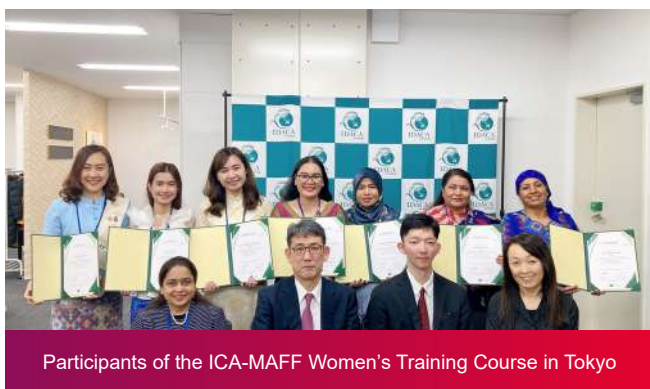
The team also developed a programme brochure that outlined the partnership background, key activities, and the strategic priorities guiding the region's work. The brochure served as a concise visibility and knowledge-sharing resource, helping communicate the programme's scope, outcomes, and regional relevance to members, partners, and external stakeholders.

Explore more about the project at <https://coops4dev.coop/en>

For collaboration and partnership email at [monalisa.kashyap@icaap.coop](mailto:monalisa.kashyap@icaap.coop)



# ICA-MAFF Capacity Building Programme



Participants of the ICA-MAFF Women's Training Course in Tokyo

Under its long-standing collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries (MAFF), Government of Japan, ICA-AP continued to implement capacity-building programmes aimed at strengthening agricultural cooperatives and promoting sustainable development across the region. Implemented in partnership with the Institute for the Development of Agricultural Cooperation in Asia (IDACA) and host member organizations, the programme focused on knowledge exchange, practical field exposure, and follow-up support for action plan implementation. In 2025, three activities were carried out under this programme.

The ICA-MAFF Women's Training Course on Capacity Building of Rural Women for the

Vitalization of Rural Economy (FY 2024) was conducted from 17 February to 12 March 2025 in Thailand and Japan. The programme was delivered in two phases, with the first phase organized in collaboration with the CLT in Bangkok and the second phase with IDACA in Japan. Seven participants from Cambodia, Indonesia, Jordan, Malaysia, Nepal, Thailand, and Vietnam took part in the course. The training combined lectures, study visits, and peer learning, with a strong focus on women-led cooperative enterprises, rural entrepreneurship, and livelihood enhancement. Participants visited women-run enterprises engaged in food processing, handicrafts, textiles, and agricultural products, and gained exposure to concepts such as Japan's sixth industrialization model, women farmers' associations, and agricultural quality certification systems. The programme concluded with the development of country-specific action plans aimed at strengthening rural women's incomes and leadership through cooperatives.

As part of the programme's follow-up component, a field review mission to Fiji was undertaken in March 2025 by ICA-AP and IDACA. The visit assessed the progress of action plans developed by past participants and reviewed how learnings from the training had been translated into local initiatives. The mission included consultations with government representatives and site visits to communities where former trainees had begun implementing cooperative development plans. A key outcome observed was the formation and strengthening of cooperatives to improve access to government agricultural support schemes and funding opportunities, reinforcing the programme's long-term impact on rural development.

The third ICA-MAFF Training Course on Promotion

of Sustainable Agriculture and Improvement of Farmers' Income through Development of Agricultural Cooperatives (FY 2025) was held from 18 July to 4 August 2025 in Thailand and Japan. Conducted in partnership with CLT and IDACA, the programme brought together six participants from countries across Asia, Africa, and the Pacific. Through a combination of classroom sessions, cooperative study visits, and structured peer exchange, the training explored sustainable agriculture practices, cooperative business models, and strategies for improving farmers' incomes. Participants developed context-specific action plans addressing local agricultural and cooperative challenges, with the programme reinforcing the role of cooperatives as practical vehicles for sustainable farming and resilient rural economies.

Together, these activities reflected the continued relevance of the ICA-MAFF collaboration in supporting cooperative-led rural transformation, women's empowerment, and sustainable agricultural development across the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.



Participants of the ICA-MAFF Sustainable Agriculture Training Course in Bangkok

# Communications & Visibility in IYC

## 2025

ICA-AP continued to strengthen the visibility of the cooperative movement across Asia and the Pacific through publications, digital campaigns, coop colloquiums, media outreach, and enhanced online engagement. In IYC 2025, communication efforts focused on amplifying member stories, sharing knowledge, and showcasing how cooperatives are building inclusive and sustainable solutions across sectors.

## COOP Dialogue

ICA-AP published two issues of its biannual magazine, COOP Dialogue. Issue 8, themed [“Cooperative Housing: Bridging the Urban Divide”](#), explored how housing cooperatives across different countries are addressing urban challenges through democratic and community-led models. The issue featured stories from India, Japan, Indonesia,

Australia, and Europe, highlighting legal reforms, student-led housing initiatives, and sustainable community solutions.

Later in the year, Issue 9 was launched during the 17th ICA-AP Regional Assembly in Colombo as a [special IYC 2025 edition](#). The issue documented how cooperatives across Australia, Jordan, Malaysia, Iran, Fiji, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Japan, and other countries are responding to local and regional challenges through healthcare, finance, green energy, social protection, and livelihoods. It also served as an important record of key advocacy and visibility initiatives undertaken during the International Year.



## #SeedingStrength Awareness Campaign

One of the most significant communication collaborations in 2025 was the regional awareness campaign #SeedingStrength: Empowering Farmer Cooperatives, launched jointly with Heifer International Asia in July. The campaign, launched virtually with an event titled “Building a Better World: How Farmer Cooperatives Drive Equity, Access, and Sustainability,” highlighted stories from India, Bangladesh, Cambodia, and Nepal, focusing on how farmer cooperatives are supporting smallholder livelihoods, climate-smart agriculture, and living incomes.

This was followed by a fireside chat in October, “Seeding Strength to Unlock Finance for Women-led Rural Enterprises and Cooperatives in Asia.” Bringing together women leaders, cooperative practitioners, financial experts, and development partners from across the region, the event explored how women’s cooperatives can gain fair access to finance and thrive in rural economies. Mr Davide Loriggiola, Policy Officer, European Commission (DG INTPA), joined the chat and shared how the EU’s external actions support fairness, sustainability, and resilience.

The initiative also included explainer content, quizzes, carousels, videos, and static posts designed to inform and engage wider audiences. ICA-AP further contributed to a documentary produced by

Heifer in collaboration with CNN News18, as well as a co-authored thought leadership article by Ms. Neena Joshi and Mr. Balasubramanian Iyer, which reached over 1.64 million people online.

## International Day of Cooperatives

ICA-AP also actively marked the International Day of Cooperatives (CoopsDay) 2025, celebrated under the global theme “Cooperatives: Driving Inclusive and Sustainable Solutions for a Better World.” Special video messages from ICA-AP President Dr. Chandrapal Singh Yadav and Regional Director Mr. Balasubramanian Iyer were shared widely across platforms, highlighting the role of cooperatives in addressing climate change, inequality, and sustainable development.



ICA-AP Staff Celebrate CoopsDay 2025

## Revamped Website and Digital Outreach

A major milestone in the year’s communication efforts was the launch of the revamped ICA-AP website, featuring a refreshed design, improved navigation, an interactive country membership map, updated publications, and a dedicated events and news section. Alongside this, ICA-AP launched a dedicated IYC 2025 regional webpage, bringing together updates, messages, campaign resources, and visibility materials linked to the International Year. The platform served as a central hub for documenting regional activities and member-led stories throughout the year.

Digital engagement saw significant growth in 2025, supported by consistent pre-event, live, and post-event communication across all major

programmes and campaigns. Social media reach and engagement increased substantially across platforms, and BlueSky was added as a new platform during the year to expand outreach.

In addition to digital visibility, ICA-AP also received mainstream media coverage during major events, including the ICA-EU Communications Training in Malaysia, the Regional Assembly in Sri Lanka, and the Seeding Strength campaign.

Overall, 2025 marked a significant year for communications and visibility, with ICA-AP strengthening its role as a regional platform for knowledge sharing, advocacy, and storytelling during the IYC.

Platform	Followers/Subscribers	Reach/ Views	Engagement
Facebook	4.9 K (from 4.2K)	185.1K (from 63.9K)	7.4K
Instagram	1.4K (from 1.2K)	15.8K (from 4.6K)	2.2K
X	2.8K (from 2.7K)	N/A	N/A
LinkedIn	3k (from 2k)	91.8K (from 36.6K)	3.7K
YouTube	581 (from 518)	3.6K (from 3.1K)	N/A

# Expanding the Movement – New Members

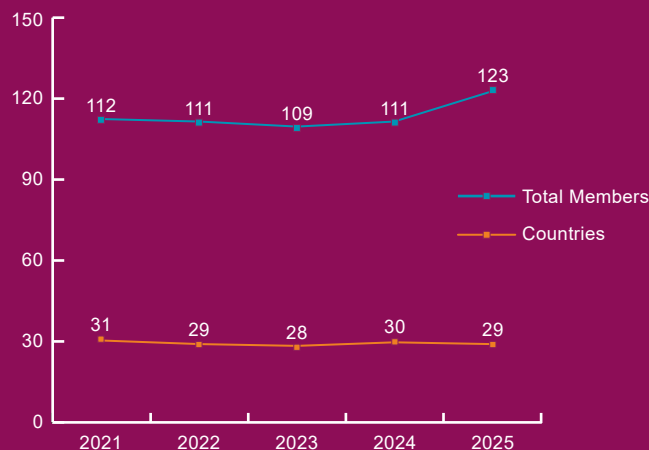
In 2025, ICA-AP continued to strengthen its regional network, with 123 members from 29 countries as of December 2025.

Over the past five years, ICA-AP has continued to expand and diversify its membership base. Membership increased from 112 member organisations in 2021 to 123 in 2025, while regional reach remained strong across nearly 30 countries

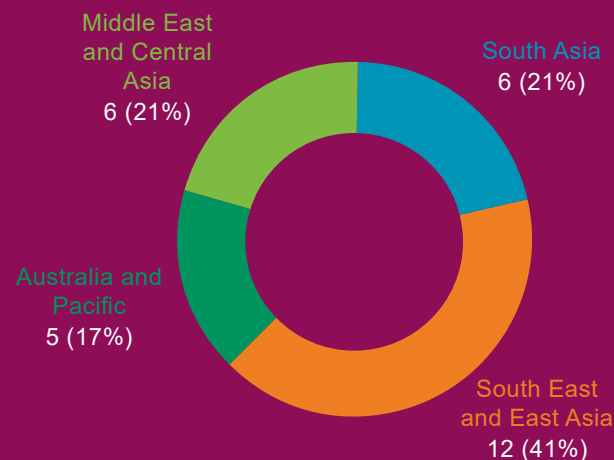
The growth recorded in 2025 was particularly significant, with 15 new members joining from five countries, strengthening representation from different sectors and sub-regions. South Asia and South East Asia continue to represent the largest share of membership, while participation from the Middle East, East Asia, and the Pacific highlights the increasingly interconnected nature of the regional cooperative movement.

Beyond numbers, this growth reflects deeper engagement, stronger regional collaboration, and growing recognition of ICA-AP as a platform for knowledge exchange, advocacy, and international cooperation.

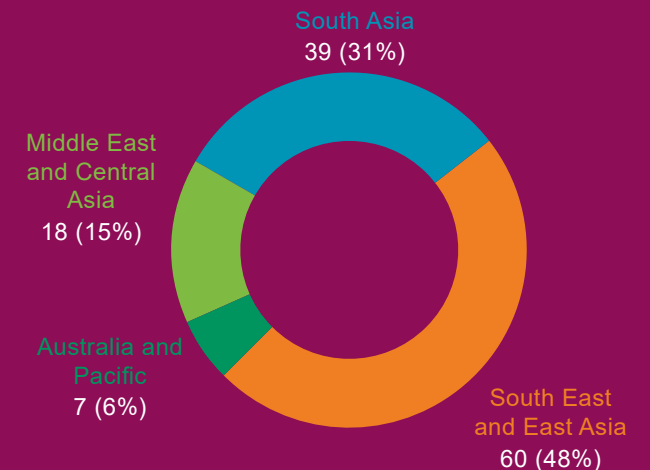
Membership Growth in 5 Years



Countries Sub-regionally



Members Sub-regionally

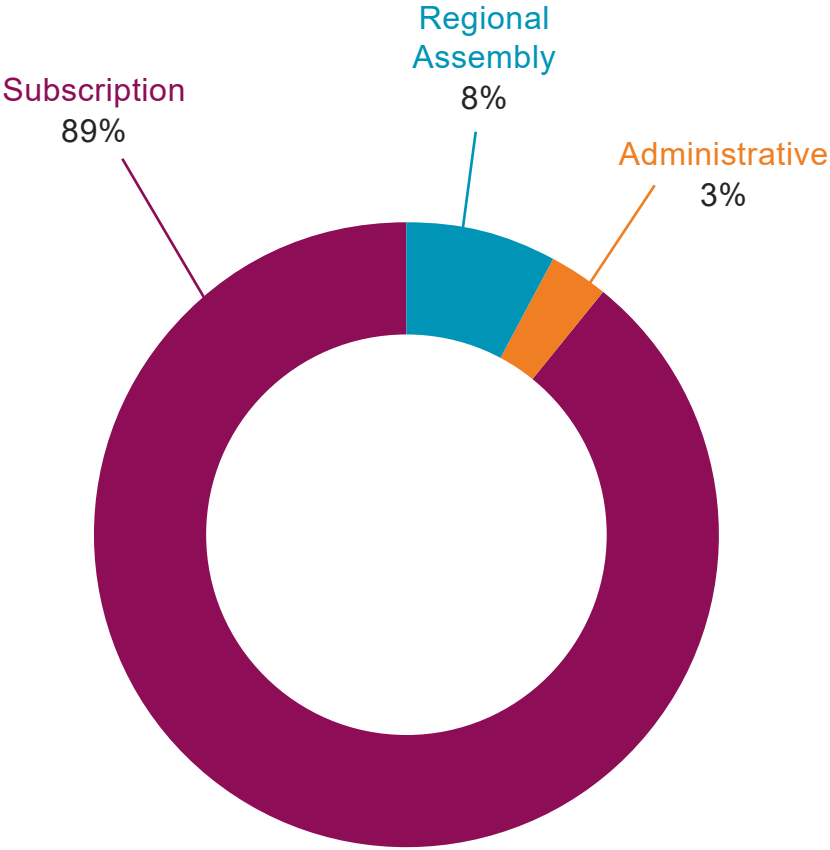


# New Members

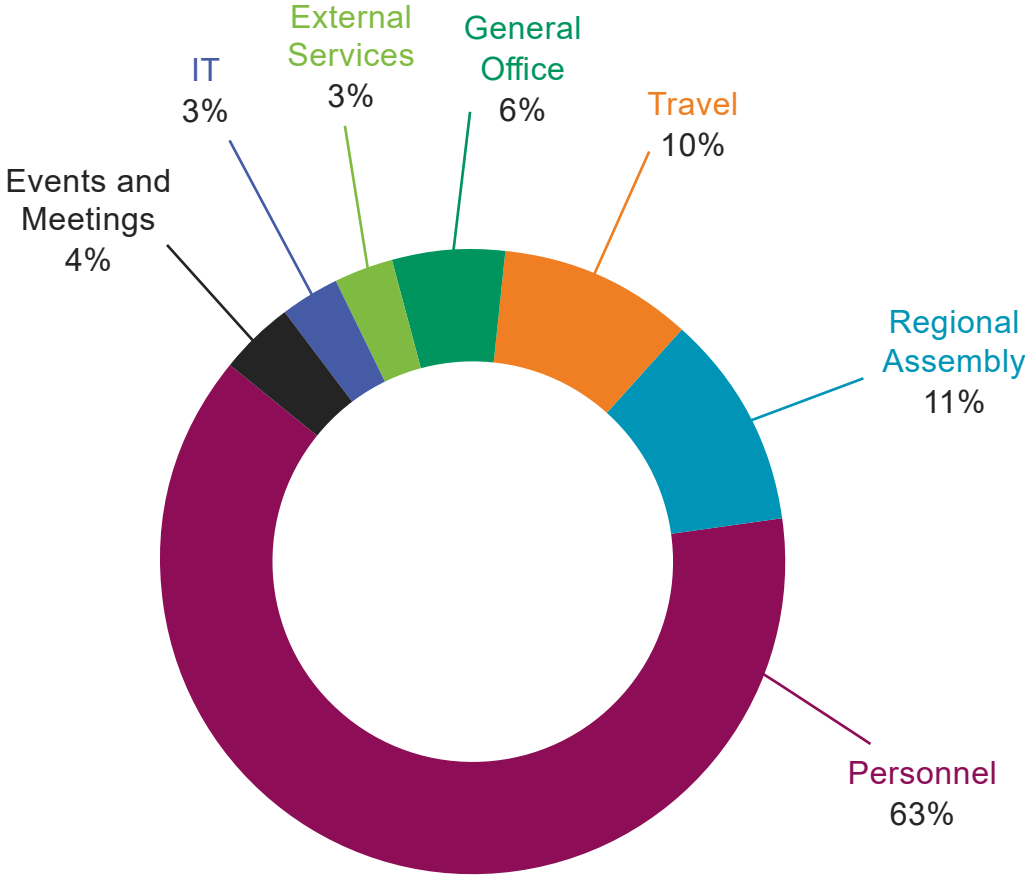
- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <p>1  Philippine Family Farmers Agriculture Fishery Forestry Cooperatives Federation (AgriCOOPh)</p> <p> PHILIPPINES</p> | <p>6  General Cooperative Union (GUCOOP.PAL)</p> <p> PALESTINE</p>                              | <p>11  One-Cooperative Federation (OCF)</p> <p> PHILIPPINES</p>  |
| <p>2  Malankara Multi-State Cooperative Credit Society Limited (MMSCCS)</p> <p> INDIA</p>                                | <p>7  Kollam District Co-operative Hospital Society Ltd.</p> <p> INDIA</p>                      | <p>12  National Urban Cooperative Finance and Development Corporation Limited (NUCFDC)</p> <p> INDIA</p> |
| <p>3  Guangdong Federation of Supply and Marketing Cooperatives (GFSMC)</p> <p> CHINA</p>                                | <p>8  Institute of Cooperatives and Bio-enterprise Development (ICOPED)</p> <p> PHILIPPINES</p> | <p>13  Pride Multi-State Credit Cooperative Society Ltd.</p> <p> INDIA</p>                               |
| <p>4  Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited (BBSSL)</p> <p> INDIA</p>   | <p>9  Saath Janvikas Multipurpose Seva Sahkari Mandali Limited</p> <p> INDIA</p>            | <p>14  Hubei Federation of Supply and Marketing Cooperatives</p> <p> CHINA</p>                       |
| <p>5  Saigon Union of Trading Co-operatives (Saigon Co.op)</p> <p> VIETNAM</p>                                       | <p>10  National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)</p> <p> INDIA</p>       | <p>15  Kalandia Camp Women's Handicraft Cooperative (KCWHC)</p> <p> PALESTINE</p>                    |

# Financial Overview

## Income



## Expenditure



# Annexures

## Calendar of Activities – 2025

#	Activity	Venue	Month
1	Strategic Dialogue on Cooperative Development for Rural and Agrifood Systems Transformation in the NENA Region (In partnership with FAO and ICA Africa)	Morocco	January
2	ICA-AP Regional Board Meeting	Tokyo, Japan	February
3	IYC 2025 Launch for Asia-Pacific and Japan	Tokyo, Japan	February
4	Virtual Capacity Building Training on Cooperative Leadership for Social Impact	Online	February
5	Virtual Capacity Building Training on Cooperative Leadership for Social Impact	Kuala, Lumpur	February
6	COOP Colloquium 12: Affordable and Sustainable Housing – Solutions Through Cooperative Models	Online	February
7	ICA-MAFF Training Course on Capacity Building of Rural Women on Their Roles for Vitalization of Rural Economy in FY-2024	Thailand and Japan	February-March
8	Virtual Parallel Event at NGO CSW 69 Forum	Online	March
9	ICA-MAFF Training Course Follow Up FY-2024	Fiji	March
10	COOP Colloquium 13: Focus on Research Methods - Using Comparative Case Studies in Cooperative Research	Online	April
11	Study Launch: Review of gender-based policies in cooperatives in Asia-Pacific	Online	May
12	ICA-AP All Committees Meeting	Online	May
13	2025 Global Meeting of the Policy Forum on Development	Brussels, Belgium	June
14	Workshop on Recognizing and Responding to Violence Against Women	Online	June
15	Webinar: From Campus to Community - University Cooperatives as Leadership Incubators	Online	June
16	MoU Signing Ceremony - New partnership with Heifer International In Asia	Delhi, India	June
17	COOP Colloquium 14: Toward a Shared Zero-Carbon Energy Future	Online	July
18	ICA-AP Regional Board Meeting	Guangzhou, China	July
19	Regional Workshop on Sustainable Development of Cooperatives (In collaboration with ACFSMC)	Guangzhou, China	July
20	Campaign Launch Event: Seeding Strength - Empowering Farmer Cooperatives in Asia	Online	July
21	ICA-AP Committee on Credit and Banking Learning Visit to India	India	July

#	Activity	Venue	Month
22	ToT on Climate Change and Action for Women Cooperators	West Kalimantan, Indonesia	July
23	ICA-MAFF Training Course on Promotion of Sustainable Agriculture and Improvement of Farmers' Income through Development of Agricultural Cooperatives in FY-2025	Thailand and Japan	July-August
24	Asia-Pacific Regional Youth Dialogue (In collaboration with UNRISD, MBC, and CLT)	Bangkok, Thailand	August
25	COOP Colloquium 15: Cross-Border Collaboration for Cooperative Development	Online	August
26	ICA-AP Regional Board Meeting	Online	September
27	Fireside Chat on Seeding Strength to Unlock Finance for Women-led Rural Enterprises and Cooperatives in Asia	Online	September
28	APCDP All Members' Meeting	Online	September
29	Coop Colloquium 16: Mastering Three Minute Thesis (3MT),	Online	October
30	Webinar: Cybersecurity for Credit Cooperatives - Protecting Trust in the Digital Age	Online	October
31	Expo and Cooperative Forum on Trade and Development	Shanghai, China	November
32	ICA-AP Regional Board Meeting	Sri Lanka	November
33	17th ICA-AP Regional Assembly	Sri Lanka	November
34	12th Asia Pacific Cooperative Forum	Sri Lanka	November
35	19th ICA Asia-Pacific Research Conference and YES Workshop	Sri Lanka	November
36	ICA-AP Women's Committee Statutory Meeting	Sri Lanka	November
37	Joint Event to Commemorate IYC 2025 by ICA-AP Committee on Women and the Committee on Trade & Business	Sri Lanka	November
38	ICA-AP Committee on Credit and Banking Statutory Meeting	Sri Lanka	November
39	ICCB Roundtable on Challenges for Credit and Banking Cooperatives	Sri Lanka	November
40	ICA-AP Committee on Agriculture and Environment Annual Meeting	Sri Lanka	November
41	Seminar: Furthering Climate Resilient, Smart and Sustainable Agriculture through Cooperatives in Asia and the Pacific	Sri Lanka	November
42	ICA-AP Committee on Cooperatives in Educational Institutions Annual Meeting	Sri Lanka	November
43	ICA-AP Committee on Cooperative Research Annual Meeting	Sri Lanka	November
44	15th Annual Statutory Meeting of ICYC	Sri Lanka	November
45	Youth Talk Show	Sri Lanka	November
46	12th Malaysia Business Office Council Meeting	Sri Lanka	November
47	ICA-AP Trade and Business Committee Annual Meeting	Sri Lanka	November
48	59th ICA-AP Consumer Committee Meeting	Sri Lanka	November
49	CICOPA Asia and Pacific Annual Meeting	Sri Lanka	November
50	Roundtable Discussion with APCDP Members on Changing Context in the Donor Community: What It Means for International Cooperation Development	Sri Lanka	November

# New Regional Board (2025-2029)



Dr. Chandrapal Singh Yadav,  
India

**President**



Mr. Adili Wubuli, China

**Vice-President**



Datuk Seri Dr. Abdul Fattah  
Abdullah, Malaysia

**Vice-President**



Mr. Alireza Banaeifar, Iran

**Member**



Ms. Chitose Arai, Vice  
President, Japan

**Member and Chairperson,  
ICA-AP Committee on Women**



Mr. Abdelfattah M. Q. Al-  
Shalabi, Jordan

**Member**



Mr. Ho-dong Kang,  
Chairman, Korea

**Member**



Mr. Gilbert Sanchez Llanto,  
Philippines

**Member**



Mr. G.D. Sarath Weerasiri,  
Sri Lanka

**Member**



Mr. Poramate  
Intarachumnum, Thailand

**Member**



Mrs. Cao Xuan Thu Van,  
Vietnam

**Member**



Ms. Dulce Bustamante,  
Philippines

**Member and Chairperson,  
ICA-AP Committee on Youth  
Cooperation**

# Committees

ICA-AP has 9 regional thematic and sectoral committees.

 <p><b>ICA-AP Committee on Agriculture and Environment</b></p>	<p><b>Chairperson</b> Assoc. Prof. Datuk Dr. Abdul Rahman Abdul Razak Shaik, ANGKASA, Malaysia</p>	<p><b>Vice-Chairperson</b> Mr. Kishor Kumar, ULCCS, India</p>	<p><b>Vice-Chairperson</b> Ms. Madhavi M Vipradas, Indian Farmers Forestry Development Cooperative (IFFDC), India</p>	<p><b>Secretary</b> Dr. Shrija Sinha, ICA-AP</p>	
 <p><b>ICA-AP Committee on Consumer Cooperation</b></p>	<p><b>Chairperson</b> Ms. Mikyung Shin, iCOOP, Korea</p>	<p><b>Vice-Chairperson</b> Assoc. Prof. Datuk Dr. Abdul Rahman Abdul Razak Shaik, ANGKASA, Malaysia</p>	<p><b>Vice-Chairperson</b> Mr. Haruyoshi Amano, JCCU, Japan</p>	<p><b>Secretary</b> Mr. Sungjoon Kang, JCCU, Japan</p>	
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Members in 2025

**123 Members**  
**29 Countries**

## Australia

1. Capricorn Society Limited (CSL)
  2. Cooperative Bulk Handling Ltd. (CBH Group)
  3. Business Council of Cooperatives and Mutuals (BCCM)
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## Bangladesh

4. National Co-operative Union of Bangladesh (BJSU)
  5. Bangladesh Samabaya Bank Limited (BSBL)
- 

## Bhutan

6. Department of Agricultural Marketing & Coops (DAMC)
- 

## Cambodia

7. Cambodia Agricultural Cooperative Alliance (CAC Alliance)
- 

## China

8. All China Federation of Supply & Marketing Cooperatives (ACFSMC)
9. International Committee for the Promotion of Chinese Industrial Co-operatives (ICCIC)
10. Jiangsu Supply and Marketing General Cooperative (JSMGC)
11. Fujian Federation of Supply & Marketing Coops (Fujian Coop)
12. Guangdong Federation of Supply and Marketing

Cooperatives (GFSSMC)

13. Hubei Federation of Supply and Marketing Cooperatives (HFSSMC)
- 

## Fiji

14. Department of Cooperative Business (DCB)
- 

## India

15. National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI)
16. Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative Ltd. (IFFCO)
17. Buldana Urban Cooperative Credit Society (BUCCS)
18. Cooperative House Building & Finance Corporation Ltd. (CHBFC)
19. Indian Farm Forestry Development Coop Ltd. (IFFDC)
20. Krishak Bharati Cooperative Ltd. (KRIBHCO)
21. National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED)
22. National Cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Banks' Federation Ltd. (NAFCARD)
23. National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)
24. National Federation of State Coop Banks Ltd. (NAFSCOB)
25. National Federation of Farmers Procurement, Processing & Retailing Coops of India Ltd. (NACOF)
26. National Yuva Co-operative Society Ltd. (NYCS)
27. Uralungal Labour Contract Coop Society Ltd. (ULCCS)
28. Tirumalla Tirupati Multi-State Coop Credit Society (TTMSSC)
29. Centre for Cooperatives and Livelihoods (CCL)
30. Tamil Nadu Small Tea Growers Federation Ltd. (INDCOSERVE)
31. ESAF Swasraya Multi-State Agro Cooperative Society

Ltd.

32. Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Ltd. (BBSSL)
  33. Kollam District Co-operative Hospital Society Ltd. (KDCHS)
  34. Malankara Multi-State Cooperative Credit Society Ltd. (MMCCS)
  35. Saath Janvikas Multipurpose Seva Sahkari Mandali Ltd.
  36. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)
  37. National Urban Cooperative Finance and Development Corporation Ltd. (NUCFDC)
  38. Pride Multi-State Credit Cooperative Society Ltd
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## Indonesia

39. National Federation of People-based Coop Enterprises (INKUR)
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## Iran

40. Iran Chamber of Cooperatives (ICC)
  41. Iran Oilseeds & Vegetable Oil Processing Factories Cooperative (FARDA Coop)
  42. Pishgaman Cooperative Union (PCU)
  43. Tose'e Ta'avon Bank (T.T. Bank)
  44. Rah-e-roshd Cooperative Educational Complex (RCEC)
  45. Taavon Insurance Company (TIC)
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## Japan

46. Central Union of Agricultural Coops (JA-ZENCHU)
47. Japanese Consumers' Cooperative Union (JCCU)
48. IE-NO-HIKARI Association

49. Japan Cooperative Insurance Association (JCIA)
50. Japanese Workers' Cooperative Union (JWCU)
51. Japanese Health and Welfare Coop Federation (HeW Coop)
52. National Association of Labour Banks (NALB)
53. National Federation of Agricultural Cooperative Associations (ZEN-NOH)
54. National Federation of Fisheries Cooperative Association (JF-ZENGYOREN)
55. National Federation of Forest Owners' Cooperative Associations (ZENMORI-REN)
56. National Federation of University Coop Associations (NFUCA)
57. National Federation of Workers and Consumers Kyosai Cooperatives (ZENROSAI)
58. National Mutual Insurance Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives (ZENKYOREN)
59. The Japan Agricultural News
60. Norinchukin Bank
61. Japan Cooperative Alliance (JCA)
62. Japan Coop Insurance Consumers' Coop Federation (JCIF)

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## Jordan

63. Jordan Cooperative Corporation (JCC)
64. Educational Cooperative Union
65. Cooperative Association for Development & Finance (CADF)

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## Kiribati

66. Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Cooperatives (MCIC)

## Korea

67. National Agricultural Cooperative Federation (NACF)
68. iCOOP
69. Korean Federation of Community Credit Coops (KFCCC)
70. Korean National Federation of Fisheries Coops (KNFFC)
71. National Credit Union Federation of Korea (NACUFOK)
72. National Forestry Cooperatives Federation (NFCF)
73. Korea Cooperative Solidarity (KCS)

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## Kyrgyzstan

74. Cooperatives Union of Kyrgyzstan (CUK)

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## Malaysia

75. Malaysian National Cooperative Movement (ANGKASA)
76. National Land Finance Cooperative Society Ltd. (NLFCS)
77. Cooperative Institute of Malaysia (CIM)

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## Mongolia

78. Mongolian National Cooperative Alliance (MNCA)
79. National Association of Mongolian Agricultural Coops (NAMAC)

## Myanmar

80. Central Cooperative Society Ltd. (CCS)

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## Nepal

81. National Cooperative Federation of Nepal (NCFN)
82. Nepal Agricultural Coop Central Federation Ltd. (NACCFL)
83. National Cooperative Bank Ltd. (NCBL)
84. Nepal Multipurpose Central Coop Union Ltd. (NEMCCU)
85. Nepal Federation of Savings and Credit Co-operatives (NEFSCUN)

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## Pakistan

86. Karachi Coop Housing Societies Union Ltd. (KCHSU)

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## Palestine

87. Economic & Social Development Center of Palestine (ESDC)
88. Palestinian Agricultural Cooperative Union (PACU)
89. Union of Housing Cooperatives in Palestine (PUHC)
90. Cooperative Work Agency (CWA)
91. General Cooperative Union
92. Kalandia Camp Women's Handicraft Cooperative (KCWHC)

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## Papua New Guinea

93. Office of Cooperative Societies (OCS-PNG)

## Philippines

94. National Confederation of Coops Inc. (NATCCO)
  95. VICTO National Coop Federation (VICTO National)
  96. Federation of Peoples' Sustainable Development Coop (FPSDC)
  97. MASS-SPECC Coop Development Center (MASS-SPECC)
  98. Union of Legitimate Service Contracting Coops (ULSCC)
  99. Cooperative Development Authority (CDA)
  100. Aurora Integrated Multipurpose Cooperative (AIMCoop)
  101. One Cooperative Bank (OCB)
  102. 1 Cooperative Insurance System of the Philippines (1CISP)
  103. CLIMBS Life and General Insurance Cooperative (CLIMBS)
  104. Network Consolidated Cooperative Bank (NCCB)
  105. ACDI Multipurpose Cooperative (ACDI MPC)
  106. MSU-IIT National Multi-Purpose Cooperative (MSU-IIT NMPC)
  107. Providers Multipurpose Cooperative (Providers MPC)
  108. Philippine Family Farmers Agriculture Fishery Forestry Cooperatives Federation (AgriCOOPh)
  109. Institute of Cooperatives and Bio-Enterprise Development (ICOPEDE)
  110. One-Cooperative Federation (OCF)
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## Saudi Arabia

111. Ministry of Human Resources and Social Development (MHRSD)

## Singapore

112. Singapore National Cooperative Federation Ltd (SNCF)
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## Sri Lanka

113. National Cooperative Council of Sri Lanka (NCCSL)
  114. SANASA Federation Ltd. (SANASA)
  115. National Institute of Cooperative Development (NICD)
  116. Department of Co-operative Development (DCD)
  117. Matara District Cooperative Hospital Society Ltd. (MDCHS)
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## Thailand

118. Cooperative League of Thailand (CLT)
  119. Association of Asian Confederation of Credit Unions (ACCU)
- 

## United Arab Emirates

120. Emirates Community Empowerment (ECE)
- 

## Vanuatu

121. Office of Registrar of Cooperatives and Business Development Services (ORCBDS)
- 

## Vietnam

122. Vietnam Cooperative Alliance (VCA)
123. Saigon Union of Trading Co-operatives (Saigon Coop)



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