

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE RESEARCH GROUP (FORMERLY CDRRC)

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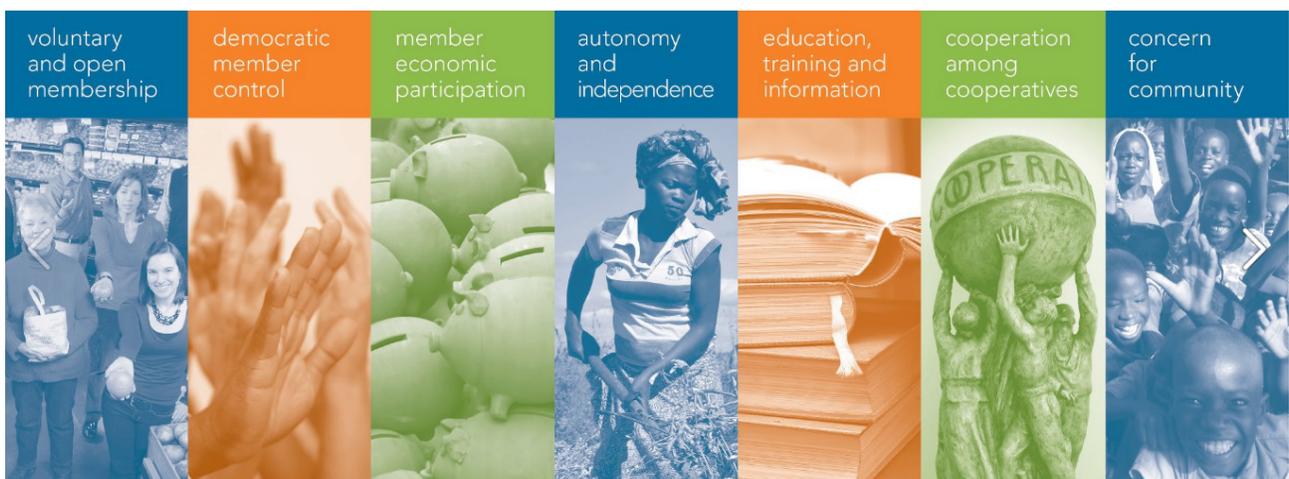


SUMMARY

Through USAID's Cooperative Development Program (CDP), NCBA CLUSA works to strengthen the capacity of local organizations to carry out activities that build and strengthen cooperative systems in their own countries in order to improve their quality of life. As part of the CDP, this program aims to design and establish a new cooperative development research and resource facility (CDRRC) to build upon, expand and broaden ongoing cooperative development organization research activities to meet the needs of the international cooperative development community.

IMPACT CASE STUDIES:
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COOPERATIVE RESEARCH CONDUCTED IN:
ETHIOPIA
GUATEMALA
NICARAGUA
SOUTH AFRICA
PHILLIPINES

The CDRRC will also provide a platform for both the development of research products and guidelines for Overseas Cooperative Development Council members' and cooperative development programs as well as furnish limited services to Cooperative Development Organizations, their partners and other cooperative development stakeholders.



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RESEARCH: COOPERATIVE LEGISLATION

Taking advantage of the launch of the 2012 United Nations International Year of Cooperatives during the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) General Assembly in Cancun, Mexico (November 14-19, 2011), which brought together over 2000 national cooperative leader delegates from over 76 countries, a three hour seminar was organized around this unique opportunity for national cooperative movements to focus on their reciprocal relationship with UN member states through cooperative law, regulation, and policy – all which have a direct impact on cooperative development.

The session began with an introduction to cooperative law, emphasizing its relevance and impact on cooperative development, as well as key issues and needed actions for reform. Second, a cooperative regulator and legislator discussed their efforts to bring about change and improvements within their respective regulatory and legislative areas of government. The third session introduced the CLARITY initiative, a grassroots-oriented approach for cooperative legal and regulatory reform by national cooperative movements through understanding, analyzing and evaluating their law, then developing proposals for change



and advocating for reform. Finally, a presentation featuring the Model Cooperative Law initiative in Latin American as well as a unique program involving national legislators in a Cooperative Parliamentary Network in Latin America were given. Presentations focused on practical applications and resources available to national co-operative movements, including case studies, publications, model laws, guidelines and other information.

NCBA CLUSA was founded in 1916 and has worked in over 85 countries building democratic institutions and providing technical assistance to cooperative businesses and local organizations. We currently work in Africa, Asia and Latin America providing expertise in co-op development, food security, youth empowerment, governance and natural resource management.

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