



# International Co-operative Alliance



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## ICA Member Briefing

### Principles of the subscription formula and how it is implemented

#### 1. One Global ICA

The ICA is one global entity - whether at global, regional, sectoral or thematic levels. The subscription that ICA members pay allows them to participate at any level of the ICA.

#### 2. Representation

The co-operative movement is about members. ICA members represent the movement (people) in their country, sector, or co-operative and thus should pay based on those individuals that they represent. Member numbers are also the easiest data to collect.

#### 3. Capacity to pay

Members who have a higher capacity to pay should pay more while members with a lower capacity to pay should pay less. The formula is weighted based on the World Bank Country Income Index. It is difficult to get financial data from the co-operative movement. Therefore, the ICA chose this readily available and respected index by the World Bank to determine capacity to pay.

#### 4. Double counting

When there are multiple ICA members in a country, a formula is applied to decrease the chances that the ICA counts one individual member twice.

#### 5. Supranational Members

Since it is extremely difficult to apply the formula for ICA members who are located in multiple countries because many of their members are already affiliated to the ICA, which would lead to a very complicated calculation, supranational members pay a flat fee to the ICA.

#### 6. Associate Members

Associate members pay a flat fee to the ICA. Those in low-income countries pay less.

#### 7. ICA Income

The formula was created in order to provide the ICA with the income it needed in order to fulfil its mandate. Thus any corrections to the data used to calculate subscription payments affect ICA's budget and its ability to serve its members.

#### 8. 4 Year Cycles

In order for the ICA and members to be able to budget, the subscription formula will be calculated on 4 year cycles. Thus, a members' subscription payment will not change during that cycle even if their membership decreases or increases, except in extenuating circumstances.

## 9. Membership Committee

The ICA Board created a Membership Committee to examine special cases. Any changes to an organisations' subscription payment that falls outside the policies already approved by the ICA Board are sent to this committee for review and then sent to the ICA Board for final approval.

### More details?

Full information on how the subscription formula is implemented can be requested from Mrs Gretchen Hacquard, Director of Membership, [hacquard@ica.coop](mailto:hacquard@ica.coop).

