

PAPER PRESENTED TO THE
INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE
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CO-OPERATIVE
REGISTRARS/DIRECTORS/LEADERS
AND MANAGERS IN HARARE
ZIMBABWE FROM 8TH TO 12TH JUNE
2015.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
OF
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND CO-OPERATIVE
MANAGERS/LEADERS
IN
SECURING CO-OPERATIVE DATA

Introduction

- The beginning of the modern co-operative movement
- Fenwick, Scotland, in March 14, 1761
- Eminent Persons of Rochdale at Toad Road in 1844
- International Co-operative Alliance, 1895
- In the ICA Africa chapter -

What is data?

- a piece of information
- a collection of information in the form of numbers, character, electrical signals, etc, that can be supplied to, stored or processed by a computer (Chambers, 1995)
- Co-operatives are a well-suited model of business to deliver Sustainable Development Goals and have an important role of delivering the Post-2015 development agenda

Co-operative Data

- Co-operatives foster food security
- By 2050, the population of the Earth will stand at 9 billion
- Farming and agriculture is where the co-operative business model is most widely utilized.
- Co-operatives together have an estimated 32 per cent of the global market share in this sector

Employment Facts and figures

Co-operative enterprises worldwide

- employ 250 million people
- generate US\$2.2 trillion in turnover
- provide services and infrastructure society needs to thrive
- empower people to collectively realize their economic aspirations,
- strengthen their social and human capital
- develop their communities

Co-operatives create and maintain employment

Co-operatives contribute to

- resilient employment,
- a sustainable economy
- the well-being of people at work, making up almost 12% of the entire employed population of the G20 countries

Co-operative Reports and when on employment

- **France:** 21,000 co-operatives provide over 1 million jobs representing 3.5% of the active working population – *2010*
- **Kenya:** 50% of the population derives their livelihoods from co-operatives. Approximately 250,000 Kenyans are employed or gain most of their income from co-operatives - [2009](#)
- **Colombia:** co-operatives provide 137,888 jobs - direct employment and 559,118 jobs - worker-owners providing 3.65% of all jobs in the country *[undated](#)*
- **Indonesia:** co-operatives provide jobs to 288,589 individuals - *2004*.
- **United States:** 30,000 co-operatives provide more than 2 million jobs. *Undated*

Co-operatives are significant economic factors in national economies

- The turnover of the largest 300 co-operatives grew by 11.6% to reach US\$2.2 trillion in 2012, equivalent to the GDP of Brazil.
- The overall turnover of the near 2,000 co-operatives in 65 countries totaled US\$2.6 trillion

We are talking of old figures of more than seven years ago!

Economic factors in national economies - statistics

- **Denmark:** consumer co-operatives in 2007 held 36.4% of consumer retail market
- **Japan:** the agricultural co-operatives report outputs of US\$ 90 billion with 91% of all Japanese farmers in membership. In 2007 consumer co-operatives reported a total turnover of US\$ 34.048 billion with 5.9% of the food market share.
- **Mauritius:** in the agricultural sector, co-operators play an important role in the production of sugar, vegetable, fruit and flower, milk, meat and fish. Nearly 50% of sugar-cane planters are grouped in co-operatives. *Undated*
- **The Ivory Coast:** co-operatives invested US\$ 26 million in setting up schools, building rural roads and establishing maternal clinics in 2002 -2004.
- **New Zealand:** 3% of GDP is generated by co-operatives which are responsible for 95% of the dairy market and 95% of the export dairy market. - 2007.
- **Uruguay:** co-operatives responsible for 3% of the GDP. They produce 90% of the total milk production, **340%** of honey and 30% of wheat. 60% of co-operative production is exported to over 40 countries. *undated*

Country population against co-operative membership

- **Canada:** 40% are members of at least one co-operative.
 - Quebec, 70% of the populations are co-operative members
 - Saskatchewan 56% are members. *undated*
- **Malaysia:** 6.78 million people or 27% of the total population are members of co-operatives. - 2009.
- **Norway:** out of a population of 4.8 million people, 2 million are members of co-operatives. *undated*
- **Paraguay:** 783,000 people or 18% of the population are members of 1,047 co-operatives. These have a direct impact on the livelihoods of over 6 million people. *undated*
- **Spain:** in 2008 15% of the population or 6.7 million people were members of a co-operative.

The International Co-operative Alliance

- 19 August 1895 - 1st Co-operative Congress
- Country with the largest number of members - United States with 256 million members
- Kenyan statistics are given below

Kenyan Statistics - 2009

Growth in the Number of Co-operative Societies by Type 2000 – 2009

Activity	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
Coffee	366	462	474	487	498	523	542	546	549	555
Cotton	86	71	71	59	59	59	59	59	59	59
Pyrethrum	73	152	152	140	142	146	146	146	146	146
Sugar	112	112	112	149	149	152	152	152	152	159
Dairy	337	332	332	239	241	248	252	258	264	273
Multi-Purpose	1,560	1,593	1,608	1,794	1,798	1,818	1,835	1,876	1,883	1,894
Farm Purchase	731	624	624	109	109	111	113	114	114	114
Fisheries	82	82	85	64	65	66	66	67	67	67
Other agric	1,002	944	956	1,125	1,154	1,181	1,188	1,196	1,243	1,317
Total Agric	4,349	4,372	4,414	4,166	4,215	4,304	4,353	4,414	4,477	4,584
SACCOs	3,627	3,925	4,020	4,200	4,474	4,678	4,876	5,122	5,350	5,628
Consumer	197	206	208	180	180	181	182	183	183	184
Housing	468	442	440	475	495	512	538	572	596	636
Craftsmen	104	102	102	85	86	88	89	89	89	89
Transport	36	32	32	28	28	29	39	49	58	64
Other non Agric	573	600	712	1070	1068	1075	1093	1107	1115	1121
Total non Agric	5,005	5,307	5,514	6,038	6,331	6,563	6,817	7,122	7,391	7,722
Unions	89	89	89	93	96	99	99	99	100	101
Grand Total	9,443	9,768	10,017	10,297	10,642	10,966	11,269	11,635	11,968	12,407

Source: district annual reports

Co-operative Data and Information

Co-operative data and information can be defined as that historical recording on how co-operatives started, have grown, their spread, impact and the message they pass to the world.

The Role Government Officials and Co-operative Managers/Leaders in Securing Co-operative Data

- The role of government is that part of the process which ensures that the data is real and can be relied on
 - The source of accurate, secure and reliable data in any country.
 - Employ officers whose daily role is to collect, collate and store data
 - Store data in a retrievable format at the relevant registries

Co-operative Leaders

- A co-operative society may be promoted by any person in Kenya:
 - co-operative officer,
 - local administrator,
 - group of people
 - politician
- Co-operative leaders prepare the society's by-laws or constitution
- After registration, the first leaders of the society are elected in a duly convened and attended by bona fide members' general meeting
- Elected committees must keep accurate data and information of employees

Co-operative Managers

- Elected committees act on behalf members in all transactions
- Every transaction forms part of a legal contract and must be properly documented
- They handle transactions between
 - members and the society,
 - the society and suppliers,
 - society and buyers of services,
 - society and any litigants.
- Employees become the custodians of society data: transactions, assets, accountable documents, members' records and dealers of the society.
 - maintain proper records in an easily accessible manner and access it authorized persons.

Responsibility Government Officials and Co-operative Managers/ Leaders in Securing Co-operative Data

- Responsibility is the state of being responsible which means to be called upon to account as being in charge or control
 - a) Government Officials
 - Enforce the Co-operative Laws that relate to organisation, registration, management and dissolution of co-operative societies
 - Ensure data is available on the number of co-operative societies registered at any given time

b) Co-operative Leaders

- Cause to be sent to the Commissioner all records of charges over its property
- Ensure that all meetings of the society are properly convened and all transactions documented
- Ensure that employees perform their work within defined regulations and smart parameters
- Collaborate and co-operate with other co-operative leaders

C) Co-operative Managers

- translate policy decisions and guidelines into tangible activities and results
- Document every step in the implementation process
- Share results with the co-operative leaders and government
- ensures that members get correct information at the end of each operating period
- keep society records
- ensure that everything at the co-operative society is properly documented

Conclusions

- co-operative data can be generated at three main levels
 - co-operative leaders
 - the government
 - co-operative society management.
- At each stage, it is important that correct data is generated and properly secured
- Co-operative data needs to be real, authentic and relevant to end-users

Conclusions

- Credible data can be provided by
 - co-operative members
 - Managers
 - leaders
 - government officials.
- The data will be on
 - producers
 - distance from procurement or markets
 - food prices on national and international markets
 - access to high-quality inputs and variable costs of buying seeds and fertilizer
 - access to loans to buy these inputs
 - lack of transport and other infrastructure in rural areas

Conclusions

Credible data will

- enhance the quality of members' participation in decision-making processes
- help them voice their concerns and interests
- Ensure proper management
- security of society assets