



**International Co-operative Alliance**



## **ICA Factsheet – International Day of Co-operatives**

The International Day of Co-operatives is celebrated annually on the first Saturday of July.

The aim of the day is to increase awareness of co-operatives and promote the movement's successes and ideals of international solidarity, economic efficiency, equality, and world peace.

ICA first celebrated the International Day in 1923. The International Day is now run in partnership with the UN and the UN asks all member governments to participate in the celebrations each year.

The International Day has a different theme each year. Themes in recent years have included 'Youth, the future of co-operative enterprise' in 2011 and 'Co-operative enterprise empowers women' in 2010

Co-operatives around the world celebrate the Day in many different ways, seeking to gain press and publicity at a local and national level.

The ICA wants to make the International Day in 2012 something that we will all remember – one in which one billion co-operators can get involved in order to raise public awareness about the co-operative business model.

### **Contact**

If you want more information on the work of the International Co-operative Alliance or about the UN International Year of Co-operatives please go to [www.2012.coop](http://www.2012.coop).

If you would like to get in touch with us please contact Nicola Kelly, ICA Communications Director at [kelly@ica.coop](mailto:kelly@ica.coop).