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CM50 a new global network of cooperative and mutual leaders

On 22 January, the soft launch meeting of the **Cooperatives and Mutuals Leadership Circle (CM50)** was held, bringing together 35 cooperative and mutual leaders from across the globe, many from the [World Cooperative Monitor](#) list. This gathering marks the launch of a dedicated effort by the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) to expand the cooperative and mutuals **market share** as part of the UN 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development and beyond. Leveraging the 2025 International Year of Cooperatives (IYC2025), the CM50 first aim is to present a **Charter and a Commitment Plan** during the **Second UN World Summit of Social Development (WSSD2)** to be held from 4 to 6 November, in Doha, Qatar.

The CM50 CEOs will **champion the cooperative and mutual business model** on the global stage, showcasing its potential to accelerate on the SDGs.

“The turnout on the first gathering exceeded my expectations, with leaders from over 20 countries expressing the joint urgency to show their collective strength in a world that is rapidly losing its moral compass. CM50 can be our own Davos, as a response to the global oligarchy of the super wealthy that threatens democracy, peace and economic inclusion. This is the time to show the world that another model is possible.- a model that deserves a larger share of the global economy. The ICA is proud to host CM50.” Jeroen Douglas - Director-General of the ICA.

CM50 Objectives and Vision

Through the presentation of a **Charter and a Commitment Plan** in Doha during the WSSD2 and closing of the IYC2025, Leaders express their intention that the International Year is the starting point of a joint collaborative project to:

- **Foster Growth and Innovation:** Build a network of **C-suite leaders** from cooperatives and mutuals worldwide to share best practices, drive innovation, and facilitate sector-wide growth and collaboration;
- **Advocate for National Commitments:** Encourage governments to support and expand cooperative and mutual businesses, inspired by examples like the UK Government's pledge to double its cooperative sector;
- **Influence Global Policy Outcomes:** Use the World Social Summit as a platform to position the cooperative and mutual business model as a key solution to global challenges.
- **Promote Cooperatives as Catalysts:** Highlight cooperatives' vital contributions to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, advocating for a cooperative-driven vision for a fairer and more sustainable future.

The meeting concluded with a shared commitment from the CM50 leaders to work collectively to amplify the visibility, impact, and influence of cooperatives and mutuals, ensuring the cooperative business model is recognized as a key force in shaping a more just and inclusive global economy.



International
Cooperative
Alliance



International Year
of Cooperatives

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NOTES TO THE EDITOR

About the International Cooperative Alliance

The International Cooperative Alliance is a non-profit international association established in 1895 to advance the cooperative social enterprise model. The International Cooperative Alliance is a voice for cooperatives worldwide, representing more than 300 cooperative federations and organisations across 100 countries.

12 % of humanity are cooperators. Through its membership, the International Cooperative Alliance represents more than 1 billion people from 3 million cooperatives worldwide. The largest 300 cooperatives in the world have combined annual revenues of 2.4 trillion USD and 280 million people around the world (10% of the employed population) secure their livelihoods in cooperatives, either through direct employment or by organising themselves through a cooperative.

Operating from a global office in Brussels, Belgium, the International Cooperative Alliance is organised into four Regional Offices (Europe, Africa, Americas, and Asia-Pacific), and eight Sectoral Organisations (Banking, Agriculture, Fisheries, Insurance, Health, Housing, Consumer Cooperatives, and Service and Industry).