

MOTIVATION LETTER

Samuel David Mancilla Giraldo
Apartadó, Colombia
Email address
Samuel.mancilla@ucc.edu.co
Phone number
+57 3126142659

To the Selection Committee
ICA YC
Subject: Motivation Letter

Dear ICA Youth Committee,

I am writing to formally express my interest in being nominated as a Member at Large for the Americas region on the ICA Youth Committee Executive Committee. My name is Samuel David Mancilla Giraldo, I am 20 years old and I am from the municipality of Apartadó, Colombia. I am currently in my seventh semester of Law at the Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia.

For the past two years, I have been an active member of the ES+JUSTO research seedbed at my university. This experience has been fundamental to my personal and professional development. Through the seedbed, I have participated in several research internships that have given me practical experience in legal analysis, social research, and community engagement. I have learned to work effectively in teams, to communicate ideas clearly, and to approach complex problems with a structured and ethical mindset.

One of the most significant experiences in the seedbed has been our work on the formation of a pre-cooperative of work. With the support and guidance of INDESCO, the seedbed has been actively involved in this initiative. This process has given me direct exposure to the cooperative model and its practical application in my own community. I have witnessed how cooperation, solidarity, and democratic participation can be powerful tools for social and economic development, especially in regions like Urabá that faces significant challenges. This experience has deeply inspired me to continue working within the cooperative movement and to contribute to its growth at both local and international levels.

I am particularly interested in the ICA Youth Committee because it represents a unique platform for young cooperators to engage, learn, and lead on a global scale. The cooperative movement is built on principles that I strongly believe in, such as equity, democracy, and concern for community. I see the ICA Youth Committee as a space where young people can bring their energy, creativity, and perspectives to help shape the future of cooperatives worldwide. I am especially motivated to help implement the next four year work plan and to ensure that the voices of young cooperators from the Americas region are heard and represented.

As a young person from Apartadó, I bring a perspective rooted in the realities of a region where cooperatives can make a tangible difference in people's lives. I understand the importance of inclusive and participatory processes, and I am committed to facilitating the participation of ICA member organizations at the regional level in youth activities. I am prepared to support the Executive Committee in its tasks, to contribute to the review of the work plan, and to help establish benchmarks for success.

I meet the age requirements for this position, and I am ready to dedicate the time and energy necessary to fulfill the responsibilities of a Member at Large. I am comfortable working in English and I am available for regular online meetings and occasional in person meetings. I am eager to collaborate with other young cooperators from different regions and to learn from their experiences.

Thank you for considering my nomination. I would be honored to serve the ICA Youth Committee as a Member at Large for the Americas region and to contribute to the global cooperative movement.