

Call for Intern

Youth Network Research Project

I. Objective

The International Co-operative Alliance seeks an intern to produce a report on the youth co-operative movement globally. The report will include a case profile of the co-operative youth movement in each country along with key contact organisations and persons. You will be expected to work with the main contacts of the Youth Network Executive Committee and the regional offices of the International Co-operative Alliance in your research. The output will include not only a report, but also an excel file of contact details.

In 2012, the International Co-operative Alliance launched the Blueprint for a Co-operative Decade as a long-term strategic plan for the global co-operative movement. In the face of growing social unrest, economic stagnation, and the insecurity that future generations face in terms of jobs, essential social services, and even just meeting their basic needs, the 2020 Vision of the Blueprint identifies the following key issues facing society; issues which co-operatives can help to address:

- Environmental degradation and resource depletion
- An unstable financial sector and increasing income inequality
- A growing global governance gap
- A seemingly disenfranchised younger generation

The future of the co-operative movement, not to mention the achievement of the goals delimited in the Blueprint, lies in the hands of youth. To this end, the Youth Network would like to learn more about the co-operative youth movement and collect contact details to be able to invite them into the network.

II. Background

The International Co-operative Alliance

The International Co-operative Alliance is a non-profit international association established in 1895 to advance the co-operative enterprise model. It is the global voice for and of the co-operative movement, uniting, representing, and serving its members (which are national level federations of co-operatives and individual co-operative organisations).

To accomplish its purposes, the Alliance is organised with a Global Office, four Regional Offices (Europe, Africa, Americas, and Asia-Pacific), and eight Sectoral Organisations (Banking, Agriculture, Fisheries, Insurance, Health, Housing, Consumer Co-operatives, and Worker Co-operatives).

The Youth Network

The International Co-operative Alliance, hereinafter the "Alliance", formed the Youth Network as an advisory, assistance and representation body for the co-operative youth movement with the purpose of organizing to recognize its singularity and complexity; promoting education and co-operative principles, encouraging the participation and development of youth from all nationalities within the co-operative movement; and undertaking actions to build more just and equitable societies. The aims and description of activities of the youth network can be found in its constitution available at <http://ica.coop/en/alliance-youth-network>.

III. Details

Qualifications :

- Current University student or recent graduate
- Interest in and knowledge of the co-operative movement
- Fluent in English, and knowledge of at least one other language
- Good knowledge of computers, office programmes including word and excel
- Interest and ease in working with an international team across many countries

What we offer: You will be working with a small and friendly team in an international environment. We will offer you training on the job and encourage and help you in your own professional development.

Unfortunately, we are not able to offer remuneration for the placement, but are able to offer a small monthly stipend to help pay for your lunch and daily local transport.

Location: The international secretariat is located in Brussels, Belgium near the European Union. However, it is also possible to work on this project from our office in Washington, DC or from home if you are not located in one of these countries.

Duration: We ask for a minimum commitment of three months, preferably six months.

Interested candidates are invited to send applications with CV and letter of motivation explaining how you meet the requirements, by email to Ms Antonina Guarrella, Project Officer, guarrella@ica.coop.