



CONCEPT NOTE

ICETT Webinar on Cooperatives Benefits

Title: *Unlocking the Cooperative Advantage: Global Insights from the ICETT Report on Cooperatives Benefits*

Date: 10 June 2025

Time: 14:00–15:30 CEST

Format: Online webinar (Zoom)

Registration link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/EihKBEQjTcu6dlnE4PPuZq>

Background and Rationale

In a time of global uncertainty, rising inequality, and urgent climate and social challenges, cooperatives stand out as resilient and inclusive business models rooted in democratic governance, collective ownership, and long-term value creation. The International Cooperative Entrepreneurship Think Tank ([ICETT](#)), an initiative of the ICA, recently released its latest report, *Cooperatives Benefits: “[The Opportunities and Benefits of Collective Ownership](#)”*, which analyzes the diverse benefits cooperatives deliver to their members, communities, and society at large.

This webinar aims to spotlight key findings from the report, provide a platform for peer-to-peer learning, and inspire cooperative leaders and members to leverage their identity for greater impact. The discussion will also feed into the wider cooperative movement's contributions to the 2025 UN International Year of Cooperatives and to advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Objectives

- Share highlights from the ICETT report on cooperative benefits
- Discuss how cooperatives maintain distinctiveness in today's markets
- Exchange experiences and innovations from leading cooperatives
- Mobilize support and visibility in the lead-up to the World Social Summit

Target Audience

Cooperative and mutual leaders, ICA member organizations, policymakers, UN agencies, researchers, actors in the social and solidarity economy, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders interested in inclusive and sustainable business models.



Program (90 minutes)

14:00 – 14:05 | Welcome and Moderator Introduction

Ilana Gotz, Euricse

14:05 – 14:10 | Opening Remarks

Jeroen Douglas, Director General, ICA

14:10 – 14:20 | Highlights from the ICETT Report

Thomas Blondeel, Chair of ICETT, Smart Cooperative

14:20 – 15:05 | Reflections from ICETT Members

Short case study presentations from ICETT members representing various regions and sectors:

- Rudi Kleijwegt, Rabobank, Netherlands
- Michael Mugo, CIC Insurance Group, Kenya
- Michelle Schry, National Co+op Grocers, USA
- Santosh Shukla, IFFCO, India
- Jungsik Jung, NACF, South Korea
- Merav Niv, Kibbutz Movement, Israel
- Howard Brodsky, CCA Global Partners/ Principle6.coop, USA

15:05 – 15:20 | Q&A and Reflections

Interactive discussion with participants

15:20 – 15:30 | Conclusion and Next Steps

Thomas Blondeel, ICETT Chair & Joseph Njuguna, ICA Director of Policy