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Alliance 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.

The Alliance 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 “Co-operative enterprises remain strong in times of crisis” last year, “Co-operative enterprises build a better world” in 2012, ‘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 Alliance wants to make the International Day in 2014 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.ica.coop

If you would like to get in touch with us please contact Jan Schiettecatte, Alliance Communications Director at schiettecatte@ica.coop