

## Why Cooperatives?

The vast majority of Africans work in the informal economy, with great energy and potential but in mostly micro and small businesses with low incomes in vulnerable conditions. We want to grow African enterprises in the spirit and practice of cooperation for mutual gain.

We believe that cooperatives of all kinds – producer, consumer, procurement, supplier, marketing – have many advantages, not only for individuals and household incomes but also for positive development outcomes within and across national borders.

In line with the objectives of Agenda 2063 and the African Continental Free Trade Area, we enable Africans to grow collective wealth for Africa using the cooperative approach, which ensures economic democracy, sustainable job creation, social equity, and inclusiveness in the Africa we want.



## Our Vision

We strive to build a vast network of cooperative enterprises providing secure livelihoods and high standards of living and well-being for self-determined, efficient and resilient Africans.

**Our Mission** is to promote the growth of cooperatives, particularly among women and youth, to advance African aspirations for equitable and inclusive development.

**Our Strategy** is to inspire country-level organisations dedicated to financing cooperative development and supporting cooperative formation and governance.

## How to Join

Cooperation Africa is accepting membership applications. Visit our website to access our membership application form.

[www.cooperationafrica.org](http://www.cooperationafrica.org)

*"In an age where community involvement and partnerships with civil society are increasingly being recognized as indispensable, there is clearly a growing potential for cooperative development and renewal worldwide."*  
Kofi Annan



Advocacy / Finance / Training  
for cooperative enterprise  
throughout Africa

## Who We Are

Cooperation Africa is a group of Africans, living in Africa and the diaspora, committed to advancing cooperatives for the socio-economic liberation of Africans.

We practice integrity and openness while respecting the equality of all people and affirming their right to be treated without discrimination.



*"At the heart of all that civilisation has meant and developed is 'community' - the mutually cooperative and voluntary venture of man to assume a semblance of responsibility for his brother."  
Martin Luther King, Jr.*

## What We Do



### Research and Advocacy

We conduct research for informed advocacy among the public and policy makers to create a conducive environment for the development of cooperatives.

Through public diplomacy, publications and talks, we raise awareness among the public and policy makers of the advantages and benefits of cooperatives.



### Fundraising and Financing

We facilitate funding from institutions, agencies, foundations and individuals for cooperative formation and development, that generates more secure and sustainable livelihoods. We focus on Africa's youth and women, emphasising financial literacy and cooperative business models in all areas of economic and creative activity.



### Education and Training

We promote experience sharing and facilitate mentoring and partnerships with other cooperatives, providing programmes in cooperative history, legislation, formation as well as governance to develop the knowledge, skills, and practices of cooperative governance.

Topics include financing, operations, business planning, taxation and human resource management.

## Membership Benefits

Membership is open to individuals and groups setting up or growing cooperatives. By joining Cooperation Africa, members can:

- Participate in exclusive activities such as Film Club, Book Club, Cooperative Touring Club, Study Circles.
- Receive support to start cooperatives in the agricultural, manufacturing or services sectors.
- Conduct research into cooperative formation and development in Africa.
- Invest in cooperative financing and development institutions.
- Educate and train people forming or developing cooperatives in Africa.
- Provide professional services to cooperative businesses and the wider movement.
- Promote economic justice by helping to build sustainable livelihoods through democratically owned and managed cooperatives.

## Contact us

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