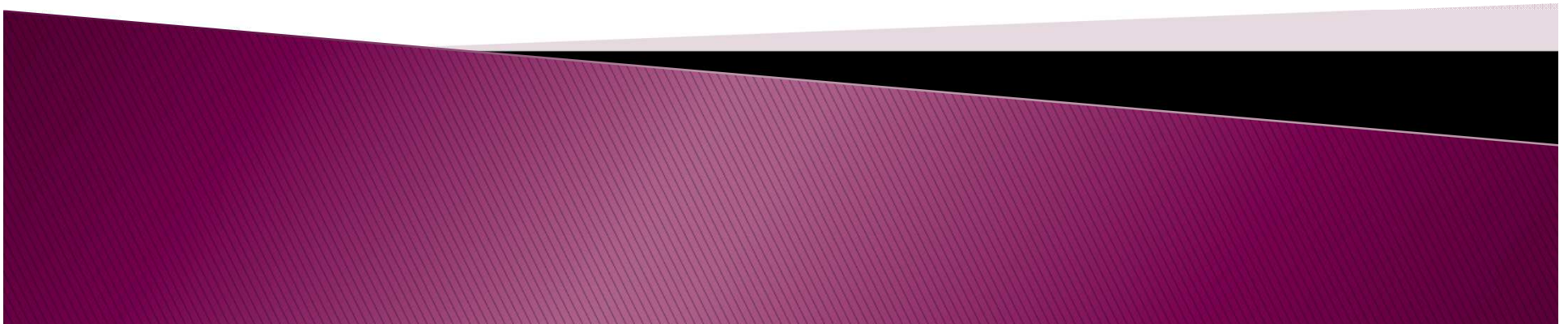


# COOPERATIVES AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEVELOPMENT: SUCCESSES AND CHALLENGES

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# Introduction

- ▶ Causes of Environment degradation:
  - ❖ non-sustainable urbanization,
  - ❖ non-sustainable industrialization
  - ❖ non-sustainable agriculture
  - ❖ Un sustainable climate change
  - ❖ non-sustainable energy use,
  - ❖ non-sustainable threats to public health,
  - ❖ poverty and social exclusion,
  - ❖ demographic pressure and ageing,
  - ❖ Poor management of natural resources,
  - ❖ biodiversity loss,
  - ❖ Poor land use and transport



# Cont..

The challenges still persist and new challenges are arising. Since these Negative trends bring about a sense of urgency, short term action is required, whilst maintaining a longer term perspective.



# Cont..

- ▶ A full sustainability program needs to:
  - ❑ include actions to prevent threats and impacts from arising,
  - ❑ actions to protect the environment from threats and damage,
  - ❑ and restoration to reverse damage already done.
  - ❑ Actions to reduce the use of physical resources,
  - ❑ The adoption of a 'recycle everything/buy recycled' approach,
  - ❑ The use of renewable rather than depletable resources,
  - ❑ The redesign of production processes and products to eliminate the production of toxic materials,
  - ❑ The protection and restoration of natural habitats and environments valued for their livability or beauty



# Why sustain the environment?

It is useful to us to:

- care about the wellbeing of other people or other species
- Make possible to achieve another goal in another domain.
- support economic development or genuine progress



# Co-operatives and sustainable development

Cooperatives contribute to sustainable environment development by:

- ❑ protection of the environment for future generations.
- ❑ helping individuals adopt more responsible patterns of consumption, thereby consuming fewer resources.
- ❑ Renewable energy cooperatives, for instance, offer consumers a local option to have clean energy while investing socially and economically in sustainable development. Others are supporting practices that return value to our environmental resources.,
- ❑ cooperatives are better placed to help community members respond to environmental degradation and to protect and responsibly manage available resources.
- ❑ As a core role they heighten awareness around the world on the crucial contributions they make to poverty reduction and sustainable development



# Best Practices

- ▶ **Tackling informality in e-waste management: The potential of cooperative enterprises** (-Electrical and electronic waste (e-waste) is currently the fastest growing waste stream, and it is hazardous, complex and costly to treat. Adequate e-waste recycling can contribute to an environmentally sustainable economy.
- ▶ **Co-operative carbon offset project in Fair-trade supply chain (Kenya)**-project which distributes biosand water filters to households in northern Kenya to replace the traditional method of water purification – burning wood to boil water
- ▶ **Waste and packaging in UK**-They follow the well-established waste hierarchy of reduce, reuse and recycle. We are optimizing packaging to ensure maximum protection of products with minimum waste, while continuing to reduce packaging weight where possible and ensuring high recyclability



# Challenges

- ▶ co-operatives have not yet received the attention they deserve:
  - ❑ to effectively combine economic, social, and ecological goals,
  - ❑ cooperatives have the potential to address and alleviate the crisis,.
  - ❑ need political and financial autonomy, and an enabling environment that would allow such autonomy, such as transparent and sound regulatory frameworks,
  - ❑ a conducive investment climate and creation of policy dialogue spaces between government and various stakeholders





THANK YOU