



United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs
Division for Social Policy and Development



Ensuring no one is left behind: The Linkages between the Cooperative Model and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for the Sustainable Development”

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The General Context

- Development imperative
 - The general and sustainability crisis: social, economic, environmental
 - Replace the MDGs
 - Progress with MDGs
 - Gaps remaining: Social, economic, environmental, governance
- *The [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) was adopted in September 2015, when world leaders met during the United Nations General Assembly the, Contains 17 [Sustainable Development Goals](#)*
- Focuses on People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, Partnership





17 SDGs

- No Poverty
- Zero Hunger
- Good Health and Well-Being
- Quality Education
- Gender Equality
- Clean Water and Sanitation
- Affordable and Clean Energy
- Decent Work and Economic Development
- Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- Beyond Inequalities
- Sustainable Cities and Communities
- Responsible Consumption and Production
- Climate Change
- Life below Water
- Life on Land
- Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- Partnerships for the SDGs





Inclusiveness of the process leading to the adoption of the SDGs

- The Open Working Group first convened in March 2013. 70 countries sent representatives to this meeting. It presented a final draft in July 2014 which was then submitted to the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015.
- This process was deep and wide. A series of global conversations were carried out which included an online “My World Survey”, and 83 national consultations.
- The process leading to the SDGs was quite extensive and included governments, civil society organizations, businesses, academics, scientists, and regional organizations.
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Quotes of the Secretary of the United Nations

- Speaking at a press conference on the Outcome document of post-2015 Development Agenda, the UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon said: “I thank the Member States who worked to reach consensus on a sweeping agreement. I also want to recognize and commend...so many others from civil society, the private sector, academia, parliamentarians and millions of people in every corner of the world who shared their vision of the world we want. It was an innovative and epic process.”



Quotes of the Secretary of the United Nations

- Moving forward, this process will be deep and wide. According to the 2030 Agenda: ““We the Peoples” are the celebrated opening words of the UN Charter. It is “We the Peoples” who are embarking today on the road to 2030. Our journey will involve Governments as well as Parliaments, the UN system and other international institutions, local authorities, indigenous peoples, civil society, business and the private sector, the scientific and academic community – and all people. Millions have already engaged with, and will own, this Agenda. It is an Agenda of the people, by the people, and for the people – and this, we believe, will ensure its success.”



The role of cooperatives in formulating UN 2030 Agenda for the Sustainable Development

Ties that bind cooperative enterprise model and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- **Conceptual common ground**
 - Common Theme: Leaving no one behind
 - Values and Principles
 - Ending poverty - Reaching the poorest and most vulnerable
 - Equality and inclusiveness
 - Accountable and transparent institutions
 - Caring for the community
- **Mentioning of cooperative enterprise model in the 2030 Agenda**
 - *Means of Implementation*

We acknowledge the role of the diverse private sector, ranging from micro-enterprises to **cooperatives** to multinationals, and that of civil society organizations and philanthropic organizations in the implementation of the new Agenda. (para 41)





The role of cooperatives in formulating UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

- Cooperative institutions at the national, regional and global levels held many discussions on the SDGs process, and prepared position papers during the process formulation process of the 2030 Agenda for the SDGs
- **International Cooperative Alliance prepared a paper called “Sustainable Development Goals: Position Paper”**
- [International Symposium “Cooperatives and the Sustainable Development Goals: Focus on Africa”](#) held in Berlin, on 2 September 2014. It was organized jointly by the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES), the ILO, and the German Cooperative and Raiffeisen Confederation (DGRV)
- The Role of Cooperative Instruments and Indicators to Promote Growth and Sustainable Development, Tuesday, 16 September 2014, in Italy. It was hosted by The Alliance of Italian Cooperatives (ACI) in partnership with the Directorate General for Development Cooperation (DGCS) of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



United Nations System

- ILO prepared a paper on “Cooperative movement engagement in sustainable development and the post-2015 process: Survey findings”
- UN Expert Group Meeting and Capacity Building Workshop on the theme: The Role of Cooperatives to Sustainable Development for All: Contributions, Challenges and Strategies, held 2-4 December 2014, UN Headquarters, Nairobi, Kenya
- A paper on “Cooperatives and the Sustainable Development Goals: A contribution to the post-2015 development debate”, prepared by Fredrick O. Wanyama in 2014 for International Labour Organization Enterprises Department Cooperatives Unit Geneva. “It is a Background Paper to highlight the role of cooperatives in the realization Sustainable Development Goals as defined by the High-Level Panel of Eminent Persons on the Post-2015 Development Agenda”.





United Nations System

- UN Secretary-General Report 2015 on Cooperatives and the SDGs
- ILO and ICA prepared a document on “Co-operatives and the Sustainable Development Goals - a Brief” in 2014
- In April 2016, Rodrigo Gouveia, Director of Policy of the Alliance, participated in the High-Level Debate on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals that took place at the United Nations Headquarters and was organised by the President of the UN General Assembly.
- UN Expert Group Meeting on Ensuring That No One Is Left Behind: The Cooperative Sector as a Partner in the Implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, 16-17 November 2016, UN Headquarters, New York





INTERNATIONAL DAY OF COOPERATIVES, 2014-2016

- **10 July 2014, UN Headquarters, New York**
- Panel Discussion
- Theme: “Cooperative enterprises achieve sustainable development for all”
- **8 July 2015, UN Headquarters, New York**
- Side event to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
- Theme: Choose cooperatives, choose equality: Paths to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals
- **11 July 2016, UN Headquarters, New York**
- Side event to the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
- Theme: Welcome: “Cooperatives: The power to act for a sustainable future”



Conclusion

- The cooperative enterprise model is closely aligned to the UN 2030 Agenda for the SDGs
- Cooperatives should deepen their involvement in the UN 2030 Agenda for the SDGs.
- The goodwill of the international community toward cooperatives is stronger than before
- Greater appreciation for the contributions of cooperatives



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Thank you

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