

# COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

## ANNUAL REPORT (OCTOBER 2020 - SEPTEMBER 2021)

USAID's [Cooperative Development Program](#) (CDP), is a global initiative that strengthens cooperative businesses and credit unions.

As one of the Locally Led Development Initiatives located within the Local, Faith, and Transformative Partnerships Hub in the Bureau for Development, Democracy, and Innovation, the CDP enables new and underutilized stakeholders to drive the development process by partnering with U.S. cooperatives and Cooperative Development Organizations (CDOs) for five-year activities.

The program currently works across multiple sectors throughout Africa, Asia, and Latin America.



Members of a coffee cooperative in Guatemala process harvested coffee.

The purpose of the program is to foster sustainable cooperative systems that deliver value to cooperative members and their communities. This will be accomplished by improving cooperative business performance, creating environments where cooperatives can thrive, and enhancing the development community's support to cooperatives.

This report highlights the accomplishments of the program and its partners during Fiscal Year (FY) 2021.

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*The cooperative is strong because we, the citizens here, raised it. We helped support it and we embraced it.*

”

- ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE MEMBER, LIBERIA

“

*In the first quarter, all women in the cooperative were able to access cervical cancer screening for free.*

”

- HEALTH COOPERATIVE MEMBER, UGANDA

“

*Through this program, I have the impression that success in cooperatives is grounded in individual and collective commitment, leadership and good governance, quality member services, hard work, teamwork, and respect of the cooperative principles.*

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- COOPERATIVE MEMBER, TANZANIA

### Questions about the Cooperative Development Program?

For more information, please contact the Locally Led Development Initiative at [localsustainability@usaid.gov](mailto:localsustainability@usaid.gov).

## GLOBAL IMPACT

With support for cooperatives and credit unions, the program advanced sustainable development around the world during FY 2021.



### 17 COUNTRIES

The program worked in 17 countries across Africa, Asia, and Latin America.



### 325 COOPERATIVES & CREDIT UNIONS

The program strengthened the capacity of 325 local cooperatives and credit unions.



### \$140.9 MILLION IN INCOME & SERVICES

Program-supported cooperatives and credit unions delivered income and services to members valued at \$140.9 million.



### 4.1 MILLION PEOPLE

More than 4.1 million people - cooperative members and their households - benefited from this program.



### 384,033 WOMEN & YOUTH

331,710 women and 52,323 youth directly benefited from this program.

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*The program has shaped how I think. I've learned to grow, gain self-confidence, and to think as a business person.*

”

- COOPERATIVE MEMBER,  
SOUTH AFRICA



In Malawi, members of a horticulture cooperative count collections for their savings group.

LAND OLAKESVENTURE37



**\$11.5 million**  
USAID contributions

**\$3.8 million**  
U.S. and local private  
sector contributions

## RESOURCES LEVERAGED

This year the program mobilized more than \$15.3 million in funding for cooperative development worldwide, including the program investment and contributions from the U.S. and local private sector.

Compared to last year, the program increased its contributions from U.S. and local private sector partners by 36 percent.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT: THE POWER OF COMMUNITY

Totota is a bustling town situated on one of Liberia's main roadways. Its location makes Totota an ideal trading hub, but in the past, it suffered from a lack of reliable electricity that hindered its potential.

In 2018, USAID's [Cooperative Development Program](#) partnered with the [National Rural Electric Cooperative Association \(NRECA\) International](#) to electrify Totota. Volunteer linemen from electric cooperatives in the U.S. joined NRECA International to design, purchase, and construct a microgrid system to power homes and businesses in Totota.

And it's a community-led system: nearly 400 households and businesses joined forces to form Totota Electric Cooperative.



Kollie working in her refrigeration container that is powered by Totota Electric Cooperative.

Joanna Kollie, who owns a cold food storage business, was one of the cooperative's first members. "I became a member of the Totota Electric Cooperative from the beginning because it's beneficial for us...People come from around the community to buy from us. We help people and support them, so they can move up too," she said.

Aaron Massaquoi, the cooperative's General Manager, has already noticed a difference in his community. "We see health centers that are using electricity to do their laboratory work. And school administrators used to go to Monrovia to print their documents. Now they can use electric power."

"We now see banks, and people can afford to come here to live. In some homes today, the wife is starting a business, and the husband is starting another business and things are improving. The co-op has changed their lives," added Joseph Scott, President of the cooperative.

Successful cooperative development takes time, but after just three years, Totota Electric Cooperative is self-sufficient, locally managed, and financially sustainable. Today, it is one of just two licensed, independent electric utilities in Liberia. This story serves as a reminder of how community-led organizations, like electric cooperatives, can transform lives.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:

