



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

OFFICE OF LOCAL SUSTAINABILITY COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

USAID's Cooperative Development Program (CDP) is designed to advance locally-owned development and enhance the Agency's ability to empower local actors to take the lead in identifying and addressing development challenges.

To make development programs more locally-owned and sustainable, the CDP provides USAID Missions with resources, tools, and opportunities to better engage and empower local cooperatives and credit unions. The Office of Local Sustainability also provides funding and technical assistance to US cooperatives and Cooperative Development Organizations (CDOs) to promote locally-led programming globally. Investments in local cooperatives and credit unions build social cohesion and stabilize economies. Cooperative development also supports local ownership and self-reliance, thereby contributing to USAID's vision of ending the need for foreign assistance.

Currently, the CDP is providing technical guidance and resources to 10 implementing CDOs in the sectors of agriculture, finance, health, energy and information technology. Activities address sustainability challenges in cooperative businesses and systems in 14 countries. The CDP program aims to improve enabling environments by reforming law and regulation in which cooperatives operate and creating valuable market linkages for sustainable, mutually-beneficial relationships among local resource organizations such as universities, law firms and micro-finance institutions. The program also addresses capacity and performance constraints in cooperative businesses to improve management, capitalization and governance; resulting in more successful and resilient local enterprises which meet the evolving needs of their members. Finally, the program conducts multi-sector, global research on efficacy of cooperative systems and businesses in addressing market gaps and responding to member and community needs.

Questions?

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Managed by

USAID Office of Local Sustainability
(E3/LS)

FY 2017 Global Budget

\$12 million

Five-year programming cycles

Launched in

2010; 2018

With funding and technical support facilitated by E3/LS, OUs and Missions may:

- Conduct mapping of national and regional cooperative systems to inform design and implementation of USAID programming
- Conduct performance evaluations of local cooperatives, associations and federations, across sectors to better inform activity design and activity evaluations
- Access relevant research, evidence, and tools for strengthening capacity of local cooperatives
- Access a global network of cooperative development practitioners, researchers, and specialists
- Evaluate and score enabling environments for cooperative businesses to better understand legal and regulatory frameworks in a particular country
- Access the CDP APS mechanism to meet OU or Mission demand, without ceiling or floor



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OFFICE OF LOCAL SUSTAINABILITY COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES

Access our resources through the [Locally-Led Development Hub on ProgramNet](#)

Coops 101: Resources which allow USAID to better understand the cooperative business model; a democratic, principles-based, and member-owned business and its critical role in locally-led development

Cooperative systems analytical approaches: framework which allows USAID to better comprehend the maturity and relationships in cooperative environments; how they operate and the role USAID plays (or should play) in those systems.

Legal and regulatory analysis: web-based cooperative law directory and toolkit to evaluate and advocate for more enabling cooperative law and regulation.

Leveraging local resources: manual and framework on how best to develop a capitalization and member equity plan for local cooperatives and credit unions which enable them to be more sustainable and resilient in volatile markets.

Relevant research and studies: comprehensive literature review and directory for relevant research and studies on cooperative development from the last 10 years to enable USAID to utilize critical evidence throughout the program cycle.

Governance tools: crowd-sourced and piloted classification tools to evaluate cooperative governance and designate appropriate interventions to improve cooperative management and performance.

Measuring performance: approved State F indicators to assess agricultural cooperative performance and patronage; metrics and modules to assess cooperative performance across sectors and across maturity levels.

Gender engagement: facilitator's guide on how to best address gender integration and challenges in GBV through cooperative governance programming.

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