



# Global Conference and General Assembly

Co-operatives: Putting people  
at the centre of development

14 to 17 November 2017

Kuala Lumpur - Malaysia

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## Preliminary programme

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HOSTED BY



[WWW.MALAYSIA2017.COOP](http://WWW.MALAYSIA2017.COOP)





Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia • 14-17 November 2017

At our most interactive gathering to date, co-operators are invited to choose from our unique and diverse programme offerings to create a conference experience that aligns with their professional goals. Leave with knowledge, practical tools, skills, new contacts, business leads, and inspiration.

## EXPERIMENT

Delegates will participate in how-to workshops facilitated by experts and leave with practical skills and tools.

## EXPLORE

Participants will discover co-operative stories and culture through film screenings, exhibitions, and demonstrations.



## LEARN

Through debates, panels, and lectures, conference delegates will learn about developments in trends and co-operative issues.

## NETWORK

Delegates sharing a geographic region, sector of activity, or co-operative interest will come together in an informal setting to make new contacts and share ideas.



## YOUTH

Sessions with this symbol are organised by young co-operators with young people in mind.



## GOVERNMENTS

Sessions with this symbol are tailored to the needs and interests of government representatives.

# PROGRAMME AT A GLANCE

## Monday 13 November 2017

09.00 - 12.00	Alliance Board Meeting
09.00 - 12.00	Statutory Meetings: Sectoral Organisations and Thematic Committees
12.00 - 14.00	Break for lunch
14.00 - 17.00	Alliance Board Meeting
14.00 - 17.00	Statutory Meetings: Sectoral Organisations and Thematic Committees

## Tuesday 14 November 2017

09.00 - 12.00	Alliance Board Meeting
09.00 - 12.00	Statutory Meetings: Sectoral Organisations and Thematic Committees
12.00 - 14.00	Break for lunch
14.00 - 17.00	Alliance Board Meeting
14.00 - 17.00	Statutory Meetings: Sectoral Organisations and Thematic Committees
17.00 - 18.00	Break
18.00 - 20.00	Opening Gala Dinner

## Wednesday 15 November 2017

09.00 - 10.30	Opening Keynote Plenary
10.30 - 11.00	Break
11.30 - 12.30	Global Conference
12.30 - 14.00	Break for lunch
14.00 - 17.00	Global Conference
17.00 - 18.00	Break
18.00 - 20.00	Networking Event at Malaysian Carnival of Co-operatives' Products and Services (MACCOPS)

## Thursday 16 November 2017

09.00 - 10.00	Opening Plenary
10.00 - 10.30	Break
10.30 - 12.00	Global Conference
12.00 - 13.30	Break for lunch
13.30 - 15.00	Global Conference
15.00 - 15.30	Break
15.30 - 17.00	Closing Plenary - Dr Gro Harlem Brundtland
17.00 - 18.30	Break
18.30 - 20.00	Closing Reception

## Friday 17 November 2017

09.00 - 10.00	General Assembly
10.00 - 11.00	Break
11.00 - 12.30	General Assembly
12.30 - 14.00	Break for lunch
14.00 - 15.00	General Assembly
15.00 - 16.00	Break
16.00 - 17.00	General Assembly

## Wednesday 15 November 2017

### 09:00-10:30 OPENING PLENARY

A renowned speaker will set the scene for the conference by addressing a topic of relevance to the future of the co-operative movement.

### 10:30-11:00 BREAK



#### 11:00-12:30 LEARN

##### Building development partnerships for the future we want

Partnership is an essential mechanism in the co-operative toolbox to achieve their vision of a sustainable future. In the first part of this two-part session, hear from high-level representatives of the European Union and global civil society organisations and networks about the value of partnership and how co-operatives can make greater impacts in development processes through collaboration.



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#### 11:00-12:30 LEARN

##### The collaborative economy: What it is and why co-ops should care

Since the global financial crisis of 2008-2009, we hear more and more about different approaches to business, different ideas about our globalised economy. Is this a backlash against the failures we saw nine years ago? What's new about this collaborative economy and how can co-operatives leverage this trend to our advantage? This session will explore the emerging business models that respond to peoples' needs and how co-operatives can demonstrate their longevity in providing sustainable livelihoods grounded in solidarity, democracy, and equity.



#### 11:00-12:30 LEARN

##### Co-op to co-op trade: Taking existing achievements to scale

While co-op to co-op trade (C2C trade) is a topic the Alliance and its members have long discussed, its achievement as a movement institution remains elusive. A report commissioned by the Alliance in 2015 found that C2C trade in

agriculture makes up less than 1% of the global agricultural trade sector, compared to 15% for trade between co-ops and non-co-ops. Meanwhile, co-operatives around the world are solidifying their presence on global trade markets and using e-commerce platforms and methodologies to achieve scale. What can we learn from these examples for national and regional development? How can we borrow and maximise on achievements and reproduce their successes in other parts of the world? This session will present some of these existing platforms and open a discussion for their replication in different regions and sectors for increased C2C trade.



#### 11:00-12:30 EXPERIMENT

##### Raising capital the co-operative way

Big and small, new and old, from banking to agriculture to handicrafts, co-operatives share a common challenge: securing reliable streams of capital while guaranteeing member control. Join this workshop on raising capital for start-up and growth activities and explore innovative mechanisms and strategies with peers. Experts from the financial co-operative industry, as well as co-operative development professionals, will guide brainstorming and share expert tips on how to identify the most appropriate capital instruments for co-operatives.



#### 11:00-12:00 NETWORK

##### Networking hour:

##### Governmental organisations as co-operative partners

Many officials from national governments and international organisations are working every day to make the administrative and regulatory environments more favourable to co-operatives. Come and meet colleagues from around the world that share the same interests and challenges.



#### 11:00-12:30 NETWORK

##### Young Network Issues Discussion: Movement building through social media

In this session animated by the Alliance's Youth Network, participants will network through an issues discussion in the style of 'speed dating' on ways to build the movement through social media. Come meet young leaders and explore the critical factors that can boost the participation of young people in co-operatives.





**11:00-12:30 EXPLORE**

**Screening: PBS Series Visionaries on co-operatives**

The Visionaries Series is highlighting the power of co-operatives both in the U.S. and around the world. This one-hour documentary follows the work of the National Cooperative Business Association CLUSA International (NCBA CLUSA), celebrating 100 years of co-operatives through seven co-op stories featuring members in Seattle, Western Massachusetts, Mississippi, and international projects in Mozambique and East Timor. With the seven co-operative principles binding these unique and diverse businesses, we can see that co-ops truly build a better world.

**12:30-14:00 LUNCH BREAK**



**14:00-17:00 LEARN**

**Building development partnerships for the future we want (continued)**

To continue our exploration of partnerships, this afternoon session will take an in-depth look at real partnerships in action. What does the co-operative model bring into a partnership? How can co-operatives identify the right partner? What is necessary for a partnership to be successful? What are the challenges and opportunities of working together? Learn from case study examples of working with other civil society actors presented by co-operatives in the development field.



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**14:00-15:30 LEARN**

**The co-operative potential for the refugee crisis and new migrations**

Migration is one of the biggest challenges of our time with large economic, social, and environmental consequences. Increased instability and political turmoil promise to only intensify the need for action. What role can co-operatives play to improve the livelihoods and security of migrants and refugees? How are co-operatives already making a difference? Join this session to learn about the state of refugee and migrant communities in the world, the potential for co-operative engagement and initiatives on the ground.



**14:00-15:30 LEARN**

**Who owns the robots? Co-operatives & big data**

Today, co-operative businesses operate on markets where inputs and assets are increasingly ephemeral. Knowledge and information – data – is the new currency. And block chain and artificial intelligence technologies are becoming more sophisticated in extracting value from all that data. But who makes money off your Tweets? Who controls what Google does with your internet search history? Who owns the robotic systems that generate profits from the data of our lives? Could we be the owners if co-operatives got involved? Join this session to discuss what co-operatives bring to these digital opportunities and learn about co-operatively owned structures that are already forging ahead.



**14:00-17:00 EXPERIMENT**

**Youth entrepreneurship through co-operation**

In this session, workshop ways for young people to build co-operative enterprises. Facilitated by the Alliance Youth Network and CICOPA, the International Organisation of Industrial and Service Co-operatives, participants will discover the particularities of entrepreneurship through co-operation compared to other models and trends in youth co-operative entrepreneurship. What do young entrepreneurs need to be successful co-operators? How can we create space in 'sectors of the future', such as new technologies, renewable energy, creative industries, and research and development?




**14:00-15:30 EXPERIMENT**

**Advocacy 101: How to make your case to policymakers**

The co-operative movement requires an enabling legal and regulatory environment to flourish. To make this happen, co-operators need to better advocate their cause to governments at the local, national, regional and global level. How can they be most successful? At this workshop, participants will learn how to approach policymakers, how to craft an effective position and how to manage an integrated lobbying strategy.



**14:00-15:00 NETWORK**

**Meet and Greet with the Alliance Board candidates**

Alliance members will have a chance to meet the candidates for the Alliance Global Board before elections at the General Assembly. Your questions are welcome!

 **14:00-16:00 EXPLORE**

**Screening: 'Actual World, Possible Future'**

This documentary from political scientist, researcher and filmmaker Barbara Allen explores the lives and works of Elinor and Vincent Ostrom, renowned American political economists whose ideas on governing the commons echo the co-operative approach to economics and self-governance. Learn five lessons from the Ostros and explore case studies of co-operative commons governance from around the world. An in-depth look at the experience of Korean co-operatives and social enterprises will follow the film.

 **15:00-17:00 EXPLORE**

**Malaysia Truly Asia**

 **15:30-17:00 LEARN**

**Co-ops for 2030: Models of co-operative engagement in the SDGs**



Co-operatives all over the world are engaged in initiatives that will contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. But what is the scope of the co-operative contribution? Who is taking action and how are they communicating their progress? Join this session to learn about the online platform 'Co-ops for 2030', a tool for co-operatives to learn about the SDGs, share their initiatives to achieve them and engage as a united movement. This session will present some of the successful initiatives showcased on 'Co-ops for 2030' and how those organisations integrate the SDGs into their corporate strategies.

 **15:30-17:00 EXPERIMENT**

**Integrating gender equality into your co-operative**

Co-operatives are certainly more attuned to gender issues than their corporate counterparts, but much more can be done to make co-ops an equal space for both men and women. How can you make gender equality a reality within your co-operative? What types of activities can help mainstream gender sensitivities into your business? Attend this workshop for practical tools.

 **16:00-17:00 NETWORK**

**Co-op to Co-op Trade Networking Hour**

Meet and greet fellow co-operators interested in developing business contacts. This is an occasion for informal conversation with other participants that are also interested in trade opportunities among co-operatives.

**17:00-18:00 BREAK**

**18:00-20:00 NETWORKING EVENT AT MACCOPS**



## Thursday 16 November 2017

### 09:00-10:00 PLENARY

#### Assessing our sector: Growth, challenges, and achievements

Every year the World Co-operative Monitor offers insight to the size and importance of the co-operative economy. This session will see the presentation of the 2017 edition, followed by responses from young co-operators on tackling the challenges ahead. To close the session, we will take a look at our own achievements and acknowledge those who made the growth of co-operatives possible, by presenting the 2017 Rochdale Award for outstanding contributions to the co-operative movement.

### 10:00-10:30 BREAK

#### 10:30-12:00 LEARN

##### The enabling environment for co-operatives: Where are we now?



Step by step, little by little, co-operators are creating a more favourable regulatory and political environment for co-operatives. How are different countries faring? What legal hurdles remain? Experts will share the latest developments in the field of co-operative law by discussing, analysing, and presenting research results on the state of legal frameworks around the world. Participants will also be invited to discover Cooplex, the global database of co-operative legal texts.

#### 10:30-12:00 LEARN

##### Measuring the movement: The path towards better statistics on co-operatives

When asked how many co-operatives exist in the world, there is no clear answer, only rough and incomplete estimates. In order to accurately demonstrate the economic, social, and environmental power of the co-operative economy, statistics on co-operatives must improve in terms of quality, comparability, and access. How can this be achieved? Learn what statistics on co-operatives look like today, how data on co-operatives can be better collected and analysed, and what work will be achieved before the 20th International Conference of Labour Statisticians revisits the issue in 2018.



#### 10:30-12:00 EXPERIMENT

##### Leadership building for effective Board participation



Before agreeing to join a Board of Directors, it is important to understand the responsibilities involved and how to ensure your participation is impactful. How can you be the best possible Board member? What does an effective Board look like? Current and future Board members, join this workshop to learn how to be a more successful co-operative leader.



#### 10:30-12:00 EXPLORE

##### Screening: 'Cooperatives build a better world' campaigns from around the world

Co-operatives seem to be a best-kept secret. Reputational surveys suggest that people would prefer to work and shop at co-operatives, yet general awareness about the model remains low in many countries. The Alliance's Global Co-operative Marketing Campaign aims to spread the message and promise of the co-operative advantage to new communities. See how national campaigns are being rolled out in more than a dozen countries around the world and how you can help amplify the co-operative message in yours.

### 12:00-13:30 LUNCH BREAK



#### 13:30-15:00 LEARN

##### Co-operatives and the future of work

As people-focused businesses, co-operatives are implicated in the evolving nature of employment. Co-operatives have a unique relationship with the concept of work, as many co-operatives have worker-members or producer-members, rather than direct employees. They are also being explored as a means to facilitate the transition of workers from the informal to the formal economy. What are the main challenges regarding human resources management in co-operatives? What are the future trends in employment with the advent of new technologies? How are co-operatives promoting decent work within their organisations and in global supply chains? Come to this session to have these questions answered.

 **13:30-15:00 LEARN**

**Governments as co-operative advocates**



Governments can be a key partner for the co-operative movement, as they shape the environment in which co-operatives form, develop, and flourish. This session will provide a unique opportunity to learn about how governmental entities contribute to the development of the co-operative movement worldwide and areas for potential future action. Participants will also exchange experiences regarding the administrative management of co-operative policy at the national level.

 **13:30-15:00 LEARN**

**Multi-stakeholder co-ops: Innovations in co-operative governance**

A hallmark of the co-operative difference is collective ownership and democratic control. These attributes require a specific kind of governance rooted in democracy and equity. However, as businesses respond to opportunities, trends, and challenges in the market, we see an emergence of multi-stakeholder co-operatives: businesses that bring together different stakeholders – workers, producers, and consumers – into one enterprise. How does co-operative governance need to adapt to meld their seemingly disparate interests? How can the innovations in these emerging governance models strengthen co-operative governance overall?

 **13:30-15:00 EXPERIMENT**

**Communicating the co-operative message: Practical tips and tools**

Targeted communications are a powerful means to strengthen the co-operative identity and mobilise members. How can co-operatives hone more effective strategies for communicating to members and the community? Join this workshop to find out.

 **13:30-15:00 NETWORK**

**Meet and Greet with the Alliance Board candidates**

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 **13:30-15:00 EXPLORE**

**Screening: PBS Series Visionaries on co-operatives**

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**15:00-15:30 BREAK**

**15:30-17:00 PLENARY**

**Closing keynote plenary – Dr Gro Harlem Brundtland**

Sustainable development is at the very core of co-operative enterprises. As a model of business based on ethical values and principles, with an overarching goal to provide for the needs and aspirations of their members, co-operatives play a pivotal role in responding to local community needs and objectives. In an inspiring closing address, Dr Gro Harlem Brundtland will discuss the implications for building a more sustainable future as a united movement. In such roles as Minister of the Environment for Norway, Norwegian Prime Minister (the youngest person and first woman to hold the office), political activist, and Director-General of the World Health Organization, Dr Brundtland gained international recognition as a leader on key global challenges, the environment, human rights, and sustainable development.

**17:00-18:30 BREAK**

**18:30-20:00 CLOSING RECEPTION**

## GLOBAL CONFERENCE HOTELS

The Alliance and co-host ANGKASA have selected three leading hotels in Kuala Lumpur to fit every conference delegate's budget. The selected hotels are high-quality, recently refurbished, and conveniently situated next to the conference venue.

The hotels are all neighboring the Sunway Lagoon theme park and the vast Sunway Pyramid Shopping Mall which features more than 900 specialty stores and 170 food and beverage outlets.

### SUNWAY RESORT HOTEL & SPA 5\*



From **RM524.47** / night – **Premier Room**  
From **RM658.79** / night – **Club Room**  
From **RM833.69** / night – **Junior Suite**  
From **RM868.67** / night – **Exec Suite**

The 5-star iconic **Sunway Resort Hotel & Spa** offers 468 well-appointed guestrooms, suites, pool villas, and duplexes with commanding views of the theme park or the cityscape. The collection of rooms include the Premier Rooms, Junior Suites, Premier Executive Suites, The Club Rooms and Suites, an impressive Presidential Suite, and the Pool Villas which are tucked away amidst lush tropical gardens, all equipped with the conveniences and modern amenities for a fuss-free stay. The Hotel recreational facilities feature an all-day dining restaurant, lounge and bar, free-form landscaped swimming pool with cascading waterfall, a pool bar, fitness centre, and a Balinese spa. The Hotel is directly linked to the Sunway Lagoon theme park and the massive Sunway Pyramid Shopping Mall.

### SUNWAY PYRAMID HOTEL 4.5\*



**Deluxe Room - Single or Double**  
RM**466.40** / night or RM**504.88** / night

Located next to the Sunway Resort Hotel & Spa, the newly renovated 4.5 star **Sunway Pyramid Hotel** showcases a collection of 564 Deluxe category guestrooms and Family Suites, complemented by enhanced in-room facilities and technology upgrades, bringing a breath of freshness with more choices and new experiences. Guests of the Hotel have direct access to the recreational facilities available at the 5-star Sunway Resort Hotel & Spa. A large food atrium and coffee bar are located in the lobby to complement the food and beverage offerings in this brand-new hotel. Sunway Pyramid Hotel is directly connected to the Sunway Pyramid Shopping Mall, and just an escalator ride away from the Sunway Lagoon theme park.

### SUNWAY CLIO HOTEL 4\*



**Superior Room - Single or Double**  
RM**396.44** / night or RM**434.92** / night–

**Sunway Clio Hotel** is the newest 4-star hotel in the integrated landmark of Sunway City Kuala Lumpur. The 26-storey hotel features 401 rooms with a choice of two (2) room types: Superior and Superior Executive Rooms which includes convenient touches such as complimentary Wi-Fi and wired broadband internet access, LED Smart TVs, and flexible workspaces. The hotel's fitness centre and outdoor swimming pool overlooks the resort's dramatic skyline. At Sunway Clio Hotel, be prepared for an entertaining stay with the hotel's full leisure and business facilities, includes a 3-storey retail and dining atrium located on the first three (3) levels of the hotel tower. The hotel is connected to the massive Sunway Pyramid Shopping Mall, whereas the Sunway Lagoon theme park is right next to the hotel.



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