

MAIN ACTIVITIES RELATED TO THE ILO/ICA POVERTY CAMPAIGN

Title	Description	Countries covered	Outcome/impact
Rural Finance Project	A Regional Project working on co-operative microfinance development. Started in 2002 and ended 2005	ECSA (Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Malawi, Botswana, South Africa, Lesotho, Swaziland, Zimbabwe)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Regional Network - MICRONET • Operating System Manuals for SACCOs • Increased Awareness and Capacity for Product development among SACCOs
Agricultural Marketing Project	The project objective was to “Strengthen cooperatives’ influencing capacity in order to take advantage of political, social, and economic opportunities at the national and international level.” The main problem being the little ability to propose and respond in order to promote greater economic and social development of cooperatives in Latin America.”	Honduras, Ecuador, El Salvador, Colombia, Argentina, Peru, Paraguay and Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eight advocacy plans prepared this year as part of trainer seminars in Colombia, Argentina, Peru, Paraguay, Mexico, Honduras, Ecuador and El Salvador • 72 cooperativists trained as advocacy trainers so that they can reproduce the workshops and formulate advocacy plans, with supervision and follow-up support from ICA Americas. • Support provided for an exchange between COOPESILENCIO, in Costa Rica, and RECUPERAR, in Colombia, to share the latter’s experience in treatment of residues. • The network of recycling cooperatives (Red de Cooperativas de Recuperadores de Residuos) connected with the Institute for the Mobilization of Cooperative Funds (Instituto de Movilización de Fondos Cooperativos- IMFC) received support to design a development plan aimed at improving revenues and profitability in the sorting process used in recovering residues.
Promotion of Gender and Poverty Reduction	<p>Training of 27 UNCAS Women’ s Committee leaders and 16 field workers on the management of: saving and credit, marketing and income generating activities, health insurance systems.</p> <p>Funding of: a) income generating activities for 4 women groups and 279 individual members; b) consolidation of the health insurance project for 4117 women and children</p> <p>Funding of: a) training of 30 leaders of the Small Credit to Women (TPCF) project; b) Study trips to Togo and Mali for the setting up of a compensation fund for SACCOs.</p>	Burkina Faso Senegal Benin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvement of the economic and financial status of women • Improvement of women and children’s health status • Promotion of gender equity within grassroots cooperatives

Promotion of micro mutual health insurance	Implementation of a feasibility study and a training session for the setting up of a micro mutual health insurance in Burkina Faso. This project was conducted by CGT-B, a Workers' National Trade Union.	Burkina Faso	Feasibility study and training session carried out
African Co-operative Forum	Organisation of a Forum of African Co-operators within the framework of the African Heads of State Summit held in Ouagadougou on "Strategies, roles and contribution of cooperatives in job creation and poverty reduction in Africa".	Burkina Faso, Ghana Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire, Uganda, Ethiopia, Cape Verde, Kenya, Benin	Successful forum held and attended by 25 cooperative leaders, training institutes representatives from 9 West and East African countries who made a series of recommendations to African Heads of State and commitments to make cooperatives a success