

# The World Co-operative Monitor

## **ICA teams up with Euricse to develop *The World Co-operative Monitor*, a ranking of the biggest co-operatives and mutual organizations worldwide.**

The United Nations has declared 2012 the International Year of Co-operatives (IYC), highlighting the contribution of co-operatives to socio-economic development, in particular recognizing their impact on poverty reduction, employment generation and social integration.

Within the initiatives to celebrate the IYC, in addition to Stories.coop, the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) is now working with Euricse, European Research Institute on Cooperative and Social Enterprises to relaunch the Global300 project at the official close of the Year, in October, with a more rigorous methodology and expanded data set. The result of this collaboration will be *The World Co-operative Monitor*, a project aimed at developing a multidimensional ranking of the biggest co-operatives and mutual organizations worldwide based on both economic and social aspects of their nature.

### **From Global 300 to The World Co-operative Monitor**

Global300 is the name of an initiative finalized to develop a provisional ranking of the 300 biggest co-operatives and mutual organizations worldwide begun by the International Co-operative Alliance (ICA) in 2005. With the addition of Euricse (European Research Institute on Cooperative and Social Enterprises) as a technical-scientific partner, the new edition of the ICA report gains methodological strength. In order to expand and give more scientific basis to the Global 300 project, Euricse and ICA have established a scientific committee consisting of Euricse researchers and other international experts with diverse training and skills. The result of this collaboration will be *The World Co-operative Monitor*. The whole initiative, starting from data collection through the final publication of the Ranking is supposed to involve different operative levels of engagement: six research units, one for each reference area (Europe, Asia, Pacific, Africa, North America and South America), will coordinate with Euricse for data collection in their own area and for the involvement of country organizations.

### **The Scope:**

- ✓ Increasing the profile of co-operatives within their own industries and countries as well as internationally
- ✓ Demonstrating the economic importance of co-operatives and mutuals to government and other regulatory agencies
- ✓ Modeling good practice and highlighting successful co-operative business models and innovative approaches
- ✓ Creating networks between co-operatives and mutuals within The World Co-operative Monitor for greater sharing of information, business intelligence and business opportunities.
- ✓ Visibility will be given to your organization also by the sector/area/type sub-rankings.
- ✓ Creating a much improved statistical and data methodology to allow for better analysis of performance and impact

*The World Co-operative Monitor* Application is open until March 2012. **Don't miss the opportunity to be included in the list, visit our web page today and fill in the Application form!** In a few days you will receive a link to an online questionnaire prepared in order to gather data on potential candidates. The questionnaire includes questions about economic and social data aiming to take account of not only the economic, but also the social impact of Co-operatives.

It only takes a few minutes to enter the selection:

1. visit <http://survey.euricse.eu/index.php?sid=97162&lang=en>,
2. Fill in the Application form
3. Fill in the online questionnaire through the link contained in the e-mail you will receive in a few days.

Once logged in Coops will be asked about some of their financial and social impact related data to measure their impact and build a composite ranking list. Considering the high accessibility of data requested, higher-level organizations could also fill in multiple questionnaires for their member organizations, up to a maximum of 15 per sector/country/type.

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### **About ICA**

The International Co-operative Alliance is an independent, non-governmental association which unites, represents and serves co-operatives worldwide. Founded in 1895, ICA has 269 member organisations from 96 countries active in all sectors of the economy. Together these co-operatives represent nearly one billion individuals worldwide.

### **About Euricse**

The mission of the European Research Institute on Cooperative and Social Enterprises is to promote knowledge development and innovation for the field of co-operatives, social enterprises and other non-profit organizations engaged in the production of goods and services. The Institute aims to deepen the understanding of these types of organizations and their impact on economic and social development, furthering their growth and assisting them to work more effectively. Through activities directed toward and in partnership with both the scholarly community and practitioners, including primarily theoretical and applied research and training, we address issues of national and international interest to this sector, favouring openness and collaboration.

### **Stories.coop/tell-your-story (see attachment)**

Stories.coop is a digital campaign designed to demonstrate to the general population that the co-operative model is pervasive and that it works. It is open for any co-operative to contribute their story and is the only global, online home for co-operatives and their stories. Each day in 2012 one story will be highlighted as part of the effort to promote co-operatives, raise awareness of their contribution and promote the formation and growth of co-operatives. It is an open campaign to which any co-operative can contribute with a written story, a presentation or a video, at no cost, but which employs professional writers and editors to refine chosen stories. [info@stories.coop]