



International  
Co-operative  
Alliance

# Agricultural Co-operatives:

Join the International Co-operative Alliance  
Be part of the global co-operative movement

The Alliance is the global voice for  
co-operative agricultural policy



Organic Valley Co-operative, Oregon

# The Alliance is the global voice for co-operative agricultural policy

Learn more about the Alliance's agriculture sector

## International Co-operative Alliance

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## International Co-operative Agricultural Organisation (ICAO)

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The Alliance's delegation with FAO Director-General Mr José Graziano da Silva, at the signing of the Alliance's 2013 Memorandum of Understanding with the FAO.

The International Co-operative Alliance was one of the first organisations granted consultative status with the United Nations (UN). The Alliance's policy staff uses that status to ensure that member states understand the co-operative perspective.

In addition, the Alliance has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), giving us space at the FAO Headquarters in Rome and access to member-states during deliberations.

## The Alliance has a dedicated agriculture sector

The Alliance has a sectoral organisation dedicated to agricultural co-operatives and other organisations interested in the agriculture sector: the International Co-operative Agricultural Organisation (ICAO). Members of the Alliance are eligible to join and to participate in its policy and educational agenda and programme.

## A close partner to international organisations

The Alliance is a member of the Committee on the Promotion and Advancement of Cooperatives (COPAC), along with the United Nations Department for Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the International Labour Organisation (ILO), and the World Farmers Organization (WFO). These memberships allow us to more closely align the co-operative agenda at the global level.

## Advancing the co-operative agricultural agenda at global level

The Alliance's policy efforts recently led to the inclusion of co-operatives in the agreement on Financing for Development and the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda as important actors in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Concrete projects and initiatives to fulfill the role of agricultural co-operatives at national and local levels are underway in the framework of COPAC and the Memorandum of Understanding with the FAO. The Alliance is the privileged organization for co-operatives that wish to be involved in these projects and initiatives.