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# #CoopYouth are IT!

An Assembly exploring the role of Information  
Technology & Youth in Movement Building

at the 2017 ICA Global Conference

In Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

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**International  
Co-operative  
Alliance**  
Youth Network

# AGENDA\*

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Welcome! (3)

PMA Format & History (7)

Biographies (15)

Discussion Context & Overview (10)

Small Group Discussion (40)

Aggregation (15)

Small Group Discussion (10)

Conclusion

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\*90 minutes, will stay a few minutes into break, if needed

# Peoples' Movement Assembly

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FORMAT: It is a participatory, large group consensus-\*seeking\* process. Discuss in small groups, aggregate responses, & endeavor to create a collective statement of vision on a given topic.

HISTORY: Evolved out of the World Social Forums & national Social Forums (esp. Kenya) as a participatory way to engage grassroots in inter/national self-governance. Social Forums were a response to the globalization & formation of the World Trade Organization.

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# BIOGRAPHIES

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▣ **Name**

▣ **Geography** (i.e. Where are you from?)

▣ **Cooperative** Sector, Industry, Type, etc.

▣ In three words, how do you describe **your relationship to the internet?**

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# DISCUSSION CONTEXT

STATE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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**Information Technology** or “IT” “refers to the application of computers and telecommunications equipment to store, retrieve, transmit, and manipulate data [...]

The term is commonly used as a **synonym for computers and computer networks**, but it also encompasses other information distribution technologies such as television and telephones.”

DEFINITIONS ADAPTED FROM WIKIPEDIA.



# DEFINITIONS

**Computer Network:** a telecommunications network that allows computers to exchange data. The best-known computer network is the **Internet**.

**Internet:** a **network** that consists of millions of private and public networks, of local to global scope, linked by a broad array of electronic, wireless, and optical networking technologies.

**Software:** any set of **instructions** that directs a computer's processor to perform specific operations. It is a set of programs, procedures, functions, associated data and/or its documentation.

**Hardware:** the **physical objects** that carry out the **instructions**. Computer hardware and software require each other and neither can be realistically used without the other.



*ALL DEFINITIONS ADAPTED FROM WIKIPEDIA.*

# DISCUSSION CONTEXT

## STATE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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**“if you’re not paying, you’re the product” (e.g. facebook)”**

**Digital rights under siege** → hardware & software is not owned/controlled by users

**“National and international laws have yet to catch up with the evolving need for privacy that comes with new digital technologies.”**

**Algorithms track & shape identity** in ways that have immense social, economic, & political consequences

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# DISCUSSION CONTEXT

## COOPERATIVE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

**HARDWARE:** FACT[TIC] on physical infrastructure owned by workers/builders of internet; community broadband owned by a community cooperative

**SOFTWARE:** FLOSS technologies & technologists

**ADVOCACY:** Electronic Frontier Foundation working to create tools to intercede between corporations & users

# DISCUSSION PROMPTS

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## 1. STATUS QUO (5 min) → MAKE A LIST OF ITEMS.

How would you describe the overall current status of information technology?

## 2. CHALLENGES (5 min) → MAKE A LIST OF ITEMS.

What obstacles are there to information technology being cooperative &/or being used to build the cooperative movement?

## 3. ACTIONS (12 min) → ITEMS, STATEMENTS, etc.

What specific actions can we take, as #coopyouth, to better use information technology to build our cooperative movement?

## 4. VISION (8 min) → ITEMS, STATEMENTS, etc.

If those actions are taken within the next 3 years, what will our cooperative movement look like, feel like, & act like in five years?

**GOAL:** *To explore how can we, as #coopyouth, bring about a “Cooperative Spring” through the use of technology.*

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# PRESENTATIONS

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In 3 minutes or less, share a reportback of the following discussion items:

## 3. ACTIONS

What specific actions can we take, as #coopyouth, to better use information technology to build our cooperative movement?

## 4. VISION

If those actions are taken within the next 3 years, what will our cooperative movement look like, feel like, & act like in five years?

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# PROCESS

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**POST-ASSEMBLY:** Facilitators will aggregate all the notes into a single document, which will be shared with:

- Participants via email
  - Facilitators of the CICOPA-led #CoopYouth Entrepreneurship session later today
  - Youth Network Executive Committee for use in their strategic planning process.
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# THANK YOU!

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Questions or Feedback:  
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