



NCBA CLUSA'S  
COOPERATIVE  
**IMPACT**  
— HYBRID —  
CONFERENCE

EMBRACING OUR  
CO-OP IDENTITY

**INTERNATIONAL  
PROGRAMMING TRACK**

**AGENDA**

**OCTOBER 4 - 8, 2021**

AS PART OF THE IMPACT CONFERENCE HYBRID EVENT, THE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMING WILL BE VIRTUAL, OFFERING PRE-RECORDED SESSIONS WITH LIVE Q&A FOR IMPACT PARTICIPANTS.

Register at <https://cvent.me/4xdINI>

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**MONDAY, OCTOBER 4** 8:30-10:00 AM EDT

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**OPENING SESSION**

WELCOMING REMARKS:

**Ariel Guarco**, President, International Cooperative Alliance

**Alex Serrano**, Senior Vice President of International Programs, NCBA CLUSA

**Paul Hazen**, Executive Director, U.S. Overseas Cooperative Development Council (OCDC)

**Karl Fickenschner**, Acting Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Development, Democracy and Innovation, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)

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**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 5** 8:30-10:00 AM EDT

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**OPENING REMARKS**

MASTER OF CEREMONIES: **Kaeleigh Barker**, Cooperatives for a Better World Foundation

**SESSION 1: ENTREPRENEURSHIP IS AT THE  
CORE OF COOPERATIVES' IDENTITY**

Entrepreneurship, or implementing business ideas that respond to social needs in innovative ways, is at the core of cooperative identity. Cooperatives are innovative organizations that meet people where they are and support communities in ways that meet members' needs. They provide a path for growth that focuses on individual and community well-being and building wealth for the communities they serve. Moreover, cooperatives that fully embrace their cooperative identity use entrepreneurial ideas to solve community problems and advance social transformation.

During this session, we'll learn about cooperatives that are producing and using technology in innovative ways to address social problems, as well as multi-stakeholder cooperatives with innovative governance systems and business models.

8:40-9:00 am

### **SPEAKERS**

Message from **Martin Chrisney**, Senior Director, KPMG

A conversation on Cooperative Entrepreneurship featuring **Ana Agirre**, Co-founder and Worker-Owner, TAZEBAEZ S.Coop, and Vice President - Europe, ICA Youth Network Executive Committee, interviewed by **Camila Piñeiro**, Cooperative Development Practice Area Director, NCBA CLUSA

VIDEO: *Cooperative Entrepreneurship in Action: White Cocoa Leads a Community Out of Poverty* in Peru by OCDC

9:00-10:00 am

### **PANEL DISCUSSION 1**

MODERATOR: **Kari Onyancha**, Chief of Party, Cooperative Development Program, Venture 37

PANELISTS:

**George Ototo**, Managing Director, Kenya Union of Savings and Credit Cooperatives (Kenya)

**Nicolas Dimarco**, Member of the Board of Directors, Argentine Federation of Technology Cooperatives, and Founding Member, Fiquis Cooperative

**May Trabously**, Chair, Rural Delight (Ataybed Al Rif) Cooperative (Lebanon)

**Dardan Isufi**, Chief Operating Officer, Eva Cooperative (Canada)

VIDEO: *Entrepreneurship in Rancher Cooperatives* by Genex

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**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 6** 8:30-10:00 AM EDT

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### **SESSION 2: COOPERATIVE VALUES AT WORK FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS: TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE**

Cooperatives' values of equality, solidarity, social responsibility and caring for others are practiced not just among members, but also beyond borders and across generations. Cooperatives are a powerful tool contributing to global, regional and national plans and alliances to mitigate climate change and protect our planet for present and future generations. Cooperatives are leading social business movements that understand the need for bold, collective action that places people and the planet before profits.

During this session, we'll learn how cooperatives around the world contribute to building climate resiliency. For example, many cooperatives have moved away from carbon and towards renewable energy, adopted and standardized environmentally-friendly production techniques (e.g. - carbon

sequestration, water and soil protection, waste management, recycling) and have implemented production processes that advance a circular economy.

8:30–9:00 am

### **SPEAKERS**

**Dr. Rebecca Carter**, Acting Director, Climate Resilience Practice, World Resources Institute

**Ann Vaughan**, Senior Advisor, Climate Change, Bureau for Resilience and Food Security, USAID

**Frank Bergh**, Senior Off-Grid Engineer, National Rural Electric Cooperative Association

VIDEO: *Creating Consciousness, a recycling Cooperative in Argentina* by International Cooperative Alliance

9:00–10:00 am

### **PANEL DISCUSSION 2**

MODERATOR: **Vernon Oakes**, Everything Co-op

PANELISTS:

**Julia Baumgartner**, Cooperative Development Program Manager, Equal Exchange (U.S./ Mexico)

**Tarun Bhargava**, Deputy General Manager, Indian Farmers Fertilizer Cooperative LTD (India)

**Eduardo Avila**, Executive Director, Revolusolar (Brazil)

**Zoely Ramanase**, Director, USAID Mafatoky Sustainable Vanilla for People and Nature Activity (Madagascar)

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**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7** 8:30 AM–12:00 PM EDT

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### **SESSION 3: COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES IN PRACTICE FOR STRONGER COMMUNITIES**

Cooperatives are organizations that are owned and controlled by their members. As democratically managed enterprises based on equality, solidarity and social responsibility, cooperatives also respond to the needs of their surrounding communities and are dedicated to the sixth cooperative principle of “cooperation among cooperatives” to contribute to community development. Cooperative members are connected to broader social interests that strengthen their communities and enhance their own well-being.

Additionally, cooperatives are schools of democracy, professional development and social growth—all crucial for strong communities. The fifth cooperative principle emphasizes the importance of education, training and information sharing, which is considered the “golden rule” for cooperative success. Strong cooperatives understand the cultural change that is needed within members and communities for shared

prosperity. Its people-centered approach and long-term vision encourages cooperatives to invest resources to train future cooperative leaders.

During this session, we'll hear from cooperatives in Central America that are making rural and urban communities stronger by creating economic opportunities and improving livelihoods through employment, food security, financial access, health and other social services. We'll also learn how cooperatives and other stakeholders can engage youth and provide professional and personal advancement for this age group so that they are better prepared to remain in and contribute to the development of their communities, by taking advantage of the fifth cooperative principle.

8:30-9:15 am

### **SPEAKERS**

U.S. Sen. **Tim Kaine**, Chair, Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, Senate Foreign Relations Committee

**Mileydi Guilarte**, Deputy Assistant Administrator, USAID, Latin America Bureau

**Alicia Barcena**, Executive Secretary, Economic Counsel for Latin America and the Caribbean

VIDEO: *Cooperativa Ejidal Grutas de Tolantongo, Mexico* by Global Justice Center

9:15-10:30 am

### **PANEL DISCUSSION 3**

COOPERATIVES AS EFFECTIVE TOOLS FOR INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (PRINCIPLE #7)

MODERATOR: The Honorable **Carmen Lomellin**, Current Principal with Lomellin Global Group, LLC, and former U.S. Permanent Representative to the Organization of the American States (OAS)

PANELISTS:

**Judith Hermanson**, Director, International Cooperative Research Group, U.S. Overseas Cooperative Development Council

**Sigfredo Benítez**, Manager, Los Pinos Cooperative (El Salvador)

**Alex Rosales**, General Manager, Cooperativa de Montaña Verde (Honduras)

**Pablo Rosales**, Small and Medium Enterprise Finance Advisor, World Council of Credit Unions (Guatemala)

10:30-11:30 am

### **PANEL DISCUSSION 4**

ENGAGING YOUTH THROUGH COOPERATIVE EDUCATION, TRAINING AND INFORMATION (PRINCIPLE 5)

VIDEO: *KOPERASI MRSM KEPALA BATAS BERHAD* in Malaysia by International Cooperative Alliance

MODERATOR: **Britt Cruz**, Program Manager, Health Partners

PANELISTS:

**Colombia Perez**, Director, Institute of Social Economy and Cooperativism, Cooperative University of Colombia

**Ashley Holst**, Technical Specialist, Global Communities

**Roodline Volcy**, Former Events and Communications Coordinator, Democracy at Work Institute and current Director of Peer Advancement, Seed Commons

**Monica Chepkui**, Teaching Assistant, School of Co-operatives and Community Development at The Co-operative University of Kenya

**Muhammad Risal**, General Secretary, KOPINDO (Indonesia)

11:30-11:45 am

**OCDC'S INTERNATIONAL CO-OP INNOVATION AND CHAMPION AWARD PRESENTATIONS** BY PAUL HAZEN, OCDC

11:45 am-12:00 pm

**CLOSING OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMING TRACK**

**Carla Decker**, President & CEO, DC Credit Union, and Chair, NCBA CLUSA Board of Directors

**Graciela Fernández Quintas**, President, Cooperatives of the Americas

**Kaeleigh Barker**, Cooperatives for a Better World Foundation

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COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

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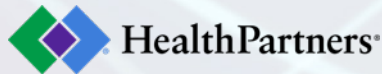
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