

# Facts & Figures

of Cooperatives

Edition International Year of  
Cooperatives 2025

**DGRV**



International Year  
of Cooperatives





International Year  
of Cooperatives

# 2025 International Year of Cooperatives

- **The United Nations has declared 2025 as the International Year of Cooperatives.**

With this special honour the UN aims to raise awareness of the global importance of cooperatives in achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Credit: ICA

International Cooperative Alliance: 2025 International Year of  
Cooperatives Opening Ceremony in New Delhi, India

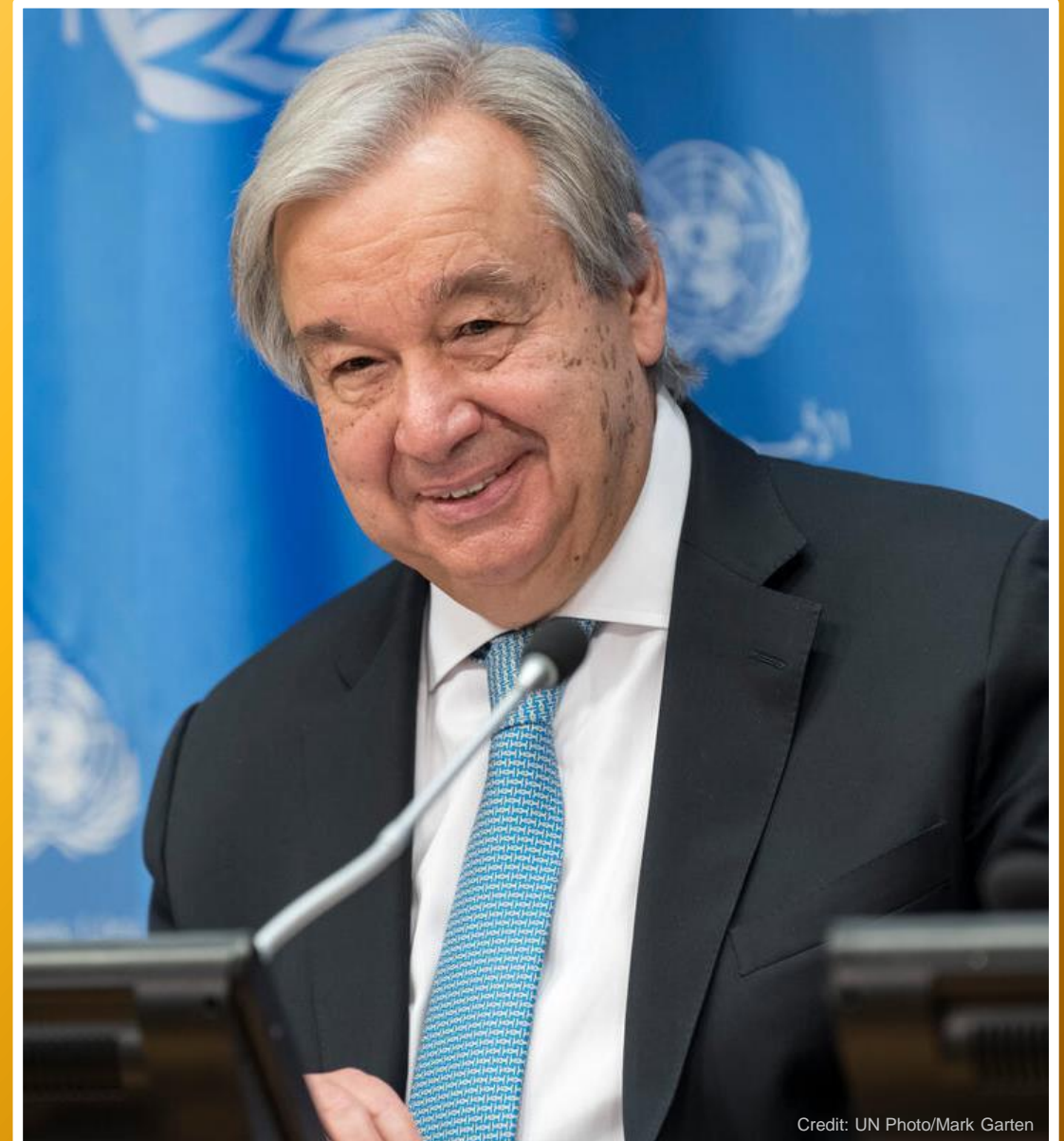
# 2025 International Year of Cooperatives



“

**Cooperatives are the solution to many of the global challenges of our time. They promote regional entrepreneurship, provide access to markets, and combat poverty and social exclusion worldwide. Cooperatives build a better world.**

**António Guterres**, United Nations Secretary-General



Credit: UN Photo/Mark Garten

# 2025 International Year of Cooperatives



International Year  
of Cooperatives

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



### 17 Sustainable Development Goals

In September 2015, the United Nations adopted the '2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development'. Global challenges such as poverty, hunger, inequality, lack of education, and discrimination against women and young people are to be addressed through sustainable economic activity and the responsible use of natural resources.

Based on this agenda, the global community has defined 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which should guide national policies and international cooperation.

Cooperatives are founded on values such as partnership, solidarity, and democratic co-determination. The core cooperative principles of self-help, self-management, and self-responsibility are ideal for achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals.



# 2025 International Year of Cooperatives



International Year  
of Cooperatives



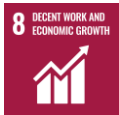
The cooperative idea emerged during times of extreme **poverty**. To this day, cooperatives provide disadvantaged groups with access to financial services, markets, and resources. They enable people to earn an income, making a significant contribution to the economic advancement of large sections of the population worldwide.



**Agricultural cooperatives** play a crucial role in providing food and preventing **hunger**. They enhance food security and strengthen small agricultural businesses and farms in particular.



**Energy cooperatives** actively involve communities in the energy transition. Public participation is vital for the acceptance of renewable energy. As regional energy providers, they offer **affordable and clean energy**.



**Cooperative banks**, as financing partners for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), make a vital contribution to the regional economy. By offering financial services across the region, they foster **economic growth and stable employment** outside of major metropolitan areas.



**Commercial cooperatives** form the backbone of the medium-sized economy. They assist their member businesses in all aspects of management, ensuring the **competitiveness and innovative capacity** of SMEs in comparison to large competitors.



**Housing cooperatives** provide affordable housing, particularly in urban centres. Through extensive modernisation of existing buildings, they contribute to the **sustainability of cities and communities**.



**Consumer cooperatives** place a strong emphasis on socially responsible practices. They ensure that supply chains are as short as possible and that the origins of products are transparent. In doing so, they promote **sustainable consumption** among their members.

## Contribution of Cooperatives to the UN Sustainable Development Goals

Cooperatives are as diverse as their contributions to achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals. However, the fundamental cooperative principle remains the same: In a community, more can be achieved, and individuals are better positioned.

Cooperatives combine economic and sustainable action like no other type of organisation. They support their members and, therefore, do not prioritise capital interests. This is why their business activities are focused on the long term and are designed with future generations in mind.

But cooperatives are much more than just business enterprises: They are 'schools of democracy,' as all members have an equal say in key decisions. Partnership and trust are the foundation of the cooperative philosophy.

# Cooperatives in Germany

—> **Cooperatives are a driving force for both the economy and society.**

They represent a solid business model and long-term entrepreneurial action. Sustainability is part of the cooperative DNA, as cooperatives focus on supporting their members rather than pursuing short-term capital interests.

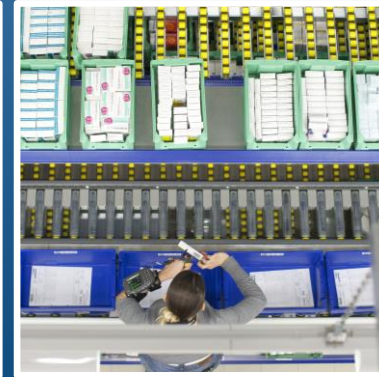




# Cooperatives Companions in Everyday Life

—→ We encounter cooperatives everywhere, every day.

Cooperative banks are reliable financing partners for small and medium-sized enterprises, agricultural cooperatives produce our food, retail cooperatives ensure the supply of goods of all kinds, and housing cooperatives provide affordable housing.

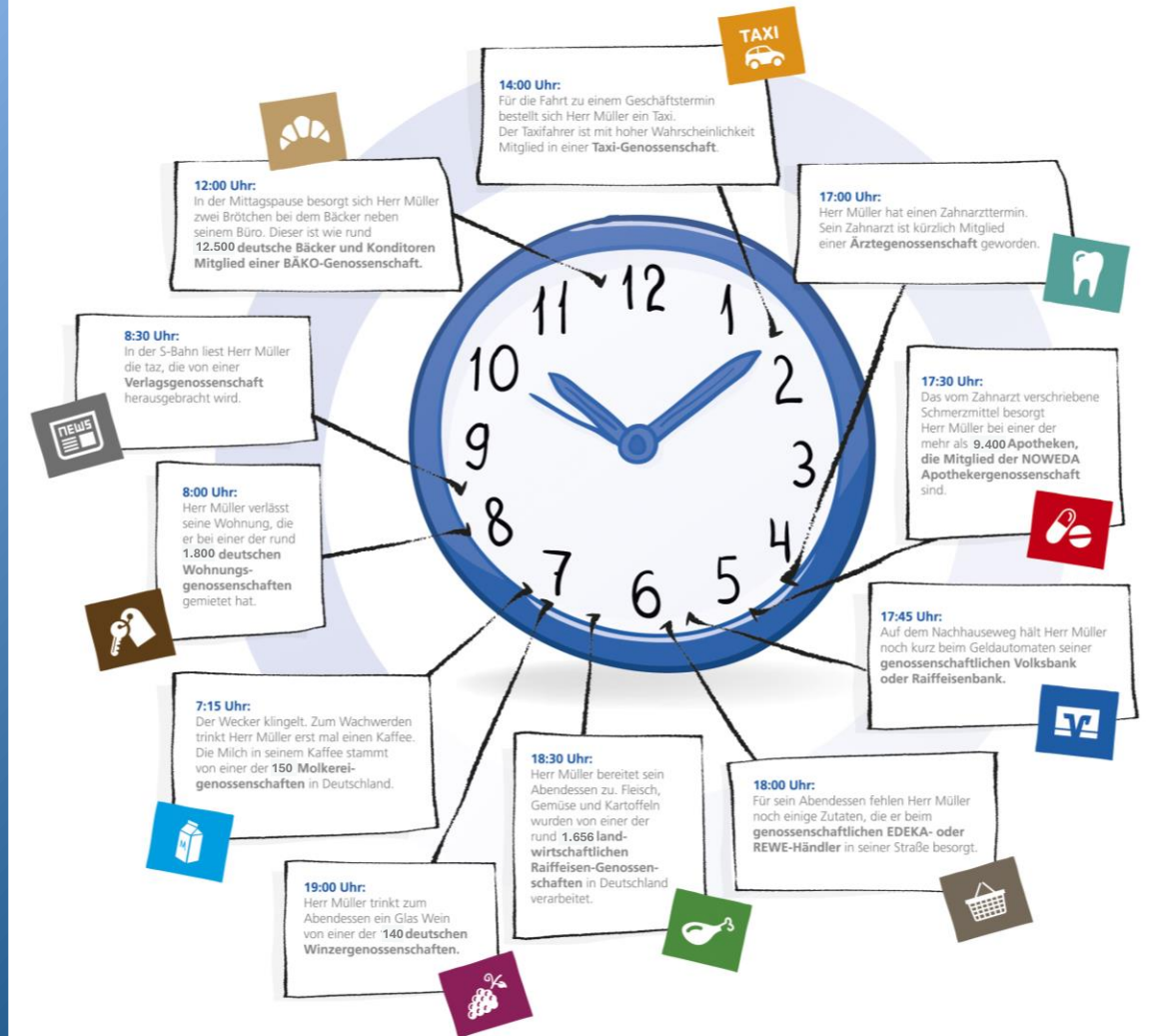


# The Cooperative Clock

## How We Encounter Cooperatives in Everyday Life

Cooperatives are with us around the clock, yet we often don't notice them in our everyday lives. However, if we take a closer look, we quickly become aware of the many cooperative services and offerings.

Let's follow Mr. Müller through his day and see where we encounter cooperatives.





# Cooperatives

## The Economic Organisation with the Most Members



**7,000**  
cooperatives



**1 m**  
employees



**22 m**  
members



# Cooperative Sectors



Cooperative Banks



Raiffeisen Cooperatives



Small-Scale Industry,  
Commodity, and Services  
Cooperatives



Energy Cooperatives



Consumer and Service  
Cooperatives



Housing Cooperatives



Number of  
Cooperatives

697

1,656

1,372

951

510

1,800



Members  
(in millions)

17.8

1.3

0.4

0.2

0.3

2.9



Employees

135,400

109,800

740,900

1,200

5,000

24,308



Turnover  
(in billion EUR):

1,175  
(Balance sheet)

82.6

193

2

1

6

# Cooperative banks

## A Solid Business Model

—> **Cooperative banks stand for trust and a solid business model.**

Across Germany, they provide comprehensive financial services to their 30 million customers.



Sustainable branch of Raiffeisenbank Südhardt eG  
with solar panels and e-charging station



# Cooperative Banks

## A Solid Business Model



A joint protection scheme is in place to protect customers' deposits. The rating agency FitchRatings has awarded an "AA-" rating.



**697**

number of  
cooperatives



**135,400**

employees



**1,175 bn €**

balance sheet



**17.8 m**

members



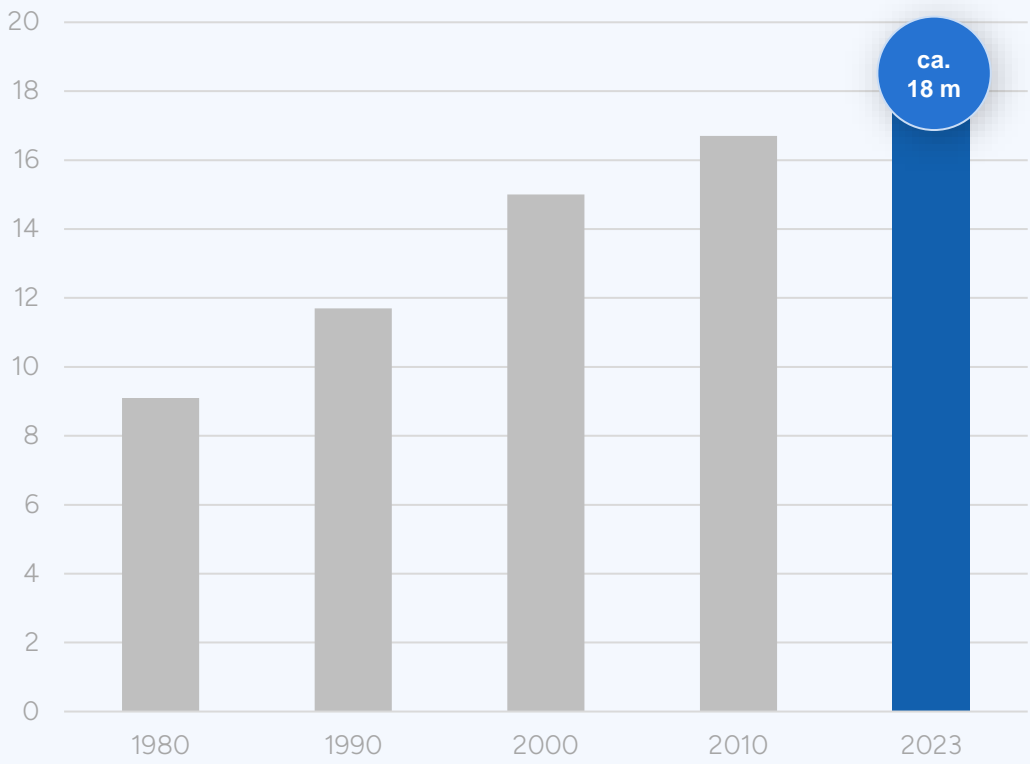
# Cooperative Banks

## A Solid Business Model

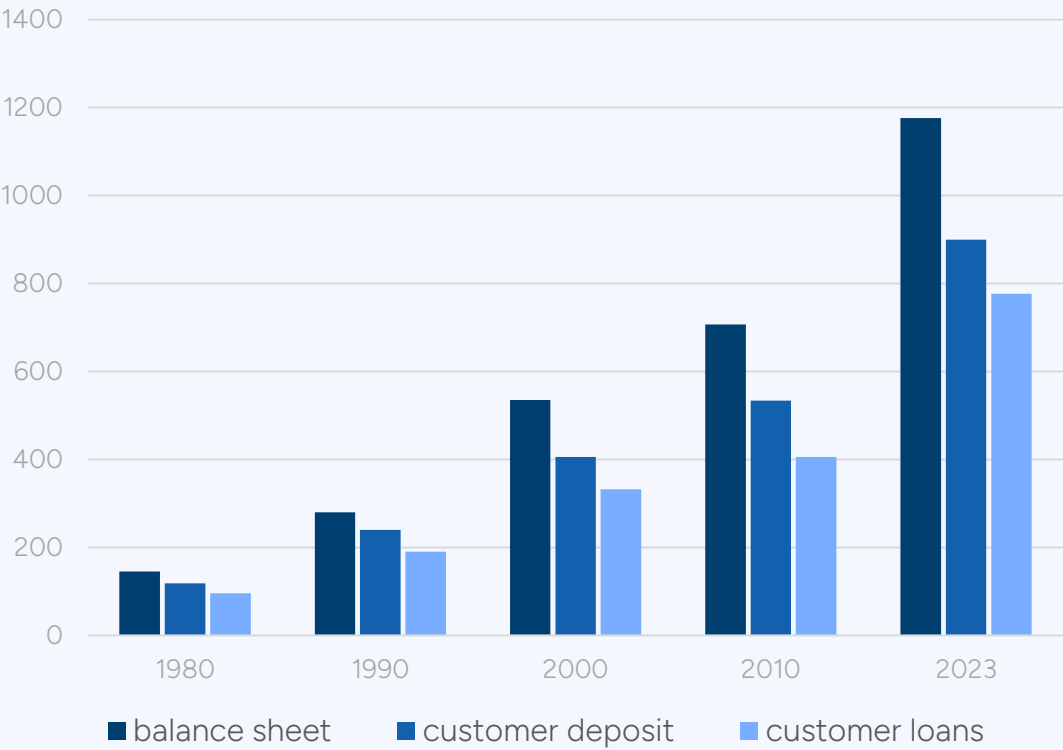


In addition to the Volksbanken and Raiffeisenbanken, the cooperative financial network of Volksbanken Raiffeisenbanken also includes the Sparda banks, PSD banks, church banks, and other specialised institutions, along with affiliated companies.

Development of Members from 1980 to 2023 (in Millions)



Development of the Cooperative Banks (Stocks in Billion Euros)



# Cooperative Banks

## A Solid Business Model



The **10 affiliated companies** of the Genossenschaftliche FinanzGruppe provide comprehensive services to the cooperative banks.



**34,265** employees



**699 bn** balance sheet



DZ BANK and Affiliates of the  
Genossenschaftliche FinanzGruppe

finanzgruppe.de



Genossenschaftliche FinanzGruppe  
Volksbanken Raiffeisenbanken



Schwäbisch Hall



Union  
Investment



DZ PRIVATBANK



Volksbanken  
Raiffeisenbanken

DZ BANK



VR Smart  
Finanz



DZ HYP



MünchenerHyp

reisebank.





# Raiffeisen Cooperatives

## A Regional Economic Force

—> **Cooperatives connect local producers in rural areas to the global markets.**

Nearly half of the flow of goods to and from the agricultural sector passes through cooperative companies.



RWZ Agricultural Technology Centre in Rommerskirchen

# Raiffeisen Cooperatives

## A Regional Economic Force



With 109,800 employees, Raiffeisen cooperatives are a **key employer and economic driver in rural areas.**



**1,656**

Raiffeisen  
cooperatives



**109,800**  
employees



**82.6 bn €**

added turnover



**1.1 m**  
members



# Raiffeisen Cooperatives

## A Regional Economic Force



**1/3**

**...of the total German grape**  
crop is processed by winegrowers'  
cooperatives into wines of all quality levels.



**60%**

**...of the annual milk volume**  
in Germany is processed into high-quality food  
by dairy cooperatives.



**25%**

**...of the farmland**  
in the eastern federal states is cultivated by  
agricultural cooperatives.



# Raiffeisen Cooperatives

## A Regional Economic Force



Commodity business



Dairy cooperatives



Livestock, meat and  
breeding cooperatives



Fruit, vegetable and  
horticultural cooperatives



Farmers cooperatives



Winegrowers  
cooperatives



Other cooperatives



**Number of  
Cooperatives**

309

150

68

77

497

140

415



**Members**  
(in thousands):

843

47

97

16

17

34

58



**Employees**

57,834

17,349

5,493

4,783

11,998

2,550

9,779



**Turnover**  
(in billion EUR):

52.1

16.3

7.0

3.7

1.8

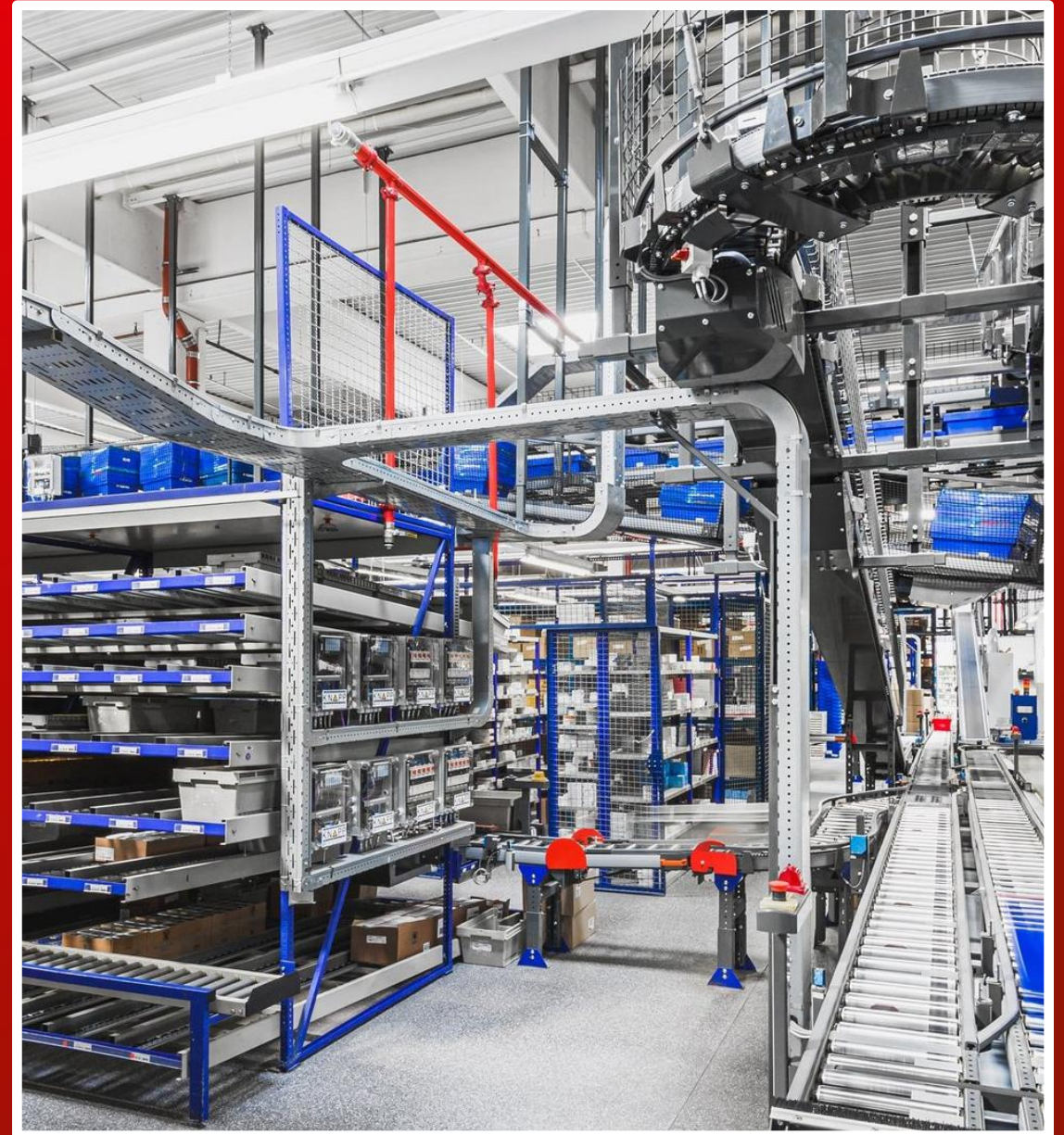
0.8

0.8

# Small-Scale Industry Commodity and Services Cooperatives

## A Strong Network

- Traders, craftsmen, and other small- and medium-sized entrepreneurs collaborate in cooperatives to achieve economies of scale, enabling them to compete with large corporations.



# Small-Scale Industry Commodity and Services Cooperatives

## A Strong Network



By joining forces, retailers can compete with powerful corporate groups in the market.



**1,372**  
small-scale industry  
commodity and  
services cooperatives



**740,900**  
employees



**193 bn €**  
added turnover



**400,000**  
members





# Small-Scale Industry Commodity and Services Cooperatives

## A Strong Network



**12,500**

bakers and confectioners are supported by the **BÄKO cooperatives** and their control centre



**9,400**

member pharmacies are supplied daily by **NOWEDA eG**



**85,000**

**SVG-Verbund** advises customers on all matters related to transport and logistics.

## Cooperatives are often connected in a multi-level network

Regional cooperatives of entrepreneurs are frequently organised into nationwide or international central cooperatives.

One example is the cooperatives of bakeries and confectioners, which have joined forces in their BÄKO-ZENTRALE eG.












# Small-Scale Industry Commodity and Services Cooperatives

## A Strong Network

More than

45

sectors in which small-scale industry, commodity, and service cooperatives operate

	 <div>Central Cooperatives</div>	 <div>Cooperatives in the Consumer Goods Trade</div>	 <div>Cooperatives in the Food Craft Trade (e.g., Bakery, Butchery)</div>	 <div>Cooperatives in the Non-Food Trade</div>	 <div>Cooperatives in Non-Food Craft Trade<sup>1</sup></div>	 <div>Cooperatives in Foods and Luxury Goods Trade<sup>2</sup></div>	 <div>Transport Cooperatives (e.g., road transport, inland waterways)</div>	 <div>Worker Cooperatives (e.g., hairdressing cooperatives, construction cooperatives)</div>	 <div>Water Cooperatives</div>	 <div>Production and Other Business Cooperatives</div>
 <div>Number of Cooperatives</div>	6	143	74	146	65	73	112	83	152	516
 <div>Turnover (in billion EUR):</div>	136	41.2	3.0	3.7	2.0	1.1	0.8	0.1	0.008	4.7

# Housing Cooperatives

## Promotion of Members

- Housing cooperatives provide their members with affordable housing and offer secure housing conditions.

In the interest of their members, they invest in the housing stock and in new buildings.



Headquarters of the GdW Bundesverband deutscher Wohnungs- und Immobilienunternehmen e.V. in Berlin

# Housing Cooperatives

## Promotion of Members



The purpose of every cooperative is to promote its members. Profits are made to achieve this goal.



**1,800**

housing  
cooperatives



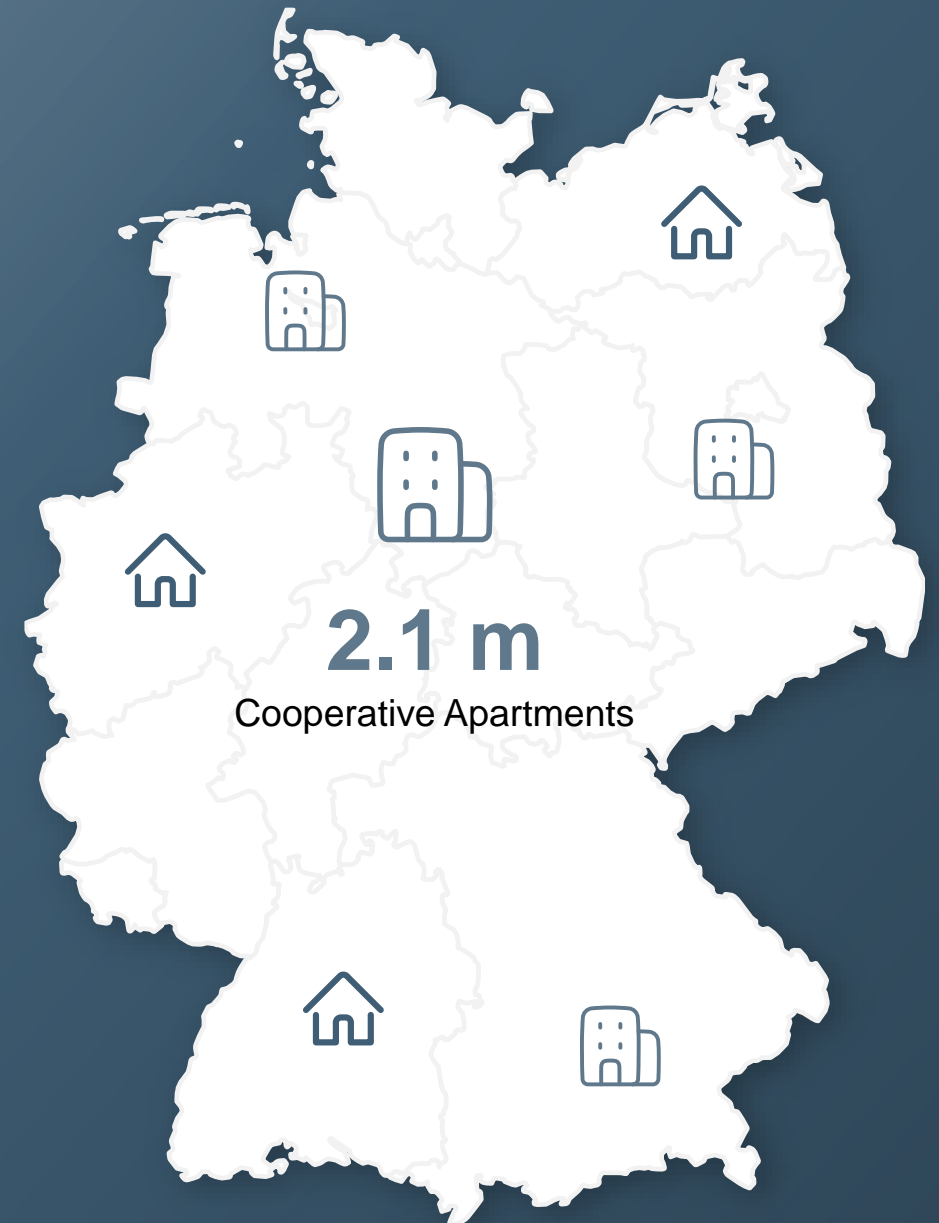
**24,308**  
employees



**6.0 bn €**  
investments



**2.9 m**  
members





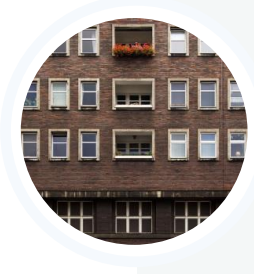
# Housing Cooperatives

## Promotion of Members



**292**

apartments in one and two  
family houses



**7,589**

apartments in  
multi-family houses



**3.7 bn €**

for modernisations and repair

## Cooperatives create affordable housing

Housing cooperatives enable social, fair  
and sustainable housing. In 2023,

**€ 2.3 billion** were invested in new  
construction projects. In doing so, they  
make an important contribution to  
combating the housing shortage in urban  
areas.

# Energy Cooperatives

## A Sustainable Society

- > **Energy cooperatives enable active participation and involvement in the energy transition.**

The goal is a long-term commitment of local residents. Taking part in the energy transition increases acceptance of renewable energies.



# Energy Cooperatives

## A Sustainable Society



Ownership and participation in the cooperative promote acceptance of the energy transition.



**951**  
energy  
cooperatives



**1,200**  
employees



**2.1 bn €**  
turnover



**220,000**  
members



# Energy Cooperatives

## A Sustainable Society

About **8TWh** clean electricity from wind and solar was generated by the energy cooperatives.



**3.6 bn €**

investments of energy cooperatives in renewable energies



**50 €**

minimum participation to become a member in an energy cooperative



**3,600 €**

average participation of the members



**3.0 million tons of CO2**

were avoided by energy cooperatives in the electricity sector



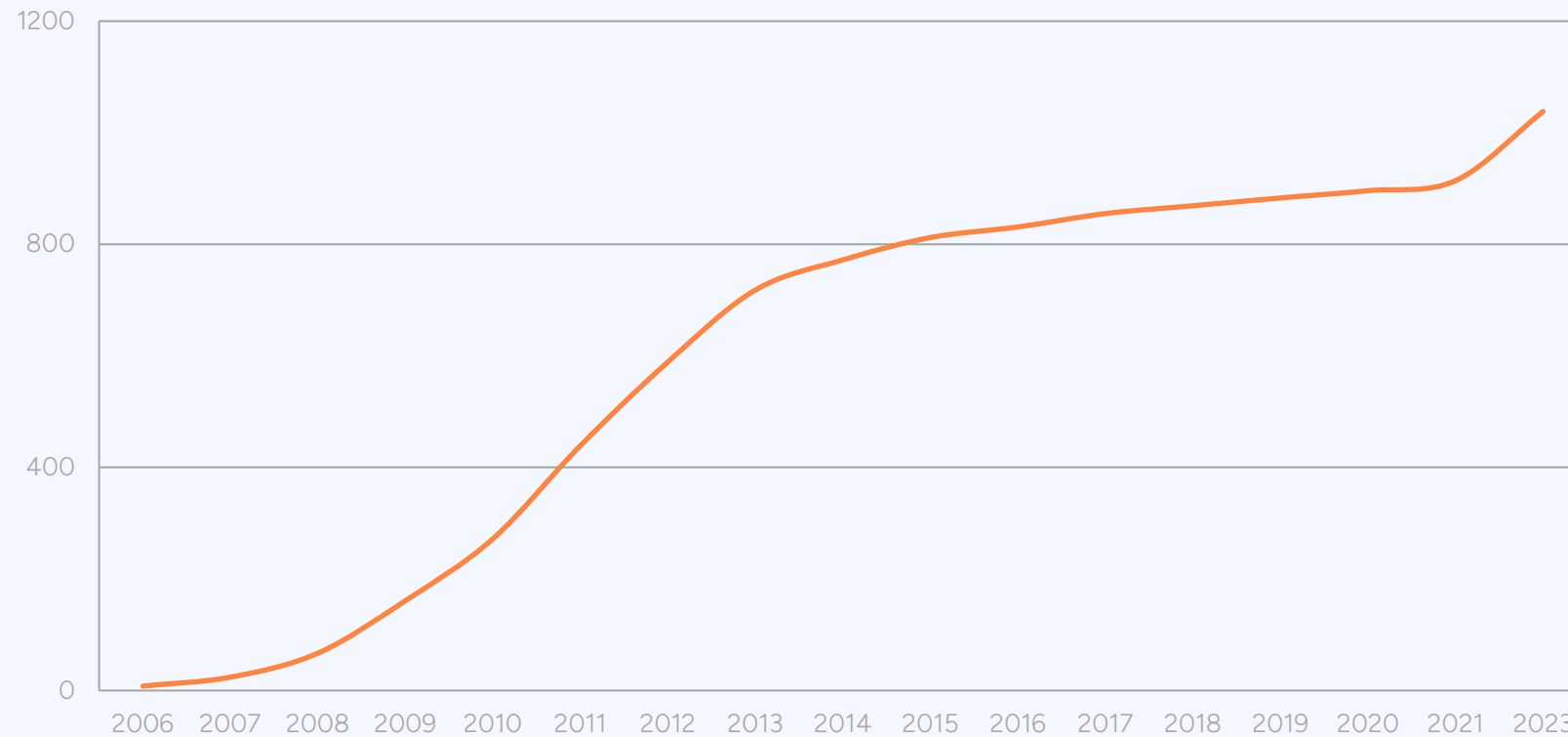
# Energy Cooperatives

## A Sustainable Society

88

Newly founded energy cooperatives in 2023  
– the highest growth in 10 years

Foundations since 2006 (cumulated)



# Consumer Cooperatives Democratic Organisations

- Citizens join together in cooperatives to purchase goods or provide services ranging from products to cultural activities.



# Consumer Cooperatives

## Democratic Organisations



**1844**

On 21st of December 1844, the 'Rochdale Society of Equitable Pioneers' founded the first cooperative grocery store.



**510**

consumer and  
service cooperatives



**5,000**

employees



**1.0 bn €**

turnover



**300,000**

members

## Cooperatives

are democratic and act in solidarity. Each member has only one vote.



# Cooperative Associations

- **Every cooperative is a member of a cooperative auditing association.**  
The regional auditing associations and specialist associations are members of the sector associations at national level.





# Cooperative Associations

## National Level



DGRV – Deutscher  
Genossenschafts-  
und Raiffeisenverband e. V.



GdW Bundesverband deutscher  
Wohnungs- und  
Immobilienunternehmen e. V.



Bundesverband der Deutschen  
Volksbanken und  
Raiffeisenbanken e. V. (BVR)



Deutscher  
Raiffeisenverband e. V. (DRV)



Der Mittelstandsverbund  
– ZGV e. V.



Zentralverband deutscher  
Konsumgenossenschaften e. V.  
(ZdK)

**At the national level**  
the sector associations and  
the umbrella organisations  
DGRV and GdW represent the  
interests of the cooperatives.

# Cooperative Associations (DGRV)

## Regional Level



### Cooperative Banks



### Raiffeisen Cooperatives



### Small-Scale Industry and Services Cooperatives



### Energy Cooperatives



### Consumer and Service Cooperatives

**bwgV**

Baden-Württembergischer  
Genossenschaftsverband e. V.

Number  
129  
Balance sheet  
208,790 m €

Number  
285  
Turnover  
4,318 m €

Number  
179  
Turnover  
5,954 m €

Number  
155  
Turnover  
1,118 m €

**GVB**

Genossenschaftsverband  
Bayern e. V.

Number  
186  
Balance sheet  
207,639 m €

Number  
368  
Turnover  
29,946 m €

Number  
259  
Turnover  
9,219 m €

Number  
329  
Turnover  
458 m €

**G**

Genoverband e. V.

Number  
321  
Balance sheet  
586,222 m €

Number  
900  
Turnover  
35,532 m €

Number  
972  
Turnover  
45,010 m €

Number  
379  
Turnover  
323 m €

Number  
11  
Turnover  
519 m €

**GVB**

Genossenschaftsverband  
Weser-Ems e. V.

Number  
53  
Balance sheet  
39,079 m €

Number  
64  
Turnover  
7,288 m €

Number  
66  
Turnover  
54 m €

Number  
67  
Turnover  
174 m €

# Cooperative Associations (DGRV)

## Specialist Associations



### EDEKA Verband kaufmännischer Genossenschaften e. V.

Number	Turnover
8	70,700 m €



### Verband der PSD Banken e. V.

Number	Balance sheet
12	27,240 m €



### REWE – genossenschaftlicher Förderverband e. V.

Number	Turnover
8	63,170 m €



### Prüfungsverband der Deutschen Verkehrs-, Dienstleistungs- und Konsumgenossenschaften e. V.

Number	Turnover
193	932 m €



### Verband der Sparda-Banken e. V.

Number	Balance sheet
11	83,567 m. €

# Cooperative Associations (GdW)

## Regional Level

VNW Verband norddeutscher  
Wohnungsunternehmen e. V., Hamburg

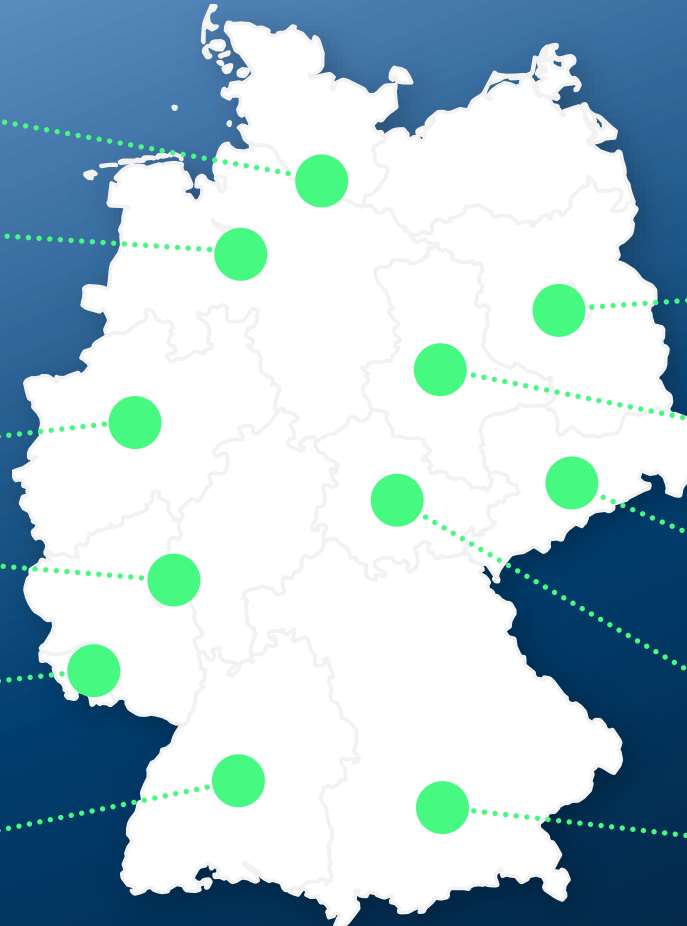
vdw Verband der Wohnungs- und  
Immobilienwirtschaft in Niedersachsen  
und Bremen e. V., Hannover

VdW Rheinland Westfalen  
Verband der Wohnungs- und Immobilien-  
wirtschaft Rheinland Westfalen e. V., Düsseldorf

VdW südwest Verband der Südwestdeutschen  
Wohnungswirtschaft e. V., Frankfurt am Main

VdW Verband der saarländischen Wohnungs-  
Immobilienwirtschaft e. V.

vbw Verband baden-württembergischer Wohnungs-  
und Immobilienunternehmen e. V., Stuttgart



BBU Verband Berlin-Brandenburgischer  
Wohnungsunternehmen e. V., Berlin

VdWg Verband der Wohnungsgenossenschaften  
Sachsen-Anhalt e. V., Magdeburg

VSWG Verband Sächsischer  
Wohnungsgenossenschaften e. V., Dresden

vtw Verband Thüringer Wohnungs- und  
Immobilienwirtschaft e. V., Erfurt

VdW Bayern Verband bayerischer  
Wohnungsunternehmen e. V., Munich



# Cooperatives worldwide



International Year  
of Cooperatives

- > **Cooperatives are found all over the world.**  
There are 250,000 cooperative businesses under the umbrella of the European cooperative association, Cooperatives Europe.  
**Globally, there are 3 million cooperatives.**



# Cooperatives worldwide



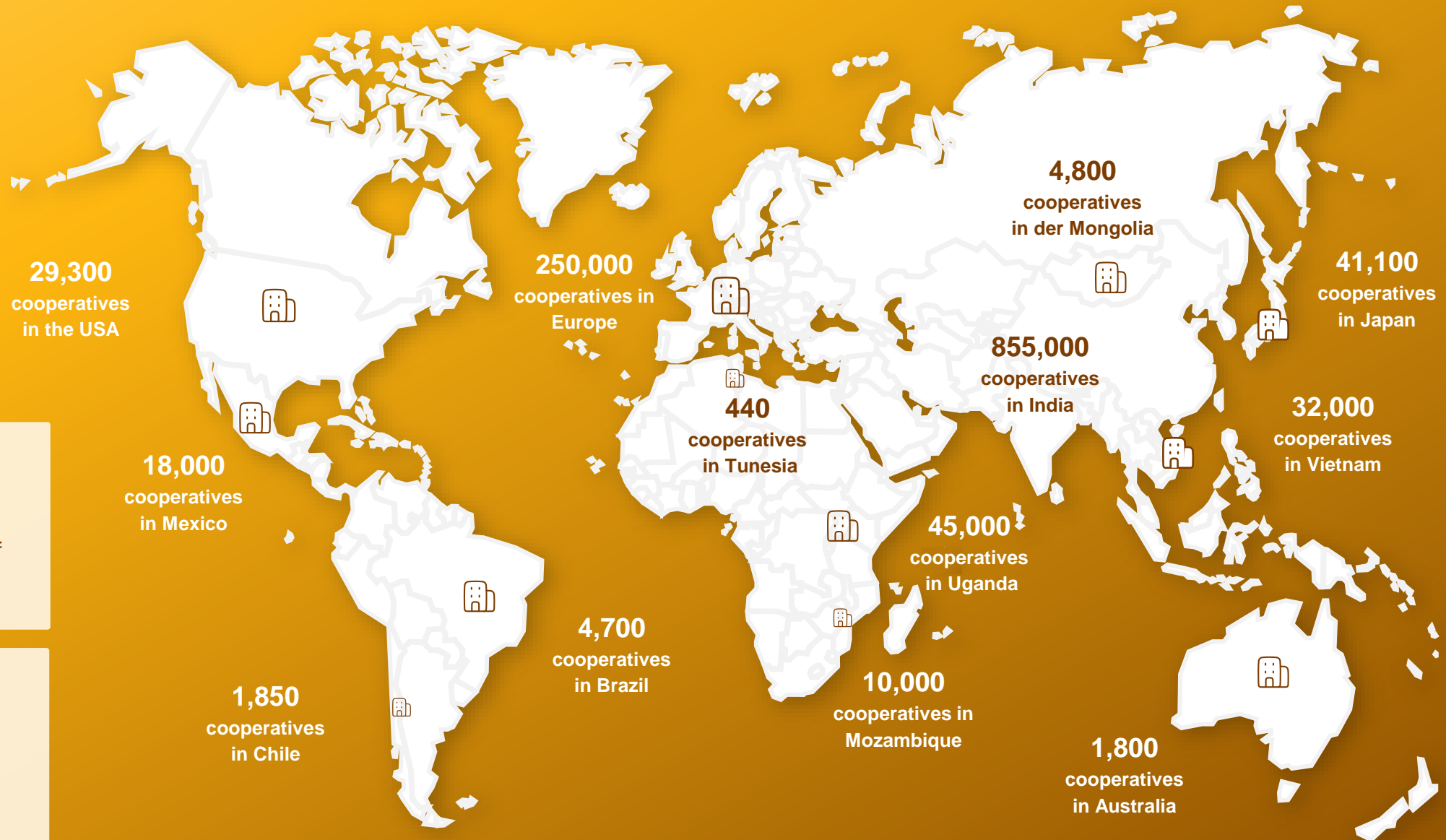
**1 billion**

people around the world are members of a cooperative.



**280 million**

jobs are offered by cooperatives worldwide.



# Cooperatives in Europe



International Year  
of Cooperatives



**141 m**

million people benefit  
from membership in  
a cooperative in Europe



**75%**

of Finns are members  
of a cooperative.



Every **2nd**  
bank in Europe is a  
cooperative bank



Every **3rd**  
polish person lives in  
a cooperative  
apartment



**20%**  
of pharmacies in  
Belgium are organised  
as cooperatives



**1 m**  
people in France work  
at a cooperative





# Cooperative Banks in Europe

## Financial Partner for Medium-Sized Companies



International Year  
of Cooperatives



Cooperative banks provide their members with comprehensive financial services. With more than 36,200 branches, they are close to their customers. Their precise knowledge of the regional market and personal contact with local people is their major competitive advantage. They are also an important employer in many regions of Europe.



**2,400**  
regional cooperative  
banks



**737,000**  
employees



**5.6 m €**  
loans



**90 m**  
members

### Sustainable economic growth & reduced inequalities

Cooperative banks traditionally promote small and medium-sized businesses in their region. They support entrepreneurs with their investments and offer a wide range of financial services. Through this important role, they make a decisive contribution to regional value creation and thus also to the common good. In the context of development cooperation, savings and credit cooperatives play a key role in reducing inequalities in disadvantaged regions of the world.





# Agricultural Cooperatives in Europe

## Sustainable and Competitive



International Year  
of Cooperatives



European agriculture is strongly characterised by cooperatives. Agricultural and forestry cooperatives strengthen regional businesses by pooling resources and offering various services. They achieve economies of scale in the processing of produce as well as transport, packaging and marketing.



**23,000**

agricultural and forestry  
cooperatives



**607,000**

employees



**40 %**

of the turnover in European  
agriculture is generated by  
agricultural cooperatives.



**7 m**

members

## Against poverty & hunger

European agricultural cooperatives ensure the supply of food. They also play an important role in preventing poverty. They increase the income of the mostly smaller member farms and open up additional sources of income for them. They also create jobs in structurally weak regions. Every day, European agricultural cooperatives produce fresh and processed food. They supply vital goods to people all over the world.



# Agricultural Cooperatives in Europe

## Sustainable and Competitive



International Year  
of Cooperatives

Number of agricultural,  
fishing and forestry  
cooperatives

- 1 Austria 1,057
- 2 Denmark 11
- 3 Finland 29
- 4 France 2,400
- 5 Germany 1,656
- 6 Hungary 520
- 7 Ireland 1,000
- 8 Italy 4,703
- 9 Latvia 113
- 10 Lithuania 403
- 11 Malta 16
- 12 Portugal 452
- 13 Romania 1,434
- 14 Slovenia 91
- 15 Spain 3,669
- 16 Sweden 27



# Small-Scale Industry Commodity and Services Cooperatives in Europe

## Successful Together



International Year  
of Cooperatives



Commercial cooperatives are active at the wholesale level in many European countries. They achieve economies of scale for their medium-sized members and enable small and medium-sized enterprises in particular, to compete with large companies. This cooperative principle is practised throughout Europe.



**764,000**  
stores



**6.4 m**  
employees



**621 bn €**  
wholesale turnover



**501,000**  
independent retailers are  
members of cooperatives

## Industry, innovation and infrastructure

By joining together in a cooperative network, small and medium-sized retailers can operate successfully. The commercial cooperatives are a driver of innovation. By pooling their resources, they can invest in new energy-efficient and sustainable technologies and products. Together, they improve the efficiency of their supply chains and modernise their infrastructure in the process. This ultimately benefits their members in the region. Commercial cooperatives thus promote an inclusive and sustainable local economy.



# Housing Cooperatives in Europe

## Affordable and Secure Housing



Internationales Jahr der  
Genossenschaften



Housing cooperatives not only offer their members a good and affordable place to live. Above all, they also ensure that the housing market develops in a socially responsible way. Therefore, they also play an important social role in issues such as energy-efficient refurbishment or combating energy poverty.



**43,000**

housing cooperatives



**300,000**

employees of housing  
cooperatives



**40 bn €**

investments



**25 m**

homes

## Sustainable cities and communities

Housing cooperatives contribute in particular, to affordable housing and a socially orientated housing industry. Their business model promotes social justice. They create a living environment with neighbourhoods that are worth living in, and that create space for encounters and solidarity. Through their investments in energy-efficient residential buildings and the expansion of renewable energies, housing cooperatives make an important contribution in achieving climate targets.





# Energy Cooperatives in Europe

## Shaping the Energy Transition Together



Energy cooperatives enable local people to advance the energy transition in their home region together. They operate solar or wind power plants and heating networks. Some of them are paving the way for environmentally friendly electromobility.



**2,500**  
energy communities



**2 m**  
members

### Affordable and clean energy

Numerous renewable energy projects are developed and implemented by energy cooperatives - not only in the electricity sector, but also in the heat supply. They offer their members low-cost green electricity and heat energy from regenerative resources.

With their democratic participation model, energy cooperatives also ensure acceptance of important climate protection measures and are therefore an important key to a successful energy transition.



# Consumer Cooperatives in Europe

## Regional Value Creation



International Year  
of Cooperatives



### 87,000 shops

Whether in remote regions of Europe - where they are often the only shop providing local supplies for people - or as a supermarket in the city, consumer cooperatives provide people with regional and fresh goods.



**3,988**

local consumer  
cooperatives



**514,000**

employees



**79 bn €**

turnover



**30 m**

consumer-members

## Responsible consumption and production

Consumer cooperatives attach great importance to socially responsible behaviour and consumer protection. They ensure that supply chains are as short as possible, and that the origin of products is transparent. In this way, they promote the sustainable consumption of their members.





International Year  
of Cooperatives

# Cooperatives Outside Europe

## —→ Cooperatives are also widespread outside Europe.

Whether agriculture, banking, energy, fisheries, healthcare, housing, insurance, logistics or trade - cooperatives are at home in almost every sector around the globe.





# Cooperatives in Australia



**3.8 Mio.**  
members in total



**1,800**  
cooperatives

## **167,000 secure jobs**

are generated additionally by small, medium-sized and family-owned business members facilitated by cooperative.



**89,000**  
employees



**163.3 bn \$**  
combined turnover of all  
cooperatives





# Cooperatives in Brazil



**20.5 m**  
members in total



**4,700**  
cooperatives

## 720 health cooperatives

cooperatives in the healthcare sector are widespread in Brazil. Most doctors are organised in one of the 720 healthcare cooperatives. Together, they offer their patients healthcare services.



**1.3 m**  
members benefit from  
low-cost electricity from  
renewable energies from  
their cooperatives.



**54%**  
of agricultural products are  
produced by cooperatives.



# Cooperatives in Japan



**108 m**  
members in total



**41,100**  
cooperatives

**54%**

of total domestic production from agriculture, forestry and fisheries is processed and marketed by cooperatives.



**536,000**  
employees



**1,800**  
fishing cooperatives  
form a strong  
cooperative sector.





# Cooperatives in Uganda



**7.5 m**

members in total



**45,000**

cooperatives

## 24,000 savings and credit cooperatives

enable people in rural areas to access financial services - an important requirement for setting up and developing businesses. They make a decisive contribution to the sustainable competitiveness of small businesses.



**2 m**

members of  
agricultural  
cooperatives



**13,000**

agricultural cooperatives  
are the second largest  
cooperative sector.



# Cooperatives in USA



**350,400,000**  
memberships



**29,300**  
cooperatives

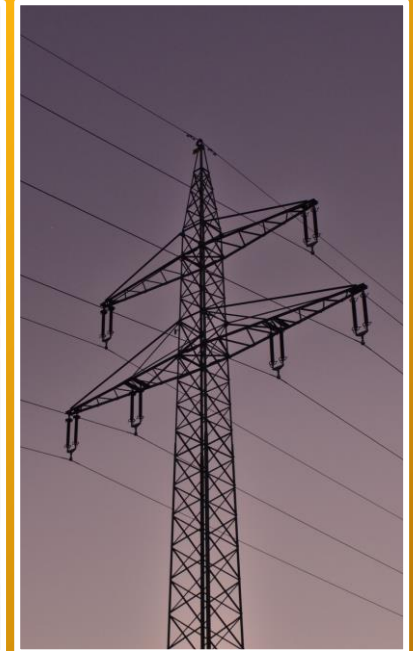
**900 electricity cooperatives** provide power to around 42 million people in 48 states, covering 13% of the electricity supply in the USA. As regional businesses, they create jobs and invest in better water and sewage systems, healthcare, and local education services.



**856,300**  
employees



**25 bn \$**  
income for employees





# Cooperatives in Vietnam



**5.9 m**  
members in total



**32,000**  
cooperatives

## 63 regional cooperative associations

promote the exchange of knowledge and experience between cooperatives. They offer training programmes for public authority and cooperative managers and provide support in the development of business models.



**1.6 m**  
employees of  
agricultural  
cooperatives



**20,600**  
agricultural  
cooperatives

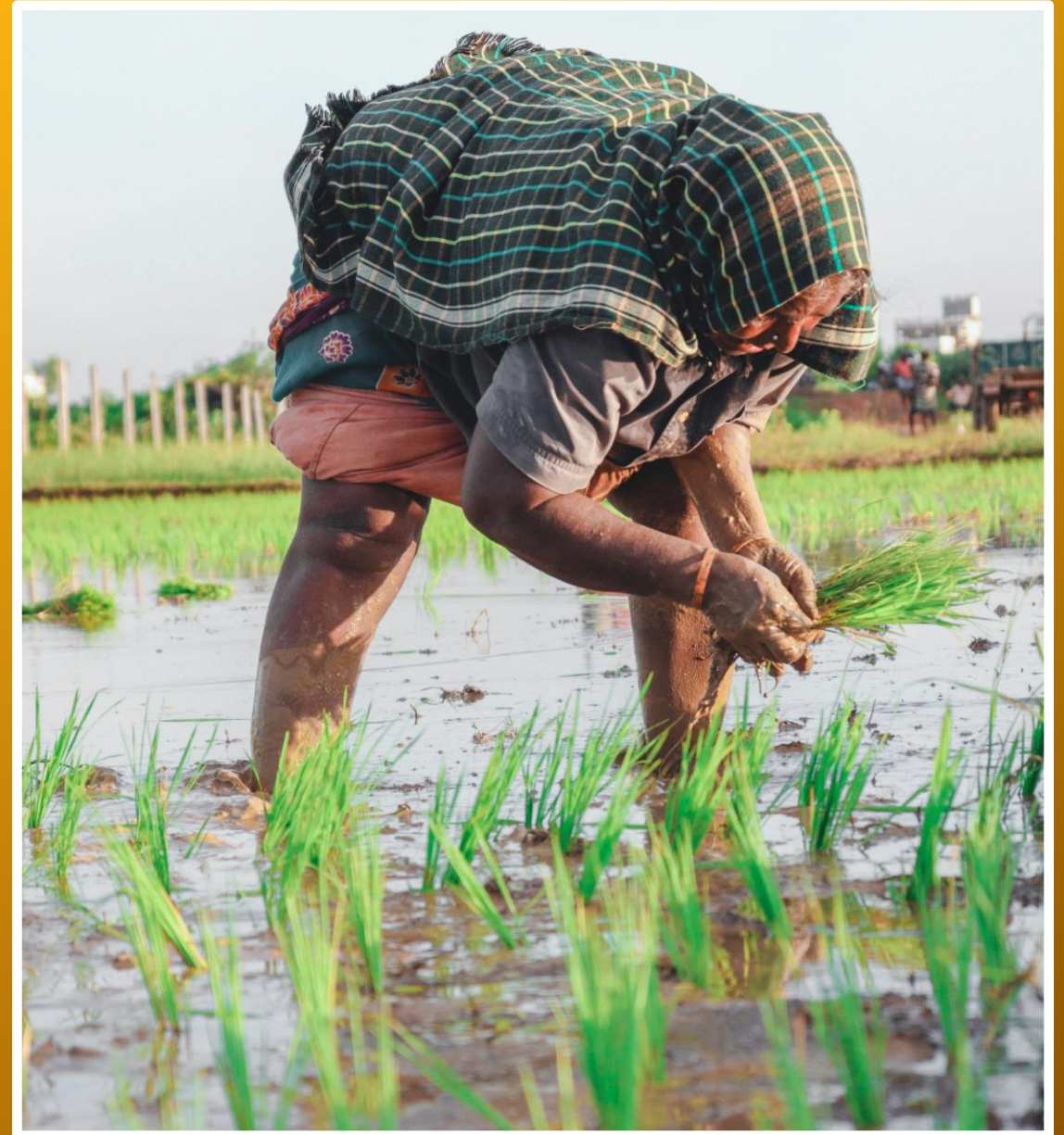




International Year  
of Cooperatives

# Cooperative Development Work

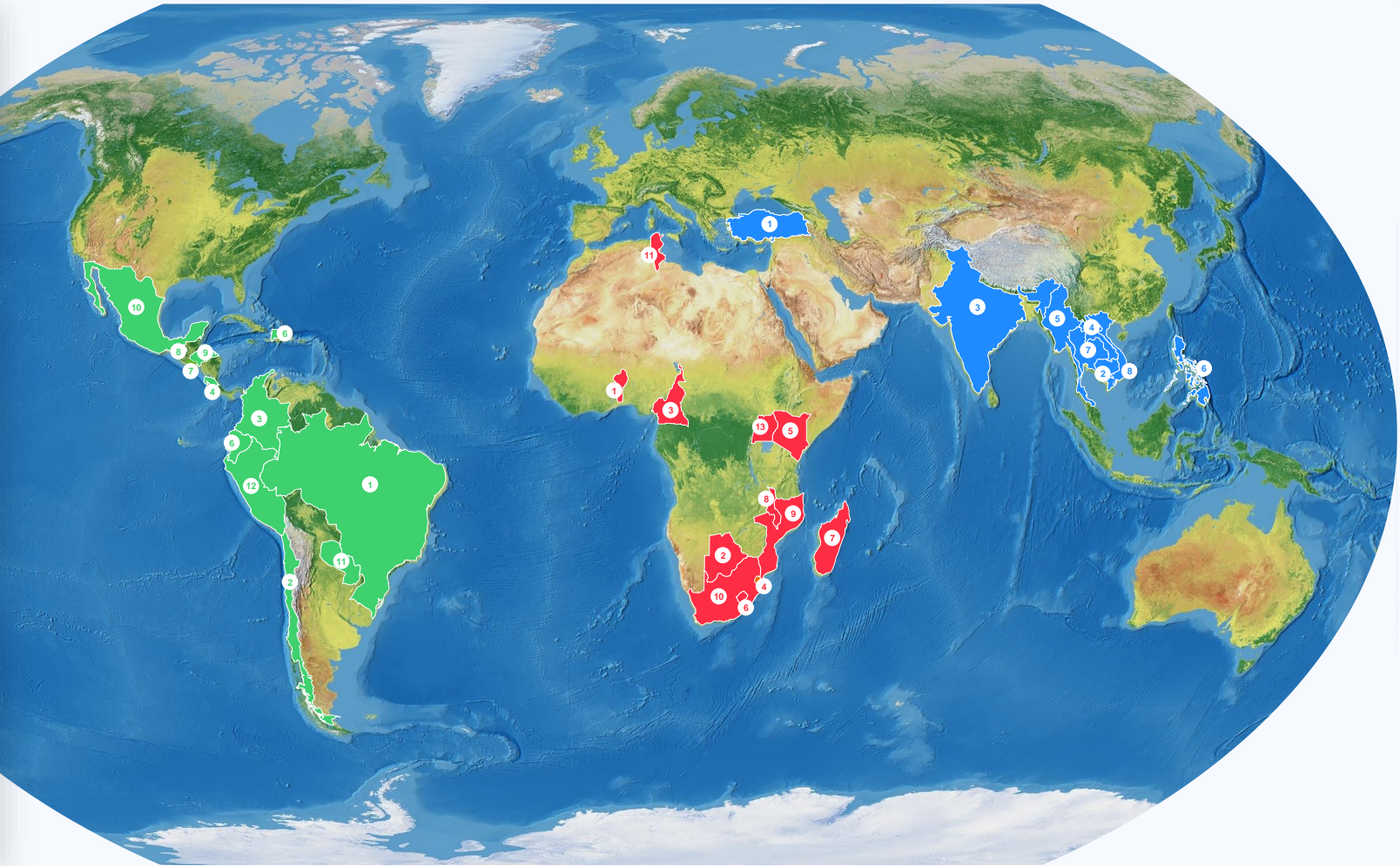
- **Cooperatives enable the economic development and social participation of broad segments of the population worldwide.**  
The guiding principle of the DGRV's cooperative development work is the United Nations' Agenda 2030 with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals.





# Cooperative Development Work of the DGRV

Latin America	<div><div>1. Brazil</div><div>2. Chile</div><div>3. Colombia</div><div>4. Costa Rica</div><div>5. Dominican Republic</div><div>6. Ecuador</div></div> <div><div>7. El Salvador</div><div>8. Guatemala</div><div>9. Honduras</div><div>10. Mexico</div><div>11. Paraguay</div><div>12. Peru</div></div>
Africa	<div><div>1. Benin</div><div>2. Botswana</div><div>3. Cameroon</div><div>4. eSwatini</div><div>5. Kenya</div><div>6. Lesotho</div><div>7. Madagascar</div></div> <div><div>8. Malawi</div><div>9. Mozambique</div><div>10. South Africa</div><div>11. Tunisia</div><div>12. Uganda</div></div>
Europe & Asia	<div><div>1. Turkey</div><div>2. Cambodia</div><div>3. India</div><div>4. Laos</div><div>5. Myanmar</div><div>6. Philippines</div><div>7. Thailand</div></div> <div><div>8. Vietnam</div></div>







# Cooperative Development Work



## Savings and credit cooperatives in Southern Africa

Savings and credit cooperatives make an important contribution to financial inclusion worldwide. In Southern Africa, SACCOs (savings and credit co-operatives) are often the only way for broad sections of the population to obtain financial services on fair terms.

SACCOs also support other cooperatives in financing their entrepreneurial ideas. They fund investment projects, with a particular focus on supporting the establishment of new cooperatives.

SACCOs also offer counselling services for the financial education of their members. These training and information programmes not only promote personal advancement opportunities but also reduce social inequalities in the population.



# Cooperative Development Work



## Student cooperatives in Argentina

Student cooperatives teach young people to think entrepreneurially and act responsibly at a young age while they are at school. They are also a very good tool for cooperative education in the context of development work.

In Sunchales, Argentina, a student cooperative has therefore been established at all primary and secondary schools. The democratic economic model is now part of everyday school life for most young people in the so-called 'provincial capital of the cooperative system'.

Together they run a school radio station, produce ceramic items or work in the school's own bakery. This not only teaches manual skills, but also important soft skills such as taking responsibility, democratic behaviour and teamwork.





# Cooperative Development Work

## SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



DESWOS

With the association DESWOS – German Development Assistance Association for Social Housing, the housing sector network promotes the development of housing cooperatives worldwide.



STIFTUNG GESTE  
Germanium Perspektiven schaffen

German cooperatives play an active role in cooperative development work through the GESTE Foundation.

### 17 goals

Cooperatives make an important contribution to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations.

### 32 countries

DGRV promotes cooperative initiatives in countries all across the globe. The project work is funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

Thank you for your  
attention.

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**DGRV**



2025

International Year  
of Cooperatives

