

European region of the International Cooperative Alliance



Cooperation between Latin America & Europe: Contributions to an inclusive & sustainable development

Cartagena, Colombia, 5th November 2014



Programme EN & ES interpretation provided Seminar included within the Cooperative Summit of the Americas

An event organised in partnership with:

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Cooperativas de las Américas Región de la Alianza Cooperativa Internacional

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Registration | 8.45

Morning session | 9:15 – 13:00

Social inclusion through cooperative partnerships

Partnerships between Latin American and European cooperatives provide opportunities for growing development and synergies. In such processes, the role of local communities is central, and social inclusion can be achieved using diverse forms of collaboration and empowerment.

Welcome from Cooperatives of the Américas and Cooperatives Europe (9:15 – 9.45)

- Ramon Imperial President of Cooperatives of the Americas.
- Dirk Lehnhoff President of Cooperatives Europe (video).

Overview on the Latin American and European cooperative realities (9.45 – 10.30)

- Manuel Mariño Director of Cooperatives at the Americas.
- Marc Noel Cooperative Development Manager at Cooperatives Europe

Coffee Break | 10.30 – 11.00

Parallel thematic Workshops | 11.00 – 13.00

1. Social inclusion, Youth & Gender

Women and young people are a social and economic driving force, and cooperatives need to advance their rights for decent jobs, prevent social risks and push for their positive inclusion.

Moderator: Danilo Salerno – Director at Coopermondo

- Francesco Vincenti Coordinator International Technical Assistance at Social Cohesion Laboratory II EU-Mexico.
- María Eugenia Pérez Chair of the Gender Equality Regional Committee, Cooperatives of the Americas.
- Ernesto Guevara Member of the Youth Committee, Cooperatives of the Americas.

2. Agriculture and rural development – Realities, challenges and strategies for family agriculture in Europe and Latin America

Agriculture and rural development are crucial for the future and smallholders constitute an important pillar in food provision. Cooperatives have significant assets to address challenges on rural areas and to facilitate access to markets.

Moderator: Fabio Moschen, Director of the R&D Program "Knowledge Society and Rural Complexity", Itinerant Chair UNESCO Edgar Morin - CIUEM.

- Pierre-François Vaquié Delegate-General at FNCUMA.
- James French Programme manager at Inter-American Institute for Agricultural Cooperation.
- Nicolas Eberhart Supply chain manager America Latina, Ethiquable.

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3. Finance and credit cooperatives as development catalysts

Credit cooperatives are the backbone of nationwide cooperative development in many Latin American countries. Good practices in the credit and finance sector and successful partnerships become essential to reach out to vulnerable groups and the most excluded.

Moderator: Matthias Arzbach – Regional Project Director for Latin America and the Caribbean at DGRV

- Santiago Gallego General Manager of VISIONAMOS.
- Rosa Matilde Guerrero President of Finanzas y Cooperativas.coop
- Hugo Hernández Consultant at Latin-American Confederation of Credit and Saving Cooperatives (COLAC) and other financial institutions.

Lunch | 13.00 – 14.30

Afternoon session | 14:30 – 17:30

Report from morning workshops | 14.30 – 14.45) Outcomes from each morning workshop.

Bridging LA & EU: Political dialogue and inter-regional partnerships

With their concern for community and their locally rooted approach, cooperative organisations represent an ideal option for an inclusive and sustainable development process. Constructive dialogue with public authorities, institutions and within the cooperative movement is crucial to set up an enabling environment and support cooperatives to grow and reach their full potential.

Moderator: Jorge Balbis Pérez – Executive Secretary of Asociación Latinoamericana de Organizaciones de Promoción al desarrollo (ALOP).

1. Addressing policies and creating an enabling environment for cooperatives (14.45 – 15.55)

Latin American and EU Institutions have started to build up relations with the cooperative movement. A dialogue on policy priorities, good practices in regulations and program implementation between the regions will provide view-points on lessons to be learnt from each other. How can these exchanges push cooperative development a step further in the right direction?

- Luis Rubeo Member of the Latin American Parliament.
- Fabio Cassese Minister Plenipotentiary, Deputy Director General, DG for Development and Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Italian EU Presidency.
- Mario Radrigán Head of Partnerships and Social Economy Division, Ministry of Economy, Development and Tourism, Chile.
- Jorge Cartagena Ex-member of the Red Especializada de Cooperativas del MER-COSUR.

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Coffee Break | 15.55 – 16.15

2. Strengthening partnerships between EU and LA cooperative movements | 16.15 – 17.25

Different regional experiences open up opportunities for closer collaborations between Latin America and Europe. How can cooperative networks work closer together and lift up social and economic development to the next level?

- Merling Preza General Manager of PRODECOOP and former Coordinator of Fairtrade Small Producers in Latin America and the Caribbean (CLAC)
- Luz Angela Ramírez Project Coordinator at the Colombian NGO Platform (CCONG)
- Sarah Alldred International Programmes Manager at Co-operative College and member of the Cooperatives Europe Development Platform (CEDP)
- Manuel Mariño Director of Cooperatives of the Americas

Conclusion | 17.25 - 17.30

Cocktail | 17.45 - 19.45

Contact Cooperativas de las Américas www.aciamericas.coop

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Cooperatives Europe Development Platform (CEDP) www.coopseurope.coop/development

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