Press release – for immediate release

‘Cooperatives in development’ online platform is live

On 15th May, [‘Cooperatives in development’ online platform](http://bit.ly/coopseuropedevelopment) was launched. The new website showcases the international development projects that European cooperative organisations are carrying out all over the world. The online platform allows knowledge exchanges and facilitates the creation of partnerships with cooperatives, other stakeholders and donors. The website is part of the EU-funded ‘Cooperatives in Development’ project, implemented by the Cooperatives Europe Development Platform (CEDP).

The online platform currently includes more than 400 projects, out of which 300 are ongoing. An interactive map enables the user to discover the projects and some key data such as the sector, budget and partners involved. Furthermore, the website features upcoming events related to international cooperative development, as well as development tools and publications elaborated by the CEDP members.

This is a huge step forward for international cooperative development: Cooperatives Europe is reinforcing international communication, providing relevant data and tools as well as increasing visibility of cooperative development towards partners and EU institutions. “We expect that the platform will foster exchanges within the global cooperative network for an impact-driven, coordinated, and sustainable international cooperative development”, said Klaus Niederländer, director of Cooperatives Europe.

* **Notes to the editors**
* **Cooperatives Europe** is the European cross-sectoral organization representing cooperative enterprises. On behalf of its 83 member organizations from 33 European countries across all business sectors it promotes the cooperative business model in Europe. Its members represent 123 million individual member cooperators owning 160,000 cooperative enterprises and providing jobs to 5.4 million European citizens.
* **Cooperatives Europe Development Platform (CEDP)** is a network of 10 European cooperative organisations which are members of Cooperatives Europe and work on issues of development policy and development implementation. Coming from diverse sectors, cooperative partners share their expertise in complementary fields: cooperative financing, agricultural cooperative development, cooperative law, etc. The partners currently involved in the CEDP are Cecop-Cicopa Europe (EU), CERA-BRS (Belgium), Coopermondo - Confcooperative (Italy), the Co-operative College (United Kingdom), DGRV (Germany), Euro Coop (EU), FNCUMA (France), Kooperationen (Denmark), Legacoop (Italy), and We Effect (Sweden).

**'Cooperatives in development'** is a project led by Cooperatives Europe and co-financed by the European Commission under the Non-State Actors grant scheme. This initiative started in 2012 and builds upon the activities of the CEDP. It aims at enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of development actors by reinforcing exchanges, coordination tools, and visibility.

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