Statistics of cooperatives

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Statistics of cooperatives

- Background and introduction
- Guidelines concerning statistics of cooperatives
- Discussion
Background and introduction

• 19th ICLS Resolution III recognizes the need to produce statistics on cooperatives in all countries of the world and recommends that the ILO carries out further developmental work on the measurement of cooperatives

• ILO Promotion of Cooperatives Recommendation, 2002 (no. 193) highlights need for better national statistics on cooperatives
  • Measures to promote the potential of cooperatives in all countries, irrespective of their level of development
    • Role of cooperatives to create and develop sustainable decent employment, develop human resources, increase savings and investment, etc.

• Cooperatives are well-placed to contribute to the SDGs
  • Transforming our world: A cooperative 2030 in 17 Briefs:

Background and introduction

• Activities since the 19th ICLS Resolution on statistics on cooperatives:

  • Technical working group on statistics of cooperatives

  • Briefing notes on statistics on cooperatives (ILO/COPAC)

  • Preparation of studies:
    • Conceptual framework
    • Statistics and national policy-making
    • Employment in cooperatives
    • Classification of cooperatives
    • Value-added of cooperatives

  • Report on guidelines concerning statistics of cooperatives
Guidelines - overview

• Preamble
• Objectives and uses
  • An adequate information base for descriptive, analytical and policy purposes
    • Number and type of cooperatives; member of cooperatives; work generated in cooperatives
    • Economic contribution of cooperatives
• Reference concepts and definitions
• Types of cooperatives
• Statistical units
• Operational definitions
• Work in cooperatives
• Data collection, tabulation and analysis
• Future work

Guidelines – definition of cooperatives

• Preamble
• Objectives and uses
• Reference concepts and definitions
  • A cooperative is defined as an autonomous association of persons and/or legal entities united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly owned and democratically controlled enterprise.
• Types of cooperatives
• Statistical units
• Operational definitions
• Work in cooperatives
• Data collection, tabulation and analysis
• Future work
Guidelines – types of cooperatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of cooperative</th>
<th>Interest of members</th>
<th>Type of member</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Producer cooperative</td>
<td>Production activity</td>
<td>Producer-members: enterprises such as small agricultural or craft producers - may or may not be incorporated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worker cooperative</td>
<td>Work</td>
<td>Worker-members</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumer/user cooperative</td>
<td>Consumption</td>
<td>Consumer-members: clients, family of clients, non-profit institutions, producers, corporations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi-stakeholder cooperative</td>
<td>More than one interest</td>
<td>Producer-members Consumer-members Worker-members</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Guidelines – operational definitions

- The definition of cooperatives can be operationalized on the basis of four criteria:
  - A cooperative should be a formally established institutional unit (non-financial corporation, financial corporation or non-profit institution);
  - A cooperative should be controlled democratically by its members according to the principle that each member has an equal vote;
  - Membership of the cooperative should be voluntary and non-restrictive;
  - Distribution of profits or surpluses among the members is not directly linked to the capital contributed by each member.
Guidelines – work in cooperatives

• Work performed in cooperatives can be undertaken by members and by non-members and may include all forms of work defined in the resolution concerning statistics of work, employment and labour underutilization adopted by the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (2013).

• Work within the scope of statistics on cooperatives includes work performed by members and non-members in:
  • Cooperatives;
  • Economic units that are members of a producer cooperative or multi-stakeholder cooperative;
  • Subsidiary enterprises owned or controlled by cooperatives.

• Statistics on work generated in cooperatives, in particular statistics on employment, should be compiled and tabulated separately or disaggregated for each of these institutional settings.

Guidelines – data collection and analysis

• Comprehensive statistics on cooperatives, members of cooperatives and jobs or work activities performed within the scope of statistics on cooperatives should be published on a regular basis, if possible at least every five years. Such comprehensive statistics should preferably be based on a census of cooperatives but may also be based on periodic sample surveys.

• Statistics of cooperatives should be systematically tabulated, as follows:
  • By the four main types of cooperatives listed in paragraph 12 above, as well as by nationally specific sub-types where relevant and feasible;
  • By branch of economic activity;
  • By regions relevant to national purposes, including by urban and rural areas.
Guidelines

- Participants in the Conference are invited to:
  - Review the room document concerning statistics of cooperatives
  - Endorse the guidelines concerning statistics of cooperatives
  - Propose activities to test and/or further develop the guidelines in collaboration with the Office

Guidelines – future work

- Assessing the economic contribution of cooperatives:
  - Employment
  - Revenue & value added
  - Assets & liabilities
  - Use of profits or surpluses; investment
  - Earnings of workers

- Testing of the concepts and definitions presented in the guidelines