

# ***ICA- ASIA PACIFIC COMMITTEE ON WOMEN, 2017 REPORT & GENDER EQUALITY STRATEGY 2017-2020***



International Co-operative Alliance  
**Global Conference  
and General Assembly**

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**Presented: TO The Gender Equality Committee**

Co-operatives: Putting People at the Centre Of Development

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# HISTORY

**OCTOBER, 1998 :** REGIONAL WOMEN'S COMMITTEE SET UP AND FIRST MEETING IN SEOUL, KOREA

**OCTOBER, 1998 :** THE FIRST REGIONAL WOMEN'S FORUM HELD IN SEOUL, KOREA

**CURRENT STATUS:** 21 MEMBERS FROM 11 COUNTRIES

**OFFICE BEARERS:** CHAIRPERSON, VICE CHAIRPERSON AND SECRETARY

# ***OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS***



## **OBJECTIVES**

TO PROMOTE GENDER INTEGRATION IN COOPERATIVES AND INCREASE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN AT ALL LEVELS IN COOPERATIVES, ESPECIALLY AT LEADERSHIP LEVELS, IN THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION.

## **FUNCTIONS**

- TO CREATE A FORUM TO REPRESENT WOMEN
- TO PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING THROUGH NETWORKING
- TO IDENTIFY AREAS FOR CAPACITY BUILDING
- TO ADVISE AND IMPLEMENT ACTIVITIES
- TO LIAISE AND COLLABORATE



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***APCMC HISTORIC RESOLUTION &  
ADOPTION OF 33% RESERVATION***



- ❖ **THE ICA REGIONAL WOMEN'S COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WAS CARRIED AT THE 9TH ICA REGIONAL WOMEN'S FORUM AND VETTED BY THE WOMEN'S COMMITTEE AT KOBE, JAPAN. IT WAS PRESENTED AT THE ASIA-PACIFIC COOPERATIVE MINISTERS' CONFERENCE (APCMC) IN HANOI, VIETNAM IN APRIL, 2017 BY THE WOMEN'S COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES. (JCCU)**
- ❖ **THE APCMC RESOLUTION ADOPTED 30 TO 50% REPRESENTATION OF WOMEN IN COMMITTEES, BODIES, COUNCILS AND ALL OTHER HIGHER-LEVEL COOPERATIVE STRUCTURES.**



# GENDER MORE THAN A STATISTIC – GENDER DISAGGREGATED DATA STUDY



- ❖ THE ICA-AP WOMEN'S COMMITTEE UNDERTOOK A PIONEERING REGIONAL STATUS STUDY ON WOMEN IN COOPERATIVES TO ASSESS THE SITUATION IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION.
- ❖ THE STUDY FINDINGS WERE PRESENTED AT THE ASIA PACIFIC COOPERATIVE MINISTERS' CONFERENCE (APCMC) BY DR. NANDINI AZAD, ACTING CHAIR OF THE WOMEN'S COMMITTEE WHO UNDERTOOK THE STUDY.



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# KEY FINDINGS



- ❖ WHILE WOMEN'S REPRESENTATION IN COOPERATIVES AT HIGHER ECHELONS WAS NOT SIGNIFICANT AT THE DECISION MAKING LEVELS – THE NEW TRENDS, DECISIONS, ISSUES INDICATE NEW THRESHOLD OF CHANGE FOR WOMEN.
- ❖ RATIO OF WOMEN CHAIRPERSONS INCREASED FROM 7% IN 2005 TO 10% IN 2016
- ❖ RATIO OF WOMEN VICE CHAIRPERSONS INCREASED FROM 18 % IN 2005 TO 23 % IN 2016



- ❖ **THE STUDY RECOMMENDED, AMONGST OTHERS FOR GENDER INTEGRATION IN COOPERATIVES THE FOLLOWING : THE FORMATION OF “GENDER EQUALITY COMMITTEES”, INCREASING MEMBERSHIP OF WOMEN, GENDER DISAGGREGATED DATA STUDIES, TRACKING EQUALITY INDICATORS SUCH AS WOMEN’S PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNANCE, MANAGEMENT, MEMBERSHIP ETC.**

The background features a dark purple gradient with several large, expressive brushstrokes in shades of blue and purple, creating a dynamic and artistic feel.

***GENDER EQUALITY STRATEGY***  
***2017-2020***  
***VISION & OBJECTIVES***



## THE WOMEN'S COMMITTEE DEVELOPED A STRATEGY TO ACHIEVE GENDER EQUALITY AS FOLLOWS.

### **VISION**

- ❖ TO ENSURE A MINIMUM OF 30-50% PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN AT ALL LEVELS IN COOPERATIVES.
- ❖ REPRESENTATION OF ALL ICA-AP MEMBERS ON THE WOMEN'S COMMITTEE

### **OBJECTIVES**

- ❖ TO ENSURE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF 'EQUAL OPPORTUNITY' FOR WOMEN, IF NEED BE, BY INTRODUCING QUOTAS.
- ❖ TO INSTITUTIONALIZE COLLECTION AND USE OF GENDER DISAGGREGATED DATA IN COOPERATIVES



# STRATEGIES & TARGETS



**STRATEGY-1** - INCREASING MEMBERSHIP OF THE ICA-AP COMMITTEE ON WOMEN (7 COUNTRIES DURING THE TARGET PERIOD)

**STRATEGY-2** - REGULAR COLLECTION, ANALYSIS AND SHARING OF GENDER DISAGGREGATED DATA (ONCE DURING PERIOD)

**STRATEGY-3** - PERIODICAL MONITORING, FOLLOW UP AND EVALUATION OF THE PROGRAMS BEING IMPLEMENTED BY THE ICA-AP COMMITTEE ON WOMEN (TWICE DURING PERIOD)

# ***ACTIVITIES***

## OFFICE BEARERS' MEETING (OBM)



- ❖ THE MEETING IS GENERALLY HELD ONCE A YEAR, IN THE BEGINNING, TO PLAN AND DISCUSS IMPLEMENTATION OF ACTIVITIES TO BE CARRIED OUT ACROSS THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION.
- ❖ THE OFFICE BEARERS' MEETING WAS HELD THIS YEAR ON 30TH MARCH, 2017. THE JAPANESE CONSUMER COOPERATIVE UNION (JCCU) IN KOBE, JAPAN ATTENDED BY CHAIRPERSON, MS. MASAKO SHIMBO, VICE CHAIRPERSON, DR. NANDINI AZAD, AND SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE, MS. SAVITRI SINGH.
- ❖ IT WILL BE MEETING TODAY 13TH NOVEMBER IN MALAYSIA FOR THE SECOND TIME THIS YEAR.



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# A SEMINAR ON GENDER EQUALITY IN COOPERATIVES - JAPAN 2017



A SEMINAR WAS HELD JOINTLY WITH JAPANESE CONSUMER COOPERATIVE UNION (JCCU). MEMBERS, LEADERS AND OFFICIALS OF JCCU NETWORK PARTICIPATED.



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# TRAINING OF TRAINERS (TOT) FOR BUILDING MANAGEMENT CAPACITY OF WOMEN FOR CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT



HELD ON 1-5 AUGUST, 2017 IN  
BHUTAN, 25 PARTICIPANTS FROM  
BHUTAN CO-OPERATIVE  
NETWORK PARTICIPATED.



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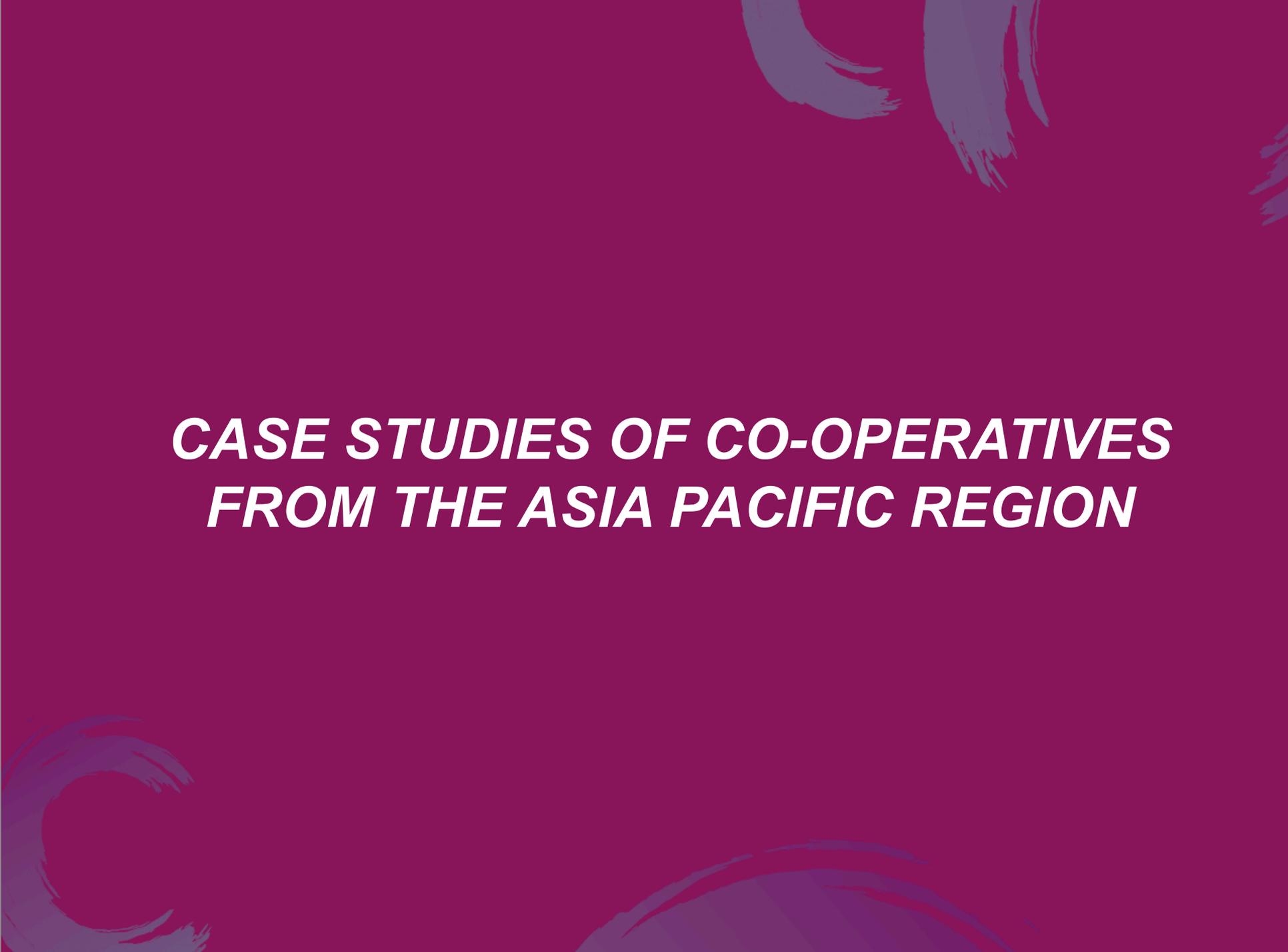
# ***FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES***

- ❖ **EXPOSURE AND NETWORKING PROGRAMME FOR ENHANCING ROLE OF WOMEN IN CO-OPERATIVE BUSINESS**
- ❖ **ICA-AP-ACFSMC WORKSHOP ON “RE-WORK, RE-IMAGINE AND RE-SHAPE: ADVANCING WOMEN CEOs IN COOPERATIVES” WILL BE HELD IN 2018 CHANGSHA, HUNAN PROVINCE, CHINA**
- ❖ **NEWSLETTER**



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***CASE STUDIES OF CO-OPERATIVES  
FROM THE ASIA PACIFIC REGION***

# THE PHILIPPINES



- ❖ ONE OF THE FEW COUNTRIES IN ASIA-PACIFIC WITH AN EQUAL SEX RATIO OF 101.
- ❖ MALE TO FEMALE RATIO IS 46.8M TO 46.4M. LITERACY RATE IS HIGHER FOR WOMEN AT 96% (95% FOR MEN)
- ❖ HAS SEVERAL PRO-WOMEN LAWS TO PROMOTE INTEGRATION OF WOMEN AS EQUAL PARTNERS IN DEVELOPMENT - VICTO AND NATCCO, NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE FEDERATIONS, REFLECT THESE AT ALL LEVELS OF THEIR FUNCTIONING.



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## ***THE NATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF COOPERATIVES (NATCCO)***



IT REACHES 2.17 MILLION INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS - 612 RURAL AND URBAN-BASED COOPERATIVES; 1,132 OFFICES LOCATED IN 136 PROVINCES AND CITIES COUNTRYWIDE. MEMBERS - 66% WOMEN & 48% MEN; AT BOARD LEVEL - 52% WOMEN & 48% MEN

## ***NATIONAL COOPERATIVE FEDERATION LTD. (VICTO)***

IT HAS 250.699 INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS WITHIN ITS 2008 MEMBER SOCIETIES. MEASURES INCLUDE:

- QUOTAS FOR WOMEN AT ALL LEVELS OF MANAGEMENT
- GENDER SENSITIZATION/AWARENESS TRAINING; LEADERSHIP TRAINING AND SKILL DEVELOPMENT
- GENDER DISAGGREGATED DATA COLLECTION OF PERSONNEL/ BOARD.

# JAPAN

## *THE JAPANESE CONSUMERS' CO-OPERATIVE UNION (JCCU)*



**JAPANESE CONSUMERS' COOPERATIVE UNION (JCCU) IS APEX OF CONSUMER COOPERATIVES IN JAPAN (1951). 619 MEMBER CO-OPERATIVES - REGIONAL RETAIL, INSTITUTIONAL, UNIVERSITY, HEALTH, AND INSURANCE (MUTUAL-AID) CO-OPERATIVES.**



- **A GENDER EQUALITY COMMITTEE/ ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN BOARD WAS INITIATED FROM SEPT. 2015. A BOARD MEMBER OF JCCU IS ON THE GENDER EQUALITY PROMOTION COMMITTEE (CABINET OFFICE).**
- **WOMEN PLAY VERY ACTIVE ROLE IN THE CONSUMER COOPS IN JAPAN (37% OF HOUSEHOLDS COUNTRYWIDE).**

# CHINA



- ❖ **COOPERATIVES HAVE A HISTORY OF 60 YEARS IN CHINA AND AN IMPORTANT ASPECT OF PROMOTING AGRICULTURAL AND RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.**
- ❖ **THE ALL CHINA FEDERATION OF SUPPLY AND MARKETING COOPERATIVES (ACFSMC) IS THE NATIONAL APEX COOPERATIVE WITH A TOTAL OF 6.27 MILLION RURAL HOUSEHOLDS, EMPLOYING A TOTAL OF 3.67 MILLION STAFF.**
- ❖ **FEMALE STAFF AND MIDDLE LEVEL LEADERS ACCOUNT FOR 40%; THE CHAIRMAN, COUNCIL DIRECTORS ARE WOMEN.**
- ❖ **SALE OF AGRICULTURAL SUPPLIES TO FARMERS IS 428.7 BILLION RMB; COOPERATIVES PURCHASED AGRICULTURAL SIDELINE PRODUCTS WORTH 669.7 BILLION RMB .**



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# INDIA

## INDIAN COOPERATIVE NETWORK FOR WOMEN (ICNW) PROMOTED BY WORKING WOMEN'S FORUM (INDIA)

- ❖ ENGAGE POOR WOMEN IN PRODUCTIVE ACTIVITIES, ENSURE OVERALL EMPOWERMENT
- ❖ FIRST WOMEN'S COOPERATIVE IN SOUTH INDIA FOR, BY AND OF POOR WOMEN INITIATED IN 1981
- ❖ FACILITATES ACCESS TO CREDIT, PROVIDING OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN NEW SKILLS, AND SECURING EMPLOYMENT FOR WOMEN.
- ❖ DISBURSED CREDIT LOANS WORTH OVER INR. 3000 MILLION SO FAR TO 5,86,790 WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS WITH 99% RECOVER IN APPROX 6000 SLUMS/VILLAGES.



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- ❖ HAS 14 COOPERATIVE BRANCHES IN THE THREE SOUTHERN STATES OF INDIA- TAMIL NADU, KARNATAKA AND ANDHRA PRADESH.
- ❖ MEMBERS ARE VENDORS, HAWKERS, FISHER-WOMEN, LANDLESS WOMEN, CIGARETTE ROLLERS, SILK WEAVERS, INCENSE WORKERS, LACE MAKERS, AND SEVERAL OTHER MICRO ENTREPRENEURS (276 OCCUPATIONS).
- ❖ INNOVATIVE BOTTOM-UP STRUCTURE AND TRAINING/ORIENTATION FACILITATED WOMEN TO PARTICIPATE AT ALL LEVELS.
- ❖ ICNW MOBILIZES POOR RURAL/URBAN WOMEN BELOW POVERTY LINE TO FORM CREDIT GROUPS (OF AROUND 10 MEMBERS EACH) TO IDENTIFY, SHARE, DISCUSS PROBLEMS AND FIND SOLUTIONS TOGETHER.

# IT OPERATIONS IN ICNW

## KEY BENEFITS OF IT PROCESS



- ❖ COMPUTERIZATION OF ICNW IN THE YEAR 2000
- ❖ DAUGHTERS OF POOR FISHERWOMEN/WAGE LABOURERS (SECOND-GENERATION MEMBERS) TRAINED IN IT SOFTWARE AS CO-OPERATIVE STAFF
- ❖ ICNW DOUBLED ITS OUTREACH; GIVING FIELD WORKERS MORE TIME
- ❖ DRAMATICALLY REDUCED PROCESSING TIME OF MICRO-FINANCE
- ❖ MORE EFFICIENT FIELD MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS.
- ❖ BANKING OPERATIONS MADE EASY



# ICNW – A ROLE MODEL FOR GENDER INTEGRATION IN COOPERATIVES



- ❖ GRASSROOTS WOMEN OCCUPY IMPORTANT POSITIONS IN THE ALL-WOMEN BOARD AND ARE PART OF DECISION MAKING PROCESS.
- ❖ WOMEN-INTENSIVE ORGANIZATION PROMOTED POOR WOMEN, PROVIDED OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES SUCCESSFULLY (AS WOMEN, HOME MAKERS, COMMUNITY LEADERS).
- ❖ HIGH LEVEL OF FINANCIAL OUTPUT DELIVERY.
- ❖ BENEFITS TO MEMBERS ARE LEADERSHIP, ECONOMIC, BUSINESS, SOCIAL, PERSONAL



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# ICNW VISION



- ❖ DEMONSTRATES EVEN THE POOREST AND SEMI-LITERATE WOMEN CAN MANAGE INSTITUTIONS, WITH THE RIGHT KIND OF TRAINING/ORIENTATION AND FIELD EXPOSURE.
- ❖ ONE POOR WOMAN IDENTIFYING TEN OTHER POOR WOMEN IN HER AREA AS PROSPECTIVE BORROWERS HAS MADE POSSIBLE A PHENOMENAL OUTREACH.
- ❖ HAS INFUSED CONFIDENCE AMONG THE MEMBERS, RAISED STANDARD OF LIVING, UPHOLDING HUMAN DIGNITY, HELPED REDISTRIBUTION OF RESOURCES ENSURING SOCIAL JUSTICE AND POSITIVE SOCIAL CHANGE.

# KOREA



- ❖ ICOOP
- ❖ ICOOP KOREA HAS 73 PRIMARY CO-OPERATIVES WITH OBJECTIVE OF SAFE FOOD FOR MEMBERS' FAMILIES.
- ❖ 1,200 WOMEN RUN PRIMARY CO-OPERATIVE COMMITTEES IN FOOD SAFETY, ENVIRONMENT, CHILDCARE, EDUCATION AND AGRICULTURAL SUPPORT NATIONALLY.
- ❖ ICOOP INITIATED THE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT OF CO-OPERATIVES FOR PROFESSIONALS WITH SUNGKONGHOE UNIVERSITY IN 2010.
- ❖ POLITICAL COURSES FOR MEMBERS WITH EXPERT LECTURES ABOUT DEMOCRACY, WELFARE, POLITICS WHEREIN MEMBERS LEARNT NEW WAYS OF PRACTICING DEMOCRACY.
- ❖ AT ITS TALK CONCERTS – 2012 - 'DANCING FOR PEACE – FOR PEACE MUSEUM,' MEMBERS/CITIZENS TALKED FREELY ABOUT REALISTIC POLITICS / CURRENT ISSUES

# THANK YOU



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