



International Year of Cooperatives 2012 (IYC)  
***Cooperative enterprises build a better world***



# Cooperatives worldwide

## socially responsible and equitable organizations

### The 300 largest cooperatives

- Generate \$1.1 trillion = 1/10 GDP of the US
- Employ 100 million people
- Market up to 50% of global agricultural output



# Agricultural cooperatives reduce poverty and generate employment

- **1 billion members of cooperatives worldwide**
- **Brazil:** 37% of agricultural GDP, almost 1 million members in agro coops
- **Egypt:** 4 million farmers earned income from membership in agricultural cooperatives
- **Kenya:** 924,000
- **India:** 16.5 million litres of milk are collected from 12 million farmers in dairy cooperatives daily
- Services provided to members:
  - access to productive inputs
  - access to output markets
  - access to and management of natural resources
  - voice in decision making

**Strong agricultural cooperatives = improved food security**



# 2012 International Year of Cooperatives Objectives

- **Increase awareness** on the contribution of cooperatives to socio-economic development
- **Highlight the diversity and resourcefulness** of cooperatives, and resilience to shocks
- **Encourage Governments** to establish policies, laws and regulations conducive to cooperative formation and growth.



# FAO collaboration with Rome based agencies and UN entities

- Support governments in the development of an enabling environment in which cooperatives thrive and are strengthened.
- Capacity development of producer organizations encouraging more equitable and inclusive organizations.



Thank you for your attention