



ICOPED is an academic unit under the College of Economics and Management in the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB). We have a strong focus on the development of cooperatives as viable economic and social business enterprises through instruction, research, extension and training, networking, and policy advocacy programs. This is consistent with the United Nations' framework that emphasizes "the contribution of cooperatives to socio-economic development particularly in poverty reduction, employment generation, and social integration".

ICOPED's strength is rooted in decades of relevant experience in implementing academic and training programs and networking with the cooperative sector, government agencies and NGOs involved in cooperative development work.

Who we are

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

ICOPED makes an effort to boost knowledge of people about cooperatives. It aims to provide formal education that can help professionalize cooperative leaders, officers, employees, and other stakeholders in the field of cooperatives.

Towards this end, we, in partnership with the Department of Agribusiness Management and Entrepreneurship of the University of the Philippines Los Baños, offer the Master of Management major in Cooperative Management (MM-CM), which aims to provide students with advanced knowledge on management, entrepreneurship and enterprise development that are consistent with the cooperative values and principles.

We also offer undergraduate cooperative courses as part of our commitment to promote awareness and continuing cooperative education among the youth. Lastly, ICOPED provides technical assistance and advice to students working or who will be working on theses, special problems or field studies that are related to cooperatives.

What we do

RESEARCH PROGRAMS

ICOPED's research thrusts focus on the overarching theme of sustainable and inclusive cooperative enterprise development.

The aim is to operationalize this thematic goal at the national and local levels through research and development and knowledge management.

EXTENSION PROGRAMS

Our flagship extension program, "Training Program for Cooperative Enterprises" aims to provide professional managerial and entrepreneurial competencies to cooperative stakeholders in the Philippines.

As a duly Accredited Cooperative Training Provider of the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA), we conduct CDA-prescribed training courses for cooperatives and Training of Trainers (TOT) for other training service providers.

In addition, we develop and offer specialized training courses and livelihood seminars and workshops for cooperatives and other self-help groups to further develop the knowledge and skills of their human resources.

ICOPED also regularly conducts cooperative awareness seminars among the youth, particularly high school and college students within Los Baños and its nearby municipalities/cities.

OUR VISION

"To be a center of excellence for instruction, research, and extension in the field of cooperatives and bio-enterprise development in the Philippines and Asia."

OUR MISSION

- ◇ To help produce graduates with strong academic background and professional skills in managing cooperatives towards bio-enterprise development;
- ◇ To undertake research and extension programs that support policy-making for cooperatives and enhance their roles in sustainable and broad-based development; and
- ◇ To serve as a link between UPLB and the government and private sector on public policy and technical assistance in the promotion of cooperatives as viable business enterprises.

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What we aim



Institute of Cooperatives and Bio-Enterprise Development