

## OUR VISION

*“To be a center of excellence for instruction, research, and extension in the fields of cooperatives and social enterprise development in the Philippines and Asia”*

## OUR MISSION

- ◇ To produce graduates with strong academic background and professional skills in managing cooperatives and social enterprises
- ◇ To undertake research and extension programs that support policy-making for cooperatives and social enterprises, and enhance their roles in sustainable and broad-based development
- ◇ To establish linkages and networks with higher education institutions, government and non-government sectors, and other stakeholders toward the promotion of cooperatives and social enterprises as a viable business model

# What we aim

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Institute of Cooperatives and Bio-Enterprise Development



The Institute of Cooperatives and Bio-Enterprise Development (ICOPED) is an academic unit under the College of Economics and Management (CEM), University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB). ICOPED has a strong focus on the development of cooperatives and other social and solidarity economy (SSE) business organizations as viable and sustainable enterprises through its instruction, research, extension and public service programs. Its mission is anchored to 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 non-government institutions involved in cooperative development and advocacy work.

# Who we are

## ACADEMIC PROGRAM

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 advice to students from and outside UPLB.

# What we do

## RESEARCH PROGRAM

Our research thrusts are directed toward the overarching goal of inclusive, resilient, and cooperative and social enterprise development. We aim to operationalize this thematic goal at the national and local levels through the conduct of desk, participatory and action research and offering of consultancy services, technical assistance and experts' advice.

ICOPED continues to advance the fields of cooperatives and social enterprises by generating and sharing new knowledge to the public through publications and other knowledge resources.

## EXTENSION AND PUBLIC SERVICE PROGRAM

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 cooperative training courses and Training of Trainers (TOT). We also offer specialized training courses, seminars and workshops not just for cooperatives, but also for government agencies, academic institutions, private businesses, student groups, and other organizations.

As part of its public service and commitment to promote cooperatives, ICOPED regularly conducts awareness campaigns, local and international conferences, seminars, and other learning exchange activities.