

MAINSTREAMING CO-OPERATIVES: A RESEARCH AGENDA FOR ASIA

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THE CONTEXT

ICA BLUEPRINT – 2020 VISION

“The co-operative form of business by 2020 to become

- The acknowledged leader in economic, social and environmental sustainability
- The model preferred by people
- The fastest growing form of enterprise”

CURRENT STATUS – 1 EVOLUTION & SIZE

Motivation - British German and others

State initiatives

Genesis – late 1800 to late 1990s

Number – million co-ops and billion members (a quarter of population)

CURRENT STATUS 2 - CONTRIBUTION

GDP –

EMPLOYMENT –

FINANCIAL SERVICES

CURRENT STATUS 3 – SECTORAL SPREAD

AGRICULTURE

BANKING

PRODUCTION

RETAIL

OTHERS

CURRENT STATUS 4 – LEGAL ENVIRONMENT

Legal framework evolving and transforming
Single law to multiple legislations
Support, restriction, complexities

CURRENT STATUS 5 – FEATURES

Largely associated with weaker sections of society

Dominant agricultural co-operatives

Student/Campus co-operatives

Spread of co-ops in all sectors

CURRENT STATUS 6 - PROBLEMS

Legal

Political

Economic

Co-op Leadership

Others

CURRENT STATUS 7 – RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Rethinking on nature and role of co-ops

Policy initiatives

New roles for co-operatives

SOME QUESTIONS

HOW CO-OPERATIVE ARE CO-OPERATIVES? - IDENTITY

HAVE THE GOVERNMENTS CONTRIBUTED NEGATIVELY? – LEGAL FRAMEWORK

ARE CO-OPERATIVES ON THE DECLINE? - SUSTAINABILITY

WHAT IS CO-OP'S RELATION WITH MARKET? – CAPITAL

WHAT IS THE STATE OF GOVERNANCE OF CO-OPS? - PARTICIPATION

IS THERE AN ASIAN CO-OPERATIVE MODEL?

WHAT IS THE STATE OF CO-OPERATIVE RESEARCH?