



MAPPING: KEY FIGURES

NATIONAL REPORT: GUATEMALA

ICA – EU PARTNERSHIP



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I. INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT

This report is part of a Mapping exercise launched by the International Cooperative Alliance and its regional offices, within the framework of a partnership signed with the European Commission for the period 2016-2020. The programme aims to strengthen the cooperative movement and its capacity to promote international development. Other research projects led within this partnership include a worldwide Legal Frameworks Analysis, and several thematic researches on themes of significance for cooperatives.

Responding to challenges and existing knowledge gaps facing the cooperative movement, this research seeks to provide exhaustive information on cooperatives worldwide. This is achieved through a process jointly conducted by the ICA and its four regional offices – Cooperatives of the Americas, Cooperatives Europe, ICA Africa, and ICA Asia-Pacific – using a common methodology. Each office collected the input of ICA members present in the countries within its geographic area, by using the same questionnaire, and completing it with relevant national statistics, in order to obtain an accurate picture of the national situation.

Mapping out cooperatives in each country provides a more precise picture of the cooperative context at national and regional levels, enhances the movement's visibility, networking, partnerships opportunities, as well as advocacy, and empowers cooperators by providing them tools for positive change.

Within this framework, the present report showcases information about the cooperative landscape in Guatemala.

i. Historical background

The website of Confecoop Guatemala¹ indicates that cooperativism formally arose in 1903 with the Law of Cooperative Societies; The objective of this Law was to improve the living conditions of the working class, increase their well-being and contribute to the progress of the nation, to the development of the notions of social security and savings in order to provide the working class with the greatest benefits, in search of profit immediate of the associates of its diverse unions, to increase the cohesion between the elements of the society and to the conservation of the small patrimonies.

From 1903 to 1945, cooperative associations were not created, but rather entities that promoted savings and mutual aid, mainly due to ignorance of cooperativism in general.

In 1944 it was established in the Constitution: "The State will provide the collectives and cooperatives, technical instruction, administrative management, machinery and capital" and that "the establishment of cooperative production companies is declared of urgent social utility, as well as the legislation that organize and promote them".

By Decree No. 146 of the Congress of the Republic dated August 1, 1945, the Cooperative Development Department was created as a dependency of the National Mortgage Credit, but with absolute independence from the other departments and services.

In 1978 the Federation of Savings and Credit Cooperatives (FENACOAC) was founded, and in December of that same year, the National Institute of Cooperatives (INACOP) and the General Inspection of Cooperatives (INGECOP); from then on, the growth of cooperatives in Guatemala became stronger².

¹ Confecoop. (s.f.). History of cooperatives: Cooperatives in Guatemala. Available at: <https://confecoopgu.coop/informacion-cooperativa/historia-del-cooperativismo/#:~:text=El%20cooperativismo%20surge%20formalmente%20en,%E2%80%9D%20LEY%20DE%20SOCIEDADES%20COOPERATIVAS%E2%80%9D.&text=De%201903%20a%201945%20no,desconocimiento%20del%20cooperativismo%20en%20general>

² López, B. & Mora, A. (2012). Overview of the cooperative sector in Guatemala. Available at: https://www.aciamericas.coop/IMG/pdf/wcms_185442.pdf

ii. Public national statistics

For a more comprehensive picture of the cooperative movement in Guatemala, the present section provides key data from the country's public registers as a useful background context to the ICA members' data showcased in Section II of the report.

The data presented here comes from the INACOOOP Cooperative Registry as of 2018³.

NUMBER OF COOPERATIVES:

The INACOOOP Registry of Cooperatives counts 969 active cooperatives in Guatemala in 2018.

EMPLOYMENT:

Guatemala does not have public information regarding cooperative employment.

COOPERATIVE MEMBERSHIP:

The INACOOOP Registry of Cooperatives indicates a total of 2 232 738 associated with Guatemalan cooperatives, of which 53% are men and 47% women.

PRODUCTION VALUE:

Guatemala does not have public estimates of the value of production by cooperatives.

³ INACOOOP. (2018). Cooperative registry. Digital version.

iii. Research methodology

The aim of the mapping research is to collect and make publicly available reliable and up-to-date data to understand what the cooperative movement represents in the targeted country. With this view, the data detailed in the present report has been collected using the methodology detailed below.

The methodological tools include a questionnaire used to collect the data, which was distributed online to the members, as well as a methodological note provided for further guidance. They were built jointly with all ICA regional offices with the support of external experts from the European Research Institute on Cooperative and Social Enterprises (Euricse) and are applied in a harmonised way in all the target countries.

The classifications used in the research are consistent with the internal system used within the ICA movement (e.g. on membership status and types of cooperative organisations) and with standards increasingly adopted in recent studies and by international organisations like the ILO – e.g. using international classifications of economic activities such as the International Standard Industrial Classification (ISIC) rev. 4, which ensures the comparability of statistics both nationally and internationally, as well as with statistics on other forms of enterprises.

Regarding the target organisations, considering that a worldwide survey has very challenging goals, and while the value of directly collecting data from non-member cooperatives must be recognised, the present Mapping exercise targets cooperative organisations members of the ICA.

Furthermore, in order to complete the ICA members' data, the decision was taken to also look at external sources, to provide additional and more exhaustive cooperative statistics for the country. As a result, the data is collected following two strategies contemporaneously: 1) collecting statistics already available in the country; 2) carrying out a survey targeting ICA cooperative members.

In Guatemala, the mapping questionnaire was distributed to all member organizations, but there was no response from any of them.

II. KEY FIGURES

This section presents the results of data collection conducted by ICA members.

Guatemala has 1 ICA member organization (as full member):

- **Confederación Guatemalteca de Federaciones Cooperativas R.L. (CONFECOOP)**. Full member.

It is a legal body and representative of the cooperative movement at the national and international level; founded in 1977 by the initiative and under the direction of 8 sectoral federations. Sector: Apex.

ICA member organizations are directly or indirectly active in the following sectors, in order of the largest number of cooperatives:

- Banking and insurance
- Commerce
- Industry
- Agriculture and food industry
- Education
- Transportation
- Accommodation and food
- Public services
- Administrative services
- ICT's
- Health
- Construction
- Housing
- Professional services
- Others

iv. ICA member data

For Guatemala, it was not possible to collect statistical information from the members through the digital survey.

v. General overview

This section provides an overview of the ICA membership data for Guatemala. It is displayed in various categories and supported by tables and graphs, for clarity.

| Category | Total |
|------------------------|-------|
| Number of cooperatives | 1 |
| Number of memberships | - |
| Number of employees | - |

vi. Sector overview

The sectors used below correspond to the categories used in the ISIC rev. 4. to classify the economic activities carried out by the organisations concerned.

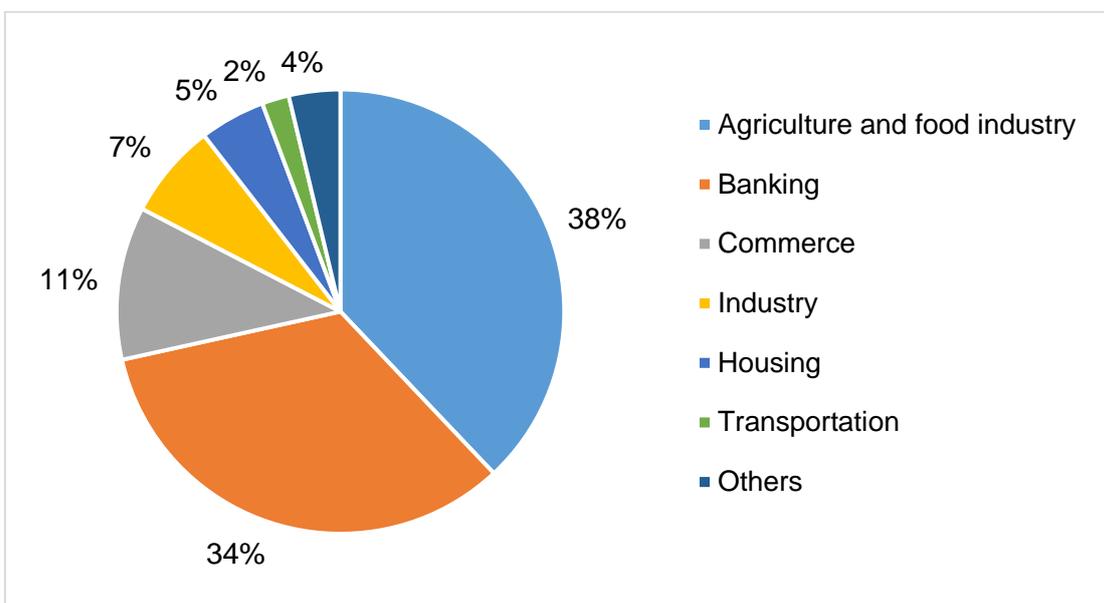
A general overview is provided in the chart below:

| Sector | Cooperativas | Membership |
|-------------------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Agriculture and food industry | 368 | 76.263 |
| Banking | 325 | 2.107.516 |
| Commerce | 108 | 21.050 |
| Industry | 67 | 7.320 |
| Housing | 46 | 10.851 |
| Transportation | 19 | 2.379 |
| Others | 36 | 7.359 |
| Total | 969 | 2.232.738 |

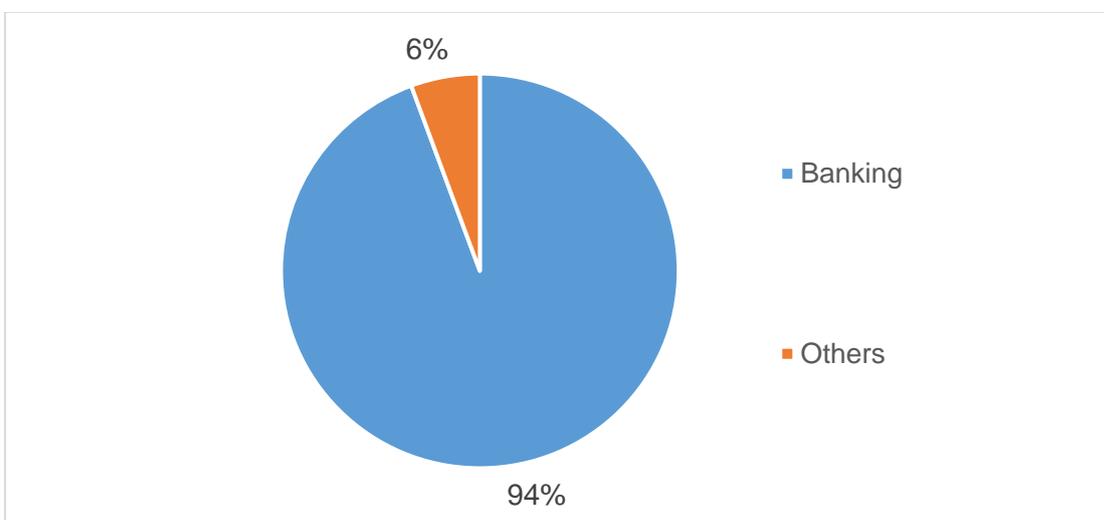
III. GRAPHS

Specific variables are also detailed in the graphs below when sectorial data was available.

vii. Percentage of total cooperatives by sector



viii. Percentage of total memberships by sector



IV. ANNEXES

Sources:

Confecoop. (s.f.). History of cooperatives: Cooperatives in Guatemala. Available at: <https://confecoopqu.coop/informacion-cooperativa/historia-del-cooperativismo/#:~:text=El%20cooperativismo%20surge%20formalmente%20en,%E2%80%9D%20LEY%20DE%20SOCIEDADES%20COOPERATIVAS%E2%80%9D.&text=De%201903%20a%201945%20no,desconocimiento%20del%20cooperativismo%20en%20general>

López, B. & Mora, A. (2012). Overview of the cooperative sector in Guatemala. Available at: https://www.aciamericas.coop/IMG/pdf/wcms_185442.pdf

INACOOOP. (2018). Cooperative registry. Digital version.

Contacts

Further details on the Mapping research and other country reports are available on www.coops4dev.coop

The production of this report was overseen by staff from Cooperatives of the Americas and the International Cooperative Alliance. For any further information or clarification, please contact mappingresearch@ica.coop or with the Research Officer for Cooperatives of the Americas carlos.gonzalez@aciamericas.coop

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