



MAPPING: KEY FIGURES

NATIONAL REPORT: ST KITTS AND NEVIS

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 St. Kitts and Nevis.

i. Historical background

The information on the history of cooperativism in Haiti is quite limited, both in English and Spanish; however, the ICA Cooperative Legal Framework Analysis¹ mentions that Cooperatives and Credit Unions within the jurisdiction of St. Kitts and Nevis are governed by a single piece of legislation, that is, the Cooperative Societies Act of 2011. This Legislation is part of the internal landscape of the territory and determines the registration, supervision, governance, operation and management of Cooperative Societies, including Credit Unions, whose members have a common bond of philosophy and socio-economic objectives. The Law had specific determinations for Specialized Cooperative Societies, namely: Credit Unions, Consumer Cooperative Societies and Housing Cooperative Societies, Industrial Cooperative Societies and Apex Bodies with separate levels of restrictions, limitations, parameters, operating rules

Among the strongest sectors in which the St. Kitts and Nevis cooperatives have developed are agriculture under small producer cooperatives and savings and credit cooperatives.

¹ Manzano, D. (2020). Cooperative Legal Framework Analysis. Available at:
<https://coops4dev.coop/sites/default/files/2020-04/Legal%20Framework%20Analysis%20-%20St%20Kitts%20and%20Nevis.pdf>

ii. Public national statistics

St. Kitts and Nevis does not have country statistics for the cooperative sector, the only recent and available sector statistics are for the savings and credit sector, published by the World Council of Credit Unions 2014².

NUMBER OF COOPERATIVES:

The World Council of Credit Unions indicates that the number of financial cooperatives in St. Kitts and Nevis for 2014 was 4.

EMPLOYMENT:

The World Council of Credit Unions estimates that financial cooperatives in St. Kitts and Nevis create 52 jobs.

COOPERATIVE MEMBERSHIP:

The World Council of Credit Unions mentions a total of 20,958 nationals associated with financial cooperatives.

PRODUCTION VALUE:

Data not available for any sector.

² World Council of Credit Unions. (2015). Statistical Report 2014.

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 St. Kitts and Nevis, the mapping questionnaire was distributed and completed by 1 ICA member organization. After further follow-up of the surveyed members, the figures provided were compiled to be presented in the next section.

II. KEY FIGURES

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

St. Kitts and Nevis has 1 ICA member organization (as an associate member):

- **Caribbean Confederation of Credit Unions (CCCU).** Associate member.

It was established on August 17, 1972 in Dominica, as the successor to the West Indies Conference of Credit Societies (WICCS) and serves as the leading trade and development organization for financial and non-financial cooperatives in the Caribbean. Essentially, the Confederation monitors economic and financial trends in the region and the world and helps affiliates clearly articulate their own individual roles as they enhance and promote cooperative difference. Sector: Regional Apex

iv. ICA member data

The data collected was provided for the year 2017 as shared by the member organization.

v. General overview

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

Category	Total
Number of cooperatives	-
Number of memberships	-
Number of employees	6

vi. Sector overview

Due to the non-existence of sectoral or national statistical data for St. Kitts and Nevis, this section cannot be constructed.

III. ANNEXES

Sources:

Manzano, D. (2020). Cooperative Legal Framework Analysis. Available at: <https://coops4dev.coop/sites/default/files/2020-04/Legal%20Framework%20Analysis%20-%20St%20Kitts%20and%20Nevis.pdf>

World Council of Credit Unions. (2015). Statistical Report 2014.

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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