



# COOPERATIVES FOR SUSTAINABLE RURAL DEVELOPMENT

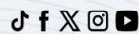
**19 MAY 2026 - 22 MAY 2026**

14:00 to 16:00 hours IST (Indian Standard Time, (GMT+05:30))

INTERNATIONAL ONLINE TRAINING



Organized by:  
Cooperative Institute of Malaysia (IKMa) &  
African-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO)

 Institut Koperasi Malaysia



## **PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

- Cooperatives play a vital role in promoting inclusive and sustainable rural development by strengthening local economies, empowering communities and supporting small-scale producers.
- Recognising this growing importance, this programme provides a platform for policymakers, cooperative officers, government representatives and industry stakeholders to exchange knowledge, share experiences and explore practical approaches to strengthening cooperative institutions and rural enterprise development.
- This 4-day online training programme aims to enhance participants' understanding of the cooperative model as an effective instrument for rural transformation. It will also promote knowledge sharing and inter-country learning among AARDO member states on cooperative governance, enterprise development and policy support for sustainable rural growth.

## **RATIONALE OF THE PROGRAMME**

- The proposed “Cooperatives for Sustainable Rural Transformation” programme supports efforts to strengthen cooperatives as key drivers of socio-economic growth, particularly in rural communities. Cooperatives play an important role in improving livelihoods, enhancing economic participation and supporting rural development.
- This programme provides a platform for participants from AARDO member states to exchange knowledge and best practices on cooperative governance, enterprise development and policy support, while exploring how cooperatives can strengthen rural economies and create income opportunities for small-scale farmers.

# PROGRAMME OBJECTIVE

- Enhance understanding of the role of cooperatives as strategic institutions in promoting inclusive and sustainable rural development.
- Strengthen knowledge on cooperative governance systems and institutional practices that support effective and accountable cooperative management.
- Examine cooperative enterprise models and value chain approaches that support the economic participation of small-scale farmers and rural communities.
- Promote knowledge exchange among participants from AARDO member states on policy frameworks and strategies that strengthen the role of cooperatives in rural transformation.

# EXPECTED OUTCOME

- The programme is expected to enhance participants' understanding of the strategic role of
- cooperatives in advancing rural development while strengthening knowledge on governance, cooperative enterprises and policy environments. The knowledge gained will contribute to strengthening cooperative institutions and supporting sustainable rural transformation across participating countries.

# PROGRAMME CONTENT

**Module 1:** Foundations of Cooperatives and Rural Development

**Module 2:** Co-operative Governance and Institutional Development

**Module 3:** Co-operative Business Models and Rural Value Chains

**Module 4:** Policy Environment and Future Directions

## TARGET PARTICIPANTS

- Policymakers
- Cooperative Officers
- Government Officials
- Industry Players
- Officers from AARDO Member States

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

- 9 May 2026

## **MEDIUM OF COMMUNICATION**

- **Medium of Communication:** English  
Participants are expected to have a good working knowledge of English.

## **APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

- **Step 1:** Log on to the link: <http://aardo.org/formDD.php>
- **Step 2:** Fill up the details and submit. Take print out of the filled in application form.
- **Step 3:** Applicants are required to sign their applications and send them along with the recommendation letter of the Nodal Ministry of AARDO/Centre of Excellence to our email: [iec@aardo.org](mailto:iec@aardo.org)

## **CERTIFICATION**

- Participants' daily attendance and participation will be recorded. Participants are also required to complete an online feedback form.
- E-certificates will be awarded to participants who complete the entire programme or attend at least 75% of the sessions.

# ABOUT AARDO

The **AFRICAN-ASIAN RURAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION** is a rural centric inter-governmental autonomous organization located at 2, State Guest Houses Complex, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi 110 021, India . African Asian Rural Development Organization is mandated to develop understanding among members for better appreciation of each other's problems and to collectively explore, opportunities for coordination of efforts for the welfare and eradication of thirst, hunger, illiteracy, disease and poverty amongst rural people in the African-Asian region. The Organization comprises thirty six (36) members, which include thirty two (32) member countries namely, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Mauritius, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Sudan, Tunisia and Zambia from Africa; and Bangladesh, Republic of China (Taiwan), India, Iraq, Jordan, Republic of Korea, Lebanon, Malaysia, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Sri Lanka, Syria and Yemen from Asia; besides, four (04) Associate Members namely, Economic and Social Development Centre (ESDC) from Palestine, EKITI Chamber of Commerce Industry, and Mines (EKITICIM) from Nigeria, Korea Rural Community Corporation (KRC) from Republic of Korea and the Agricultural Bank of Sudan (ABS) from Sudan. AARDO is promoting South-South Triangular cooperation in the domain of agricultural and rural development. As such, AARDO is championing and advocating more science to rural societies for inclusive transformation of rural areas in Africa and Asia.

## PROGRAM COORDINATORS

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## **ABOUT IKMa**

The Cooperative Institute of Malaysia (IKMa), formerly known as the Co-operative College of Malaysia (CCM), is the leading institution for cooperative education, training and capacity development in Malaysia. Established in 1956 with funding from the Colonial Development Fund, IKMa has played a significant role in strengthening the cooperative movement by advancing cooperative human capital development, enhancing institutional capacity and supporting the growth of sustainable cooperative enterprises. In 1968, IKMa was recognised as a statutory body under the Co-operative College (Incorporation) Act 1968. The Act was subsequently amended in 2019 to strengthen its governance framework and enable the institute to implement more innovative and impactful programmes in support of cooperative development. Over the years, IKMa has been placed under several ministries and is currently under the Ministry of Entrepreneur and Cooperatives Development (KUSKOP). In line with its vision as a Dynamic Hub for Cooperative Human Capital Development, IKMa continues to strengthen the capacity and competencies of cooperative leaders and members through training, research and strategic capacity-building initiatives.

### **PROGRAM COORDINATORS**

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