



International
Co-operative
Alliance



Dame Pauline Green
President

Equality, Development and Social Inclusion: *challenges and opportunities* for the cooperative movement

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www.ica.coop

'Inspiring Change': the theme for International Women's Day 2014

- *Gender equality has been a fundamental right within the co-operative movement since the first half of the 19th century*
- *Anecdotal evidence - women constitute a majority of all members in the co-operative movement*
- *The reality - women are massively under represented at senior levels*

International Co-operative Alliance

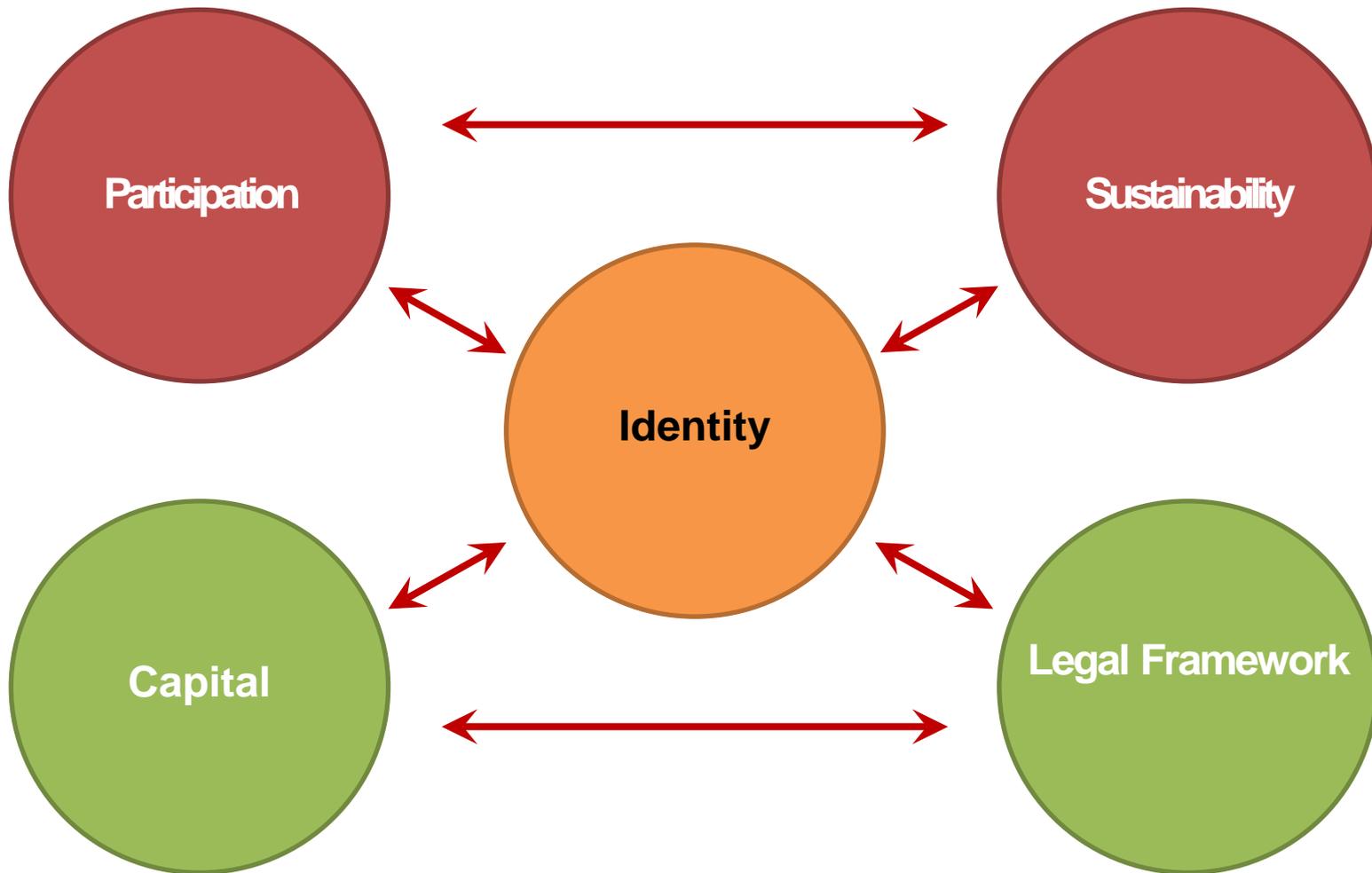
The Alliance has member co-operatives in nearly 100 countries around the world.

Those co-operatives are owned by a billion of the world's citizens.

Blueprint for a Co-operative Decade



Blueprint for a Co-operative Decade – Key Themes



'Inspiring Change': the theme for International Women's Day 2014

Spain: 49% of workers in Spanish Worker Co-operatives are women, and 39% of them are directors as against 6% in other forms of business

Italy: 95% of worker co-ops in the fashion industry are women

UK: 33% of the Chairpersons in consumer co-ops are women compared to 3% of equivalent companies

37% of all directorships in consumer co-ops are held by women against 13% in equivalent companies

25% of consumer co-operative management are women compared to 5% in companies

Asia Pacific Region: *At the Bali Regional Assembly in September 2014 we were told it is running at 30%*

Tanzania: *43% of members of SACCOs are women and 65% of women in leadership positions in financial co-operatives*

Kenya: *25% of women in leadership positions in financial co-operatives*

Uganda: *132% increase in women's participation in Area Co-operative enterprises as against an increase of 94% for men*

'Inspiring Change': the theme for International Women's Day 2014

Women in Insurance Co-operatives: (figures from ICMIF)

2.6% of the top 500 leading companies are led by a woman compared to 13.6% of the leading co-operative and mutual insurance businesses.

*North America: 39% of insurance co-ops have woman CEO
-7 out of 18 co-ops.*

*Latin America and the Caribbean: 15% of insurance co-ops
have either a woman CEO or Board Chair – 7 out of 47.*

*Norway, Spain, Italy and Belgium: Have all passed laws imposing
a formal quota of 40% women on Boards.*

The 'Beijing + 20 Review'

The UN's Beijing Platform for Action Turns 20

An unprecedented 17,000 participants and 30,000 activists streamed into Beijing for the opening of the Fourth World Conference on Women in September 1995. They were remarkably diverse, coming from around the globe, but they had a single purpose in mind: gender equality and the empowerment of all women, everywhere.

The 'Beijing + 20 Review'

The UN's Beijing Platform for Action Turns 20

There will be a full review of the UN's Beijing Platform for women to celebrate its 20th Anniversary.

It is scheduled to take place from 9 to 20 March 2015, at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

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#Beijing20

We want to hear from YOU!

"Empowering Women – Empowering Humanity”:

Picture It!

is an invitation to engage in the conversation, to imagine a world in which gender equality and women's empowerment is a reality, as well as to discuss existing gaps. It is a call to action, with a strong focus on visuals and imagination.

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What could our contribution be?

It is now a priority for all co-operatives to establish reliable gender statistics for employees and members

In 2015 can we prove the co-operative difference for women?



Co-operative Enterprises build a better world



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