

The Laulima Center

for cooperative business development

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Rural Cooperative Development Specialist

LAULIMA CENTER

FOR RURAL AND COOPERATIVE
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT™



A program of
The Kohala Center

Laulima



- suggests joint action and cooperation

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What is a Coop?

- A co-operative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise.

-International Cooperative Alliance



Co-op definition

- ***Member-owned***
- ***Member-controlled***
- ***Member-benefits***



Principles

1. Voluntary and Open Membership
2. Democratic Member Control
3. Member Economic Participation
4. Autonomy and Independence
5. Education, Training, and Information
6. Cooperation among Cooperatives
7. Concern for Community

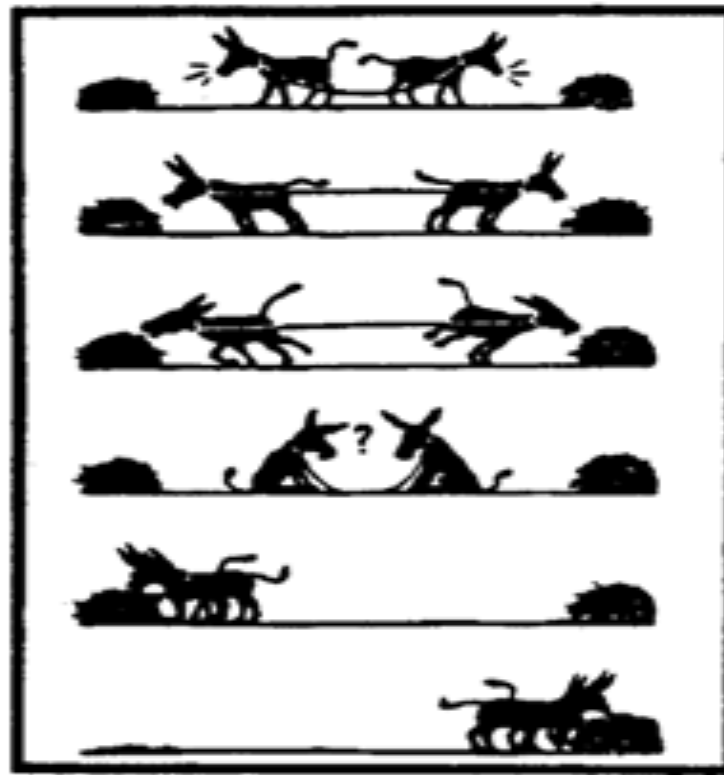


Why are co-ops formed?

- **Traditionally a defensive strategy**
 - Unmet social, economic need
 - Market power imbalances
- **Now proactive**
 - True community ownership
 - Co-op businesses are stronger and last longer
 - Money stays local



Coops require Cooperation



Co-operation

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Consumer Cooperatives



Agricultural Cooperatives



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Worker Cooperatives



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Cooperative Chains



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Multi-stakeholder Cooperatives

- Farmers
- Processors
- Distributors
- Consumers



- Local food system solution
- Multiple member classes
- At the table together



Artist
Collective

Coop School

Worker Coop

Food Coop

Farmer Coop

Housing
Coop

Credit Union

Electric
Coop



Steps to Forming a Coop

1. Gather and focus
2. Create a steering committee
3. Do a Feasibility study
4. Write a Business plan
5. File Legal documents
6. Equity drive
7. Membership drive
8. Elect board
9. Hire manager
10. Open doors



Laulima Center Services

- Cooperative Business Education
- Group Facilitation & Organization
- Strategic Project Planning
- Feasibility Assessment
- Business Planning
- Market Analysis
- Grant Writing & Capitalization Strategies
- Legal Document Assistance
- Professional Referrals
- Board & Member Trainings
- Conflict Resolution

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