

iCOOP KOREA: How consumers and producers cooperate

.....



International Co-operative Alliance
**Global Conference
and General Assembly**

14-17 November 2017, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Co-operatives: Putting People at the Centre Of Development

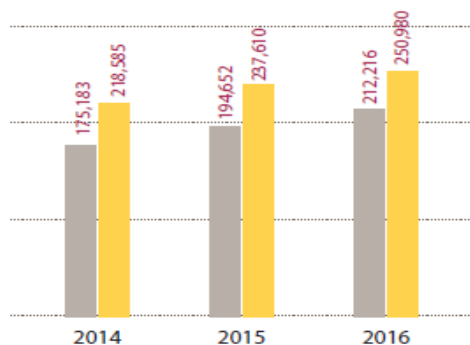
Presented by PARK, Inja
Chairperson of iCOOP Consumer Activities

iCOOP KOREA



Membership (person)

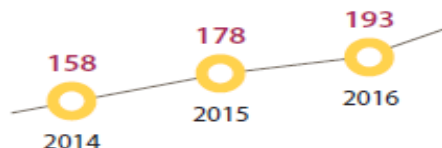
■ Members with monthly membership dues
■ Total members



Members : 250,980
Member leaders : 2,966
Producers : 2,397
Employees : 3,616



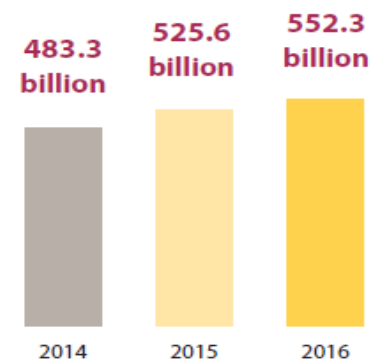
Stores



Member co-ops : 90
Educations for members
: total 109,858 participants
1,069 town meetings
913 clubs



Turnover : KRW552billion



2016 Fair trade fund
: KRW75,575,090
Seed foundation
Collected in 2016:
KRW1,110,423,140
Used in 2016:
KRW593,788,053

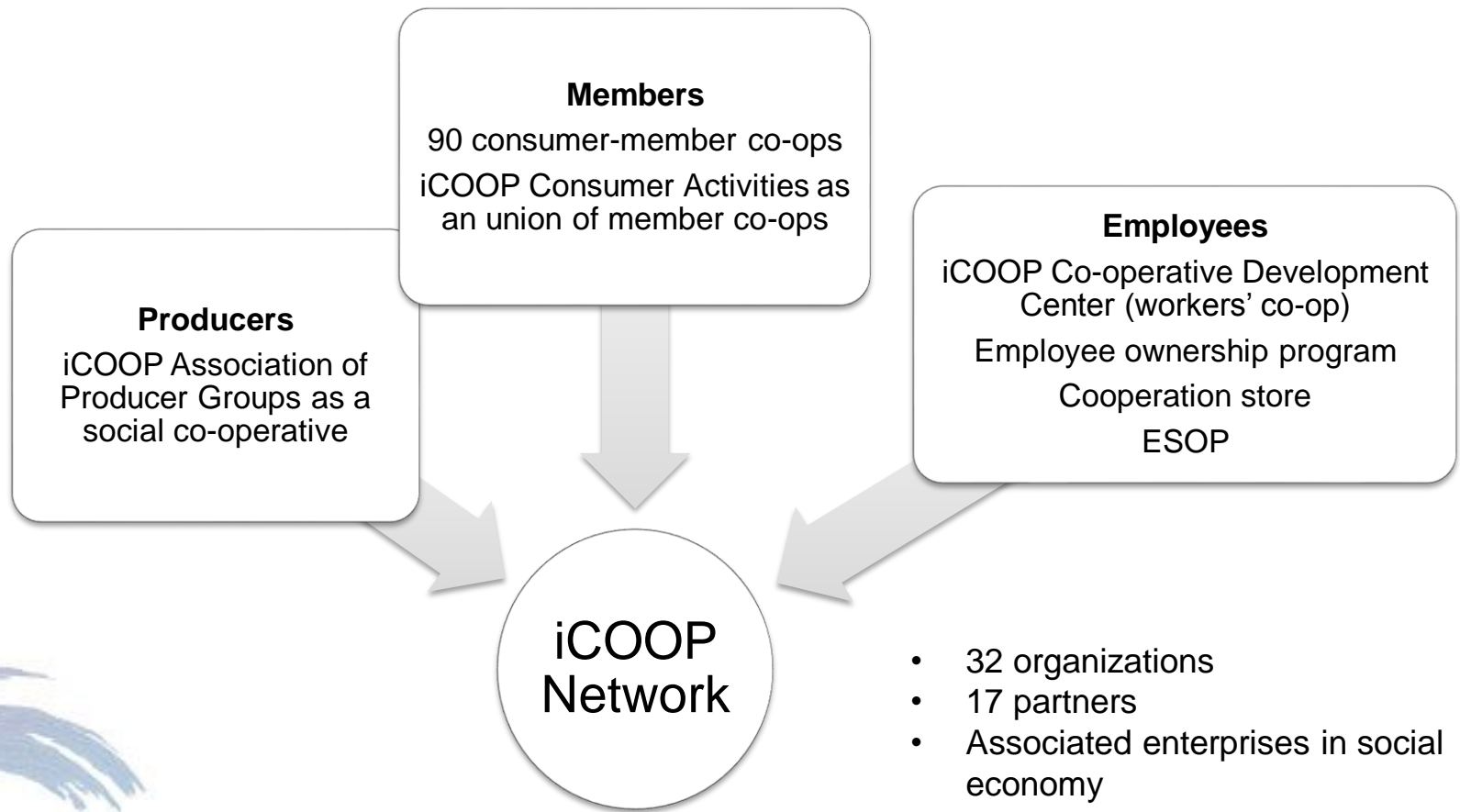
As of Dec.2016



International Co-operative Alliance
Global Conference
and General Assembly



iCOOP KOREA



As of Dec.2016



iCOOP KOREA consists of consumer and producer members.

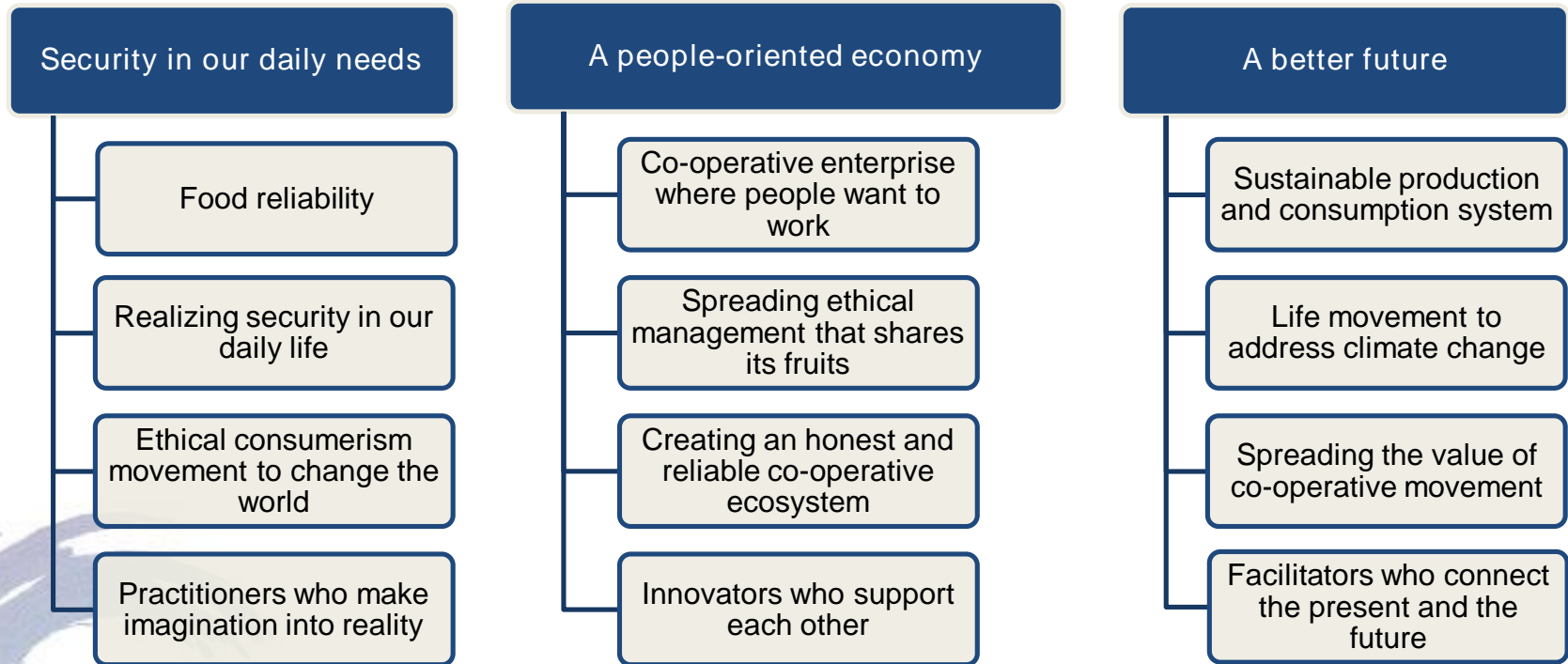
- The current form of Korea's consumer co-operative movement started in the late 1980s
- In 1980s, environmental pollution became a serious problem in Korea's society including issues such as food additives and environmental hormones. Also, due to the government and market failures on agriculture, the farming population decreased and grain self-sufficiency declined sharply in Korea.
- Consumers supported farmers with the direct trade of agricultural produce, especially organic ones and new co-operative businesses were promoted.
- To respond to these challenges and make an alternative in the markets and societies in Korea, iCOOP KOREA has conducted businesses and activities where consumers and producers work together.



iCOOP KOREA's production and consumption are based on trust and effectiveness.

- To guarantee reasonable incomes for producers and secure the eco-friendly farming, production and consumption are based on a long-term relationship through 'Member advanced payment system to stabilize farm production', 'Price Stabilization Fund', and 'Sales agency' where iCOOP KOREA is responsibly for selling total contracted crops of farmers.
- 'Member advanced payment system to stabilize farm production' allows members to put money in advance in their account for later purchases and farmers to use that money to start farming without owing a debt.
- These make farmers to farm with stable and eco-friendly ways and consumers to buy organic and eco-friendly food at a reasonable price.
- iCOOP KOREA's partner producers (members of iCOOP Association of Producer Groups) commit to eco-friendly farming while consumers endeavor to raise awareness of organic farming through various educations and field trip programs ->Sharing visions of ethical consumption and production

- Though multi-stakeholder system takes additional costs, iCOOP KOREA has overcome this challenge by realizing effective systems including logistics, iCOOP Certification system, Mutual Aid society, the exchange of information and more.
- iCOOP KOREA also provides employees with educations and trainings.
- Considering all stakeholders in its visions and missions...





Gurye and Goesan Natural Dream Parks

- Increasing the benefits of both consumers and producers



- Providing safe food for **consumers** at reasonable prices
- Contributing to the stable incomes of **producers**
- Strengthening the competitiveness of Natural Dream brand
- Setting a model where co-operatives and local governments co-operate