

Conditions of the Scheme

- (i) The cooperative society should not be under inquiry or involved in any case of conflict.
- (ii) The training course must be related to the activities of the society.
- (iii) The Minutes of proceedings whereby the decision was taken for a member of the society to attend the course as well as the prospectus on the course should be submitted.
- (iv) A transparent selection exercise to nominate trainees should be conducted.
- (v) The selected trainees should be fully qualified and should satisfy the eligibility criteria required by the training institution offering the training course.
- (vi) Any training course abroad should not exceed a period of 30 days.
- (vii) The Training Committee of the Cooperatives Division of the Ministry should recommend the training course and the trainees, whenever required.

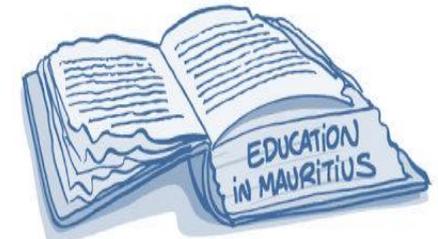
Goal

The Education Scheme for training aims at strengthening the Continuous Education Development (CED) for cooperators, thereby empowering them to keep abreast with developments in the cooperative sector.

Objectives of the Scheme

The Education Scheme for Cooperative Societies will:

- Ensure the capacity building of cooperators.
- Assist cooperatives in their educational/training needs, locally and internationally.
- Promote a Continuous Education Programme for cooperatives, particularly in the use of new technologies.
- Promote cooperatives in the community locally and at international level.



Details of the Scheme

Under the Education Scheme for Cooperative Societies, cooperatives can benefit from the following:

- (i) A financial assistance, to a maximum of Rs 10,000 for a training course to be attended locally by a member of a cooperative society provided that such training course is not offered in the curriculum of the National Cooperative College.**

- (ii) for a course to be attended abroad, financial assistance would be extended as follows:**
 - **20% cost of air ticket, to a maximum of Rs 6,000 for each cooperative society;**
 - **An adhoc allowance of Rs 300 daily, to a maximum of Rs 9,000 for each society in the event board and lodging facilities are provided by the receiving training institution or Rs 500 daily, to a maximum of Rs 15,000 for each society in the event board and lodging facilities are not provided.**

Eligibility Criteria

(a) The applicant should:

- (i) be active and compliant to the Cooperatives Act;
- (ii) be adhering to the cooperative principles;
- (iii) keep a proper record of its business transactions and should not be under inquiry;
- (iv) have paid any sum due to the Cooperative Development Fund; and
- (v) have clearly viable projects for the development of the cooperative movement.

(b) The applicant should not be beneficiaries of financial assistance from any other organisations and should not have benefitted from any other financial assistance from the CDF for the last **three (3)** years as from the date of application.

Education Scheme for Cooperative Societies

Background Information

Education, training and capacity building are key elements to the development of cooperatives.

The Cooperatives Division of the Ministry of Business, Enterprise and Cooperatives is encouraging the consolidation of existing cooperative societies and the development of new societies, with focus on emerging sectors and quality products.

The National Cooperative College is being consolidated as the training arm of the Cooperatives Division to ensure the capacity building of cooperators and the would-be cooperators.

Linkages through appropriate Memorandum of Understanding, are being established with Cooperative Colleges to empower further local cooperators in their daily activities.

Operation and Monitoring of the Scheme

The Scheme will be operated by the Cooperative Development Fund and the Ministry of Business, Enterprise and Cooperatives (Cooperatives Division). The applicant should fill in the appropriate form and submit the following supporting documents, where applicable to the Ministry:

- Certificate of Registration
- A copy of the Minutes of Proceedings of the meeting where approval has been obtained for the implementation of the project.
- Relevant quotations and other appropriate documents.
- Audited Financial Statements for the last three years.
- Report of selection exercise.

The Cooperative Development Fund reserves the right to cease the operation of the Scheme for reasons which it may deem appropriate, including financial constraints.

Contact Details

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VISION

A conducive legal and institutional framework for a rejuvenated, engendered and inclusive cooperative movement for the sustainability of a sound economic and social environment facilitating business development.

MISSION STATEMENT

To facilitate the promotion of diversified, emerging and innovative cooperatives and involve more young persons and women in the development, consolidation and advancement of the cooperative movement.

**Ministry of Business, Enterprise and
Cooperatives
(Cooperatives Division)**

*Education Scheme for Cooperative
Societies*

Cooperative Development Fund

July 2017