

# Cooperatives and HREDD in the Netherlands

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# Social Economy in the Netherlands

- Historical background of civil solidarity: 16th century dikes building – 19th century rural development – post WW2 concertation model & public involvement
- Concept of Social Economy not well known
- Social enterprises: 6000 operational (2018), grassroots organisations replacing the withdrawing government in initiatives to integrate risk groups (education, work)
- Cooperatives: 9300 primary societies of which 3300 are active (2021)



# Cooperatives in the Netherlands

- Umbrella: NCR (National Cooperative Council), member of EuroCoop & ICA
- Cooperative Society as genuine legal personality, endorsed by Dutch civil law, requirement of notary act & registration (Economic Affairs) to be recognized as such
- Significance: by 2019 the top 100 coops
  - had a turnover of 123 billion €
  - employed 150000 FTE
  - were owned by 32 mio members (incl double-counts)



# Sectors with a significant coop presence

- Agriculture (dairy sector): services for farmers (logistics, tools, marketing...), coops having a market share of 80%
- Banking (roots: credit for farmers)
- Insurance (incl health care, mutual societies)
- Wholesale & retail
- Flower auctions
- More recent: energy coops (wind mills), social coops (entrepreneurship for benefit recipients)...

# Top 30 Dutch coops

Positie 2019 (positie 2016)	Naam	Sector	Omzet mln. €	Aantal fte	Aantal leden	Type leden
1 (1) -	Achmea (& vereniging)	Verzekeringen	19.949	13.801	10.000.000	Multistakeholder
2 (2) -	Rabobank	Financiële dienstv.	11.900	43.623	1.900.000	Multistakeholder
3 (4) ↑	Coöperatie VGZ	Verzekeringen	11.900	1.941	4.100.000	Consumenten
4 (3) ↓	FrieslandCampina	Agrarisch	11.300	23.816	17.413	Ondernemers
5 (5) -	CZ Groep	Verzekeringen	10.313	2.490	3.600.000	Consumenten
6 (6) -	Superunie	Groothandel	7.456	96	13	Ondernemers
7 (7) -	Menzis	Verzekeringen	6.559	1.515	2.277.960	Consumenten
8 (8) -	Royal FloraHolland	Agrarisch	4.800	2.102	4.141	Ondernemers
9 (17) ↑	AVIA	Energie	2.585	900	5	Ondernemers
10 (10) -	ForFarmers (FromFarmers)	Agrarisch	2.463	2.570	3.996	Ondernemers
11 (9) ↓	Agrifirm	Agrarisch	2.060	3.028	10.000	Ondernemers
12 (11) ↓	Royal Cosun	Agrarisch	2.046	3.744	8.836	Ondernemers
13 (12) ↓	De Sparwer (PLUS en Spar supermarkten)	Detailhandel	1.967	1.077	263	Ondernemers
14 (-) *	Prime Oil & Gas (Nederland)	Olie en energie	1.687	55	32	Ondernemers
15 (-) *	Mosadex	Groothandel	1.639	1.438	360	Ondernemers
16 (13) ↓	DSW Zorgverzekeraar	Verzekeringen	1.489	614	593.000	Consumenten
17 (16) ↓	Coop Supermarkten	Detailhandel	1.295	3.734	900.000	Multistakeholder
18 (15) ↓	Zorg en Zekerheid	Verzekeringen	1.294	455	485.000	Consumenten
19 (-) *	Intergamma	Groothandel	1.202	1892	400	Ondernemers
20 (14) ↓	Coforta (The Greenery)	Agrarisch	1.009	1.234	336	Ondernemers
21 (-) *	Deloitte	Financiële dienstv.	968	5.736	31	Ondernemers
22 (18) ↓	PwC (Nederland)	Dienstverlening	884,1	5.045	5.565	Ondernemers
23 (-) *	Oxbow (Nederland)	Energie	848	153	26	Ondernemers
24 (20) ↓	Harvest House	Agrarisch	835	172	54	Ondernemers
25 (19) ↓	Intrakoop	Zorg en Welzijn	821	54	537	Ondernemers
26 (21) ↓	Primera	Detailhandel	753	51	517	Ondernemers
27 (-) *	Oxin Growers	Agrarisch	748	34,1	259	Ondernemers
28 (22) ↓	Avebe	Agrarisch	571	1.313	2.225	Ondernemers
29 (26) ↓	Zevij-Necomij	Groothandel	555	70	38	Ondernemers
30 (23) ↓	Univé	Verzekeringen	507	2.071	1.600.000	Multistakeholder





# Social dialogue in the Netherlands

- Unionization: 16% in 2022 (coming from 35%+ in 1970s-80s) – FNV, CNV
- Employers organisations: AWWN, VNO-NCW, MKB-NL, UNETO (retail), LTO (agri)
- Social dialogue at national (tripartite), sectoral (bipartite) & corporate level
- Collective agreements (sector/company) as main output
- Work councils as main forum at company level
  - required for companies with >50 employees
  - union membership not required to participate



# HREDD in the Netherlands

- HREDD law in the making (projected for July 2024, unless superseded by EU legislation with a similar level of enforceability)
- Will be mandatory for in-scope companies to take preventive & mitigating measures w r t HR violations in supply chain (forced labor, child labor, unsafe working conditions...), violations of animal welfare regulations, environmental damage (affecting atmosphere & climate)
- Aligning with UN, OECD, EU principles & guidelines
- Anticipating mandatory regulation, some coops have provisionally established their own HREDD policy, e.g. Campina Friesland (dairy products)

# FrieslandCampina goes for cooperative sustainability

- Measuring impact of activities (maritime transport)
- Giving stakeholders (supply chain) tools & training to monitor their human rights conduct
- Sharing knowledge on HREDD with stakeholders & trading partners
- Aim for a sound & safe work environment, diversity, gender equality and inclusiveness
- Enabling suppliers to improve their quality (plan to train 75000 dairy farmers in 2025 through Dairy Development Programme) in exchange for decent price
- Support farmers in the Global South (Nigeria, Pakistan) through development cooperation programmes (Dairy Development & Foqus Planet)
- Nourishing better planet: recyclable packaging & traceable resources (palm oil, soy, pulp & paper, cocoa...)





# Thank you

Point n'est besoin d'espérer pour entreprendre, ni de réussir pour persévérer.  
(William of Orange, 1533-1584)

