Introduction to Cooperatives

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April 1, 2017
Overview

What’s a co-op

Why do people start co-ops

How do people start co-ops
Forms of cooperation

Lending circles - susu, ROSCA

The commons

Babysitters club
Give an example of when you have cooperated with other people to achieve a common goal.
The Cooperative Business Model

Shared ownership                  Democratic control
Business AND association of people
Cooperative 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
Types of Co-ops

• Consumer-owned
• Worker-owned
• Producer-owned
• Multi-stakeholder
Consumer-owned
Worker co-ops
Change In Ownership Structure Proposed For Central Co-Op

By: Capitol Hill Times Staff  December 2, 2015  business Community news
Producer-owned

http://youtu.be/gxejQ_BWRgg
Rural Electric Co-ops

90% of rural homes in the mid 1930s did not have electricity

—Rapid growth of Electric Co-ops
Co-ops are political
Historical Waves of Cooperation

• 1870s and 1880s: Labor Movement
Historical Waves of Cooperation

• 1930s and 1940s: Civil Rights Movement
Historical Waves of Cooperation

1960s and 1970s: Anti-War, Civil Rights
Historical Waves of Cooperation

Right Now!
Co-op commonwealth
Where do co-ops come from?
Business AND association of people