



ICBA webinar
Seoul, 30 November 2021



ICBA MEMBERS TODAY: HOW DO THEY CONTRIBUTE AND REPORT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT?

November 30th | World Cooperative Congress | Seoul

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Ms. Rubiga Sivakumaran, Independent Consultant

General outline

- 1 ICBA Member profile today
- 2 ICBA members and Sustainable Development
- 3 ICBA Members issues and expectations

Background information



What is the profile of the 49 members of the ICBA?
How do they contribute to sustainable development?

Roundtable organized with KU Leuven

ICBA Seminar

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATIVE BANKING ALLIANCE 2021 EVENTS

KU LEUVEN
CENTRE OF EXPERTISE FOR COOPERATIVE ENTREPRENEURSHIP

November 18th

14:00-16:00 CEST

Online

Please register [following this Zoom link](#)

ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSION:

HOW DO FINANCIAL COOPERATIVES CONTRIBUTE TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT?

Panel I. Financial cooperatives and the SDGs: what is the cooperative advantage?

Prof. Bert D'Espallier
Professor, KU Leuven

Juan Buchenau
Senior Financial Sector Specialist, World Bank

Prof. Bernd Balkenhol
Professor, University of Geneva

Hans Loth,
Global Head UN Environment Partnership at Rabobank Group

Dr Nazik Beishenaly
Researcher, KU Leuven (Moderator)

Bhima Subrahmanyam
President, ICBA

Panel II. How to make visible CFI sustainable impact at a global level?

Denise Garfield
General Manager Caribbean Confederation of Credit Unions

Prof. Eric Lamarque
Director Paris Sorbonne Business School, IAS

Elisa Bevilacqua
Head of Department Sustainable Finance at European Association of Co-operative Banks

Dr Ruth Yeoman
Kellogg College, University of Oxford (Moderator)

Gildas Poissonnier
Director, Sustainability and Responsible Finance at Desjardins Group

UPCOMING:
ICBA MEMBERS TODAY: HOW DO THEY CONTRIBUTE AND REPORT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT?

November 30th

13:30-15:00 KST

Seoul, Korea & Online

Register in advance for this meeting through [this Zoom link](#)

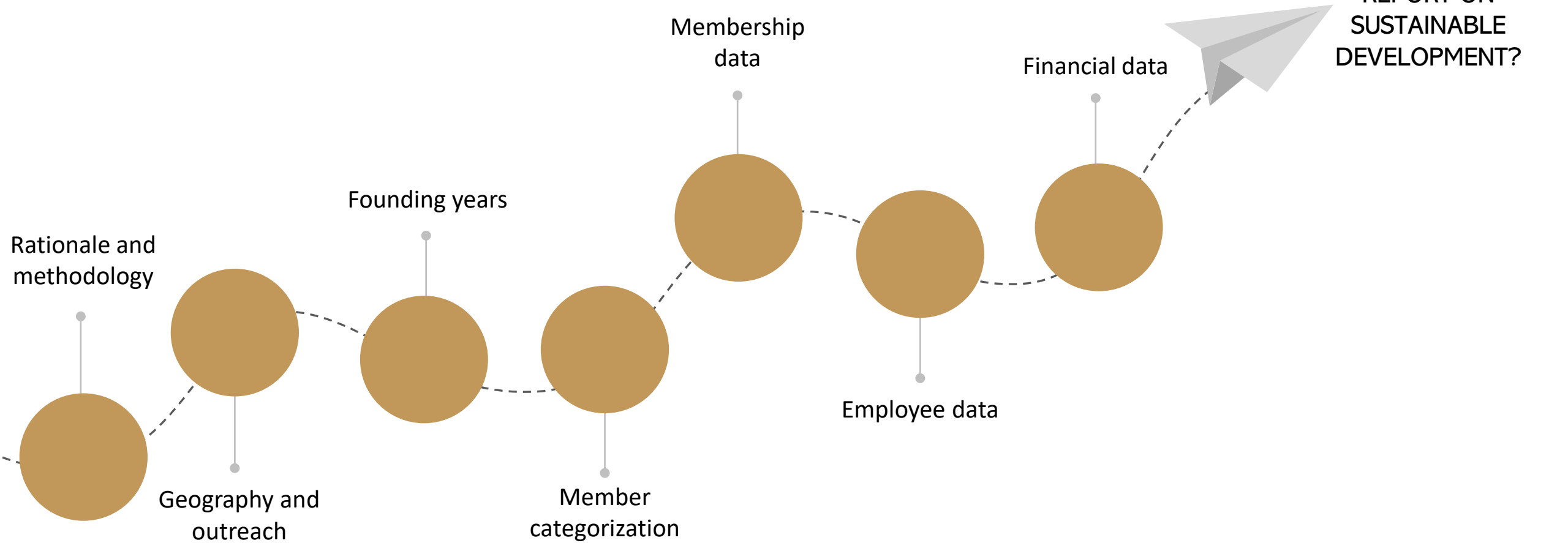
WORLD COOPERATIVE CONGRESS
Deepening our Cooperative Identity
A GLOBAL MOVEMENT FOR A BETTER WORLD



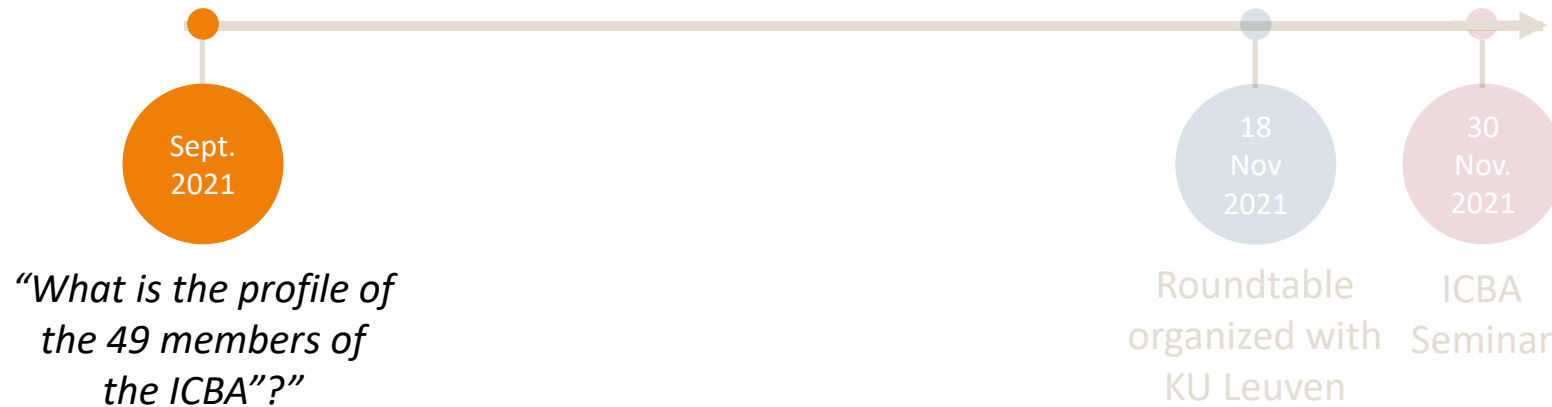
International Cooperative
Banking Association

1. ICBA Member Profile Today

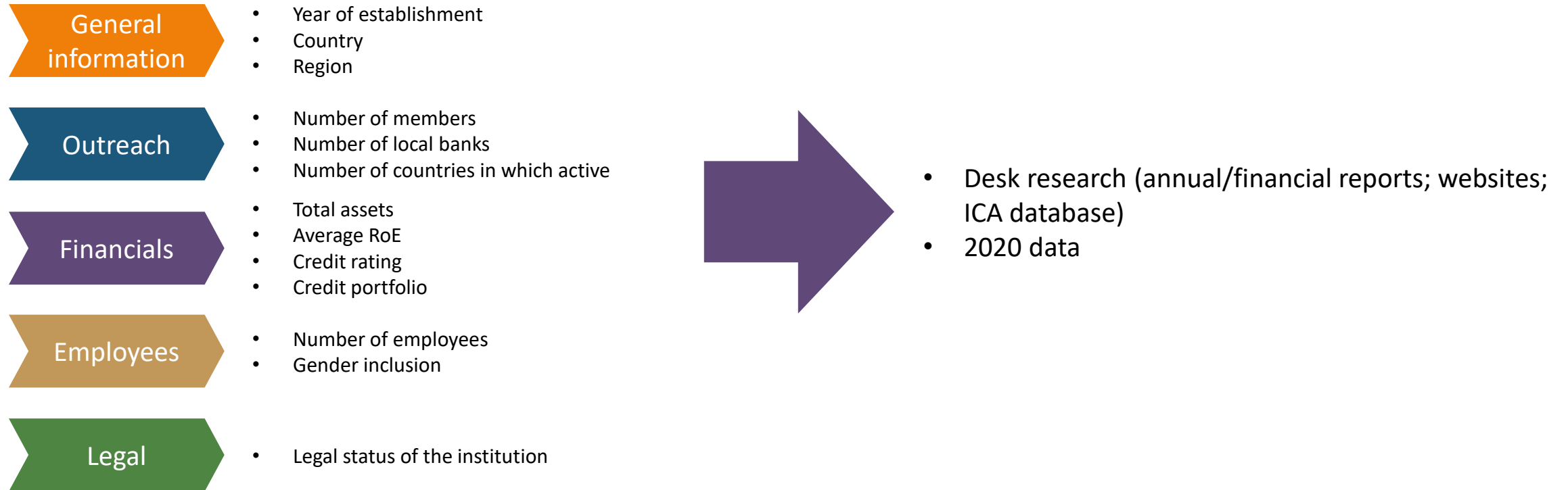
Presentation outline



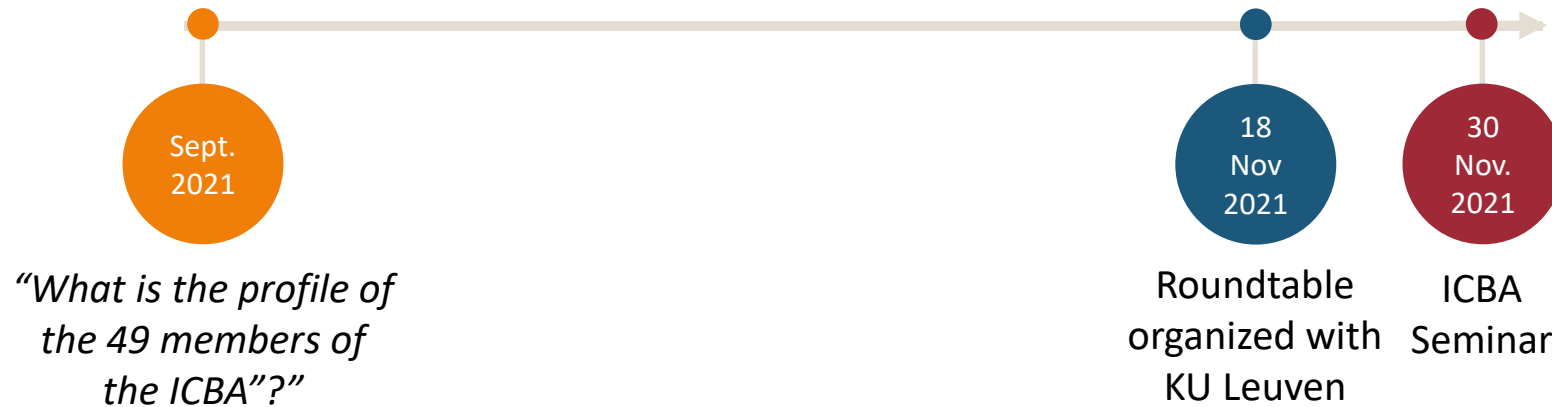
Rationale and methodology



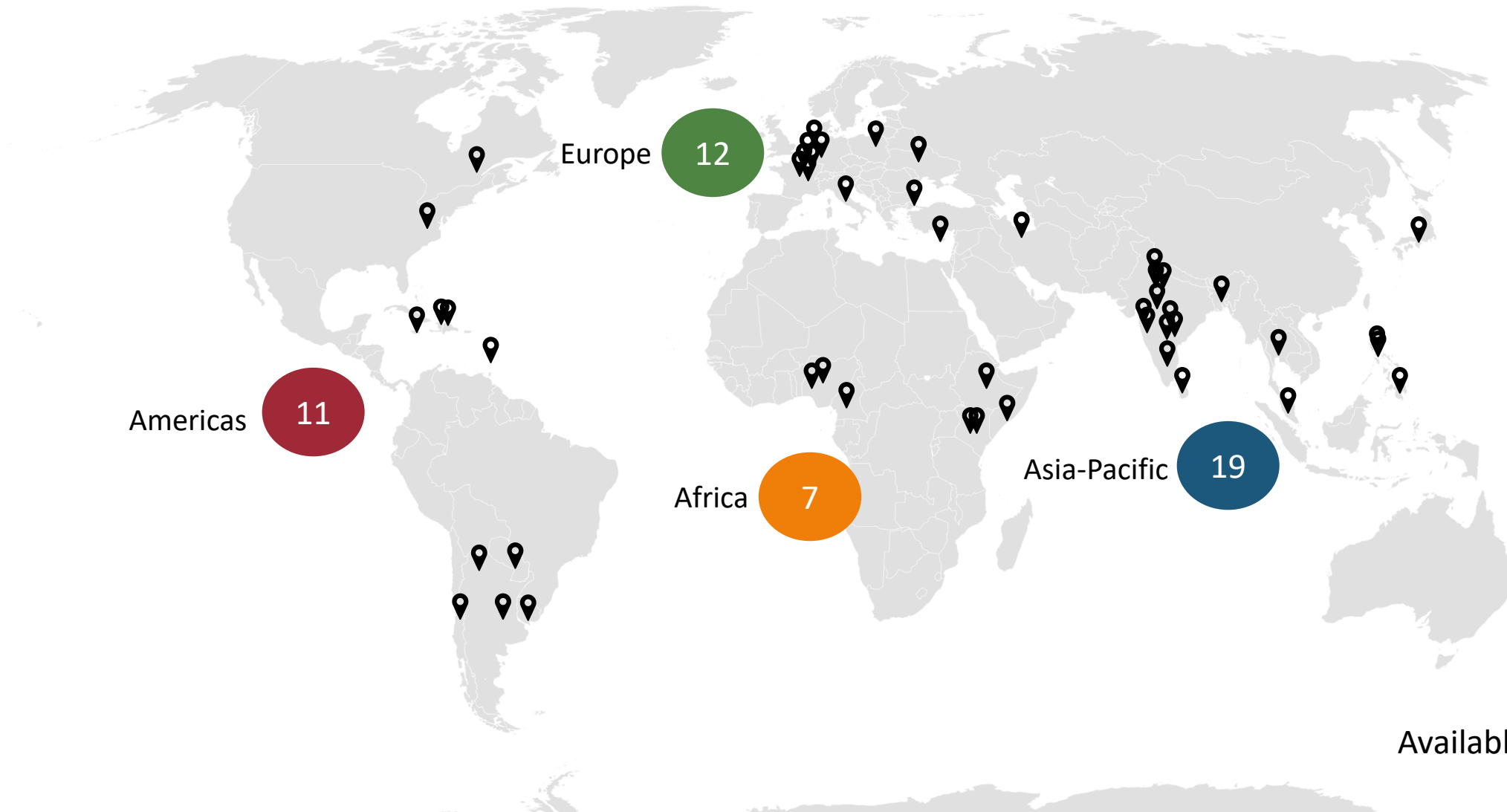
Rationale and Methodology



Rationale and methodology



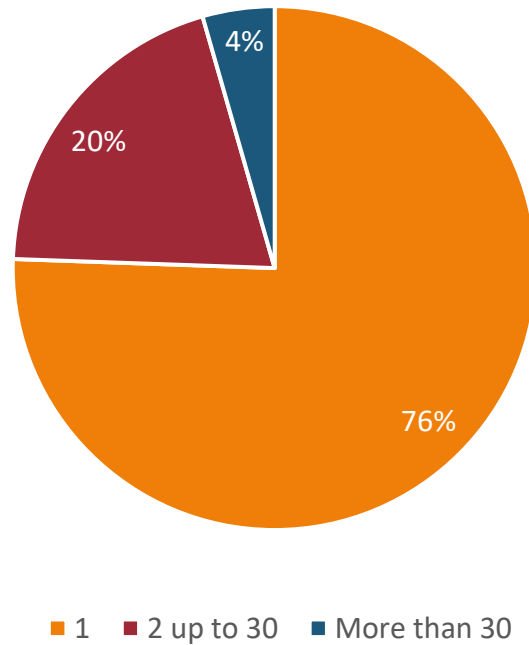
ICBA members are spread across four regions



Available data: 49 out of 49

Most members remain local

% of members active in respective number of countries



Types of activities abroad:

1

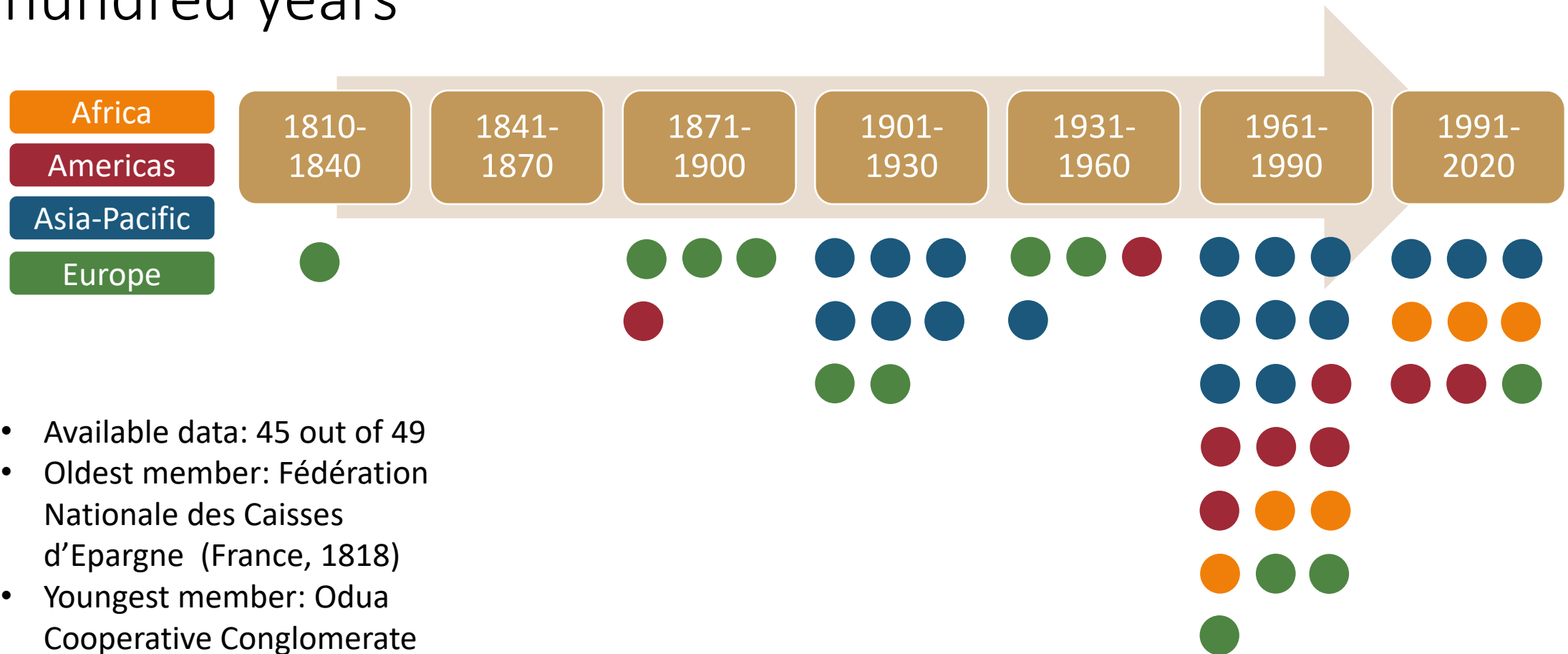
Business purposes

2

International development

Available data: 46 out of 49

Members are founded over the course of almost two hundred years



- Available data: 45 out of 49
- Oldest member: Fédération Nationale des Caisses d'Epargne (France, 1818)
- Youngest member: Odua Cooperative Conglomerate (Nigeria, 2016)

Diversity of ICBA members

1. Financial cooperative groups

- Institutions that are directly serving individual members with financial services.

2. Apex organizations of the CFIs

- Representative or overarching bodies that comprise financial cooperatives. Institutions in this group do not serve individual members directly.

3. National apex organizations

- Representative or overarching bodies that comprise both financial and other types of cooperatives. As goes for group 2, institutions in this group do not serve individual members directly.

Categorization of ICBA members

GROUP 1: Financial cooperative groups (20)

- Co-operative Bank of Kenya Ltd (CBK)
- ACAC
- COOPEUCH Ltda. Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito
- Cooperativa Universitaria Ltda.
- Cyprus Turkish Co-operative Central Bank Ltd. (KoopBank)
- Crédit Coopératif
- Confédération Nationale du Crédit Mutuel
- Cooperative Mortgage Bank Ltd
- Banco Credicoop Cooperativo Ltd. (BCCL)
- Central Cooperative Bank Plc (CCB)
- Rabobank
- Aurora Integrated Multipurpose Cooperative (AIMCooP)
- Cooperative Bank of Oromia
- Odua Cooperative Conglomerate Ltd (OCCL)
- Buldana Urban Co-operative Credit Society Ltd. (BUCCS)
- DesJardins
- Union Cooperative de Credit Agricole et Rural d'Haiti (UNICAGRIH)
- Network Consolidated Cooperative Bank (NCCB)
- Coop FR (Credit Agricole)
- Fédération Nationale des Caisses d'Epargne (FNCE)

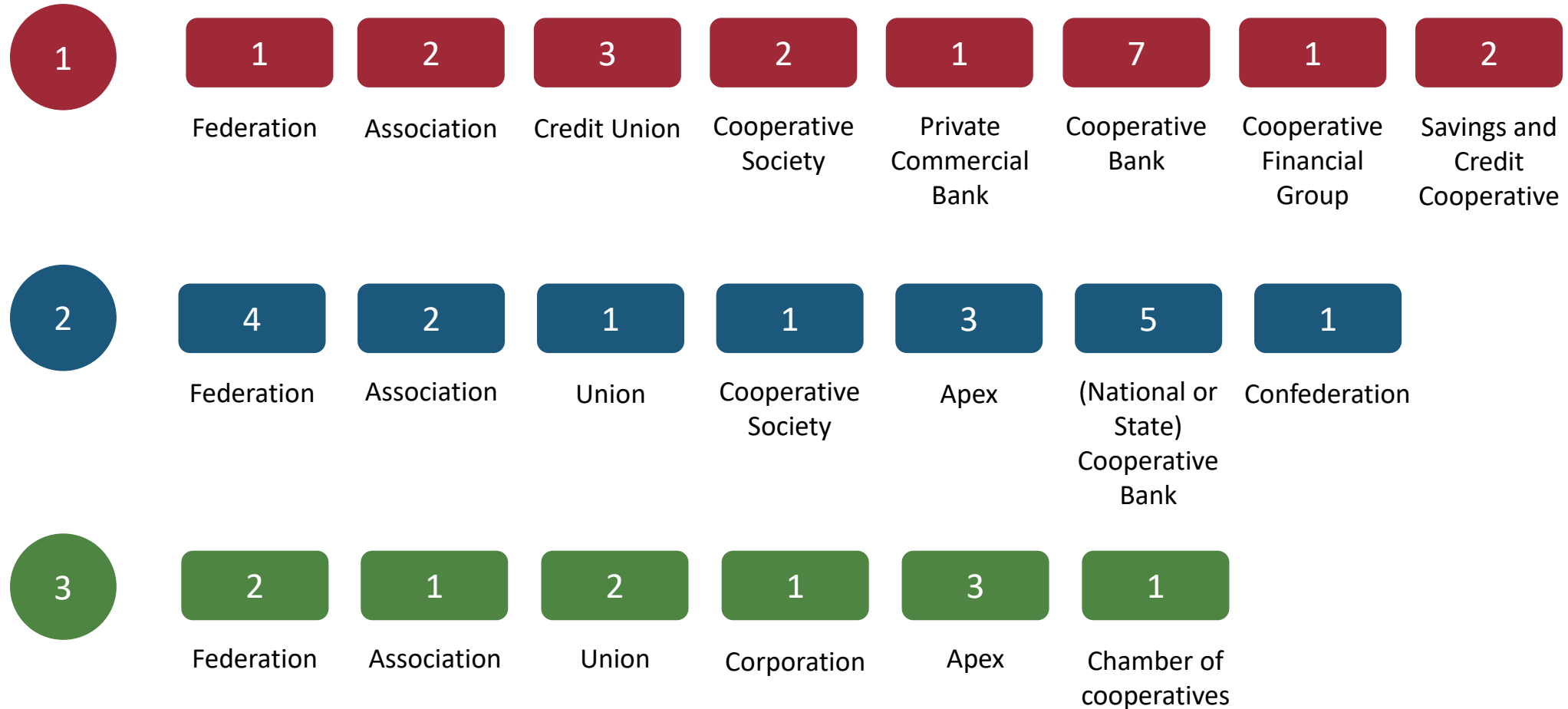
Group 2: Apex organizations of the CFIs (18)

- The Norinchukin Bank
- National Cooperative Bank (NCB)
- National Co-operative Agriculture & Rural Development Banks' Federation Ltd. (NAFCARD)
- National Federation of State Co-operative Banks Ltd. (NAFSCOB)
- SANASA Federation Ltd in Sri Lanka
- Association of Asian Confederations of Credit Unions (ACCU)
- Union Of Savings & Credit Co-operatives Ltd. (KUSCCO)
- European Association Of Co-operative Banks (EACB)
- DGRV - Deutscher Genossenschafts- und Raiffeisenverband e. V.
- Caribbean Confederation of Credit Unions (CCCU)
- Jamaica Co-operative Credit Union League (JCCUL)
- Bangladesh Samabaya Bank Limited (BSBL)
- Federazione Italiana delle Banche di Credito Cooperativo (Federcasse)
- The Karnataka State Cooperative Apex Bank Ltd
- The Talangana State Cooperative Bank Ltd
- The Delhi State Cooperative Bank Ltd
- Andhra Pradesh State Cooperative Bank Ltd (APCOB)
- National Federation of Urban Cooperative Banks and Credit Societies Ltd

Group 3: National apex organizations (11)

- Instituto Movilizador De Fondos Cooperativos, Cooperativa Ltda. (IMFC)
- National Co-operative Union of India (NCUI)
- Malaysian National Cooperative Movement (ANGKASA)
- National Cooperative Council – NCC
- Ukrainian Central Union of Consumer Societies (UKRKOOPSPILKA)
- Iran Chamber of Cooperatives (ICC)
- National Co-operative Development Corporation (NCDC)
- MASS-SPECC Cooperative Development Center
- Alliance Coopératives Cameroun (COOP-CAMEROON)
- Somali Union Co-operative Movement (UDHIS)
- Barbados Co-operative Business Association (BCBAL)

Various legal statuses occur across categories

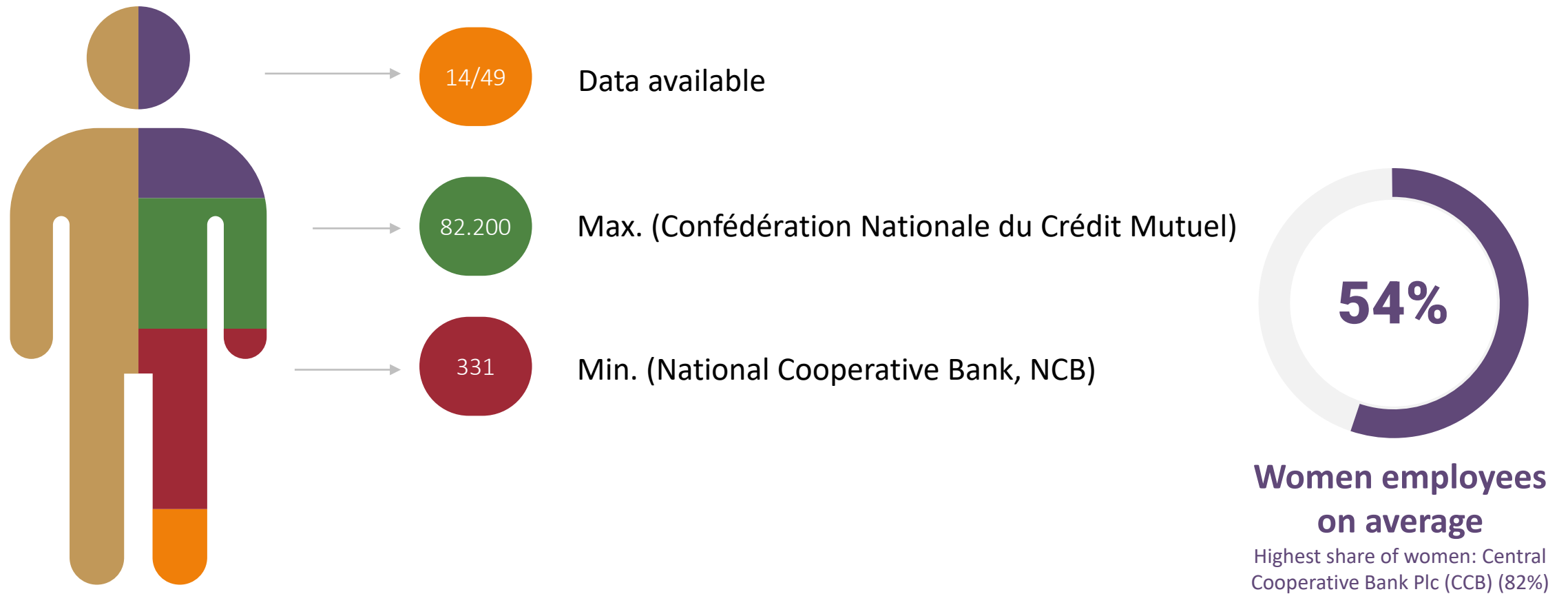


Available data: 46 out of 49

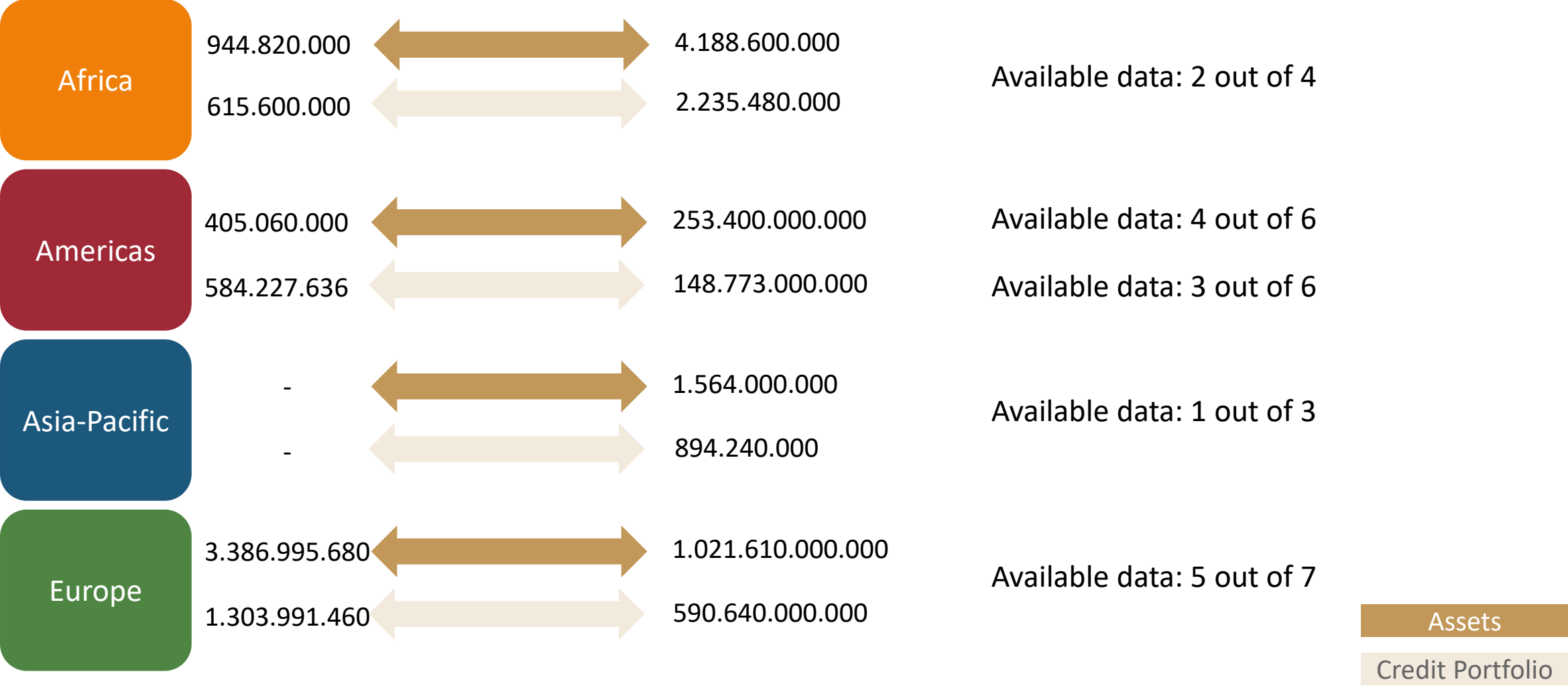
The number of members varies both across and within categories

	Group 1	Group 2	Group 3
Available data	12 out of 20	8 out of 18	8 out of 11
Minimum	99.070 individual members (Crédit Coopératif)	15 regional federations (Federazione Italiana delle Banche di Credito Cooperativo, Federcasse)	6 unions (both Somali Union Co-operative Movement, UDHIS and Barbados Co-operative Business Association, BCBAL)
Maximum	28.700.000 individual members (Credit Agricole)	32.742 primary cooperatives (Association of Asian Confederations of Credit Unions, ACCU)	15.817 cooperative institutions (National Co-operative Development Corporation, NCDC)

ICBA members generally have a considerate approach towards women inclusion in employees



Financials for ICBA members in group 1 in EUR



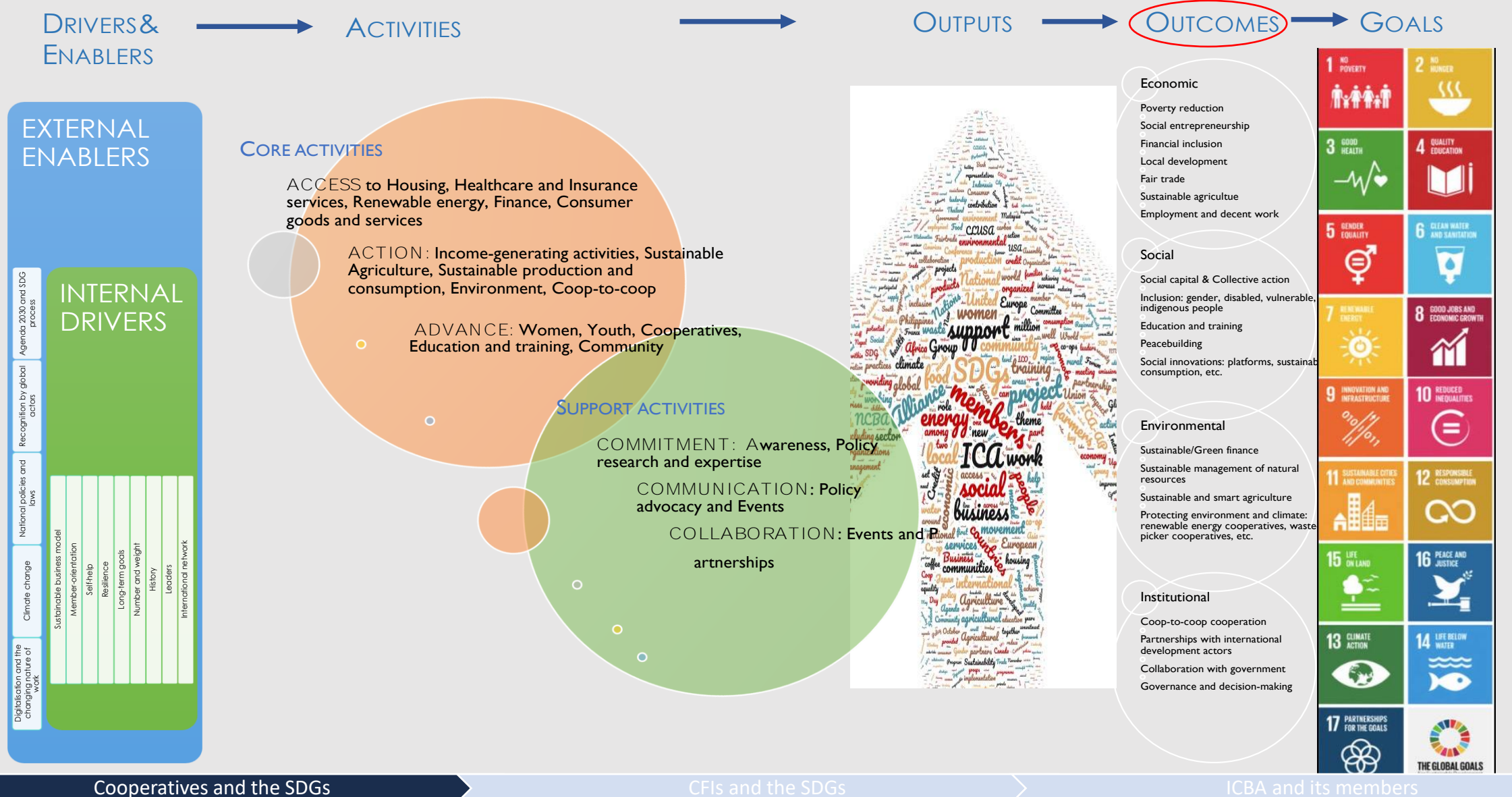
2. HOW DO THEY CONTRIBUTE AND REPORT ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT?

WHAT ARE THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS?

- A “process of change”: “development involves a progressive transformation of economy and society” (Brundtland, 1987).
- A shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet
- Call for action at all levels
- A global reporting framework



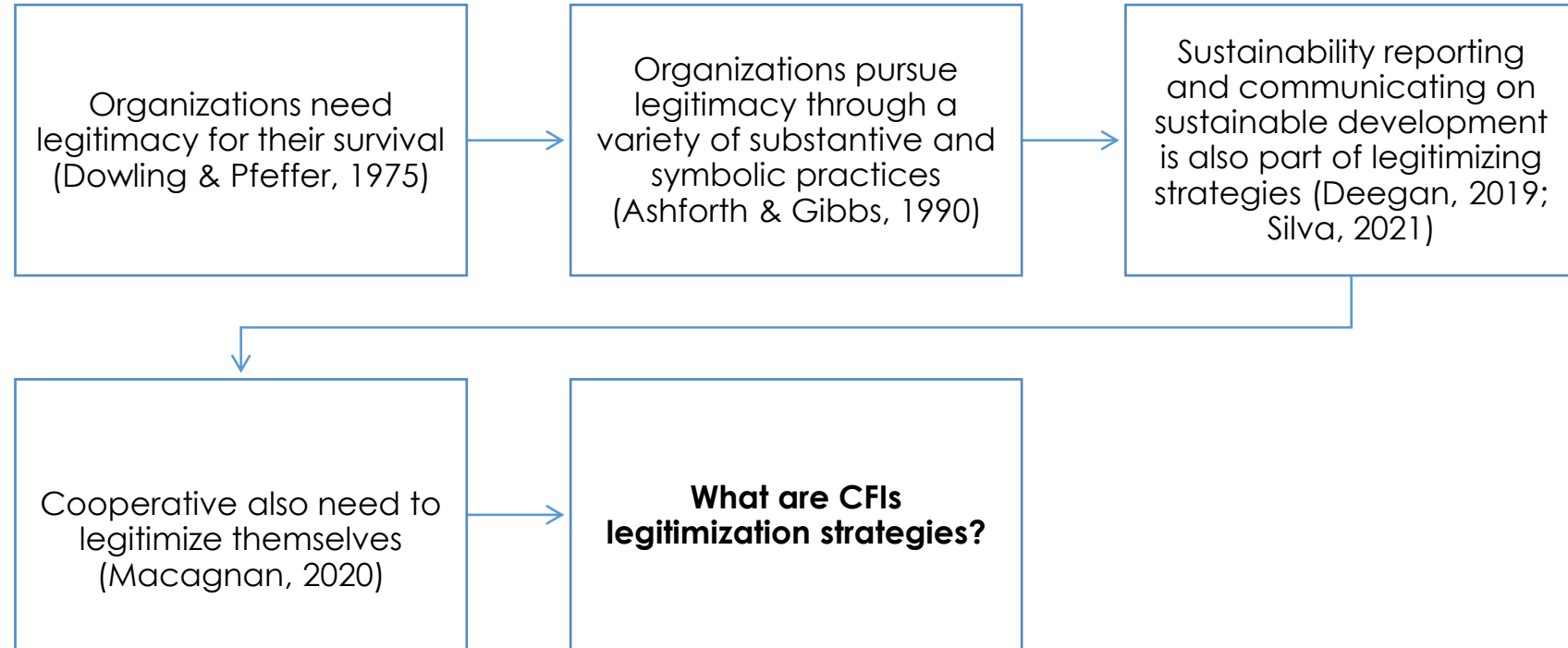
COOPERATIVES DRIVING CHANGE (ICA study, 2021)



Conceptual and methodological framework

Objective: Explore how CFIs contribute to the SDGs, report and communicate on them

Conceptual framework:



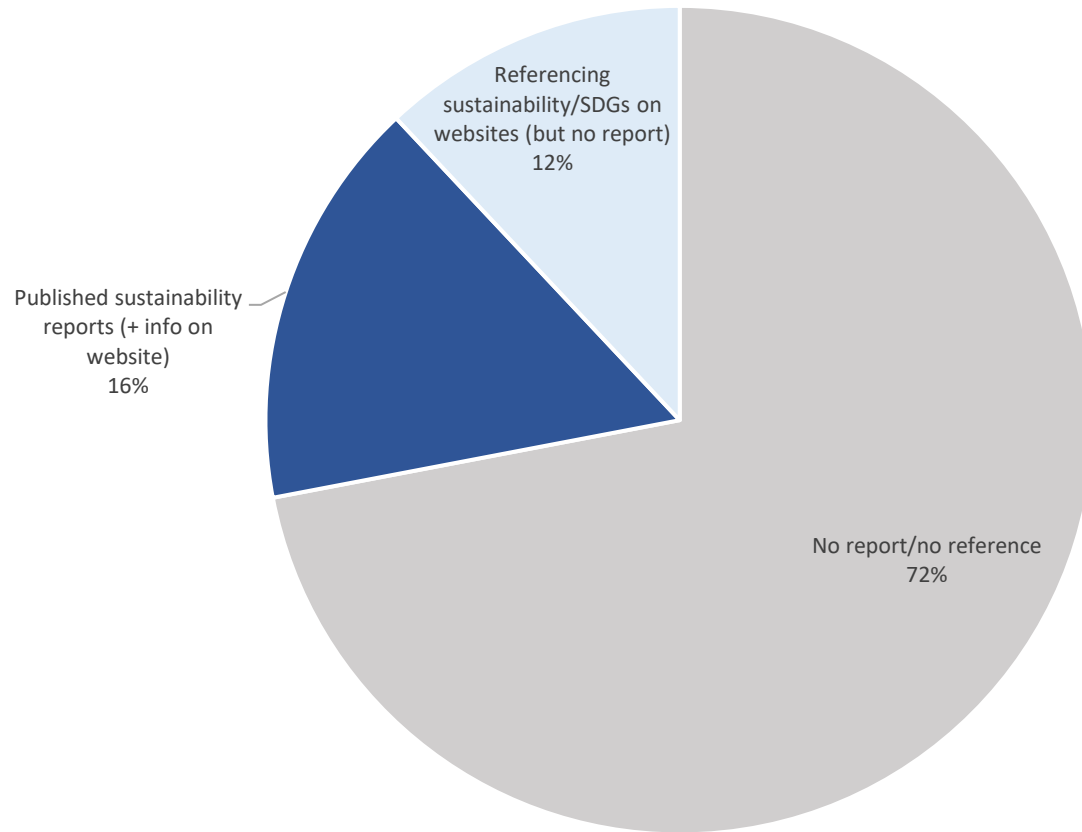
Methodological approach:

- Qualitative content analysis (Birmingham, Wilkinson, 2003)
- Data sources: Individual in-depth interviews (13/49)
- ICBA members sustainability reports during 2020-2021 (8/49)

DIFFERENCES IN THE APPROACHES TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORTING AND COMMUNICATION

From Sustainability reports (2020-2021) of ICBA members

ICA members and the SDGs



Why communicate on the SDGs?

"Sustainability issues in the AFF industries become more grave with each passing year. The Norinchukin Bank recognizes that these issues go to the foundation of our businesses" (Norinchukin Bank Sustainability Report, 2021).

"At Desjardins, we help build sustainable communities across Canada and around the world by growing local economies, supporting businesses, creating good jobs, training directors and working towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals" (Desjardins Group, Social and Cooperative Responsibility Report, 2020)

DIVERSITY OF SDG REPORTING STRATEGIES

From Sustainability reports (2020-2021) of ICBA members



Enablers and Drivers of CFI contributions to the SDGs

From Sustainability reports (2020-2021) and interview results ICBA members

EXTERNAL ENABLERS

Policies and external processes

- Regulatory framework
- Market
- Climate change
- Digitalisation

INTERNAL DRIVERS

Cooperative nature and significance

- Number & weight
- Member-owned
- Community-embeddedness & proximity
- Cooperative principles
- Democratic governance
- Long-term perspective

HOW DO CFIs CONTRIBUTE TO THE SDGS?

From Sustainability reports (2020-2021) of ICBA members

SOCIAL

- Supporting **local communities**
- Promoting **financial inclusion**
- Improving employee **wellbeing and health**
- Investing in **education**
- Advancing **gender equality**

ECONOMIC

- Providing **access to finance**
 - Supporting local economic development
 - Access to finance for SMEs, agricultural producers and vulnerable social groups
- Creating jobs and promoting **decent work**

ENVIRONMENTAL

- Engaging in **green and sustainable finance**
- Reducing **environmental footprint**

INSTITUTIONAL

- Integrating environment and climate issues in **business strategies** and policies
- Building **partnerships**

COOPERATIVE

- Satisfying **member needs**
- Promoting **cooperative values and principles**
- **Coop-to-coop** cooperation

HOW DO CFIs CONTRIBUTE TO THE SDGs?

Interview results ICBA members

Social

- Supporting **local communities**
- Promoting **financial inclusion**
- Investing in **education**
- Advancing **gender equality**

Economic

- Providing **access to finance** :
 - Supporting local economic development
 - Access to finance for SMEs, agricultural producers and vulnerable social groups
- **Creating jobs and decent work**

Environmental

- **Green and sustainable finance**
- **Responsible consumption**

INSTITUTIONAL

- **Integrating in business strategies**
- **Building partnerships**

Cooperative

- **Members needs**
- **Coop-to-coop cooperation**

‘Our roots in the agricultural sector, which is also closely associated with climate change and farming and food. So in that respect, not the cooperative nature, but the roots could be an advantage in transition’

‘The issue of people's equality is also very important, diversity in general, and the question of people's equality, among others, there are also measures that are very concrete. We have quantified ambitions, to bring more women to boards of directors, to management positions, also to ensure that the offer of services meets the needs of women, at all levels, equality of people is very important’

Sustainability reporting: opportunities and challenges

Interview results ICBA members



Measuring and identifying indicators

“how much we have done, how much impact we have created is not measured accurately. That is the main problem. I can not give you any numbers beyond how many families we have financed, how many pump systems we have financed, how many farms we have developed. How it really contributed to these SDGs, that I number am unable to give you.” ;

Collecting data

‘There are a lot of things they are doing, but they are not really keen on submitting reports, document reports, so that’s really our problem’

“Accurate figures are not available at any time.’

‘we have a reporting system. But my reporting system, I am telling you, it is not a very perfect one’

Prove the cooperative ‘element’

‘how can we prove a specific cooperative element there (...) Because if we look around it is also, other companies can be also more socially responsible’

‘I think it’s important that the international cooperative community, financial community, tries to show the distinction and the difference. And that can be done with some reporting’

Getting internal endorsement

‘it’s not that everybody is well aware of SDGs’;

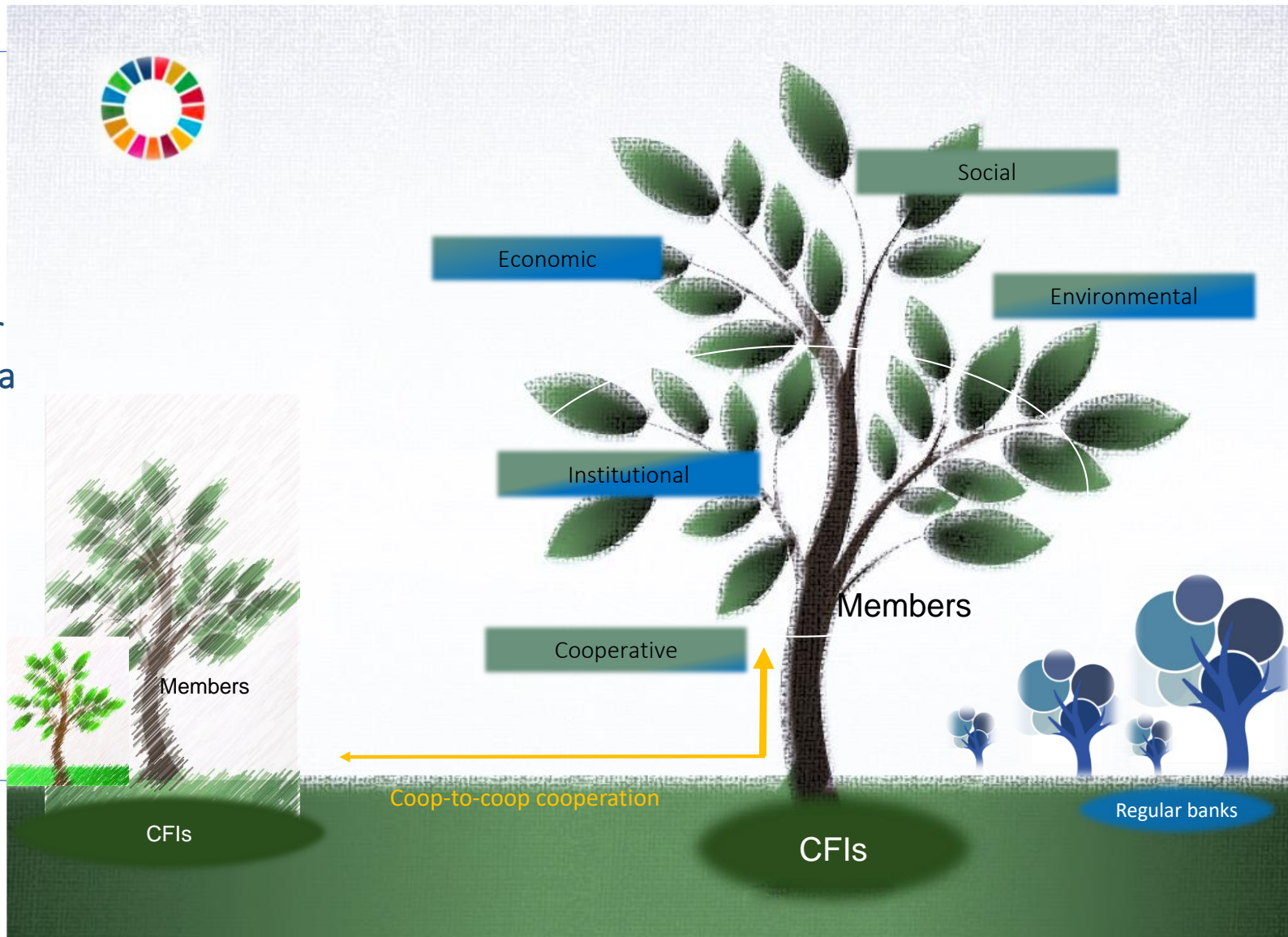
‘How do I get the executive directors on board or not on these issues and the employees as well?’

...but also
many
challenges

TWO-PACED APPROACH TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

How CFIs can communicate on their sustainable impact at a global level?

What is the cooperative advantage in sustainable development ?





International Cooperative
Banking Association

3. ICBA Members issues and expectations

Competition with banks and fintech

- 'if we are entering a market space where in-person relationships don't matter much, then cooperatives are going, I think, will have a harder time competing. Also fintech requires a huge amount of capital to continue the research and development to, you know, to stay at a cutting edge'

Preserving cooperative identity of CFIs

- 'Are cooperative banks different animals in the banking zoo compared to all the other banks?'
- 'show in a credible way that financial cooperatives are a better solution, to the challenges we face, particularly climate, inequality, (...) the systemic racism, you know, we are very focused on, it would be helpful'

COVID-19

- 'Actually we have stopped the expansion. Because of Corona the last two years we are not doing any expansion (...) regulatory guidelines are also very stringent nowadays'

Regulatory

- 'First general regulatory challenge because it's getting more more more ... and more densely regulated and that will be, we'll see also consolidation processes for the smaller ones, or smaller banks increasingly disappearing'

Diversity

- 'You have cooperative banks of very different size and very different group structures, that we have. But we also have, in some countries, credit unions, credit cooperatives'';

Main issues faced by ICBA members

What do members expect from the ICBA?



Enhancing coop-coop cooperation

Financial support
Technology sharing
Business partnership



Preserving the cooperative difference

Cooperative identity of CFIs



Knowledge and information sharing

Knowledge sharing
Exchange of best practices



Addressing jointly the SDGs

Guidance on sustainability reporting and communication



Policy and regulatory

Generating evidence
Policy and advocacy

Thank you!