

My.Coop – Capacity building

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The International Labour Organization

- The International Labour Organization (ILO) is the UN agency responsible for employment and labour issues.
- Established in 1919, the ILO is governed by a tripartite structure bringing together governments, employers and workers representatives of its 187 member States.
- It is the only UN agency with an explicit mandate to work on cooperatives, and has an international labour standard on the promotion of cooperatives, the Recommendation No. 193.
- Through its Cooperatives Unit, the ILO promotes cooperative development e.g. through policy and legal advice, research, development cooperation projects, and training and capacity building

Scope

- Managing your agricultural cooperative - My.COOP** is a training package and programme on the management of agricultural cooperatives launched in January 2012
- Designed for existing and potential managers or trainers of agricultural cooperatives to improve management practices
- My.COOP is built around a partnership between a number of international and national organizations, including the ILO, FAO, the International Training Centre of the ILO and Agriterra, among others
- The partnership is intended to:
 - Ensure a high quality and worldwide delivery of the My.COOP programme
 - Support the further development of the My.COOP through self-initiated knowledge management and sharing
- Copyrighted under Creative Commons, the My.COOP materials are freely accessible

Goals and objectives

- Objective of the My.COOP programme:** To enable existing and potential managers of agricultural cooperatives to identify and address major challenges that are specific to cooperatives in market oriented agricultural development
- Overall goal:** To help cooperatives offer high quality, efficient and effective services to their members and contribute to wider development issues (e.g. food security, sustainable resource management, inclusive employment creation)

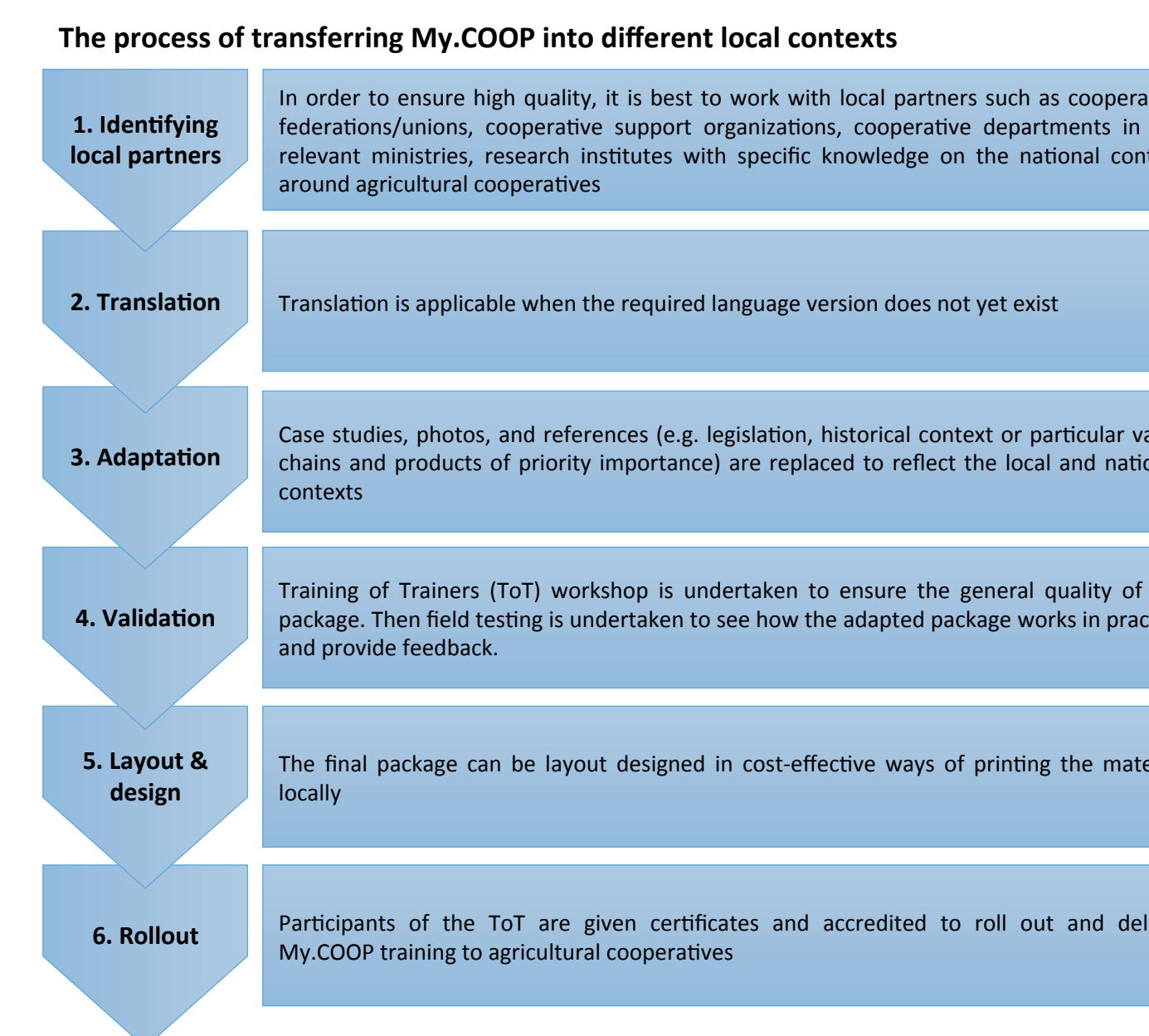
Contents of the package

- My.COOP consists of four modules, a trainers' manual and a mobile learning toolkit
- Online platform (www.agriculture-my.coop) for learning, networking and further development of the package

The contents of the My.COOP package	
Module 1	Basics of agricultural cooperative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basics of cooperatives Challenges for cooperatives Governance, management and finance
Module 2	Cooperative service provision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the needs of members? What services to provide? Who will provide the service?
Module 3	Supply of farm inputs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Procurements of inputs Storage and stock management Selling the service
Module 4	Cooperative marketing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marketing services Strategic marketing Certification
Trainer's manual	A series of learning activities for each Module and a sample training programme
Mobile learning toolkit	Learning activities using the mobile phone to enhance classroom training before, during or after the event

Adaptations to different local contexts

- My.COOP process has been built to allow for adaptations to different country contexts and experiences
- There are at least 23 adaptations of My.COOP
- More than 75 organization have been involved in My.COOP one way or another



People and organizations involved

- Examples of different approaches taken to roll out My.COOP

Initiative	Country	Partners	Activities
Local organization	Colombia	National Service of Learning (SENA) National Cooperative University Confederation of Cooperatives of Colombia (Confecoop)	More than 160 people have been trained on My.COOP within SENA's Young Entrepreneurship Programme.
U N J o i n t programme	Egypt	UN joint programme "Pro-poor horticulture value chains in Upper Egypt" Government institutions Cooperative institutions	It was validated in a number of horticultural value chains.
Government and International Cooperation	Peru	Ministry of Production United States Agency for International Development (USAID)	Close to 40 private trainers were trained, a total of 300 cooperatives were trained in 2015.
My.COOP partner organizations	Nepal	ILO Agriterra Nepal Agriculture Cooperative Central Federation (NACCFL) Agriterra and Central Tea Cooperative Federation (CTCF)	The first ToT was held in 2014 for over 20 participants. Roll out is ongoing, with more than 200 people trained to date.
My.COOP partner organizations	Viet Nam	ILO Agriterra Viet Nam Cooperative Alliance (VCA) Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD)	The first ToT was held in 2017 with 22 participants
ILO	Sri Lanka	ILO's "Local Empowerment through Economic Development (LEED)" project Northern Provincial Department of Cooperative Development National Institute of Cooperative Development National Cooperative Council	20 government officials working on cooperative development were trained. My.COOP modules were used to train over 20 cooperative societies.
ILO	Mongolia	ILO's "Promoting and Building Social Protection and Employment Services for Vulnerable Groups in Mongolia (MARS)" project National Association of Mongolian Agricultural Cooperatives (NAMAC) Mongolian Cooperative Training and Information Center (MCTIC)	The first ToT was held in 2016 with over 26 participants from herder cooperative organizations. Two newly-qualified My.Coop trainers did field training for 20 cooperative leaders of selected herders' cooperatives.



Mongolia: The first ToT was held in May 2016 with over 26 participants from herder cooperative organizations. Two newly-qualified trainers implemented a field training for 20 cooperative leaders of selected herders' cooperatives



Viet Nam: The first ToT was organized in February 2017 with 22 participants from farmers' organizations, the VCA, vocational training institutions, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) and provincial cooperative support organizations.



San Martin, Peru: For the first time since it was launched in 2012, the My.Coop – Managing your agricultural cooperative training package was adapted at the provincial level in the San Martin region of Peru for use by coffee and cacao farmers. Validation workshop was held in July 2017 by the Cooperativa Agraria Cafetalera Oro Verde.

Some success factors and challenges...

Success factors:

- Partnership model, with a focus on local ownership
- Adaptable to different contexts and situations
- Online ToT model allows outreach to numerous countries

Challenges:

- Open access makes monitoring challenging
- Some resources needed for adaptation / delivery processes
- After TOT many trainers do not conduct trainings

Next steps

- To understand where, how and by whom My.COOP has been used, and provide a set of recommendations for the future use of the materials based on the stocktaking exercise underway.
 - Good practices or lessons learned on My.COOP
 - Revision of contents
 - Follow up actions after the initial training
 - Impact assessment, global monitoring of the use of My.COOP



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