

# Coop360° Network Brochure

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### Value You Deserve

When you join the Coop360° Network, you discover opportunities in staying connected, enhancing your business readiness, being up-to-date with business and other life trends as well as marketing your products and services to cooperatives, private businesses, development partners and non-for-profit organisations beyond your community.

Cooperative businesses ought to maximise opportunities that spur their growth and boost their collective wealth creation endeavours. The Coop360° Network connects and provides cooperatives, their members as well as the organisations that work for and with them to

possibilities to achieve their business goals while adapting to changing conditions. The Network addresses various business development needs, promoting solidarity, productivity, competitiveness, equity, resilience, and social impact.



# About the Coop360<sup>o</sup> Network

The Coop360<sup>0</sup> Network is an international Community and Marketplace for cooperatives, their members, individuals and institutions that work with and for the cooperative movement.

The Network's mission is member/ client driven, household focused integrated businesses that deliver value pegged on the holistic needs of their clients. At the Coop360° Network, we foster a symbiotic culture where each member brings value while benefiting in rewarding proportions.

We promote value-based businesses guided by the fundamentals, ideology and identity of cooperatives; benefitting their members and impacting the communities that enable their businesses to thrive. Coop360° Network Brochure 3 of 12



# Our Journey thus far

2017 marked the realisation of an idea whose time had come. Starting with just one member, the network had attracted 43 cooperatives from all the regions of Uganda with over 86,000 individual members who are part of the community by the end of 2024.

Over the last 7 years, the network member's most impactful benefits have been their access to The Uhuru Institute's unmatched range of high quality products and solutions blended with more from her own network of partners. These tailored services include the transformative training and business development services from the SkillCoop Academy, the Coop360° Innovations Award; access to affordable business credit and insurance from Fanaka Finance; Research and development from the TUI Think Tank; Education, Information and Advocacy Space through *theCooperator* 

Media, CoopWeek and CoopTalks; Digital tools like the Coop Profiler from the TUI ICT Hub; Sustainable living through the #PlantACoopTree Campaign and the #NoExcuses Program for youth development.

With a renewed strategic focus, the Network's promise of "A World of Opportunities" is firmly enriched by a blend of members including cooperatives, private businesses, NGOs, development partners who are keen on making the Network Ecosystem inclusive and impactful.



# A World of Opportunties

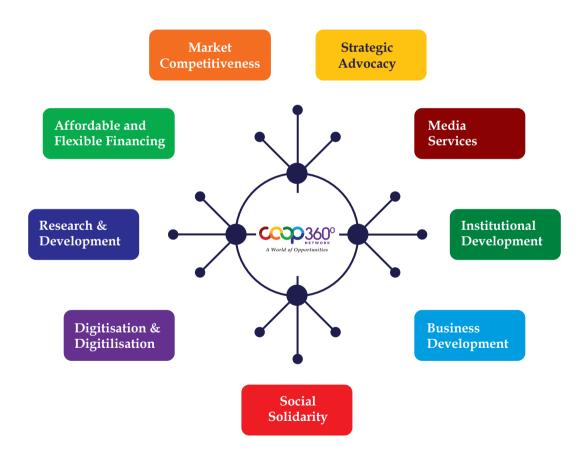
Belonging to the Coop360° Network brings closer possibilities embodied in affordable professionalised and result oriented solutions offered at a discount to members including: -

- 1. Tailored learning that addresses the unique needs of members offered by seasoned trainers, coaches and mentors.
- 2. Business Development and Advisory in Financing, Audit, Legal, Trade, Strategy, Marketing and Branding etc.
- 3. Peer to peer exchange & learning visits.
- 4. Access to standardised software and application solutions for business.
- 5. Networking meetings, conferences and events for business and policy development.

- Business partnerships with community members engaged in different business ventures that open limitless avenues for growth and development.
- 7. Product listing using e-commerce and other physical market opportunities.
- 8. Member profiling.
- 9. News feeds from various relevant media sources.
- 10. A community forum where persons can chat and share ideas.

### Identity, Interconnectivity and Competitiveness

Cooperatives operate in a rather dynamic world, where changes need to be paced with continued learning, perfecting, organising, innovating, integration and networking. Wherever your cooperative or organisation is, the Coop360° Network is here to partner with you to excellence.



### **Identity**

Joining a community could be simple, but belonging to a cooperative one means ownership, control, utility and reward which is only possible within a network whose values and business model are anchored on the statement on the Cooperative Identity.

### 1. Principles

Being a part of the Coop360° Network requires that members practice voluntarism, democracy, participate economically, are autonomous and independent, receive training, education and information, cooperate with other cooperatives and stakeholders and are concerned about their community.

#### 2. Values

Members must also practice self-help, self-responsibility, equality, equity, have solidarity, be socially responsible, honest, open and care for others.

### Interconnectivity

Doing business in today's global village requires strong linkages; physically and technologically. The Coop360° Network enables you access to virtual and physical spaces for business efficiency, accountability while knitting the spirit of Ubuntu amongst its members and the broader global community

### Presence, Visibility & People

When we plan, it's all about you; our markets, virtual mediums, conferences, meetings and events are spaces you cannot miss. There are enormous business, networking and learning opportunities that come with connecting with people; and this is the promise the Coop360° Network has for its members.

When you do not create awareness about your products and services then you are not fully in business. The Coop360° Network website is designed to offer space for its members to tell their story and get connected to themselves and the rest of the world.

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### Competitiveness

When a cooperative starts out, it has only two options - to succeed or die, and often times the imagination is that staying alive for generations will come on a silver platter. Business continuity requires investment in learning, enterprise, institutional development, people and presence.

#### 1. Integrated Business Solutions

Cooperatives and related communities offer their members the opportunity to operate in a cyclic economy where players are supportive and interdependent.

At the network we envisage a world where cooperatives and their members enjoy holistic solutions like business development services, markets, learning, shared revenue amongst others from the community.

### 3. Institutional Development

Your journey in the Coop360°Network is one defined by purpose of mission and activity. We are keen on supporting our members to have the right tools to enhance corporate governance practices, business efficiency, increase your business incomes and impact.

#### 2. Learning

The understanding and practice of successful businesses involves continuous education and skilling. Businesses bring together people with variations in the knowledge and skills for growth and development. The Network connects you to a team of trainers, mentors, coaches and business development service providers with the experience and industry practice to drive your business to greater heights.

#### 4. Shared Revenue

The Network employs a people centered approach which is about growing together. Founded on the social business model, our impact is through shared benefit with our partners and members by distributing part of the revenue generated from businesses done in the network through discounts, loyalty bonus and agency commission.

### **Membership Categories**

Our membership comprises all cooperative business types and classes, private businesses, NGOs, development partners, non-for-profit businesses and individuals working with and for cooperatives.

#### **Primary Cooperatives**

Primary cooperatives with a membership of at least 100 active, fully paid members including women and youth; share capital of at least UGX 10,000,000 and at least annual business revenue of UGX 10,000,000.

### Secondary, Tertiary and Apex Cooperatives

Those that qualify must have at least 3 active and fully paid-up members, a minimum of 500 active and fully paid individual cooperative members; share capital of at least UGX 30,000,000 and a minimum annual business revenue of UGX 50,000,000.

#### **Associate Individual**

This category comprises individual persons who are practitioners or service providers interested in serving as trainers, coaches, mentors, etc to members of the Network.

### **Cooperative Partners**

This cluster is for private businesses, NGOs, development partners, non-for-profit businesses that work for and with cooperatives and enrich the ecosystem by providing and connecting the cooperatives to a variety of discounted solutions.

		Annual Subscription		
Membership Type	Joining Fees	Small Size	Medium Size	Large Size
Cooperatives	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,500,0000	2,000,000
Cooperative Partners	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,500,0000	2,000,000
Individuals	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000

#### Note:

- Small Cooperatives/Enterprises employ between 5 and 49 persons and have total assets worth UGX 10 million to 100 million.
- Medium Size Cooperatives/ Enterprises employ between 50 and 100 persons and with total assets that lie between UGX 100 million and 360 million.
- Large Size Cooperatives/Enterprises employ over 101 persons and have minimum total assets of UGX 360 million



# Your Next Steps - When you are ready to belong

Approach Uhuru Institute by writing an email indicating your interest in joining the Coop360° Network via *Coop360memberservices@uhuruinstitute.org* or call 0200917823 / 0414 581453 for further guidance.

A Relationship Officer will contact you to administer a Know Your Member prequalification questionnaire to ascertain your status and readiness to be admitted to the Network.

The prospective member will then be advised based on the assessment results on whether they can be admitted to the Network immediately or later after fulfilling the pre-set criteria.

The qualified prospective member can then fill and return in hard or soft copy the application form which can be accessed on *www.coop360network*. com; accompanied by a set of support documents.

On receiving a complete set of the application booklet and accompanying documents, the member is issued an admission letter and pays the one-off registration and the year's annual subscription fees.

When the fees are received, the member is issued a welcome pack including a certificate, membership schedule, membership charter and other online community guidelines.

### **Staying Connected**

#### **Physical Presence**

The Coop360° Network Secretariat is hosted at the Uhuru Institute for Social Development Head Office in Kampala.

#### Online presence

As soon as your membership to the network is confirmed, you will be given details on how your cooperative/business can register to be part of the networks' online community. Our platform gives you instant secure 24/7 access to up-to-date information and news on your cooperative, other members, markets plus more opportunities.

Make the best use of the online platform as cooperatives need to contend with the fifth industrial revolution which is all about simplifying your life with technology.

Your welcome pack also contains a brief guide on how you can navigate our online portals to your advantage.



### A Word on Your Expectations

Your partnership within the network is as good as each one of us remaining professional, diligent, committed and informative in a timely manner.

Should any of us fall short of our commitments, we should find timely solutions that enhance accountability and progression

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### **About The Uhuru Institute for Social Development**

### A Pan-African Social Business Inspiring Collective Wealth Creation

Since its initialization in 2011, The Uhuru Institute for Social Development (TUI) continues to create possibilities that transform lives and communities. TUI is a social business providing and connecting the cooperative community to a variety of opportunities including but not limited to: affordable financing, market access, training and organisational development, ICT solutions for business, research, news, conferencing and networking, policy and advocacy engagements as well as coaching, mentorship and youth development.

TUI works with Cooperatives, Government MDAs, development partners and private businesses to advance and apply the cooperative business model in pursuit of inclusive green socio-economic development.

### **Unmatched Versatility**

Our social enterprises include:- the Cooperator Media, Fanaka Finance, Skill Coop Academy; Splendor ERP, Coop Profiler and Sokoni that offer a range of solutions that give any cooperative and their partners the peace of mind to grow while providing value to their members.

This is in addition to being the secretariat for the Coop360° Network and programs like the #NoExcuses and Graduate Apprenticeship for youth, CoopWeek and the Coop360° Innovations Award, Plant-A-CoopTree Campaign, Annual Cooperative Congress etc.

Our global presence is made possible through our work with clients and partners who are situated in different locations in Uganda and beyond. Our work is felt through the impact stories of our cooperative partners and their members.

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