

The logo consists of the text "co-op" in white lowercase letters inside a red oval.

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## **Business and Activity of Japanese Consumer Co-operatives**

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- 1. What is Co-op and how it differs from Corporate Enterprise**
- 2. Consumer Co-op Business and its Challenges**
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## *Co-op's way of doing business*

- \*Co-operative values and principles drive the way co-op do business
- \*Together with our members, they give us our co-operative approach and vision, outlook



## Definition

- A co-operative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social, and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly-owned and democratically-controlled enterprise.



## Co-operative Values

- **Co-operatives are based on the values of self-help, self-responsibility, democracy, equality, equity and solidarity. In the tradition of their founders, co-operative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility and caring for others.**

## The co-operative principles

1. **Voluntary and Open Membership**
2. **Democratic Member Control**
3. **Member Economic Participation**
4. **Autonomy and Independence**
5. **Education, Training and Information**
6. **Co-operation among Co-operatives**
7. **Concern for Community**

### *The difference:*

Companies are organized with capitals whilst Co-op is organized by members

Co-op is NOT profit oriented but rather service oriented

### **Co-op member has three roles**

- \* *Investing share capital*
- \* *Utilizing*
- \* *Participating in management*



### *Outline of Consumer Co-ops in Japan*

No. of Consumer Co-op	603
Type of Consumer Co-ops	*Retail (community, college, institutional) *Health (Medical) *Insurance
Membership	Approx. 25(mil)
Total Share Capital	USD 7.6(bil)
Total Business Turnover	USD 37.4(bil)

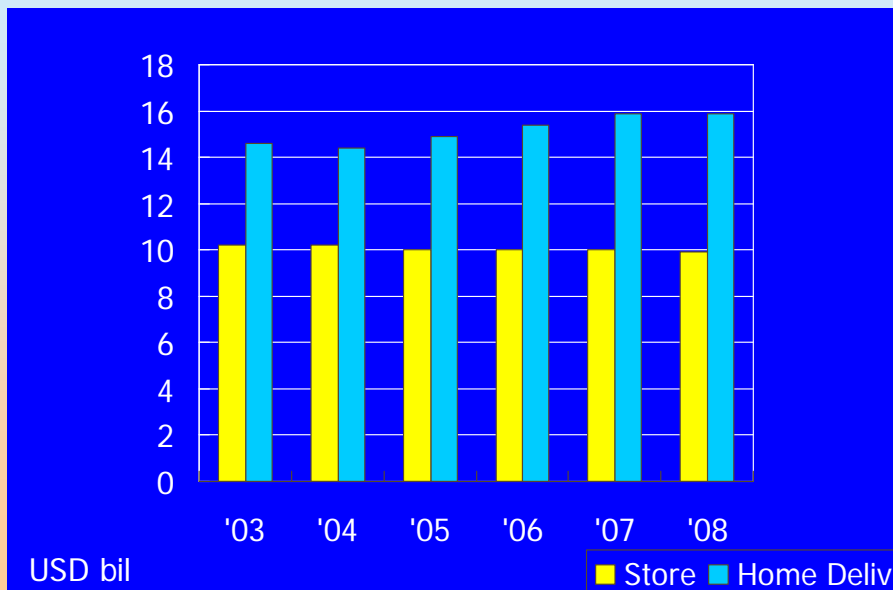
## *Business of Retail Co-op*

### **Retail Co-ops provide**

- **Daily necessities /Food & Nonfood by home-delivery service & co-op stores**
- **Catalogue & Internet Sales**
- **Insurance**
- **Care service for elderly people**



## *Sales: Community-based retail co-op*





*Direct transaction networking  
with local farmers*

Harvesting experience



*from producers to consumers  
together with exchanges*

*Store overview*



## *Store overview*



## *Home delivery business*

**Home delivery of daily necessities.**

**Household budgeting becomes easier since members must plan their purchases ahead of weekly delivery time**



## *Health Co-op*

### Health co-ops provide

- Medical care
- Fitness guidance
- Elderly care facilities
- Information on health promotion



## *Health Co-op*



*Health Co-op  
Clinic*



*Health Co-op  
Hospital*



## *Health Co-op* *Health promotion programs*



## *Co-op Member Activities*

Consumer Co-ops encourage and support activities of members

- Food, Nutrition, Health, Environment, Global understanding, etc.
- Movement for consumer interests
  - Food safety, Fair trade, Legal system
- Disaster reduction activity
- Fund raising campaign
  - UNICEF, WFP, Red Cross, NGOs, etc.



***Networking with the community***  
***<Advancing social mobility>***  
Support young families



***Networking with the community***  
***<Advancing social mobility>***  
Study meeting on dementia



## *Co-ops disaster reduction activity together with gov't*

### *Map exercise*

Cooperation with local Governments, community members and other orgs.

Result of mapping exercise was put in use in earthquakes since 2007



## *Disaster Aid support*

<Networking with the Local Government>

**Supply agreement with the local government during times of natural disaster**

- Emergency daily commodities supply
- Voluntary activities in case of evacuation



*Environmental Conservation*  
**Tree Planting**



*Environmental Conservation*  
**Encourage members to join activities**



## *Green Tourism*



## *International Networking*



<Exchanges & HRD Program>



## *Consumer Co-op in Japan*

**Co-op provides business that  
contributes to members' life  
Through providing trusted  
*Products, Services, promoting  
member activities and  
performing Social Activities  
for peace and better life***



**Thank you  
for your attention**

