



## “Innovative Partnerships through Cooperatives”



**Presented Wed 17 February 2016**  
**Peter Tregilgas, Chair Mercury Centre Co-operative Ltd**

**Innovative Partnerships and Social Investment  
in Western Sydney**

# Co-operative/Mutuals History



Innovative Partnerships through Cooperatives



Innovative Partnerships and Social Investment in Western Sydney

# Co-operative/Mutuals History



Image: Old co-op store, Kempsey.



Innovative Partnerships through Cooperatives



Innovative Partnerships and Social Investment in Western Sydney

# Co-operative/Mutuals History



Innovative Partnerships through Cooperatives



[Innovative Partnerships and Social Investment in Western Sydney](#)

# What are Cooperatives



Innovative Partnerships through Cooperatives



[Innovative Partnerships and Social Investment in Western Sydney](#)

# What are Cooperatives

**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.**

## Cooperative Legal Entities

- Cooperatives operate in every industry of the Australian economy;
- The field is mature and diverse;
- Two forms – Cooperative:
  - Non distributive (Not Profit)
  - Distributive – (Trading)
- The substantial majority of Cooperatives are non-distributive (NFP)

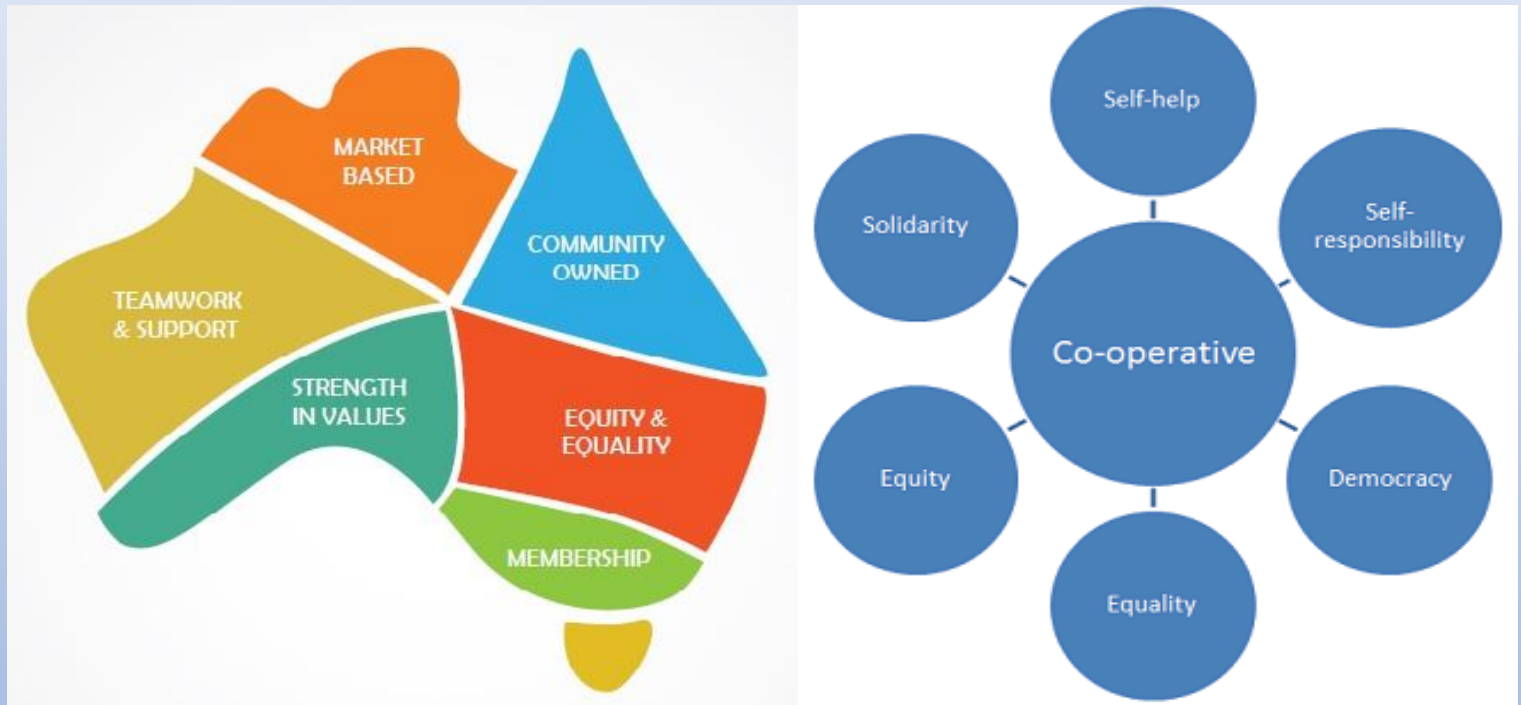


Innovative Partnerships through Cooperatives



Innovative Partnerships and Social Investment in Western Sydney

# WHAT MAKES COOPERATIVE DIFFERENT: COOPERATIVE VALUES



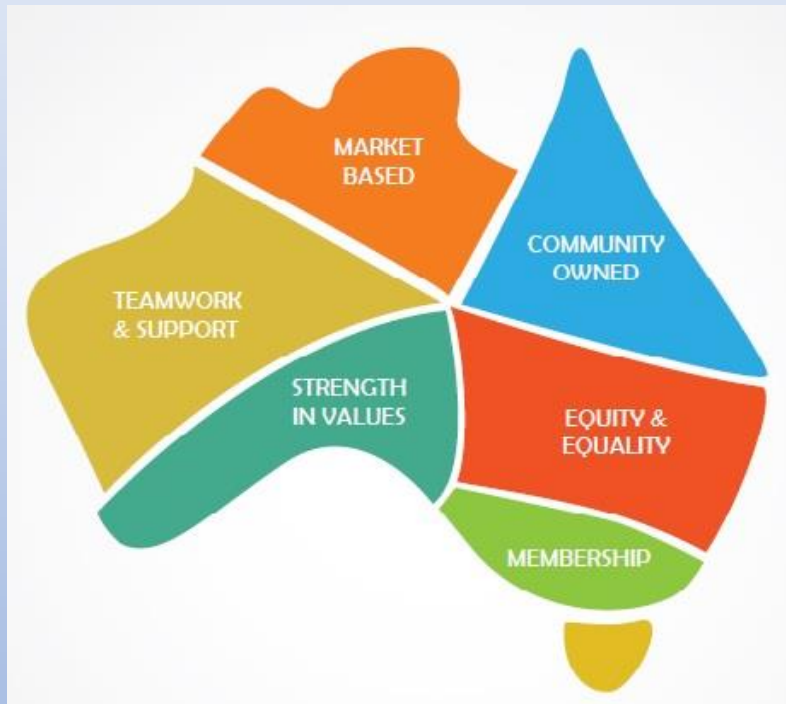
Innovative Partnerships through Cooperatives



Innovative Partnerships and Social Investment in Western Sydney

# COOPERATIVE VALUES:

## 7 COOPERATIVE PRINCIPLES



Innovative Partnerships through Cooperatives



Innovative Partnerships and Social Investment in Western Sydney

# Co-operative & Mutuals

## Economic scope

Worldwide	Australia
1,000 million members	13.5 million members (estimated)
\$1,700 billion annual turnover	1,600 co-operatives
100 million employed	103 financial mutuals
Three billion livelihoods secured	\$83 billion combined total assets of financial mutuals
23% share of global insurance market	\$17 billion: top 100 turnover in 2011
196 million credit union members	Seven million automobile club members



**Innovative Partnerships through Cooperatives**

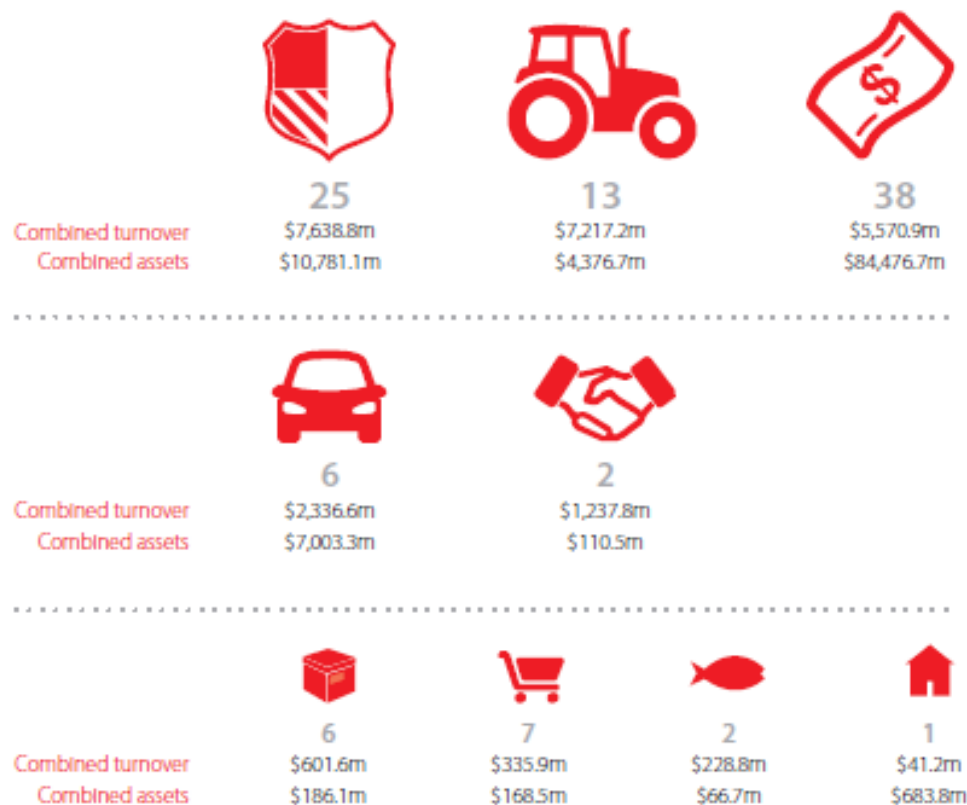
**Innovative Partnerships and Social Investment in Western Sydney**



# Co-operative & Mutuals

## Economic scope

### NUMBER OF CO-OPERATIVES AND MUTUALS BY SECTOR AND THEIR COMBINED TURNOVER AND ASSETS (FY2012/13)



**Innovative Partnerships and Social Investment in Western Sydney**

**Innovative Partnerships through Cooperatives**



# Co-operative & Mutuals

## Economic scope

	Output	Type	State	Revenue (\$m)	Members
1 Co-operative Bulk Handling Ltd	Grain	Producer/ Purchaser	WA	2,870	4,700
2 Murray Goulburn Co-operative Co Limited	Dairy	Producer	VIC	2,287	2,580
3 Dairy Farmers Milk Co-operative	Dairy	Producer	NSW	503	1,820
4 Namoi Cotton	Cotton	Producer	NSW	410	330
5 Norco Co-op	Dairy	Producer	NSW	350	161
6 Geraldton Fishermen's Co-op	Fish	Producer	WA	135	285
7 Western Australia Meat Marketing Co-op Ltd	Meat	Producer	WA	124	2,076
8 Ravensdown Fertiliser Co-operative Ltd	N/A	Purchaser	WA	120	4,800
9 NSW Sugar Milling Co-op	Sugar	Producer	NSW	103	550
10 Southern Quality Produce Co-operative Limited Grain	Grain	Producer/ Purchaser	VIC	80	210
				6,982	17,512



**Innovative Partnerships and Social Investment in Western Sydney**

**Innovative Partnerships through Cooperatives**



# What role can Cooperatives play In Innovative Partnerships and Social Investment

## Industry Scope & the current services environment

- Food
  - Housing
  - Child Care & Early Education
  - Community Radio
  - Aged Care
  - Retail
  - Medical
- Migrant Aid.  
Real Estate Selling  
Meals on Wheels  
Wholesale & Buying.  
Book Sale & Lending  
Energy  
Producer.



Innovative Partnerships through Cooperatives

Innovative Partnerships and Social Investment in Western Sydney



# What role can Cooperatives play In Innovative Partnerships and Social Investment



Innovative Partnerships through Cooperatives



[Innovative Partnerships and Social Investment in Western Sydney](#)

## What role can Cooperatives play locally

### Public Service Mutuals

Cooperative Enterprise – an answer to the Merger dilemma:



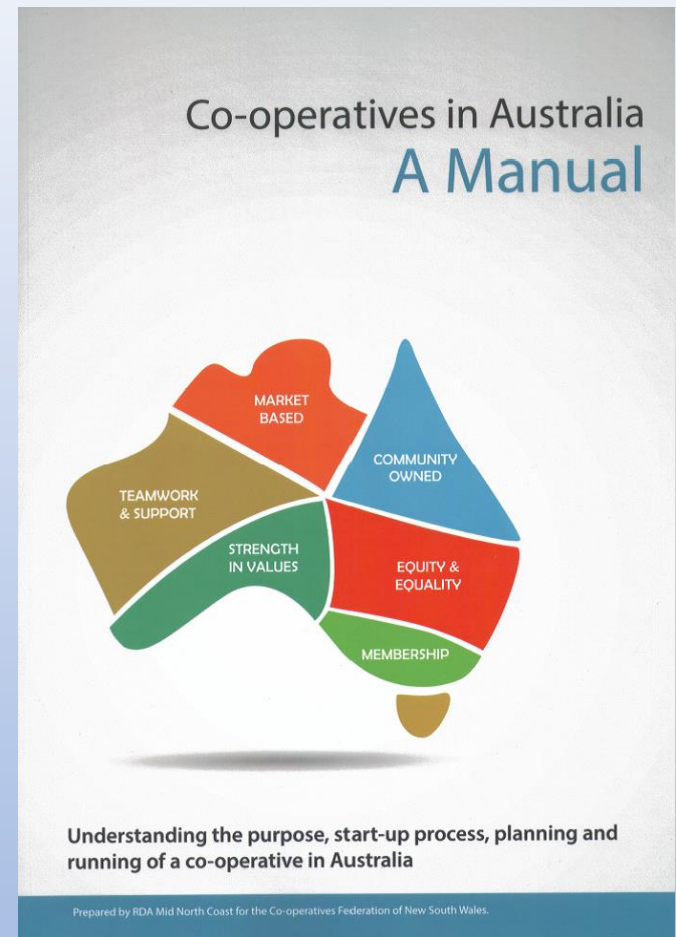
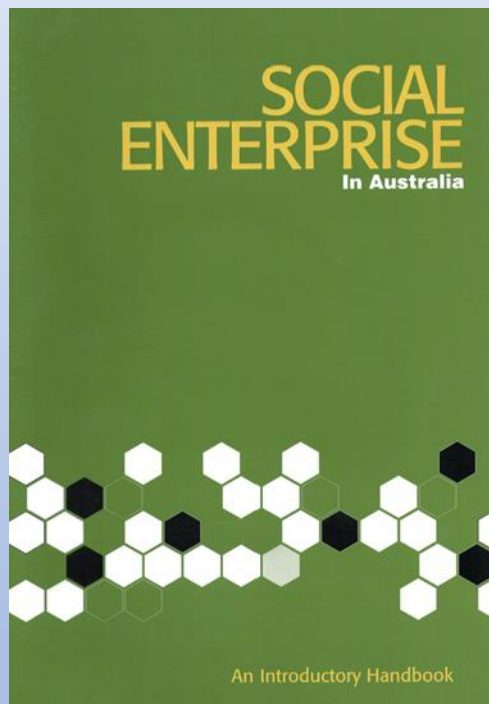
Innovative Partnerships through Cooperatives



[Innovative Partnerships and Social Investment in Western Sydney](#)

## Balancing key objectives:

### Identify the Market & Business Planning



**Innovative Partnerships and Social Investment in Western Sydney**

**Innovative Partnerships through Cooperatives**



# Additional resources and further reading

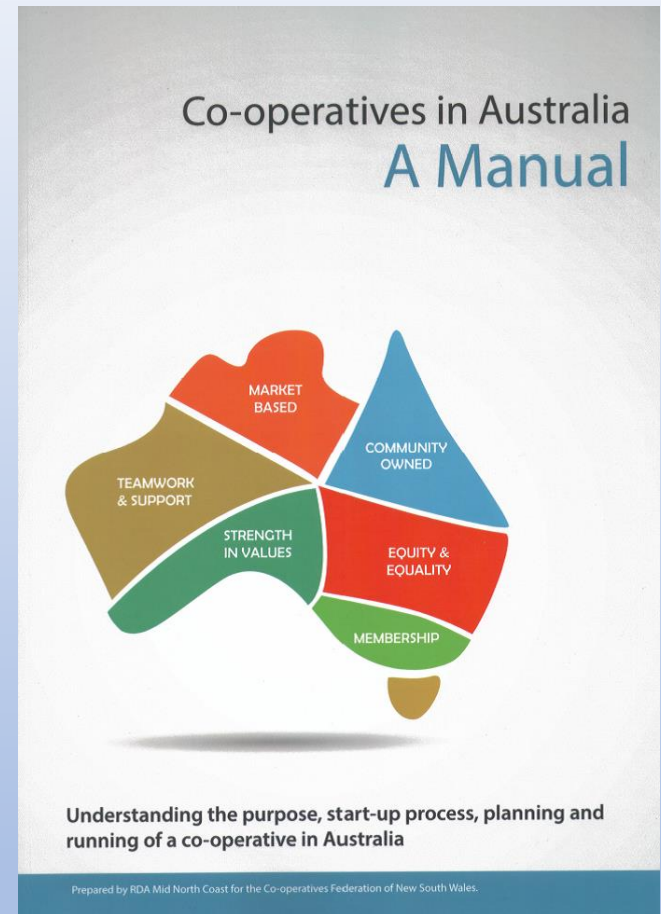
## Publications:

### The Mercury Centre Cooperative Ltd

- <http://mercury.org.au>
- <http://socialenterprise.com.au/resources/>

## Cooperatives & Resources:

- Business Council Cooperatives & Mutuals (BCCM): <http://bccm.coop/>
- Co-operative Federation of NSW <http://coopsnsw.coop/>

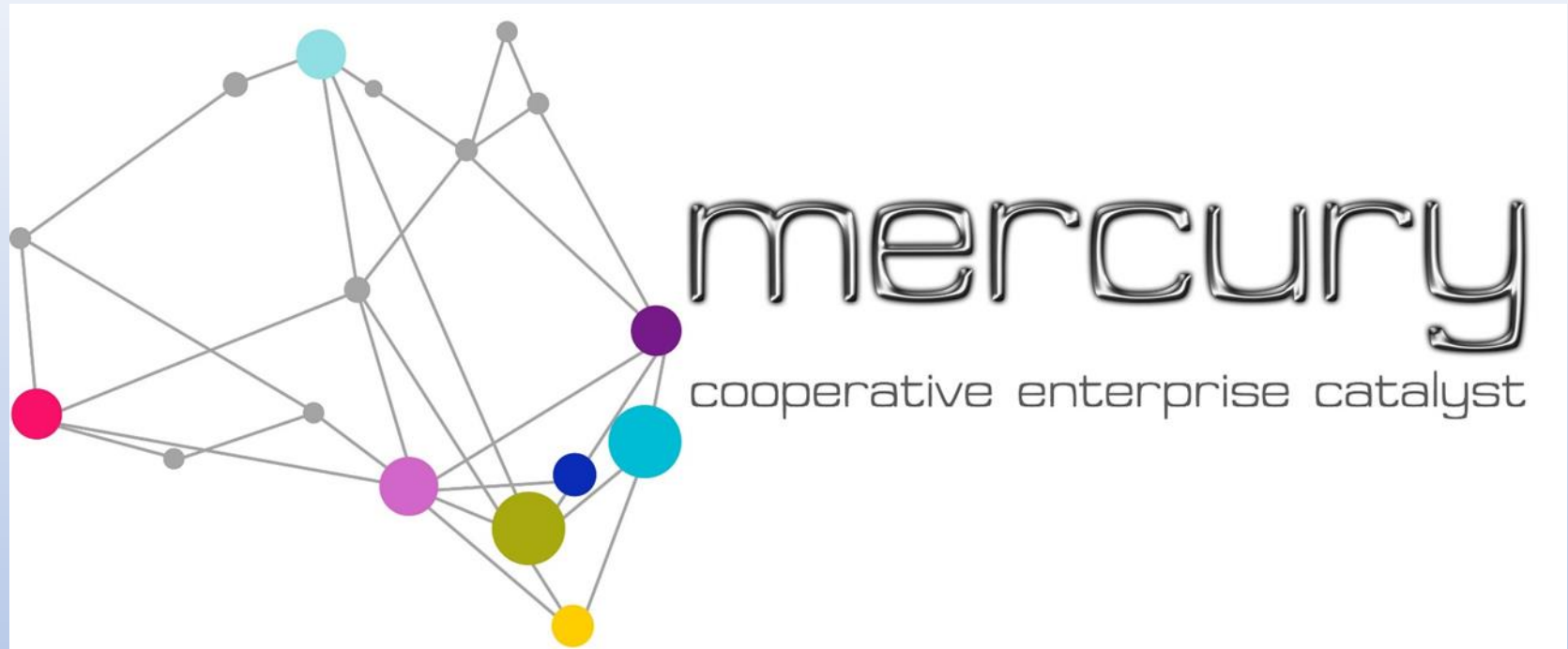


[Innovative Partnerships and Social Investment in Western Sydney](#)

Innovative Partnerships through Cooperatives



# Thank You



## **The Mercury Centre Cooperative Ltd**

Post: GPO Box 4825 Sydney NSW 2001

Web: [mercury.org.au/](http://mercury.org.au/)

Email: [chair@mercury.org.au](mailto:chair@mercury.org.au)



**Innovative Partnerships through Cooperatives**

**Innovative Partnerships and Social Investment in Western Sydney**

