

## **The SouCoop system as fostering a data culture for cooperativism**

The use of data to support decisions and measure results is an increasingly common practice in the current economy. Such information is able to guide and evidence the performance of organizations. Given this importance, one of the challenges faced by the cooperative business model is to obtain robust and reliable data on the impact of cooperativism. This paper aims to present SouCoop – the Brazilian cooperativism database. Developed by the Organization of Brazilian Cooperatives, this system aims to unite registration, financial and business information from cooperatives throughout Brazil. With a focus on transparency and continuous improvement, SouCoop makes it possible for Brazilian cooperatives' data to be stored in one place, in addition to reducing the bureaucracy of the registration process. Through this systematization, the system has as its main results the Yearbook of Brazilian Cooperativism: a document that compiles the annual information results of all cooperatives registered with the OCB System. SouCoop has, in its essence, improvements based on agile methodologies and is an extremely important tool to foster a data culture in cooperativism.

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