

***To practice  
green consumption  
in daily life,  
to maintain  
the sustainability  
of the earth.***



We believe that making change starts  
with a bag of rice or a basket of vegetables.



台灣主婦聯盟生活消費合作社



## Our Story—

### A Group of Mothers Launched the Co-op for SAFE Food

In 1993, more than one hundred families joined in buying rice and grapes directly from farmers, thus marked the beginning of our collective buying movement for safe and sustainable food. This initiative of green consumption was a project under the Homemakers United Foundation (HUF) as a way of inviting ordinary people to participate in the environmental movement through consolidating buying power.

In the following eight years, we built our capacities of running a green business and formed a workers' co-op and an alternative

company, the Green Advocates Co. In 2001, we successfully transformed ourselves into a member-owned and member-controlled co-operative, the Taiwan Homemakers Union Consumers' Co-operative.

Now, you are welcome to join this Co-op of more than 58,000 members, and enjoy your shopping for daily food and household items. Most of the food and goods supplied are developed according to members' collaborative decision with health and environment compliance.

## To Create a Better Community Together, You and Your family Are Invited

Besides shopping our daily needs in the Co-op, we are committed to build a better place for the future generations. Through sharing and contributing your talents and

time in events and learning sessions, together we can make a difference in our communities and elsewhere that we concerns.



## How to join:

If you are thinking about joining, you are required to attend a New Member Orientation, please check our website or ask in any of our store for schedule. After the one-hour orientation, you may fill out a brief application, and you pay a 360 NTD (non-refundable) annual membership fee and a minimal 2,000 NTD worth of shares. (Each share is 10 NTD). So you become a shareholder and co-owner of the Co-op. As a shareholder you are asked to invest in

the Co-op. Your share dollars provide the Co-op with what every business needs to operate: working capital. You need to pay 360 NTD once a year to keep your membership “active.”

All share money is refundable after you resign from membership.

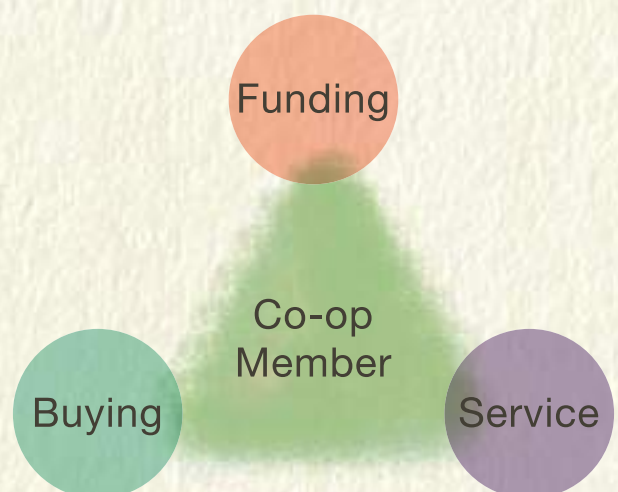
According to the Taiwan Co-operative Law, non-member cannot shop in the co-op store.

## Your Membership Card

After you submit your application form, pay the annual fee and your share money at the co-op store, you can shop at the store immediately. Your membership card will be sent to you in about a month. You are

required to show your membership card or your ID every time you shop in the co-op store, every transaction of your shopping will be accumulated in your account.

*The Co-op is of, by and for all members. The members are the owners, not just consumers. The service station of the Co-op, other than a commercial shop, serves as the platform where members buy products and share information. Since share capital is paid to acquire the membership Co-op, the sum of payment will turn members into shareholders. Members purchase collectively from the Co-op, and are jointly engaged in the operation.*



# How to start my collective buying



## Shop in our co-op store

The service station functions a home away from home for members where they share their lives and attend activities. When shopping in any of our co-op store, please bring membership card or identification document with you (Bring your own shopping bag).



## Group Delivery

You can organize or join a group buying unit in your neighborhood with your weekly order.

In the Co-op, the member unit is the most basic entity of collective buying mechanism. To launch your collective buying plan, all you have to do is to organize a member unit with two members or more(three included) before registering with us. The minimum order price is TWD 2,000. For those who would like to organize a member unit or join any unit, please contact branch organizing department.



## Personal home delivery

Delivered by the Co-op: is applied for order over TWD1,500 with the recipient address located along the delivery route.

Delivered by the Co-op: Since shipping fee varies with different delivery carriers, please contact our branch office for detail.

# Change the World by What WE Choose to Buy

**One single voice may not be heard. Collectively as a co-op, our common needs for genuine good food will change the farmers and producers in farming and processing while making their livelihood decently.**

“Collective Buying” (共同購買) is the common theme for our co-operative movement. We believe that farmers and producers are our partners that mutually supporting each other, safe food in exchange for decent living with holistic planet earth in mind. We use the term “Collective Buying” to educate ourselves about building an alternative economy through consolidating our buying power. It

is also our way of realizing CSA, the Community-Supported Agriculture. It's the mutual trust and shared responsibilities between both ends of farms and tables that we solve problems together, from eliminating food additives to discussing fair pricing scheme. We believe that the holistic health of soil and human health comes together, that safe food comes from healthy soil and farmers with integrity.

## Co-op Member's Rights and Obligations

Members have the right to...

- √ Vote and be elected as Member Delegates or Board of Directors .
- √ Distribute annual dividend for your share
- √ Return of patronage refund for your purchasing
- √ Shop in our stores or enjoy weekly delivery services

Members have the obligations to...

- √ Abide by our bylaws and the resolutions made by our General Assembly.
- √ Invest your share of capital as required.
- √ Pay annual membership fee TWD360 as is non-refundable
- √ Participate in Co-op activities.

## Location cooperatives



### Head Office

No.18, Ln. 408, Sec. 5, Chongxin Rd.,  
Sanchong Dist., New Taipei City 241,  
Taiwan  
TEL : (02)2999-6122 FAX : (02)2995-6500  
Mail : gncoop@hucc-coop.tw

### Northern Taipei Branch 、 South- ern Taipei Branch

No.18, Ln. 408, Sec. 5, Chongxin Rd.,  
Sanchong Dist., New Taipei City 241,  
Taiwan  
TEL : (02)2999-6122 FAX : (02)2995-8838

### Hsinchu Branch

No.175, Nanda Rd., East Dist., Hsinchu  
City 300, Taiwan  
TEL : (03)562-6500 FAX : (03)561-9664  
Mail : hcgncoop@hucc-coop.tw

### Taichung Branch

No.58, Ln. 68, Sec. 2, Xinan Rd., Wuri  
Dist., Taichung City 414, Taiwan  
TEL : (04)2335-3772 FAX : (04)2335-9921  
Mail : tcgncoop@hucc-coop.tw

### Tainan Branch

No.107, Ln. 179, Sec. 3, Dongmen Rd.,  
East Dist., Tainan City 701, Taiwan  
TEL : (06)335-5665 FAX : (06)335-3587  
Mail : tngncoop@hucc-coop.tw

Cooperatives website&facebook :  
[www.hucc-coop.tw](http://www.hucc-coop.tw)  
[www.facebook.com/hucccoop](http://www.facebook.com/hucccoop)

## Non-GMO movement

We supplied our first non-GMO tofu in 1998, and now we supplied only non-GMO soy products. We promoted the GM-Free Zone movement in Taiwan, and work with farmers to expand the soybean planting locally to increase our food sovereignty and self-reliance.



## Leafy Vegetables of Low Nitrate Content

In Taiwan, we consume lots of leafy greens, which put us at greater risk of nitrite or nitrosamine overdose. We establish our standards for nitrate content in green vegetables to encourage farmers to use fertilizer cautiously for conserving soil microbes, preventing underground water from oversaturation of nitrates. By doing so, we can enjoy robust healthy leafy vegetables.

### Promotion of local products to support small farmers

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We support local food and local economy by sourcing most of our products here in Taiwan if available. We buy primarily from small farmers and small producers, which allows us to reconnect with land and food producers in a long-term partnership.

### Safe, health-conscious food

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Our farmers do not use herbicides in their orchards and farmland, practice environmentally friendly farming to protect themselves, the consumer, and the environment.



## Fair and Humane Treatment for Farm Animals

Over the years, we strive from supplying hormone and drug residual free meat and eggs, to improve and update our attitudes and practices to animals that nourish and sustain us. We encourage low-density and mix aquaculture for shrimp and fish. Guarantee good transportation and humane slaughter practices for our pork production. We supplies organic beef from the Australian outback. All the eggs are barn-raised, no battery-caged eggs allowed.



## Stable Foods and Daily Necessities

To balance our needs for sustainable lifestyle with the planet well-being, our co-op supplies items of our stable foods and daily necessities. We keep a restricted profile on the use of food preservatives and artificial coloring agents and other food additives with unknown health risks.

## Care for the Less Advantaged

Some of our products are sourced from rehab centers/workshop for mentally ill or disabled, including bakery products, kitchen towels, soaps made of recycled cooking oil. We collaborate with various minority tribes to supply hand-made brown sugar, dried bamboo shoots, millets and grains, as our commitment for community trade. We are committed to supply fair-trade products in our co-op, including coffee directed traded from Sumatra, aside from chocolates, spices and imported tea.

### Green package

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Moderate packaging is applied with non-toxic and recyclable packaging materials. Egg cartons and some jam glasses can be returned for refund.

### Transparency of product information

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Our weekly newsletter and official website publicize periodically inspection reports and product information. "Green Advocates" Monthly Magazine covers inside stories and product information.