

About Ucoopia

2000 characters

Ucoopia is a Belgian university-based NGO dedicated to international cooperation, formed through the merger of Eclasio (an NGO affiliated with the University of Liège) and ULB-Coopération (an NGO affiliated with the Free University of Brussels), joined by the University of Mons (UMons). Supported by ULiège and ULB, its founding universities, Ucoopia has thus become the **first inter-university NGO in Europe**. It embodies a concrete response to changes in the sector and global transformations: dwindling funding, the growing complexity of challenges, and the need to combine expertise.

In the face of contemporary challenges, Ucoopia enables the pooling of resources and the strengthening of synergies, for action that is more effective, more agile and better grounded in academic expertise.

Its strategy is built on a strong foundation: **fostering dialogue between different forms of knowledge** to address the challenges of our time. At the crossroads of academic research, grassroots action and civic engagement, Ucoopia works with its partners to develop innovative, sustainable cooperation projects rooted in local realities. It relies on a robust methodology that combines knowledge derived from scientific research with that of local communities.

Operating in 10 countries across 4 continents, Ucoopia works in four key areas:

- Sustainable agriculture, food sovereignty and natural resource management,
- Decent work and youth entrepreneurship,
- Access to quality healthcare,
- Global and solidarity-based citizenship on university campuses.

Ucoopia is also a platform for university engagement: in particular, it promotes scientific field research, participates in action research projects and encourages international mobility for students and researchers. In short, it develops responses to major global challenges by mobilising our most powerful asset: knowledge, in all its forms.