

Press Release

For Immediate Release

Kerala's Ignite Foundation Selected Among Top 10 at Asia-Pacific Cooperative Youth Summit in China

Kozhikode, Kerala: A pioneering grassroots initiative from Kerala has received major international recognition, with The Ignite Foundation's latest project being selected among the Top 10 COOP projects across the Asia-Pacific region.

The organization's proposal will be presented at the upcoming Asia-Pacific Cooperative Youth Summit (APCYS) 5.0, scheduled to take place from September 1 to 5 in Hangzhou, China. Two of the foundation's six co-founders, Ijas H and Naji Mahfood, will represent the team and pitch the project in the final competition on this global stage.

About the Pitch: "A Cooperative Youth Collective"

Titled "A Cooperative Youth Collective for Kerala's Social Impact Sector," the initiative addresses a long-standing challenge within the regional development ecosystem. Over the past decade, numerous youth-led organizations and individual changemakers in Kerala have driven grassroots innovation; however, working in isolation has frequently limited their reach and taken a toll on practitioner wellbeing.

The proposed cooperative framework aims to:

- Unify Grassroots Leaders: Bring diverse changemakers under a shared cooperative network to amplify their collective voice and advocacy.
- Support Wellbeing: Create institutional support systems that prioritize the mental, physical, and professional wellbeing of young social sector workers.
- Integrate with Changemakers Ashram: Anchor the cooperative model within the physical ecosystem of the Changemakers Ashram being developed by The Ignite Foundation, providing spaces for retreat, incubation, and collaborative action.

About APCYS 5.0

Organized by the International Cooperative Alliance – Asia and Pacific (ICA-AP), the Asia-Pacific Cooperative Youth Summit is a flagship regional platform uniting young cooperative leaders, entrepreneurs, researchers, and development practitioners. Hosted in Hangzhou, this edition focuses on the intersection of cooperative models, digital transformation, climate resilience, sustainability, and youth leadership.

Presenting a community-rooted Kerala model at this prestigious summit marks a significant milestone for youth-led social enterprise and climate action in India.

For more Info: <https://icaap.coop/etn/asia-pacific-cooperative-youth-summit-apcys-5-0/>

Yours sincerely,



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Enclosures: Invitation Letter from ICAAP

