

CommCare for Cooperative Farming

Cooperative farming holds the most potential for rural farmers to lift themselves out of poverty through their collective expertise and combined efficiencies, and can result in unprecedented income for many farmers.

However, by obtaining usual fair market prices for their goods and discounts on inputs, cooperatives become exponentially more complex to manage as they scale and the administrative burden of large memberships creates an artificial limitation to their size. Dimagi's management applications help cooperatives reduce the management burden in order to allowing them to dramatically increase their memberships, without increasing complexity.

Benefits of Dimagi's Technology for Cooperatives

Dimagi's mobile applications have been implemented to help cooperatives manage produce quality and complex financials amongst hundreds of individual farmers so they can achieve the scale necessary to achieve greater financial returns on their goods.

- Create applications that can reduce complex financial planning to simple data entry
- Mobile applications support on and offline data collection, facilitating record-keeping and enabling reports to be quickly shared with cooperative managers
- Multimedia allows for distribution of best practices amongst cooperative members for training when agricultural extension workers are not available. This also ensures consistency in produce.
- Bulk selling, such as through out-grower schemes, can be virtually consolidated, allowing for cooperatives to achieve better margins by moving higher up the value-chain or even into international sales of high demand goods

Highlighted Project

Union des GIE des Producteurs de Céréale Local (Senegal)

Dimagi is working with UGPCL to help better manage their cooperative of over 1,000 farmers. Cooperative supervisors track the entire value-chain of small-scale farmers from the initial loan through its repayment, the output and quality of crops during the growing season, the farm produce's contract sale for processing, as well as value addition by third parties. By providing a mobile-based system for tracking key metrics, cooperative managers can make informed decisions about the future of their cooperative, as well as estimate future cash flow requirements based on yield and sales data. Examples of features in the application include tools to help farmers calculate planting density, step-by-step guidance that helps farmers prepare for harvest, GPS tracking, and a module with instructional videos about how to use the application.

