Design Thinking for Cooperative Problem Solving Training Course

Professional Development Training Course Outline

Category	Cooperative Societies	**Duration**	5 Days
Base Fee	$1,500 USD	**Delivery Mode**	Online / On-site Hybrid

Course Introduction

In today’s fast-paced, innovation-driven world, cooperative societies face complex challenges that demand more than conventional problem-solving approaches. Design Thinking—a human-centered, solution-based methodology—is transforming how cooperatives generate ideas, resolve issues, and create sustainable impact. Training Course on Design Thinking for Cooperative Problem Solving equips participants with creative problem-solving skills, fosters collaborative innovation, and enhances the capacity for user-centric decision-making within cooperative structures.

Design Thinking empowers cooperatives to reimagine systems by combining empathy, ideation, and prototyping. Whether navigating policy limitations, financial constraints, or member engagement issues, this course bridges gaps between challenges and actionable solutions using real-world applications, industry case studies, and design sprints tailored to the cooperative ecosystem.

Programme Curriculum

Design Thinking for Cooperative Problem Solving Training Course

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Course Objectives

1. Understand the fundamentals of Design Thinking for cooperative innovation.
2. Apply human-centered approaches to identify member-driven needs.
3. Strengthen collaborative leadership in problem-solving initiatives.
4. Facilitate creative brainstorming sessions for generating viable solutions.
5. Develop low-cost prototypes for cooperative service delivery improvement.
6. Cultivate empathy mapping to better understand member experiences.
7. Implement rapid prototyping and iterative testing methods.
8. Use data-driven insights to inform cooperative decisions.
9. Foster a culture of innovation within cooperative teams.
10. Map out stakeholder journeys for strategic impact.
11. Evaluate design feasibility and desirability in cooperative contexts.
12. Promote cross-functional collaboration and co-creation.
13. Build scalable solutions through design thinking toolkits.

Target Audience

1. Cooperative Managers
2. Policy Makers in Cooperative Sectors
3. Social Enterprise Leaders
4. Development Consultants
5. NGO Professionals
6. Community Organizers
7. Academic Researchers in Social Innovation
8. Training and HR Professionals

Course Duration: 5 days

Course Modules

Module 1: Introduction to Design Thinking for Cooperatives

- Overview of the 5 stages of design thinking
- Importance of user-centered approaches in cooperatives
- Key tools and techniques overview
- Principles of innovation and agility
- Aligning design thinking with cooperative values
- **Case Study:** Using Design Thinking to Restructure a Rural Savings Cooperative

Module 2: Empathy and Member-Centric Research

- Conducting stakeholder interviews
- Observational techniques in cooperative settings
- Building empathy maps
- Identifying pain points and latent needs
- Synthesizing user research
- **Case Study:** Empathy Mapping for Women-Led Agribusiness Cooperatives

Module 3: Defining the Problem in a Cooperative Context

- Creating problem statements
- Prioritizing cooperative challenges
- Using “How Might We” framing
- Problem validation techniques

- Clustering and reframing methods
- **Case Study:** Reframing Member Retention Issues in Urban Housing Cooperatives

Module 4: Ideation Techniques for Collective Creativity

- Brainstorming and mind mapping
- SCAMPER and reverse thinking techniques
- Encouraging inclusive idea generation
- Managing divergent and convergent thinking
- Filtering and ranking ideas
- **Case Study:** Brainstorming Solutions for Farmer Co-op Supply Chain Gaps

Module 5: Prototyping and Iterative Experimentation

- Creating rapid low-fidelity prototypes
- Tools for digital and physical prototyping
- Encouraging feedback loops
- Defining minimal viable solutions
- Testing for functionality and desirability
- **Case Study:** Prototyping a Mobile App for Cooperative Loan Requests

Module 6: Testing and Iteration

- Conducting feedback interviews
- Structuring usability tests
- Analyzing feedback and iteration cycles
- Capturing metrics for learning
- Scaling validated solutions
- **Case Study:** Testing a Shared Transport Solution for Fishing Cooperatives

Module 7: Integrating Design Thinking into Cooperative Strategy

- Building innovation teams
- Establishing innovation KPIs
- Embedding design culture in cooperative governance
- Roadmapping for solution sustainability
- Aligning design thinking with cooperative mission
- **Case Study:** Strategic Innovation Plan for National Dairy Cooperative

Module 8: Capstone – Design Thinking Challenge Lab

- Team-based real-world design challenge
- Application of entire design thinking cycle
- Mentorship and expert feedback sessions
- Final pitch and presentation to cooperative stakeholders
- Reflection and knowledge documentation
- **Case Study:** Live Innovation Challenge: Redesigning Member Services

Training Methodology

- Interactive workshops and simulations
- Group discussions and team-based exercises
- Real-world cooperative case analysis
- Design thinking toolkits and templates
- Live prototyping sessions
- Peer-to-peer feedback and reflection circles

Register as a group from 3 participants for a Discount

Send us an email: info@fineskilltrainingcenter.org or call *+254769199797*

Certification

Upon successful completion of this training, participants will be issued with a globally- recognized certificate.

Tailor-Made Course

We also offer tailor-made courses based on your needs.

Key Notes

a. The participant must be conversant with English.

b. Upon completion of training the participant will be issued with an Authorized Training Certificate

c. Course duration is flexible and the contents can be modified to fit any number of days.

d. The course fee includes facilitation training materials, 2 coffee breaks, buffet lunch and A Certificate upon successful completion of Training.

e. One-year post-training support Consultation and Coaching provided after the course.

f. Payment should be done at least a week before commence of the training, to Fineskill Training Center account, as indicated in the invoice so as to enable us prepare better for you.

Upcoming Scheduled Sessions

Start Date	End Date	Location	Price
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Online	$1,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$1,500
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$3,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$3,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$6,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$4,500
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$6,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$6,000

Ready to enroll or request a customized program? Book online or contact us:

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