

WFCU IMPACT REPORT



In 2024, Worldwide Foundation for Credit Unions (WFCU) continued to empower women, foster emerging leaders, support disaster relief efforts, upskill professionals and advance financial inclusion in partnership with World Council of Credit Unions (WOCCU). These accomplishments were possible due to our powerful global credit union network:

YEAR 2024

Our Impact in 2024:



\$2 000 000+

Funds raised

8 000+

People reached

Our Programs & Initiatives:



- **Global Women's Leadership Network (GWLN)** – a network focusing on connecting, inspiring and empowering women globally to advance them to leadership roles in the credit union industry.
- **World Young Credit Union Professionals (WYCUP)** – a network aimed at growing the next generation of credit union leaders through discovery, empowerment and connection.
- **Project Storm Break** – an initiative dedicated to helping credit unions worldwide stay resilient during times of crisis.
- **Global DE** – a community of credit union professionals certified as international credit union development educators (I-CUDES).
- **Global Bridges** – a joint WOCCU-WFCU platform aimed at advancing solutions to shared global credit union challenges through peer-to-peer study tours.

Advancing financial inclusion:



- **WFCU** supported **WOCCU's Hub C** initiative, launching a machine learning credit scoring pilot with CB Cooperativa in Ecuador. The tool automates lending, builds customer profiles and expands financial inclusion, enabling the disbursement of **1,500 loans** to date.

- Through its partnership with the **USAID/WOCCU Economic Inclusion Project**, **WFCU** supported 30 Venezuelan migrants in Peru and Ecuador in achieving financial security. 14 entrepreneurs received seed capital to grow their businesses, while 16 beneficiaries were aided in revalidating certificates or degrees, empowering them to build sustainable livelihoods.

GWLN:

- **Celebrated its 15-year anniversary.**
- Provided support to **760 individuals** through empowerment grants. **In Mongolia, 14 credit unions** advanced sustainable finance through training, workshops and an online marketplace visited by **2,584 people**. In Kenya, Muki SACCO provided tools, manuals and training to **more than 700** dairy farmers, boosting milk production by **25%**, growing income by **20%** and empowering women through commercial farming.



- Awarded scholarships to four women in the credit union industry from **Eswatini, Kenya, the Philippines and the United States**. These scholarships included complimentary registration to the **2024 World Credit Union Conference** in Boston (USA), along with travel expenses, hotel accommodations, and a stipend, fostering opportunities for professional growth and skill development.
- Engaged with **more than 4,000 people** – members, Sister Society leaders, scholars and industry partners through education, networking and events across **160+ Sister Societies in 30 countries on six continents**.

WYCUP:



- Awarded scholarships to six young credit union professionals from **Ireland, Australia, the UK, Costa Rica, Brazil and Barbados** that each included an all-expense paid trip to credit union events in either **the Caribbean or the United States**.
- Brought **over 600** emerging leaders together through educational and networking events: ConneXion, Emerging Leaders' Summit, Meet-Up and the Joint Forum with GWLN at the 2024 World Credit Union Conference in Boston.

Project Storm Break:

Provided critical support to over 1,200 individuals and aided the disaster relief efforts of partner organizations across the globe



- **Brazil**
 - **\$32K** contributed to flood recovery efforts in Rio Grande do Sul.
 - **550 students** from six schools supported with shelter equipment.
 - **192 residents** provided with emergency supplies.



- **Ukraine**
 - **\$150K** allocated to bolster food security amidst ongoing conflict.
 - **464 farmers** equipped with **1,000+** agricultural tools to sustain food production.



- **Caribbean Region**
 - **\$5K** donated to Caribbean Confederation of Credit Unions to assist Caribbean credit unions in recovering from Hurricane Beryl.

Global DE & Global Bridges:

25 graduates of the International Credit Union Development Educator (ICUDE) Class representing various countries in Europe, Africa, the Caribbean and the United States.



- **Ecuador & Peru**

Ten U.S. credit union representatives explored innovative financial inclusion strategies in **Peru and Ecuador**, empowering **Venezuelan** migrants, refugees and host communities through credit unions, entrepreneurship and gender-focused initiatives.



- **Australia & New Zealand**

This study tour linked **Virginia Credit Union** with peers in **New Zealand and Australia**, showcasing community impact, social responsibility and regulatory insights to strengthen global credit union collaboration.



- **Ireland**

A study tour in Dundalk, organized for the **Ukrainian PVKS Credit Union**, featured knowledge-sharing sessions on credit union operations, lending and data analytics, meetings with high-level officials and a visit to Ukrainian refugees.

Our Goals for 2025:



- **GWLN Expansion:**
 - Reach **500** individuals through training, add **100** new members and establish five new Sister Societies.
 - Offer five scholarships for female leaders.
 - Pilot up to 3 Sister Society Empowerment Grants.
- **WYCUP Development:**
 - Provide **100** training hours and seven scholarships for emerging credit union leaders.
- **Disaster Relief:**
 - Provide relief to **1,000** people through credit unions.
- **ICUDE Graduates:**
 - Support **25** new International Credit Union Development Educators (ICUDE) graduates.

LIVES IMPACTED WITH YOUR SUPPORT



OUR STORIES

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José Sosa

a beekeeper in Peru and seed capital recipient through a WFCU grant



“Thanks to the knowledge gained and the seed capital, I was able to increase honey production, and I have innovated in the presentation of the packaging, eliminating plastic for the use of clay pots, advertising on social media and achieving greater acceptance from clients.”

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Enkhchimeg Nergui

Partnership Specialist at Mongolian National Confederation of Credit Unions and GWLN Empowerment Grant beneficiary



“The GWLN Empowerment Grant allowed us to make a real difference in Mongolian credit unions and rural communities. Through sustainable finance training, market access and green initiatives, we’ve been able to support people’s growth and create a more resilient, environmentally conscious future.”

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Kerry-Ann McCollin

General Manager at United Enterprise Credit Union Limited (Barbados) and a I-CUDE 2025 Class Graduate



“I-CUDE has expanded my vision beyond borders, equipping me to lead transformative projects that strengthen our credit union and empower our members. It’s a testament to the power of learning, sharing and leading in the cooperative spirit.”

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Sidnei Alves Taborda Junior

a 29-year-old innovator from Brazil, and WYCUP scholar



“The WYCUP recognition was a turning point for me and my project, showing the work to educate young people about renewable energy can have global impact. The WYCUP Scholarship allowed me to come to Boston, share this initiative and open doors to international collaboration, reinforcing the importance of empowering young leaders to drive change.”

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Liudmyla Kostiuk

a Ukrainian café owner and beneficiary of WFCU’s Resilience Program in Ukraine



“Programs like yours are a lifeline for Ukrainian entrepreneurs. Thanks to your support, I was able to secure a low-interest loan to purchase essential kitchen and refrigeration equipment and open my café in Lviv Oblast. It’s not just about financial assistance – it’s about empowering small business owners to rebuild, grow and contribute to our communities during challenging times.”

“

Rob Jones

Board Member at Virginia Credit Union and a participant in Global Bridges’ engagements



“Learning from peers worldwide shows how connected we are in the credit union space, united to help members live their best lives. WFCU uniquely fosters firsthand insights – like supporting Venezuelan migrants and local communities in Peru and Ecuador to achieve financial security – reinforcing our shared commitment to create meaningful impact through cooperative finance.”