
Workers' Cooperative Societies and Attainment of Host Institutions' Visions and Missions: A Case of Wazalendo SACCOS in at the Moshi Co-operative University, Tanzania

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Abstract

Worker Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies (SACCOS) play a vital role in promoting the attainment of institutional goals. This study examines Wazalendo SACCOS LTD at Moshi Co-operative University (MoCU) in Tanzania, focusing on how it supports the university's vision of becoming an eminent institution committed to sustainable co-operative and business development through quality training, research, and advisory services. The problem addressed is the need to understand the extent to which Wazalendo SACCOS contributes to MoCU's economic, social, and environmental goals. The study aims to evaluate the alignment of Wazalendo SACCOS with MoCU's vision and mission by assessing its impact on financial empowerment, social cohesion, and environmental consciousness. The 30 members and management of Wazalendo SACCOS, utilising purposive sampling to select key informants and participants for focus group discussions. Data were collected through interviews, document analysis, and focus group discussions, and were processed and analysed using thematic analysis. Findings demonstrate that Wazalendo SACCOS significantly enhances financial stability through savings mobilization and accessible credit, facilitating professional development. Socially, the cooperative fosters a sense of ownership, collaboration, and inclusive decision-making, creating a supportive community. Environmentally, Wazalendo SACCOS promotes eco-friendly practices and raises environmental consciousness among its members. The study concludes that worker SACCOS like Wazalendo SACCOS significantly contribute to institutional attainment by promoting economic empowerment, social cohesion, and environmental responsibility. Recommendations include continued close collaboration between the university and the cooperative and the integration of cooperative principles into university policies and practices.

Keywords: Wazalendo SACCOS, Moshi Co-operative University, economic empowerment, social cohesion, environmental sustainability.

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