On 30 December 1964 ICCO (Interkerkelijke Coördinatie Commissie Ontwikkelingshulp) is established as a committee by protestant churches and civil society organizations. Dr. Jo Verkuyl is our founder and first chair.

A contract is signed with a Philippine partner. Second from left is Jone Bos, ICCO’s first general secretary. In 1970 ICCO becomes an independent foundation. The start-up capital of 100 florins is a subsidy of the Dutch government.

The support of the Dutch government to ICCO increases rapidly during the ministry of Jan Pronk. Relations are extended to organizations outside the traditional church networks. In 1980 ICCO moves from Utrecht to Zeist.

ICCO is officially an independent co-financing organization (MFO) of the Dutch government. It justifies its actions by means of evaluations and annual accounts. ICCO participates in advocacy campaigns in the Netherlands.

The mission statement of ICCO is reformulated: “Working in a world without poverty and injustice.” ICCO wants to make civil society organizations less dependent from western donors.

ICCO undertakes its connections with churches and church-related organizations. There is a merger of ICCO with Services Abroad (DOG) and partially Dutch Interchurch Aid (SOH).

The ICCO Alliance is formed with Edukans, Kerk in Actie, Oikocredit, Priotina, Share People and ICCO. The business plan receives a large multi-year grant from the Dutch government. ICCO and Kerk in Actie integrate their international program.

ICCO, now named ICCO Cooperation, celebrates its 50th anniversary. The Dutch government decides to end the co-financing program. It is cutting back considerably and organizations must start tendering on thematic budgets.

ICCO puts the foundation at the center and looks for the expansion of program-based alliances, embedded in local communities. 5 regional and 20 country offices are running at full speed.