



1

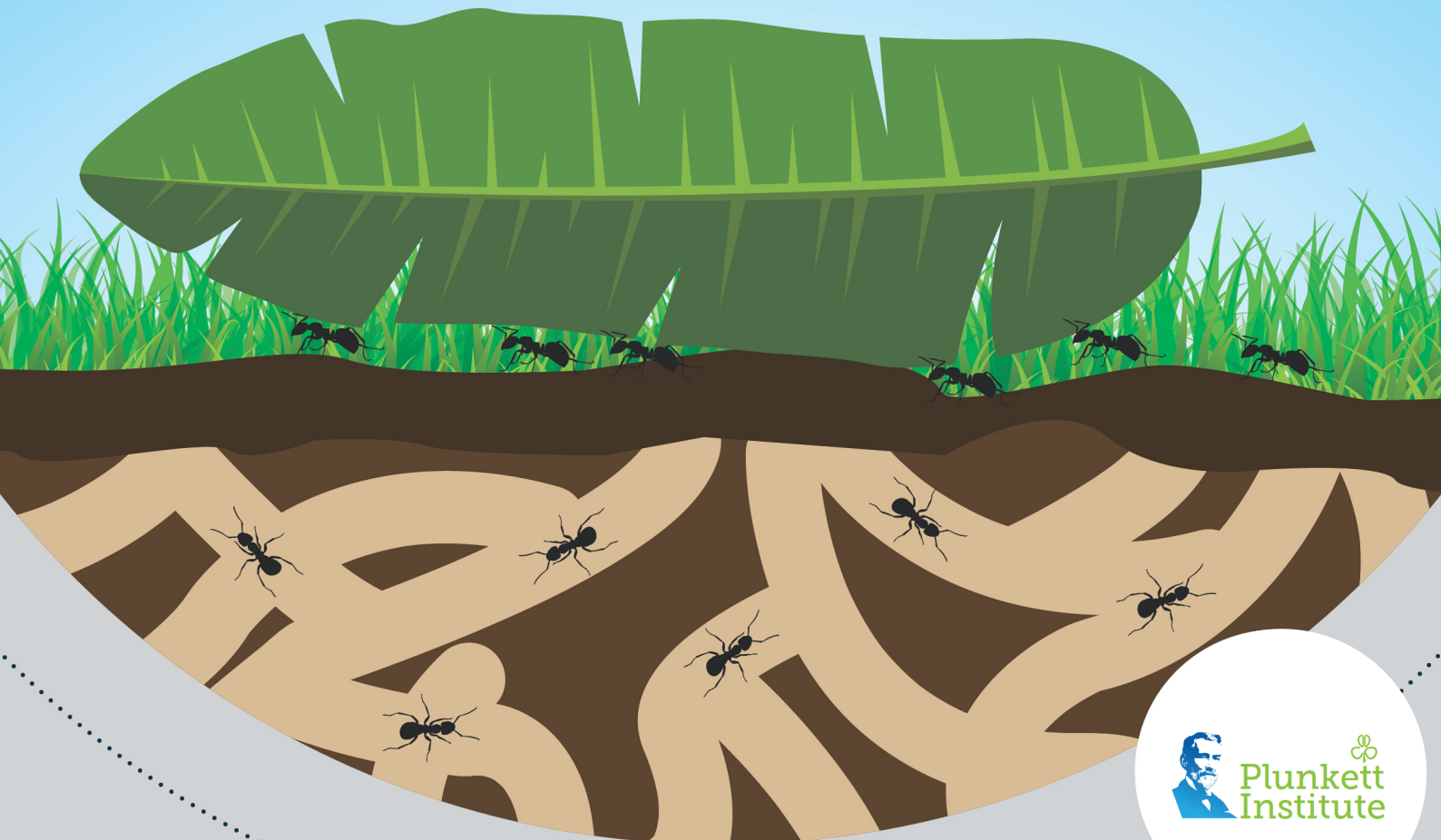
VOLUNTARY AND OPEN MEMBERSHIP

Cooperatives are voluntary organisations, open to all people able to use its services and willing to accept the of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.

2

DEMOCRATIC MEMBER CONTROL

Cooperatives are democratic organisations controlled by their members-those who buy the goods or use the services of the cooperative-who actively participate in setting policies and making decisions.



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3



MEMBERS ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION



Members contribute equally to, and democratically control, the capital of the cooperative. This benefits members in proportion to the business they conduct with the cooperative rather than on the capital invested.



An illustration of a beehive on a tree branch. The beehive is yellow and orange with a dark entrance. Several bees are flying around it. The background is a light blue sky with white birds. A large dark blue circle with a white number '4' is in the center.

4

AUTONOMY & INDEPENDENCE

Cooperatives are autonomous, self-help organisations controlled by their members. If the co-op enters into agreements with other organisations or raises capital from external sources, it is done so based on terms that ensure democratic control by the members and maintains the cooperative's autonomy

5

EDUCATION TRAINING & INFORMATION



Cooperatives provide education and training for members, elected representatives, managers and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their cooperative. Members also inform the general public about the nature and benefits of cooperatives.

6

COOPERATION AMONG COOPERATIVES



Cooperatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the cooperative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

7

CONCERN FOR COMMUNITY

**While focusing on member needs, cooperatives
work for the sustainable development of
communities through policies and programs
accepted by the members**

