Click on the drop-down menu to change the project.   A Greener World

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A Greener World

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://agreenerworld.org/ climate-smart/

Short Summary: Expands markets for climate-smart specialty crops, row crops and livestock nationwide (including AK and HI); and supports farmers and ranchers with implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:
Increasing Accessibility to Regenerative Farming Practices and Markets for Small and/or Underserved Producers

This project will expand markets for commodities produced using Climate-Smart regenerative practices. All pilot participants would be paid a stipend to cover time spent on climate-smart regenerative farm planning and emissions reduction plan design. Each farm would also have access to incentive payments, dependent on their emissions reductions and specific implementation of Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry practices. A Greener World plans to provide customized marketing support to all project producers. Partners would ensure all outreach and technical assistance efforts are culturally-relevant and would assist producers in becoming Certified Regenerative which allows them to access new climate-smart markets and sell commodities for a higher premium. A comprehensive GHG assessment and forecast utilizing COMET-Farm will be integrated into the whole-farm Regenerative Plan that is core to the Certified Regenerative label. The use of COMET-Farm across the pilot will enable a common baseline of evaluation of emissions impact estimation tied to practice changes and form the basis for assigning incentive payments. The Soil Health Institute will assist with establishing soil health baselines and targets, and measurement and verification of soil results of climate-smart practices implemented by participating farms including measuring soil carbon stock on select farms. A Greener World will provide marketing support to all producers enrolled in the project including listing all climate-smart certified regenerative farms in their online directory, providing farms with press and media assistance, profiling farms on their website, sharing news about participating farms and products, assisting producers in designing new product labels, and assisting with organizing promotional events. A Greener World has existing relationships with retailers and wholesalers and will also offer assistance to these markets with locating and sourcing climate-smart certified regenerative products. Partners, including Rural Advancement Foundation International USA will help ensure all outreach and technical assistance efforts are culturally-relevant based on their prior experience working with underserved farmers. They will also assist producers in becoming Certified Regenerative which allows them to access new climate-smart markets and sell climate-smart commodities for a higher premium.

Lead Partner: A Greener World**
Other Major Partners: Rural Advancement Foundation International-USA*,**,Soil Health Institute*,**, National Young Farmers Coalition, National Co-op Grocers
Primary States Expected: AL, AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, WI, WA, WV, WY
Major Commodities: Agroforestry, Livestock, Row Crops, Specialty Crops
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $4,044,389

Approved Federal Funding: $4,044,365
Non-Federal Match: $289,984

Monitoring Highlights:
A comprehensive GHG assessment and forecast utilizing COMET-Farm will be integrated into the whole-farm Regenerative Plan that is core to the Certified Regenerative label. The use of COMET-Farm across the pilot will enable a common baseline of evaluation of emissions impact estimation tied to practice changes and form the basis for assigning incentive payments. The Soil Health Institute will assist with establishing soil health baselines and targets, and measurement and verification of soil results of climate-smart practices implemented by participating farms including measuring soil carbon stock on select farms.

Marketing Highlights:
A Greener World will provide marketing support to all producers enrolled in the project including listing all climate-smart certified regenerative farms in their online directory, providing farms with press and media assistance, profiling farms on their website, sharing news about participating farms and products, assisting producers in designing new product labels, and assisting with organizing promotional events. A Greener World has existing relationships with retailers and wholesalers and will also offer assistance to these markets with locating and sourcing climate-smart certified regenerative products.

Equity Highlights:
Partners, including Rural Advancement Foundation International USA will help ensure all outreach and technical assistance efforts are culturally-relevant based on their prior experience working with underserved farmers. They will also assist producers in becoming Certified Regenerative which allows them to access new climate-smart markets and sell climate-smart commodities for a higher premium.

Avaliable Practices: 311 Alley Cropping, 324 Critical Area Planting, 327 Conservation Cover, 328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 329 Residue and Tillage Management - No-Till, 332 Contour Buffer Strips, 340 Cover Crop, 345 Residue and Tillage Management - Reduced Till, 372 Combustion System Improvement, 374 Energy Efficient Agricultural Operation, 379 Forest Farming, 380 Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation, 381 Silvopasture, 382 Fence, 386 Field Border, 390 Riparian Herbaceous Cover, 391 Riparian Forest Buffer, 393 Filter Strip, 412 Grassed Waterway, 420 Wildlife Habitat Planting, E420A Establish Pollinator Habitat, E420B Establish Monarch Butterfly Habitat, 422 Hedgerow Planting, 449 Irrigation Water Management, 472 Access Control, 484 Mulching, 490 Tree and Shrub Preparation, 512 Pasture and Hay Planting, 516 Livestock Pipeline, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 550 Range Planting, 578 Stream Crossing, 585 Stripcropping, 590 Nutrient Management, 601 Vegetative Barriers, 603 Herbaceous Wind Barriers, 612 Tree/Shrub Establishment, 614 Watering Facility, 645 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management, 657 Wetland Restoration, 659 Wetland Enhancement, 666 Forest Stand Improvement, 670 Energy Efficient Lighting System, 672 Energy Efficient Building Envelope

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

 Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

Available Training An In-Depth Overview   How to Enroll

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Click on the drop-down menu to change the project. Accelerating Appalachia, Inc.

DOWNLOAD PDF

Accelerating Appalachia, Inc.

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://www.acceleratingappalachia.org/ building-soil-building-equity/

Short Summary: Expands climate-smart fruits, vegetables, beef, pork, cotton, wool, row and specialty crop markets in GA, KY, NC, OH, SC, TN, VA, WV and supports farmer implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:

Building Soil, Building Equity: Accelerating a Regenerative Farming Movement in Appalachia and the Southeast

This project seeks to build climate-smart markets and sequester carbon over thousands of acres of Appalachian and rural southeastern land through strategic recruitment from networks of producers. The project will use education, outreach, technical assistance, and incentivizing producers to adopt climate-smart agriculture. COMET-Planner will be used to determine estimates of activity impact on GHG, COMET-Farm will be used to build out a historical and plot specific report. Soil carbon testing, through Kansas State University will allow producers to monitor increases in soil carbon sequestration over time in their climate-smart implementation plots, and Working Trees, a venture out of Stanford University using smartphone cameras and LiDAR, satellite remote sensing, and machine learning to empower producers to monitor the carbon impact of agroforestry efforts. The project will work with specific farmer alliances like SURREF (Sustainable Rural Regenerative Enterprises for Families), a collection of 30+ black farmers on regenerative agriculture-based south Appalachians to deliver Building Soil Building Equity (BSBE) solutions and opportunities to the participating farmers. The project plans to allocate funding for technical assistance, implementation and monitoring for underserved producers. Of those enrolled, the project team plans to commit to 75% representation of underserved communities.

Lead Partner: Accelerating Appalachia, Inc.
Other Major Partners: National Center for Appropriate Technologies*, Kentucky State University*,**, Working Trees from Stanford University's TomKat Center for Sustainable Energy*, Carbon Harvest*,GRC Advising*,**, Latin Talent Accelerator*
Primary States Expected: GA, KY, NC, OH, SC, TN, VA, WV
Major Commodities: Agroforestry, Beef, Cotton, Fruit, Pork, Row Crops, Specialty Crops, Vegetables, Wool
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $20,000,000

Approved Federal Funding: $19,940,980
Non-Federal Match: $2,193,215

Monitoring Highlights:
COMET-Planner will be used to determine estimates of activity impact on GHG, COMET-Farmer will be used to build out a historical and plot specific report. Soil carbon testing, through Kansas State University will allow producers to monitor increases in soil carbon sequestration over time in their climate-smart implementation plots, and Working Trees, a venture out of Stanford University using smartphone cameras and LiDAR, satellite remote sensing, and machine learning to empower producers to monitor the carbon impact of agroforestry efforts.

Marketing Highlights:
Measurable impacts include sales increases potential such as direct-to-consumer online, CSA's, delivery, groceries, restaurants, and retailers for the commodities they produce, including Fruits, vegetables, beef, pork, chicken, grains, herbs, and flowers.

Equity Highlights:
The project will work with specific farmer alliances like SURREF (Sustainable Rural Regenerative Enterprises for Families), a collection of 30+ black farmers on regenerative agriculture-based south Appalachians to deliver Building Soil Building Equity (BSBE) solutions and opportunities to the participating farmers. The project plans to allocate funding for technical assistance, implementation and monitoring for underserved producers. Of those enrolled, the project team plans to commit to 75% representation of underserved communities.

Avaliable Practices: 311 Alley Cropping, 328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 340 Cover Crop, 345 Residue and Tillage Management - Reduced Till, 379 Forest Farming, 381 Silvopasture, 391 Riparian Forest Buffer, 422 Hedgerow Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 612 Tree/Shrub Establishment, 645 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

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Click on the drop-down menu to change the project.   American Farmland Trust

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American Farmland Trust

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://farmland.org/ project/ climate-smart-beef/

Short Summary: Expands markets for climate-smart beef in AL, GA, MD, MS, OK, PA, TX, and VA and supports farmer and rancher implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:
Producer Led Collaborative Effort to Fundamentally Transition the U.S. Beef Supply Chain to Carbon Neutral

This eight-state project will amplify production of climate-smart beef by expanding market drivers, grassroots support networks, and early adopter mentors and providing technical assistance for the adoption of climate-smart grazing practices to substantially reduce agricultural greenhouse gas emissions and increase carbon sequestration. The project plans 90 percent of participants will be small-scale producers. The project will utilize Indigo's quantification platform which is founded on four pillars: soil measurement, producer data collection, biogeochemical modeling, and complete field-based GHG accounting, helping estimate in-field GHG emissions, and supporting Climate- Smart market development through advancements in grazing GHG quantification. Quantification of Soil Organic Carbon (SOC) stock change will be primarily based on repeated measurements of SOC using high-density soil measurements on participating fields. In addition, EarthOptics uses an innovative, cost-effective approach ("C-Mapper") that combines soil measurements from vehicle- and satellite- remote sensing, ground-penetrating radar and electromagnetic induction, and machine learning to map SOC and bulk density across fields to assess stock change. Soil mapping will be performed on all fields at the time of enrollment and again three years later. SOC and bulk density maps generated by EarthOptics will be used as inputs to a GHG impact assessment. The quantification platform estimates GHG emissions reductions from new practice adoption, based on comparison with the emissions from the continuation of a baseline of field-based historical practices. The platform will estimate SOC stocks and annual direct emissions of N2O and CH4 in grazing systems. Multi-year simulations of DayCent-CR will also provide continuous estimation of SOC stocks changes, to provide GHG impact estimates in years lacking direct measurement. Trace gases, including N2O and CH4, will be calculated annually using approaches found in standard protocols that include grazing, including the CAR Grassland Protocol and Verra's methodology for grasslands. The project plans to trace beef from "Pasture to Plate" using EID tag & AgriWebb software. Through certification with Integrity Beef, producers will be able to market Climate-Smart beef directly to consumers, leading to more vibrant and profitable local food systems in communities throughout the Mid-Atlantic, the Southeast, and beyond. For smaller-scale producers, a diverse and accessible array of local and regional marketing partnerships will be developed. The project will pilot using Regenified and Market Maker to broadly and deeply connect buyers, farmers, farmers markets, processors, wineries, restaurants, and more. The project will engage diverse underserved producers, including black, veteran, women, and beginning beef producers. 90% or more of participating operations are anticipated to fall into the small-scale category. The project will include a mentorship program working closely with FHF, Black Family Land Trust, Minority & Veteran Farmers of the Piedmont, and Farmer Veteran Coalition to recruit underserved and small-scale producers. The project will also recruit from its extensive network of producers who have received technical assistance through the Women for the Land Conservation Learning Circles.

Lead Partner: American Farmland Trust**
Other Major Partners: The Integrity Beef Alliance*,**, Indigo Ag*,**, AgriWebb*,**, Freedmen Heirs Foundation*, Earth Optics*,**, Regenified, OpenTEAM*, U.S. Biochar Initiative*,**, Virginia Forage and Grasslands Council, Maryland Grazers Network, Pennsylvania Grazing Lands Coalition, Mountains to Bay Grazing Alliance, Black Family Land Trust, Minority & Veteran Farmers of the Piedmont, and Farmer Veteran Coalition*
Primary States Expected: AL, GA, MD, MS, OK, PA, TX, VA
Major Commodities: Beef
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $30,000,000

Approved Federal Funding: $30,000,000
Non-Federal Match: $12,061,924

Monitoring Highlights:
The project will utilize Indigo's quantification platform which is founded on four pillars: soil measurement, producer data collection, biogeochemical modeling, and complete field-based GHG accounting, helping estimate in-field GHG emissions, and supporting Climate- Smart market development through advancements in grazing GHG quantification. Quantification of Soil Organic Carbon (SOC) stock change will be primarily based on repeated measurements of SOC using high-density soil measurements on participating fields. In addition, EarthOptics uses an innovative, cost-effective approach ("C-Mapper") that combines soil measurements from vehicle- and satellite- remote sensing, ground-penetrating radar and electromagnetic induction, and machine learning to map SOC and bulk density across fields to assess stock change. Soil mapping will be performed on all fields at the time of enrollment and again three years later. SOC and bulk density maps generated by EarthOptics will be used as inputs to a GHG impact assessment. The quantification platform estimates GHG emissions reductions from new practice adoption, based on comparison with the emissions from the continuation of a baseline of field-based historical practices. The platform will estimate SOC stocks and annual direct emissions of N2O and CH4 in grazing systems. Multi-year simulations of DayCent-CR will also provide continuous estimation of SOC stocks changes, to provide GHG impact estimates in years lacking direct measurement. Trace gases, including N2O and CH4, will be calculated annually using approaches found in standard protocols that include grazing, including the CAR Grassland Protocol and Verra's methodology for grasslands.

Marketing Highlights:
The project plans to trace beef from "Pasture to Plate" using EID tag and AgriWebb software. Through certification with Integrity Beef, producers will be able to market Climate-Smart beef directly to consumers, leading to more vibrant and profitable local food systems in communities throughout the Mid-Atlantic, the Southeast, and beyond. For smaller-scale producers, a diverse and accessible array of local and regional marketing partnerships will be developed. The project will pilot using Regenified and Market Maker to broadly and deeply connect buyers, farmers, farmers markets, processors, wineries, restaurants, and more.

Equity Highlights:
The project will engage diverse underserved producers, including black, veteran, women, and beginning beef producers. 90% or more of participating operations are anticipated to fall into the small-scale category. The project will include a mentorship program working closely with FHF, Black Family Land Trust, Minority & Veteran Farmers of the Piedmont, and Farmer Veteran Coalition to recruit underserved and small-scale producers. The project will also recruit from its extensive network of producers who have received technical assistance through the Women for the Land Conservation Learning Circles.

Avaiable Practices: 329 Residue and Tillage Management - No-Till, 336 Soil Carbon Amendment, 340 Cover Crop, 345 Residue and Tillage Management - Reduced Till, 381 Silvopasture, 390 Riparian Herbaceous Cover, 391 Riparian Forest Buffer, 393 Filter Strip, 422 Hedgerow Planting, 512 Pasture and Hay Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 550 Range Planting, 590 Nutrient Management, 592 Feed Management, 601 Vegetative Barriers

Available Training An In-Depth Overview   How to Enroll

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Click on the drop-down menu to change the project. American Forest Foundation

DOWNLOAD PDF

American Forest Foundation

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://familyforestcarbon.org/

Short Summary: Expands climate-smart forestry markets in AL, CT, GA, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, NC, NH, NY, OH, PA, SC, TN, VA, VT, WV, and WI and supports forest landowner climate-smart practice implementation and monitoring.

Full Description:
Engaging Family Forests to Improve Climate-Smart Commodities (EFFICACI)

This project will address the relationship between family forest owners, the forest products industry, and broader climate goals across the eastern US. The goal is to build a region-wide climate-smart commodity (CSC) forest program that leverages the field-tested Family Forest Carbon Program, an engaged and trusted landowner network, and advanced digital forestry tools to engage traditional and underserved partners and advance the production and marketing of CSC forest products. Currently, forest management and climate change mitigation projectsin the US rely heavily on the USDA FIA program, which uses a network of ground-based plots measured every 5-10 years at an intensity of one plot per 6,000 acres. The project plans to use the USDA Forest Inventory and Analysis program data in concert with a variety of remote sensing variables for regional scoping, planning, and determination of broad landowner eligibility criteria. However, to determine individual landowner's eligibility, a more targeted, personalized data collection procedure is needed. During the term of the grant, AFF and its partners will market the resulting, third-party verified climate benefits from participating properties not as carbon credits, but as climate benefits associated with wood products sourced from the woodbaskets in which the participating properties are located. EFFICACI will partner with companies (e.g., International Paper and Domtar) and organizations (e.g., Forest Stewardship Council) to develop, brand, and pilot this CSC system. The project plans to work with Center for Heirs' Property Preservation and Women Owning Woodlands to increase the participation of underserved minority and women forest owners in climate-smart practices, dedicating five workshops for these two groups. Through the grant period, the project anticipates engaging 450 underserved landowners in South Carolina and at least 400 more in additional states.

Lead Partner: American Forest Foundation**
Other Major Partners: The Nature Conservancy*, Purdue University*, Center for Heirs Property Preservation*, South Carolina Lega Services*, Mississippi Association of Cooperatives*, Livelihoods Knowledge Exchange Network*, Legal Services Alabama*, Women Owning Woodlands,
Primary States Expected: AL, CT, GA, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, NH NY, NC, OH, PA, SC, TN, VA, VT, WV, WI
Major Commodities: Agroforestry, Forest Products, Timber
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $35,000,000

Approved Federal Funding: $34,988,009
Non-Federal Match: $4,561,689

Monitoring Highlights:
Currently, forest management and climate change mitigation projectsin the US rely heavily on the USDA FIA program, which uses a network of ground-based plots measured every 5-10 years at an intensity of one plot per 6,000 acres. The project plans to use the USDA Forest Inventory and Analysis program data in concert with a variety of remote sensing variables for regional scoping, planning, and determination of broad landowner eligibility criteria. However, to determine individual landowner's eligibility, a more targeted, personalized data collection procedure is needed.

Marketing Highlights:
During the term of the grant, AFF and its partners will market the resulting, third-party verified climate benefits from participating properties not as carbon credits, but as climate benefits associated with wood products sourced from the woodbaskets in which the participating properties are located. EFFICACI will partner with companies (e.g., International Paper and Domtar) and organizations (e.g., Forest Stewardship Council) to develop, brand, and pilot this CSC system.

Equity Highlights:
The project plans to work with Center for Heirs' Property Preservation and Women Owning Woodlands to increase the participation of underserved minority and women forest owners in climate-smart practices, dedicating five workshops for these two groups. Through the grant period, the project anticipates engaging 450 underserved landowners in South Carolina and at least 400 more in additional states.

Avaliable Practices: 342 Critical Area Planting, 381 Silvopasture, 384 Woody Residue Treatment, 391 Riparian Forest Buffer, 490 Tree and Shrub Preparation, 612 Tree/Shrub Establishment, 666 Forest Stand Improvement

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

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Click on the drop-down menu to change the project. American Lamb Board

DOWNLOAD PDF

American Lamb Board

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://lambboard.com/ climate-smart-sheep/

Short Summary: Expands markets for climate-smart lamb in CA, MT, NC, TX and potentially Nationwide and supports farmers and ranchers with implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:
Measuring the Climate Benefits and Emissions of Prescribed Sheep Grazing, and Promoting the Consumption of Climate-Smart Lamb

The American Lamb Board's (ALB) project plans to measure and report carbon sequestration, soil health and other greenhouse gas benefits, and associated ecosystem services provided by prescribed sheep grazing on four different pilot demonstration sites throughout the United States and market the resulting climate-smart lamb products. Historically underserved producers are planned to receive funding for implementing climate-smart practices and technical assistance with farm plan development, LCA estimates, and reporting and verification. By partnering with multiple research universities and private sector specialists, and employing a Research Advisory Committee that includes other experts in the livestock and climate sector, the project will include robust measurement, monitoring, reporting and verification. This will include developing a data-driven partial life cycle assessment (LCA) of the four pilot demonstration sites using Michigan State University's emissions calculator, measuring soil carbon flux and other soil health indicators associated with prescribed grazing practices, and documenting other qualitative variables and observations. The American Lamb Board (ALB) will utilize the study results to develop consumer marketing materials and an outreach plan that will promote the consumption of climate-smart lamb products through new and expanded climate-smart markets. Capra Foods, a network of regenerative sheep ranches in Texas, will develop and pilot marketing strategies for climate-smart lamb to their regional potential consumer base, which will be used to inform development of future ALB climate-smart lamb marketing strategies. American Lamb Board will coordinate with underserved farmer organizations to provide outreach to enroll underserved and small producers, for a target of half of all producers funded by this project being small and/or underserved. Funding will go to small and/or underserved producers for implementation of climate-smart practices and to technical assistance providers assisting these producers with farm plan development, Lifecycle Analysis estimates, and reporting and verification.

Lead Partner: American Lamb Board**
Other Major Partners: Capra Foods*, American Sheep Industry Association, Bureau of Land Management, National Grazing Lands Coalition, American Solar Grazing Association, California Lamb Board, Michigan State University*,**, UC Berkeley*, Montana State University*, Texas A&M*, Noble Common Ground Solutions*, North Carolina State University*, University of California - Davis*
Primary States Expected: Nationwide
Major Commodities: Lamb
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $4,995,000

Approved Federal Funding: $4,965,071
Non-Federal Match: $1,052,930

Monitoring Highlights:
By partnering with multiple research universities and private sector specialists, and employing a Research Advisory Committee that includes other experts in the livestock and climate sector, the project will include robust measurement, monitoring, reporting and verification. This will include developing a data-driven partial life cycle assessment (LCA) of the four pilot demonstration sites using Michigan State University's emissions calculator, measuring soil carbon flux and other soil health indicators associated with prescribed grazing practices, and documenting other qualitative variables and observations.

Marketing Highlights:
The American Lamb Board (ALB) will utilize the study results to develop consumer marketing materials and an outreach plan that will promote the consumption of climate-smart lamb products through new and expanded climate-smart markets. Capra Foods, a network of regenerative sheep ranches in Texas, will develop and pilot marketing strategies for climate-smart lamb to their regional potential consumer base, which will be used to inform development of future ALB climate-smart lamb marketing strategies.

Equity Highlights:
American Lamb Board will coordinate with underserved farmer organizations to provide outreach to enroll underserved and small producers, for a target of half of all producers funded by this project being small and/or underserved. Funding will go to small and/or underserved producers for implementation of climate-smart practices and to technical assistance providers assisting these producers with farm plan development, Lifecycle Analysis estimates, and reporting and verification.

Avalaible Practices: 314 Brush Management, 340 Cover Crop, 381 Silvopasture, 382 Fence, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 550 Range Planting, 595 Pest Management Conservation System, 612 Tree/Shrub Establishment

Available Training An In-Depth Overview   How to Enroll

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Click on the drop-down menu to change the project.   American Sustainable Busin..

DOWNLOAD PDF

American Sustainable Business Institute, Inc.

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://www.ggrass.org/

Short Summary: Expands markets for climate-smart beef and beef by-products nationwide (except AK) and tribal areas; and supports farmer and rancher implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:
The Growing GRASS & Climate-Smart Value-Added U.S. Commodity Markets Project (Growing GRASS Project)

This multi-year project will pilot, test, and evaluate how the GRASS supply chain can be optimized for value and climate performance from farm and ranch to climate-smart markets, starting with the greenhouse gas benefits of grazing systems. The project will develop a certified ontology, identify regenerative practices, develop a virtual platform to track commodities through the supply chain. All information will be put into the COMET tool. Any other information that is outside of COMET will be shared with USDA to help improve or expand COMET. All Climate-Smart Commodities in project (meat, hides & by-products) will be tracked through supply chain traceability. Other Half Processing will continue to identify various tracking methods to accurately track all products. The project will use the findings from Other Half Processing to develop an open-access, cyber-secure platform to provide a clear picture of these diverse products move through the supply chain to eventually become customer-facing products while retaining their climate smart values. The goal is to find the least costly and most accurate ways to ensure that regenerative and climate-smart claims remain connected directly to the meat, hides and other byproduct commodity products. The project plans to recruit up to 1,000 producers for the first phase of project with at least 250 producers planned to be Native American and other historically disadvantaged producer communities. The project will target outreach to maintain this 25 percent for additional producers involved.

Lead Partner: American Sustainable Business Institute, Inc.*,**
Other Major Partners: Roots of Change*, California Cattlemen's Association, American Grassfed Association*, Pure Strategies*, UC Davis Food Systems Lab*, IC-Foods*, Autocase*,**, Other Half Processing SBC*,**, Regenerative Rising*,**, Lookin.to*,**, Textile Exchange*,**, Pet Sustainability Coalition*
Primary States Expected: AL, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, WI, WA, WV, WY
Major Commodities: Beef, Beef By-Product, Bison, Bison By-Product
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $35,000,000

Approved Federal Funding: $34,999,190
Non-Federal Match: $760,616

Monitoring Highlights:
The project will develop a certified ontology, identify regenerative practices, develop a virtual platform to track commodities through the supply chain. All information will be put into the COMET tool. Any other information that is outside of COMET will be shared with USDA to help improve or expand COMET. All Climate-Smart Commodities in project (meat, hides & by-products) will be tracked through supply chain traceability.

Marketing Highlights:
The project will use the findings from Other Half Processing to develop an open-access, cyber-secure platform to provide a clear picture of these diverse products move through the supply chain to eventually become customer-facing products while retaining their climate smart values. The goal is to find the least costly and most accurate ways to ensure that regenerative and climate-smart claims remain connected directly to the meat, hides and other byproduct commodity products.

Equity Highlights:
The project plans to recruit up to 1,000 producers for the first phase of project with at least 250 producers planned to be Native American and other historically disadvantaged producer communities. The project will target outreach to maintain this 25 percent for additional producers involved.

Avaliable Practices: 528 Prescribed Grazing, E528B Grazing management that improves Monarch butterfly habitat, E528C Incorporating wildlife refuge areas in contingency plans for wildlife, E528D Grazing management for improving quantity and quality of food or cover and shelter for wildlife, E528E Improved grazing management for enhanced plant structure and composition for wildlife, E528F Stockpiling cool season forage to improve structure and composition or plant productivity and health, E528H Prescribed grazing to improve/maintain riparian and watershed function-elevated water temperature, E528I Grazing management that protects sensitive areas-surface or ground water from nutrients, E528J Prescribed grazing on pastureland that improves riparian and watershed function, E528L Prescribed grazing that improves or maintains riparian and watershed function-erosion, E528M Grazing management that protects sensitive areas from gully erosion, E528O Clipping mature forages to set back vegetative growth for improved forage quality, E528P Implementing Bale or Swath Grazing to increase organic matter and reduce nutrients in surface water, E528Q Use of body condition scoring for livestock on a monthly basis to keep track of herd health, E528R Management Intensive Rotational Grazing, E528S Soil Health Improvements on Pasture, E528T Grazing to Reduce Wildfire Risks on Forests

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support
Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

Available Training An In-Depth Overview   How to Enroll

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Click on the drop-down menu to change the project.   Cooperative Regions of Org..

DOWNLOAD PDF

Cooperative Regions of Organic Producer Pools

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://www.farmers.coop/ cropp-carbon-insetting-program/

Short Summary: Expands climate-smart dairy and egg markets in CA, CO, IA, ID, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, NC, NH, NM, NY, OH, OR, PA, SD, TN, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, and WV and supports climate-smart practices.

Full Description:

Organic Valley Carbon Insetting Program: Building a Multi-stakeholder Path to Produce, Market and Promote Climate-Smart Commodities Across the U.S.

This project will expand climate-smart markets and help finance partnerships and incentivize farmers to advance the Organic Valley Carbon Insetting Program. Organic Valley will use two strategies to reduce supply chain emissions: mitigate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and maximize opportunities for carbon sequestration, focusing specifically on dairy and eggs as the climate-smart commodities. The project plans to provide participating producers, mostly underserved producers, incentives for climate-smart practices like cover crops, reduced and no-till, prescribed grazing and soil amendments. Project plans to execute market and sales strategies of climate-smart dairy and egg products in branded Organic Valley products and in ingredients and bulk products. OV-CIP will follow an innovative, best practice approach to Scope 3 value-chain GHG intervention quantification. CSAF practices and farm level carbon accounting will be validated and verified according to standards established by the Global GHG Protocol. COMET-Farm and/or COMET-Planner will be used to quantify GHG benefits for all CSAF practices currently available in the COMET modules. COMET-Energy will be used for energy practices. The project team has expertise with the suite of COMET tools. USDA's Entity Scale Methods will be used to quantify GHG benefits for practices not included in the COMET tools. In partnership with VCI, OV-CIP will accelerate progress towards a low-carbon food system by channeling private industry investment and public grant funds towards the implementation of CSAF practices on a large-scale. The scaling of CSAF practices will yield opportunities to market the resulting climate-smart commodities. Organic Valley has secured supply chain partnership commitments from Stonyfield Organic, Nancy's Organic/Springfield Creamery, and General Mills/Annie's Organic. Supply chain partners for this project will promote and quantify the benefits of climate-smart commodities through brand marketing efforts. Partners will participate in supply chain mapping exercises led by VCI and will report on shared emissions reductions, providing a pathway for shared reduction claims and a chain of custody/proof of purchasing to ensure the impact on the shared commodity Over 95 percent of farmers participating in the project are anticipated to be small and/or underserved farmers.

Lead Partner: Cooperative Regions of Organic Producer Pools**
Other Major Partners: Good Company*, SustainCERT*, PUR Project, Yardstick*, University of Wisconsin – Madison, Planet Labs**, American Farmland Trust*, Organic Trade Association, The Organic Center*, Agrilab Technologies, Inc.*, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay*, Amicus Solar Cooperative, Carissa Stein Consulting*, GDS Engineering*, Gold Ridge Resource Conservation District*, Interlace Commons*, Sarah Flack Consulting*, Savanna Institute*, Sonoma Resource Conservation District*, Trees for Graziers*, Stonyfield Organic**, Nancy's Organic/Springfield Creamery**, General Mills/Annie's, Lasso Solutions, Inc. **, Working Trees**
Primary States Expected: CA, CO, IA, ID, IL, IN, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, NC, NH, NM, NY, OH, OR, PA, SD, TN, UT, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV
Major Commodities: Agroforestry, Dairy, Eggs
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $25,000,000

Approved Federal Funding: $24,999,735
Non-Federal Match: $12,319,222

Monitoring Highlights:
OV-CIP will follow an innovative, best practice approach to Scope 3 value-chain GHG intervention quantification. CSAF practices and farm level carbon accounting will be validated and verified according to standards established by the Global GHG Protocol. COMET-Farm and/or COMET-Planner will be used to quantify GHG benefits for all CSAF practices currently available in the COMET modules. COMET-Energy will be used for energy practices. The project team has expertise with the suite of COMET tools. USDA's Entity Scale Methods will be used to quantify GHG benefits for practices not included in the COMET tools.

Marketing Highlights:
In partnership with VCI, OV-CIP will accelerate progress towards a low-carbon food system by channeling private industry investment and public grant funds towards the implementation of CSAF practices on a large-scale. The scaling of CSAF practices will yield opportunities to market the resulting climate-smart commodities. Organic Valley has secured supply chain partnership commitments from Stonyfield Organic, Nancy's Organic/Springfield Creamery, and General Mills/Annie's Organic. Supply chain partners for this project will promote and quantify the benefits of climate-smart commodities through brand marketing efforts. Partners will participate in supply chain mapping exercises led by VCI and will report on shared emissions reductions, providing a pathway for shared reduction claims and a chain of custody/proof of purchasing to ensure the impact on the shared commodity.

Equity Highlights:
Over 95 percent of farmers participating in the project are anticipated to be small and/or underserved farmers.

Avaliable Practices: 313 Waste Storage Facility, 317 Composting Facility, 329 Residue and Tillage Management - No-Till, 336 Soil Carbon Amendment, 340 Cover Crop, 345 Residue and Tillage Management - Reduced Till, 367 Roofs and Covers, 374 Energy Efficient Agricultural Operation, 376 Field Operations Emissions Reduction, 389 Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation, 381 Silvopasture, 391 Riparian Forest Buffer, 422 Hedgerow Planting, 512 Pasture and Hay Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 550 Range Planting, 533 Pumping Plant, 561 Heavy Use Area Protection, 592 Feed Management, 612 Tree/Shrub Establishment, 632 Waste Separation Facility, 634 Waste Transfer, 666 Forest Stand Improvement

Available Training An In-Depth Overview   How to Enroll

Any general questions about Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities should be sent to climate-smart-commodities@usda.gov. Find answers to many frequently asked questions on our FAQs page. For project-specific questions, please visit the Lead Partner's website.

Click on the drop-down menu to change the project. Farm Journal, Inc.

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Farm Journal, Inc.

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://www.trustinfood.com/ grow/

Short Summary: Expands climate-smart row and specialty crop, beef, pork and other livestock markets in Plains, Southeast, Midwest and East Coast and supports farmer and rancher climate-smart practice implementation and monitoring.

Full Description:
Connected Ag Climate-Smart Commodities Pilot Project

This project will expand climate-smart markets for many agricultural commodities and provide direct payments, technical assistance, and data management strategies to producers of row crops, beef, dairy, pork, and other commodities to adopt climate-smart practices and strategies. The project plans to have Conservation Agronomists verify GHG outcomes in Years 2 and 3, working with project partners, including technology partners such as AGI/Farmobile, AgriWebb, SIMPAS, Trimble, and The Sustainability Consortium, to capture all necessary data points and conduct the required requirements analysis. Project partner Trimble will be responsible for using the COMET-Planner tool to quantify, monitor, report, and verify greenhouse gas benefits. The Sustainability Consortium plans to identify member companies in its network to source commodities that meet internal targets and supply chain goals in conjunction with producers. In addition, the project plans to rely on technology partners, including AGI/Farmobile, AgriWebb, SIMPAS, and Trimble, to design a data strategy that includes a framework for tracking climate-smart commodities through the supply chain. Additionally, the project plans to guide participating producers to sell their climate-smart commodities parallel with industry commitments. The project plans to provide outreach to enroll at least 50% underserved producers, including Hispanic, Black, American Indian; Asian; Native Hawaiian, or other Pacific Islander, women and small-farm operators.

Lead Partner: Farm Journal, Inc.
Other Major Partners: Tuskegee University, Association of Equipment Manufacturers**, AGI/Farmobile*,**, AgriWebb*, Certis Biologicals, Ducks Unlimited*,**, Farm Journal Foundation*, National Pork Board, SIMPAS**, The Sustainability Consortium*, Trimble*, US Round Table for Sustainable Beef**, American Breeders Service (ABS)*, Merck Animal Health,
Primary States Expected: AL, AR, CA, CO, IA, IL, IN, FL, GA, KS, KY, LA, MD, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NE, NC, ND, OH, OK, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, VA, WI, WV, WY
Major Commodities: Beef, Corn, Cotton, Dairy, Fruits, Potatoes, Pork, Small Ruminants, Soybeans, Specialty Crops, Tree Nuts, Vegetables, Wheat
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $40,000,000

Approved Federal Funding: $40,000,000
Non-Federal Match: $439,294

Monitoring Highlights:
The project plans to have Conservation Agronomists verify GHG outcomes in Years 2 and 3, working with project partners, including technology partners such as AGI/Farmobile, AgriWebb, SIMPAS, Trimble, and The Sustainability Consortium, to capture all necessary data points and conduct the required requirements analysis. Project partner Trimble will be responsible for using the COMET-Planner tool to quantify, monitor, report, and verify greenhouse gas benefits.

Marketing Highlights:
The Sustainability Consortium plans to identify member companies in its network to source commodities that meet internal targets and supply chain goals in conjunction with producers. In addition, the project plans to rely on technology partners, including AGI/Farmobile, AgriWebb, SIMPAS, and Trimble, to design a data strategy that includes a framework for tracking climate-smart commodities through the supply chain. Additionally, the project plans to guide participating producers to sell their climate-smart commodities parallel with industry commitments.

Equity Highlights:
The project plans to provide outreach to enroll at least 50% underserved producers, including Hispanic, Black, American Indian; Asian; Native Hawaiian, or other Pacific Islander, women and small-farm operators.

Avaliable Practices: 336 Soil Carbon Amendment, 340 Cover Crop, 374 Energy Efficient Agricultural Operation, 382 Fence, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 590 Nutrient Management, 592 Feed Management, 643 Restoration of Rare or Declining Natural Communities, 657 Wetland Restoration, DIA 101 CNMP Design and Implementation Activity, FJ100 Climate-Smart Genetic Interventions for Terminal Beef Production

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

Click on the drop-down menu to change the project. Iconoclast Industries, LLC

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Iconoclast Industries, LLC

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://www.iconoclast.industries/

Short Summary: Expands markets for climate-smart hemp in CO, FL, NE, NY, OK, PA, TX, VA and WI and supports farmer implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:
Industrial Hemp for Fiber and Grain

This project aims to expand climate-smart markets and remedy lack of available data on environmentally beneficial practices for hemp production by providing open-accessible data and training and enabling monetization of climate-smart practices through a pilot designation in a digital marketplace. Additionally, this project develops an inclusive workforce that specializes in implementation of climate-smart practices by engaging underserved producers and financially supporting them as they learn these practices. Project plans to provide participating underserved producers an incentive payment, technical assistance, marketing assistance, and the revenue from the climate-smart hemp produced. Planned practices include cover crops and nutrient management.

Lead Partner: Iconoclast Industries, LLC**
Other Major Partners: Cedar Meadow Farm LLC*, University of Florida*, Stockton University*, Florida Department of Agriculture, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, SB Friedman Development Advisors, M4MM*, Canndigenous, EntreVation LLC, Legacy Farms Group, Delta Agriculture*, Auredia*, Validere*, Bravo Logistics, Highway Vodka
Primary States Expected: CO, FL, NE, NY, OK, PA, TX, VA, WI
Major Commodities: Hemp
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $15,000,000

Approved Federal Funding: $15,000,000
Non-Federal Match: $4,976,763

Monitoring Highlights:
The project aims to develop a fiber hemp crop module for the Cropping System Model of DSSAT to identify climate-smart best management practices with emphasis on long-term carbon sequestration and also work to plan and develop a proof-of-concept for an open-data platform to support the long-term goal of industrial hemp producer participation in carbon markets. The project also plans to provide accounts and train all enrolled producers on a mobile software application to enable easy documentation of Ag Operations – thereby providing both a new technology skillset in the Ag Workforce and providing streamlined, digital reporting to this program.

Marketing Highlights:
This project plans to support the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in creating a climate-smart designation for industrial hemp and developing a digital platform for the marketing and sale of climate-smart hemp commodities arising from funded activities. In addition, the project plans to create a pilot marketplace, funding research and development into several new, specialty markets for climate-smart hemp.

Equity Highlights:
The project plans to exclusively enroll underserved producers. The underserved producers will benefit with a guaranteed rate, regardless of production, to minimize risk for the producers. They will also benefit from constant creation of training materials, videos, consulting time, equipment usage, and an overall addition to current skillsets that exist to increase their knowledge and expertise in the hemp market.

Available Practices: 328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 329 Residue and Tillage Management - No-Till, 345 Residue and Tillage Management - Reduced Till, 340 Cover Crop, 386 Field Border, 484 Mulching, 590 Nutrient Management

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

Available Training An In-Depth Overview How to Enroll

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Click on the drop-down menu to change the project. Low Carbon Technologies, ..

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Low Carbon Technologies, LLC

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://www.lowcarbonranch.com/ usda-climate-smart-commodities-program/

Short Summary: The project expands markets for climate-smart low carbon beef in the entire United States and supports farmers and ranchers in implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices that reduce greenhouse-gas emissions or sequester carbon.

Full Description:
Low Carbon Beef USDA Pilot Program: A Fully Integrated Lifecycle Approach to Reduce GHG Emissions from Beef Cattle at Commercial Scale

This project will help to implement climate-smart methods in beef production, reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and expanding climate-smart markets and generating carbon credit revenue for producers. COMET will be used for benchmarking carbon sequestration. This project will use Vytelle SENSE to identify high performing animals for reproducing based on feed intake, weights & behavior. Vytelle INSIGHT will help producers make genetics selections based on dry matter intake & enteric methane emissions. AgSpire will provide forage and range soil testing along with technical assistance to producers. The use of artificial insemination to breed cattle to a more feed efficient animal that produces less methane emissions will be used. This project will use the approved Low Carbon Beef Certification received from the USDA to market cattle under the Low Carbon Beef label for a projected premium. The project will work with Missouri Prime Beef Packers who will procure, slaughter & sell the beef under the Low Carbon Beef Certification. Missouri Prime Beef will pursue high-value retail marketing channels for beef produced during this pilot project. The project will include 30 progressive & diverse cow-calf producers. Of the 30 producers-10 producers will be small producers & 10 producers will be underserved producers. In total 66% of producers in project will be small & underserved producers.

Lead Partner: Low Carbon Technologies, LLC**
Other Major Partners: Low Carbon Beef*,**, Where Food Comes From, Inc.*, AgSpire*, Millborn Seeds, Inc.*,**, Tiffany Cattle Co, Inc.*, Missouri Prime Beef Packers*, Alga Biosciences*,**, Vytelle USA*,**, Elanco Animal Health, Inc.*, Helical Solar Solutions, LLC*
Primary States Expected: AL, AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, WI, WA, WV, WY
Major Commodities: Beef
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $10,000,000

Approved Federal Funding: $9,994,951
Non-Federal Match: $1,042,992

Monitoring Highlights:
COMET will be used for benchmarking carbon sequestration. This project will use Vytelle SENSE to identify high performing animals for reproducing based on feed intake, weights and behavior. Vytelle INSIGHT will help producers make genetics selections based on dry matter intake and enteric methane emissions. AgSpire will provide forage and range soil testing along with technical assistance to producers. The use of artificial insemination to breed cattle to a more feed efficient animal that produces less methane emissions will be used.

Marketing Highlights:
This project will use the approved Low Carbon Beef Certification received from the USDA to market cattle under the Low Carbon Beef label for a projected premium. The project will work with Missouri Prime Beef Packers who will procure, slaughter and sell the beef under the Low Carbon Beef Certification. Missouri Prime Beef will pursue high-value retail marketing channels for beef produced during this pilot project.

Equity Highlights:
The project will include 30 progressive and diverse cow-calf producers. Of the 30 producers-10 producers will be small producers and 10 producers will be underserved producers. In total 66% of producers in project will be small and underserved producers.

Avaliable Practices: 340 Cover Crop, 375 Dust Management, 512 Pasture and Hay Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 550 Range Planting, 576 Livestock Shelter Structure, 590 Nutrient Management

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

Available Training An In-Depth Overview How to Enroll

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Click on the drop-down menu to change the project.   National Association of Con..

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National Association of Conservation Districts

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://www.nacdnet.org/ about-nacd/ what-we-do/ climate-smart-commodities-project/

Short Summary: Expand climate-smart row crops, livestock, forest and specialty crop markets nationwide and support farmer, rancher and forest landowner implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:

Strengthening Grassroots Leadership and Capacity to Scale Climate-Smart Production Systems and Facilitate Underserved Producers' Access to Markets

This project will work through its network of 3,000 conservation districts throughout the nation to grow and advance grassroots efforts to ensure producers and local communities are prepared to meet the demand and have access to climate-smart commodity markets. Project plans to support implementation of climate-smart practices like cover crops, nutrient management plans, forest stand management, prescribed grazing and forage and biomass planting. Planned marketing efforts include identifying strategies for building acres or products. The project plans to use COMET-Planner and/or other data models (e.g., Truterra Sustainability Tool, SYMFONI) to identify practice options that maximize carbon sequestration. HabiTerre's technology and quantification solution – SYMFONI – captures the trade-offs and synergistic effects of the system of conservation practices implemented; HabiTerre plans to develop a farmer-facing dashboard that summarizes producers' historical GHG emissions (e.g., soil organic carbon changes, N2O emissions, and CH4 emissions/uptake) at the field and farm levels. NACD plans to verify soil organic carbon (SOC) changes through soil sampling on a representative subset of fields. The project plans to support development of climate-smart market opportunities that benefit local economies and identify strategies for bundling acres or products, provide additional education on Scope 3 protocols and traceability, and what is needed to participate in climate-smart commodity markets. NACD also plans to cultivate national partnerships that facilitate access to growing climate-smart markets. Of the producers enrolled, over half are planned to be underserved producers. The project also plans to invest in the Indian Nations Conservation Alliance (INCA) and organizations that serve tribal producers, as well as Rural Coalition and their members, the Rural Advancement Fund of the National Sharecroppers Fund and Kansas Black Farmers Association to strengthen Conservation Districts' outreach to historically underserved communities and producers.

Lead Partner: National Association of Conservation Districts
Other Major Partners: Indian Nations Conservation Alliance (INCA)*, Rural Coalition*, the Kansas Black Farmers Association*, and the Rural Advancement Fund of the National Sharecroppers Fund*, Ecosystem Services Market Consortium (ESMC)*, Field to Market: The Alliance for Sustainable Agriculture*,**, HabiTerre*, Cornell University Atkinson Center for Sustainability*
Primary States Expected: AL, AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, GU, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, PR, RI, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VT, VA, WI, WA, WV, WY, Tribal
Major Commodities: Corn, Livestock, Rice, Soybeans, Sorghum, Wheat
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $90,000,000

Approved Federal Funding: $90,000,000
Non-Federal Match: $14,329,844

Monitoring Highlights:
The project plans to use COMET-Planner and/or other data models (e.g., Truterra Sustainability Tool, SYMFONI) to identify practice options that maximize carbon sequestration. HabiTerre's technology and quantification solution – SYMFONI – captures the trade-offs and synergistic effects of the system of conservation practices implemented; HabiTerre plans to develop a farmer-facing dashboard that summarizes producers' historical GHG emissions (e.g., soil organic carbon changes, N2O emissions, and CH4 emissions/uptake) at the field and farm levels. NACD plans to verify soil organic carbon (SOC) changes through soil sampling on a representative subset of fields.

Marketing Highlights:
The project plans to support development of climate-smart market opportunities that benefit local economies and identify strategies for bundling acres or products, provide additional education on Scope 3 protocols and traceability, and what is needed to participate in climate-smart commodity markets. NACD also plans to cultivate national partnerships that facilitate access to growing climate-smart markets.

Equity Highlights:
Of the producers enrolled, over half are planned to be underserved producers. The project also plans to invest in the Indian Nations Conservation Alliance (INCA) and organizations that serve tribal producers, as well as Rural Coalition and their members, the Rural Advancement Fund of the National Sharecroppers Fund and Kansas Black Farmers Association to strengthen Conservation Districts' outreach to historically underserved communities and producers.

Avaliable Practices: 327 Conservation Cover, 328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 329 Residue and Tillage Management - No-Till, 340 Cover Crop, 345 Residue and Tillage Management - Reduced Till, 382 Fence, 386 Field Border, 412 Grassed Waterway, 449 Irrigation Water Management, 512 Pasture and Hay Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 590 Nutrient Management, 595 Pest Management Conservation System, 612 Tree/Shrub Establishment, 632 Waste Separation Facility, 666 Forest Stand Improvement

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

 Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

Available Training An In-Depth Overview   How to Enroll

Any general questions about Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities should be sent to **climate-smart-commodities@usda.gov**. Find answers to many frequently asked questions on our **FAQs page**. For project-specific questions, please visit the Lead Partner's website.

Click on the drop-down menu to change the project.   National Black Growers Co..

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National Black Growers Council

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://nationalblackgrowerscouncil.com/ climate-smart-grants/

Short Summary: Expands climate-smart canola, corn, cotton, grain sorghum, peanuts, rice, soybeans, and sugarcane markets in AL, AR, FL, GA, LA, MS, and VA and supports farmer implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:
National Black Growers Council Regenerative Agriculture Pilot Program (National Black Growers Council: Black Cotton/peanuts)

In this project, the National Black Growers Council (NBGC) plans to work with underserved farmers to test regenerative agricultural practices and determine which are best suited for various regions and farm types in the Southeast United States. Once complete, NBGC plans to scale up participation to include additional farmers, providing incentives to increase adoption of climate-smart regenerative agricultural practices and leveraging market data to sell climate-smart products to corporate partners who need to meet sustainability goals. The project will calculate carbon sequestration resulting from project practices utilizing the COMET Planner Tool. NBGC alongside its partners, will provide access to farm data management software. Access to this software will provide producers with the tools necessary to reliably measure and model the impact of the proposed practice(s); to monitor and report soil carbon sequestration; and to incorporate other soil and data-monitoring practices. Potential software includes FieldView by The Climate Corporation, NutrientStar by the Environmental Defense Fund, Adapt-N by Agronomic Technology Corp, AgVerdict by Verdesian Life Sciences, and SoilVision by Agrocares. Throughout the program's duration, NBGC and its partners will share the progress and results of the program through events, in-field presentations, and through their corresponding media platforms. As farmers begin to market their Climate-Smart commodities, they will have the opportunity to work with Cargill representatives on how to best interpret the commodity markets and leverage their Climate-Smart regenerative agriculture-driven fields to help meet broader corporate sustainability targets. National Black Growers Council plans to target outreach for enrollment to producers who meet the definition of underserved and will receive enrollment bonuses for participation as well as a per acre incentive. Training, equipment, supplies and technical assistance will aid the underserved farmers in adopting and sustaining Climate-Smart regenerative practices.

Lead Partner: National Black Growers Council*,**
Other Major Partners: Cargill, Bayer, Syngenta
Primary States Expected: AL, AR, FL, GA, LA, MS, VA
Major Commodities: Canola, Corn, Cotton, Peanuts, Rice, Soybeans, Sorghum, Sugarcane
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $4,789,600

Approved Federal Funding: $4,789,600
Non-Federal Match: $220,000

Monitoring Highlights:
The project will calculate carbon sequestration resulting from project practices utilizing the COMET Planner Tool. NBGC alongside its partners, will provide access to farm data management software. Access to this software will provide producers with the tools necessary to reliably measure and model the impact of the proposed practice(s); to monitor and report soil carbon sequestration; and to incorporate other soil and data-monitoring practices. Potential software includes FieldView by The Climate Corporation, NutrientStar by the Environmental Defense Fund, Adapt-N by Agronomic Technology Corp, AgVerdict by Verdesian Life Sciences, and SoilVision by Agrocares.

Marketing Highlights:
Throughout the program's duration, NBGC and its partners will share the progress and results of the program through events, in-field presentations, and through their corresponding media platforms. As farmers begin to market their Climate-Smart commodities, they will have the opportunity to work with Cargill representatives on how to best interpret the commodity markets and leverage their Climate-Smart regenerative agriculture-driven fields to help meet broader corporate sustainability targets.

Equity Highlights:
National Black Growers Council plans to target outreach for enrollment to producers who meet the definition of underserved and will receive enrollment bonuses for participation as well as a per acre incentive. Training, equipment, supplies and technical assistance will aid the underserved farmers in adopting and sustaining Climate-Smart regenerative practices.

Avaliable Practices: 328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 329 Residue and Tillage Management - No-Till, 340 Cover Crop, 345 Residue and Tillage Management - Reduced Till, 590 Nutrient Management

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

Available Training An In-Depth Overview   How to Enroll

Any general questions about Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities should be sent to **climate-smart-commodities@usda.gov**. Find answers to many frequently asked questions on our **FAQs page**. For project-specific questions, please visit the Lead Partner's website.

Click on the drop-down menu to change the project.   National Fish and Wildlife F..   **DOWNLOAD PDF**

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (for Farmers for Soil Health)

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://farmersforsoilhealth.com/

Short Summary: The project expands markets for climate-smart corn and Soybeans in the Midwest, Great Lakes, and Chesapeake Bay (IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, MN, MI, MO, NE, OH, SD, TN, ND, NC, MD, DE, NY, WI, PA and VA) and supports farmer implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices that reduce greenhouse-gas emissions or sequester carbon.

Full Description:
Farmers for Soil Health Climate-Smart Commodities Partnership

This project proposes to accelerate long-term cover crop adoption by creating a platform to incentivize farmers. The platform will quantify, verify, and facilitate the sale of ecosystem benefits, creating a marketplace to generate demand for climate-smart commodities. This project plans to support the implementation of more than 1 million acres of crop crops across 20 states. It also plans to enable corn and Soybeansbean commodity groups to achieve greenhouse gas emission reduction goals while supporting their farmer members and advancing more productive and sustainable practices, using remote sensing, satellite imagery and other data science techniques while "ground-truthing" with a statistically significant set of soil samples from participating fields and a marketplace interface powered by an integrated monitoring, reporting and verification platform. The project includes a 20 percent reserve for underserved producers and a survey plan to assist with recruitment.

Lead Partner: National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
Other Major Partners: Farmers for Soil Health (National Corn Growers Association, the United Soybeansbean Board, and the National Pork Board**), National Center for Appropriate Technology*, National Association of Conservation Districts*, Soil Health Institute*, University of Missouri*, The Sustainability Consortium*, Data Transmission Network*, MBSH Consulting*.
Primary States Expected: IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, MN, MI, MO, NE, OH, SD, TN, ND, NC, MD, DE, NY, WI, PA, VA
Major Commodities: Corn, Soybeans
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $95,000,000

Approved Federal Funding: $95,000,000
Non-Federal Match: $2,877,195

Monitoring Highlights:
DTN plans to use remote sensing, satellite imagery and other data science techniques to passively capture and assess much of the sustainability data needed (GHG emissions reduction practices), thereby minimizing the effort/cost that farmers would otherwise incur. Satellite imagery is planned to be "ground-truthed" with a statistically significant set of soil samples from participating fields.

Marketing Highlights:
A marketplace interface powered by an integrated monitoring, reporting and verification platform is planned to market climate-smart agricultural commodities to interested parties (i.e., biofuel, food, animal feed, package goods companies etc.). This program plans to enable each commodity group to achieve their industry-wide goals on GHG emission reductions while also supporting their farmer members in advancing more productive and sustainable practices.

Equity Highlights:
The project plans to reserve (until the third and final enrollment period) up to 20% of the total financial assistance to go directly to underserved and small producers. Using DTN's precision digital marketing, this project will prioritize communication to the 30,650 underserved and small farmers . FSH will adjust communication frequency to ensure participation equity. This data resource may also be used by partner groups, such as NCAT-ATTRA and local conservation staff, to combine with their own knowledge and acquaintance with under-served and small farmers who are interested in soil health and sustainability practices

Avaliable Practices: 340 Cover Crop

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

Available Training An In-Depth Overview   How to Enroll

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Click on the drop-down menu to change the project. Pennsylvania Association fo..

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Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://www.climatesmartfarming.com/

Short Summary: Expands climate-smart Dairy, Grain, Livestock, Organic, Specialty markets in CT, DC, DE, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, NC, PA, RI, SC, VT, VA, WV, Tribal & supports farmer/rancher climate-smart practice implement & monitoring.

Full Description:
Climate-Smart Farming and Marketing: Engaging in Community-Science and Practice from Maine to South Carolina

This project brings together 20 farming and agroforestry organizations, serving over 20,000 small to mid- scale and underserved farmers who are uniquely impacted by climate change. The project will include soil health and financial benchmark community science; peer-to-peer learning and support; expanded implementation of climate-smart practices; carbon benefits calculation and verification; and income stream innovations that result in increased sales from farms and forest lands that use and promote climate-smart practices. The project will implement data tracking through farmOS and SurveyStack which have standard and customizable data structures for environmental and practice monitoring to meet the production system-specific needs, as these tools integrate with Cool Farm, COMET-Farm, Cover Crop Explorer, and a customizable benchmarking data dashboard called the Farmers CoffeeShop. To further connect climate-smart products with buyers, the project will enhance the FoodShed Mapping tool through a REST API integration. The FoodShed Mapping tool, (powered by MarketMaker a digital platform and database of farm and food businesses) will enable buyers to search for and purchase from farms through a "climate-smart" tag, coordinating local and regional food supply chains by matching farm products with demand. The project is committed to integrating diversity, equity, inclusion, justice, and anti-racism into their culture, programs, and services as well as ensuring they adopt the training, policies, practices, planning, and resources to do this work. The lead partner will hold their partners accountable for these same commitments. The project is partnering with Indigenous peoples throughout the region to ensure culturally appropriate technical services and training.In addition the project is partnering with Spanish-speaking farmers to provide language equity in marketing, training, and outreach.

Lead Partner: Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture**
Other Major Partners: Carolina Farm Stewardship Association*, Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture*, OurSci-SurveyStack/FarmOS*, Future Harvest*, Maine Farmland Trust*, ME Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association*, Northeast Organic Farmers Association (NOFA) - CT, MA*, NH, NJ*, NY*, RI, VT*, OpenTEAM*, Pennsylvania Certified Organic, Ramapough Lunaape Nation Turtle Clan, Kimberton Whole Foods, Kitchen Table Consultants, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, National Food MarketMaker Program, Pa Flax, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture**, PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, PA Soil Health Coalition, Stroud Water Resource Center, TeamAg, Ramapough Lenape*, Nanticoke Lenni-Lenape*, Houlton Band of Maliseet, Mi'kmaq, Penobscot, Passamaquoddy, Pocasset Pokanoket, Powhatan Renape, Pocasset Wampanoag

Primary States Expected: CT, DC, DE, ME, MD, MA, NH, NJ, NY, NC, PA, SC, VT, WV, VA, tribes
Major Commodities: Corn, Soybeans, Wheat, Flax, Livestock, Agroforestry, Specialty Crops
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $55,000,000

Approved Federal Funding: $55,000,000
Non-Federal Match: $436,811

Monitoring Highlights:
The project will implement data tracking through farmOS and SurveyStack which have standard and customizable data structures for environmental and practice monitoring to meet the production system-specific needs, ans these tools integrate with Cool Farm, COMET-Farm, Cover Crop Explorer, and a customizable benchmarking data dashboard called the Farmers CoffeeShop.

Marketing Highlights:
To further connect climate-smart products with buyers, the project will enhance the FoodShed Mapping tool through a REST API integration. The FoodShed Mapping tool, (powered by MarketMaker a digital platform and database of farm and food businesses) will enable buyers to search for and purchase from farms through a "climate-smart" tag, coordinating local and regional food supply chains by matching farm products with demand.

Equity Highlights:
The project is committed to integrating diversity, equity, inclusion, justice, and anti-racism into their culture, programs, and services as well as ensuring they adopt the training, policies, practices, planning, and resources to do this work. The lead partner will hold their partners accountable for these same commitments. The project is partnering with Indigenous peoples throughout the region to ensure culturally appropriate technical services and training.In addition the project is partnering with Spanish-speaking farmers to provide language equity in marketing, training, and outreach.

Avaliable Practices: 311 Alley Cropping, 327 Conservation Cover, 328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 329 Residue and Tillage Management - No-Till, 332 Contour Buffer Strips, 340 Cover Crop, 345 Residue and Tillage Management - Reduced Till, 379 Forest Farming, 380 Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation, 382 Fence, 386 Field Border, 393 Filter Strip, 412 Grassed Waterway, 484 Mulching, 585 Stripcropping, 590 Nutrient Management, 512 Pasture and Hay Planting, 516 Livestock Pipeline, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 550 Range Planting, 585 Stripcropping, 381 Silvopasture, 390 Riparian Herbaceous Cover, 391 Riparian Forest Buffer, 422 Hedgerow Planting, 601 Vegetative Barriers, 603 Herbaceous Wind Barriers, 612 Tree/Shrub Establishment, 614 Watering Facility,645 Upland Wildlife Habitat Management

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

 Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

Available Training An In-Depth Overview   How to Enroll

Any general questions about Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities should be sent to **climate-smart-commodities@usda.gov**. Find answers to many frequently asked questions on our **FAQs page**. For project-specific questions, please visit the Lead Partner's website.

Click on the drop-down menu to change the project.   Proximity Malt, LLC

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Proximity Malt, LLC

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://proximitymalt.com/ climate-smart-commodity/

Short Summary: Expands markets for climate-smart Barley in CO, DE, KS, MD, NE, NM, NC, PA, WY, VA and tribal areas and supports farmers in the implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:
Proximity Climate-Smart Partnership

This Proximity Climate-Smart Partnership plans to financially assist farms, and other partners, in developing and implementing regenerative barley practices and building a climate-smart barley market. Participating producers, who meet the science-backed certification requirements, would receive an additional percent premium over conventional barley contract pricing plus an annual transition incentive during the project. Funds may be used farmers to obtain equipment necessary for transitioning to regenerative barley. A percentage of funds, partially used for subsidizing verification services, would be set aside specifically for small and underserved farmers who would receive priority. This project will utilize a combination of measurement systems including COMET, and farm level summaries along with third party reporting and verification protocols using Eco-Practices Platform. Proximity Malt and producer participants will receive third-party verified data and tailored outcome reports based on their operations, scientific research, and industry sustainability practices. This Proximity Climate Smart Partnership intends to develop new market opportunities for climate smart agriculture commodities by working across the supplychain, connecting farmer regenerative agricultural practices to consumer purchasing decisions. in particular the project will work to develop the climate-smart regenerative barley market through partnerships, standards, and incentives. The project will financially assist farms, and other partners, in developing and implementing regenerative barley practices and building a climate smart barley market with focus and funding for small and underserved farmers.

Lead Partner: Proximity Malt LLC**
Other Major Partners: Sustainable Environmental Consultants (SEC)*; Grey Snow Management Solutions: An Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska Company; New Belgium Brewing; Brown-Forman; Brewers Association; Founders Brewing Company; Odell Brewing Company, Rio Grande Water Conservation District
Primary States Expected: CO, DE, KS, MA, NE, NM, NC, PA, WY, VA and Tribal
Major Commodities: Barley
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $4,999,524

Approved Federal Funding: $4,999,233
Non-Federal Match: $4,663,727

Monitoring Highlights:
This project will utilize a combination of measurement systems including COMET, and farm level summaries along with third party reporting and verification protocols using Eco-Practices Platform. Proximity Malt and producer participants will receive third-party verified data and tailored outcome reports based on their operations, scientific research, and industry sustainability practices.

Marketing Highlights:
This Proximity Climate Smart Partnership intends to develop new market opportunities for climate smart agriculture commodities by working across the supplychain, connecting farmer regenerative agricultural practices to consumer purchasing decisions. in particular the project will work to develop the climate-smart regenerative barley market through partnerships, standards, and incentives.

Equity Highlights:
The project will financially assist farms, and other partners, in developing and implementing regenerative barley practices and building a climate smart barley market with focus and funding for small and underserved farmers.

Avaliable Practices: 328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 329 Residue and Tillage Management - No-Till, 340 Cover Crop, 590 Nutrient Management, 595 Pest Management Conservation System

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

Available Training An In-Depth Overview   How to Enroll

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Click on the drop-down menu to change the project.   Rodale Institute

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Rodale Institute

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://rodaleinstitute.org/ science/ southern-piedmont-climate-smart-project/

Short Summary: Expands markets for climate-smart vegetables in GA, NC, PA, SC and VA and supports farmer implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:
Quantifying the Potential to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Increase Carbon Sequestration by Growing and Marketing Climate-Smart Commodities in the Southern Piedmont

Aimed at the southern piedmont vegetable farming community, this proposal will utilize an interdisciplinary system approach including farmer adoption, understanding economic/social barriers, market/consumer buy-in, utilizing technology, and easing the burden on farmers. The results of the project will build climate-smart markets, reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, increases carbon sequestration, and increase farmer economic opportunities and adoption of climate-smart agriculture. The Project will use COMET-Planner for farmers to evaluate soil GHG emissions and C-sequestration potentials on their farms. The project will also cross-validate Farm2Facts with COMET-Planner to ensure farmers are obtaining the highest level of data. The project will use farmers markets throughout the Southern Piedmont as vehicles to market CS vegetables, increase consumer and farmer buy-in, track CS commodities from producer to consumer, and learn about ways to influence consumer
behavior toward purchasing more CS commodities. Estimating that each participating farmer will receive cash incentives to implement climate-smart practices across the five years mostly to underserved and disadvantaged Southern Piedmont farmers.

Leading Partner: Rodale Institute
Other Major Partners: University of Georgia*, Virginia Association for Biological Farming*, Georgia Organics*,**, Emory University*, Soil Health Institute*, University of Tennessee*,**, Clemson University*, North Carolina State University*, University of Wisconsin - Madison*,**, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University*, Carolina Farm Stewardship Association*, Connect Group, LLC*
Primary States Expected: GA, NC, PA, SC, VA
Major Commodities: Vegetables
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $25,000,000

Approved Federal Funding: $25,000,000
Non-Federal Match: $904,276

Monitoring Highlights:
The Project will use COMET-Planner for farmers to evaluate soil GHG emissions and C-sequestration potentials on their farms. The project will also cross-validate Farm2Facts with COMET-Planner to ensure farmers are obtaining the highest level of data.

Marketing Highlights:
The project will use farmers markets throughout the Southern
Piedmont as vehicles to market climate-smart vegetables, increase consumer and farmer buy-in, track
climate-smart commodities from producer to consumer, and learn about ways to influence consumer
behavior toward purchasing more climate-smart commodities.

Equity Highlights:
Estimating that each participating farmer will receive cash incentives to implement climate-smart practices across the five years mostly to underserved and disadvantaged Southern Piedmont farmers.

Avaliable Practices: 340 Cover Crop, 329 Residue and Tillage Management - No-Till

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

Available Training An In-Depth Overview   How to Enroll

Any general questions about Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities should be sent to climate-smart-commodities@usda.gov. Find answers to many frequently asked questions on our FAQs page. For project-specific questions, please visit the Lead Partner's website.

Click on the drop-down menu to change the project. Texas A&M University King..

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Texas A&M University Kingsville

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://www.tamuk.edu/ agriculture/ departments/ asvt/ climatesmart/ index.html/

Short Summary: Expands markets for climate-smart beef cattle across the contiguous United States and supports rancher implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:
Permanently Reshaping the National Beef Herd through Grassroots Genetic Selection for Climate- Smart Outcomes

This project seeks to establish a new Climate-Smart Commodity – namely feeder cattle sired by bulls selected on the basis of reduced enteric methane emissions and associated beef products. Enrolled ranchers would be eligible to receive incentives for each purchase of cows and select breeding bulls that produce reduced CH4 emissions and are more feed efficient by consuming less feed. Calves from participating herds would be enrolled in an information management system which tracks the genetic, health, and production data of individual animals as they move through the beef supply chain. This would allow participating ranchers to differentiate their calves on the basis of Climate-Smart outcomes and market those calves to prospective buyers. Partners plan to enroll underserved producers and younger, first-generation beef cattle ranching start-ups to partner, mentor, and support. GHG will be measured directly from individual beef cattle daily using the C -Lock GreenFeed units. Simulation models for GHG emission will be generated from correlated traits (weight, dry matter intake, sex) in addition to utilizing the phenotypic data generated as time evolves in this project. The development of the phenotypes will result in superior GHG animals that will produce the next generation of beef cattle. These cattle will inherit superior genetics for reduced GHG emissions. This cascade of improvement can be followed for all animals enrolled in the Blockyard (Blockchain technology), additionally genotyping with the InheritSelect product will allow for genetic confirmation of animals with reduced GHG emissions. Compliance criteria and verification methodology utilized will be grantee auditing, computer modeling, and AI. The generation of EPDs is a verification process that is standard in livestock animals. The project will market the sale of live cattle and breeding stock via the establishment and utilization of networks. This will leverage the networks to promote and market the reduced GHG emission domestic cattle sales. This partnership brings together multiple networks that create opportunities to place young bulls that excel for reduced CH4 emissions and are more feed efficient by consuming less feed into the market. This project aims to reach into this emerging demographic of younger, first-generation beef cattle ranching start-ups to partner, mentor, and support. This project is committed to outreach to first-generation African-American, Latino-American, Asian-American, Native American, and smaller operating ranches for support under the project.

Lead Partner: Texas A&M University-Kingsville**
Other Major Partners: Leachman Cattle of Colorado*, Brahman Country Genetics and Brahman Country Beef*, Zoetis*,**, Allen Genetice Solutions*
Primary States Expected: Nationwide
Major Commodities: Live Feeder and Breeding Cattle
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $4,732,841

Approved Federal Funding: $4,732,769
Non-Federal Match: $151,372

Monitoring Highlights:
GHG will be measured directly from individual beef cattle daily using the C -Lock GreenFeed units. Simulation models for GHG emission will be generated from correlated traits (weight, dry matter intake, sex) in addition to utilizing the phenotypic data generated as time evolves in this project. The development of the phenotypes will result in superior GHG animals that will produce the next generation of beef cattle. These cattle will inherit superior genetics for reduced GHG emissions. This cascade of improvement can be followed for all animals enrolled in the Blockyard (Blockchain technology), additionally genotyping with the InheritSelect product will allow for genetic confirmation of animals with reduced GHG emissions. Compliance criteria and verification methodology utilized will be grantee auditing, computer modeling, and AI. The generation of EPDs is a verification process that is standard in livestock animals.

Marketing Highlights:
The project will market the sale of live cattle and breeding stock via the establishment and utilization of networks. This will leverage the networks to promote and market the reduced GHG emission domestic cattle sales. This partnership brings together multiple networks that create opportunities to place young bulls that excel for reduced CH4 emissions and are more feed efficient by consuming less feed into the market.

Equity Highlights:
This project aims to reach into this emerging demographic of younger, first-generation beef cattle ranching start-ups to partner, mentor, and support. This project is committed to outreach to first-generation African-American, Latino-American, Asian-American, Native American, and smaller operating ranches for support under the project.

Avaliable Practices: 327 Conservation Cover, 338 Prescribed Burning, 380 Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation, 420 Wildlife Habitat Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 550 Range Planting, TXAM001 Genetic Testing of Livestock

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

 Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

Available Training An In-Depth Overview   How to Enroll

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Click on the drop-down menu to change the project.   TH Cattle Company, LLC

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TH Cattle Company, LLC

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://thousandhillslifetimegrazed.com/ climate-smart-commodities/

Short Summary: Expands markets for climate-smart beef in the contiguous United States and supports farmer and rancher implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:
Expanding Opportunities for Evidence-Based, Climate-Smart Grassfed Beef by Enhancing Income Streams through Retail Food Channels and Carbon Markets for a Producer Network Spanning the Rockies to NE US

This project aims to expand the climate-smart regenerative grassfed beef market with market incentives for producers to address the regenerative cost differential, product promotion activities to increase demand at the higher premium-price, and participation in a carbon-credit project to pay producers for carbon sequestration ecosystem services. The project would employ a model-based approach to capture the soil carbon dynamics of grazing practices, which requires calibration with locality-specific measurements of precipitation, temperature, soil, vegetation, etc. for statistical validity and high confidence level. The project plans to develop a simple, low-cost program for measurement, monitoring, reporting, and verification (MMRV) that farmers can easily and inexpensively administer to quantify management impacts on soil and biomass C stocks and GHG emissions for grazing land systems and climate-smart beef, employing on-the-ground measurement of soil carbon stocks, producer-sourced management information, and process-based models of grazing land carbon dynamics. The project will develop a simple, low-cost program for measurement, monitoring, reporting, and verification (MMRV) that farmers can easily and inexpensively administer to quantify management impacts on soil and biomass C stocks and GHG emissions for grazing land systems and Climate-Smart beef, employing on-the-ground measurement of soil carbon stocks, producer-sourced management information, and process-based models of grazing land carbon dynamics. Climate-Smart grazing produces value for two different markets – regenerative-verified beef for a commodity market of consumers and food brands and sequestered carbon for a carbon market of companies wishing to reduce their carbon footprint to meet sustainability commitments. This project explores market-based incentives for implementing Climate-Smart grazing practices that create value for producers in both commodity and carbon markets. Under this project, Intertribal Agriculture Council will: 1) assess barriers, opportunities, and provide support needed for tribal producers to transition to regenerative grassfed beef production and to develop a Tribal beef brand; and 2) conduct outreach and recruit underserved Tribal farmers to supply the producer's network.

Lead Partner: TH Cattle Company, LLC*,**
Other Major Partners: Western Sustainability Exchange*,**, Intertribal Agriculture Council*, Yard Stick, HowGood
Primary States Expected: Nationwide
Major Commodities: Grassfed beef
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $4,467,050

Approved Federal Funding: $4,467,050
Non-Federal Match: $4,385,609

Monitoring Highlights:
The project will develop a simple, low-cost program for measurement, monitoring, reporting, and verification (MMRV) that farmers can easily and inexpensively administer to quantify management impacts on soil and biomass C stocks and GHG emissions for grazing land systems and Climate-Smart beef, employing on-the-ground measurement of soil carbon stocks, producer-sourced management information, and process-based models of grazing land carbon dynamics. The project will employ a model-based approach to capture the soil carbon dynamics of grazing practices, which requires calibration with locality-specific measurements of precipitation, temperature, soil, vegetation, etc. for statistical validity and high confidence level.

Marketing Highlights:
Climate-Smart grazing produces value for two different markets – regenerative-verified beef for a commodity market of consumers and food brands and sequestered carbon for a carbon market of companies wishing to reduce their carbon footprint to meet sustainability commitments. This project explores market-based incentives for implementing Climate-Smart grazing practices that create value for producers in both commodity and carbon markets.

Equity Highlights:
Under this project, Intertribal Agriculture Council will: 1) assess barriers, opportunities, and provide support needed for tribal producers to transition to regenerative grassfed beef production and to develop a Tribal beef brand; and 2) conduct outreach and recruit underserved Tribal farmers to supply the producer's network.

Avaliable Practices: 528 Prescribed Grazing, 382 Fence, 516 Livestock Pipeline, 614 Watering Facility

Available Training An In-Depth Overview   How to Enroll

Any general questions about Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities should be sent to **climate-smart-commodities@usda.gov**. Find answers to many frequently asked questions on our **FAQs page**. For project-specific questions, please visit the Lead Partner's website.

Click on the drop-down menu to change the project. The Conservation Innovatio..

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The Conservation Innovation Fund

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://www.conservationinnovationfund.org/ climate-smart-commodities/

Short Summary: The project expands markets for climate-smart dairy, beef & poultry industry in the Mid-Atlantic region of PA, VA, WV, MD and supports farmer, rancher, and forester implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:
The Mid-Atlantic Conservation Innovation Fund Climate-Smart Commodities Project

This project will help expand climate-smart markets and address climate-smart plans and practices for hundreds of dairy producers and will provide an on-ramp and serve as a catalyst for additional state and private capital to bolster the implementation of whole farm plans. The project will use the COMET Tool and programming platform to quantify estimated increases in soil carbon & reductions in greenhouse gases (GHGs) associated with newly adopted climate-smart practices. Will also use Ecosystem Service Market Consortium/ESMRC's MRV platform and programing infrastructure to collect partner data and quantify increases in soil organic carbon and reduction of GHG emissions. The Project's climate-smart commodity marketing strategy focuses on three distinct channels: (i) direct to major product wholesale purchaser (General Mills); (ii) channel marketing partnership (MDVA Milk) and (iii) direct to retail and consumer channels (SMC). Partnerships with major retailers will be secured to sell the climate-smart commodities. Project will target outreach to small and underserved producers. Some of the groups represented are minority & women-led operations, new and beginning farmers, Black farmers, Amish and Mennonite farmers & veterans. In total 75% of participating producers are expected to be small or underserved producers.

Lead Partner: The Conservation Innovation Fund**
Other Major Partners: Ecosystem Services Market Consortium*, Maryland & Virginia Milk Producers Cooperative Association*, South Mountain Creamery, Stroud Water Research Center*, Virginia Department of Conservation & Recreation**, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay*, William Penn Foundation**, Shenandoah Valley Conservation Collaborative*, Lancaster Clean Water Partners*, Virginia Tech Extension, Pennsylvania Soil Health Coalition
Primary States Expected: PA, VA, MD, WV, DE
Major Commodities: Dairy, Beef, Poultry
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $25,000,000

Approved Federal Funding: $24,999,954
Non-Federal Match: $15,153,569

Monitoring Highlights:
The project will use the COMET Tool and programming platform to quantify estimated increases in soil carbon & reductions in greenhouse gases (GHGs) associated with newly adopted climate-smart practices. Will also use Ecosystem Service Market Consortium/ESMRC's MRV platform and programing infrastructure to collect partner data and quantify increases in soil organic carbon and reduction of GHG emissions.

Marketing Highlights:
The Project's climate-smart commodity marketing strategy focuses on three distinct channels:
(i) direct to major product wholesale purchaser (General Mills); (ii) channel marketing
partnership (MDVA Milk) and (iii) direct to retail and consumer channels (SMC). Partnerships with major retailers will be secured to sell the climate-smart commodities.

Equity Highlights:
Project will target outreach to small and underserved producers. Some of the groups represented are minority & women-led operations, new and beginning farmers, Black farmers, Amish and Mennonite farmers & veterans. In total 75% of participating producers are expected to be small or underserved producers.

Available Practices: 199 Conservation Plan, 313 Waste Storage Facility, 317 Composting Facility, 327 Conservation Cover, 328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 329 Residue and Tillage Management - No-Till,336 Soil Carbon Amendment, 340 Cover Crop, 342 Critical Area Planting, 345 Residue and Tillage Management - Reduced Till, 367 Roofs and Covers, 380 Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation, 381 Silvopasture, 390 Riparian Herbaceous Cover, 391 Riparian Forest Buffer, 412 Grassed Waterway, 449 Irrigation Water Management, 472 Access Control, 512 Pasture and Hay Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 561 Heavy Use Area Protection, 578 Stream Crossing, 590 Nutrient Management, 592 Feed Management, 614 Watering Facility, 659 Wetland Enhancement

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

Available Training An In-Depth Overview How to Enroll

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Click on the drop-down menu to change the project.   The Nature Conservancy

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The Nature Conservancy

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://www.nature.org/ en-us/ about-us/ where-we-work/ united-states/ minnesota/ stories-in-minnesota/ tree-seedling-growers

Short Summary: Expands markets for climate-smart tree seedlings across MN and tribal areas and supports forest landowner implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:
Minnesota Climate-Smart Seedling Production Network

The proposed project plans to work with forest owners to grow a set of climate-adapted tree species resilient to the projected climate futures of Minnesota's Midwest Broadleaf Forest, and monitor and market the climate-smart commodity. Producers would receive a payment for each tree seedling grown, in addition to assistance with start-up costs, provision of wild-collected tree seed, and cooperatively managed shipping and distribution of seedings. Seedlings produced as part of this pilot would bear a "Climate-Smart" label and would include native trees selected based on their projected climate capability. The project would provide free training opportunities about tree seed collection and seedling production market opportunities, paying a fair, hourly wage for participating tree seed collectors and provide start-up funds for interested producers, but for whom cost would be a barrier to enter the market. The project will quantify greenhouse gas benefits using COMET-Farm. In addition, the project will develop a mobile app that links to a statewide seed source data management system to track individual seed lots for up to 10-12 species that are selected for their climate resilience, drawing from both local and adjacent seed/hardiness zone. The project proposes building a market specifically for "Climate-Smart" seedlings that will be marketed to the growing numbers of climate-concerned Minnesotans, including land managers, who are looking for solutions to adapt to and mitigate climate change. Seedlings produced as part of this pilot will bear a "Climate-Smart" label and will include native trees selected on the basis of their projected climate capability. Marketing materials will be made available online so that practices are transparent as to what it means to be "Climate-Smart," including seed collection practices, origins and tracking/growing (chain-of-custody). The project proposes building a market specifically for "Climate-Smart" seedlings that will be marketed to the growing numbers of climate-concerned Minnesotans, including land managers, who are looking for solutions to adapt to and mitigate climate change. Seedlings produced as part of this pilot will bear a "Climate-Smart" label and will include native trees selected on the basis of their projected climate capability. Marketing materials will be made available online so that practices are transparent as to what it means to be "Climate-Smart," including seed collection practices, origins and tracking/growing (chain-of-custody).

Lead Partner: The Nature Conservancy**
Other Major Partners: University of Minnesota-Duluth*, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources*, Three Rivers Parks District*, Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community*, Urban Roots*, Sustainable Farming Association of Minnesota*, Red Lake Nation*, Regional Sustainable Development Partnership Monitoring and Evaluation*,: University of Minnesota-Duluth*, Community Economic Development Associates (CEDA)*, University of Minnesota Extension*, Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships*
Primary States Expected: MN
Major Commodities: Tree Seedlings
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $4,999,997

Approved Federal Funding: $4,999,997
Non-Federal Match: $1,638,005

Monitoring Highlights:
The project will quantify greenhouse gas benefits using COMET-Farm. In addition, the project will develop a mobile app that links to a statewide seed source data management system to track individual seed lots for up to 10-12 species that are selected for their climate resilience, drawing from both local and adjacent seed/hardiness zone.

Marketing Highlights:
The project proposes building a market specifically for "Climate-Smart" seedlings that will be marketed to the growing numbers of climate-concerned Minnesotans, including land managers, who are looking for solutions to adapt to and mitigate climate change. Seedlings produced as part of this pilot will bear a "Climate-Smart" label and will include native trees selected on the basis of their projected climate capability. Marketing materials will be made available online so that practices are transparent as to what it means to be "Climate-Smart," including seed collection practices, origins and tracking/growing (chain-of-custody).

Equity Highlights:
The project's approach to advancing equity and providing benefits to underserved producers includes: providing training opportunities free of charge to Minnesotans who wish to participate in tree seed collection and seedling production climate-smart market opportunities, with an emphasis on underserved and minority communities; providing start-up funds for producers interested in participating in the cooperative network by growing seedlings.

Avaliable Practices: 314 Brush Management, 315 Herbaceous Weed Treatment, 381 Silvopasture,490 Tree and Shrub Preparation, 612 Tree/Shrub Establishment, 647 Early Successional Habitat Management, 655 Forest Trails and Landings, 666 Forest Stand Improvement, 384 Woody Residue Treatment, 311 Alley Cropping, 382 Fence, 331 Contour Orchard and Other Perennial Crops, 590 Nutrient Management, 484 Mulching, 612 Tree/Shrub Establishment, 342 Critical Area Planting, 441 Irrigation Management - Micro Irrigation, TNC001 Climate Smart Tree Seed Collection and Preparation

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

 Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

Available Training An In-Depth Overview   How to Enroll

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Click on the drop-down menu to change the project. The Wolfe's Neck Farm Fou..

The Wolfe's Neck Farm Foundation, Inc

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://openteam.community/ partnerships-for-climate-smart-commodities/

Short Summary: Expands climate-smart Beef, Dairy, Wheat, Rice and Specialty Crop markets in AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, ID, MA, ME, MD, MT, NC, NV, NH, NJ, NY, OR, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT and WA and supports climate-smart practice implementation and monitoring.

Full Description:
Alliance to Catalyze Transition Incentives through Open Networks for Climate-Smart Agriculture

This project will develop the systemic tools and approaches necessary to catalyze change by operating in three areas simultaneously: equipping and training Technical Service Providers for CSA implementation, creating transition finance incentives for producers, and developing a robust and self-sustaining marketplace for climate-smart commodities. A market expansion strategy is planned to leverage the partnership networks to expand purchaser commitments, develop transition financing models and a CSA connector and marketplace exchange to match buyers, funders and producers and implement community engagement and consumer marketing. ACTION plans to deploy at least 25 percent of Producer Incentive Program funds to Black and other underserved producers and include information sessions available at no cost and a website with detailed FAQ, info, and dedicated phone and email assistance in English and Spanish as well as materials and services available in the following languages: Chinese, Hmong, Vietnamese, and Punjabi. Expected carbon gains are planned to be initially estimated using COMET-Planner, which will then be verified by monitoring carbon stocks for each project using the Range-C or Crop-C Monitoring Frameworks. In addition, 5% of projects are intended to be monitored intensively using these frameworks to produce strong levels of inference, 75% are planned to be monitored more moderately, and 20% are planned to be monitored at low intensities. Management data in the Ag Data Wallet integrates directly with GHG models and farm calculators such as COMET-Farm or Cool Farm Tool, allowing producers to complete certification recordkeeping GHG benefit through the same process, and these modeled datasets can be supplemented with soil test results, satellite data and imagery, and other site specific data points to provide one platform for managing all of the information needed to model, monitor, report, and verify a farms impact on climate change and carbon sequestration. The Market Expansion strategy is planned to leverage the immense breadth of the network across ACTION to: 1) expanded purchaser commitments, 2) Innovative Transition Financing models, 3) CSA Connector and Marketplace Exchange for matching buyers, funders and producers, and 4) community engagement and consumer marketing. ACTION plans to work closely with California Association of Resource Conservation Districts and 19 RCDs which already have NRCS funding for outreach to underserved producers, as well as American Farmland Trust for outreach in CA, in CO, ACTION will work with Mile High Farmers, and in the Northeast with Black Farmer Fund, Northeast Farmers of Color, and Food Solutions New England. ACTION will deploy at least 25% of Producer Incentive Program funds to underserved producers and include information sessions available at no cost and a website with detailed FAQ, info, and dedicated phone and email assistance in English and Spanish as well as materials and services available in the following languages: Chinese, Hmong, Vietnamese, and Punjabi.

Lead Partner: The Wolfe's Neck Farm Foundation, Inc.
Other Major Partners: CARCD, CO Dept of Ag. Conservation Fund, General Mills, Mad Ag, ME Soil Health Network, OpenTEAM, CROPP Cooperative, Pennsylvania Association of Sustainable Agriculture, Potlikker Capital, Quivira Coalition*, Stonyfield, California Certified Organic Farmers*, CFDN/RC&D, Food Solutions New England, Institute of Food Technologists - Global Food Traceability Center*,**, ME Farmland Trust, NH Conservation Commission, Organic Trade Association, Regenerative Rising, The Center for Good Food Purchasing, The Soil Inventory Project*,**, VT NOFA, Our Sci, LLC*,**, SustainCert, The Organic Center, Carbon A List, Field to Market, FORA, James Beard Foundation, Sustainable Agriculture Education*,**, Zero Food Print*,**,American Farmland Trust,AgStack*,**, Point Blue*, Conservation Technology Information Center*, Digital Green*, Element84*,**, FarmOS*,**, Heartland Science and Technology Group*,**, Greenexus(LookINTO)*,**, Purdue University*, Regen Network*,**, Tech Matters*,**, Terran Collective*,**, The Nature Conservancy*, Open Rivers*,**, Permanent*,**
Primary States Expected: AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, ID, MA, ME, MD, MT, NC, NV, NH, NJ, NY, OR, PA, RI, SC, VA, VT, WA
Major Commodities: Beef, Dairy, Wheat, Rice, Specialty Crops, Agroforestry
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $35,000,000

Approved Federal Funding: $35,000,000
Non-Federal Match: $3,050,509

Monitoring Highlights:
Expected carbon gains are planned to be initially estimated using COMET-Planner, which will then be verified by monitoring carbon stocks for each project using the Range-C or Crop-C Monitoring Frameworks. In addition, 5% of projects are intended to be monitored intensively using these frameworks to produce strong levels of inference, 75% are planned to be monitored more moderately, and 20% are planned to be monitored at low intensities. Management data in the Ag Data Wallet integrates directly with GHG models and farm calculators such as COMET-Farm or Cool Farm Tool, allowing producers to complete certification recordkeeping GHG benefit through the same process, and these modeled datasets can be supplemented with soil test results, satellite data and imagery, and other site specific data points to provide one platform for managing all of the information needed to model, monitor, report, and verify a farms impact on climate change and carbon sequestration.

Marketing Highlights:
The Market Expansion strategy is planned to leverage the immense breadth of the network across ACTION to: 1) expanded purchaser commitments, 2) Innovative Transition Financing models, 3) CSA Connector and Marketplace Exchange for matching buyers, funders and producers, and 4) community engagement and consumer marketing.

Equity Highlights:
ACTION plans to work closely with California Association of Resource Conservation Districts and 19 RCDs which already have NRCS funding for outreach to underserved producers, as well as American Farmland Trust for outreach in CA, in CO, ACTION will work with Mile High Farmers, and in the Northeast with Black Farmer Fund, Northeast Farmers of Color, and Food Solutions New England. ACTION will deploy at least 25% of Producer Incentive Program funds to underserved producers and include information sessions available at no cost and a website with detailed FAQ, info, and dedicated phone and email assistance in English and Spanish as well as materials and services available in the following languages: Chinese, Hmong, Vietnamese, and Punjabi.

Avaliable Practices: 311 Alley Cropping, 327 Conservation Cover, 328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 329 Residue and Tillage Management - No-Till, 336 Soil Carbon Amendment, 340 Cover Crop, 345 Residue and Tillage Management - Reduced Till, 380 Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation, 381 Silvopasture, 386 Field Border, 422 Hedgerow Planting, 484 Mulching, 512 Pasture and Hay Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 550 Range Planting, 590 Nutrient Management, 612 Tree/Shrub Establishment

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

Available Training An In-Depth Overview   How to Enroll

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Click on the drop-down menu to change the project. Truterra, LLC

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Truterra, LLC

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://www.truterraag.com/ USDA-Climate-SMART/

Short Summary: Expands markets for climate-smart corn, Soybeans, wheat, cotton & dairy in all contiguous U.S. except CT, NH, NM, RI and VT and supports farmer implementation/monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:
Climate SMART (Scaling Mechanisms for Agriculture's Regenerative Transformation)

This project, which will reach across 43 states, aims to catalyze a self-sustaining, market-based network to broaden farmer access, scale adoption of climate-smart practices, and sustainably produce grain and dairy commodities with verified and quantified climate benefits. Truterra plans to work with food and ag companies to acquire project grown climate-smart commodities. Truterra's quantification methodology would include a modeled-plus-measured approach to quantify GHG removals, using a field-level calibrated version of the DayCent model for both the baseline (producer's actual prior practices) and the current state with new practice. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) guidelines would be used to determine emissions from all sources that cannot be effectively modeled using DAYCENT and WEPP (used to determine energy demand of field passes based on crop operations); model runs would be supported by soil sampling stratified by soil (physiochemical class, soil textural class, and soil drainage class), management (Generalized Tillage Intensity Rating (gTIR) for each of the past six years, grouped into low- or medium-tillage), and climate (temperature and effective precipitation). Truterra plans to work with Food and Ag companies to 1) better understand the commodity production practices in their supply chain, 2) identify geographies where working with producers on CSC will have the most impact, 3) deploy resources through the Network to create a "supply" of practice change, and 4) procure the resulting GHG or other ecosystem service assets. This system would enable food companies to acquire CSCs, rewards producers for producing them, and offers Network members an incentive payment for helping make it happen. The project plans to equip 11 underserved producer organizations with access to the Truterra sustainability tool, services and programs, and provide targeted support on approximately hundreds of thousands of acres as welll as train Black Climate-Smart Agronomists through internships/fellowships with Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) throughout the Southeast. The project also plans to provide priority access to all project technical and financial assistance opportunities and train and incentivize 10 or more underserved producers to host Farmer Peer Networks.

Lead Partner: Truterra, LLC**
Other Major Partners: Ag Gateway, Biofiltro, Continuum Ag, ESRI, Equilibrium Capital, Farmobile*, FarmRaise, John Deere, La Crosse Seed, Macquarie, Microsoft, Northern Star Seed, Sound Ag, Strand Gard Stewardship, WinField United, American Farmland Trust*, Black Family Land Trust*, Farm Credit Council, Federation of Southern Cooperatives*, Minorities in Ag, Natrl. Res. & Related Sciences, Soil Health Institute*, Butcher Box, Campbell Soup, Green Plains, Hershey, Land O'Lakes Dairy Foods, Nestle Purina, Perdue, Primient, Tate & Lyle, Cloud Ag, Colorado State Univ., SustainCert & 50 ag retail coops, Venture37 Services*, United States Biochar Initiative*, OpenTEAM*, Allied Soil Health Services*, Western NY Crop Management Association*, Agriculral Consulting Services*
Primary States Expected: AL, AZ, AR, CA, CO, DE, FL, GA, ID, IL, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, MT, NE, NV, NJ, NY, NC, ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WV, WI, WY
Major Commodities: Corn, Soybeans, Wheat, Cotton, Dairy
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $90,000,000

Approved Federal Funding: $90,000,000
Non-Federal Match: $36,513,229

Monitoring Highlights:
Truterra's quantification methodology would include a modeled-plus-measured approach to quantify GHG removals, using a field-level calibrated version of the DayCent model for both the baseline (producer's actual prior practices) and the current state with new practice. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) guidelines would be used to determine emissions from all sources that cannot be effectively modeled using DAYCENT and WEPP (used to determine energy demand of field passes based on crop operations); model runs would be supported by soil sampling stratified by soil (physiochemical class, soil textural class, and soil drainage class), management (Generalized Tillage Intensity Rating (gTIR) for each of the past six years, grouped into low- or medium-tillage), and climate (temperature and effective precipitation).

Marketing Highlights:
Truterra plans to work with Food and Ag companies to 1) better understand the commodity production practices in their supply chain, 2) identify geographies where working with producers on CSC will have the most impact, 3) deploy resources through the Network to create a "supply" of practice change, and 4) procure the resulting GHG or other ecosystem service assets. This system would enable food companies to acquire CSCs, rewards producers for producing them, and offers Network members an incentive payment for helping make it happen.

Equity Highlights:
The project plans to equip 11 underserved producer organizations with access to the Truterra sustainability tool, services and programs, and provide targeted support on approximately hundreds of thousands of acres as welll as train Black Climate-Smart Agronomists through internships/fellowships with Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) throughout the Southeast. The project also plans to provide priority access to all project technical and financial assistance opportunities and train and incentivize 10 or more underserved producers to host Farmer Peer Networks.

Avaliable Practices: 345 Residue and Tillage Management - Reduced Till, 328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 329 Residue and Tillage Management - No-Till, 340 Cover Crop, 590 Nutrient Management, 376 Field Operations Emissions Reduction, 443 Irrigation System - Surface and Subsurface, 449 Irrigation Water Management, 336 Soil Carbon Amendment, 632 Waste Separation Facility, 359 Waste Treatment Lagoon, 627 Wastewater Treatment, 592 Feed Management, 374 Energy Efficient Agricultural Operation, 533 Pumping Plant, 670 Energy Efficient Lighting System, 672 Energy Efficient Building Envelope

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

Click on the drop-down menu to change the project.   Tuskegee University. (Agrof..

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Tuskegee University. (Agroforestry)

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://www.tuskegee.edu/ climate-smart-project-2023/

Short Summary: Expands climate-smart livestock, meat, fruit, vegetable, medicinal herb & other specialty crop markets in AL, MD, VA & farmer/forest land owner implementation & monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:

Expanding the Participation of Marginal Producers and Landowners to Promote Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry Practices: Continuous Efforts of 1890 Agroforestry Consortium

The project plans to support small-scale and other underserved producers in three states with financial and technical assistance to transform their traditional production into a multi-pronged agroforestry-based climate-smart, sustainable production system. All producers and landowners are planned to receive financial incentives to cover costs of inputs and services Partners will form a marketing network for labelling, packaging, and branding CS commodities. The project's MMRV plan will include core sampling for carbon sequestration benefits in soil, in-field measurement of GHG effluxes, and quantification of carbon sequestered in trees and shrubs based on above and below-ground biomass. To measure GHG benefits associated with climate smart animal-production systems, partners will include the use of mobile small animal GreenFeed measurement systems, forage biomass samples, and other collected data. The GHG benefits associated with the implemented climate-smart practices will be verified based on the carbon sequestration and GHG emission results and their continuity over the project period, using the Carbon Management Evaluation Tool (COMET). The project will adopt a robust marketing plan to explore, create, expand, and promote climate smart commodities marketing during the project period and create an inter-state marketing consortium to educate producers and landowners on how to promote domestic markets for their climate-smart commodities. The project will also facilitate the setting of premium prices for the climate-smart commodities by introducing labels/badges and marketing materials on packaging and branding, e.g., a climate-smart logo and the price per unit of climate smart commodity on the label/badge. This project, led by a minority serving institution, is expected to enroll primarily small and underserved producers and landowners. Each participant will receive financial incentives to procure inputs and pay for services required for implementing climate-smart practices.

Lead Partner: Tuskegee University
Other Major Partners: Alabama A&M University*, Virginia State University*, University of Maryland Eastern Shore*
Primary States Expected: AL, MA, VA
Major Commodities: Specialty Vegetables, Fruits (apples, persimmon, berries), Medicinal herbs, LIvestock
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $4,999,999

Approved Federal Funding: $4,999,999
Non-Federal Match: $0

Monitoring Highlights:
The project's MMRV plan will include core sampling for carbon sequestration benefits in soil, in-field measurement of GHG effluxes, and quantification of carbon sequestered in trees and shrubs based on above and below-ground biomass. To measure GHG benefits associated with climate smart animal-production systems, partners will include the use of mobile small animal GreenFeed measurement systems, forage biomass samples, and other collected data. The GHG benefits associated with the implemented climate-smart practices will be verified based on the carbon sequestration and GHG emission results and their continuity over the project period, using the Carbon Management Evaluation Tool (COMET).

Marketing Highlights:
The project will adopt a robust marketing plan to explore, create, expand, and promote climate smart commodities marketing during the project period and create an inter-state marketing consortium to educate producers and landowners on how to promote domestic markets for their climate-smart commodities. The project will also facilitate the setting of premium prices for the climate-smart commodities by introducing labels/badges and marketing materials on packaging and branding, e.g., a climate-smart logo and the price per unit of climate smart commodity on the label/badge.

Equity Highlights:
This project, led by a minority serving institution, is expected to enroll primarily small and underserved producers and landowners. Each participant will receive financial incentives to procure inputs and pay for services required for implementing climate-smart practices.

Avaliable Practices: 311 Alley cropping, 381 Silvopasture, 382 Fence, 512 Pasture and Hay Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 590 Nutrient Management, 612 Tree/Shrub Establishment, 614 Watering Facility

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

Available Training An In-Depth Overview   How to Enroll

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Click on the drop-down menu to change the project.   University of Delaware (for..   **DOWNLOAD PDF**

University of Delaware (formerly FAMU-Biochar)

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://sites.google.com/ udel.edu/ partners-climate-smart-comm?usp=sharing/

Short Summary: Expands climate-smart legumes, citrus, vegetables & industrial hemp markets in DE, PA, VA, MD, NJ, SC, GA, FL, AL, CA & OR supporting farmers with climate-smart practice implementation & monitoring.

Full Description:
Production and Application of Biochar in Agricultural Practices at Small and Underserved Farms: Soil Enhancement, Carbon Sequestration, and promoting Climate-Smart Commodities

This project, led by minority serving university Florida A&M, plans to develop biochar-based climate-smart practices and technologies that may be implemented on farms, especially on underserved farms, and to market the resulting climate-smart commodities. In addition to free training and consulting, the producers are planned to receive a financial stimulus per acre of farmland used to implement climate-smart practices using biochar such as soil amendment, water infiltration and manure composting. Partner institutes and companies plan to contract with the landowners and producers to purchase some of the resulting commodities for research, product development, and food manufacturing purposes. The partners will rely on the COMET-Planner and COMET-Farm tools to calculate the Green House Gas (GHG) and carbon benefits of the proposed practices. They will also work to develop a sensor array system to detect farm GHG emissions in real time. Lastly, they will conduct soil sampling to analyze and verify real soil organic carbon and nitrogen. The project will also use validated approaches to measure the GHG emission from the farmlands and evaluate carbon sequestration in biochar amended farms as benchmarks. Partner institutes and companies will contract with producers and landowners to market and purchase some of the resulting climate-smart commodities for consumption, product development. University of Delaware and partners plan to conduct studies on consumer preferences for climate-smart commodities through the willingness to pay studies for the commodities at both online and physical markets. This project will be conducted in partnership with one of the largest minority-serving universities in the United States, and the landowners and producers will primarily be underserved producers. This grant will focus on increasing profitability of small and underserved farms including expanding markets for their farms' climate-smart commodities.

Lead Partner: University of Delaware (formerly FAMU-Biochar)
Other Major Partners: University of Florida*, University of Maryland*, University of California, Davis*, Florida A & M University*
Primary States Expected: AL, CA, DE, FL, GA, MD, NJ, OR, PA, SC, VA
Major Commodities: Legumes, leafy green vegetables, hemp, citrus
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $4,854,923

Approved Federal Funding: $4,854,923
Non-Federal Match: $0

Monitoring Highlights:
The partners will rely on the COMET-Planner and COMET-Farm tools to calculate the Green House Gas (GHG) and carbon benefits of the proposed practices. They will also work to develop a sensor array system to detect farm GHG emissions in real time. Lastly, they will conduct soil sampling to analyze and verify real soil organic carbon and nitrogen. The project will also use validated approaches to measure the GHG emission from the farmlands and evaluate carbon sequestration in biochar amended farms as benchmarks.

Marketing Highlights:
Partner institutes and companies will contract with producers and landowners to market and purchase some of the resulting climate-smart commodities for consumption, product development, and food manufacturing purposes. University of Delaware and partners plan to conduct studies on consumer preferences for climate-smart commodities through the willingness to pay studies for the commodities at both online and physical markets.

Equity Highlights:
This project will be conducted in partnership with one of the largest minority-serving universities in the United States, and the landowners and producers will primarily be underserved producers. This grant will focus on increasing profitability of small and underserved farms including expanding markets for their farms' climate-smart commodities.

Avaliable Practices: 336 Soil Carbon Amendment, 345 Residue and Tillage Management - Reduced Till, 590 Nutrient Management, 629 Waste Treatment, 634 Waste Transfer

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

Available Training An In-Depth Overview   How to Enroll

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Click on the drop-down menu to change the project.   University of Maryland East..

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University of Maryland Eastern Shore

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
Coming Soon

Short Summary: Expands markets for climate-smart grass and corn in the Eastern Shore region of MD and VA and supports farmer implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:
Cover Crop Utilization to Boost Anaerobic Digestion, Transform Chicken Litter, Enhance Soil Health, and Create Climate-Smart Commodity Pathways for Small Farms on the Delmarva Peninsula

The project would directly address underserved producers on the Delmarva Peninsula by promoting climate-smart cover crops as a feedstock for digestor facilities. Project partners anticipate these facilities plan to provide a per acre incentive for harvested climate-smart cover crop biomass making them more economically sustainable and allowing for several project partners to promote and distribute the climate-smart products. This project plans to focus on environmental justice especially in communities impacted by environmental hazards, social-economic stress and poor infrastructure. The renewable energy produced (biogas, including methane content) will be quantified using a mass balance approach, with the energy output based on the mass of poultry litter and cover crop inputs. All energy inputs and outputs from the digester operation to cover crops, field application, and soil sequestration will be quantified and the COMET online management tool will be used for estimating changes in soil C sequestration, fuel, and fertilizer use resulting from changes in land management. The project has formalized several partnerships to promote and distribute the climate-smart products under the project and will disseminate information regarding the cover crops and field amendments generated by this project. One of the partners will facilitate the integration of underserved producers into the new climate-smart cover crop supply chain. This project will also focus on the environmental justice factors inherent to the implementation of any new agricultural practice or technology.

Lead Partner: University of Maryland Eastern Shore
Other Major Partners: Delmarva Land and Litter Collaborative, Chesapeake Utilities Corporation, 2020 Farmers Cooperative, Planet Found Energy Development*,**, University of Maryland College Park*
Primary States Expected: MD, VA
Major Commodities: Corn, Grass
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $4,999,999

Approved Federal Funding: $4,999,999
Non-Federal Match: $326,463

Monitoring Highlights:
The renewable energy produced (biogas, including methane content) will be quantified using a mass balance approach, with the energy output based on the mass of poultry litter and cover crop inputs. All energy inputs and outputs from the operation to cover crops, field application, and soil sequestration will be quantified and the COMET online management tool will be used for estimating changes in soil C sequestration, fuel, and fertilizer use resulting from changes in land management.

Marketing Highlights:
The project has formalized several partnerships to promote and distribute the climate-smart products under the project and will disseminate information regarding the cover crops and field amendments generated by this project.

Equity Highlights:
One of the partners will facilitate the integration of underserved producers into the new climate-smart cover crop supply chain. This project will also focus on the environmental justice factors inherent to the implementation of any new agricultural practice or technology.

Avaliable Practices: 336 Soil Carbon Amendment, 340 Cover Crop, 512 Pasture and Hay Planting, 590 Nutrient Management

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

Available Training An In-Depth Overview   How to Enroll

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Click on the drop-down menu to change the project.   University of Tennessee

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University of Tennessee

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://grasslandspartnership.org/

Short Summary: Expands markets for climate-smart beef, dairy, small ruminants and forage in AL, AR, IN, KY, MO, NC, SC, TN & VA and supports farmer & rancher implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:
Climate-Smart Grasslands: The Root of Agricultural Carbon Markets

A diverse partnership of 28 entities will develop climate-smart grasslands agriculture markets and practices for the eastern U.S. through a large-scale pilot project. The project collaborates with 245 working farms to install innovative, scientifically sound practices, including grazing, seeding grass and using soil amendments,that improve soil carbon storage, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and maintain operational profitability and resiliency. The project plans to market climate-smart beef with the ultimate goal of launching a cooperative to sell climate-smart beef products. COMET, DayCent, Bowen Ratio Energy Balance (BREB) & LI-COR will all be used to monitor the effects of the proposed climate-smart practices and management to be implemented. 100 participating farms will have baseline testing in Year 1 & again in Year 5 to see what effect the different practices had on the land. This project will document the impact of traditional and innovative practices on SOC & GHG outcomes. This information will help producers market climate-smart commodities to several potential markets such as access to verified GHG-reduction supply chains, marketing ecosystem services as off-sets, formation of a producer cooperative & development of an interactive web platform to facilitate engagement with prospective market for Carbon Credits. In addition the project will work with industrial partners within the finishing/processing supply chain to provide an opportunity to engage with a climate-smart chain access & benefits. The project will use existing & successful programs with 11 partner Land Grant institutes to engage the underserved/minority population. The "Farmers Veteran Coalition" of Tennessee will be used to reach veterans in the farming community. Also, the National Grazing Land Coalition (NGLC) will engage with Small Farmers and Ranchers Community Based Organization & Indian Nations Conservation Alliance. Will prioritize counties within the nine-state project area that are economically distressed or have disproportionate representation of small & limited resource farmers . The overall goal is to enroll at least 30% of producers who are either underserved, beginning, veteran or limited resource farmers and 30% of producers within economically distressed counties.

Lead Partner: The University of Tennessee
Other Major Partners: Univ. of Arkansas*, University of KY*,**, University of MO*,**, Clemson University*,**, NC State University*,**, Purdue University*,**, TN State University*,**., Univ. of TN Institute of Agriculture*,**, VA State University*, VA Tech*,**, Tyson Foods Inc., JBS USA, Corteva Agriscience, Farm Credit Mid-America, and Ecosystem Services Marketing Consortium*, American Forage & Grassland Council, National Grazing Lands Coalition*,**, National Cattlemen's Beef Association, U.S. Roundtable for Sustainable Beef, multiple state cattle associations, American and Tennessee Farm Bureau Federations, The Nature Conservancy**, American Bird Conservancy, Monarch JointVenture*, National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative**, TN Department of Agriculture**, MO Department of Conservation**, VA Department of Conservation and Recreation**, University of Maryland *, Colorado State University*, Auburn University *,**,
Primary States Expected: AL, AR, IN, KY, MO, NC, SC, TN, VA
Major Commodities: Beef, Small Ruminants, Dairy, Forage
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $30,000,000

Approved Federal Funding: $30,000,000
Non-Federal Match: $6,171,612

Monitoring Highlights:
COMET, DayCent, Bowen Ratio Energy Balance (BREB) & LI-COR will all be used to monitor the effects of the proposed climate-smart practices and management to be implemented. 100 participating farms will have baseline testing in Year 1 & again in Year 5 to see what effect the different practices had on the land.

Marketing Highlights:
This project will document the impact of traditional and innovative practices on SOC & GHG outcomes. This information will help producers market climate-smart commodities to several potential markets such as access to verified GHG-reduction supply chains, marketing ecosystem services as off-sets, formation of a producer cooperative & development of an interactive web platform to facilitate engagement with prospective market for Carbon Credits. In addition the project will work with industrial partners within the finishing/processing supply chain to provide an opportunity to engage with a climate-smart chain access & benefits.

Equity Highlights:
The project will use existing & successful programs with 11 partner Land Grant institutes to engage the underserved/minority population. The "Farmers Veteran Coalition" of Tennessee will be used to reach veterans in the farming community. Also, the National Grazing Land Coalition (NGLC) will engage with Small Farmers and Ranchers Community Based Organization & Indian Nations Conservation Alliance. Will prioritize counties within the nine-state project area that are economically distressed or have disproportionate representation of small & limited resource farmers . The overall goal is to enroll at least 30% of producers who are either underserved, beginning, veteran or limited resource farmers and 30% of producers within economically distressed counties.

Avaialble Practices: 336 Soil Carbon Amendment, 381 Silvopasture, 382 Fence, 386 Field Border, 512 Pasture and Hay Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 590 Nutrient Management, 614 Watering Facility

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

 Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

Available Training An In-Depth Overview   How to Enroll

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Click on the drop-down menu to change the project.   U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol, ..

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U.S. Cotton Trust Protocol, LLC

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://trustuscotton.org/ climate-smart/

Short Summary: Expands Markets for climate-smart cotton in AL, AZ, AR, CA, FL, GA, KS, LA, MO, MS, NC, NM, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA and supports farer implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:
U.S. Climate-Smart Cotton Program

This project will build markets for climate-smart cotton and provide technical and financial assistance to over 1,000 U.S. cotton farmers, including underserved cotton producers, to advance adoption of climate-smart practices on more than 1 million acres, producing millions of bales of Climate-Smart Cotton over five years, and demonstrating major carbon dioxide equivalent (CO2e) reductions and millions of dollars of economic benefits to farmers. Project plans to provide participants up to three years of financial assistance for climate-smart practices like nutrient management and cover crops. To enhance market opportunities for participants, partners plan to leverage and enhance their existing relationships within the apparel industry. The project technology platform will leverage existing data reporting infrastructure, SHI's measurement of soil health and carbon outcomes and track GHG benefits through the supply chain. The project plans to utilize remote sensing, conduct representative soil sampling and GHG monitoring, and perform in-person visits for each field. The project plans to build demand for climate-smart cotton and insets produced throughout the project duration to fashion/textile brands and retailers by leveraging and enhancing existing relationships between project partners and the apparel industry. The project plans to enroll 20% underserved producers.

Lead Partner: US Cotton Trust Protocol
Other Major Partners: Soil Health Institute*, Cotton Incorporated**, Agricenter International*, North Carolina A&T State U*, Alabama A&M U*, Texas AgriLife*, National Cotton Council**, Targe Corporation**,.
Primary States Expected: AL, AZ, AR, CA, FL, GA, KS, LA, MO, MS, NC, NM, OK, SC, TN, TX, VA
Major Commodities: Cotton
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $90,000,000

Approved Federal Funding: $90,000,000
Non-Federal Match: $8,750,000

Monitoring Highlights:
The project technology platform will leverage existing data reporting infrastructure, SHI's measurement of soil health and carbon outcomes and track GHG benefits through the supply chain. The project plans to utilize remote sensing, conduct representative soil sampling and GHG monitoring, and perform in-person visits for each field.

Marketing Highlights:
The project plans to build demand for climate-smart cotton and insets produced throughout the project duration to fashion/textile brands and retailers by leveraging and enhancing existing relationships between project partners and the apparel industry.

Equity Highlights:
The project plans to enroll 20% underserved producers.

Avaliable Practices: 329 Residue and Tillage Management - No-Till, 340 Cover Crop, E340C Use of multi-species cover crop to improve soil health and increase soil organic matter, 345 Residue and Tillage Management - Reduced Till, 590 Nutrient Management

(*) indicates a subrecipient
(**) indicate a partner that is supplying non-federal match dollars or in-kind support

Data will be updated periodically. Last updated on 6/5/2024.

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VA Polytechnic Institute and State University

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://www.allianceforcsa.org/

Short Summary: Expands markets for climate-smart Corn, Rice, Beef, Pork, Dairy, Other Crops & Livestock in AR, MN, ND, and VA and supports farmer implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:
The Alliance to Advance Climate-Smart Agriculture: Supporting Producers to Promote Productivity, Markets, and Environmental Benefits

This project will build climate-smart markets for a variety of agricultural commodities and help to make adopting climate-smart agriculture and forestry practices more economically viable for producers by compensating them at a rate that guarantees a reasonable return, with a price floor that surpasses costs. It also proposes to conduct research on consumer willingness to pay for climate-smart labels to help assess the private market and label effectiveness, and develop a national climate-smart agriculture and forestry certification model that can used with private sector purchasers. GHG impact is planned to be quantified using tools such as USDA's COMET and Field to Market's Fieldprint Calculator (for rice), which do not require extensive on-farm sampling. This project plans to use producer self-verification and select audits. Livestock pilots plan to include recommendations on verifying methane reductions using practical, scientific, and cost-effective methods, such as drones. The project plans to estimate impact based on statistical models rather than monitoring every field and adjust certificate values based on the determined accuracy of producers' self-verified GHG claims and level of additionality. The project plans to conduct research on consumer willingness to pay for various climate-smart labels to help assess the size of the private market and label effectiveness and develop a national climate-smart agriculture and forestry certificate model that can be used with private sector purchasers. The project plans to provide outreach for meaningful participation (at least 40%) by underserved producers through mechanisms such as funding allocations, minimum payments, and equity payment terms.

Lead Partner: Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Other Major Partners: Arkansas Department of Agriculture*,**, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources*,**, North Dakota Farmers Union*, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation*,**, Arkansas Rice Federation*, Agricultural Council of Arkansas*, Minnesota Soil Health Coalition*, Minnesota Farmers Union*, Minnesota State Cattlemen's Assoc.*, Natl. Assoc. of Conservation Districts*, National Black Growers Council*, Sustainable Food Lab*, Environmental Initiative*, Supporters of Agricultural Research (SoAR)*
Primary States Expected: AR, MN, ND, VA
Major Commodities: Corn, Rice, Beef, Pork, Dairy, Other Crops, Other Livestock

Approximate Funding Ceiling: $80,000,000

Approved Federal Funding: $80,000,000
Non-Federal Match: $20,849,855

Monitoring Highlights:
GHG impact is planned to be quantified using tools such as USDA's COMET and Field to Market's Fieldprint Calculator (for rice), which do not require extensive on-farm sampling. This project plans to use producer self-verification and select audits. Livestock pilots plan to include recommendations on verifying methane reductions using practical, scientific, and cost-effective methods, such as drones. The project plans to estimate impact based on statistical models rather than monitoring every field and adjust certificate values based on the determined accuracy of producers' self-verified GHG claims and level of additionality.

Marketing Highlights:
The project plans to conduct research on consumer willingness to pay for various climate-smart labels to help assess the size of the private market and label effectiveness and develop a national climate-smart agriculture and forestry certificate model that can be used with private sector purchasers.

Equity Highlights:
The project plans to provide outreach for meaningful participation (at least 40%) by underserved producers through mechanisms such as funding allocations, minimum payments, and equity payment terms.

Avaliable Practices: CPA 102 Comprehensive Nutrient Management, 328 Conservation Crop Rotation, 329 Residue and Tillage Management - No-Till, 340 Cover Crop, 345 Residue and Tillage Management - Reduced Till, 367 Roofs and Covers, 381 Silvopasture, 390 Riparian Herbaceous Cover, 391 Riparian Forest Buffer, 449 Irrigation Water Management, 512 Pasture and Hay Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 590 Nutrient Management, 592 Feed Management, 612 Tree/Shrub Establishment, 632 Waste Separation Facility, CCI-SL-6W Continuing Conservation Initiative Stream Exclusion with Wide Width Buffer – Maintenance Practice,CCI-SL-6N Continuing Conservation Initiative Stream Exclusion with Narrow Width Buffer – Maintenance Practice, WFA-CC: Whole Farm Approach – Cover Crop Bundle, WFA-NM: Whole Farm Approach – Nutrient Management Bundle

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Click on the drop-down menu to change the project. West Virginia University Re..

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West Virginia University Research Corporation

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://extension.wvu.edu/ agriculture/ pasture-hay-forage/ grazing-for-appalachian-sustainability/

Short Summary: Expands markets for climate-smart beef in VA and WV and supports farmer implementation and monitoring of climate-smart practices.

Full Description:
Grazing Regeneratively for Appalachian Sustainable Solutions

Underserved farmers would receive financial and technical assistance to support the transition from typical livestock systems management to climate-smart practices. Practices implemented include land management plans, prescribed grazing, bale grazing, native grass and silvopasture establishment, incorporation of legumes and non-leguminous forbs, and use of traditional and novel soil amendments, such as biochar. The project would provide producers with marketing assistancefor grass-fed beef products as long as producers meet required criteria of certifications and product quality. MMRV will be accomplished with a variety of approaches through COMET-Planner to determining baselines, soil analysis, grazing evaluations, practice measurements, and ecological outcome verifications (EOV). GHGs and carbon sequestration metrics will be evaluated on farms across both VA and WV. The long-term verification includes a comprehensive soil health analysis and must be done at the start of the project, then every five years to remain EOV certified. The short-term monitoring utilizes the Ecological Health Index to assess improvements in ecological health and services. Marketing will utilize producer need assessments, related producer surveys, econometric estimation, and market discovery to guide the marketing of climate-smart products and market analysis for producers in Appalachian Virginia and West Virginia. A design of the economic evaluation to perform econometric analysis of the data will allow for an estimate of the potential marketability of GRASS beef. Through their market discovery work, data will be provided on demand based on trends related to climate-smart products and opportunities through additional outlets. A marketing agency will provide label development, brand identity design, event marketing, packaging design, digital media materials, and promotional content for climate-smart beef. The mission of GRASS is to support and empower 135 farmers in the Central Appalachian region of West Virginia and Virginia, many of which are considered small and/or underserved. Equity through this effort is paramount. Small and underserved producers will be targeted for outrach and have the opportunity to participate through a plethora of options for climate-smart practices and systems. By embracing these practices, producers will enhance working land resiliency, support high carbon sequestration rates, foster healthier soils, and generate economic benefits for many small and underserved farmers in Appalachia. Virginia State University (1890 land-grant) Cooperative Extension Small Farm Outreach Program will provide the organization of producer-led on-farm field days in Appalachian Virginia, which will allow for peer-to-peer learning.

Lead Partner: West Virginia University Research Corporation
Other Major Partners: West Virginia University (WVU)**, Virginia Tech*, Virginia State University*, The West Virginia Conservation Agency (WVCA)**, Hickory Nut Gap (HNG)**, Commonwealth of Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation Agricultural Best Management Practices Match Program (VACS)**,
Primary States Expected: WV, VA
Major Commodities: Beef
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $4,795,300

Approved Federal Funding: $4,795,047
Non-Federal Match: $2,144,561

Monitoring Highlights:
MMRV will be accomplished with a variety of approaches through COMET-Planner to determining baselines, soil analysis, grazing evaluations, practice measurements, and ecological outcome verifications (EOV). GHGs and carbon sequestration metrics will be evaluated on farms across both VA and WV. The long-term verification includes a comprehensive soil health analysis and must be done at the start of the project, then every five years to remain EOV certified. The short-term monitoring utilizes the Ecological Health Index to assess improvements in ecological health and services.

Marketing Highlights:
Marketing will utilize producer need assessments, related producer surveys, econometric estimation, and market discovery to guide the marketing of climate-smart products and market analysis for producers in Appalachian Virginia and West Virginia. A design of the economic evaluation to perform econometric analysis of the data will allow for an estimate of the potential marketability of GRASS beef. Through their market discovery work, data will be provided on demand based on trends related to climate-smart products and opportunities through additional outlets. A marketing agency will provide label development, brand identity design, event marketing, packaging design, digital media materials, and promotional content for climate-smart beef.

Equity Highlights:
The mission of GRASS is to support and empower 135 farmers in the Central Appalachian region of West Virginia and Virginia, many of which are considered small and/or underserved. Equity through this effort is paramount. Small and underserved producers will be targeted for outrach and have the opportunity to participate through a plethora of options for climate-smart practices and systems. By embracing these practices, producers will enhance working land resiliency, support high carbon sequestration rates, foster healthier soils, and generate economic benefits for many small and underserved farmers in Appalachia. Virginia State University (1890 land-grant) Cooperative Extension Small Farm Outreach Program will provide the organization of producer-led on-farm field days in Appalachian Virginia, which will allow for peer-to-peer learning.

Avaliable Practices: 381 Silvopasture, 382 Fence, 512 Pasture and Hay Planting, 528 Prescribed Grazing, 590 Nutrient Management, 614 Watering Facility

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Yale University

Link to Project Enrollment Opportunities:
https://www.ycncc-csc.com/

Short Summary: Expands climate-smart vegetable,corn,soybean,barley,rye,peanut,chicken&beef markets in SE, MW, NE & potentially some western states & supports farmers to implement & monitor climate-smart practices.

Full Description:
Creating Climate-Smart Commodities through Enhanced Rock Weathering in Agricultural Settings

Project participants would use basalt dust instead of agricultural lime to increase soil pH through a method known as Enhanced Rock Weathering (ERW), which speeds up a natural carbon sequestration process. Project funds would be used to cover all material, application, and monitoring costs for farmers as well as developing markets for the low-carbon carbon smart commodities grown by participating farmers. The project plans to determine the extent to which this process can increase crop yields, reduce agricultural nitrous oxide emissions (N2O), and decrease fertilizer and lime costs, much of which may benefit underserved agricultural producers at a time of record high input costs and increasing economic pressures. In addition to CO2 removal, the project will measure N2O emissions associated with agriculture. The project will measure net CO2 emissions at the ecosystem scale using the eddy covariance method. In addition, the project will monitor trace metals (e.g., As, Cr, Ni, Pb, Cu) in the soils and in crops to ensure that any ingrowth of metals meets EPA guidelines and model predictions. Producer co-ops and associations (Farm Foundation, the Land Connection, Zumwalt Acres and Switchgrass Spirits) will oversee marketing of Climate-Smart Commodities to next-stage buyers. In addition, the project will direct market beef and vegetables to restaurants, distributors and grocers.Switchgrass Spirits distillery is committed to enrolling grain suppliers to create carbon negative whiskey; supporting production and marketing of corn, barley and rye Climate-Smart Commodities from growers. Yale will work directly with growers and distributors to develop and provide climate-smart labeling with QR codes linking to information about Climate-Smart Commodities to expand markets and branding potential of Climate-Smart Commodities. This project involves underserved and small producers in the following ways: (1) targeting crops that represent the highest acreage totals for farmers of color and more historically diverse regions, (2) partnering with diverse producer networks and (3) ensuring eligibility for early adopters. In total, this project will involve 20 small and underserved producers with ability to expand enrollment of small and underserved producers in future years.

Lead Partner: Yale University
Other Major Partners: Georgia Inst. of Technology*, Grodan*, Agoro Carbon Alliance*, Black Oaks Center, The Land Connection*, Zumwalt Acres, Farm Foundation*, Carolina Sunrock
Primary States Expected: CT, GA, IL AL, AR, CA, CO, DE, ID, IN, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN,MS,MO,MT, NE, NH, NJ, NY, NC, ND, OH, OR, PA, RI, SC, SD, TN, VT,
 VA, WA, WV, WI, WY
Major Commodities: Corn, Soybeans, Vegetables, Barley, Rye, Peanuts, Chicken, Beef
Approximate Funding Ceiling: $4,898,690

Approved Federal Funding: $4,898,690
Non-Federal Match: $0

Monitoring Highlights:
In addition to CO2 removal, the project will measure N2O emissions associated with agriculture. The project will measure net CO2 emissions at the ecosystem scale using the eddy covariance method. In addition, the project will monitor trace metals (e.g., As, Cr, Ni, Pb, Cu) in the soils and in crops to ensure that any ingrowth of metals meets EPA guidelines and model predictions.

Marketing Highlights:
Producer co-ops and associations (Farm Foundation, the Land Connection, Zumwalt Acres and Switchgrass Spirits) will oversee marketing of Climate-Smart Commodities to next-stage buyers. In addition, the project will direct market beef and vegetables to restaurants, distributors and grocers.Switchgrass Spirits distillery is committed to enrolling grain suppliers to create carbon negative whiskey; supporting production and marketing of corn, barley and rye Climate-Smart Commodities from growers. Yale will work directly with growers and distributors to develop and provide climate-smart labeling with QR codes linking to information about Climate-Smart Commodities to expand markets and branding potential of Climate-Smart Commodities.

Equity Highlights:
This project involves underserved and small producers in the following ways: (1) targeting crops
that represent the highest acreage totals for farmers of color and more historically diverse regions,
(2) partnering with diverse producer networks and (3) ensuring eligibility for early adopters. In
total, this project will involve 20 small and underserved producers with ability to expand enrollment of small and underserved producers in future years.

Avaliable Practices: 805 Amending Soil Properties with Lime

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