



STRENGTHENING COOPERATIVE COMMUNITIES

USDA-FUNDED AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE INVESTMENT
PROGRAM (ARP TAIP)



SPEAKERS



TEIA EVANS, JD/MBA

Project Director

*USDA Strengthening Co-op Capacity
for Historically Underserved Farmers*



BERNARDO PENAHERRERA

Program Associate

*USDA Strengthening Co-op Capacity
for Historically Underserved Farmers*



CAMILA PIÑEIRO

Practice Area Director

*Strengthening Cooperatives and
Producer Organizations*



AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

PRIMARY GOAL

"...to support organizations, to be known as cooperators, that will collaborate with USDA on the **delivery of targeted technical assistance** and related activities **to achieve future outcomes of improved equitable participation of farmers, ranchers, and forest landowners in USDA programs and services.**"





AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT IS ALIGNED WITH THE FOLLOWING USDA STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS:

- Ensure USDA programs are delivered efficiently, effectively, with integrity and a focus on customer service;
- Promote American agricultural products and services; and
- Facilitate rural prosperity and economic development





AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

OBJECTIVES

ARP TAIP grantees' work includes the following objectives for providing technical assistance, program development, curriculum development, deployment, and evaluation of **impact in the following areas**:

- Introduction to USDA programs
- Financial literacy
- Market Planning
- Technical Support





WHY NCBA CLUSA?

APPROACHED BY USDA

- Experience managing large federal awards

ALIGNS WITH OUR MISSION & VISION

- Promotes the cooperative model
- Helps build an inclusive economy

ALIGNS WITH OUR MEMBERS

- Act as convener
- Support NCBA CLUSA members and their work

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT CAPACITY

- Systems and processes are aligned with federal gov't
- Financial ability to receive and manage funds
- In-house, dedicated Grant & Compliance Unit
- In-house, dedicated Monitoring & Eval Team
- International cooperative development expertise and tools that can be adapted to the U.S.



NCBA CLUSA'S OBJECTIVE



To support historically underserved farmers, ranchers and their communities by *creating a community-led cooperative development ecosystem*



HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED FARMERS

SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED FARMER OR RANCHER

Individual or entity who is a member of a socially disadvantaged group whose members have been subject to racial or ethnic prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities.

- American Indians or Alaskan Natives
- Asians
- Blacks or African Americans
- Native Hawaiians or other Pacific Islanders
- Hispanics

For an entity, at least 50% ownership in the farm business must be held by socially disadvantaged individuals.





HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED FARMERS

LIMITED RESOURCE FARMER OR RANCHER

Individual with direct or indirect gross farm sales not more than the current indexed value in each of the previous two years, and who:

- Has a total household income at or below the national poverty level for a family of four, or less than 50 percent of county median household income in each of the previous two years





HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED FARMERS

BEGINNING FARMER OR RANCHER

Individual who has not operated a farm or ranch, or who has operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 consecutive years, and who:

- Will materially and substantially participate in the operation of the farm or ranch
- In the case of a contract with an individual, individually or with the immediate family, material and substantial participation requires that the individual provide substantial day-to-day labor and management of the farm or ranch, consistent with the practices in the country or state where the farm is located





HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED FARMERS

VETERAN FARMER OR RANCHER

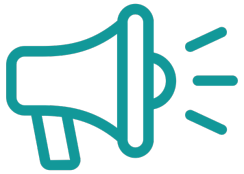
Served in the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force or Coast Guard, including the reserve component thereof; was released from service under conditions other than dishonorable; and:

- Has not operated a farm or ranch, or has operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 years; or
- Who first obtained status as a veteran during the most recent 10-year period





NCBA CLUSA'S MAJOR ACTIVITIES



Increase awareness
of the cooperative
model



Create culturally
appropriate
resources



Develop a cadre of
cooperative
developers with
economic and
cultural ties and
experience



Research policy and
regulatory factors
that encourage
sustainable
development



HOW YOU CAN HELP

1

CONTENT
DEVELOPMENT

2

OUTREACH

3

TRAINING

4

MEASURING
IMPACT





THE PROCUREMENT PROCESS

PROJECT PROCUREMENTS AND GRANTS

- Must follow 2 CFR 200.317-327 and 2 CFR 200.331-333
- Very prescribed
- USDA audits NCBA CLUSA to ensure compliance with Federal Regulations

REQUIREMENTS

- Public notification
- Maximum competition
- Clear requirements
- Clear evaluation criteria
- Costs must be allowable, reasonable and necessary
- Cost analysis is required

AGREEMENTS

- Mandatory provisions
- Must contain technical and cost information
- Must contain deliverables
- Contract purpose must be contract use
- Change in agreement must be made in writing

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- Pass-through requirements
- Monitoring requirements
- Risk assessment and due diligence closeout requirements



QUESTIONS?

EMAIL TEIA AT TEVANS@NCBA.COOP

EMAIL BERNARDO AT BPENAHERRERA@NCBA.COOP



THANK YOU!

EMAIL TEIA AT TEVANS@NCBA.COOP

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