

PROJECT PROFILE

# SAFE AGRICULTURE AND FOOD EXPORT PROGRAM (SAFE)

SEPTEMBER 2015– NOVEMBER 2020

FUNDED BY:

USDA \$16,212,121



## TARGETS

INDIVIDUALS BENEFITTING: **66,000**

VALUE OF BEEF SALES: **\$553 MIL**

VALUE OF DAIRY SALES: **\$268 MIL**

VALUE OF BEEF EXPORTS TO U.S.: **\$3 MIL**



Workers pasteurize milk at the Pasteurizadora Agampita, a local partner

## SUMMARY

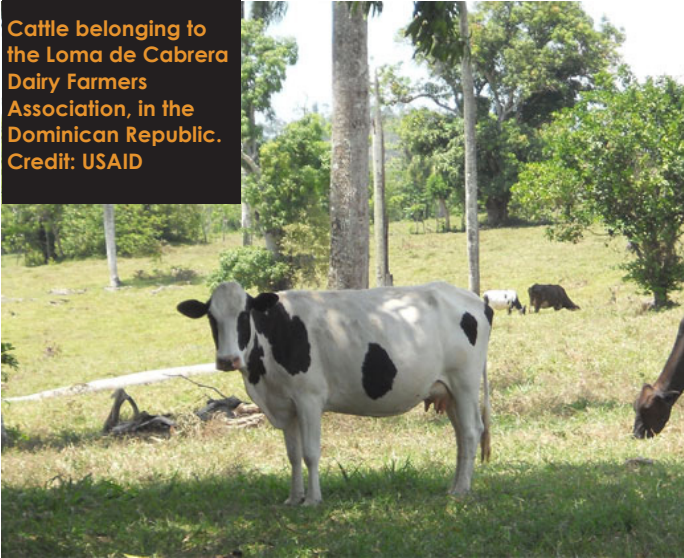
Known locally as the Progana Project, NCBA CLUSA will, over the course of five years, increase the value chains in two sectors in the Dominican Republic: beef and dairy.

This project improves agricultural productivity by increasing the use of improved techniques and technologies; improving farm management; increasing the availability of inputs and use of financial services; strengthening the capacity of government institutions and key groups; and increasing the leverage of private sector resources.

Once agricultural productivity is improved, the project also aims to expand trade and export by adding value to post-production; increasing the adoptions of standards and certifications; increasing access to markets; building linkages between buyers and sellers; improving post-harvest infrastructure; increasing the use and efficiency of post-production processes; improving the policy and regulatory framework; and strengthening the capacity of key organizations in the trade sector.



Cattle belonging to the Loma de Cabrera Dairy Farmers Association, in the Dominican Republic. Credit: USAID



## BEEF AND DAIRY FARMERS MOVE CLOSER TO EXPORTING TO U.S.

Government and private sector leaders in the beef and dairy industry that make up the Technical Advisory Council met last month to move forward on implementing the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Self Reporting Tool (SRT), a potential major step forward in meeting U.S. import standards. The Council is part of NCBA CLUSA's USDA-funded Safe Agriculture Food Export (SAFE) program to prepare the industry for export and sustainable growth.

Council institutions reported on progress towards using the SRT, an oversight tool that allows a country to demonstrate that its inspection system achieves an equivalent level of protection. If approved by

relevant authorities in the U.S. this would represent a significant step forward for the beef industry in the Dominican Republic and the SAFE project, which is working to help potential exporters meet U.S. food safety standards.

This first step puts the country on the waiting list to undergo the inspection process of meat processing procedures and plants. This sets Dominican producers on a path toward obtaining the certification they need to export their products to the U.S.

Among other topics discussed during the meeting was the need for LAVECEN, the Central Veterinary Authority, to obtain the necessary resources to comply with the required analytics for beef slaughterhouses and public health; the commitment of the Dominican Ministers of Public Health and Agriculture to the USDA SAFE project; and the need to define a method for the disposal of slaughterhouse waste that meets environmental standards.

Council members also celebrated the news that Dominican Republic President Danilo Medina has expressed support for USDA SAFE's initiatives and the beef industry, and that instructions have been issued to comply with all the regulations required for the country to resume exports to the U.S. and other external markets. With support from the highest levels of the country's government, beef industry leaders will continue to move forward in bringing the industry up to the necessary environmental and health standards.

NCBA CLUSA was founded in 1916 and is the primary voice for people who use cooperatives to build a better world. Since 1953, we have worked in over 85 countries building resilient communities, promoting economic opportunities and strengthening cooperatives and producer groups.

**NCBA CLUSA**  
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