

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY to address climate change in collaboration with USDA Caribbean Climate Hub and University Extension.

The USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) recently announced a grant opportunity under their [Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program Foundational Applied Science Program](#). The new priority area, called *Extension, Education, and USDA Climate Hubs Partnership*, allows eligible applicants to apply for up to a \$1.5 million grant to fund a 3-5 year project to provide effective, translatable, and scalable approaches to address climate change through regional partnerships that include the USDA Climate Hubs and extension (e.g., the Cooperative Extension Service). The 2021 deadline to submit an application is Thursday, July 22nd at 5:00 pm ET.

Proposed projects should meet the needs of one or more of the USDA Climate Hubs. Interested parties are encouraged to contact their regional Climate Hub to discuss their project idea with the Hub Director as soon as possible. As projects are meant to be collaborative, it is advised to involve the Climate Hub and Extension early on in the project development process.

Several priorities of the USDA Caribbean Climate Hub are listed below. We welcome collaboration on proposals supporting extension and education efforts addressing these priorities.

USDA Caribbean Climate Hub Priority Areas

- Increasing the identification, development, and sharing of sector specific climate adaptation practices for tropical agriculture and forestry - may include demonstrations, written products, videos, workshops, and training. Increasing learning and the application of lessons learned from extreme events (hurricanes, drought, flood, fire).
- Increasing climate literacy for service providers and the general public.
- Increasing carbon sequestration in farms and forests.
- Increasing use of cover crops for tropical agriculture.
- Increasing capacity to maximize value of wood resources from forest to market.
- Increasing information on reforestation for carbon storage and other benefits appropriate to working lands, conservation areas, urban areas, coastal lands, and tree nurseries.
- Including the US Caribbean or larger area in geographic scope.

Contact: Caribbean Hub Director William Gould william.a.gould@usda.gov

In tandem with local Hub priorities, all proposed partnerships should work towards one or more of the following long-term socio-economic impacts: 1) net-zero emissions agriculture; 2) working lands adapted to climate change; 3) a diverse workforce that can effectively communicate about climate change with a variety of stakeholders and can incorporate climate considerations into managing working lands; and 4) climate justice including equity in opportunities and burden-sharing.

More information

For information on eligibility and other details, see the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program: Foundational and Applied Science Program Fiscal Years (FY) 2021 and 2022 [Request for Applications](#). See page 71 for the section on *Extension, Education & USDA Climate Hubs Partnership*. NIFA recently discussed this opportunity in a webinar, and the recording is available [here](#).