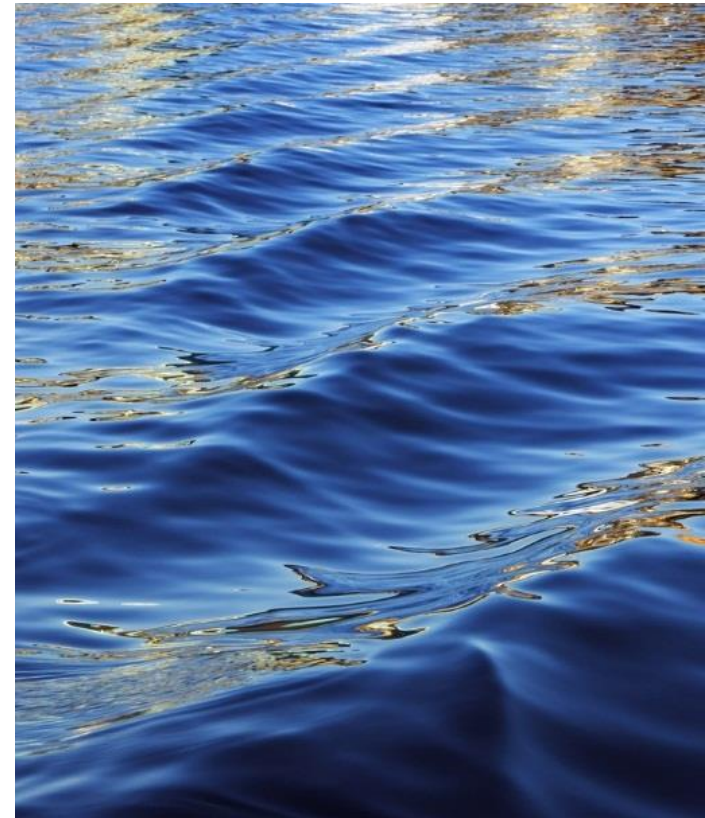




USDA's Climate Change Strategy

Scaling for Implementation

October 2021



Scaling Climate-Smart Agriculture for Implementation

1. Scaling for Implementation – U.S. National Experience

- Whole of Government Approach
- Expanding What Works, Leveraging Existing Programs
- New Partnerships and Programs
- Investing in Extension and Education, Research and Innovation

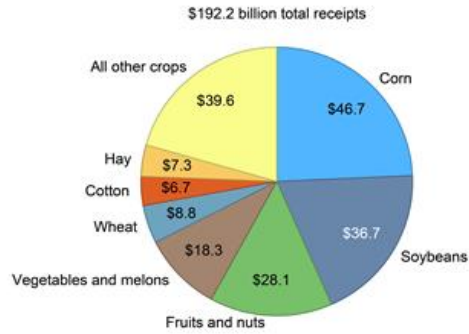
2. How can KJWA outcome contribute to scaling efforts?

- Informing Work Under the Convention
- Raising Awareness and Driving Action Outside the Convention
- Enabling National Action

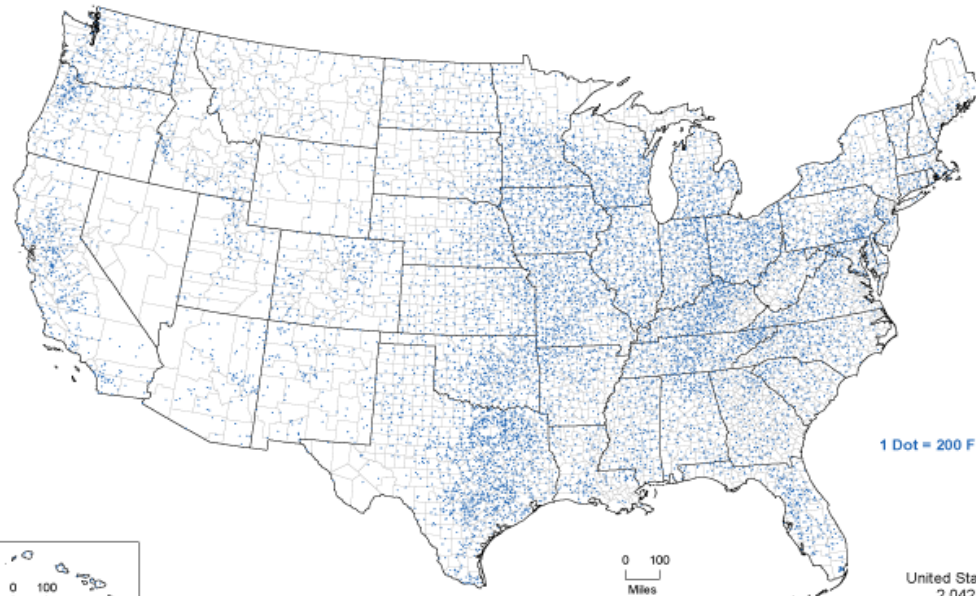
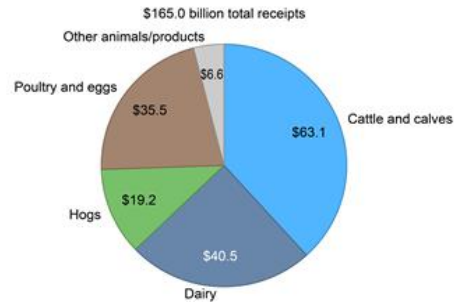
U.S. Agriculture

- More than 10 agroclimatic zones, 2.02 million farms, diverse crops, systems, sizes.
- In 2019 nearly 98% of all U.S. farms were family farms; 90% small family farms.
- Large-scale family farms make up about 3% of farms, 44% value of production.

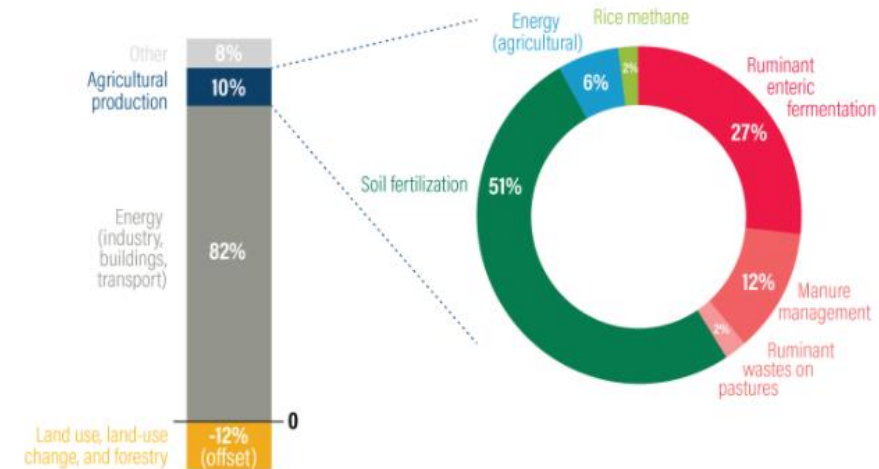
2020 U.S. crop cash receipts (\$ billion)



2020 U.S. animal and animal product cash receipts (\$ billion)



0 100 Miles
17-M207
U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service



A Whole of Government Approach

- Whole-of-government effort to achieve net-zero by 2050, and our NDC commits to net GHG reduction by 50-52% below 2005 levels by 2030.
- Climate change poses significant risks to U.S. agricultural, forests, and rural communities. USDA is responsible for federal efforts to support private farm and forest landowners and resource managers as they implement climate solutions.
- USDA is developing a comprehensive strategy centered on voluntary incentives, and inclusive of all agricultural producers, landowners, and communities.
- This strategy is supported by two recent reports: the [90-Day Progress Report on Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry](#) published in May 2021 and [USDA's Action Plan for Climate Adaptation and Resilience](#) published October 7, 2021.



Executive Order on Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad

JANUARY 27, 2021 • PRESIDENTIAL ACTIONS

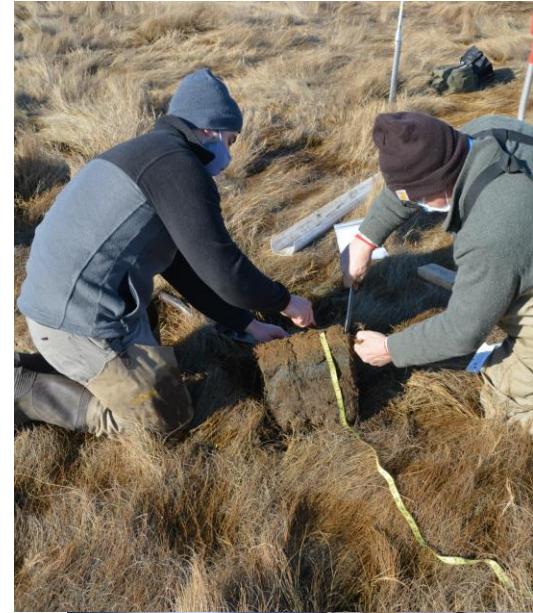
Recommendations for a Climate-Smart Agriculture and Forestry Strategy

A multi-pronged approach to meet multiple objectives including reducing GHG emissions, increasing carbon sinks, building resilience and adaptive capacity, and sustainably improving productivity, food security, and rural livelihoods.

- 1. Quantification and Metrics:** Prepare to quantify, track and report the benefits of CSAF activities
- 2. Inclusivity:** Develop a strategy that works for all farmers, ranchers, foresters, and communities
- 3. Build on What Works:** Leverage existing USDA programs to support CSAF strategies
- 4. Strengthen education, extension, training, and technical assistance** for CSAF practices
- 5. Support new and better markets** for climate-smart agriculture and forestry products
- 6. Develop a forest and wildfire resilience strategy**
- 7. Invest in and Improve CSAF research**

Quantification and Metrics

- Identify promising CSAF practices
- Develop or enhance tools to assist farmers, ranchers, and foresters in quantifying benefits of CSAF practices
- Develop and conduct timely surveys of the adoption rates of CSAF practices and track progress on their implementation at a national scale
- Support additional, measurable, and verifiable carbon reductions and sequestration



Leverage Existing USDA Programs to Scale Adoption

- Enroll more farmers, ranchers in voluntary conservation with expanded incentives, eligibility, outreach and technical assistance
- Incorporate climate-smart practices and incentives into existing USDA programs, such as risk management
- Invest in infrastructure improvements to facilitate implementation of CSAF practices
- Support and help finance renewable energy and energy efficiency activities in rural communities
- Reduce food loss and waste
- Help build community resilience to climate change



Climate Smart Partnerships Initiative

- A new initiative to finance scaling of climate-smart farming and forestry practices and aid in the marketing of climate-smart agricultural commodities.
- Large-scale pilots and demonstration projects, guided by science, will provide incentives to implement conservation practices on working lands and funding to quantify and monitor the carbon and greenhouse gas benefits associated with those practices through the supply chain.
- Create new market opportunities and empower farmers, ranchers, and foresters to produce climate smart commodities meeting domestic and global demand for sustainable goods.
- USDA published a [Request for Information](#) seeking public comment and input on design of this new initiative, which is slated for implementation later this year.

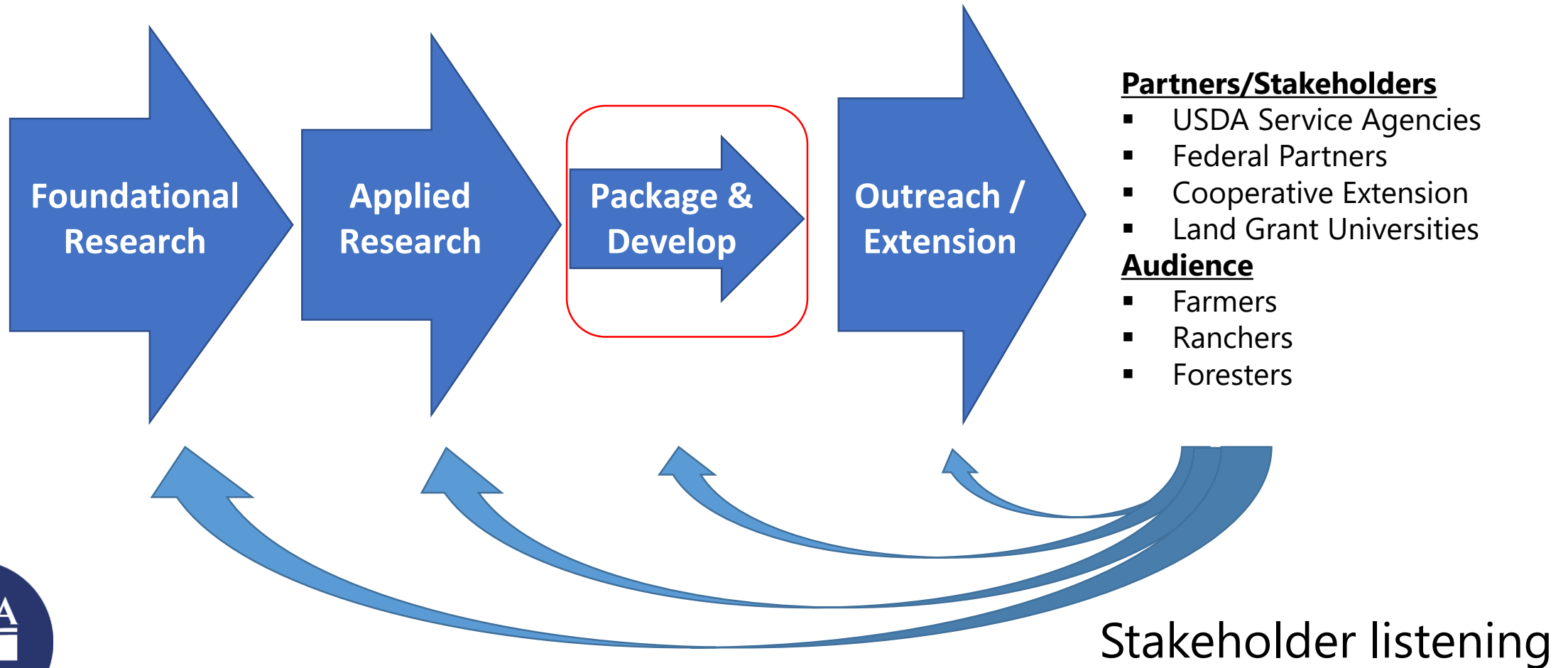


Strengthen education, training, and technical assistance



- Build on and expand existing education and outreach efforts, including youth programs
- Strengthen the role of USDA's *Regional Climate Hubs*
- Incorporate climate into new initiatives:
- USDA NIFA's new *Extension, Education, and USDA Climate Hub Partnerships* to support training for the next generation of agriculturalists
- USDA ARS' *Climate Change Center of Excellence* to ensure climate innovations are positioned for adoption and scaling, build a platform to enable climate-smart decision making, foster new technologies, cooperate with the private sector, and coordinate to integrate promising technologies into USDA conservation programs.

USDA Climate Hubs: accessible, demand driven climate science and tools



Goals:

Climate
awareness

Resilient &
productive
working lands



Science and data syntheses



Technology development and
support



Outreach, convening, and
training

Climate Hubs

- We *connect* a wide range of USDA partners including federal and state agencies, extension, and Tribes.
- We *coordinate* with other regional climate change organizations.
- We *collaborate* and *co-produce* climate information and resources to support climate-smart practices.



USDA Agencies

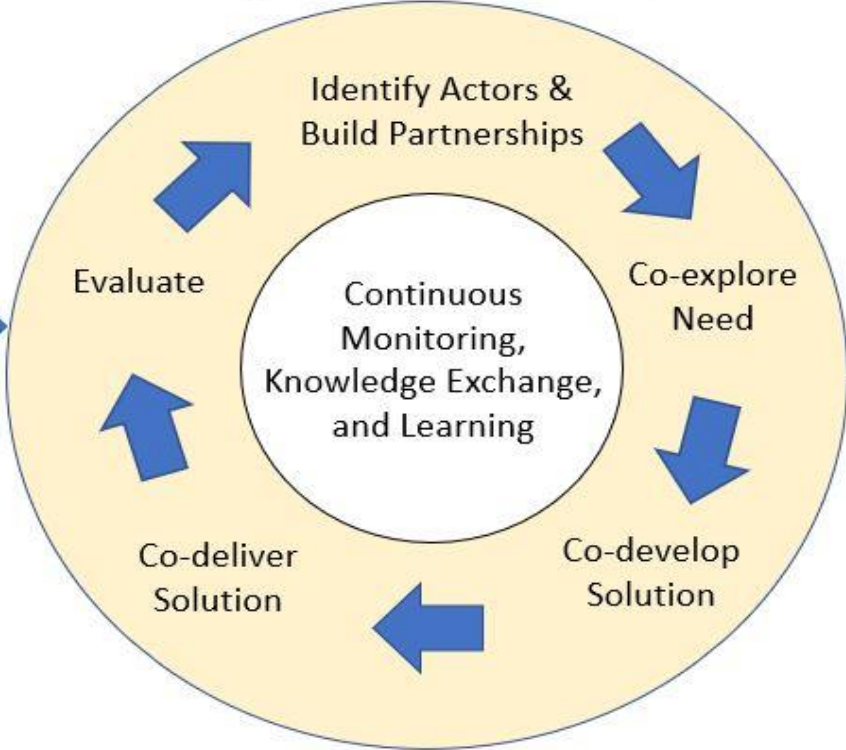
Federal partners

University extension

Coproduction cycle

NGOs and Nonprofits

Process Principles
Inclusive
Collaborative
Flexible



Product Characteristics
Decision-driven
Process-based
Time-managed

States

Private sector partners

Reflexively review and refine processes

Working Land Managers

Reflexively review and refine processes



Research and Innovation

USDA expanded climate research investments will

- Support landscape-scale conservation and management
- Evaluate potential climate benefits of new technologies
- Support research into human dimensions and economic effects of climate change for agricultural and forest-dependent communities
- Develop protocols for performing research to evaluate CSAF technologies effectiveness
- Increase our understanding of climate change and variability, its effects on agriculture and forests, and ways to build adaptation and resilience.

The AIM4C joint initiative seeks to dramatically increase public and private investment in, and other support for, climate-smart agriculture and food systems innovation to raise global ambition and catalyze more rapid and transformative climate action



How can KJWA outcomes support scaling?

How can KJWA outcome contribute to scaling efforts?

- Strengthening work under the convention
 - Tracking how bodies and mechanisms address agriculture and food security
 - Continuing substantive exchange between parties, constituted bodies, financial mechanisms
- Enabling National Action
 - Facilitating inclusion of agriculture in national plans, and strengthen ambition, feasibility, and scale of proposed national efforts
- Raising awareness and driving action outside the convention
 - Boosting cooperative efforts, partnerships, multilateral and regional initiatives
 - Leveraging existing platforms and institutions
 - Sharing case studies and tools that can be adapted and tailored to regional, national and subnational contexts

Thank you for your attention!

For questions contact:

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