USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BIOENERGY, CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT
FOOD PRODUCTION AND SUSTAINABILITY
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INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

NIFA

AFRI BNRE Soil Health A1401 FY2023RFA Announcement and Technical Assistance Webinar

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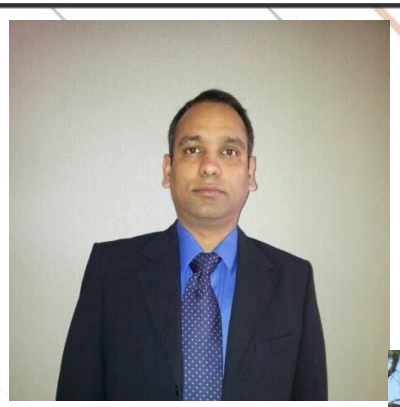
Soil Health (A1401)

Sandeep Kumar
National Program Leader
Institute of Bioenergy, Climate and Environment
Sandeep.Kumar@usda.gov
(816) 832-7235



Diomides Zamora
National Program Leader
Institute of Bioenergy, Climate and Environment
Diomides.Zamora@usda.gov
(202) 590-6049

Wendy Flatt
Program Specialist
Institute of Bioenergy, Climate and Environment
Wendy.Flatt@usda.gov
(660) 973-6079

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Biology, Natural Resources, and Environment (BNRE): Soil Health A1401 Program Overview

Purpose and Priorities

RFA Page # 56

- The goal of the Soil Health A 1401 program area priority is to support research projects that will contribute to:
  - Foundational and applied research to advance scientific **understanding of soil physical and biogeochemical processes and interactions**;
  - Assessment, development and adoption of models, decision support tools and new climate-smart management/conservation practices that will lead to improving or maintaining soil health and productivity while maintaining or improving environmental health in a changing climate and sustainability of our natural resource base;

Purpose and Priorities

RFA Page # 56

- Applications may address one or more of the following:
  - Evaluation of the effects of management practices on:
    - Soil microbial community function and their contribution to healthy soils
    - Carbon sequestration,
    - Mitigating greenhouse gas emissions and/or sustainable, climate-resilient agroecosystems;

Purpose and Priorities

RFA Page # 56

- Applications may address one or more of the following:
  - Assessment and/or development of innovative approaches, tools and technologies that enhance the understanding and/or management of the physical and biogeochemical processes that contribute to soil health.

RFA Page #

Eligibility

- Colleges or universities (including junior colleges offering associate degrees or higher)
- State agricultural experiment stations
- National laboratories
- Federal agencies
- Private organizations or corporations
- Other research institutions or foundations
- Individuals who are U.S. citizens, nationals, or permanent residents
- A consortium of two or more eligible entities.

Project and Grant Types

RFA Page 55

Project Types

Research Only

Grant Types

Standard, Conference, FASE (Strengthening Standard, New Investigator, Seed, Sabbatical, Equipment)

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Application Details and Documents

Application Details

RFA Page # 55

- **RFA is available online at:**
  - https://www.nifa.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2023-02/FY23-AFRI-FAS-RFA-508_0.pdf
- **Application Deadline:** Thursday, September 14, 2023 (5:00 PM Eastern Time)
  - Submitted through Grants.gov
- **Total funding available in FY 2023**: ~$8,000,000
- **Program Code**: A1401
- **Maximum funding per award**:
  - $750,000 for Standard Grants, Strengthening Standard Grants and New Investigator Standard Grant; $900,000 with specific partnerships; $300,000 for all Seed Grants.

Key Documents

Key component of your application:

- Project Summary/Abstract
- Project Narrative
- Bibliography/Reference List
- Other Documents (See RFA and NIFA Grant Application Guide)

Soil Health (A1401)

Questions?

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National Program Leader
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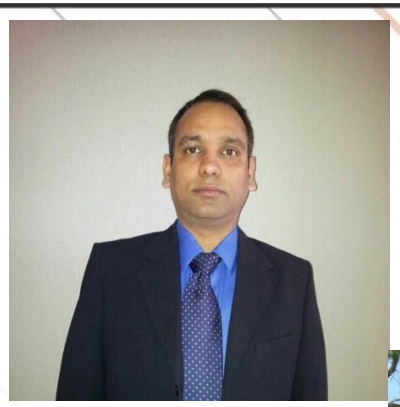
(816) 832-7235



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AFRI BNRE Water Quantity and Quality A1411 FY 2023 RFA Announcement and Technical Assistance Webinar

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James Dobrowolski
National Program Leader
Institute of Bioenergy, Climate and Environment
james.dobrowolski@usda.gov
202-420-8918

Program Specialist

Wendy Flatt,
Program Specialist
Wendy.Flatt@usda.gov

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Biology, Natural Resources, and Environment (BNRE): Water Quantity and Quality A1411 Program Overview

Purpose and Priorities

RFA Page 57

The Why:

- The U.S. is committed to the proper management of agricultural practices and improved efficiency of agricultural water uses to protect water quality and increase water and food security, and improve resilience of agricultural and forest ecosystems to climate change (U.S. Global Water Strategy Refresh 2022).
- USDA-NIFA will provide competitive support to improve water science, management and technologies, water conservation and water use efficiency; promote common data exchange formats and access to data for decision-making, improve forecasting and model water related systems, and promote technology adoption and behavior change by producers, land managers, and decision makers.

Purpose and Priorities

RFA Page 58

The How:

- Practically, USDA-NIFA seeks applications to:
  a. Reduce the freshwater demand (both groundwater and surface water) for irrigation and the nutrient demand for maximum crop production by substituting the use of other technologies, management practices and/or other water sources (recycled wastewater, brackish groundwater, agricultural return flow and produced water from industry) while retaining appropriate soil health (managed salinity, adequate infiltration, proper application and use of soil amendments, such as fertilizers, manure and biochar) and eliminating accelerated erosion from farm fields, and;
  b. Protect water quality of surface and groundwater systems through improved nutrient management, improved pesticide management, and reduced nutrient, pesticide, pathogen, and contaminants of environmental concern (CEC) loads to surface or groundwater.

Project and Grant Types

RFA Page 58, 91

Project Types

Integrated**
Research Only

New Investigator
Seed, Sabbatical,
Equipment

Grant Types

Standard

Strengthening

**New in FY 2023

Application Details

RFA Page 58

- **RFA Is Available Online At**:
  - https://www.nifa.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2023-02/FY23-AFRI-FAS-RFA-508_0.pdf
- **Application Deadline**: Thursday, September 7, 2023 (5:00 p.m. Eastern Time)
  - Submitted through Grants.gov
- **Total Funding** Available in FY 2023: ~$8,000,000
- **Program Code**: A1411
- **Maximum** funding per award: $650,000 Research; $750,000 Integrated;
  - $800,000 for research only projects and $900,000 for integrated projects with specific partnerships (***see AFRI FAS RFA Part II § E***)

Thanks for Listening! Please Contact Us for Further Information

James Dobrowolski
National Program Leader
Institute of Bioenergy, Climate and Environment
james.dobrowolski@usda.gov
202-420-8918

Wendy Flatt,
Program Specialist
Wendy.Flatt@usda.gov

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A1414: Sustainable Bioeconomy Through Biobased Products FY2023 RFA Announcement and Technical Assistance Webinar

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Dr. Toby Ahrens
National Program Leader
Institute of Bioenergy, Climate and Environment
Division of Bioenergy
toby.ahrens@usda.gov
207-544-3021

Rocio Gutierrez Garzon
Program Specialist
Institute of Bioenergy, Climate and Environment
rocio.gutierrezgarzon@usda.gov
816-541-1673

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Program Overview

Purpose and Priorities

RFA Page 61-61

Seeks to strengthen one or more of the following:

- New and/or improved strategies to develop **bio-based products that improve product functionality, increase potential revenues and/or reduce cost over incumbent products**; this includes addressing supply chain challenges for the production systems for feedstock/germplasm improvement, product formulation or end-user market demand;

- Strategies and approaches for scalable biomass systems that provide **beneficial ecosystem services**, such as improved water availability and quality, improved life cycle emissions, nutrient use reduction, or wildlife and pollinator habitat enhancements; and/or

- Strategies to **alleviate technical, and economic barriers** leading to adoption resulting in improved consumer attitudes toward the bioeconomy and strengthening the rural economy through development of new bioproducts and employment opportunities.

Project and Grant Types

RFA Page 61

Project Types

- ✗ Research only
- ✗ Education only
- ✗ Extension only
- Integrated

Integrated projects only

Grant Types

- ✓ Standard
- ✓ Conferences
- ✓ Strengthening
  (Strengthening Standard, New Investigator, Strengthening Conference, Seed, Equipment, and Sabbatical)

Eligibility

RFA Page 114

Eligible applicants for Integrated Projects include:

a) colleges and universities;

b) 1994 Land-grant Institutions; and

c) Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities.

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Application Details and Documents

Application Details

RFA Page 60-61

- RFA is available online at:

https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/funding-opportunities/agriculture-food-research-initiative-foundational-applied-science

- **Application Deadline**: September 7th, 2023 by 5 p.m. (Eastern Time)
  - Submitted through Grants.gov

- Program Code: A1414

- Maximum funding per award: $1,000,000

Key Documents

RFA Page 120

Key components of your Application:

- Project Summary/Abstract
- Project Narrative
- Bibliography/Reference List
- Data Management Plan
- Other Documents (See RFA and NIFA Grants Application Guide)

Key Documents (contd.)

RFA Page 119

- Project Narrative is **18 page limit** and will be strictly enforced. One additional page (maximum) is allowed for a response to reviewers for resubmissions only.
  - **Single spacing**
  - 12 point Times New Roman font
  - Includes text, figures and tables
- Within 18 pages describe:
  - Introduction
  - Rationale and Significance
  - Approach, including Objectives, Methods, Timetable
  - [Additional requirements for Integrated projects – please see the PDF "AFRI-FAS-RFA-Additional-Information-for-Part-IV-C-FY23" on the AFRI RFA Resources page
- Applications exceeding the page limitation will be returned without review

Data Management Plan

RFA Page 120

- Investigators must provide detailed (up to 2 pages) business and management plans including:
  - Expected data type
  - Data format
  - Data storage and preservation
  - Data sharing, protection and public access
  - Roles and responsibilities

- Please also review: nifa.usda.gov/resource/data-management-plan-nifa-funded-research-projects

Application Submission

RFA Page 118

- NIFA only accepts **electronic** submission of applications.
- NIFA Grants Application Guide available: nifa.usda.gov/resource/nifa-grantsgov-application-guide
- Application documents **must be in Portable Document Format (PDF)** to be accepted by NIFA, including your narrative and budget justifications.
  - Grants.gov may allow other formats, but NIFA does ***not***
  - Do not use third-party PDF builders

NIFA-18-013

NOTE: The guide provided here is meant to serve as an example. Refer to and follow the Grants.gov Application Guide provided in the application package on Grants.gov for the specific funding opportunity of interest.

USDA United States Department of Agriculture
National Institute of Food and Agriculture

NIFA GRANTS.GOV APPLICATION GUIDE

A Guide for Preparation and Submission of NIFA Applications via Grants.gov

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Example

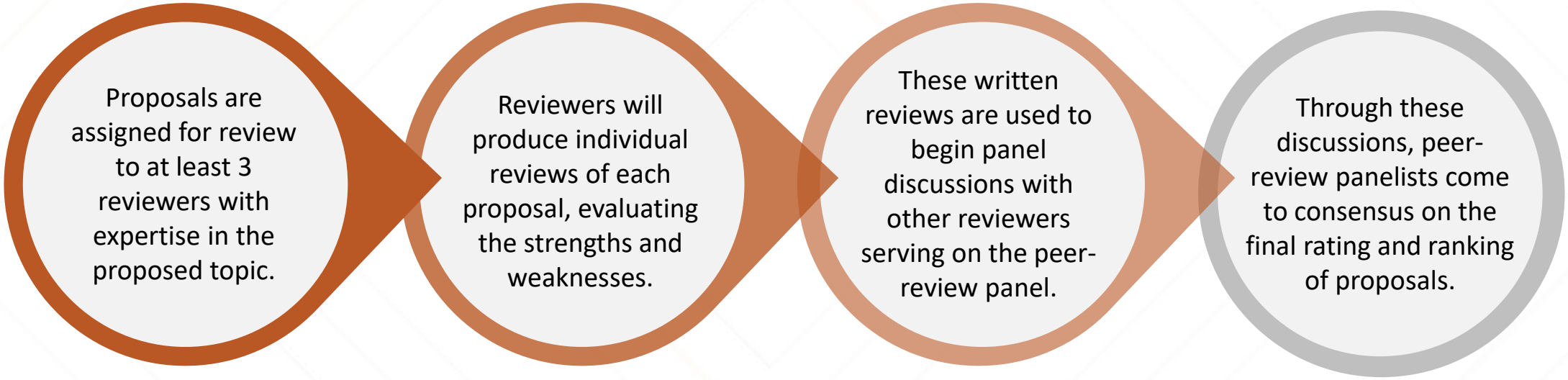
National Institute of Food and Agriculture

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Proposal Evaluation Process

Evaluation Process

RFA Page 122



Evaluation Criteria

RFA Page 123

- Detailed evaluation criteria for each project type, grant type, and centers of excellence are found in the "AFRI Review Criteria" PDF in the attachments list on the AFRI RFA Resources page.
- For A1414 Integrated projects, this includes evaluation of:
  - Merit of the Application for Science Research, Education, and/or Extension
  - Qualifications of Project Personnel, Adequacy of Facilities, and Project Management
  - Project Relevance

➢ Please see the the AFRI Review Criteria PDF mentioned above for additional detail for each of these categories.

Timeline of Competitive Programs

1-2 months

- Request for Applications (RFA) release
- Proposal writing and planning
- **Proposals due**

2-3 months

- Proposal under peer review
- Proposal funding notifications

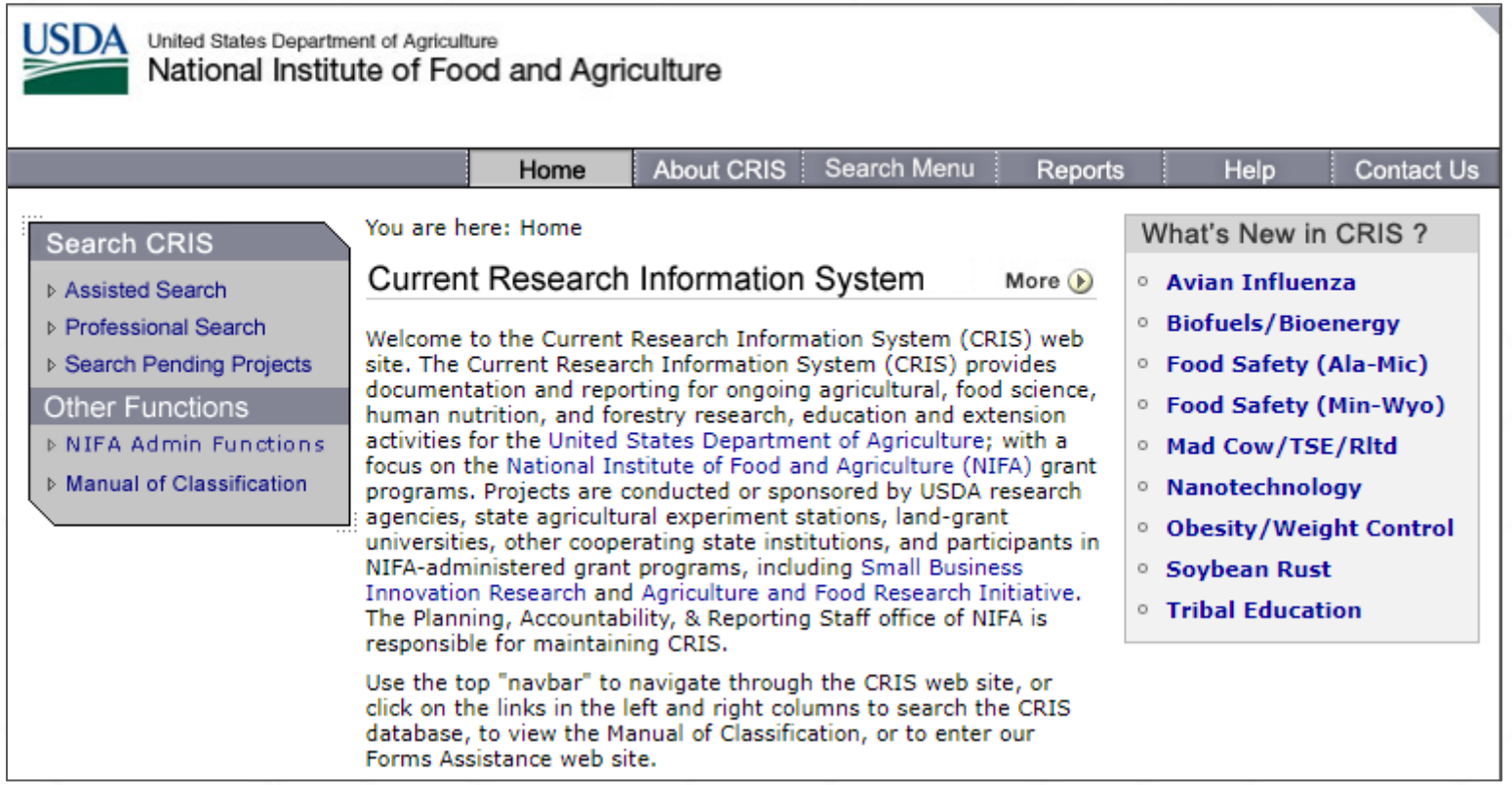
1-2 months

- Awards are finalized and made

On average, a competitive program takes about 3-5 months from the proposal due date to an award being made to an institution.

We will keep you updated as much as possible. We appreciate your patience!

Use Data Gateway or CRIS to Find Funded Awards



https://cris.nifa.usda.gov/cgi-bin/starfinder/0?path=fastlink1.txt&id=anon&pass=&search=(GC=A1414)&format=WEBTITLESGIY

Grant Resources

- Funding Opportunities: nifa.usda.gov/grants/funding-opportunities
- Competitive Grants Flowchart: nifa.usda.gov/competitive-grants
- NIFA Grant Resources: nifa.usda.gov/grant-training
- NIFA Policy Guide: nifa.usda.gov/policy-guide
- Indirect Costs: nifa.usda.gov/indirect-costs
- A Guide for Preparation and Submission of NIFA Applications via Grants.gov: apply07.grants.gov/apply/opportunities/instructions/PKG00249520-instructions.pdf
- Information on Awarded Grants: cris.nifa.usda.gov

Questions?

Dr. Toby Ahrens
National Program Leader
Institute of Bioenergy, Climate and Environment
Division of Bioenergy
toby.ahrens@usda.gov
207-544-3021

Rocio Gutierrez Garzon
Program Specialist
Institute of Bioenergy, Climate and Environment
rocio.gutierrezgarzon@usda.gov
816-541-1673

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Sustainable Agroecosystems A1451 FY2023 RFA Announcement and Technical Assistance Webinar

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Sustainable Agroecosystems (A1451)

Adam Wilke
National Program Leader
Institute of Bioenergy, Climate, and Environment
Adam.Wilke@usda.gov
(970) 829-6092

Amber Campbell
Program Specialist
Office of the Director
Amber.Campbell@usda.gov
(816) 516-1608

Amy Ganguli
National Program Leader
Institute of Bioenergy, Climate, and Environment
Amy.Ganguli@usda.gov
(816) 642-0813

Diomy Zamora
National Program Leader
Institute of Bioenergy, Climate, and Environment
Diomides.Zamora@usda.gov
(202) 590-6049

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Program Overview

Purpose and Priorities

RFA Page #63

This program area priority calls for research projects that focus on improvement of ecosystem health and output of ecosystem services in managed production systems (croplands, forests, and rangelands) that are currently under stress or at risk from climate change, pests, pathogens, invasive plants, and increased environmental pressures. This priority area calls for applied research that will advance scientific understanding of health, functions, processes and management of sustainable agroecosystems.

Purpose and Priorities

RFA Page #63

Applications must address one of the following:

a. New approaches that significantly increase ecosystem health and resilience, along with the output or value of more than one ecosystem service, compared with the current management system for the region.

b. Improving connection of ecosystem health to managed system productivity, functionality, socioeconomic viability, biodiversity, sustainability and/or resilience.

Eligibility

RFA Page #114

a) State Agricultural Experiment Station;

b) colleges and universities (including junior colleges offering associate degrees or higher);

c) university research foundations;

d) other research institutions and organizations;

e) Federal agencies;

f) national laboratories;

g) private organizations or corporations;

h) individuals who are U.S. citizens, nationals, or permanent residents; and

i) any group consisting of two or more entities identified in a) through h).

Project and Grant Types

RFA Page #62

Project Types

Research Only

Grant Types

Standard

Strengthening

New Investigator

Seed

Sabbatical

Conference

Equipment

Activities Funded

- https://portal.nifa.usda.gov/enterprise-search/
- Search: Program Code “A1451”

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Application Details and Documents

Application Changes from Prior Year

- Maximum Award Amount increased from $650,000 (FY22) to $750,000 (FY23)

Application Details

RFA Page # 62

- **RFA is available online at:** https://www.nifa.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2023-02/FY23-AFRI-FAS-RFA-508.pdf
- **Application Deadline**: 5 p.m. September 14, 2023
  - Submitted through Grants.gov
  - Conference grant Letters of Intent accepted ongoing minimum 195 days before the conference begins
- **Grant Type:** Research Only
- **Maximum Award Amount:** $750,000 (Standard, Strengthening, New Investigator), $800,000 (Partnerships), $300,000 (Seed), $50,000 (Conference, Equipment)
- **Grant Duration:** 36-48 Months (Standard), 24 Months (Seed), 12 Months (Sabbatical), 60 MO

Key Documents

RFA Page #120

Key components of your Application:

- Project Summary/Abstract
- Project Narrative
- Bibliography/Reference List
- Data Management Plan
- Other Documents (See RFA and NIFA Grants Application Guide)

Key Documents (contd.)

RFA Page #120

Project Narrative is **18 page limit** and will be strictly enforced.

- **Single spacing**
- 12 point Times New Roman font
- Includes text, figures and tables
  - Tables may be single spaced
- Applications exceeding the page limitation will be returned without review

Additional formatting details available:

- AFRI RFA Resources www.nifa.usda.gov/afri-request-applications-resources
- AFRI FAS RFA Additional Information for Part IV C FY23 www.nifa.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2023-03/AFRI-FAS-RFA-Additional-Information-for-Part-IV-C-FY23.pdf

Grants Support Technical Assistance Workshop, May 8 – 12, 2023

www.nifa.usda.gov/Grants-Support-Technical-Assistance-Workshop-May-8

Data Management Plan

- Investigators must provide detailed (up to 2 pages) business and management plans including:
  - Expected data type
  - Data format
  - Data storage and preservation
  - Data sharing, protection and public access
  - Roles and responsibilities

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Application Submission

RFA Page #118

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NIFA-18-013

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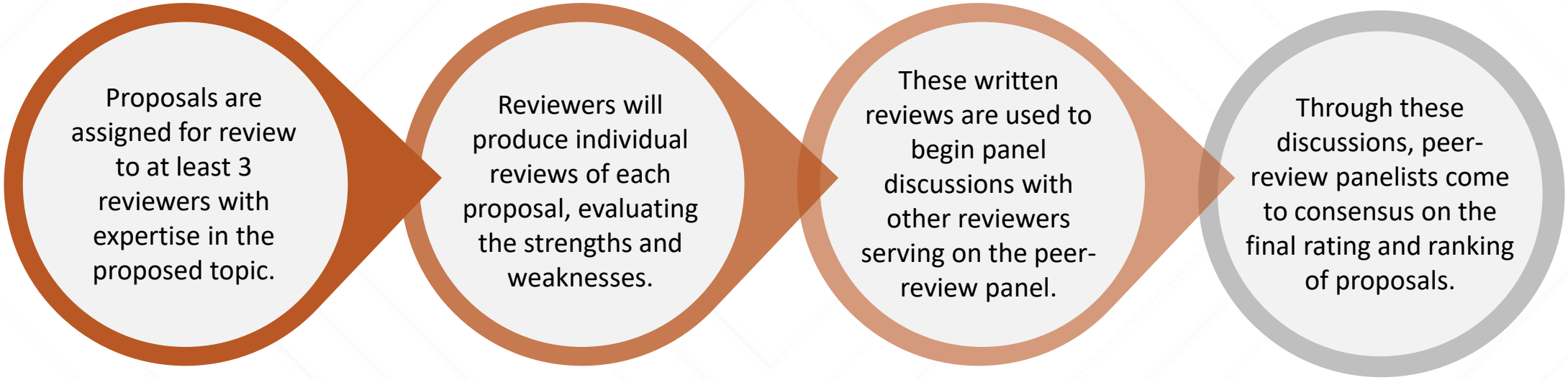
Proposal Evaluation Process

Evaluation Process

RFA Page #122



Timeline of Competitive Programs

6-8 months

- Request for Applications (RFA) release
- Proposal writing and planning
- **Proposals due**

2-3 months

- Proposal under peer review
- Proposal funding notifications

1-2 months

- Awards are finalized and made

On average, a competitive program takes about 3-5 months from the proposal due date to an award being made to an institution.

We will keep you updated as much as possible. We appreciate your patience!

Grant Resources

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- NIFA Grant Resources: nifa.usda.gov/grant-training
- NIFA Policy Guide: nifa.usda.gov/policy-guide
- Indirect Costs: nifa.usda.gov/indirect-costs
- A Guide for Preparation and Submission of NIFA Applications via Grants.gov: apply07.grants.gov/apply/opportunities/instructions/PKG00249520-instructions.pdf
- Information on Awarded Grants: cris.nifa.usda.gov

Questions?

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National Program Leader
Institute of Bioenergy, Climate, and Environment
Amy.Ganguli@usda.gov
(816) 642-0813

Diomy Zamora
National Program Leader
Institute of Bioenergy, Climate, and Environment
Diomides.Zamora@usda.gov
(202) 590-6049

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Environmental Justice A1461 FY2023 RFA Announcement and Technical Assistance Webinar

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Environmental Justice (A1461)

Adam Wilke

National Program Leader

Institute of Bioenergy, Climate, and Environment

Adam.Wilke@usda.gov

(970) 829-6092

Wendy Flatt

Program Specialist

Institute of Bioenergy, Climate, and Environment

Wendy.Flatt@usda.gov

(660) 973-6079

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Program Overview

Purpose and Priorities

RFA Page #65

This program area priority is soliciting applications to fund a single Standard Research Grant to better understand, measure, and track how NIFA's research, education, extension, and workforce development investments in clean energy, climate change, food and nutrition security and water programming impact underserved communities. This program is particularly focused on secondary, or indirect, community-level social benefits and impacts. Novel and effective approaches to tackle this challenge will be required.

Purpose and Priorities

RFA Page #65

Proposals are required to address all the following:

a) Developing models that leverage and complement existing geospatial approaches to environmental justice and describe multiple dimensions of the indirect and long-term effects of investments on underserved communities.

b) Incorporating input and design principles extensively and meaningfully from underserved and indigenous communities at all stages of model development and execution.

Eligibility

RFA Page #114

a) State Agricultural Experiment Station;

b) colleges and universities (including junior colleges offering associate degrees or higher);

c) university research foundations;

d) other research institutions and organizations;

e) Federal agencies;

f) national laboratories;

g) private organizations or corporations;

h) individuals who are U.S. citizens, nationals, or permanent residents; and

i) any group consisting of two or more entities identified in a) through h).

Project and Grant Types

RFA Page #64

Project Types

Research Only

Grant Types

Standard

Conferences

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Application Details and Documents

Application Details

RFA Page #64

RFA is available online at: www.nifa.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2023-02/FY23-AFRI-FAS-RFA-508.pdf

Program Page: www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/programs/environmental-justice-a1461

Letter of Intent Application Deadline: 5 p.m. (Eastern Time) Thursday, June 15, 2023

- Submitted via email to adam.wilke@usda.gov

Application Deadline: 5 p.m. (Eastern Time) Thursday, September 14, 2023

- Submitted through Grants.gov

Total funding available in FY 2023: $1,000,000

Program Code: A1461

Maximum funding per award: $1,000,000

Key Documents

RFA Page #120

Key components of your Application:

- Project Summary/Abstract
- Project Narrative
- Bibliography/Reference List
- Data Management Plan
- Other Documents (See RFA and NIFA Grants Application Guide)

Key Documents (contd.)

RFA Page #120

Project Narrative is **18 page limit** and will be strictly enforced.

- **Single spacing**
- 12 point Times New Roman font
- Includes text, figures and tables
  - Tables may be single spaced
- Applications exceeding the page limitation will be returned without review

Additional formatting details available:

- AFRI RFA Resources www.nifa.usda.gov/afri-request-applications-resources
- AFRI FAS RFA Additional Information for Part IV C FY23 www.nifa.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2023-03/AFRI-FAS-RFA-Additional-Information-for-Part-IV-C-FY23.pdf

Grants Support Technical Assistance Workshop, May 8 – 12, 2023

www.nifa.usda.gov/Grants-Support-Technical-Assistance-Workshop-May-8

Data Management Plan

- Investigators must provide detailed (up to 2 pages) business and management plans including:
  - Expected data type
  - Data format
  - Data storage and preservation
  - Data sharing, protection and public access
  - Roles and responsibilities

- Please also review: nifa.usda.gov/resource/data-management-plan-nifa-funded-research-projects

Application Submission

RFA Page #118

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NIFA-18-013

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Example

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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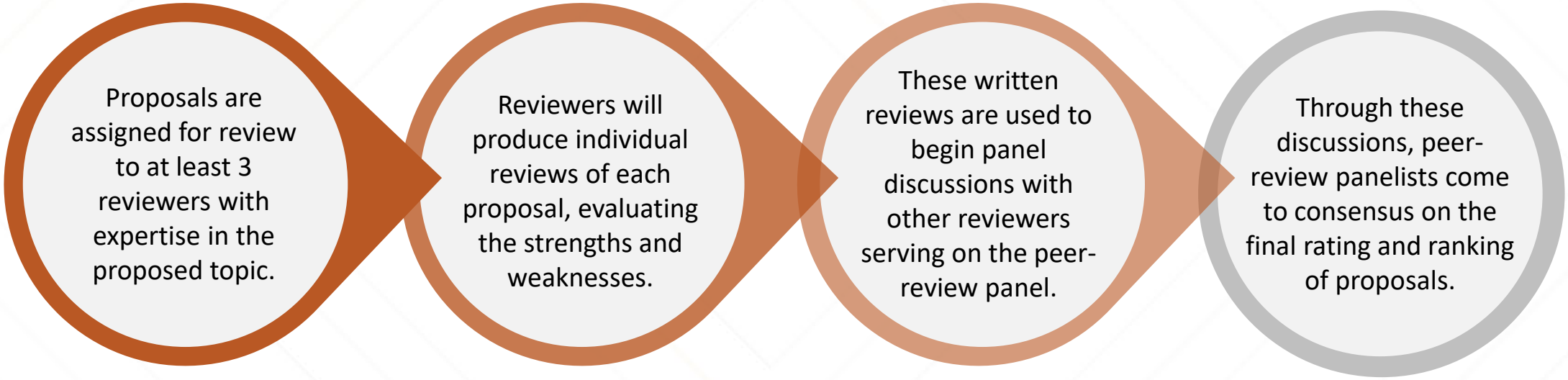
Evaluation Process

RFA Page #122



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2-3 months

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1-2 months

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National Institute of Food and Agriculture

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Additional Information

Upcoming Events

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- Information on Awarded Grants: cris.nifa.usda.gov

Environmental Justice (A1461)

Questions?

Adam Wilke

National Program Leader

Institute of Bioenergy, Climate, and Environment

Adam.Wilke@usda.gov

(970) 829-6092

Wendy Flatt

Program Specialist

Institute of Bioenergy, Climate, and Environment

Wendy.Flatt@usda.gov

(660) 973-6079

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INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

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Critical Agricultural Research and Extension (CARE) A1701 FY 2023 RFA Announcement and Technical Assistance Webinar

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James Dobrowolski
National Program Leader
Institute of Bioenergy, Natural Resources and Environment
james.dobrowolski@usda.gov
202-420-8918

Vijay Nandula
National Program Leader
Institute of Food Production and Sustainability
vijay.nandula@usda.gov
816-894-7229

Cierrah Kassetas
Program Specialist
Institute of Food Production and Sustainability
Cierrah.Kassetas@usda.gov
816-283-6559

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Crosscutting: Critical Agricultural Research & Extension (CARE) Program Overview

Purpose and Priorities

RFA Page 90

The Why:

- This program area addresses critical challenges and opportunities that research and extension, together, can address to improve our nation's agricultural and food systems. Despite prior investments in basic and applied research, critical problems continue to impede the efficient production of agriculturally-important plants and animals, for producing safe and nutritious foods, and to meet environmental challenges for agriculture.
- These problems may be local, regional, or national, and may call for work focused on one or more scientific disciplines. However, all need immediate attention to meet producer and consumer needs. Finding and implementing solutions to these critical problems require partnership and close coordination among researchers, extension experts, and practitioners in food and agricultural enterprises.

Purpose and Priorities

RFA Page 90

The How:

- Funded projects are expected to produce results that lead to practices, tools, and technologies that are rapidly adopted by end-users. Projects based on Indigenous Traditional Ecological knowledge are appropriate for this program area priority.
- This program area priority is designed to support integrated activities based on rigorous research combined with effective extension and involvement of stakeholders to develop and rapidly apply new knowledge or practices resulting in improved well-being of the people, communities, plants, and animals involved in, and affected by, agriculture and food-production systems.

Purpose and Priorities

RFA Pages 90-91

- Focus on a clear, time-sensitive, stakeholder-identified need or problem for agriculture;
- Explain the magnitude of the problem and the rationale for targeting it;
- Describe a meaningful approach for blending research and extension expertise and other outreach and implementation approaches throughout the project to address principal objectives;
- Provide evidence that the project is aligned to the ***Why*** and ***How*** listed above;
- State expected solutions or improvements and how these will be assessed and measured;
- Address the potential cost of a proposed solution and describe how it can be scaled to be sustainable in the short term and long term; and
- Explain how the project will strengthen agricultural and food-production systems and how results will be adopted or applied at a local, regional, or national level

RFA Page 114

Eligibility

- Eligible applicants for Integrated Projects include:
  a) colleges and universities;
  b) 1994 Land-Grant Institutions; and
  c) Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities (see NIFA's Hispanic-Serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities page).
- For item a) under Integrated Projects, the terms "college" and "university" mean an educational institution in any state which
  a) admits as regular students only persons having a certificate of graduation from a school providing secondary education, or the recognized equivalent of such a certificate;
  b) is legally authorized within such state to provide a program of education beyond secondary education;
  c) provides an educational program for which a bachelor's degree or any other higher degree is awarded;
  d) is a public or other nonprofit institution; and
  e) is accredited by a nationally recognized accrediting agency or association.

Project and Grant Types

RFA Page #

Project Types

Integrated

New Investigator

Grant Types

Standard

Strengthening

Project and Grant Type Description

RFA pages 60, 89, 91 ; and https://www.nifa.usda.gov/sites/default/files/resource/AFRI-Review-Criteria.pdf page 6

- All applications must adhere to the requirements in Part IV of the AFRI Foundational and Applied Sciences RFA. The CARE program accepts only integrated proposals for program-funded or FASE-funded standard and new investigator grants. An integrated proposal for CARE must include the two foci: Research and outreach/Extension only.
- No focus can have less than 1/3 of the total budget committed to the project. Food and Agricultural Science Enhancement (FASE) Grants are designed to help institutions develop competitive projects and to attract new scientists and educators into careers in high-priority areas of national need in agriculture, food, and environmental sciences.
- FASE Applications focus on Minority Serving Institutions, Small and mid-sized universities and colleges, and EPSCOR (low federal investments) states listed on the NIFA web site.

Application Details

RFA Page 90

- RFA is available online at:
  - https://www.nifa.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2023-02/FY23-AFRI-FAS-RFA-508_0.pdf
- **Application Deadline**: Thursday, September 14, 2023 (5:00 p.m. Eastern Time)
  - Submitted through Grants.gov
- Total funding available in FY 2023: ~$5,000,000
- Program Code: A1701
- Maximum funding per award: $300,000

Key Documents

RFA Page 120

Key components of your Application:

- Project Summary/Abstract
- Project Narrative
- Bibliography/Reference List
- Data Management Plan
- Other Documents (See RFA and NIFA Grants Application Guide)

Key Documents (contd.)

RFA Page 118

- Project Narrative is 18 page limit and will be strictly enforced.
  - 18 pages single-spaced
  - 12 point Times New Roman font
  - Includes text, figures and tables
    - Tables may be single spaced

- Within the 18-page narrative describe:
  - List of headings of information required in narrative
  - Impact on research, training infrastructure or Extension to achieve its goals
  - Cooperation and institutional involvement
  - Project timeline

- Applications exceeding the page limitation will be returned without review

Data Management Plan

RFA Page 123

- Investigators must provide detailed (up to 2 pages) business and management plans including:
  - Expected data type
  - Data format
  - Data storage and preservation
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  - Roles and responsibilities

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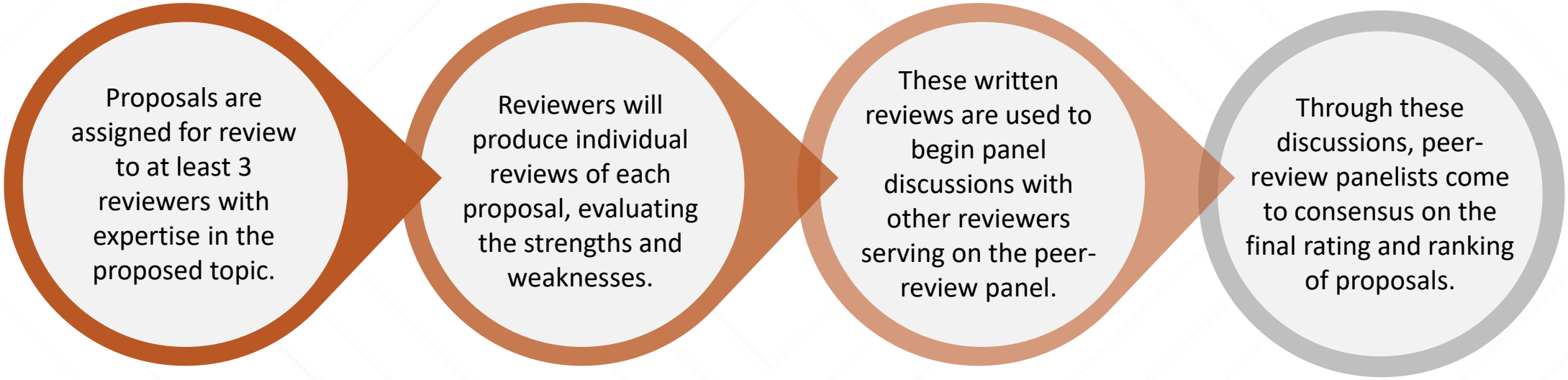
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Proposal Evaluation Process

Evaluation Process

RFA Page 123



Evaluation Criteria

RFA Page 123

- See NIFA's Peer Review Process for Competitive Grant Applications):
  - https://nifa.usda.gov/resource/nifa-peer-review-process-competitive-grant-applications

Timeline of Competitive Programs

1-2 months

- Request for Applications (RFA) release
- Proposal writing and planning
- **Proposals due**

2-3 months

- Proposal under peer review
- Proposal funding notifications

1-2 months

- Awards are finalized and made

On average, a competitive program takes about 3-5 months from the proposal due date to an award being made to an institution.

We will keep you updated as much as possible. We appreciate your patience!

* If your program takes longer due to additional steps, please change as needed

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

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Additional Information

Use CRIS to Find Funded Awards

https://cris.nifa.usda.gov/cgi-bin/starfinder/0?path=fastlink1.txt&id=anon&pass=&search=(GC=A1701)&format=WEBTITLESGIY

* Data Gateway is also an option

Grant Resources

- Funding Opportunities: nifa.usda.gov/grants/funding-opportunities
- Competitive Grants Flowchart: nifa.usda.gov/competitive-grants
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Extension, Education & USDA Climate Hubs Partnership A1721 FY2023 RFA Announcement and Technical Assistance Webinar

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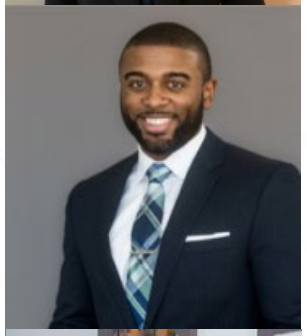
Dr. Lydia Kaume, Division of Nutrition

Dr. Erica Kistner-Thomas, Division of Plant Systems- Protection

Dr. Maurice Smith, Division of Community and Education



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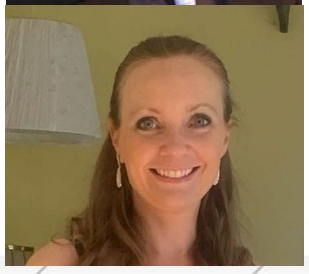

Program Specialist

Susan Muhidin
Office of the Director
Susan.Muhidin@usda.gov
(816) 400-3309

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Program Overview

Climate Hubs Partnership Program Area Priority Description

Supports projects that provide *effective*, *translatable* and *scalable* approaches to address climate change through **regional partnerships** including the USDA Climate Hubs and Extension (e.g., the Cooperative Extension Service)

USDA Climate Hubs

- **Unique collaboration across USDA agencies**
  - 10 Regional Hubs led by Agricultural Research Service (ARS), Forest Service (USFS), and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)
- **Vision: Robust and healthy agricultural production and natural resources under increasing climate variability and change**
- **Mission: Develop and deliver science-based, region-specific information and technology to agriculture and natural resource managers to…**
  - Science and data syntheses, tool and technology development, outreach and engagement

Further Information:
climatehubs.usda.gov

Intent of the Program

Regional partnerships including the USDA Climate Hubs and Extension

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

Broad emphasis areas include:

- Training on climate-smart food systems, including effects of climate on nutrition security and components of nutrient density, food safety and food waste

Inaugural Year Overview (FY 2021)

- 6 projects funded for $9 million
- 9 of the regional Climate Hubs were included in the partnership submissions
  - 8 included in awards
- 5 awards led by academic institutions and 1 led by the Caribbean Climate Hub
- 3 Extension projects and 3 integrated Extension and Education projects

★ **Funded Projects**

Project and Grant Types

RFA Page #100

Project Types

- Extension Projects
  - Integrated
    - Research and Extension OR
    - Extension and Education

Grant Types

Standard

Strengthening Standard

New Investigator

Eligibility (Extension Projects)

RFA Page #114

a) State Agricultural Experiment Station;

b) colleges and universities (including junior colleges offering associate degrees or higher);

c) university research foundations;

d) other research institutions and organizations;

e) Federal agencies;

f) national laboratories;

g) private organizations or corporations;

h) individuals who are U.S. citizens, nationals, or permanent residents; and

i) any group consisting of two or more entities identified in a) through h).

Eligibility (Integrated Projects)

RFA Page #114

a) colleges and universities;
b) 1994 Land-Grant Institutions; and
c) Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities

A research foundation maintained by a college or university is eligible to receive an award under this program.

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Application Details and Documents

Application Details

RFA Page #64

RFA is available online at: https://www.nifa.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2023-02/FY23-AFRI-FAS-RFA-508.pdf

Letter of Intent Application Deadline: 5 p.m. (Eastern Time) Thursday, May 4, 2023

- Submitted via email to ClimatePartnerships@usda.gov.
- Applicants must identify within their letter of intent with which Climate Hub(s) they intend to collaborate

Application Deadline: 5 p.m. (Eastern Time) Thursday, September 7, 2023

- Submitted through Grants.gov

Program Code: A1721

Maximum funding per award: $1,000,000

Key Documents

RFA Page #

Key components of your Application:

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Key Documents (contd.)

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Example

Activities Funded

- https://portal.nifa.usda.gov/enterprise-search/
- Search: Program Code “A1721”

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Proposal Evaluation Process

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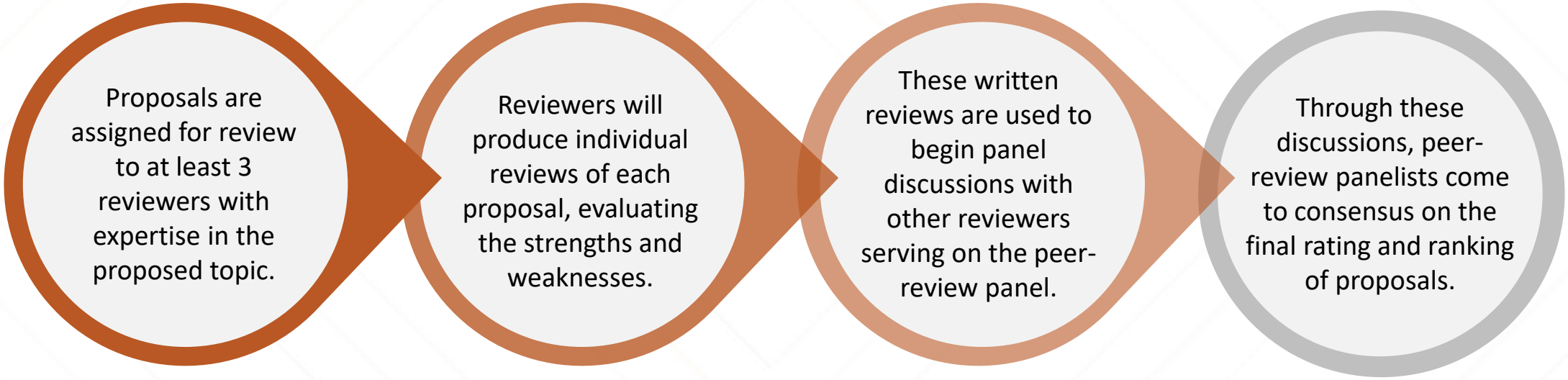
RFA Page #122



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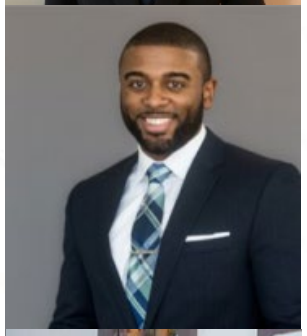

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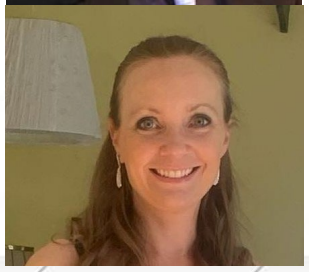

Susan Muhidin,
Office of the Director
Susan.Muhidin@usda.gov

USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Data Management Planning and Expectations

Amy Ganguli
Amy.Ganguli@usda.gov

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Data Management and Sharing Reality

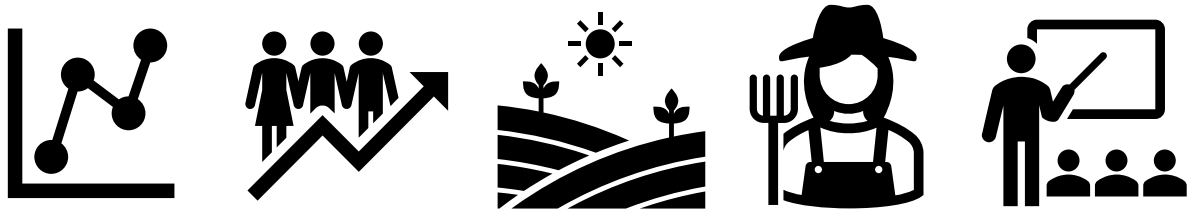
- Sharing data often speeds up the advancement of science
- The reality is that a small % of published work includes shared data, even if it is promised in Data Management Plans (DMPs)
- In 2020, PLOS 1 reported that out of 21,000 journal articles that included data-sharing plans fewer than 21% provided links to the repository storing the data

NIFA's Perspectives of Data Management

- Data Management Plans are required for all Research, Education, and Extension Projects
- Limited to two pages
- Only one DMP submitted per project
- Clearly articulate how the PD and co-PD's plan to manage and disseminate data generated by the project
- Must include the following five components:

1. Expected Data Type

- Description
  (e.g., digital, non-digital)
- How it is generated
- Is it primary data or metadata



Research	• Lab work • Field work • Surveys
Extension	• Outreach materials • # of stakeholders reached • # of activities • Assessment questionnaires
Education	• # of students enrolled/participated • Degrees granted • Curriculum • Training products

2. Data Format

- Goal: data should be readily accessible and usable
- Use “community-recognized” standards
- Indicate the formats that will be used (conforming to public platforms when appropriate)
- Must contain enough information to allow independent use of the data

3. Data Storage and Preservation

- Must be stored in a safe environment with adequate measures for long-term preservation
- Describe plans for storing and preserving data during and after the project
- Specify data repositories
- How much data will be preserved and what is the planned retention period?
- What are the strategies and contingency plans to avoid data loss, degradation or damage

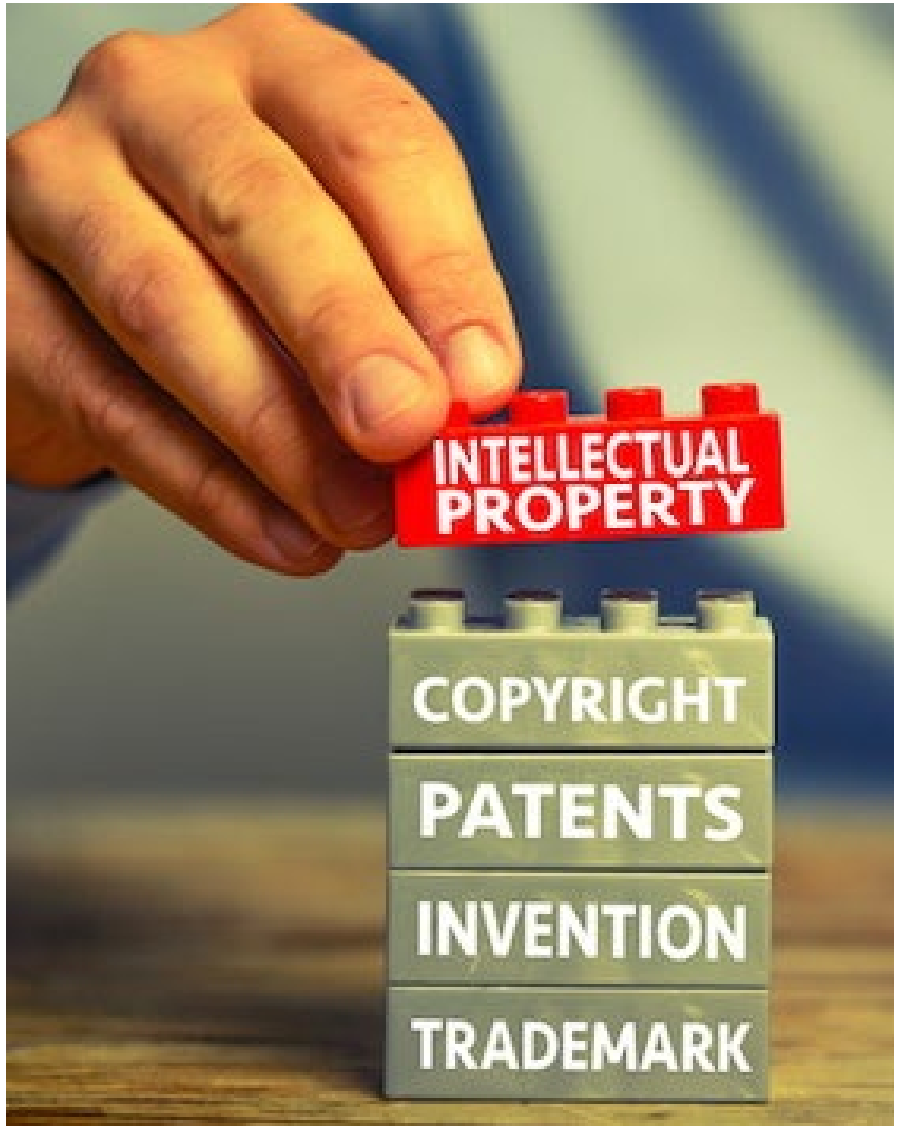


Image: uschamber.com

4. Data Sharing, Protection, and Public Access

- What are the sharing procedures during and after the grant
- Include a statement of the plans to protect confidentially, personal privacy, proprietary interest, and intellectual property rights
- Clearly outline restrictions due to copyright, confidentiality, appropriate credit, disclaimers, or conditions for use.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

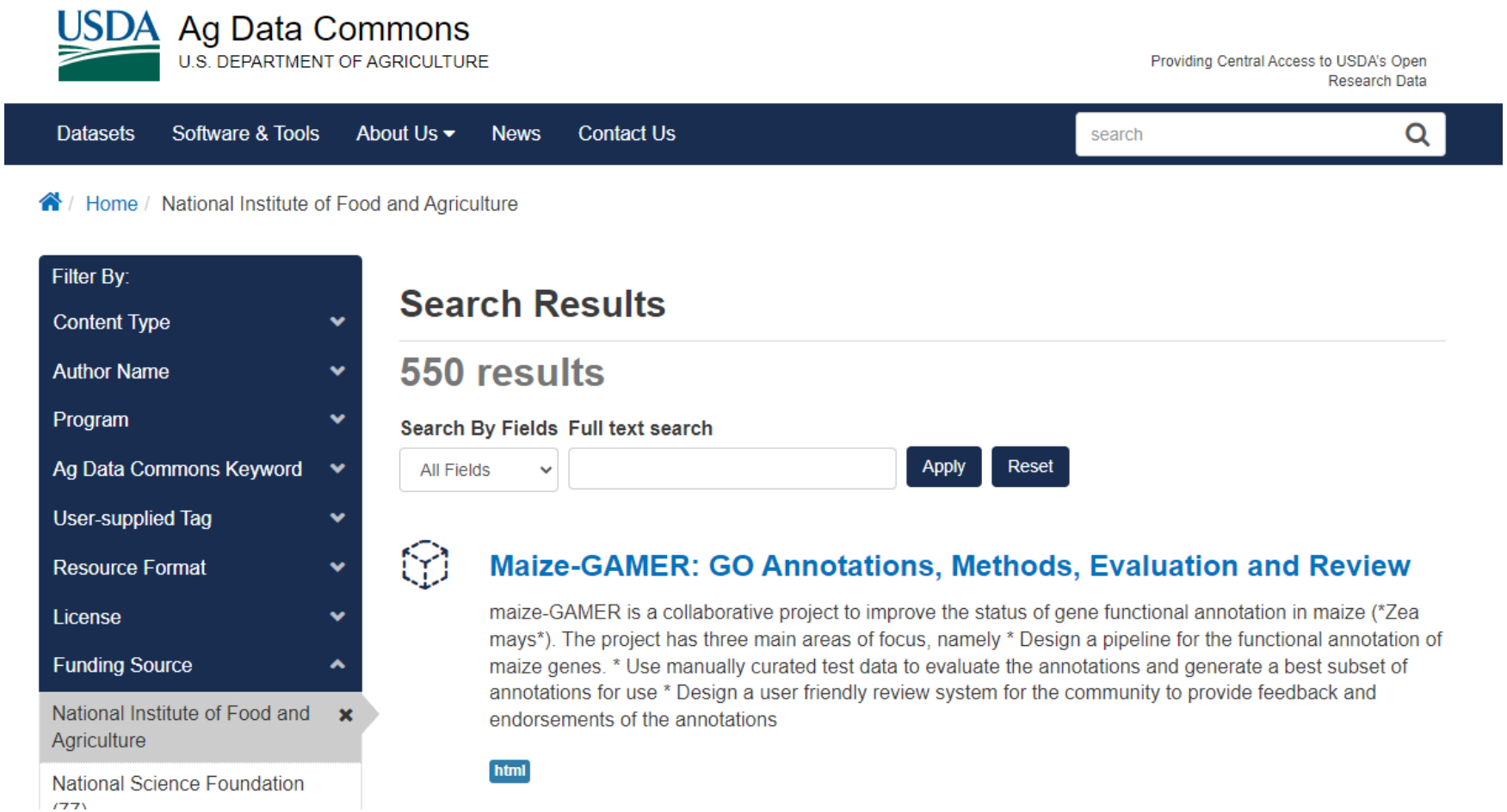
- Who ensures DMP implementation
- What is the contingency plan if there are personnel changes
- What resources are needed to develop and implement the DMP

Implementation Expectations & Monitoring

- NIFA expects that data management updates be included in annual and final reports
- Many programs are developing their best practices for monitoring
- Need for better outreach on data management expectations

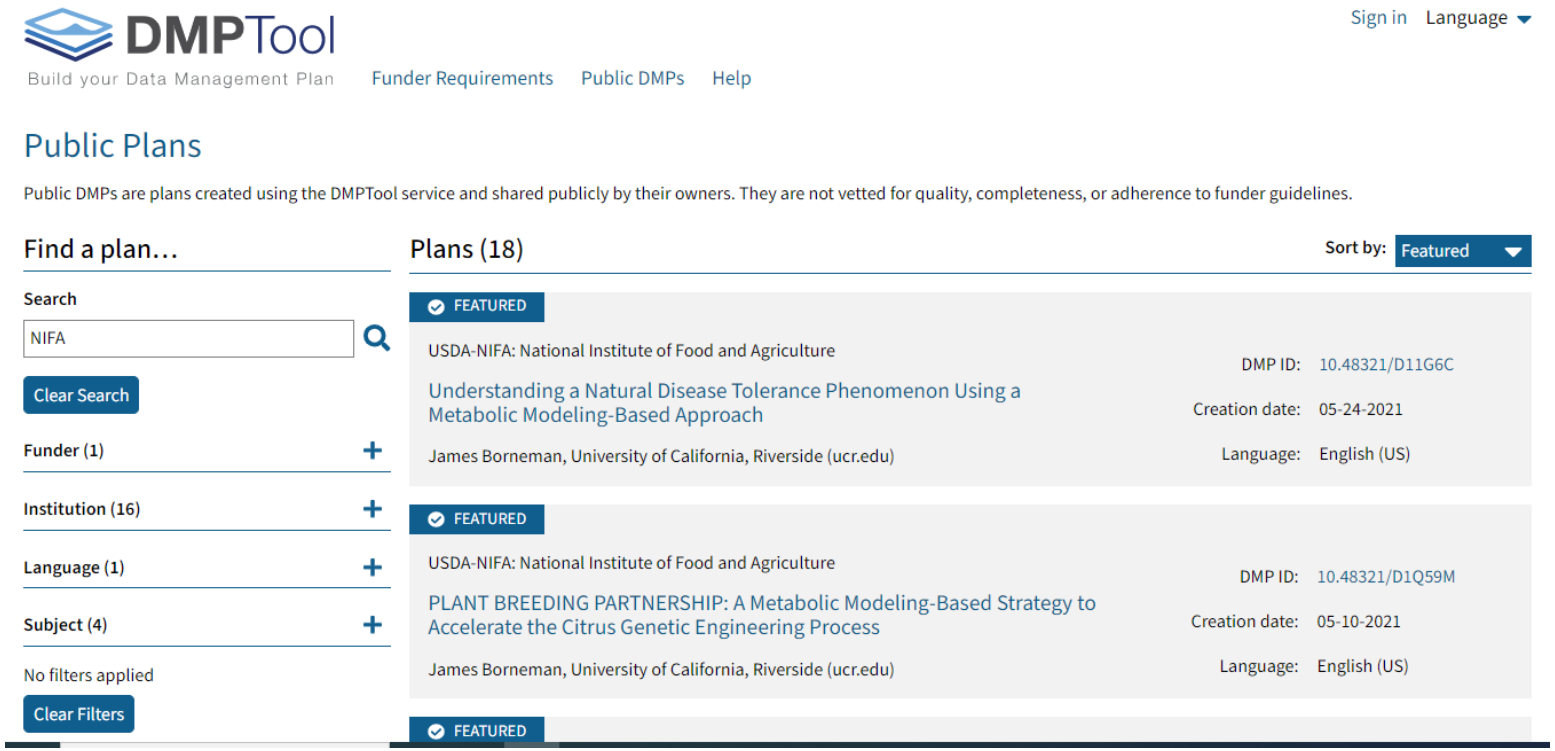
Agriculture Data Commons

SCAN ME



Resources (Example DMPs)

SCAN ME



https://dmptool.org/public_templates

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Questions?

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NIFA Resources on Data Management Plans

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