



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

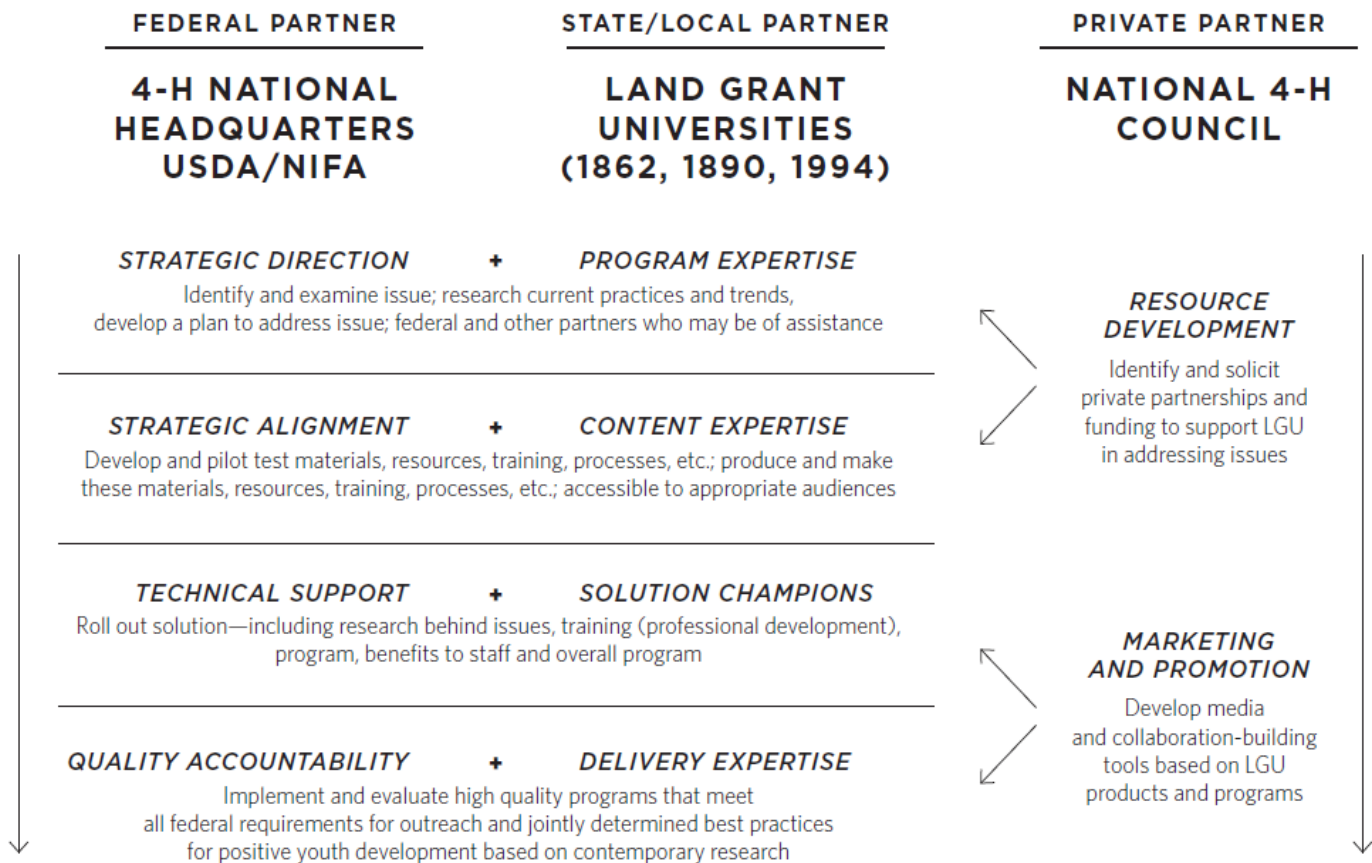
National Institute  
of Food  
and Agriculture

4-H National  
Headquarters

## 4-H IMPLEMENTATION: THE WORKING RELATIONSHIP

Legislation that created the land-grant system and the Department of Agriculture, as well as the legislation that established the State Agricultural Experiment Stations and the Cooperative Extension Service, has proven to be some of the most significant legislation passed in improving the quality of life in the United States. The Smith-Lever Act of 1914 created the Cooperative Extension Service as a partnership between USDA, the land-grant university (LGU) system, and local governments. This unique federal-state-local partnership has worked effectively for more than 100 years.

4-H youth development is an important part of the total Cooperative Extension System’s educational program. From the very beginning it was intended that the Cooperative Extension Service would provide for the teaching of youth. Funding for Cooperative Extension programs conducted by LGUs is provided at the federal level by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and at the state and local government levels. Other federal agencies may provide additional funding to support certain programs. In addition, National 4-H Council, state and local 4-H foundations, and/or other private sources may provide private funding to support certain programs.



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