



Session: Connecting Local Needs with Statewide Resources

Track: Key Factors in Resilient Food and Agricultural Systems

Sponsored by: The Department of Natural Resources, Colorado Water Conservation Board

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¡GRACIAS A TODAS LAS ORGANIZACIONES QUE FORMAN PARTE DE LA CUMBRE ALIMENTICIA 2023!



SPEAKERS



Ynke de Koe

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Food Distribution Programs
Manager, CO Dept of Human
Services



Jim Ehrlich

Executive Director
CO Potato Admin
Committee

CSU FOOD SUMMIT 2023



SAN LUIS VALLEY
DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES GROUP
&
COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

How Can We Better Leverage Local Assets?

- **Target Sectors:** Food Technologies, Health/Wellness & *Value-Added Agriculture*
- **Process Used to Develop**.....
- **Identification of Assets & Opportunities** in the San Luis Valley (recognizing resource constraints)
- **Opportunities** for Investment

Colorado and San Luis Valley Region



Source: San Luis Valley GIS/GPS Authority

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Process for Development - What We Did

Creation of Key Contacts List by Industry Sector Target Areas:

- Engaged all 4 Economic Development Organizations: Upper Rio Grande Economic Development (URGED), Alamosa County Economic Development Corp., Costilla County Economic Development, Saguache County Sustainable Environment And Economic Development (ScSEED)
- Colorado State Extension Office, CSU Food Science, Water Use, and Crop Studies, Both Hospitals in the Region: SLV Health & Rio Grande Hospital, Potato Administration, & All Local Beef/Wild Game Meat Processors
- Region2Region, State & National Outreach: Economic Development Council of Colorado (EDCC) & National Rural Economic Development Association (NREDA)



Identification of Assets in the SLV

- Interviewed over 390 mostly virtual meetings (due to Covid)
- 7 Training workshops attended
- 3 conferences hosted



Needs Identified—Value-Added Agriculture

Resources Provided

Water Protection

Intergovernmental Agreement & 1041 Project

- SLVDRG Staff Sought/Attained \$100,000 in Funding for Legal Work Provided by Sullivan Green Seavy to Complete Work for the SLV Region to Protect Water from Export
- Project Nearing Completion

Hemp & Rail

- Hemp Capital Needs--Disbursement of \$750,000 USDA IRP Funds Via the SLVDRG to 2 Local Businesses
- SL&RG Railroad BK & Impending Need for Capital--\$880,000 Funded Through SLVDRG, Outcome = Job Retention for 225 Employees for more than 8 months payroll

Opportunities for Investment

Meat Processing Facility Start-Up or Expansion for Domestic and/or Exotics

- Capital for Start-Up or Expansion
 - Equipment
 - Location for Building/Real Estate Purchase
 - Operational Costs
- Workforce Needs for Addition of Employees
- Training of Workforce
- USDA Certified Inspector
- Transportation of Both Employees and Product
 - Vehicle (Employees)
 - Refrigerated Van (Product)



THANK YOU



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Department of Agriculture

The Mission of CDA is to strengthen and advance Colorado Agriculture; promote a safe and high-quality food supply; protect consumers; and foster responsible stewardship of the environment and natural resources.

Resources

Grant Programs

- Resilient Food System Infrastructure
- Next Generation: Ag Workforce Development, Ag Leadership & Ag Future
- Loan Program
- Community Food Access

Agricultural Services

- Agricultural Worker Services Program
- Resources related to health, safety, labor, and support services
- For business owners and employees



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Resilient Food System Infrastructure Grant

- To develop and administer state coordinated initiatives to build resilience across the middle of state food supply chains
- \$4.15M available
- Expanded capacity for the aggregation, processing, manufacturing, storing, transporting, wholesaling, and distribution of locally and regionally produced food products
- Includes specialty crops, dairy, grains for human consumption, aquaculture & other food products
- No Meat and Poultry related projects



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Resilient Food System Infrastructure Grant

General Priority Areas:

- Aggregation and Storage: cold storage, dry storage, other needs
- Processing/Product Extension (IQF, drying, canning, institutional preparation & packaging)
- Larger scale projects
- **Award Amounts: \$200,000- \$3 million**
- **Info Session: December 11th via Zoom**



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Agriculture Workforce Development

- AWDP provides financial incentives to farms, ranches, and agricultural businesses to hire interns and provide them with hands-on training needed to begin a career in agriculture
- Businesses may be reimbursed up to 50% of costs of hiring an intern
- Application for businesses open now, closes Jan 5, 2024
- Expanded internship period from 6 months to 1 year
- Award up to \$5000 per business to offer eligible internships (to cover 50% of allowable costs)



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Contact List

Community Food Access: Mickey Davis or Adonai Lopez

- mickey.davis@state.co.us
- adonai.lopez@state.co.us

Regional Food System Infrastructure: Brian Coppom

- brian.coppom@state.co.us

Next Generation Ag Leadership, Ag Workforce Development & Specialty Crop: Joanne Hernandez or Amanda Laban

- joanne.hernandez@state.co.us

Agricultural Worker Services Program: Aldo Parra

- aldo.parra@state.co.us



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Our Vision is for Colorado agriculture to be strong and vibrant, a key driver of the state's economy, and be recognized worldwide for our safe and abundant supply of high-quality food and agriculture products.

SPEAKER



Ynke de Koe

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SPEAKER



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SPEAKER



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SPEAKER



Kat Papenbrock

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Colorado Dept. of Human Services

Food Distribution Programs - USDA commodities for:

- The Emergency Food Assistance Program
- Everyday Eats
- National School Lunch

Colorado Dept. of Human Services

Administers federal & state grant dollars:

- Food Pantry & Food Bank Assistance Grant
- Local Food Procurement Agreement
- Reach & Resiliency

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What is one action that you are likely to do or do differently, as a result of this session?





WHAT'S NEXT?

REGIONAL DISCUSSION

Show Arena

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 **FOOD SYSTEMS INSTITUTE**
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY



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COLORADO FOOD SYSTEMS
ADVISORY COUNCIL



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TO END HUNGER**

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