



Regenerative practices for people and planet

| | |
|--|---|
| Idea 34 | Agricultural advances to create sustainable, environmentally-friendly, and healthy food |
| Proposal 34c | Incentivize ecological management practices within the food system |
| Description | Incentivize ecological management practices within the food system , including methods such as rotational grazing, animal/crop integration, cover cropping with mechanical termination, and waste management. Such practices produce healthy food while sequestering carbon and mitigating climate change |
| How will the proposed action advance equitable health and well-being? | Industrial agriculture frequently threatens human health and wellness by diverting and degrading valuable resources. By incentivizing farmers and organizational networks that utilize sustainable practices and reducing the overall carbon footprint of food production and waste removal, better human health and well-being will be achieved through more resilient soil, clean water and air, and more appropriate and productive land use. |
| Is there work we can build on? | <p><u>Environmental benefits of grass-fed/finished systems:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPR: Is grass-fed beef really better for the planet? • Carbon Footprint Evaluation of Regenerative Grazing at White Oak Pastures • Cows are not killing the climate • Land Stewardship Project: Carbon Farming • FAO Report: Livestock's Long Shadow • Beef Rules • Belching Cows and Endless Feedlots: Fixing Cattle's Climate Issues <p><u>Other:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council of Development Finance Agencies - Defining the Food System as an Asset Class • Ohio Smart Agriculture: Solutions from the Land |
| Who would have to act? Who would be key partners? | <p>USDA Council of Development Finance Agencies Local governments Non-profits (food and farm organizations, restaurant associations) Development and planning agencies Farmers and ranchers</p> |
| A few high-level action steps | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implement more favorable lending rates and access to traditional finance tools (Tax Increment Finance, tax credits, |



| | |
|--|---|
| | <p>revolving loan funds, bonds) for health/climate/community beneficial farm and food businesses</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Institute new funding and/or coordination among existing funding programs by foundations and independent groups 3. Enable access to special classes of financing for health/climate/community beneficial farm and food businesses (similar to FSA Microloan set asides for IBPOC/beginning farmers) 4. Provide additional funding and easier application/quicker timelines for VAPG/REAP/CRP/EQIP type programs that financially support sustainable farm and food businesses 5. Encourage disinvestment of development finance dollars and government funding from industrial livestock systems |
| <p>Other comments or guidance</p> | |