



FACT SHEET: USDA INVESTS IN AMERICAN BIOECONOMY TO BOOST GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS

“Invent it here, grow it here, make it here”

On September 12, the Biden-Harris Administration announced key steps to advance biotechnology and biomanufacturing in the United States through the Executive Order on Advancing Biotechnology and Biomanufacturing Innovation for a Sustainable, Safe, and Secure American Bioeconomy. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has a critical role in this effort by providing tools, resources, and scientific research to ensure American farmers and producers remain globally competitive. USDA will accomplish this through new and existing programs.

Expand domestic biomanufacturing

In the summer of 2022, USDA made \$500 million available through a new grant program to support independent, innovative, and sustainable American fertilizer production to supply American farmers, which can make use of advances in biotechnology and biomanufacturing.

Drive regulatory innovation to increase access to products of biotechnology

USDA is building new regulatory processes to promote safe innovation in agriculture and alternative foods, allowing USDA to review more diverse products.

Leverage biotechnology for strengthened supply chains

USDA joined the government-wide Sustainable Aviation Fuels Grand Challenge to meet 100% of U.S. aviation fuel demand with sustainable fuels by 2050. USDA is partnering with the Department of Energy and the Department of Transportation to leverage the estimated 1 billion tons of sustainable biomass and waste resources in the United States to provide domestic supply chains for fuels, chemicals, and materials.

Advance measurements and standards for the bioeconomy

USDA is advancing opportunities for cellulosic biomaterial by developing carbon accounting standards from forest stewardship, use of harvested wood products, extending the life of wood in use, re-use, recycling, and returning carbon to soil in a cradle-to-cradle life cycle analysis system.

Foster innovation across the United States

In May 2022, USDA announced \$32 million for wood innovation and community wood grants, leveraging an additional \$93 million in partner funds to develop new wood products and enable effective use of U.S. forest resources.

Reduce risk through investing in biosecurity innovations

In August 2022, USDA partnered with Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) to create a specialized and innovative biosafety and biorisk management certificate program to help fill the growing need for biosafety professionals in high-containment facilities. Together, USDA Agricultural Research Service and IUP created a didactic and hands-on curriculum specifically to ensure that students can become biosafety professionals in agricultural, veterinary, pharmaceutical, or biotech facilities.

Bring bio-products to market

USDA's BioPreferred Program advances the development and expansion of markets for biobased products with a catalog of over 16,000 registered products. The new \$10 million Bioproduct Pilot Program will support scale-up activities and studies on the benefits of biobased products.

Facilitate data sharing to advance the bioeconomy

USDA is working with the National Institutes of Health to ensure that data on persistent poverty can be integrated with cancer surveillance as part of the government-wide Cancer Moonshot effort.

Train the next generation of biotechnologists

In March 2022, USDA announced \$68 million through the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative to train the next generation of research and education professionals in food and agricultural disciplines including biotechnology.