

Building a Resilient Food System

The United States has developed a productive agricultural system, but over time consolidation has pushed smaller producers aside, leaving them and their communities struggling. USDA is using today's pivotal moment to support a food system that works better for everyone. Through more than 50 grant, loan, and technical assistance programs, USDA is supporting greater opportunities for farmers, processors, distributors, and consumers — all toward building fair, competitive, local, and resilient U.S. food systems. Learn more at usda.gov/markets.

Create More, New & Better Markets

USDA provides grants, loans, and technical assistance to build, expand, and improve meat, poultry, and other processing and distribution facilities, as well as food retail. These programs will generate new market opportunities for producers, save and create jobs in rural and urban America, and build a more reliable food supply chain. So far, our partners have helped more than 1,000 small meat processors grow.

Build Capacity, Knowledge & Equity

USDA is investing in trusted local and regional partners in all 50 states, territories, and tribal communities to provide technical assistance for producers to diversify revenue streams, access new markets, transition to organic production, and support urban farmers. We are also supporting a new generation of diverse agricultural professionals and providing financial support to new local food and farm businesses.

Increase Competition

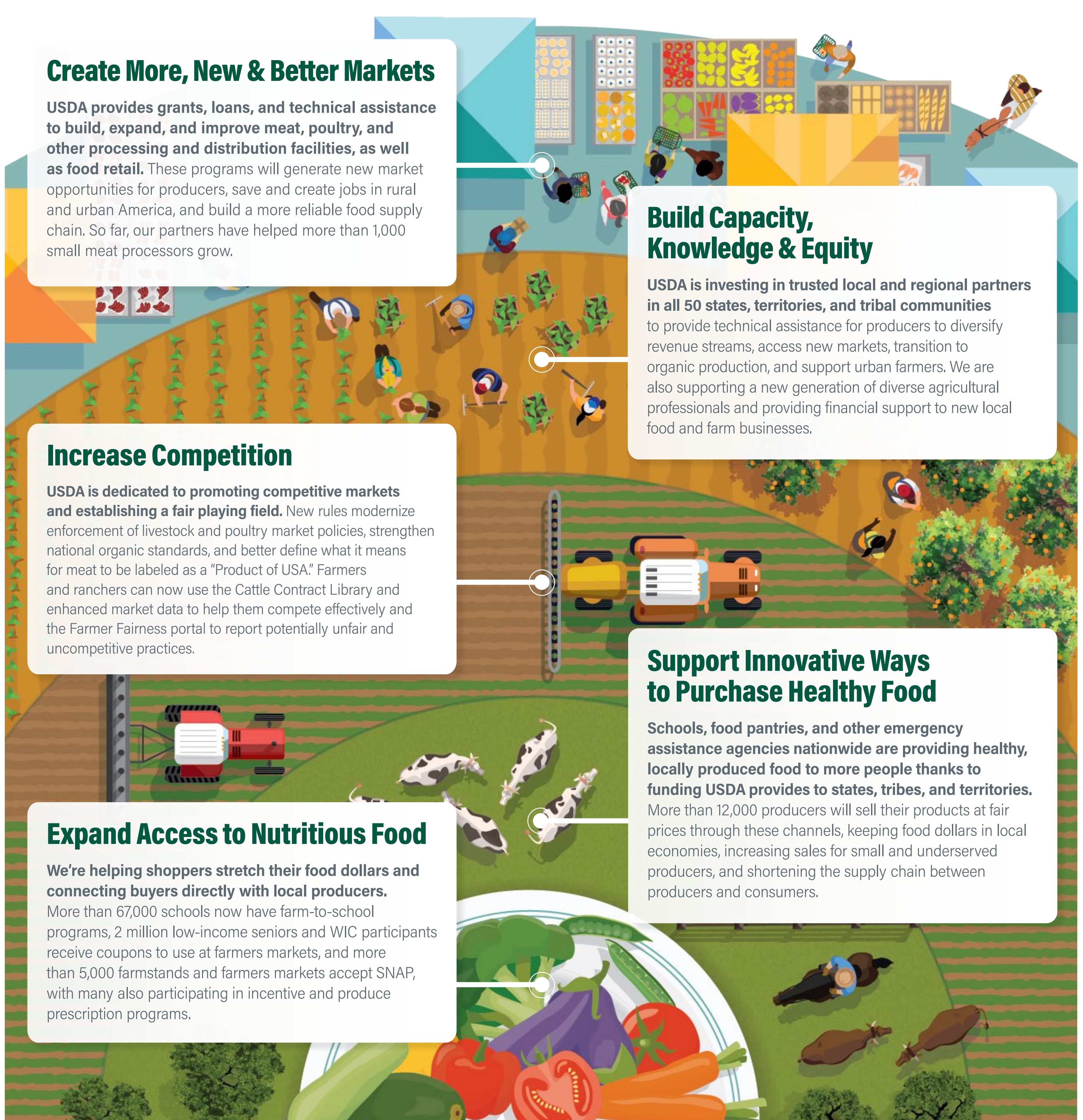
USDA is dedicated to promoting competitive markets and establishing a fair playing field. New rules modernize enforcement of livestock and poultry market policies, strengthen national organic standards, and better define what it means for meat to be labeled as a "Product of USA." Farmers and ranchers can now use the Cattle Contract Library and enhanced market data to help them compete effectively and the Farmer Fairness portal to report potentially unfair and uncompetitive practices.

Support Innovative Ways to Purchase Healthy Food

Schools, food pantries, and other emergency assistance agencies nationwide are providing healthy, locally produced food to more people thanks to funding USDA provides to states, tribes, and territories. More than 12,000 producers will sell their products at fair prices through these channels, keeping food dollars in local economies, increasing sales for small and underserved producers, and shortening the supply chain between producers and consumers.

Expand Access to Nutritious Food

We're helping shoppers stretch their food dollars and connecting buyers directly with local producers. More than 67,000 schools now have farm-to-school programs, 2 million low-income seniors and WIC participants receive coupons to use at farmers markets, and more than 5,000 farmstands and farmers markets accept SNAP, with many also participating in incentive and produce prescription programs.



Cultivating Access & Innovation

USDA programs are working to build a more resilient food system. Here's a sample of the dozens of programs that help small and mid-sized producers, processors, and food businesses thrive.



More, New & Better Markets

Investing in economic opportunities in the food supply chain by providing resources for producers to add value to their products and to develop and diversify their markets:

- Local Food Promotion Program
- Farmers Market Promotion Program
- Meat and Poultry Processing Expansion Program
- Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Program
- Dairy Business Innovation Initiatives
- Farm Storage Facility Loan Program
- Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Grants
- Value-Added Producer Grants
- Meat and Poultry Inspection Readiness Grants
- Food Supply Chain Guaranteed Loan Program
- Indigenous Animals Grants
- Local Meat Capacity Grants
- Organic Market Development Grants
- Community Food Projects Grants



Capacity, Knowledge & Equity

Boosting the ability and capacity of all of today's and tomorrow's agricultural professionals:

- USDA Regional Food Business Centers
- Transition to Organic Partnership Program
- Meat and Poultry Processing Capacity Technical Assistance
- USDA Urban Service Centers
- Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities
- Regional Food System Partnerships
- Next Generation of Diverse Food and Agriculture Professionals
- Centers of Excellence at 1890 Institutions
- Agriculture Risk Management Education Partnerships Grants
- AFRI – Meat and Poultry Processing – Agricultural Workforce Training
- USDA Climate Hubs
- Hispanic-Serving Institutions Education Grants
- Tribal College Program



Competitive Markets

Increasing fairness and opportunities for producers:

- Farmer Fairness Portal
- Organic Livestock and Poultry Standards Rule
- Strengthening Organic Enforcement
- Organic Origin of Livestock Rule
- Poultry Transparency Rule
- Cattle Contracts Library Pilot Program
- Agricultural Competition: A Plan in Support of Fair and Competitive Markets
- Fair Competition and Innovation in Seeds
- Transportation Advocacy
- Inclusive Competition and Market Integrity Proposed Rule
- "Product of USA" Label
- Fertilizer Production Expansion Program



Innovative New Purchases

Investing in local and regional supply chains through USDA purchases:

- Local Food Purchase Assistance Program
- Local Food for Schools Program
- Patrick Leahy Farm to School Program



Access to Healthy Food

Helping families and individuals access affordable, healthy foods:

- Seniors Farmers Market Nutrition Program
- WIC Farmers Market Nutrition Program
- Farmers Markets Accepting SNAP Benefits
- Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program
- Healthy Food Financing Initiative



Scan to learn more about each of the listed programs.

