

**Appendix 7 – Relevant Excerpts from USDA Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Composting and Food Waste Reduction (CFWR) Notice of Funding Opportunity (NFO)
No. USDA-NRCS-NHQ-CFWR-24-NOFO0001412**

List of Indicators for OUAIP Grants and Agreements (Appendix D)

The Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production (OUAIP) has developed the following list of indicators for use within the Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Grants Program (UAIP) and the Composting and Food Waste Reduction Cooperative Agreement Program (CFWR). These indicators are meant to provide unified metrics for reporting across both programs. This list is meant to be as exhaustive as possible; indicators presented should be able to correspond with a wide range of unique activities covered under both programs. These indicators are to be incorporated into your project monitoring and evaluation strategies and will be reported on annually. A final measurement of each indicator will be provided at the end of the period of performance.

Recipients should identify the relevant indicators that correspond to their project objectives while developing their project proposals for UAIP or CFWR. Indicators have been aggregated into thematic categories to facilitate indicator selection. At least one indicator must be selected per project objective or deliverable, though each deliverable is likely to have multiple associated indicators. You are encouraged to read this list carefully: relevant indicators may be found in a variety of categories. Indicators that have an asterisk (*) are required to be reported on by all projects or by all projects within a certain program.

1. Food Access and Security: To support the availability, accessibility, and utilization of food for all individuals. Activities may foster new and beginning producers, increase access of fresh food, strengthen supply chains, and promote [food security](#).

1.1. Number of individuals with improved [food security](#).

1.1.1. Number of [historically underserved](#) individuals with improved food access and security

1.2. Number of farmers supported or assisted

1.2.1. Number of [beginning farmers](#) supported or assisted

1.2.2. Number of [socially disadvantaged](#) farmers supported or assisted

1.2.3. Number of [limited resource](#) farmers supported or assisted

1.2.4. Number of [veteran farmers](#) supported or assisted

1.3. Amount of food produced (lbs.)

1.4. Number of new farmers entering agriculture

1.4.1. Number of [historically underserved](#) new farmers entering agriculture

1.5. Number of individuals benefitting from food waste reduction initiatives

1.5.1. Number of [historically underserved](#) individuals benefitting from food waste reduction initiatives

2. Economic Impact and Resilience: To support economic benefits and increase the long-term economic resilience of communities. Activities may include reducing the economic costs of food loss and waste, generating income through increased revenue, market expansion and capital investment, facilitate job placement, or conserve economic resources.

2.1. Number of new urban and/or innovative agricultural operations started.

- 2.2. Number of existing agricultural operations that expanded because of project activities.
- 2.3. Number of new jobs created.
- 2.4. Number of new businesses established.
- 2.5. Number of businesses supported.
- 2.6. Cost savings resulting from project activities (USD)
- 2.7. Cost savings in food waste disposal (USD)
- 2.8. Number of volunteers engaged with project activities.
- 2.9. Number of volunteer hours per year.
- 2.10. Estimated increase in landfill lifetime (years)
- 2.11. Cost savings from the implementation of new technologies (USD)
- 2.12. Cost savings from local generation of compost (e.g., reduction in fertilizer and/or logistics cost) (USD)
- 2.13. Amount of income from sale of compost (USD)
- 2.14. Amount of water saved due to project activities (US Gallons)
- 2.15. Amount of electricity saved due to project activities (kw hours)

3. Community Engagement: To work alongside communities and stakeholders to increase participatory involvement with project activities. Activities may develop strategic partnerships with local and public groups with engagement and collaboration on community food security and waste reduction initiatives, promote new policies and programs, or facilitate positive behavior change.

- 3.1. Number of individuals participating in project activities*
- 3.2. Number of businesses participating in project activities
- 3.3. Number of schools participating in project activities.
- 3.4. Number of feasibility studies completed
- 3.5. Number of waste surveys completed
- 3.6. Number of community surveys complete
- 3.7. Number of partnerships developed due to project activities
- 3.8. Number of organizations participating in food scrap recycling education and engagement programs
- 3.9. Number of conferences or meetings completed
- 3.10. Number of local government policies identified as barriers to project activities
- 3.11. Number of community gardens supported
- 3.12. Number of local government policy changes related to food waste and/or home or commercial food scrap recycling
- 3.13. Number of new individuals participating in community gardens activities.
- 3.14. Number of community gardens created
- 3.15. Number of case studies developed
- 3.16. Number of Community Advisory Boards (CABs) established

4. Food Resource Management: To curb food waste and the amount landfilled while maximizing the use of edible resources. Activities may include efforts to recover and redistribute edible food, redirect surplus food as animal, or transform food waste into an industrial resource. Activities also include diverting food waste from landfills to direct it towards compost production and composting as practice.

- 4.1. Amount of food waste diverted from landfills (lbs.)* [CFWR]
- 4.2. Amount of food recovered for human consumption (lbs.)
- 4.3. Amount of food waste used for animal feed (lbs.)
- 4.4. Amount of food recovered and repurposed for industrial uses (lbs.)
- 4.5. Amount of food waste used for composting(lbs.)
- 4.6. Amount of food waste used for anaerobic digestion (lbs.)
- 4.7. Number of new individuals that have adopted composting as a household practice.
- 4.8. Number of producers participating in gleaning activities.
- 4.9. Amount of compost produced (lbs.)
- 4.10. Number of food scrap drop-off points established.
- 4.11. Number of producers receiving compost
- 4.12. Number of businesses participating in food waste prevention measures
- 4.13. Number of schools participating in food waste prevention measures
- 4.14. Number of individuals participating in food scrap drop off programs
- 4.15. Number of community composting sites established for collective composting
- 4.16. Number of residential participants in municipal collection of food scraps (curbside)
- 4.17. Number of businesses and institutions participating in composting programs
- 4.18. Amount of compost donated (lbs.)
- 4.19. Amount of compost sold (lbs.)

5. Conservation and Climate: Promoting environmental conservation as well as climate resilience, mitigation, and adaptation. Activities that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, activities that promote soil health assessments on farms and gardens to measure improvement in soil nutrient levels, and activities that utilize innovative technologies to enhance crop productivity.

- 5.1. Number of soil health assessments or tests conducted
- 5.2. Number of individuals implementing innovative production techniques or technologies.
- 5.3. Number of individuals implementing innovative irrigation methods
- 5.4. Number of farms that adopted at least one conservation practice (List of NRCS Conservation Practices)
- 5.5. Number of acres dedicated to sustainable agricultural practices
- 5.6. Number or acres with applied compost
- 5.7. Total reduction in chemical fertilizers used (lbs.)
- 5.8. Estimated total greenhouse gas emissions reduced from project activities (metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent, CO₂e)
- 5.9. Number of increased greenspaces because of project activities (meters squared)
- 5.10. Number of impermeable surfaces eliminated (meters squared)
- 5.11. Amount of rainwater collected (US gallons)
- 5.12. Number of additional innovative technologies added to agricultural operations

6. Training and Education: To increase knowledge, awareness and education on food waste reduction, sustainable agricultural practices, and nutrition. Activities that give students, individuals, community members and other stakeholders increased understanding on urban agriculture and innovative production.

- 6.1. Number of individuals receiving job training or mentorship
- 6.2. Number of individuals educated on food waste reduction
- 6.3. Number of students educated on agricultural knowledge and skills
- 6.4. Number of individuals educated on sustainable agriculture
- 6.5. Number of individuals educated on good nutrition
- 6.6. Number of urban producers educated on agricultural knowledge and skills
- 6.7. Number of apprenticeships created or supported through project activities
- 6.8. Number of views/impressions for education materials (online)
- 6.9. Number of educational materials created (not individual replication)
- 6.10. Number of education materials distributed
- 6.11. Number of producers educated on soil health and soil testing

3. Match (C. Eligibility Information)

Section 12302 of the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018, 7 U.S.C. 6923 requires applicants to match 25 percent of the total federal share. Applications that do not include the required level of matching will be ineligible for an award. **Please do not include matching funds in excess of 25 percent.** Match may be achieved with contributions of cash, services, materials, equipment, or third-party in-kind contributions. Funds from another Federal award cannot be used as match except where the Federal statute authorizing a program specifically provides that Federal funds made available for such program can be applied to match. Additional details about matching funds can be found at 2 CFR 200.306. Refer to Section D of this NFO for information about any required submittals related to match requirements. While the pace of match may vary throughout the award period, the agency will actively monitor match levels as it receives payment requests to ensure the total match requirement is met by the award periods of performance end date. Additional details about matching funds are located at 2 CFR 200.306.

The following are examples of the appropriate level of cost-share for a given federal award amount.

Federal Share Requested	Cost Share Min (25%)	Total Project Cost
\$75,000	\$18,750	\$93,750
\$400,000	\$100,000	\$500,000

iv. Match (Section D)

Matching must be committed at the time of application submission. The budget narrative must show the amounts and sources of match (including both cash and in-kind contributions or a combination of both).

For third-party contributions, a letter is required for each contribution, signed by the authorized organizational representative of the contributing organization and the applicant organization, which must include: (1) the name, address, and telephone number of the contributor, (2) the name of the applicant organization, (3) the title of the project for which the contribution is made, (4) the dollar amount of the contribution, and (5) a statement that the contributor will pay the contribution no later than the end of the award period. The

agency may conduct reference checks to ensure that organizations identified are supportive and involved with the project. Cost sharing/match letters should be addressed to the Federal Awarding Agency Contact (Jose A. Berna, Grants Management Specialist) in Section G of this NFO and uploaded under Other Attachments (listed separately under Optional Forms) in Grants.gov.

Refer to the Budget Narrative Guidance located in the appendices section for information about making contract vs. subaward determinations.

Do not add any matching funds in excess of the CFWR requirement of 25% of federal funds.