



October 24, 2023

***Additional Funds to Support the U.S. Agricultural Industry
Unveiled by USDA***

U.S. Livestock Genetics Export, Inc. (USLGE) applauds USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack's announcement today of a new funding opportunity worth \$2.3 billion dollars which will support U.S. agriculture. The new program called ***RAPP - Regional Agricultural Promotion Program*** will provide US\$1.3 billion for new trade promotion funding as well as US\$1 billion for food security, commodity purchases, and donations. These funds are authorized by the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC).

This announcement follows a bipartisan Senate request from the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry whose leadership called on USDA to utilize CCC authority to address challenges related to trade and food insecurity impacting U.S. farmers and the international community.


The USDA will hold webinars with stakeholders and key partners to clarify the intent of the new funding program. The regulations for this new funding are anticipated during the 2023 calendar year. The USDA pledged to gather input from members of the U.S. agricultural industry and will invite public comment for draft regulations.

USLGE President and CEO Martin Sieber supports the announcement saying "This is very much a welcomed effort by USDA and the Congress to put U.S. agriculture first. We appreciate this infusion of market development funds to promote the world's highest quality livestock genetics and live breeding animals." Dr. Sieber is a USDA Agriculture Technical Advisory Committee (ATAC) member serving on the committee for Trade in Animals and Animal Products.

About USLGE

U.S. Livestock Genetics Export, Inc. (USLGE) is a nonprofit, nationwide trade association that brings together a broad base of U.S. livestock organizations. We represent the international marketing interests of the dairy, beef, swine, horse, and small ruminant (sheep and goat) breeding industries. Our members also include the embryo and semen industries, livestock export sector, and State Departments of Agriculture.

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