

USDA has recently (2010) identified five national priority areas on which to focus NIFA and other USDA science funds to solve specific problems and demonstrate results. *Proposals must clearly relate the work to be completed to one or more of these priority areas.*

Global Food Security and Hunger – NIFA supports research, education and extension that will boost U.S. agricultural production and improve global capacity to meet the growing food demand. NIFA also fosters innovation in fighting hunger by addressing food security for vulnerable populations.

Climate Change - NIFA supports projects that generate knowledge to develop an agriculture system that maintains high productivity in the face of climate changes and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. This will help producers to plan and make decisions in adapting to changing environments, sustaining economic vitality, and taking advantage of emerging economic opportunities offered by climate change mitigation technologies.

Sustainable Energy - NIFA contributes to the President's goal of energy independence by supporting science to develop biomass used for biofuels, design optimum forest products and crops for bioenergy production, and produce value-added bio-based industrial products.

Childhood Obesity - NIFA supports research to identify effective measures that guide individuals and families to make informed, science-based decisions that will reduce child obesity and improve health.

Food Safety - NIFA supports research that results to reduce the incidence of food-borne illnesses and provides a safer food supply by: eliminating causes of microbial contamination and antimicrobial resistance; educating consumer and food safety professionals; and developing food processing technologies to improve food safety.