



## Food for Progress USDA Regional Agriculture Innovation Network Call for Concept Notes

<b>Program Name:</b>	USDA Thailand Regional Agriculture Innovation Network
<b>APS Title:</b>	RAINAPS-01
<b>RFA Title:</b>	10008-25-RFA-01
<b>Date Issued:</b>	January 19, 2025
<b>Closing Date:</b>	5:00 PM ICT March 15, 2025

The USDA Thailand Regional Agriculture Innovation Network (“USDA RAIN”) is a five-year USDA-funded Food for Progress project implemented by Winrock International. USDA RAIN facilitates adoption of climate-smart innovations (CSI) to increase farmer incomes, reduce environmental impact, and expand trade. Our approach identifies CSI and enhances them by incorporating extension, financial, and data services, and promotes the availability and use of innovations to processors and producers.

USDA RAIN provides training, capacity-strengthening, and technical and marketing development to farmers and other private sector stakeholders to increase agriculture production and trade through the adoption of CSI technologies and climate resilient practices. USDA RAIN delivers services that provide equitable opportunities for women and youth. USDA RAIN will benefit more than 30,000 smallholder (5 hectares or less) farmers in Thailand.

USDA RAIN issued an Annual Program Statement (RAINAPS-01) to all eligible, qualified, and registered applicants to submit concept notes to receive grant funding for climate smart innovations in agriculture. Under this APS, RAIN has issued a Request for Application (10008-25-RFA-01) and hereby solicits concept notes to provide funding for up to six CSI grants that scale climate smart agricultural equipment in the Cassava value chain.

### **Private sector organizations working in the agriculture sector are highly encouraged to apply.**

Each grant is estimated to receive between 500,000 to 1,300,000 Thai Baht of funding. USDA RAIN will prioritize concept notes proposing work in the Nakhon Ratchasima, Chaiyaphum, Khon Kaen, and Ubon Ratchasima provinces. Concept notes must provide a description of objectives, proposed activities, and strategy for expanding services or products not to exceed four (4) pages. No attachments or annexes will be accepted.

**How to Apply:** Interested applicants may submit their concept note(s) to [RAIN.consultant@winrock.org](mailto:RAIN.consultant@winrock.org). RAIN has the right to evaluate concept notes throughout 2025, but we encourage submissions by March 15. Concept papers will be evaluated on a rolling basis; thus, applicants are encouraged to apply early. All grants are subject to available funding.

RAIN will select compelling concept notes and collaborate with potential applicants to **co-create a full application for grant funding over a two-week period after notification of a successful concept note.** This ensures applications demonstrate effective and sustainable strategies for project implementation, aligning with the goals of the grant program and addressing key commercial issues.



**At this time, USDA RAIN requests submission of Concept Notes only.** Please refer to the links below for the concept note template. The linked APS, RFA, and other documents are relevant to review as background information and what to expect should your concept note be successful.

All inquiries about this Call for Concept Notes should be submitted in writing to Khem Suksathit, Grants and Operations Specialist at [Rain.Consultant@winrock.org](mailto:Rain.Consultant@winrock.org) and titled USDA RAIN – RAINAPS-01/10008-25-RFA-01. All questions and responses will be made public as a regularly updated attachment to this Call for Concept Notes.

**Attachments:**

1. Concept Note Template
2. Request for Application: 10008-25-RFA-01
  - Application Template – Technical
  - Application Template – Cost

**Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA):**

Winrock International seeks to cultivate an environment where all vendors relish equal employment opportunities devoid of discrimination, misconduct, fraud, and abuse. Our commitment to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility (DEIA) and Localization guides our practices not just limited to hiring, but also applicable during procurement process. This commitment signifies that we value diversity in all its forms including age, race, ethnicity, religion, gender, sexual orientation, disability status, and cultural background. We welcome and encourage quotes/proposals from vendors of all backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives, recognizing the rich tapestry of the communities in which we live and work.

**Disclaimer:**

Issuance of this notice does not obligate USDA RAIN to award, nor will USDA RAIN pay any costs associated with the preparation or submission of concept notes. Furthermore, Winrock International reserves the right to reject any or all concept notes, if such action is in the best interest of Winrock International.