



Government of the United States Virgin Islands
Department of Agriculture



ST. CROIX: #1 Estate Lower Love, Kingshill, V.I. 00850 • T: (340) 778-0997 • F: (340) 778-0997
ST. THOMAS: #7944 Estate Dorothea, St. Thomas, V.I. 00802 • T: (340) 774-5182 • F: (340) 774-1823
ST. JOHN: #11 Estate Carolina, Coral Bay, V.I. 00830 • T: (340) 776-6274 • F: (340) 693-5065

2021/2022 MICRO-GRANTS FOR FOOD SECURITY PROJECT (MGFSP)

Completed applications may be submitted to the CASHIER at VIDA offices or via email at: grants@doa.vi.gov by **December 29, 2021 at 11:59pm AST**.

Instructions & Guidelines:

Please review the following information before completing the application.

- Applications for Micro-Grants for Food Security are requested to be administered for an award amount of \$5,000.00 to individual sub-grants of eligible farmers, backyard gardeners, agricultural education programs, and school garden clubs. Initiatives that enhance food production, food purchasing, and food-preparation skills qualify for this award. All applications will be reviewed and selected by an independent committee for funding of projects. The competitive distribution totals \$120,000 of the MGFSP grant award (\$90K in year one and \$30K in the following year).
- The objectives** of this program are to increase the quantity and quality of locally grown food for food insecure individuals, families, neighborhoods, and communities; and to increase food security for at-risk members of the community through the development and enhancement of local agricultural resources and strategies.
- Eligibility Information:**
 - Application submitted by the deadline (December 29, 2021).
 - May fall into one of the following categories including Individual Farmers or Backyard Gardeners, federally funded education facilities including Head Start programs, Elementary, Middle, or High School Gardening Initiatives, or Youth Detention Center School Gardening Initiatives

Late applications, applications with missing information, or applications incorrectly submitted will not be considered or accepted.

All **questions** about this application can be submitted via email to info.doa@doa.vi.gov or via phone at (340) 778-0993.



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MICRO-GRANTS FOR FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM APPLICATION

Applicant Information (please print)

Name: _____
Last First Middle Initial

Is this applicant at least 18 years old? YES NO

Mailing Address: _____

Physical Property Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Questionnaire (please print):

1. Please describe how this grant will aid you in increasing food security:
 - a. Specifically what local agriculture resources would be developed or enhanced?

 - b. What strategies would be used to continue the development and enhancement of food security beyond the life of this grant?

2. Are you willing to accept and use technical advice provided by the Virgin Islands Department of Agriculture and The University of the Virgin Islands Cooperative Extension Service? YES NO



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3. Are you gainfully employed outside of farming? **YES** **NO**
4. How many years of farming experience do you have? _____ years
5. Do you have a valid farmer’s license? **YES** **NO**
6. Do you have outstanding balances owed to the VI Department of Agriculture? **YES** **NO**

If so, please state the amount you owe and name the product or services received.



7. Please indicate your willingness to sign a cooperative agreement between the VI Department of Agriculture and yourself if selected as a participant? **YES** **NO**
8. Please indicate which one of the following two outcomes and related indicators (circle or highlight) you will use to measure and document project performance.

Outcome 1 – Increase Quantity of Food Grown

Measure the quantity of food grown through small-scale gardening, herding, and livestock operations using one or more of the following indicators:

Indicator	Description	Estimated Number	N/A
1.a.	Total <u>number</u> of project beneficiaries/stakeholders to be reached		<input type="checkbox"/>
1.b.	Of the number in 1.a., the number that will create or expand a small-scale: 1. Gardening operation 2. Herding operation 3. Livestock operation	1. ____ 2. ____ 3. ____	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.c.	Of the number in 1.a., the number that will gain knowledge of local food production strategies through attending agriculture-focused job training or education programs	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.d.	Of the number in 1.a., the number that will be in geographic locations with the highest rate of food insecurity	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
1.e.	Of the number in 1.a., the number that will gain knowledge of food processing and safety practices for handling, preparing, and storage of food	_____	<input type="checkbox"/>



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Outcome 2 – Increase food security for individuals

Measure the number of food insecure individuals fed as a result of the subgrant using one or more of the following indicators:

Indicator	Description	Estimated Number	N/A
Of the total number of project participants, the:			
2.a.	Number of new farmers who went into local food production	___	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.b.	Number of new or existing delivery systems/access points reached that will expand and/or improve locally produced product or service offerings	___	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.c.	Number of opportunities created or maintained for small-scale gardening, herding, or livestock operations	___	<input type="checkbox"/>
2.d.	Customer counts increased during the project performance period		<input type="checkbox"/>
	Initial (Original) Customer Count	___	
	Estimated Final (Resulted) Customer Count	___	
	Percent Change ((final # – initial #)/(initial#) x 100 = % change)	___%	

9. Please provide a descriptive PROJECT TITLE in 15 words or less.

10. PROJECT SUMMARY: On the following page, in 250 words or less, please provide a brief description of the proposed project. Please include a concise outline of the project’s objectives, outcomes, and a description of the general tasks to be completed during the project period to fulfill project goals. *This summary will be available for public review.*

Examples of Approved activities may include:

1. Small-Scale Gardening – Purchasing gardening tools or equipment, soil, soil amendments, seeds, plants, canning equipment, refrigeration, or other items necessary to grow and store food. Purchasing or assembling composting units and towers designed to grow leafy greens. Extending the growing season. Starting or expanding hydroponic and aeroponic farming. Expanding an area under cultivation or engage in other activities necessary to be eligible to apply for funding under the USDA NRCS EQIP.
2. Small-Scale Herding and Livestock Operations - Purchasing animals. Buying, erecting, or repairing fencing for livestock, poultry, or deer. Funding activities or supplies associated with setting up poultry processing.
3. Expanding Access to Food and Knowledge of Food Security - Creating or expanding avenues for the sale of food commodities, specialty crops, and meats that are grown for sale in the local community. Increasing the availability of fresh, local food. Paying for shipping of purchased items related to growing or raising food for local consumption or purchase, and the development of value-added agricultural products.



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Signatures and Acknowledgments:

By signing this application, I certify that I have fully read the instructions pages, application guidelines, and agreements, and accept responsibility for understanding and upholding the terms and conditions of these documents. To the best of my knowledge and belief, the information I have provided in this application is true, complete, and accurate. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent information may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 18, Section 1001)

Print Name: _____

Applicant's Signature: _____

Date: _____

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: December 29, 2021, at 11:59pm AST