

New American Sustainable Agriculture Project (NASAP) in New Hampshire



Mukhtar Idhow, Executive Director, ORIS
Jessica Newnan, Program Coordinator, ORIS
Anthony Munene, Farm Manager, ORIS
Matthew Schwartz, Program Director, ORIS
NIFA # 2017-70017-26883



NASAP PROJECT SUMMARY

The New American Sustainable Agriculture Project (NASAP) is a program of the *Organization for Refugee and Immigrant Success* (ORIS), supported by the BFRDP. NASAP develops opportunities for beginner farmer success and improves food security among refugee and immigrant communities in New Hampshire.

KEY OBJECTIVES + ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

1) Provide outreach to and beginning level training for refugees and immigrants in New Hampshire

Outcomes: 8-10 adults and 10-12 youth begin farming • 15 farmers sell via the Fresh Start Farms collective marketing initiative and incubator markets • 15 farmers earn a minimum of \$1,000 in annual sales

2) Provide advanced agricultural training

Outcomes: 8-12 growers attend advanced production/market trainings • 8-12 document annual cash flow to inform their business plans

3) Support refugee farmers to develop business plans that include long-term land tenure

Outcomes: 3-5 farmers develop business plans • 6-8 participate in financial literacy training • 8-12 participate in a land-based farmer cooperative • 12-15 participate in a marketing cooperative and enter new wholesale markets

4) Share resources with other refugee training programs throughout New England and the country

Outcomes: 50-60 farmers increase knowledge to improve their farm enterprises • 3-6 regional programs learn about NASAP's farm incubator transfer, NASAP's mentoring programing, NASAP's cooperative enterprise model

5) Connect NASAP and other refugee farmers from the region with local agricultural and other service providers

Outcomes: 40+ NH-based refugee farmers access USDA, NOFA-NH, Cooperative Extension, and other service providers



Fresh Start Farms direct sales and marketing at farmers market

ACTIVITIES

Workshops: including Agricultural ESL, Financial Literacy, Developing a Farm Enterprise Budget, Production Planning and Crop Calendars for NH

Farm Planning: Farmers developed a crop rotation and cover crop plan for incubator farm sites. NASAP staff supported 13 advanced farmers to apply for the USDA Farm Service Agency's Non-Insured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP).

Markets:

- Trained and facilitated 10 farmers to use wholesale marketing opportunities via online marketplace platforms
- Expanded two additional farm stands and CSA pickup sites; developed two new large contract wholesale customers



Packing CSA shares at 4 acre leased farm in Concord

Outreach: 4 farmers attended and networked at the 2017 Community Food Systems Conference in Massachusetts

Access to Land:

- Purchased 56.8 acres (7 acres currently in active farming) in Dunbarton
- Secured access for incubator farm on 4 acres in Concord. Installed washing station and 12 gravity fed drip irrigation kits for beginning farmers.



56.8 acre property (7 acres actively farmed) in Dunbarton, NH purchased by ORIS in 2018