

§ 1943.102

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agreement with the Farm Service Agency (FSA) to provide outreach, training, and technical assistance to members of socially disadvantaged groups to own and operate farms and ranches and to participate in agricultural programs.

§ 1943.102 Objectives.

To meet the objectives of the program referenced in paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section, FSA will fund grant agreements, cooperative agreements, or enter into Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) with recipients as referenced in § 1943.105 of this subpart, for Small Farmer Outreach Training and Technical Assistance Projects which are determined to meet the objectives of the program:

(a) The long-term objective of the Small Farmer Outreach Training and Technical Assistance Program is to keep small farmers, especially those who are members of socially disadvantaged groups, on the farm and strengthen the rural economy.

(b) An immediate objective of the Small Farmer Outreach Training and Technical Assistance Program is to encourage and assist members of socially disadvantaged groups to own and operate farms and ranches and to participate in agricultural programs.

§ 1943.103 Project period.

A cooperative agreement or other agreement will specify a project for a period generally of 5 years, with an option for renewal up to the 5-year period, subject to the availability of funds or termination of the project by mutual agreement or for cause.

§ 1943.104 Definitions.

For the purpose of the Small Farmer Outreach Training and Technical Assistance Program, the following definitions are applicable:

Agricultural programs. Eligible programs shall include, but are not limited to, one or more of the following programs: Agricultural conservation program, programs comprising the environmental conservation acreage reserve program (ECARP), conservation technical assistance program, emergency conservation program, forestry incentives program, Great Plains Con-

servation Program, integrated farm management option program, price support and production adjustment programs, rural environmental conservation program, soil survey program, and water bank program; also the farm loan programs (farm ownership, operating, soil and water, and emergency loans) of the FSA.

Awarding official. The Administrator of the FSA or designee.

Community-based organization. Those nonprofit, nongovernment organizations with a well defined constituency that includes all or part of a particular community, e.g., communities consisting of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. Socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers must play a role in the development and implementation of any program or project undertaken by the organization.

Cooperative agreement. The same meaning as *grant*, except that, at the time a cooperative agreement is awarded, substantial involvement is anticipated between FSA, acting for the Federal Government, and the recipient during performance under the agreement. (Refer to exhibit A of FmHA Instruction 1943-C (available in any State office).)

Grant. For purposes of this regulation, an award by FSA, acting for the Federal Government, of money to the recipient with the following characteristics:

(1) The principal purpose of the award is to accomplish a public purpose authorized by statute, rather than acquisition, by purchase, lease, or barter, of property or services for the direct benefit or use of the Federal Government; and

(2) At the time an award is made, no substantial involvement is anticipated between FSA, acting for the Federal Government, and the recipient.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). For purposes of this regulation, a documented plan between FSA and the recipient or recipients for carrying out their separate activities in a project of mutual interest. When an understanding is reached as to the area of operations and duties to be performed by the parties concerned, each party directs its own activities and utilizes its own resources. An MOU is not a