



THE MULTISTATE RESEARCH FUND IMPACTS PROGRAM

Administered by U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA-NIFA), the Hatch Multistate Research Fund (MRF) supports agricultural innovation and sustainability by funding collaborative research projects led by State Agricultural Experiment Stations (SAES) and land-grant universities. The Multistate Research Fund Impacts Program (MRF Impacts) communicates the importance of these projects to the public through Impact Statements and other materials. We also provide workshops and training materials to help scientists report their impacts. This program is funded through the MRF as a National Research Support Project and is overseen by a Management Committee made up of Regional SAES Association leadership, USDA-NIFA liaisons, and others.



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OUR IMPACT STATEMENTS

- **SUMMARIES.** In 1-2 pages, Impact Statements highlight a project's major activities, findings, and IMPACTS on knowledge, behavior, and social, economic, or environmental conditions.
- **NOT TECHNICAL REPORTS.** Impact Statements use everyday language geared towards audiences who aren't topic experts or scientists.
- **VISUAL.** Impact Statements use images, icons, charts, illustrations, and other visual aids.
- **WRITTEN WHEN A PROJECT ENDS.** Impact Statements are written at the end of a project's five-year cycle.
- **BASED ON ANNUAL REPORTS.** Information in Impact Statements comes from annual reports submitted by project participants to the National Information Management & Support System (NIMSS; nimss.org).
- **REVIEWED.** Project participants and Administrative Advisors review Impact Statements for accuracy.
- **USEFUL RESOURCES.** Impact Statements can be easily repurposed for different audiences and platforms.
- **IMPORTANT.** Impact Statements demonstrate the public value of collaborative agricultural research and the excellence of the Land-grant University System.

IMPACT WRITING WORKSHOPS

Our Impact Writing Workshops explain the role impact reporting plays in supporting research programs and give participants knowledge and tools for writing, identifying, and leveraging strong impact statements. Contact sara.delheimer@colostate.edu to learn more about hosting a workshop. Download our worksheets for help now: bit.ly/impact-training.

HOW ARE IMPACT STATEMENTS USED?



SENT directly to USDA-NIFA, SAES Directors, university leaders, and others



DISCUSSED with legislators, program leaders, faculty, stakeholders, and others



FEATURED in magazines, newspapers, newsletters, blogs, and other communication pieces



INCLUDED in presentations, grant proposals, legislative briefs, and reports



SHARED on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn



ARCHIVED in databases like nimss.org and landgrantimpacts.org



UPLOADED to websites like MRFimpacts.org

YOU
can do
these things,
too!

WHAT IS YOUR ROLE?

EVERYONE

- Share and use Impact Statements
- Let us know when you use our Impact Statements or other materials to help us track our reach and impact
- Sign up for our newsletter: bit.ly/MRFimpacts-subscribe
- Follow @MRFimpacts on social media and engage

SAES DIRECTORS

- Make Administrative Advisors and others aware of MRF Impacts resources
- Share stories in which multistate projects or their members are featured with the Impact Writer

ADMINISTRATIVE ADVISORS

- Make project participants aware of MRF Impacts
- Ensure multistate groups submit thorough reports to NIMSS each year in a timely manner
- Encourage project participants to engage in the Impact Statement review process

PROJECT PARTICIPANTS

- Keep track of and prepare to report impacts
- Use our training materials to learn how to report impacts in an effective way
- Upload thorough annual reports to the NIMSS database in a timely fashion
- Participate in the Impact Statement review process and meet deadlines
- Share photos of your team, research activities, outreach events, etc. with the Impact Writer
- Share exciting or interesting stories about your work on the project with the Impact Writer (e.g., reaching a major milestone, using a cool tool, your research journey, challenges you've overcome, or a personal example of why your research matters)

IMPACT STATEMENT REVIEW PROCESS

