

Resilient Food System Infrastructure



Description

Led by the California Department of Food and Agriculture, this project focuses on enhancing resilience across the middle of the food supply chain by supporting local and regional producers with an emphasis on small- and mid-scale businesses. The initiative seeks to

- 1) expand capacity for the aggregating, processing, manufacturing, storing, transporting, wholesaling, and distributing of locally and regionally produced food products;
- 2) provide more and better markets for small- and mid-scale farms and food businesses;
- 3) create new and safe job opportunities;
- 4) support the development of value-added products for consumers, fair prices, and fair wages; and
- 5) build resilience in the middle of the food supply chain.

By improving market opportunities and capturing new revenue streams, this program will also strengthen food security, promote economic opportunities, and contribute to community health.



Objectives

- Statewide outreach to hear from communities, associations, distributors, farmers, and makers to map existing, planned, and needed middle of the supply chain infrastructure.
- Establish and improve California food system stakeholder network connections by identifying synergies and opportunities for partnerships.
- Develop and publish a report featuring an infrastructure vision and maps to guide public agencies, nonprofits, community-based initiatives, and private companies involved in supply chain resilience efforts.

Partners

- California Department of Food and Agriculture
- Institute of the Environment, UC Davis
- Infrastructure financing experts
- Food system stakeholders from across the state