

# Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education

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EESI Briefing September 12, 2023

# Overview

- SARE history
- Overview of SARE grant programs
- Topics of funding
- SARE future

# What is SARE?

Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) offers **farmer-driven, grassroots grants** and **education** programs. Since 1988, SARE grantees have been putting the principles of sustainable agriculture into practice on farms and ranches in every state and island protectorate.



National Institute of Food and Agriculture  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



# First Authorization for a Sustainable Agriculture Program at USDA

1985 Farm Bill – Food Security Act, Title XIV, Section 1409, D(7)

Research to reduce farm input costs through the collection of national and international data and the transfer of appropriate technology relating to **sustainable agriculture systems, soil, energy, and water conservation technologies, rural and farm resource management**, and the diversification of farm product processing and marketing systems.

# First Appropriated funding for Sustainable Agriculture at USDA

1988 Agriculture Appropriations Act – Public Law 100-202,  
Cooperative State Research Service

## **LISA - Low-Input Sustainable Agriculture**

\$3,900,000 for low-input agriculture as authorized by the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 4701-4710)

# SARE is Born!

1990 Farm Bill – Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act, Title XVI, Subtitle B, Section 1619. **Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education**

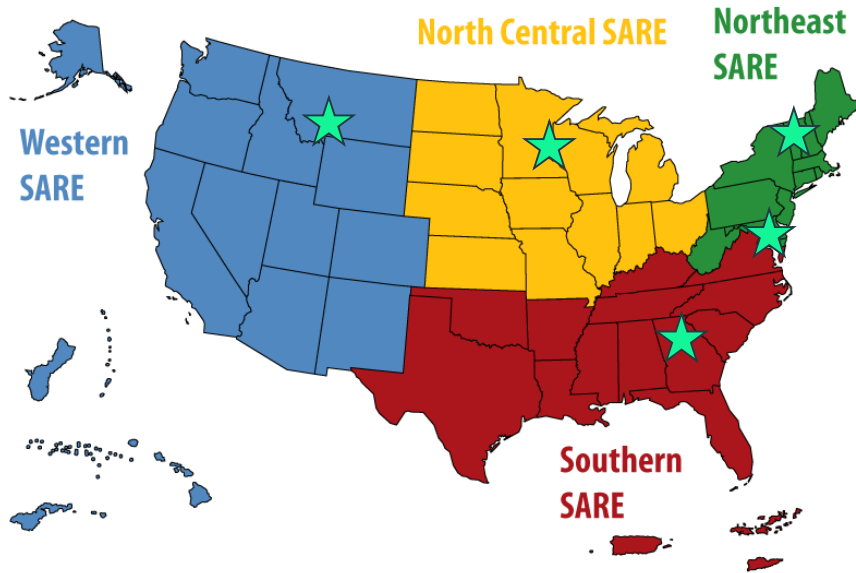
Purpose, Definitions, Program Administration, Authorization

**Chapter 1** – Best Utilization of Biological Applications

~~Chapter 2 – Integrated Management Systems~~

**Chapter 3** – Sustainable Agriculture Technology Development and Transfer Program

# SARE National Overview



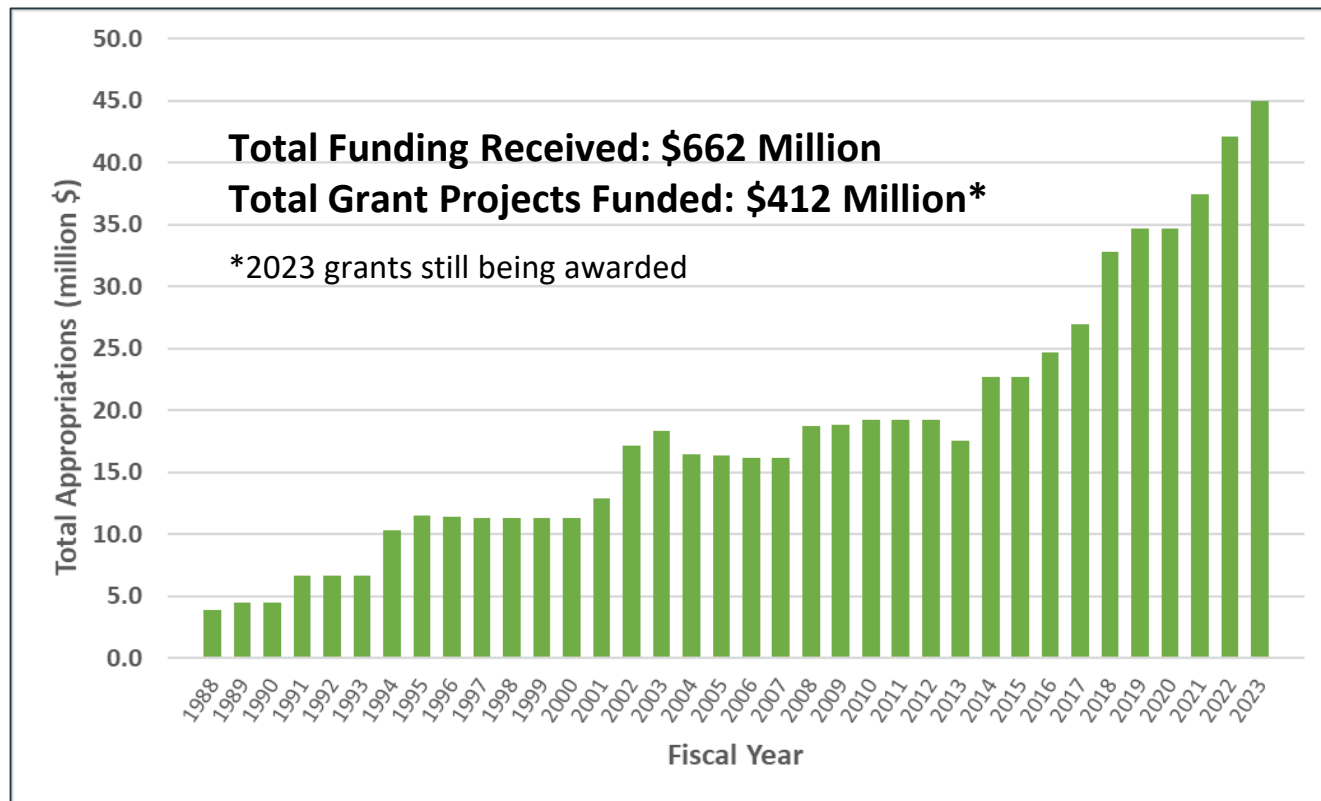
- 1 National Outreach Office
- 4 Regional Host Institutions
  - Administrative Councils
  - Staff
- National Committees
- Professional Development Program - 1994

# SARE Grant Types

<b>Grant Type</b>	<b>Lead Audience</b>
Research and Education	Researchers, Educators, Farmers
Farmer/Rancher	Farmers, Ranchers
On-Farm Research/Partnership	Educators, Service Providers, Farmers
Graduate Student	Graduate Students, Farmers
Professional Development Program	Educators, Service Providers



# SARE Funding History



# Eligible Topics

- On-farm renewable energy
- Pest and weed management
- Pastured livestock
- Rotational grazing
- Cover Crops
- High Tunnels
- Crop Rotations
- Business Planning
- Farm Succession Planning
- Marketing
- Sustainable Communities
- Integrated Systems
- Pollinators
- Local and Regional Food Systems
- Urban Farming
- Indigenous Practices
- Farmer Mental Health
- Etc.

# SARE Funding by Topic

Search Term	Total Funding	Total Projects
Climate	\$4,743,663	74
Regenerative	\$1,934,647	32

Includes all projects from 1988-2023

# SARE Funding by Topic

<b>Search Term</b>	<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>Total Projects</b>
Soil Health	\$23,337,319	469
Cover Crops	\$22,337,320	1331
Organic Matter	\$19,748,962	1243
Soil Carbon	\$17,101,848	51

Includes all projects from 1988-2022

# SARE into the Future

- Increased annual appropriations for funding SARE - \$60 Million
  - More grants, more topics, higher amounts
  - Support to grantee
- Addressing Quality of Life in grant programs
  - Improving DEIA efforts across programs
- Provide Technical Assistance for grant management
- Evaluate program impact

# Thank You!

**SARE Webpage** <https://www.sare.org/>

**SARE Projects Database** <https://projects.sare.org/>

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