



USAEDC Praises USDA's Investment in Export Expansion Programs

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Washington, DC – February 10, 2026 – The U.S. Agricultural Export Development Council (USAEDC) praises the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) for its continued investment in bolstering agricultural exports via Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) administered foreign market development programs as it announced its funding allocations for the 2026 [Marketing Access Promotion](#) (MAP) and [Foreign Market Development](#) (FMD) programs. This investment in foreign market development remains a cornerstone for American farmers, ranchers, agribusinesses, and other agricultural stakeholders seeking to expand U.S. Ag’s reach in global markets.

“We are grateful for USDA’s continued dedication to enhancing the global presence of U.S. agriculture,” stated Karen Horan, USAEDC Chair. “This investment is a testament to the importance of sustained government support for the Ag sector. The funding provides the necessary resources to navigate the complexities of international trade and showcase the superior quality of U.S. agricultural products.”

Steve Sothmann, USAEDC Executive Director, echoed Horan’s sentiments, emphasizing the strategic significance of these programs. “We are deeply appreciative of the USDA for their unwavering support of U.S. agricultural exporters,” Sothmann said. “These funds are essential for our commodity partners who play a critical role in translating market access wins into real commercial outcomes.”

Sothmann further noted, “Diversifying exports into growing markets will help buttress the U.S. agricultural sector in the face of global shocks and ongoing conflicts and will further boost its competitiveness in the midst of a changing global landscape.”

USAEDC remains committed to collaborating with the USDA and its members to maximize the impact of these investments, ensuring the continued success and growth of U.S. agriculture in the global marketplace.



About USAEDC

Founded in 1983, USAEDC is a coalition of agricultural trade associations and organizations dedicated to promoting and expanding U.S. agricultural exports. USAEDC works to enhance the competitiveness of American agricultural products in the global marketplace through advocacy, education and collaboration. For more information on this and other events, [please visit our website](#).

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