



RFSI

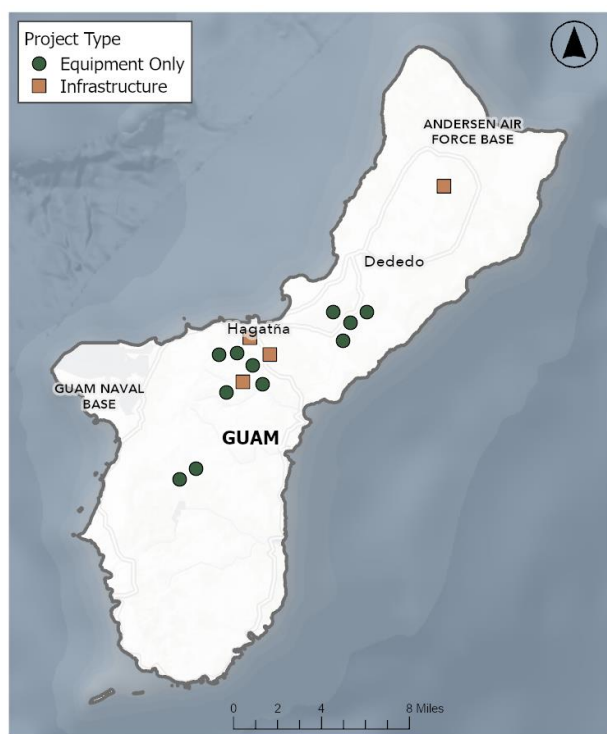
Resilient Food Systems
Infrastructure Program

Guam



State Overview

USDA awarded the Guam Department of Agriculture **\$2.1 million** through the Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure (RFSI) Program. The objective of RFSI is to expand capacity for aggregation, processing, manufacturing, storing, transporting, wholesaling, and distribution of locally and regionally produced agricultural food products. These federal funds will support 15 Guam infrastructure and equipment projects increasing access to new market opportunities, benefiting local and regional producers and processors.



Project Highlights

- **Increase distribution capacity** for pickled mango, mango salsa, hot sauce, and other specialty food products made from island-grown fruits and vegetables.
- **Grow new market opportunities for Guam honey producers** through the use of a new radial extractor, honey creamer, steam cleaner, and a delivery van.
- **Expand coconut processing capacity** with a new grater, husker, and oil compress to produce coconut oil and candy made from fruit grown in Inalåhan, Talo'fo'fo, and surrounding villages.

Anticipated Outcomes*

281

Local/Regional
Producers Benefited

211

New Market Outlets
Established

145

New Value-Added
Products Developed

1

New Facility
Constructed

57

Storage/Aggregation
Units Purchased

10

Distribution
Vehicles Purchased

57

Processing Equipment
Purchased

11

Jobs Created

**These numbers are reported by states and subawardees.*

RFSI was awarded to the 56 States and Territories in May 2023. Each state conducted a competitive grant review and selection process. States identified their funding priorities through extensive outreach with key industry stakeholders, which guided their selection process to ensure a robust state and local food system representation. Selected projects fund locally and regionally produced food products, including specialty crops, dairy, grains for human consumption, aquaculture, and other food products, excluding meat and poultry.

Infrastructure Projects: Snapshot

Infrastructure Grant projects can involve facility and equipment expansion and upgrades, new construction, and modernized information technology systems.

Guam invested more than **\$1.2 million** across 4 Infrastructure projects benefiting 170 local and regional producers. These projects include:

- Developing a wash and pack facility to process fresh produce, citrus, eggs, and fungi from at least 39 farms;
- Expanding hot sauce production with new equipment, a fulfillment center, and an integrated IT system to increase processing of hot peppers, citrus fruits, and honey from local growers;
- Constructing a multi-purpose food facility with stainless steel workstations, commercial kitchenware, and special sorting, washing, and grading equipment to process local produce and eggs; and
- Establishing a “Food Resiliency Hub” outfitted with shared use commercial kitchen space, cold storage, and packing and labeling equipment to help more than 100 local farmers to process juices, preserves, frozen desserts, and condiments.

Equipment Only Projects: Snapshot

Equipment Only projects are intended to purchase special purpose equipment such as cold/dry storage, distribution vehicles, and processing and packaging equipment.

Guam invested more than **\$802,000** across 11 Equipment Only projects purchasing more than 94 pieces of aggregation, processing, storage, and distribution equipment—including countertop mixers, ice cream freezers, tilt skillets, and vacuum bottlers. The territory expects 111 local and regional producers will benefit from reduced harvest loss, improved product quality and extended shelf life, and access to 172 new markets.

Statewide Standouts



\$1.5 million of Guam’s RFSI funding improves the supply chain for tropical fruits, such as coconut, banana, mango, avocado, guava, breadfruit, and soursop.



Two-thirds of Guam’s projects process fresh produce into value-added items, including ground pepper spices, coconut oil, plant-based ice cream, papaya slaw, and calamansi creamed honey.



\$114,000 of Guam’s RFSI funding supports fresh and fermented beverages like fruit juices and alcoholic beverages.



Guam is investing \$746,000 into projects that help turn the island’s broad variety of spicy peppers into different types of hot sauce.