



# U.S. Livestock Genetics Export, Inc.

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## Press Release

May 23, 2024

### USLGE Receives \$4.75 Million in First Round of USDA-FAS RAPP Funding

U.S. Livestock Genetics Export, Inc. (USLGE) is excited to announce that it will be receiving \$4,752,000 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service (USDA-FAS) in the first round of 5 tranches of Regional Agricultural Promotion Program (RAPP) funding. Of the total RAPP funds allocated to USLGE, \$1,116,000 will be spent specifically on projects for marketing U.S. livestock genetics in Africa.

USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack announced on May 21, 2024, that USDA has allocated \$300 million in RAPP funding to 66 U.S. organizations to build demand for American food and farm exports in high-potential markets around the globe. Secretary Vilsack launched RAPP in October 2023, authorizing \$1.2 billion in Commodity Credit Corporation funding to help U.S. exporters expand their customer base beyond traditional and established markets, focusing on regions such as Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and South and Southeast Asia, where consumer demand and purchasing power are growing. This initial round of RAPP funding will help recipient organizations carry out hundreds of projects encompassing a wide variety of products and markets.

"I would like to express USLGE's appreciation to USDA-FAS, especially the Office of Global Programs, for allocating this RAPP funding to us," says Dr. Martin Sieber, President and CEO of USLGE. "It is an important addition to our regular FAS program funding."

To foster market diversity and expand exports in the RAPP emphasized regions, USLGE will identify the countries with the best opportunities and return on investment for U.S. livestock genetics exporters. Of special interest are areas of the developing world that would benefit from U.S. genetics for goats and sheep. USLGE also plans to invest in training programs for local veterinarians and breeding technicians so that they will be equipped with the knowledge and skills to maximize the value of U.S. genetics locally.

U.S. genetics can play a crucial role in enhancing livestock herd development and promoting sustainable agricultural practices globally. USLGE's efforts in RAPP emphasized regions will contribute to improved animal breeding, reduced environmental impact, and increased productivity.


#### *About USLGE*

U.S. Livestock Genetics Export, Inc. (USLGE) is a nonprofit, nationwide trade association that brings together a broad base of U.S. livestock organizations. We represent the international marketing interests of the dairy, beef, swine, horse, and small ruminant (sheep and goat) breeding industries. Our members also include the embryo and semen industries, livestock export sector, and State Departments of Agriculture.

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and USDA civil rights regulations and policies, USLGE does not discriminate in any of its programs and activities based on race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity (including gender expression), sexual orientation, marital status, family/parental status, religion, genetic information, political beliefs, reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, or income derived from a public assistance program.

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***The One Source for Superior Livestock Genetics***