



OHIO SMART AGRICULTURE

SOLUTIONS FROM THE LAND

Ohio Smart Agriculture: Solutions from the Land (OSA:SfL) is a statewide initiative working to identify and implement pragmatic, proven, and innovative solutions to challenges confronting Ohio farmers, in the face of environmental uncertainty and in support of a food system that benefits producers, the public, and the planet.

Through this initiative, a diverse coalition of agricultural, environmental and food security leaders are building a 21st century strategy and action plan to help Ohio agriculture become more sustainable and relevant in addressing 21st century challenges. While previous initiatives have focused on “increasing farm production,” this approach incorporates “getting food on tables.” To embrace the vision of Ohio agriculture “feeding the world,” OSA:SfL’s leaders have recognized that the goal begins with feeding their neighbors in Ohio.

OSA:SfL is guided by a Steering Committee composed of leading experts in farming, conservation, land management, public health and rural development. The overarching goal of the initiative is to help Ohio and Upper Midwest farmers:

- Sustainably intensify productivity and profitability;
- Adapt to changing weather patterns and climatic conditions;
- Improve the efficiency – both economic and ecological – of farm operations;
- Increase the diversity of products produced and the diversity of producers; and,
- Extend that diversity across the region’s food value chain, transitioning agricultural landscapes into sustainable production platforms to produce nutrient-rich food, improve public health, create new economic opportunities for poverty-level residents, and therefore improve the lives of vulnerable children.

Solutions from the Land (SfL), a national not-for-profit organization dedicated to land-based solutions to global challenges, is facilitating this three- to five-year project. Funding for the initiative comes from a \$500,000 grant from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. Teaming up with SfL on the initiative is The Ohio State University’s Initiative for Food and AgriCultural Transformation (InFACT), along with other partners. The initiative builds on multi-stakeholder partnerships that have been developing in the state around water quality, food policy and sustainable agriculture projects, and will bring together innovators through dialogue and planning to improve climate resiliency, and achieve nutrition, energy, environmental, health and economic goals.

OSA: SfL steering committee members include: Alton Johnson, Bill Dawson, Bill Lynch, Bobby Moser, Brian Snyder, Brian Williams, Casey Hoy, Charlie Eselgroth, Chris Henney, Dave Lipstreu, David Hanselmann, David Orr, Fred Yoder, Gina Zirkle, Greg Rutland, Hinda Mitchell, Jill Clark, Jim Patterson, Joe Logan, Joe Nester, John Dorka, Karen Lehman, Kirk Merritt, Kris Swartz, Lisa Hamler-Fugitt, Mark Drewes, Matt Habash, Matt Peart, Nick Stanich, Patty Mann, Paul Dorrance, Roger Rennekamp, Sara Scherr, Suzy Friedman, Teresa Long, Terry Cosby, Terry Wehrkamp, and Tom Price.

For additional engagement, updates and project resources, please visit www.ohiosmartag.net and follow us on Facebook at [OH Smart Ag](#).

For project development or communication inquiries, please contact Cara Urban, Project Associate (curban@sfdialogue.net or 410-252-7079).

For all other project inquiries, please contact Ernie Shea, Project Facilitator (eshea@sfldialogue.net or 410-252-7079).

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About Solutions from the Land:

Solutions from the Land (SfL) is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization that seeks to identify and facilitate the implementation of integrated policies, practices and projects at a landscape scale that will result in land being sustainably managed to produce food, feed, fiber and clean energy while enhancing biodiversity, providing public health benefits, protecting and improving critical environmental resources, and delivering high value solutions to combat climate change.

SfL's unique approach to pursuing land-based solutions to global challenges is being demonstrated in regions across the United States, including the Delmarva Peninsula, North Carolina, the Upper Midwest, and the intermountain west. SfL also contributes to international initiatives on climate smart agriculture through the Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture (GACSA) and the North American Climate Smart Agriculture Alliance (NACSAA). For more information on Solutions from the Land, visit www.sfldialogue.net.

About The Ohio State University's Initiative for Food and AgriCultural Transformation (InFACT):

The Initiative for Food and AgriCultural Transformation (InFACT) is an interdisciplinary program leading the efforts of The Ohio State University to enhance food systems by balancing ecology, economy, technology, and culture to promote human and environmental health. InFACT's mission is to transform the way we grow, process and distribute our food, leading to vibrant, sustainable and resilient agriculture that places nourishing food at the center of just and vital communities in Ohio and beyond. Our programmatic strategy is to promote measurable change by engaging innovation, imagination and practical experience within a broad network of statewide, national and international public and private-sector partnerships.

About the W.K. Kellogg Foundation:

The W.K. Kellogg Foundation (WKKF), founded in 1930 as an independent, private foundation by breakfast cereal pioneer, Will Keith Kellogg, is among the largest philanthropic foundations in the United States. Guided by the belief that all children should have an equal opportunity to thrive, WKKF works with communities to create conditions for vulnerable children so they can realize their full potential in school, work and life. The Kellogg Foundation is based in Battle Creek, Michigan, and works throughout the United States and internationally, as well as with sovereign tribes. Special emphasis is paid to priority places where there are high concentrations of poverty and where children face significant barriers to success. U.S. WKKF priority places are located in Michigan, Mississippi, New Mexico and New Orleans; internationally, others are found in Mexico and Haiti. For more information, visit www.wkkf.org.