

PROGRAM: RD Cooperative Development Assistance

AGENCY: USDA Rural Development (RD), Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS)

DESCRIPTION: The Cooperative Development Assistance Program helps rural residents form new cooperative businesses and improve the operations of existing cooperatives.

ELIGIBLE USES:

- Technical assistance
- Cooperative development assistance
- Education and information
- Statistics
- Conduct cooperative-related research
- Produce information products to promote public understanding of cooperatives

SERVICES:

- The co-op program also has some grants available.
- It can help with initial feasibility studies to the creation and implementation of a business plan.
- Visit the website at <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/coops/cswat.htm#Top> .
- Rural Development Homepage: <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/index.html>