

RECOMMENDED POLICY ACTIONS FOR RESILIENT AGRICULTURE: INFOGRAPHIC EXPLAINER

This infographic was developed by Resilience CAP collaborators to illustrate the diversity of policy targets and scales relevant to issues affecting resilient agriculture in the United States.

This infographic was developed alongside a second infographic, “Policy Pathways to Support Resilient Agriculture”, and a series of policy briefs, “Policy for Resilient Agriculture Systems, 2026”. You can find these materials, along with a description of our methodology and additional resources at: <https://aq-resilience.org/policy-socioeconomic/>

There are organizations and individuals across the country working on issues like strengthening access to technical assistance funded in the Farm Bill, encouraging local Farm Credit Associations to expand access to microloan programs, and educating county boards about how to best support new farmers renting or purchasing land. Depending on what you want to accomplish, what resources you have, and what is happening in the larger policy landscape, it may be more strategic to focus on one or another of the targets and scales described in the infographic.

In this context, we’re defining policy as those formalized laws, rules, and regulations developed and implemented by governments, sometimes in collaboration with partners in civil society and/or industry. We define resilient agriculture as systems with high levels of diversity, perenniality, and nutrient and energy circularity.

We’ve outlined three different targets and scales relevant for policy education and advocacy related to resilient agriculture: federal legislation, federal agencies, and state and local governments. This list doesn’t capture every kind of policy, but we think that these highlight some important aspects that can help stakeholders think about strategically targeting their efforts, and how best to use limited resources.

Considerations for individuals or organizations might include:

- Is the target and scale you’re considering likely to be responsive right now on the issues you’re working on? You might look at legislative schedules, current partisan politics at the federal or state level, or hot topics in the news to assess if it makes sense to invest in work at the Congressional, agency, or state and local scale.
- Which kind of policy is most matched to your mission and resources? Knowledge and experience, time, relationships, or finances might determine which scale is more aligned with your current capacity.
- Are there existing coalitions already working on an issue you care about, at a particular scale? Joining an existing effort may result in greater success, and future collaboration opportunities.

We hope that you find this infographic informative and useful in your work supporting farmers who want to adopt more resilient agricultural practices. This infographic and other materials in this series are free for your and others’ use.