

VISION WEST ND

FOOD HUB STUDY

USDA – RBDG Funded Feasibility Study

October 2017 – August 2018



It's about the LOCAL Economy



PARTNER FARMS & PRODUCERS
Small family farms & specialty producers



FARM SOURCED FOOD



SUPPORT SERVICES & RESOURCES



DISTRIBUTION
Partner distributors, institutions, retailers & schools

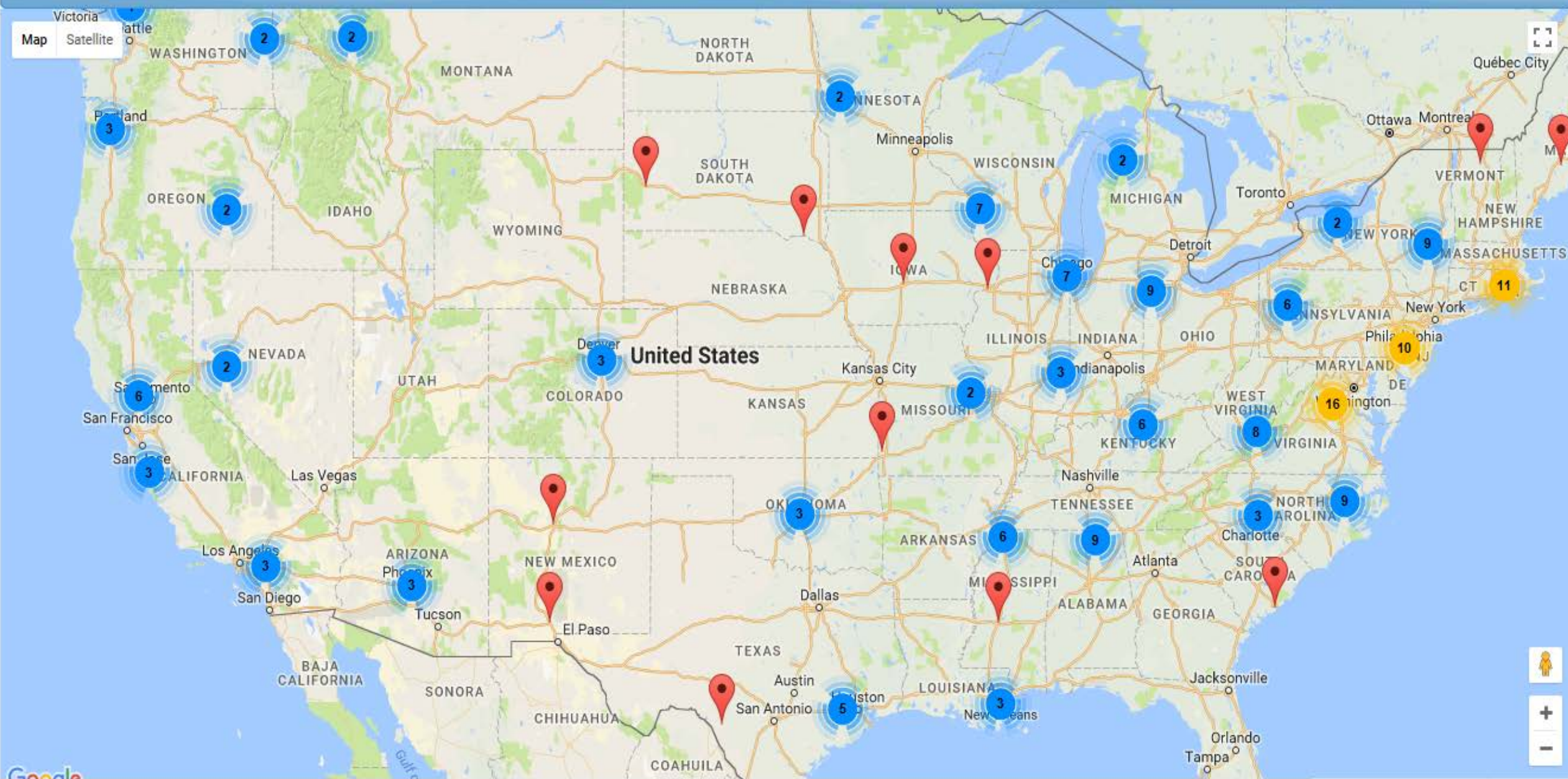


COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
Area nonprofits, hunger & food access organizations, farm to school



PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE
Increasing knowledge of local food to all segments of the community

189 Food Hubs.



Why a Food Hub?

- Food Hubs focus on small producer services such as marketing, collection, distribution, education, processing and value-added activities
- Food Hubs increase access to local food in local places reducing risk associated with global markets
- Food Hubs create local jobs
- Food Hubs create opportunities for youth retention and entrepreneurs
- Food Hubs help to address food insecurity and food deserts

A Food Hub is not...

- A CSA (Community Supported Agriculture)
- A Farmer's Market
- In competition with Commodity Producers

Three Areas of Opportunity

- Increased Production (Growing & Value-added)
- Increased Business Services
- Consumption/Retail



The Study

- Phase I – *Education, Updated Data Collection*, October 2017 – February 2018
 - Farmers/Ranchers Associations
 - Growers Groups
 - NDSU Extension Service
 - NRCS
 - ND Dept of Ag
 - ND Dept of Commerce
 - Student Programs
 - Pride of Dakota



The Study

- Phase II - *Data Aggregation, Toolkit Development, Recommendations*, March – June 2018
 - FAARMS' Value Chain Development Options for ND's Fruit and Vegetable Agricultural Industry
 - USDA's Regional Food Hub Resource Guide
 - USDA's *Why Local Food Matters: Views from the National Landscape*

The Study

- Phase III – *Information & Recommendations Distribution*, July – August 2018
 - Farmers/Ranchers Associations
 - Growers Groups
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Questions