



RESILIENT FUTURES LEADERSHIP PROGRAM: FINANCING SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

Program Packet





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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Field to Market's Financing Sustainable Agriculture program is a comprehensive 6-month immersive experience designed to upskill 25-30 professionals across the agricultural value chain with the knowledge and tools to navigate the complex intersections of sustainability, finance, and farming practices. Developed in collaboration with the Cornell Atkinson Center for Sustainability, this program prepares leaders to design, finance, and implement solutions that accelerate investment in regenerative agriculture while benefiting farmers, businesses, and the planet.

The program combines virtual learning sessions, in-person intensive modules at key industry events and Cornell University, hands-on farm visits, and capstone presentations to deliver a transformative educational experience from January 2026 through June 2026.

[APPLY NOW!](#)

MODULE 1

Global, National, and Farmer Perspectives



*Commodity Classic
San Antonio, TX
February 2026*

MODULE 2

Sustainable Ag Adoption & On-Farm Perspectives



*Cornell Campus
Ithaca, NY
April 2026*

MODULE 3

Financing Sustainable Agriculture



*Cornell Tech
New York City, NY
April 2026*

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

1. Provide hands-on training on regenerative practices, sustainability metrics, and innovative finance
2. Build cross-sector relationships across a diverse cohort
3. Equip leaders with skills to integrate sustainability into capital decisions
4. Directly engage with experts
5. Promote the adoption of sustainable practices in agriculture

TUITION

The program cost is tiered depending on Field to Market membership and sector:

- \$5,000 for FTM Full Grower and Civil Society Members
- \$7,500 for FTM Full Agribusiness, Brands & Retailer and Affiliate Members
- \$8,500 for FTM Associate Members
- \$10,000 for Non-Members



PROGRAM STRUCTURE



ORIENTATION | Virtual | Jan 29, 2026

- 3-hour session covering program overview, cohort introductions, and logistics
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FOUNDATIONAL LEARNING | Virtual | Jan-Feb 2026

- A series of optional, self-paced virtual sessions
 - Focus: Foundational courses in Agriculture 101, Finance 101, and Sustainability 101 for cross-sector fluency building
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MODULE 1 | Commodity Classic (San Antonio, TX) | Feb 24-27, 2026

- Topic: **Global, National, and Farmer Perspectives**
 - Focus: Agricultural economics, global sustainability landscape, U.S. policy analysis, farmer decision-making, and value chain understanding
 - Format: Targeted learning sessions, interactive labs with farmers and agribusinesses, leadership dinner, and guided networking
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MODULE 2 | Cornell Campus (Ithaca, NY) | April 12-15, 2026

- Topic: **Sustainable Agriculture Adoption and On-Farm Perspectives**
 - Focus: On-farm implementation realities, scientific research applications, sustainability metrics interpretation, carbon accounting, and systems thinking
 - Experience: Cornell AgriTech visits, farm tours in Hudson Valley, hands-on Fieldprint Platform training, and peer collaboration sessions
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MODULE 3 | New York City, NY | April 15-17, 2026

- Topic: **Financing Sustainable Agriculture**
 - Focus: Financial mechanisms, blended finance case studies, partnership design, investor perspectives, and collaborative leadership
 - Format: Stakeholder roundtables, strategy pitch development, and industry networking
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COMPLETION CEREMONY | Field to Market Meeting | June 2026 (exact dates TBD)

- Deliverables: Capstone presentations, C-suite communication strategies, program reflections, and celebration ceremony



PROGRAM CURRICULUM

Module	Key Topics	Lead Facilitator
Orientation	Program overview, cohort introductions, and logistics	FTM + Cornell
Virtual Sessions	1. Agriculture 101 2. Finance 101 3. Sustainability 101	FTM + FTM Members
Module 1 Global, National, and Farmer Perspectives	1. Future of US Agriculture 2. Domestic Agriculture Policy Deep Dive 3. How Farmers Make Decisions 4. Reflection on the Sustainable Agriculture Value Chain	FTM + FTM Members
Module 2 Sustainable Ag Adoption and On-Farm Perspectives	1. The Science Behind Sustainable Agriculture Practices 2. Carbon Accounting and How to Tap into Carbon Markets with Agriculture 3. Hackathon/Interactive Metrics Lab: Fieldprint in Practice 4. Mini Case + Debate: What counts as Regenerative 5. Reflections and Systems Mapping 6. Visit: Cornell AgriTech, NYCSGA Farms and Conservation Programs	Cornell + FTM Members
Catskills and Hudson Valley Agricultural Tour		
Module 3 Financing Sustainable Agriculture	1. Intro to Financing Sustainable Agriculture 2. Case Workshop: How to Finance Adoption 3. Stakeholder Roundtable: What Investors and Buyers Need to See 4. Workshop: Scaling What Works 5. Career Conversations: Paths in Sustainable Agriculture Finance 6. Story Sprint: Pitch the Strategy	Cornell + FTM Members
Program Completion Ceremony	1. Final Presentations 2. Communicating Sustainability 3. Celebration and Recognition	FTM + FTM Members

PROGRAM BENEFITS & OUTCOMES

Professional Development Outcomes

- **Financial Mechanisms Expertise** - Understanding of innovative finance, blended finance, and risk-sharing strategies to support agricultural sustainability
- **Carbon Literacy & Environmental Accounting** - Practical knowledge of carbon markets and sustainability indicators implementation
- **Data Literacy** - Hands-on experience with platforms like Fieldprint for measuring and tracking sustainable agriculture outcomes beyond carbon
- **Cross-Sector Fluency** - Deep understanding of agricultural production, finance fundamentals, and sustainability frameworks
- **Systems Thinking Skills** - Ability to connect ecological, social, and economic factors influencing sustainable practice adoption
- **Communication & Partnership Skills** - Enhanced ability to engage C-suite executives, investors, and diverse stakeholder groups



PROGRAM BENEFITS & OUTCOMES

Organizational Impact

- **Network Expansion** - Employees return with high-value connections across the agriculture value chain that open doors to new partnerships, deal flow and business opportunities for your organization
- **Investment Readiness** - Participants gain practical tools and frameworks to identify, evaluate and structure profitable sustainability investments that drive both financial returns and competitive advantage
- **Market Leadership** - Position your organization as an industry leader by having trained professionals who can navigate the intersection of sustainability and profitability, attracting top talent and premium partnerships

Unique Program Experiences

This program bridges agricultural production and financial innovation by providing direct access to farmers and industry leaders, taking participants from working farms in New York's Hudson Valley to stakeholder roundtables in Manhattan's financial district, developing leaders who can effectively connect agricultural sustainability with investment opportunities.

- **Farm-to-Finance Pipeline** - Direct exposure to on-farm realities followed by immediate application to financial and investment contexts
- **Cohort-Based Learning** - Collaborative peer learning with professionals from all five Field to Market membership sectors: Growers, Civil Societies, Affiliates, Agribusinesses, and Brands and Retailers
- **Expert Faculty Access** - Learning from Cornell Atkinson Center faculty, industry practitioners, and Field to Market thought leaders
- **Real-World Application** - Case studies, hackathons, and strategy development using real-world agricultural sustainability challenges

Diverse Geographic Learning Opportunities

- **Attend America's Largest Farmer-led, Farmer-focused Agricultural & Educational Experience** - Commodity Classic integration for exposure to major agricultural commodity markets
- **Experience New York State Agricultural Innovation** - Cornell AgriTech facilities and Hudson Valley sustainable farming operations
- **Explore the Financial Capital of the World** - New York City sessions connect agricultural sustainability with investment and finance communities





WHO SHOULD APPLY?

The *Resilient Futures Leadership Program: Financing Sustainable Agriculture* is designed for professionals who are ready to bridge the gap between sustainability goals and financial realities, creating lasting impact across the agricultural value chain.

Experience Level

Mid-to-Senior Level Professionals with at least 5 years professional experience in agriculture, sustainability, or finance, who:

- Have decision-making authority or influence within their organizations
- Are positioned to implement learnings and drive strategic initiatives
- Possess foundational knowledge in their field but seek to expand expertise in agricultural sustainability
- Demonstrate leadership potential and commitment to advancing sustainable agriculture

Career Stage

Professionals Ready to Lead Change including:

- Rising Leaders seeking to expand their impact and influence
- Established Professionals looking to integrate sustainability or agriculture financing into their current roles
- Career Pivots transitioning into agricultural sustainability or finance roles
- Strategic Decision-Makers responsible for investment, partnership, or policy decisions

Target Professional Areas

- *Sustainable Agriculture*: Sustainability managers, ESG professionals, conservation program managers, and corporate sustainability officers
- *Agriculture Finance & Investment*: Agricultural lenders, impact investors, private equity professionals, commodity traders, and development finance specialists
- *Procurement & Supply Chain*: Commodity procurement specialists, sustainable sourcing managers, supply chain coordinators, and vendor relationship managers
- *Value Chain Financial Roles*: Supply chain finance managers, corporate development professionals, financial analysts at food companies, and agricultural insurance professionals

PROGRAM APPLICATION INFORMATION

Eligibility Requirements:

- At least 5 years of professional experience in finance, sustainability, or agriculture;
- Active interest in financing sustainable agriculture;
- Decision-making authority or organizational influence; and
- Commitment to implementing learnings and driving strategic initiatives.



PROGRAM APPLICATION INFORMATION

Application Components

Required Materials:

1. **Completed Program Application**
2. **Resume** - Current professional background and experience summary
3. **Recommendation Letter** - Letter from supervisor or organizational leader confirming organizational support, participant's leadership potential, and ability to implement program learnings

Application Timeline

- Application Deadline: December 5, 2025
- Application review by selection committee
- Selection Notification: December 19, 2025
- Program Start Date: Thursday, January 29, 2026 (virtual)

[APPLY NOW!](#)

Program FAQ

What if I cannot attend one of the modules in person? Can I still participate?

We ask that participants attend all in-person events. If you are unable to attend, we suggest you apply to the program in future years when it aligns with your schedule.

Are there scholarships available to offset enrollment costs?

Field to Market does not offer any scholarships for this program at this time, but you may be able to apply for external funding through your company or a different grant.

Do I have to be a Field to Market member to participate in the program?

No, the leadership program is open to both members and non-members.

What is the cost of the program?

The program cost is tiered depending on membership and sector:

- \$5,000 for FTM Full Grower and Civil Society Members
- \$7,500 for FTM Full Agribusiness, Brands & Retailer and Affiliate Members
- \$8,500 for FTM Associate Members
- \$10,000 for non-members and participant sponsors

**Participation cost covers the curriculum, classroom materials, conference registration, food, and transportation between Ithaca and NYC. Hotels are included for all locations except Commodity Classic.*

Do I have to pay for my own flights? Will I get reimbursed?

Flights are not included in the cost of the program. Participants are responsible for purchasing their own travel arrangements to and from each destination.