the Agricultural Marketing Service Technical Assistance Project

AMSTA harnessed the capacity of the four Regional Rural Development Centers and the State Cooperative Extension system to deliver a cost-effective federal education program to rural communities and underserved audiences. Here's how:







State, regional, and federal partners collaborated to develop

a national writing curriculum

for would-be applicants to the Farmers Market and Local Foods Promotion Programs,

which was distributed to state Extension staff via regional trainthe-trainer sessions.



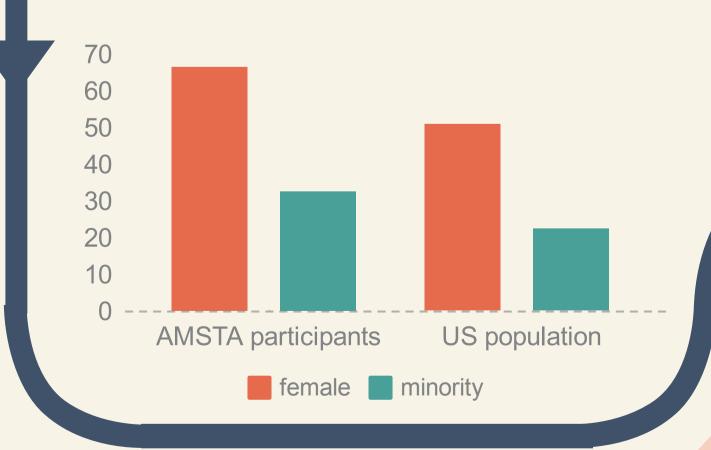




reaching more than 3,000 businesses

in all 50 states + **Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands** in English and Spanish

In turn, they conducted 137 trainings





We've heard from several business-owners who think it did:

"The training was crucial."

including a larger share of women and minorities than the US population!

"This was the first grant I ever applied for and got it. I could never have done it without the training and materials to refer to."

"Although I'm very confident in our team's ability to put together successful applications, I do not feel that we would have been as successful in our proposal without the training."