

Peer Review Plan

Preliminary Title: USDA Microloans: the first three years

Type of Report
(ERR, EIB, EB,
TB, SOR,)

ERR

Influential Scientific Information

Agency: Economic Research Service
USDA

Highly Influential Scientific Assessment

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Subject of Review: USDA's Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Microloan program, launched in January 2013, aims to better serve the needs of small farms, beginning farmers, niche farmers, and farmers from historically socially disadvantaged groups. These loans are designed to be more convenient and accessible to nontraditional producers, with a shortened and streamlined application and relaxed eligibility criteria. This research uses FSA's direct loan data to examine Microloan uptake patterns by the targeted farmer groups, and also to analyze the impact of an outreach experiment designed to disseminate information about the program.

Purpose of Review: The purpose of the review is to ensure the high-quality of the economic analysis, transparent explanation of methods, objective interpretation of results, and effective communication to the intended audience.

Type of Review: Panel Review Individual Reviewers

Alternative Process (Briefly Explain):

Timing of Review (Est.): Start: 03/21/16 End: 08/09/16 Withdrawn: XX/XX/16

Number of Reviewers: 3 or fewer 4 to 10 More than 10

Primary Disciplines/Types of Expertise Needed for Review: Economists

Reviewers selected by: Agency Designated Outside Organization

Organization's Name:

Opportunities for Public Comment? Yes No

If yes, briefly state how and when these opportunities will be provided:

How:

When:

Peer Reviewers Provided with Public Comments? Yes No

Public Nominations Requested for Review Panel? Yes No

