Agricultural Research Service, USDA

§ 550.15

Resource contribution.

Each party must contribute resources towards the successful completion of the project. Required resource contributions must be substantial enough to substantiate a true stake in the project as determined by the ADO.

(a) REE Agency’s contribution. The REE Agency’s contribution must consist of the total in-house costs to the REE Agency and the total amount to be reimbursed by the REE Agency to the Cooperator for all allowable costs agreed to in advance as reflected in the cooperative agreement.

(b) Cooperator’s contribution. (1) The Cooperator’s contribution must be no less than 20 percent of the total of the resource contributions under the cooperative agreement. Resource contributions of the Cooperator must consist of a sufficient amount of itemized direct costs to substantiate a true stake in the project as determined by the ADO. The Cooperator’s contribution must be maintained at 20 percent of Federal funding throughout the life of the cooperative agreement.

(2) Cooperators share of contributions may consist of “in-kind” contributions and may also include unrecoverable indirect costs. Such costs may be accepted as part of the Cooperator’s resource contribution when all of the following criteria are met:

(i) Costs are verifiable from the Cooperator’s records.

(ii) Costs are not included as contributions for any other federally assisted project or program.

(iii) Costs are necessary and reasonable for proper and efficient accomplishment of project or program objectives.

(iv) Costs are allowable under the applicable cost principles.