

U.S. Virgin Islands



The potential to grow and make innovative products in rural America is limitless. Since 2009, the Obama Administration has made targeted investments to help rural businesses grow. Through the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s projects in affordable housing, energy efficiency, roads and bridges, and internet access, coupled with loans and grants for rural businesses, the Administration has helped to attract and retain a talented rural labor force, improve connectivity and access to information, move products to market, and make rural communities competitive—ultimately supporting strong local economies and expanded opportunity for **rural families in the U.S. Virgin Islands.**

MADE IN THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

USDA financed a fiber-optic broadband network in the U.S. Virgin Islands, connecting residents and small businesses in St. Thomas, St. John, and St. Croix and giving them high speed access to the global marketplace.



SUPPORT FOR RURAL BUSINESSES

USDA has made investments to help **19** rural businesses in **the U.S. Virgin Islands** thrive and grow.

USDA investments in everything from advanced biofuels manufacturing facilities to food hubs help businesses, many of them small, capitalize on emerging markets for rural-made products. **In rural America, small businesses support one in three jobs.**



RENEWING RURAL MANUFACTURING

The rural economy includes more than products that come from farms. USDA has invested **\$1.1 million** to help rural manufacturers in **the U.S. Virgin Islands** increase production and capacity.



HOUSING

Access to safe, affordable housing is critical to maintaining the rural labor force. USDA has helped **166** families in **the U.S. Virgin Islands** purchase or repair homes.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY

USDA has invested **nearly \$1 million** to help rural businesses in **the U.S. Virgin Islands** improve their bottom lines by installing renewable energy systems and energy efficiency solutions.

