September is “Rural Development Month” at the Department of Agriculture (USDA), and USDA’s Rural Business-Cooperative Service (RBS) is holding a series of informational webinars to share success stories and best practices on how customers and partner organizations have used RBS programs and resources to support businesses in rural and Tribal communities. Customers and stakeholders interested in learning more about RBS programs—and how customers have used our financing tools to support entrepreneurship—are encouraged to participate in this opportunity to engage with diverse partner organizations, ask questions, and learn more. For additional information, or to request special accommodations, please contact rdced@wdc.usda.gov.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Facilitator(s)</th>
<th>Webinar/Audio</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 15, 2016</td>
<td>2-3:30 pm EST</td>
<td>El Sueño de Ser Dueño de un Negocio - The Dream to be a Business Owner</td>
<td>Margaret Bau, RBS Cooperative Programs; John Flory and Yolanda Cotterall, Latino Economic Development Center; Reggie Knoxx and Brett Malone, California FarmLink</td>
<td><a href="https://cc.readytalk.com/r/3bxtviuytrzo&amp;eom">https://cc.readytalk.com/r/3bxtviuytrzo&amp;eom</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 20, 2016</td>
<td>2-3:30 pm EST</td>
<td>Turning a National Guard Armory Into a Business Center</td>
<td>Greg Dale, RBS Community Economic Development</td>
<td><a href="https://cc.readytalk.com/r/268jju8qiff9&amp;eom">https://cc.readytalk.com/r/268jju8qiff9&amp;eom</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Rural Business-Cooperative Service
Informational Webinars

Sept. 22, 2016
Stronger Economies Together: Regional Planning & Business Development Success Stories
Facilitator: Hiwot Gebremariam, RBS Community Economic Development
Speakers: Larry Wright, Oklahoma State University Cooperative Extension; Janice Stroud-Bickes, USDA Rural Development in Virginia, Martha Walker, Virginia Tech University Cooperative Extension; Peggy Schlechter, South Dakota State University; Paul Johnson, Jill Rees, USDA Rural Development in Oregon, Amanda Hoey, Mid-Columbia Economic Development District (tentative)
Webinar/Audio: https://cc.readytalk.com/r/53wa6i1fghb4&eom

Sept. 27, 2016
Cooperatives as a Tool for Community Solutions
Facilitator: Margaret Bau, USDA Rural Development, Co-op Basics
Speaker: Converting existing businesses to employee ownership, Rob Brown, Cooperative Development Institute, Maine
Turning trailer parks into resident owned communities, Diane Gasaway, Northwest Cooperative Development Center, Washington:
From farmworkers to farm owners, John Flory, Latino Economic Development Center, Minnesota
Home care agencies as worker co-ops, Deborah Craig, Northwest Cooperative Development Center, Washington
When the last grocery store closes, Marnie Thompson, Fund 4 Democratic Communities, North Carolina
Webinar/Audio: https://cc.readytalk.com/r/7y7n5ugyh3ka&eom

Sept. 29, 2016
Local Food Financing and Cooperative Business Models
Speaker & Facilitator: Jim Barham, USDA Rural Development
Speaker: Margaret Bau, USDA Rural Development
Webinar/Audio: https://cc.readytalk.com/r/2asq8uq2rmsd&eom