

Sustainable Agriculture Skill Panel Forum

King Kamehameha Kona Beach Hotel
75-5660 Palani Road, Kailua-Kona
March 6, 2012
8:30 am to 4:30 pm



GOALS

In order to re-establish agriculture as an essential component for the well-being of our island community, a capable and competent workforce will be required with the ability to fulfill the unique needs of a progressive agricultural industry.

To accomplish this goal, these Agricultural Skill panels will develop statewide strategic action plans to accomplish the following:

- *Educate government and community leaders about the importance of the agriculture industry;*
- *Develop an action plan to meet the current and future workforce needs of the local agriculture industry; and*
- *Offer solutions and assist with implementation of initiatives that support/grow Hawaii's agriculture industry.*

AGENDA

8:30 am - 9:00 am	Registration
9:00 am - 9:15 am	<p>Welcome Address To Be Determined</p>
9:15 am - 9:30 am	<p>The Agriculture Development Workforce Imperative Russell Kokubun, Chairperson Department of Agriculture - State of Hawaii</p>
9:30 am - 9:45 am	<p>Introduction of Skill Panel Method Dwight Takamine, Director Department of Labor and Industrial Relations - State of Hawaii</p> <p>Overview of the skill panel method: Expectations for the Panels, industry involvement and thoughts, as well as provide the groups general guidance on how the Panel discussion should flow during the day.</p>
9:45 am - 10:00 am	Break

10:00 am - 12:00 pm	<u>Panel 1</u> Innovations & Sustainability	<u>Panel 2</u> Education & Training	<u>Panel 3</u> Infrastructure	<u>Panel 4</u> Food Distribution	<u>Panel 5</u> Recruitment & Retention of Workers
<p>GOAL: Identify barriers to Farm Success.</p> <p><u>Starting from a workforce development perspective</u>, group leaders will describe the collaborative event process and introduce the facilitators, who in turn will provide an overview of the group facilitation process. Participants will introduce themselves and the farms or agencies they represent. Facilitators will maintain flow, focus, and scribe participant comments. Small, medium and large farm issues will be included.</p> <p>Group Leaders will assist in convening a discussion of pressing challenges of concern to the participants. What are the barriers they face? What financial, human or environmental impacts do the barriers have? How would their business be more profitable if the barriers were overcome? Who do they need help from to overcome the barriers? What opportunities might they see open up if the barriers were overcome? What other community examples are they aware of who face similar challenges?</p>					
12:00 pm - 1:15 pm	Lunch Lunch to be served in the Main Ballroom To Be Determined				
1:15 pm - 3:30 pm	<u>Panel 1</u> Innovations & Sustainability	<u>Panel 2</u> Education & Training	<u>Panel 3</u> Infrastructure	<u>Panel 4</u> Food Distribution	<u>Panel 5</u> Recruitment & Retention of Workers
<p>GOAL: define potential solutions and proposed time lines for outcomes.</p> <p><u>Starting from a workforce development perspective</u>, group leaders will help guide a problem solving session. By end of session, a list of proposed solutions, with suggested time lines for implementation, will be compiled by the facilitators. Speakers from the group will be selected to present the outcomes to the larger audience.</p> <p>Groups will reconvene and move from problem identification to problem solving. What are viable solutions to overcome the barriers identified in the morning? What partners are needed to realize proposed solutions? What governmental regulations, funding, or support is needed to overcome the barriers? How will overcoming these barriers improve labor opportunities, farm profitability, and/or conditions for farm workers? How are other communities solving these problems? What solutions can be implemented in 2012? By 2014? By 2020? What will the outcomes of these solutions potentially be? Who needs to be involved in the process to reach these goals?</p>					
3:30 pm - 4:20 pm	Final Plenary/Wrap-up Session - Main Ballroom Co-Chairs and Panel Members will conduct Report out and discuss next steps.				
4:20 pm - 4:30 pm	Final announcements/next steps				
4:30 pm	Forum Adjourned				

Lunch to be served as an integral part of this meeting