



## Project Facts

### TIMELINE



Status: **COMPLETE**

### COLLABORATIVE MEMBERS

All members

### FUNDED PARTNERS

Keystone Policy Institute

## PROJECT SUMMARY

### SYSTEMS CHANGE PATHWAY(S)

- + **Conservation Finance**
- + **De-Risking Practice Adoption**
- + **Demand for Commodities Produced using Good Farming Practices**

### GOALS

- + Accelerate innovation and scalability of in-field and edge-of-field conservation practices that improve water quality and soil health.
- + Strengthen soil health and water quality research and data collection to improve the adoption of conservation practices, impact of on farm conservation practices, and measurement of outcomes.
- + Improve opportunities for public private partnerships to drive implementation of conservation practices.

### APPROACH

Take at least three joint advocacy actions in support of efforts to develop policy to improve water quality and soil health.

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## ACTIVITIES

- + Developed Midwest Row Crop Collaborative policy priorities
- + Briefing in Iowa with Iowa Soybean Association and Iowa Corn Growers in January 2018 to share Collaborative Policy Priorities and obtain feedback on the watershed approach as well as Iowa-specific proposed legislation
- + Letter to the Iowa legislature submitted January 2018 in support of funding for private lands solutions to water quality
- + Soil Health Reception policy briefing in Washington, D.C. in January 2018
- + Three state-focused briefings (IA, IL, NE) in Washington, D.C. in April 2018 focused on soil health and water quality
- + Published state policy priorities to improve water quality in state of IA
- + Published federal policy priorities for farm bill

## KEY OUTCOMES

- + Through its initial policy work, the Collaborative established a basis for continued dialogue on important policy levers for systems change
  - + In 2020, the Collaborative is planning a Policy Forum focused on identifying opportunities for members to support sustainable agriculture policies that break down the barriers identified in the Collaborative's theory of change
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## ABOUT THE MIDWEST ROW CROP COLLABORATIVE

The Midwest Row Crop Collaborative is an innovative partnership aligned to drive positive environmental change in the upper Mississippi River Basin. It is comprised of leading businesses and nonprofits that span the full food and agriculture value chain, working together to catalyze and implement joint, systemic projects and initiatives that accelerate sustainable agricultural solutions.

## ABOUT ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVE

Environmental Initiative is a nonprofit organization that works with business, nonprofit and government leaders to develop collaborative solutions to environmental problems. In 2019, Environmental Initiative became the administrator of the Midwest Row Crop Collaborative.