

**USDA**



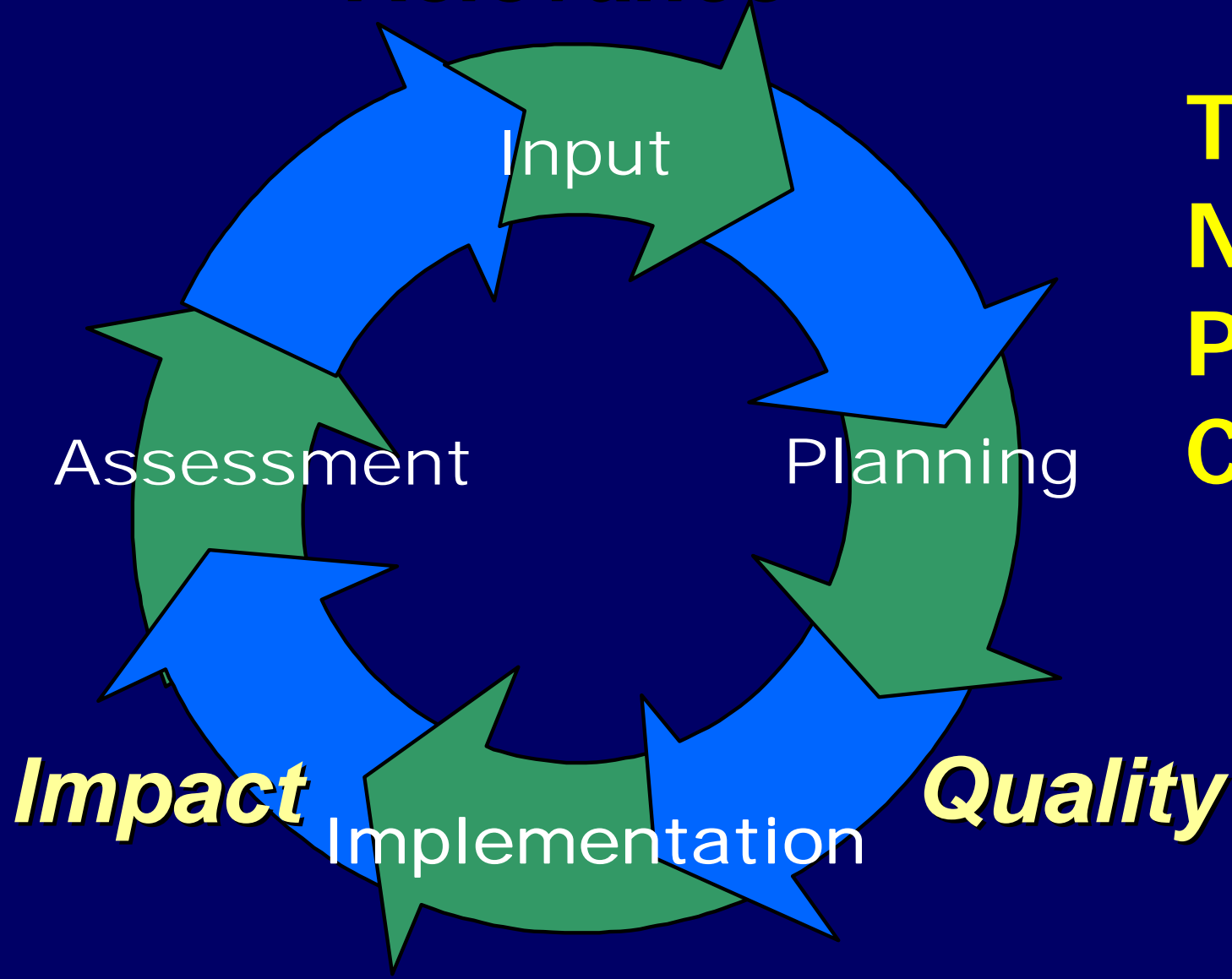
# The US Department of Agriculture

**Agricultural Research Service**



**Relevance**

**The ARS  
National  
Program  
Cycle**



# Assessment Goals

- Feedback on research performance and impact
- Learn strengths and weaknesses of the program
- Identify areas where research should be increased, de-emphasized, or new areas addressed

# Assessment of ARS Air Quality and Global Change Research

- Preparation of an Accomplishments Report
- Review of report by a panel of experts
- Panel provides evaluation of accomplishments and recommendations for program improvement

# Planning Workshop for Air Quality and Global Change Research

- Workshop being held in Denver this week
- Combined research in air quality, global change and soil management
- Getting additional input to set research priorities
- ARS scientists and Program Leaders synthesize the input received to develop an outline for the research program

# General Areas of Research

- Reducing agricultural emissions to the atmosphere
- Adapting agriculture to global change
- Maintaining soil productivity and functionality

Greenhouse gas Reduction through  
Agricultural Carbon Enhancement network



# GRACEnet

- Coordinated national effort at 31 locations
- Document changes in soil C status and GHG emissions for current and alternative agricultural practices and systems
- Determine the environmental effects (water, air and soil quality) of agricultural practices and systems developed to reduce greenhouse gas emission and increase soil C storage



# Expected Products of GRACEnet

- A national database of GHG flux and C storage
- Regional and national guidelines of management practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- Development and evaluation of computer models created to assess management effects on net greenhouse gas emission and C storage
- Summary papers for action agencies and policy makers, based on the current state of knowledge

# Environmental Issues Associated with Livestock Production

- The assessment process is beginning for this program
- Two current and one former member of AAQTF will be on the panel
- One part of the program is related to measurement, control and prediction of emissions from animal production facilities, manure storage areas and manure field application sites