



Brett Challenger
Senior Vice President
Regional Agribusiness Banking Group

Brett Challenger is the senior vice president for CoBank's Regional Agribusiness Banking Group. He is based in CoBank's headquarters outside Denver, Colorado, and is a member of the bank's Division Leaders Group.

Mr. Challenger's team specializes in serving the needs of agricultural cooperatives and other commercial agribusinesses that process, market, transport and export agricultural commodities. Mr. Challenger joined CoBank in 2006, most recently managing the agribusiness lending operations of CoBank's Eastern region, which includes the St. Louis, Missouri, Louisville, Kentucky, and Enfield, Connecticut, banking centers supporting agribusiness customers in 27 states. Prior to this, he served as senior vice president for CoBank's Energy and Water banking division. During 2020, Mr. Challenger led CoBank's efforts to provide SBA PPP Loans to customers which involved developing the entire program from the ground up as CoBank was not previously an SBA lender.

He has more than 30 years of experience in advising, lending and capital-raising for agriculture, power, energy, water, waste, infrastructure and other industries in the United States and Asia. Prior to joining CoBank, Mr. Challenger was a senior vice president and principal, serving as a key member of the initial management team of Duke Capital Partners, LLC. Prior to that, he served as the managing director and co-head of the energy and power group at Bank of America/Banc of America Securities, LLC, where he spent two years in Singapore arranging debt and advising U.S.-based clients pursuing opportunities in Southeast Asia and Australia.

Mr. Challenger earned a bachelor's degree in economics from University of Colorado, and an MBA from University of Cincinnati.