FOREWORD

This is the third in a series of summaries based on quarterly reports submitted by the Southern Rural Development Center's Functional Networks. The Functional Networks were established by SRDC as an approach to synthesizing and disseminating research information concerning rural development throughout the South.

There are currently ten Functional Networks in operation. Functional Networks, under the leadership of a Center Associate, bring together recognized experts, professionals, and educators from across the South to synthesize and evaluate research in rural development problem areas. These individuals make up the working membership of each Network. Several Networks have needed to extend their termination dates in order to fulfill the responsibilities of distributing the information to its maximum benefit. In this Summary, a current list of duration dates are listed along with the review of activities that took place during the quarter.

This Summary covers the work of the Networks from July 1, 1976, to September 30, 1976.

William W. Linder
Director
Southern Rural Development Center

February 1977
SUMMARY OF QUARTERLY REPORTS

Summer 1976

FUNCTIONAL NETWORKS

SOUTHERN RURAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

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FINDING ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS

Much current research which can help to answer some of the urgent problems of rural development has not become well enough known to be used effectively. While this concern is not unique to rural development, it is of paramount importance that what is known, what is available, what is useful be accessible. Are communications problems, clientele resistance and lack of research relevancy the cause of this discrepancy?

Whatever the cause, one obvious remedy is a wide-ranging, inclusive information search to document what is known and applicable in specific priority problem of rural development. For this reason the SRDC has formed clusters of professionals and educators throughout the region to operate as Functional Networks. Their task is to get at specific problems in priority areas of rural development and to inventory the current state of knowledge.

COMPONENTS OF THE INVESTIGATION

Bringing forth the knowledge needed to attack problems and meet opportunities in rural development requires both dedication and experience in these problem areas. The Center Associates, who have organized their Networks' personnel and studies, bring these qualities to the task.
With a special charge to meet the utilization needs of the final users--local governmental decision makers, special interest groups, etc.--the Networks have begun an inventory and synthesis of the research work available in their topic areas.

The Center Associates give of their time without pay, and have each selected a network of several Research and Extension personnel to serve with them in their study. In all there are 86 experts now lending their assistance to the Functional Networks' research and synthesis. Funds are provided by SRDC for research and clerical assistance, travel, and publication needs.

Each Network has been asked to dig into its topic area, to become immersed in the literature so as to be able to produce a final assessment of the "state of the art." What are the issues? Where are the gaps in our knowledge? What can we do to remedy any knowledge lags?

To this end, the Networks will produce a final annotated bibliography of useful and pertinent citations, along with an overview paper aimed at the audience of users. Here is where the impact of this research will be felt. In addition, technical and general-interest publications may be forthcoming. Some bibliographies are currently in press. Others will be by mid-1977.
Making this knowledge available where it will do the most good—this is another vital concern of the Networks. Center Associates may plan workshops, hold sessions at professional conferences, or in other ways move their new knowledge out into the field of users—where it is needed. These plans will take shape as each Network nears completion and adjudges how best its findings can be disseminated.

FUNDING

Funding is approved for one year to study and implement the findings. The possibility of extending the funds is available to the Networks should the research and implementation stages require it.

CURRENT STUDIES

Areas of study by the Center Associates who are to lead the research are selected on the basis of proposals submitted to SRDC. Currently ten proposals have been approved. Following is an up-to-date list, with title, associate, and duration of study:

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<tr>
<th>Network Title</th>
<th>Center Associate</th>
<th>Duration</th>
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<td>Citizen Participation</td>
<td>Dr. Donald E. Voth</td>
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<td></td>
<td>University of Arkansas</td>
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<td>Evalutative Research Literature</td>
<td>Dr. Arthur G. Cosby</td>
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<td>Texas A&amp;M University</td>
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<td>Land Use Issues</td>
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<td></td>
<td>VPI &amp; State University</td>
<td>Extended to Dec 31, 1976</td>
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<tr>
<td>Network Title</td>
<td>Center Associate</td>
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<td>Small Farm Operations</td>
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<td>Jan 1, 1976</td>
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<td>Dr. Eldon D. Smith</td>
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<td>University of Kentucky</td>
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<td>Health Care</td>
<td>Dr. R. David Mustian</td>
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<td>North Carolina State University</td>
<td>Extended to May 1, 1977</td>
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<td>Educational Needs Projection</td>
<td>Dr. Gerald Wheelock</td>
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<td>Alabama A&amp;M University</td>
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<td>Impact of Governmental Transfer Payments on Human Resource Development</td>
<td>Dr. E. Evan Brown University of Georgia</td>
<td>Apr 1, 1976 to Mar 31, 1977</td>
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<td>Solid Waste Disposal and Financing</td>
<td>Dr. Michael Salkin Oklahoma State</td>
<td>Apr 1, 1976 to Mar 31, 1977</td>
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<td>Housing</td>
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<td>Dr. Savannah Day</td>
<td>May 24, 1976 to May 1, 1977</td>
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<td>Florida State Univ.</td>
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At the final meeting of the Network, which was held during the quarter in Boise, Idaho, on August 2, 1976, several of the original objectives were specified further, as follows:

1. The bibliography will be prepared.

2. A short, approximately 12-page synthesis of citizen participation literature as it bears upon policy questions will be prepared.

3. A short, approximately 12-page synthesis of citizen participation literature as it bears upon applied techniques will be prepared.
4. A compilation of synthesis materials prepared by the various Network members will be readied for possible publication as a book of readings.

Accomplishments relative to the work of the Network during this quarter are:

1. The final meeting was held.

2. The bulk of the bibliography has now been typed. There are 2235 items on 451 pages, approximately 10% of which are annotated or abstracted. Permission has been obtained to reprint some of the annotations and abstracts. Within the next four weeks the introduction, the analytic classification of articles, and an addenda section incorporating references obtained in the last few weeks will be completed. At that time the entire bibliography will be forwarded to the Southern Rural Development Center.

3. A draft is now prepared of the synthesis of citizen participation literature as it bears on policy questions.

4. A brief prospectus of all the synthesis materials prepared by the various Network members has been written.

As a new development in the work of the Network, arrangements have been made for several Network members to present the results of their research synthesis at
a seminar for the Federal Extension Service, Community Resource Development Branch Program Unit, in Washington, D.C., January 10, 1977. In connection with this, it has been proposed that the Network prepare a smaller selected bibliography. This idea has been incorporated in the prospectus for a book of readings.

Arkansas Network members have been called upon several times to share insights gained in this project with District USDA committees and with other interested groups in Arkansas.

This Network's accomplishments have been recognized at the state, regional, and national levels. Consequently, consultation on all levels has taken place using the information developed by the Network.

One of the more prominent outlets during this quarter was an Evaluation Research Workshop at Clemson University, with particular service to South Carolina. The workshop utilized information from the state's Title V pilot project as a practical exercise.

Plans also got under way to conduct a regional "Program Design and Evaluation Workshop." The 3 1/2 day workshop will provide individuals interested in rural development with an effective approach, giving knowledge and skills needed to design a program in rural development which includes an evaluation plan.
The response to the quarterly Newsletter was very favorable, with 800 persons receiving copies. The manuscript on "Criterion Setting" is nearing completion. All manuscripts prepared by the Network are now being compiled into one brief statement on the "state of the art."

The final draft of the annotated bibliography is being prepared. Printing and distribution of the bibliography are to take place immediately after the first of the year. The document will contain approximately 600 references helpful to rural development personnel interested in the synthesis of evaluative research literature.

By means of its intensive review of research in land use, this Network will assess the adequacy of research efforts and synthesize relevant concepts, approaches, and results useful in planning and implementing Research and Extension activities.

Also, an invited major paper is to be delivered at the Southern Agricultural Economics Association meeting in February 1977. The purpose of the paper is twofold. First it will clarify and prioritize land policy issues based upon economic principles and analysis. Second, it will comment upon the type of Research and Extension land use programs being carried out largely by agricultural economists, with particular reference to the South.
The paper will merely summarize the results of the findings by the Network in the area of research and educational programs for land use planning and policy in the South. A longer publication in greater detail will be reviewed for publication in the *Southern Journal of Agricultural Economics*.

Plans for the regional workshop and specific assignments to be carried out by individual members of the Network have been made. The overall theme of the workshop will be "Research-Extension Issues in Land Policy: Current Status, Needs, and Potentials."

The bibliography is nearing completion. It will list approximately 300 publications. The predominant number of Extension publications reviewed fell into the category of "policy alternatives education" and were descriptive rather than analytical. One finding of major importance came to light: when reviewing Research publications, very little empirical research has been reported by economists on the general topic of land use policy.

**SMALL FARMS** During the quarter the Center Associate and his assistants concentrated their efforts on reviewing the literature in rural sociology and economics to identify significant contributions in the subject areas of attitudes, communication, and diffusion of innovation as they pertain to small farm operators. The preliminary
annotated bibliography contains 106 annotated citations and 38 additional citations have been identified and are currently being reviewed and annotated.

Efforts are being made to expand the literature review to include the training and use of paraprofessional assistants in programs developed to address small farm problems. Information on agricultural technologies specifically adapted to small farm operations and technologies or enterprises which can be applied to small units is also being sought.

Dr. Arden Colette, the Center Associate, and Dr. Peter Korschning of the University of Florida (member of the Network) have initiated the process of synthesizing the information in the literature into the form of a training workshop for Extension personnel and local workers. The workshop will emphasize the principles of communication, adoption of innovation, and alternative technologies and enterprise available to small farm operators.

The three major accomplishments during this quarter are:

1. The draft annotated bibliography was further developed and refined. Several low-priority items were culled from the draft examined by the Network, and additions made which were researched on a trip to Washington, D. C., by
Dr. Eldon Smith, Center Associate, and Network member John R. Fernstrom. The entire volume, involving more than 750 entries, was given a rough editing, reorganized in conformity with the system of indexing previously developed and evaluated through correspondence by the Network, and retyped in preparation for final editing.

2. One volume of a seven-volume set of self-study materials prepared for use of lay people as an aid to "Citizen-Initiated Industrial Development" was revised to make it more generally applicable to community agencies. It has been published as Staff Paper No. 34, Estimating How Industrial Expansion will Affect Incomes and Employment in Rural Communities--Some Guidelines and Procedures, August 1976. Craig Infanger and Eldon Smith are co-authors. Depending upon later evaluation by the Network and further refinements by the authors, this paper may be made available for general distribution. Consideration is being given to utilization of results of a regression analysis of base multipliers by Curtis Braschler, University of Missouri, instead of the multiplier estimates supplied by Gadsby and utilized in Fernstrom's Bringing in the Sheaves.
3. It was agreed between the county and municipal political leadership and the local development organization of a sample Kentucky county to conduct a comprehensive citizen evaluation of industrial development potentials, probable impacts, and available means as a pilot project. All necessary materials were developed for this effort. However, resistance to the project developed from an unexpected quarter, and the experimental evaluation of the planned program had to be abandoned, despite the fact that assistance has been solicited initially by this leadership. Hence, this evaluation is now being held in abeyance pending possible interest by other communities. This change has necessitated a redirection of efforts toward the conventional research syntheses and occasioned a significant delay. Work is proceeding as rapidly as possible and the contract obligations will be discharged in due course.

HEALTH CARE

Ironically, the health status of the Center Associate has delayed goals of the Network for the past quarter. Basic activity has continued to be searching for relevant bibliographic materials concerning the delivery of health care services in the South. Computerized searches completed thus far include data files of ERIC, Medline, NTIS,
and SSIE. Manual searches of *Sociological* and *Psychological Abstracts* are in progress.

Major activity has involved reading, evaluating, and compiling relevant references by the Center Associate and student assistants. Hopefully, more involvement of the Network in abstracting and developing will be realized in the next quarter.

The Network has an additional member, Dr. Brady J. Deaton of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Rural Sociology, University of Tennessee.

Other potentially fruitful contacts have been initiated in order to assess work not yet published. The first is with professionals and educators who have presented papers at meetings; the second is with investigators identified as having current SSIE projects.

Of interest is the number of similar bibliographic projects that are being undertaken around the country. Exchange of references should enhance the product, but it increases the work load.

Of substantive interest is the recurring emphasis that additional manpower and facilities do not always lead to better rural health care. Also, the need for reorganization of delivery systems and the call for innovative programs seem to be clear from the abstracted sources.
The routine work of preparing camera-ready copy for the Network bibliography and accompanying author and subject indices has consumed most available staff time. The bibliography concentrates on searches of Dissertation Abstracts International (DAI) and Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC). The DAI bibliography is complete; the ERIC bibliography awaits incorporation of a final search of ERIC’s Education Administration Clearinghouse Files.

In addition to these materials, the synthesis will incorporate recent evaluation of current social forecasting methodology as well as other technical reports. The President’s Commission on School Finance provided the most comprehensive analysis and projections available. Interpretation of these projections from the perspective of southern nonmetropolitan school districts will be a central theme of the synthesis.

The Center Associate met with the planning committee of the Alabama-Mississippi Sociological Association about the possibility of organizing a Network-related session at their meeting. However, the theme and time frame did not lend itself to Network objectives.

Plans for a workshop in November have been dropped. Efforts are being concentrated on organizing a workshop and planning session at the Annual Meeting of the Rural Sociology Section, Southern Association of Agricultural
Scientists in Atlanta, February 6-9, 1977. The Program Chairman has concurred with the tentative program being organized by the Network.

Finally, the third quarterly Network newsletter is in preparation and will go out this month.

On August 23, the first meeting of the Network was held in Atlanta. Several important decisions were made about the project.

1. Criteria were set for the development and classification of the final bibliography. Programs that will be researched in greater detail are those universal in clientele, are in some manner available to rural areas, and have some direct impact upon individuals as opposed to a group or community. The bibliography will have three major sections:
   a. major research or politically significant programs; citations will be annotated
   b. programs of secondary importance which may provide valuable spillover information; unannotated
   c. a list of major sources, research centers, and resource personnel.

2. Several short papers on each of the programs in section one of the bibliography will be written.
They will be, for the most part, synopses of research and will attempt to identify the direction and significance to the project title.

3. It was felt that visits to any Human Resource Departments would be unproductive and an unnecessary drain on limited resources.

4. Design, content, and distribution of a Network newsletter were discussed.

The quarter brought forth progress on several points. It was during this quarter that the first bimonthly newsletter was mailed to more than 300 persons. Since then, the Network has had excellent response and numerous requests for new subscriptions. It was very encouraging to the Network to find a number of people interested in transfer payment programs.

Computer literature searches have been updated and completed. They were revised to conform to the criteria set by the Network. As in the first search made by the Network, nearly 1,000 citations were retrieved.

In August, the preliminary bibliography was made available for interested persons. Although the classification used was different from the form for the final bibliography, the Network has received many requests for copies. The preliminary bibliography contains approximately 300 citations, most of which are annotated.

Data which the Network was to receive from the
Rural Development Center of HEW on budgetary items of HEW transfer payment programs has not yet been sent from Washington.

Manuscripts on several major transfer payment programs are being prepared as outlined by the Network in their plan of work.

On August 16, 1976, the Network met in Pennsylvania and decided on the format of the bibliography. The bibliography is nearly complete and should be ready for printing and distribution by early 1977.

Other decisions made by the Network members following the Pennsylvania related to the content of the three publications to be written and the nature of the final workshop.

It was agreed the first paper (general information) would be aimed at a lay audience. The focus will be on solid waste management and probable future problems and solutions. A discussion of the collection, storage and disposal components of waste systems will be explained and the changes (cost, technological) likely to come about.

The Network's second publication (educational-Extension) will be aimed more toward people in a position to work with rural communities. Knowledge of economics and solid waste problems will be assumed. In this paper the theme will be planning for the maintenance of successful waste management systems in the future. The paper
will contain projections for future costs of system operation, landfill site needs, future waste generation and the possibilities for resource recovery. A possible outline for the paper will be: (1) current operations on-going in southern states, (2) emerging problems in growing areas, finance and technological change, and (3) suggested methods for insuring the future operation of on-going systems.

Several ideas were presented regarding the final paper (appropriate research publication). One possibility is to write a collection of papers to be used as opening addresses at the workshop. A second idea is to write one paper outlining problem areas, unanswered questions, and possible solutions. One goal of this paper is to conclude with research proposal(s) designed to focus on problem areas.

In February of 1977 the Network plans to meet again to discuss the progress of the publications and begin organizing the workshop. The current thinking is to hold a 1 or 1-1/2 day meeting sometime in September or October of 1977. The program tentatively will be devoted to solid waste practices in the South and future practices which may be necessary to insure that waste systems change with the times. The Network hopes to invite speakers from state planning and health care agencies, area Extension specialists, and Research professionals who claim to have solutions to future problems.
The Network will participate in a meeting in November which is to be held in conjunction with the S-95 Housing Research Technical Committee meeting in Greenville, South Carolina. The purposes of the meeting will be to delimit the scope of the investigation, define the target audience for the annotated bibliography, review model abstracts, discuss plans for dissemination of the information, and establish procedures to be followed. Those that will be participating in the meeting are:

Alice Stubbs, Texas A&M University
James Montgomery, University of Georgia
Kay Stewart, Oklahoma State University
John Culp, Tennessee Valley Authority
Don Stewart, Economic Research Service, USDA
Betty Campbell, University of Georgia
Savannah Day, Center Associate, Florida State University
Louise Hyers, Center Co-Associate, Georgia Cooperative Extension
Betty Stevens, Research Assistant, Florida State University

Computer-assisted literature searches are nearing completion with approximately 2,600 citations already obtained. Of these, over 200 are considered applicable to the selected areas of housing research identified for this study: (1) design of low-income housing; (2) home financing; (3) remodeling and/or rehabilitation; and (4) rural housing needs.

Approximately 250 requests for reports or summaries of completed research were sent to housing researchers including colleges and universities, federal agencies and housing associations such as American Home Economics
Association, American Institute of Architects, Housing Assistance Council, National Association of Home Builders, Rural Housing Alliance and American Association of Housing Educators. Approximately 100 recipients responded with about 65 pieces of relevant research submitted to the Associates for review and annotation. The research assistant and student assistant are in the process of completing an inventory of the research submitted and reviewing the materials. In addition, the abstracting process was initiated, and approximately 40 pieces have been abstracted to be included in an annotated bibliography.

They include a brief description of the study including purpose, procedure, sample, instrument, and the major findings. A first draft of the bibliography is well under way.
The SRDC is one of four regional rural development centers in the nation. It coordinates cooperation between the Research (Experiment Station) and Extension (Cooperative Extension Service) staffs at land-grant institutions in the South to provide technical consultation, research, training, and evaluation services for rural development. This publication is one of several published by the Center on various needs, program thrusts, and research efforts in rural development. For more information about SRDC activities and publications, write to the Director.

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