SRDC Plan of Work
Southern States’
Title V Programs

1979
FOREWORD

Now beginning its sixth year of operation, the Southern Rural Development Center (SRDC) is continuing its effort toward supporting research and extension personnel throughout the region as they work together on solutions to problems in rural development. This type of back-up support, facilitation, and linking has been a basic SRDC goal since its inception in 1974.

With the 1974 Program of Work as a baseline, this year's report is intended to clearly set forth the role, approach and program of the Center. In the latter part of the report, a summary of the 21 goals for 1979 is included plus a brief report of each of the state plans of work, from which the SRDC goals were determined.

William W. Linder
Director, SRDC
April 15, 1979
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INTRODUCTION

Highlighted in this publication are the plans of work of the Southern Rural Development Center for 1979 and the various state Title V project plans. It is intended as a brief look at current and projected activities of the Southern Center in its 1978 Plan of Action (Appendix A). The states' programs are included in summary form (Appendix B).

BACKGROUND

Population grew faster in nonmetro than in metro areas between 1970 and 1973. This trend reverses the previous pattern of in-migration to cities.

Among the reasons for population increases in rural areas and small towns are decentralization of manufacturing and other industry, increased settlement of retired people, expansion of state colleges, growth of recreation activity, and an apparently higher birthrate in nonmetro areas. Also, urban areas have lost their appeal for many people. These changing patterns in life style for millions of Americans required a fresh approach to solving the problems and meeting the opportunities of growth and development.

THE ROLE OF THE CENTER

In response to the Rural Development Act of 1972, the U. S. Department of Agriculture set up four centers for the assistance of rural development in four regions of the country. These four centers
are: the Northeast Center at Ithaca, New York; the Western Center at Corvallis, Oregon; the North Central Center at Ames, Iowa; and the Southern Center at Mississippi State, Mississippi.

The Southern Rural Development Center complements and supports the Title V Extension and Research programs that are authorized under Title V of the the Rural Development Act within the 13 Southern states and Puerto Rico. The states are: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia. Its primary clientele is the Research and Extension staffs of the 28 land-grant institutions within these states who have rural development or community resource development responsibilities.

Under the Rural Development Act of 1972, the Rural Development Centers are taking a hard look at these priorities and supporting them with publications, needed research and program materials, as well as in many other ways.

The SRDC is sponsored jointly by Alcorn State University and Mississippi State University for the overriding purpose of stimulating effective regional participation in problem-solving for the Southern region. Concerted regional participation has brought the diversity of the best talents and ideas to bear on these problems. In 1974, the SRDC prepared a Program of Work which set forth the purpose and direction of the SRDC's activities designed to implement this responsibility. Information contained in this publication continues to serve as the foundation for the work of the Center for 1979.

THE APPROACH OF THE CENTER

The Center has adopted a broad approach to rural development based on the topical areas determined by the U. S. Department of Agriculture.
There are four elements essential to this process which the Center emphasizes. These elements have been identified by the U.S. Department of Agriculture as: People Building, Community Facilities, Economic Development, and Environmental Improvement.

The undergirding emphasis of the SRDC is to develop and provide knowledge essential to assist and support these areas of growth and change in the region, and to provide technical consultation and personnel development for the Research and Extension staffs in the several states of the region to help them be more responsive to rural development needs and activities.

THE PROGRAM OF THE CENTER

The SRDC's 1979 Plan of Work continues to reflect the different kinds of support offered to the states and to the region. A summary statement of what the Center will be doing for 1979 is: moving rural development program and research information to the users.

Examples of the broad based activities being performed by the Center follows:

Functional Networks. A major goal of the Center is to emphasize highly task-oriented and immediate-impact Research and Extension activities. The Southern States have themselves identified their own priorities for activities in their plans of work under Title V of the Rural Development Act. Most center on overall economic development. Effective regional sharing of information and support is one key to success states will have in solving these problems.

The SRDC's answer is to bring together recognized experts, professionals, and educators from across the South. These are the Functional Networks, under the leadership of a Center Associate who has proposed
work in one area or subarea of the four major elements of rural development as identified in "The Approach of the Center."

There have been a total of 123 professionals involved with the work of the Functional Networks. The main thrust of the Networks is to provide regional exposure related to high priority concerns by printing a comprehensive annotated bibliography, synthesis paper and general information brochure. The Networks also conduct a regional-wide workshop on the topic for which they have been assigned.

Information Dissemination. The SRDC has inaugurated a publication series designed to furnish several kinds of materials and information: (1) summaries or reports of the states' Title V work in rural development; (2) useful or timely reports from several sources of applicability to many phases of rural development work; and (3) reports of the work of the Center itself.

The publications series now numbers 28 titles. Revising and adding to this library to maintain a current information base will continue to be one of the central efforts of the Center.

Magazine. In addition, since 1976 the SRDC has published a quarterly newsmagazine, RURAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH AND EDUCATION. Distributed to about 2,000 professionals and educators throughout the region, this newsmagazine will offer reports of what is new and successful in rural development programs and research for 1979. The extremely favorable response to the magazine and the many suggestions received for articles or content treatments have encouraged this means of highlighting rural development work in the South.

Leadership Training. In 1979, the SRDC will introduce a packet of training materials for rural development to the Nation. The packet
was produced for the Southern Region in 1978 through funds provided by the Rural Development Service to USDA. The Farmers Home Administration has now granted the Center funds for the "train the trainer" packets, to be introduced to the public through a national workshop co-sponsored by all four regional centers.

**Technical Consultation.** Specific requests from institutions, agencies and rural development personnel has traditionally been made to the Center. These requests for 1979 will be placed in priority order and funded to the extent possible.

**Other Assistance.** The Center has stood and continues to stand ready to assist the individual states in any appropriate way with training, information-gathering, or other support. This more general category of activity will also claim the attention of the Center in 1979. For example, the Center will complete a study utilizing a problem-solving model to help rural development committees function more effectively. The Center will develop a model for providing operational research to community decision makers, and it will begin work on a state of the art resource manual for personnel management in rural towns. The Center will also work with the state CRD leaders in collecting ideas implemented throughout the South which are pertinent to rural development. These ideas will be published as "success stories" under one cover and distributed to help generate innovative ideas from already successful programs. The Center will also contribute to liaisons with state, regional, and national groups, agencies, and organizations for rural development.

**States' Plans of Work.** The SRDC Plan of Work will support goals established in the various Southern State Title V Plans of Work. Each State Plan of Work submitted has been reviewed by the Center and is used to determine plans of action.
A majority of the state programs are in the "People Building" element. A brief synopsis of each Plan of Work submitted is included as Appendix B of this report. The final copy of this report will be sent to Washington for approval.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Principal Concrete Results of Benefits Expected (Goals)</th>
<th>Approach (Method/Technique/Activity)</th>
<th>Estimated Beginning</th>
<th>Timetable End</th>
<th>Evaluation</th>
<th>Persons Responsible</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Publish second printing of &quot;Training for Rural Development&quot; packet and promote on a National basis in cooperation with the funding agency, Farmers Home Administration, USDA and the three other Regional RD Centers</td>
<td>Work with publisher, assemble packets, prepare and mail promotional brochure, and advertise through the Regional Rural Development Centers</td>
<td>Oct. 1, 1978</td>
<td>Sept. 1, 1979</td>
<td>Completed packets assembled and response to promotion</td>
<td>Chance</td>
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<td>3. Conduct liaison with state, regional and national groups, agencies, organizations to correlate training and research efforts in rural development</td>
<td>Meetings, correspondence, workshops, visits, telephone conferences, committee meetings</td>
<td>Oct. 1, 1978</td>
<td>Sept. 30, 1979</td>
<td>Number and type of contacts and activities</td>
<td>Linder/Boykin/Chance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task</td>
<td>Action</td>
<td>Start Date</td>
<td>End Date</td>
<td>Status</td>
<td>Responsible Party</td>
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<td>10. Develop a model for providing operational research to community decision makers</td>
<td>Determine information needed, develop model to shorten response rate, test model and publish results</td>
<td>Oct. 1, 1978</td>
<td>Sept. 30, 1979</td>
<td>Publish and disseminate findings</td>
<td>Linder/Hunt/Chance</td>
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<td>13. Cooperate with Regional Technical Research Projects (e.g. S-114, S-95, S-79) as appropriate</td>
<td>Conduct liaison, assist with RTR work as appropriate</td>
<td>Oct. 1, 1978</td>
<td>Sept. 30, 1979</td>
<td>Progress report, continued liaison</td>
<td>Boykin/Linder/Chance</td>
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<td>14. Collect, review, edit, print, and distribute appropriate data on successful rural development projects, activities and research that would be applicable to the region and will provide support to Extension and Research personnel</td>
<td>Review and/or collect data, edit, publish and distribute</td>
<td>Oct. 1, 1978</td>
<td>Sept. 30, 1979</td>
<td>Distribution of publication and feedback</td>
<td>Hunt/Chance/Hudson</td>
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<td>15. Formulate contractual agreement and begin implementation of the findings of research in two new priority rural development areas</td>
<td>Consult with RD personnel in Research and Extension, Advisory Committee, liaison agencies and technical committees</td>
<td>Oct. 1, 1978</td>
<td>Sept. 30, 1979</td>
<td>Contract fulfillment, Boykin/plus appropriate dissemination of information</td>
<td>Linder/Chance/Boykin/Chance</td>
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<td>17.</td>
<td>Work with and provide support for Community Technology Initiatives Program (CTIP) in cooperation with Public Technology, Inc. appointment to Oklahoma with a four-state involvement</td>
<td>Work with PTI, develop rapport with appointed personnel and implement coordination guidelines</td>
<td>Jan. 1, 1979</td>
<td>Sept. 1, 1979</td>
<td>Feedback and degree of involvement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>Initiate and begin plans for a workshop on public programs in Rural Development that relates to investment strategies and research needs</td>
<td>Consult with authorities on agenda, secure instructional staff, promote, arrange facilities and implement</td>
<td>Oct. 1, 1978</td>
<td>Sept. 30, 1979</td>
<td>Completed Workshop. Participation</td>
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Following are the specific objectives to be accomplished during FY 1979 under Title V of the Rural Development Act:

I. To review the community impacts of large-scale waterway development in terms of changing occupational structures, population change, and community relations in the eight counties along the Tennessee-Tombigbee corridor.

II. To investigate the attitudes and beliefs of community leaders in the eight counties along the Tennessee-Tombigbee corridor with respect to community development opportunities and alternatives.

III. To identify appropriate mechanisms for mobilizing citizen involvement in community decisions about development.

IV. To develop a systematic set of guidelines or considerations for community leaders in Tennessee-Tombigbee counties outlining possible strategies or approaches to community and industrial development based on the results of an areawide study.

V. To provide technical and educational assistance to aid project counties in developing and implementing plans and local mechanisms for overall economic development.

VI. To expand economic development educational activity in eight rural counties bordering the proposed Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway and to other rural areas of the state where sufficient interest in economic development activity exists during FY 79.
The following is an enumeration of specific activities to be addressed by the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service and the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station in the eight-county project area.

1. Hold orientation and training programs for County Agent-Coordinator in project counties to familiarize them with the Title V approach used in Alabama and to involve them as active participants in the local development program.

2. Prepare and distribute appropriate information introducing the Title V research effort in the eight county area.

3. Assist local leaders in organizing local development authorities and boards to pursue economic development.

4. Assist local leaders in understanding the potential social and economic impacts of the future Tennessee-Tombigbee development project and assist them in preparing for them.

5. Motivate and assist local officials and/or local organizations to acquire and develop land for industrial parks.

6. Assemble and publish social and economic data that will reflect the resources and economic development potential in each county and the project area.

7. Work with community leaders on updating and expanding community facilities and services, including transportation to meet projected economic development needs.

8. Conduct a public affairs education program utilizing research data gained from the research component, including project activity progress reports to the general population.

9. Initiate a series of awareness meetings to better prepare elected officials and local leaders to cope with future growth opportunities and to acquaint them with conditions relating to establishing a sound base for future economic growth.

The objectives in this plan of work reflect previous experience acquired in FY 1978 Title V work. Research and extension efforts for the 1979 project will focus on an eight-county area comprised of counties adjoining the Tennessee-Tombigbee development corridor—an area which has been the center of much attention given the potential benefits often cited as flowing from the waterway development. Thus, the overall purpose of FY 1979 Title V plan of work is to develop a basis for informing local officials about the problems and potentials of area-wide development.

The primary means for achieving this objective will be a survey of Federal, state, county, and municipal leaders in the eight county area to identify problem definitions, preferences, and alternatives. These results will be used to develop principles and procedures for guiding development in the area. The planned research, previous findings, and the experiences of other communities will be brought to bear on the West Alabama situation to sustain and guide the development efforts of leaders and citizens.
Title V of the 1972 Rural Development Act has encouraged innovation in rural development, and a recent evaluation finds it generally to have been successful. Title V funds have supported a number of different projects in Arkansas, perhaps the most important of which have been the efforts in Mississippi County.

Building on previous rural development experiences in Mississippi County, the FY 1979 Title V project will create a proto-type county rural development program. This program will follow a rational development process which involves local residents and leaders in problem identification and priority setting in an effort to improve their rural development capabilities.

The FY '79 project will integrate the research and extension functions of the University of Arkansas and draw upon the resources of several University units. Finally, it will evaluate rural development efforts being carried out in Mississippi County to determine their impacts on income and employment, human resources, communities facilities, and environment. The proto-type rural development program, if it proves successful and if funding is continued for this type of activity, can subsequently be made available on a competitive basis to other counties of the state.

Specific objectives of the research component in FY '79 are:

1. To carry out selected applied or problem solving research as required by the county rural development program.

2. To evaluate the effectiveness of the Proto-Type County Rural Development Program.

Specific objectives of the extension component in FY '79 are:

1. To assist county residents and leaders in identifying problems, setting priorities, and in selecting projects.
2. To engage county residents and local leaders in the rural development process and thereby to enhance their rural development capabilities.

3. To provide information and education to county residents and local leaders concerning social and economic conditions in the county, and of the inter-relationships among the various sectors in the county.

4. To carry out projects in the county which are selected by county residents and local leaders.

5. To stimulate interest in the rural development program in other counties and to work with these counties in preparing competitive proposals.
The Plan of Work for FY-1979 encompasses a carry over of one project from the previous year. The emphasis is on area community development agents (extension), and supporting research. These agents work closely with local governments (county and communities) and leaders to help further local knowledge about major problems of the area and to obtain citizen input in decision making and action programs to achieve local goals.

Title V Extension Components for FY 1979 include the following:

1) Area Community Development Programs and Support Research

As indicated by the title, this project has both extension and research components. The research component is covered in the next section. The extension component consists of assigning two highly qualified "education-facilitator" community development agents to two rural areas of North Florida. Each works very closely with local governments and leaders (black and white), and county extension personnel to help:

(1) Expand and deepen knowledge and understanding about major problems of the area, and thus obtain citizen input in decisions and action programs to achieve balance among major community goals, such as economic development, environment, a place to live, and community services and facilities;

(2) Obtain university, government, and private expertise needed for analyzing, developing, and providing the kinds of programs and projects desired by the communities and rural people of the area; and

(3) Give special attention to analyzing and developing the economic base of the area and communities through community economic development training and technical assistance.
Title V Research Components include:

1) **Area Community Development Programs and Supporting Research**

   (1) **Community Strategies for Economic Development** - The objective is to develop a set of reasonable economic development strategies (labor intensive, high skill, resource-based, etc.) for various groupings of Florida's rural communities.

   (2) **Measuring Community Economic Growth** - The objectives of this statewide project are to identify changes that are occurring in the various counties, explain differences in growth rates, and identify industries for which various counties have comparative advantages.

   (3) **Community Revenues and Expenditures** - Objectives are to identify relationships between community change and changes in (1) revenue sources and amounts, and (2) expenditure patterns by components.

   (4) **Water Multipliers for Local Areas** - The objective is to develop a set of water multipliers which will show the total water needs (direct, indirect, and induced) caused by an additional dollar of economic activity for each of 56 economic sectors in Florida.

   (5) **Land Tenure and Land Use Attitudes in Urbanizing Rural Florida** - The objectives are to determine land owners' view and incorporate these views with secondary data to determine projected uses of land based on causal forces.

2) **County Input/Output Multipliers** - The objective is to improve the agricultural sector of the "model" by developing capability for estimating impacts of specific kinds of agriculture.

3) **Success Factors in Locating Industries in Rural Florida** - The objective is to study the islands of economic growth in the slow growth areas to determine the major basic causes of growth.

4) **Assessing Potentials of Growth Management Alternatives for Rapid Growth in Rural Areas** - The objective is to define successful alternative growth management techniques. Similar areas where growth management has been successful, as viewed by the local governments and the public, will be surveyed to determine advantages and disadvantages.

5) **People and Jobs for ______ County** - A study of unemployment and underemployment made three years ago in Gadsden County was used to secure 17 new industries with 1,146 new jobs during the following two years, cutting county unemployment in half. Many North Florida counties could benefit from a similar study and similar follow-up by local leaders. Due to a shortage of funds, only one county will be selected, based on need, local interests and involvement. The objectives are to conduct a similar survey in cooperation with local leaders and other agencies, and get local leaders to use the results to obtain 10% more jobs.
EXPANDING TITLE V EFFORTS

Situation

The original Title V Plan of Work submitted in 1972 focused on an eight-county area in Southeast Georgia which includes Atkinson, Bacon, Brantley, Charlton, Clinch, Coffee, Pierce and Ware Counties.

The initial thrust of the Georgia Title V Extension Project was directed toward the elimination of poverty by concentrating on providing jobs through economic development. In addition, the Title V Project included programs on improved housing, out-migration problems, insufficient land use, and inadequate government services and facilities.

The Title V effort has been successful in the above mentioned areas. Based on the past accomplishments and current problems and opportunities, the decision has been made to expand the program areas in order to more effectively use our area resource development specialists. The expanded thrust includes: locating the area CRD specialists where they can work in larger geographical areas, housed with our District Extension staff. This arrangement, in addition to serving much larger geographic areas, will provide more effective coordination and use of University of Georgia staff resources.

Extension

One area CRD specialist will be housed with the East District Extension team at Statesboro and will serve as a resource person on community and rural development programs for the county extension agents in the 35 counties of the East District. He will also act as a liaison between the Cooperative Extension staff and programs and the staff and programs of the four Area Planning and Development Commissions in the East District area.
The second area CRD specialist will be housed with the Southwest District Extension team at Tifton and will have the same program responsibilities in the 39 counties of the Southwest District. With this new staffing arrangement, the Title V program effort has been expanded from 13 counties and 2 Area Planning and Development Commissions to 74 counties and 8 Area Planning and Development Commissions.

Title V project objectives during FY 1979 include the following:

1. Recreate an awareness of the community development process among local area leaders.

2. Serve as a liaison between Area Planning and Development Commission personnel and Extension personnel for better program effectiveness.

3. Serve as a liaison between local community leaders and resource people through county extension staffs.

4. Assist local leaders in organizing to solve problems they have identified.

5. Provide useful and technical information to local citizens through seminars, published data, bulletins and informal conferences and meetings to local residents to aid them in identifying and solving community problems.

In keeping objectives broad, the Title V program can be responsive to the changing needs of both areas and provide timely information and organizational assistance when local residents need it. The program will be education oriented with the overall goal of developing among the area's residents the necessary leadership skills which will enable them to meet their needs on a long-range continued basis.

In addition to the broad overall objectives as listed above, the technical assistance and programmatic areas to be emphasized will include rural mortgage housing credit, health manpower programs, and energy conservation and manpower development.

In cooperation with the Agricultural Economics Division of the University of Georgia’s College of Agriculture, research will be done on the impact of rural development and rural mortgage credit programs on the housing market, and Government programs affecting the placement of health manpower in rural areas. This information will be used as educational programs to assist local people in decision making relative to housing purchases and rural health services.
Title V research and extension efforts in Kentucky for FY 1979 will include three projects: 1. Developmental Information System for Kentucky. 2. Socio-Economic Adjustment Project for a Coal-Based Economy. 3. Public Services in Kentucky Counties.

Specific objectives of the Developmental Information System for Kentucky project are:

To identify types of development decisions and the information needed for these developmental planning purposes;

To establish an information retrieval system for county, area, and state data on population, employment, agricultural production, etc. for use by extension field staff;

To implement a pilot extension program on computerized assistance in rural development research and extension with the use of remote terminals in field locations;

To provide training in data utilization in the form of workshops, forums, and training manuals; and

To evaluate the operational effectiveness of computerized assistance in rural development as a tool for use by extension personnel in assisting community decision makers.

The project on Public Services in Kentucky Counties focuses on a survey of officials of the municipalities of the Commonwealth. This information has been coded and the initial analysis has begun. To date the following topics have been addressed:
- The problems of cities in the Appalachian Region
- Area Development District service to small cities
- Services for the elderly
- The unique nature of problems in mining communities
- Housing issues of cities

A second phase of the project is a statewide citizen survey on the availability, quality, use and spending priorities for community services and facilities. This information will be made available at the county, area and state levels. The Title V portion of the project will focus on the dissemination and utilization of the survey results. The questionnaire was mailed at the end of January, 1979.

The Socio-economic Adjustment Project for a Coal-based Economy consists of the following components:

1. A citizen survey to determine priorities to guide development strategies.

2. A compilation of secondary information on the eight-county area.

3. A review of existing research findings that relate to the socio-economic impact of coal.

4. Involvement of local citizens.

Though somewhat behind the time frame outlined in the original proposal, all aspects of the project are well underway and will be operating at full capacity during FY 1979.
Louisiana's Rural Development Title V Pilot Program has been implemented on a statewide basis since FY 1978. Louisiana has an estimated population of 3,841,000 (as of July 1, 1977) of which 63.2 percent live in places defined as metropolitan areas and 36.8 percent are located in rural or nonmetropolitan areas.

Sixty of the 64 Louisiana Parishes (counties) have organized rural development committees. The parish rural development committee is the primary structure for initiating, facilitating and evaluating extension and research rural development efforts. Plans are under consideration to encourage cross-section community representation on parish rural development committees. Properly organized subcommittees and citizen action groups working with identified community problems and availing themselves of those Federal assistance programs which have an impact on the solution to the problems, can serve as an extension of the rural development committee and become a viable development mechanism at the local level.

The overall objective of the Extension component is to assist Louisiana citizens in planning and implementing orderly growth and development within their respective communities improved quality of living.

Specific Extension Objectives for FY 1979 are as follows:

1. To provide information to local community leaders on Federal programs for which their communities meet the basic eligibility requirements by providing access to these programs through the Federal Assistance Programs Retrieval System (FAPRS).
2. To train members of parish rural development committees in the operation and possible uses of the Federal Assistance Programs Retrieval System.

3. To provide an avenue by which all requests for use of the Federal Assistance Programs Retrieval System can be channeled through the county agent's offices, located in each of the 64 parishes in the state.

4. To assist local leaders of small communities to apply for those rural development programs that are applicable to their communities' identified problems.

5. To cooperate with those persons working in the Title V Research Components.

6. To help citizens establish an evaluation procedure to check the value and effectiveness of the FAPRS programs.

The overall objective of the Research Component is to provide socio-economic information for use by parish and community decision-makers in rural Louisiana.

Specific research objectives during FY 1979 include the following:

1. To conduct specific research on problems of paramount importance to rural areas of Louisiana, such as the provision of public services and the maintenance and improvement of income and employment opportunities.

2. Within the context of specified research problem areas and localities, to identify and determine the role of these formal organizations, agencies, and social networks which potentially or actually have an impact on the defined problem areas.

3. To provide current research information on alternative solutions to problems identified by the Extension Service's Rural Development Task Force.
This plan of work covers both extension and research activities to be initiated and carried out during FY 1979. Many of the activities involve both research and extension personnel as well as other state agencies, other colleges or universities and representatives of related public and private organizations. The activities covered under the budgets of this plan of work will be described as extension activities or research activities.

Several projects which have been initiated but not completed during the last five years in one or more of the three North Central Mississippi counties (Calhoun, Grenada, and Yalobusha) originally selected as the pilot area for the Rural Development Act of 1972 will be continued during FY 1979. In addition, several new projects will be initiated during the year including:

1. Training in rural industrial development in an effort to upgrade the local leaders' knowledge and understanding of all facets of industrial development as it applies to their communities.

2. Intensive training of 4-H youth from some 40 counties in local government, citizenship responsibilities, and participation in community development and public affairs.

3. Training program in proposal writing for grants and loans for planners in local government, non-profit organizations and volunteer groups.

4. Intensive three-day training program for four adult 4-H volunteer leaders from each of 20 northeast Extension district counties in subjects including county government, social action process, leadership, communication, motivation, environmental improvement and community involvement.
5. Training programs for small and part-time farmers in subjects including use of resources, enterprise selection and combination, labor and management requirements, tax management, and importance of agriculture.

6. A small farm conference will be held in each of the 82 counties of Mississippi during a three-week period, February 12 through March 2, 1979. Local representatives of four USDA agencies and the Mississippi Forestry Commission will explain their roles in providing information and assistance to small farmers. USDA agencies include the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS), the Mississippi Cooperative Extension Service (MCES), the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) and the Soil Conservation Service (SCS).

Linear programming techniques will be used to determine the size and type of farm units necessary to yield a specified level of net income to operator owned resources under several alternative conditions.

Once the size and type of farms required to provide the specified income levels are determined, an aggregative analysis of the number of farm units and levels of agricultural activities that the region can support from its resources will be carried out. Optimal farm plans will be standardized on the basis of total land resources of the region and used as activities in an areal programming analysis to maximize the number of farm units the area can support at the specified operator net income levels. Comparison between the indicated optimal number and combination of farm types and the existing number and types of farms will be made and implications drawn regarding non-farm job expansion needs and/or out-migration of farm labor requirements and aggregate farm income potentials for the area.

This part of the Title V research effort involves determining the income potential of agricultural resources in the study area. Results of that research will describe the possible adjustments needed for farm operator owned resources to earn an acceptable level of income.

Another integral element of alternative adjustment processes is the provision of public services. It is often argued that availability of "adequate" community services is the impetus to further development. Given the limited resource base from which rural communities operate, available resources must be utilized in the most efficient manner possible.

Local political leaders, who quite often are untrained in their roles as "public officials," are required to make decisions concerning the provision of community services. Research is needed to provide decision-makers with basic management tools. A consistent set of various public service cost and revenue estimates under alternative assumptions with respect to size of facility, rate of operations, and duration of the activity within the appropriate time frame would enable decision-makers to base their decisions on sound budget information.
During FY 1979, Title V project initiated in FY 1977 will continue to focus on improving incomes of small farmers in the mountain area through expanding and improving the production of native ornamentals. One project initiated last fiscal year to develop roadside and other markets for fruits and vegetables in five Coastal Plain counties will be continued. The project on developing more effective methods of controlling insect pests associated with poultry production and the demonstration of the effectiveness of alternative control measures in minimizing the effects on community health will be continued for the fourth year. Another continuing project seeks to evaluate the effectiveness of mobile recreation units in improving participation, diversification and efficiency in providing rural recreation. Two continuing projects will focus on water and wastewater management in rural areas and the impact of agricultural management practices potentially required under EPA 208 areawide water quality regulations.

New projects will focus on evaluating the impact of economic growth on the total economy and local government, increasing citizen participation in county government and developing an educational program to prevent Rocky Mountain spotted fever.

The following is a list of the Title V projects to be undertaken during FY 1979:

1. Poultry Insect Pest Management in Relation to Rural Community Health and Development (Fourth Year)

2. Increasing Income of Small Farmers in Western North Carolina through Propagation of Native Ornamental Plants (Third Year)
3. The Development of a Mobile Recreation Unit for the Delivery of Rural Recreation Services (Third Year)

4. The Development and Implementation of an Extension Program on Water and Wastewater Management for Individuals in Rural Communities (Second Year)

5. Direct Marketing Project (Second Year)

6. Investigation of Agricultural Management Practices Potentially Required under EPA 208 Areawide Water Quality Planning Regulations (Second Year)

7. Evaluation of the Impact of Economic Growth on the Total Economy and Local Government in Wilkes County, North Carolina (First Year)

8. To Increase Citizen Knowledge of the Role and Function and to Increase Citizen Participation in County Government in North Carolina (First Year)

9. Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever in Relation to Rural Community Health and Development: An Educational Approach to Disease Prevention (First Year)

10. Coordination of Title V Programs for North Carolina
The general objectives of the current Title V effort in Oklahoma are to (1) develop technical aids to help citizens and local government decision makers better understand local government finances and (2) develop technical aids useful to local government decision makers as they evaluate the economics of alternative community service systems.

Local decision makers throughout Oklahoma have specifically requested educational programs on local government finance and assistance related to the problems of rural areas in planning and developing rural water systems (Oklahoma State University, 1978). Therefore, special emphasis will be directed toward the following specific areas of need:

1. Local government finance
   - Development of a field accessible computerized data base and analysis of trends in local government finances. Such analysis will facilitate identification of both strengths and problems in local government finances. It will also provide an information base for education of citizens about local government operations. For purpose of this project this effort will be directed toward county government.

   - Development of educational materials to be used by Oklahoma extension personnel to guide them in accessing the computerized system and utilizing results of analysis to inform local leaders and citizens about local government operations and finances.

   - Testing the computerized analysis of trends in local government finance system in a few counties to assure applicability of information to the needs of local leaders and citizens.
2. Rural water systems

- Development of field accessible computerized data base and analysis system to estimate local water needs and generate budgets for alternative water systems to meet these needs. This system will facilitate local leaders and lenders' analysis of the feasibilities of specific rural water systems. It will assist local leaders in planning development and expansion of water systems.

- Development of extension materials complementary to the computerized system, for use by extension personnel as they work with local leaders who are planning water system expansion or developments. These materials will facilitate access of the computerized system and will contain non-computerized information on financing and management of rural water systems in support of an overall extension educational and technical assistance program on rural water systems.

- Testing the use of computerized and non-computerized rural water system materials developed.

Considerable work has been done in Oklahoma on the economic analysis of other community services (solid waste, fire, emergency medical services, law enforcement, clinics, industrial parks, rental apartments). Proven data bases and analysis procedures have been developed to examine feasibilities of such activities in specific local situations. As a part of general objective number 2 of this Title V project, these data bases and analysis procedures will be computerized in much the same manner as is discussed for rural water systems, above. These efforts will yield a comprehensive set of easily accessible, computerized aids to support Oklahoma extension field personnel and local leaders as they work with the critical rural development problems of community services and local government finance. Such a set of computerized aids will result in quick responses, accurate analysis and increased opportunities to deliver educational and technical assistance information to rural Oklahoma.

References


The experiences at the Cerro Gordo Title V development project proved that through the coordinated efforts of various agencies and the community residents themselves many of the problems that hinder the development of isolated rural areas can be solved. Title V efforts for FY 1979 will focus on the establishment of a development program similar to the one that was carried out with such outstanding results at Cerro Gordo in the Guaraguaito and La Sierra sectors of Orocovis. One of its objectives is to see if the methodology developed in the Cerro Gordo project is transferable to other areas and if it will allow us to attain similar results in a much shorter period.

Guaraguaito and La Sierra are neighborhoods of Barrio (ward) Bauta Abajo of the municipality of Orocovis, in the central region of Puerto Rico. They cover an area of about three square miles, in which there are 510 people in 102 families. Communication means are almost nonexistent in the area; the nearest paved road is three kilometers away.

Because of the lack of a public water distribution system, the inhabitants of the area must use polluted water from rivers, springs and rainfall. The inadequacy of the water coming from these sources is the cause of many health problems, such as improper sanitation practices and incidence of diseases.

Housing facilities are not adequate to satisfy the needs of the families for security, comfort and attractiveness. Many families live in dwellings with only one or two rooms and with no kitchen or bathroom.

Poor educational facilities in the area are the cause of the poor educational level of the community - a third grade average, one of the lowest in the Island.

The annual per capita personal income is about $248. Almost all the families are under the poverty level, and they have no income besides that provided by government welfare programs.
Coffee and minor crops are the main agricultural products of the area. Steep slopes make some farms unsuitable for intensive use, but other lands can be used to advantage for farming.

The Agricultural Extension Service and the Agricultural Experiment Station will work cooperatively to bring about community development in the area.

Specific Extension objectives for 1979 are as follows:

- to construct 2.0 kms of paved road with the help of 35 area residents;
- to initiate efforts to provide 27 families with effective energy facilities.
- to improve the eating habits of 25 area families; and
- to organize a citizens' committee composed of 10 community residents.

Research objectives for FY 1979 are:

- to interview all the families living in Guaraguitaño-La Sierra and La Francia areas for the purpose of developing benchmark data of the socioeconomic situation and nutritional and health problems of the families of the communities;
- to prepare an inventory of physical resources and the utilities available in the communities; and
- to prepare a written preliminary report to be sent to participating agencies in the Action Program.
The FY 1979 plan of work allows Title V Research and Extension professionals to continue FY 1978 efforts in Kershaw, Union, and Williamsburg Counties, but also reveals expansion into other geographic areas. This plan of work facilitates certain program thrusts in (potentially) all of South Carolina 46 counties, various multi-county units, and municipalities.

Specific research objectives include:

1. Survey of the elderly to determine their knowledge of the availability of relevant community services and the extent of and desire for interaction with young people (9-19).

2. Survey of local government officials to determine their opinions concerning teen involvement in local decision making and the sources they use for receiving teen input on local issues.

3. Measures of teens' attitudes concerning local government and their actual and desired levels of involvement in community improvement.

4. Survey to determine attitude and needs among planning commissioners, their staff, and elected officials across the state concerning land use planning.

Title V Research and Extension activities will be coordinated with a Southern Regional project, S-120, "Social Organization for Development of Low-Income Rural Counties." South Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station personnel are participating on that project.
S-120 research objectives are to determine the process of differential development of low-income rural counties and to propose models for facilitating future development.

Title V research in South Carolina will continue to be coordinated with the regional area of work "Structure of Farming and Commitment to Agriculture." Thus far, there are four general objectives to the research.

1. to determine the organizational characteristics of farms in the South;

2. to assess the impacts of "environmental" factors on farms of various types and sizes;

3. to assess the relationship between farm types and the social and economic well-being of farmers and their families and to determine patterns of organizational behavior among farms of various types and sizes; and

4. to assess the impacts between farms of various sizes and types on community structures, processes, and well-being.

Finally, Title V researchers are associated with the analysis of local, regional, and national net migration data. Current plans are to continue to report preliminary findings and to seek additional funding for this research activity.

Extension Title V efforts for FY 1979 have been expanded to give emphasis to statewide, district, and multi-county level programs as well as to individual counties.

One statewide thrust of Title V for FY 1979 is to establish Youth/CRD programming. This effort is based on the belief that young people are eager to be of service and to work for the improvement of their community, if given guidance from concerned adults. Programs are to be designed which allow young people to make meaningful contributions to their community, while gaining practice in leadership skills and decision-making. Goals are to be facilitated through educational programming the involvement of young people in community development processes.

Efforts in Youth/CRD for FY78-79 will take four major forms: consultation with and training of county Extension personnel, support for specific Youth/CRD events as conducted in counties, the development of an incentives system for Youth/CRD, and programming and the development of literature to support county Youth/CRD efforts.

Another major Extension program thrust for FY 1979 involves comprehensive planning. Activities included in this program thrust involve working with local officials in the areas of planning process and policy development, historic preservation, local government, and environment and natural resources.
The Tennessee Title V Project will continue to focus on the original five pilot counties in FY 1979. The two-fold emphasis detailed in past program documents will be maintained. First, the program will concentrate on the ongoing development process in the five counties themselves. Second, the program will concern itself with communicating lessons learned and skills developed in the pilot counties to the remainder of Tennessee. As noted in past plans of work, it is occasionally necessary to draw upon and examine general developmental processes throughout the region for purposes of application to pilot areas.

**Major Problems**

The major problems identified at the beginning of the pilot program were: low per capita incomes, a lack of employment opportunities, inadequate public services and low levels of citizen participation in public decision making. The benchmark survey and experience have verified the importance of these problems. These routes have also provided a greater understanding and more detailed definition of these problems in each county.

It has become increasingly apparent that a major underlying factor in economic development in pilot areas involves utilization of natural resource endowments. While little can be done to alter the existing base resources, a more effective utilization of the resources for purposes ranging from agriculture to tourism can enhance economic development.
Extension Activities

Extension has attempted to act as a catalyst for development by providing educational leadership and by acting as a broker for the pilot area with local, regional, state and federal agencies and organizations. Activities during FY 1979 will include:

- Recruiting and orienting an area agent for the program.
- Continuing involvement in the vegetable production program as a source of supplemental income with increased emphasis on marketing through brokers and directly to consumers.
- Fostering the tourist industry as a source of jobs and income.
- Continuing involvement in industrial development.
- Promoting citizen awareness and effective involvement in development decisions.
- Fostering improved medical services, fire protection, solid waste disposal, and other public services.
- Maintaining flexibility to take advantage of unanticipated opportunities.

Research Activities

The major emphases in research will be to complete the search activities already underway. These include an analysis of:

- The local fiscal impacts of use value taxation of agricultural lands.
- The impact of federal grant and loan funds in a small rural county economy.
- The impact of rural industrialization on employee family income changes.
- The factors which influence optimal plant locations in rural areas.
The 1979 Title V Plan of Work for Texas is, fundamentally, a continuation of the 1977 and 1978 Plans of Work. Adjustments and revisions have been incorporated in the light of discoveries made through pertinent research and consistent with the progress achieved. A major shift of emphasis in Title V program content and scope was initiated at the end of 1978 by focusing on the specific educational needs of small business operators in rural Texas. Prior to this, our efforts had been directed, mainly along with our Community Resource Development program commitment, towards the identification and solution of community-wide, county, or regional problems.

Surveys conducted in all areas of Texas have consistently shown that the main concerns of rural residents are: lack of employment opportunities and economic stagnation. If a rural community is to survive and prosper, its economic base must first be strengthened and expanded. This plan of work in combination with other TAEX educational programs synthesizes the Texas Agricultural Extension Service and the Texas Experiment Station efforts to help people make better use of their time, energy, and resources for their own as well as the common good.

The overall objective of the Texas project is to conduct Extension and Research programs designed to stabilize and develop the rural economy, and to extend its efforts statewide to stabilize and increase the efficiency of rural businesses and industries as a means of expanding the economic base of rural communities and improving the living conditions across the State.
Specific Objectives for FY 1979 are:

1. To enhance business management proficiencies of existing small business firms within the community.

2. To encourage expansion of existing and creation of new businesses within the community and acquisition of new businesses from outside the community.

3. To promote job creation, manpower and leadership training, and labor market efficiency to bring about stability and progress in rural labor markets.

The central concern of the 1979 Title V Plan of Work in Texas hinges on the development and provision of educational programs and activities designed to help rural business operators to solve their problems and take full advantage of opportunities for growth. Our approach has its roots on the program building concept which is a continuous democratic process "by which representative county leaders, working with Extension agents, other local agencies and resource persons, study the county situation, identify major problems and opportunities, establish objectives and plans, and carry out a program of education and action designed to help the people reach their objectives."1 This concept converges with the overriding purpose of the Rural Development Act of 1972 -- "to improve the quality of rural life, and to do so on a self-earned, self-sustaining basis."2


2USDA Regulations for Programs Under Title V of the Rural Development Act of 1972, USDA, Office of the Secretary.
Virginia's Title V research and extension efforts for FY 1979 will continue to focus on developing innovative approaches to identifying the needs of rural Virginia, expanding the base of information and knowledge about those problems, integrating Title V research and extension activity with other agencies and organizations, and initiating new citizen organizations and cooperating with ongoing community efforts to deal effectively with the priority problems of the West Piedmont (PD 12) and Piedmont (PD 14) Planning Districts. The proposed research and extension plans for 1979 will continue the thrust created in the past and move a step closer toward working with the citizens of PDs 12 and 14 "in a way that is understandable and acceptable to them."

The wide range of problems identified by the citizens of the two districts will require resources that go well beyond the capacity of current Title V staff and funding levels. Therefore, a priority item on the '79 agenda will be to define in more detail the pressing needs of rural Virginia and to request additional assistance from state government agencies and the Virginia Extension Service to address these needs. At the same time, efforts will be expended to marshall supplemental resources to integrate with the ongoing Title V program.

Three research projects will be implemented which have statewide implications and pertain to priority issues in both PDs 12 and 14.

1. Industrial Impact – Efforts will be continued to complete the development of a fiscal impact model that will enable communities to determine the potential benefits and costs of new industrial activity to both the public and private sectors of their economies. Income and employment multipliers have been estimated, and the remainder of the model will be tested and ready for use in extension programs by May 1979. Publications will be developed in consultation with extension personnel to fully describe the use of the model.
2. Industrial Location Probability - Research will be initiated to implement for the State of Virginia the model developed by Eldon Smith and Brady Deaton in Regional Research Project S-96 for Kentucky and Tennessee. This model will complement the use of the industrial impact results by predicting the probability of manufacturing plant locations for each community in Virginia.

3. Public Service Expenditures - An initial research design has been initiated to analyze public service expenditures. A cross-sectional analysis of all counties and cities in the state will determine which factors are associated with variations in per capita community service expenditures for police protection. Determination of the existence of any special problems related to financing police protection in rural communities which border urban areas will be emphasized.

Research and Extension Plans for PD 12 include the following:

1) Research will be provided on a continuing basis to assist extension staff in addressing priority problems.

2) Extension activities will be directed toward implementing leadership training schools in Patrick County and in other PD 12 communities if needs are expressed in these areas.

3) Support will be given to the Danville Extension Unit in its efforts to promote a human resource development project in the Liberty View Housing Project.

4) Educational efforts will be directed toward both youth and adult clientele within the principal areas of leadership development and career education.

5) Research information will be utilized by local extension units in working with local leaders and officials to determine the feasibility of "Farmers" markets and to provide educational information relative to their establishment.

Research and Extension Plans for PD 14 include the following:

1) The principal new research activity in PD 14 will be to analyze the present housing situation in sufficient detail to guide educational efforts toward reducing the major barriers to housing construction and improvement.

2) Efforts in the Crewe-Burkeville area will continue to emphasize economic development. A leadership training school will be conducted to broaden the leadership base and to identify key resource people in the community.

3) Materials will be developed to provide assistance to local leaders as they work to promote industrial location and business expansion.