Cooperative Extension is a unique network that links local and campus-based Extension professionals from land-grant universities—along with federal, state and local partners—to residents of more than 3,000 counties/parishes in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. territories. We translate science into formats that people use to improve their lives and/or livelihoods. More than 100 years old, we work to:

- Foster better nutrition and health
  - National Framework for Health and Wellness
  - Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program
  - SNAP-Ed Land-grant Programs

- Help youth build the future
  - USDA-NIFA
  - National 4-H Council

- Link Learners Online

- Build community vitality
  - Southern region report
  - North Central region FCS report

- Sustain agriculture and the nation’s food supply
  - AgIsAmerica.org
  - USDA-FSA & Cooperative Extension Education for Producers on New Farm/Ranch Programs

- Prepare for and act in times of disaster

**WHY WE ARE VALUED**

- Critical infrastructure through capacity funding that delivers proactive educational programs and sustains long-term local connections.
- Distributed network focused on local needs with the ability to respond nationally when needed.
- Integrated with the research and teaching of our Land-grant University System, including people served by historically black and tribal colleges and universities.
- Ability to engage learners resulting in measurable changes in behavior or practice.
- Connection to limited resource audiences, including the rural and urban poor.
- Established partnership with USDA through the National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

Scan this code using a QR reader app, and review links to learn more.
**How We Are Organized**

Cooperative Extension is coordinated nationally by the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy, also known as ECOP, the representative leadership and governing body of Cooperative Extension nationwide.

ECOP is part of the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) Board on Agriculture Assembly. Ongoing priorities focus on building partnerships and acquiring resources, increasing strategic marketing and communications, enhancing leadership and professional development, and strengthening organizational functioning.

**ECOP 2017 Emphasis Areas**

**Capacity Funding** – Investigate and apply new approaches for advocacy related to federal capacity funding.

**National System** – Finalize Extension’s core values, describe learner engagement and develop a national logo and/or tagline for optional use by Extension Services.

**Private Resource Mobilization** – Implement strategies for private funding as a complement to public funding for Extension as a national system and not in competition with state, university and local efforts.

**Urban Programming** – While maintaining rural presence, provide support for A National Framework for Urban Extension as outlined by the National Urban Extension Leaders (NUEL).

**Innovation** – Launch strategies on learner engagement, environmental factors that support innovation and engagement bit.ly/2016ECOP_Innov.

**Internal Communications** – Strengthen communications and engagement in decision-making with Extension directors and administrators.

**Why Partner With Us**

Cooperative Extension has the infrastructure, capability and institutional history to partner with your organization to achieve educational goals. For federal agencies authorized to extend knowledge to people, communities, and agricultural businesses, it is prudent to widely engage Cooperative Extension. During a recent period of unprecedented economic strain, federal agencies are called upon to leverage assets, complement competencies, and invest in quantifiable efficiencies for program delivery. For non-profit and private entities, integration with Extension’s educational delivery capacity and access to relevant science can result in measurable impacts. To ensure the future strength of our Nation, an educated public is essential.

**Education you can trust to help people, businesses and communities solve problems, develop skills and build a better future**

**To Find Out More**

News Updates: [www.ecopmondayminute.blogspot.com](http://www.ecopmondayminute.blogspot.com)

Program Impacts: [landgrantimpacts.org/extension](http://landgrantimpacts.org/extension)

ECOP Directory, Calendar, Goals, and more: [www.extension.org/ecop](http://www.extension.org/ecop)

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