

2007 Southern University and A&M College Combined Research and Extension Annual Report

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I. Report Overview

1. Executive Summary

The mission of the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center (SUAREC) is to conduct basic and applied research, and disseminate information to the citizens of Louisiana in a manner that is useful in addressing their scientific, technological, social, economic and cultural needs. The goal is to assist diverse audiences, who have limited social and economic resources, improve their access to positive opportunities through research and outreach education. SUAREC aims to help small-scale and limited resource farmers and ranchers develop and/or maintain viable farming operations that are in harmony with the environment, help communities build capacity to enhance the growth and development of the business and industrial sectors, and improve the quality of life for families and youth throughout the State. To ensure that clientele needs are addressed effectively, the research and extension programs target the same clients. Research projects are designed with inputs from stakeholders and the findings are specially packaged and disseminated by the extension agents.

As a result of the devastation of hurricanes Katrina and Rita in the later part of FY 2005, SUAREC programs reached out to many evacuees in shelters throughout the state. In FY 2006/2007, these programs continued to serve many evacuees who were still being housed in temporary trailers and others who had and/or were trying to resettle both in the greater New Orleans area and in various parts of Louisiana.

There was a strong and very close working relations among the planned programs. For instance, Youth Development Program benefits heavily from Sustainable Agricultural Systems in conducting livestock shows. The Youth Development Program also benefits from the following planned programs: Nutrition and Health Program, Urban Forestry and Natural Resource Management Program, Economics and Community Development Program, and Family and Human Development Program. Similarly, the Family and Human Development Program benefited immensely from research and extension activities of the Nutrition and Health Program, Youth Development Program, and the Economic and Community Development Program.

Soliciting stakeholder input is a continuous process which is embedded in the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center's entire program development process. Stakeholder inputs are used to establish priorities, goals and objectives consistent with state, regional and national issues based on the land-grant philosophy. The Center holds periodic strategic planning retreats to provide a forum for sharing knowledge and information between research and extension faculty and staff and for creating a model designed to integrate both entities. As a follow up to the strategic planning conference, joint research-extension exchange meetings were held to identify critical areas which warrant research by the Center to better serve the needs of clients. Other methods of seeking inputs were: plan of work conference, parish advisory council, survey of program staff, survey of clients, parish performance and planning review, chancellor's advisory council, planned program advisory council, etc.

SUAREC continued to conduct internal evaluation of all research projects to ensure that they were meeting the needs of clients. All CSREES funded programs/projects and others seeking funding were subjected to a thorough scientific and educational peer review process. Additionally, each proposal was required to show clear evidence of stakeholder input prior to approval by the Vice Chancellor for Research and/or Vice Chancellor for Extension.

In order to address the state and national needs, the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center placed emphasis on the following planned programs or broad areas:

I. Sustainable Agricultural Systems

II. Urban Forestry and Natural Resource Management

III. Nutrition and Health

IV. Family and Human Development

V. Youth Development

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VI. Economic and Community Development

Some Highlights

- A community garden belonging to the Lighthouse Mission, a homeless shelter provided skills and assistance to 10 homeless men. These men are now utilizing knowledge and skills gained in enhancing their livelihood.
- Four other producers are harvesting and selling produce from their gardens in the local farmers' markets.
- Goat producers came together through the help of the project staff to form a goat cooperative. The Southeast Goat Cooperative of Louisiana (SOGOCOLA) received its incorporation in 2007.
- Two of the participants selected to serve on the regional board of the Southern Region Risk Management Education and Southern Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education respectively.
- Three participants are serving on their local NRCS and Rural Development boards.
- Two participants provided leadership in starting a Farmers' Markets; another was featured in an educational training video produced by Southern Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education.
- Four participants were selected as the "Small Farmer of the Year" in their states.
- One of the participants entered into a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) agreement with a major university.
- Five of the participants were able to use their newly acquired skills to secure external funding for their cooperatives and communities.
- Three of the participants were able to secure contracts with major food chains for their produce.
- SUAREC scientists developed and tested hibiscus as an alternative tea product; 90 percent of the participants at the hibiscus and tree field day requested for trees and more information on how to plant and care for trees.
- Collaboration with the private sector, such as "Nature's Best, Inc." and other arboricultural companies promoted the utilization of wood waste, especially, the urban wood waste in Louisiana.
- 100 percent of the participants at the nutrition and health program classes indicated that their health knowledge and awareness were improved.
- Participating families in the child care education activities saved \$752,375 by attending group class sessions
- About 20 family-based child care providers updated their licenses by attending classes, thus saving \$800.00 each
- Family-based child care providers saved a total of \$1200.00 by attending classes provided by SUAREC
- Regular child care center saved over \$2600.00 by attending classes provided by SUAREC as opposed to private consultants.
- 93.3% of youth participants said preparation and participation in the Livestock and Poultry Show helped them learn how to manage their time;

- 96.7% of youth participants said preparation and participation in the Livestock and Poultry Show helped them exhibit leadership skills;
- 86.7% of youth participants said preparation and participation in the Livestock and Poultry Show helped them develop problem-solving
- SUAREC assisted youth participants in the Livestock and Poultry Show to sell over \$50,000 worth of products that received premium values above the fair market prices.
- 35 business loan packages were approved for \$981,150.66 have been
- 13 businesses were able to procure contracts from the government.
- 23 new businesses were started, 33 jobs were retained/created.

Total Actual Amount of professional FTEs/SYs for this State

Year:2007	Extension		Research	
	1862	1890	1862	1890
Plan	0.0	43.0	0.0	36.0
Actual	0.0	45.8	0.0	34.1

II. Merit Review Process

1. The Merit Review Process that was Employed for this year

- Internal University Panel
- Combined External and Internal University Panel
- Expert Peer Review

2. Brief Explanation

The United States Department of Agriculture/Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (USDA/CSREES) conducted a comprehensive review of the research program in 2004. The model and findings of that review continue to serve as benchmarks for merit and peer review. SUAREC continues to conduct internal evaluation of all research projects and extension programs to ensure that they are meeting the needs of its clients. Additionally, as part of the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service (LCES) agreement, extension programs and activities are reviewed annually for applicability to clients' needs by a joint team of experienced staff from both the Louisiana State University Agricultural Center (LSU AgCenter) and the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center (SUAREC).

Peer Review: All CSREES funded programs/projects and others seeking funding are subjected to a thorough scientific and educational peer review process. A Proposal Review and Evaluation Committee (PREC) comprising of faculty and staff from SUAREC and the greater university community is functioning effectively. It operates as a standing committee to review proposals consistent with standard agency guidelines and other established scientific and educational criteria. Proposals usually undergo strict review, scrutiny and endorsement by discipline peers, program heads, and a select review committee. Additionally, each proposal must show clear evidence of stakeholder input prior to approval by the Vice Chancellor for Research and/or Vice Chancellor for Extension.

Strategic Planning: SUAREC holds periodic strategic planning retreats to provide a forum for sharing knowledge and information between research and extension faculty and staff and for creating a model designed to integrate both entities. The main outcome is the exchange of information to ensure that research and extension programs in the Center as designed are relevant to the needs of the people of Louisiana and implemented to meet and address the needs of citizens.

III. Stakeholder Input

1. Actions taken to seek stakeholder input that encouraged their participation

- Use of media to announce public meetings and listening sessions
- Targeted invitation to traditional stakeholder groups
- Targeted invitation to non-traditional stakeholder groups
- Targeted invitation to traditional stakeholder individuals
- Targeted invitation to non-traditional stakeholder individuals
- Survey of traditional stakeholder groups
- Survey of traditional stakeholder individuals
- Survey specifically with non-traditional groups

Brief Explanation

Soliciting stakeholder input is a continuous process which is embedded in the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center's entire program development process. Stakeholder inputs are used to establish priorities, goals and objectives consistent with state, regional and national issues based on the land-grant philosophy. The Parish Advisory Council is organized at the grassroots level by each extension program to involve clients, community leaders, state and local government officials, and other stakeholders in the process of identifying community needs and/or resources, programs and projects to address them. Parish advisory council meetings are conducted at least once annually and important discussions are documented and utilized by the extension agents in developing the parish plan of work. One indication from parish surveys is that all SUAREC extension staff have functioning parish advisory councils. The Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service (LCES), annual parish review also indicates that all SUAREC extension staff do seek and obtain inputs from parish advisory councils, focus groups, public forums, clients and community leaders when planning their work.

Extension Agents use information from focus groups, public forums, community leaders, and the client needs assessment to develop their plan of work. Meetings were announced using different forms of media available in the community. Agents' plans of work, needs assessment, and information from the forums are submitted to the specialists at the state office. The state specialists meet monthly with the Vice Chancellor for Extension to report on progress of work (and problems) and to review and/or revise where necessary. Additionally, joint research-extension exchange meetings are held periodically to identify critical areas that warrant research by the Center to better serve the needs of clients. Furthermore, the Chancellor's Advisory Council serves to advise the Chancellor on ways that would ensure greater stakeholder input in identifying and planning meaningful, effective and efficient research, education and outreach programs to benefit the citizenry of the state of Louisiana.

The Center's research and extension programs, the federal plan of work and the state strategic plan are developed based on the information received from the grassroots such as, Parish Advisory Councils, parish plan of work, the Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service, parish review team, needs assessment, evaluation studies, Strategic Planning Meeting, Joint Research-Extension Exchange Meetings, Chancellor's Advisory Council, Program Areas Advisory Councils, Federal and State Agencies, Commodity Organizations, and Land Grant Institutions.

The Office of Planning and Evaluation conducts regular surveys of program activities. Participants/respondents at these program activities continue to provide positive feedback regarding the knowledge and skills they gain as a result of their participation in the SUAREC educational programs and activities.

Data collected from these sources by the Office of Planning and Evaluation are made available to the Research and Extension administrators who in turn utilize them to plan and prioritize their program/projects to address needs/problems of Louisiana citizens.

2(A). A brief statement of the process that was used by the recipient institution to identify individuals and groups stakeholders and to collect input from them

1. Method to identify individuals and groups

- Use Advisory Committees
- Use Internal Focus Groups
- Needs Assessments
- Use Surveys

Brief Explanation

SUAREC extension personnel are required to establish parish advisory committees and conduct meetings to seek inputs necessary for planning their educational activities. These advisory committees involve clients, community leaders, state and local government officials, and other stakeholders in identifying community needs and/or resources, programs and projects to address them. Parish advisory council meetings are conducted regularly, and important discussions are documented and shared in the joint research-extension exchange meetings. For some planned programs, internal focus groups were used as an additional source of identifying the changing needs of the community and the citizens. Also, as part of the customer satisfaction survey, needs assessments were conducted particularly to obtain information regarding unmet needs or changing needs. In addition, SUAREC research and extension personnel conducted various activities in FY 2006/2007 such as field days, workshops, classes, trainings, livestock show, etc. Surveys were employed to seek participants views regarding knowledge and skills gained and also to solicit their suggestions regarding the types of activities they desire in the future. The participants' response to these surveys have been outstanding.

2(B). A brief statement of the process that was used by the recipient institution to identify individuals and groups who are stakeholders and to collect input from them

1. Methods for collecting Stakeholder Input

- Meeting with traditional Stakeholder groups
- Survey of traditional Stakeholder groups
- Meeting with traditional Stakeholder individuals
- Survey of traditional Stakeholder individuals
- Survey specifically with non-traditional groups
- Meeting specifically with non-traditional individuals
- Meeting with invited selected individuals from the general public
- Survey of selected individuals from the general public

Brief Explanation

Stakeholder input is an important source of information for program planning at SUAREC. The parish advisory committee was the primary source of input. And to ensure quality input, the parish advisory committees were comprised of a diverse group of individuals in the community – traditional and non-traditional individuals and groups were invited to join the advisory committee. To encourage further inputs and ensure consistency, surveys were conducted at various program activities to solicit participants' suggestions as to their needs. Traditionally, such information is used to plan and/or adjust future activities to meet these identified needs. Different types of media were used to advertise and publicize SUAREC activities.

3. A statement of how the input was considered

- In the Budget Process
- To Identify Emerging Issues
- Redirect Extension Programs
- Redirect Research Programs
- In the Staff Hiring Process
- In the Action Plans
- To Set Priorities
- Other (Determining strategic directions)

Brief Explanation

Information from the extension agents was channeled to the specialists and brought for discussion at the state monthly meeting with the vice chancellor for extension. The monthly meeting is conducted as stated to include specialists (extension) from the six planned programs and the directors of special projects involving outreach education. Decisions on dealing with issues were reached and issues requiring research expertise were channeled to the vice chancellor for research at the joint research-extension exchange meeting. At the joint research-extension exchange meeting, there was information sharing on emerging issues and followed with plans of action. Critically important issues were normally brought to the attention of the Chancellor's Advisory Council which also meets monthly, for further actions. The Chancellor's Advisory Council is comprised of persons who have budgetary authority for the Center. The Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service (LCES) and the joint annual meeting of the Louisiana State University Agricultural Center and the Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center served as a medium where stakeholders input were sought for, deliberated and strategic directions planned.

Brief Explanation of what you learned from your Stakeholders

{NO DATA ENTERED}

IV. Expenditure Summary

1. Total Actual Formula dollars Allocated (prepopulated from C-REEMS)			
Extension		Research	
Smith-Lever 3b & 3c	1890 Extension	Hatch	Evans-Allen
0	1394604	0	1641607

2. Totalled Actual dollars from Planned Programs Inputs				
	Extension		Research	
	Smith-Lever 3b & 3c	1890 Extension	Hatch	Evans-Allen
Actual Formula	0	1394604	0	1641607
Actual Matching	0	1394604	0	1641607
Actual All Other	0	0	0	26216
Total Actual Expended	0	2789208	0	3309430

3. Amount of Above Actual Formula Dollars Expended which comes from Carryover funds from previous years				
Carryover	0	0	0	0

V. Planned Program Table of Content

S. NO.	PROGRAM NAME
1	I. SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS
2	II. URBAN FORESTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
3	III. NUTRITION AND HEALTH
4	IV. FAMILY AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
5	V. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
6	VI. ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Program #1

V(A). Planned Program (Summary)

1. Name of the Planned Program

I. SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS

V(B). Program Knowledge Area(s)

1. Program Knowledge Areas and Percentage

KA Code	Knowledge Area	%1862 Extension	%1890 Extension	%1862 Research	%1890 Research
102	Soil, Plant, Water, Nutrient Relationships		10%		10%
121	Management of Range Resources		10%		10%
205	Plant Management Systems		10%		10%
301	Reproductive Performance of Animals		15%		15%
302	Nutrient Utilization in Animals		20%		20%
307	Animal Management Systems		30%		30%
313	Internal Parasites in Animals		5%		5%
	Total		100%		100%

V(C). Planned Program (Inputs)

1. Actual amount of professional FTE/SYs expended this Program

Year: 2007	Extension		Research	
	1862	1890	1862	1890
Plan	0.0	8.0	0.0	18.0
Actual	0.0	7.9	0.0	18.4

2. Actual dollars expended in this Program (includes Carryover Funds from previous years)

Extension		Research	
Smith-Lever 3b & 3c	1890 Extension	Hatch	Evans-Allen
0	247670	0	836926
1862 Matching	1890 Matching	1862 Matching	1890 Matching
0	213990	0	945831
1862 All Other	1890 All Other	1862 All Other	1890 All Other
0	0	0	26216

V(D). Planned Program (Activity)

1. Brief description of the Activity

- Some of the research and experiments conducted during FY 2007 were as follows:

•Effect of low-cost tunnel and formulated media on production of selected horticultural crops for niche market: A preliminary field variety trial of Hibiscus (*Hibiscus sabdariffa*), a potentially niche organic market functional food crop with low cultural requirements was conducted to evaluate the performance of four hibiscus varieties. Their origins were Nigeria, Ghana, India and Malaysia. A separate experiment was also conducted to evaluate the fruit production and antioxidant content of container-grown hibiscus crop under four fertilizer treatments. •Effects of mixed species grazing systems and forage quality on the reproduction, growth and carcass traits of cattle and goats: A mixed-grazing project was designed to determine the performance of cattle and goats grazing together and separately. In a 3x2 factorial, 100 Spanish goats and 28 Brangus cows were randomly assigned to continuous or rotational grazing systems, and three grazing schemes (goat-alone, cattle-alone or mixed) in a land area of 31 ha. Body weights, body condition scores, FAMACHA scores, fecal and blood samples were taken every 28 days. Forage samples were collected weekly to determine plant height, forage yield and forage quality. Soil physical properties that determine soil compaction and permeability were collected in Fall and Spring seasons. •Pasture Rearing of Poultry and Rabbits: The objectives of this project were to compare method of housing on productivity of poultry and rabbits; to compare method of housing on egg and meat quality including fatty acid profiles and consumer acceptance; and to provide a clearinghouse and connection among pastured poultry producers in Louisiana. •Evaluation of methods and usages for processed aquatic waste meals: Research trials were conducted to evaluate aquatic waste meal as a soil amendment to grow a vegetable crop. The study was conducted in a greenhouse setting in one gallon pots with 1:1 soil and sugarcane bagasse.

•Other research and experiment activities were on swine nutrition and management, trueness to variety assessment, impact of grazing cattle and goat together under controlled and continuous environment on pasture and soil.

The draft design and architectural works of the research and outreach facilities saw significant progress during the period. Also, workshops, demonstration plots, training sessions, and one day and/or multiple field days for farmers (especially small and limited resource producers) were conducted to deliver services to producers and potential producers. Surveys and assessments were conducted to obtain input and feedback from participants. Various media sources were used to ensure extensive and sometimes statewide publicity of activities. Much emphasis was also placed on farm/site visits so as to assist clients in dealing with specific and individual problems. Collaboration, cooperation and partnership with local, state and federal agencies, peer institutions, groups, private organizations/associations were utilized in seeking and delivering services to citizens.

2. Brief description of the target audience

Our target audience included (but not limited to) : small producers, limited resource producers, socially and economically disadvantaged individuals, women, and minorities. Others were youth 13 - 18 years, policy makers, community leaders/stakeholders, interested agencies and organizations.

V(E). Planned Program (Outputs)

1. Standard output measures

Target for the number of persons (contacts) reached through direct and indirect contact methods

	Direct Contacts Adults	Indirect Contacts Adults	Direct Contacts Youth	Indirect Contacts Youth
Year	Target	Target	Target	Target
Plan	25000	125000	0	0
2007	9749	150102	0	0

2. Number of Patent Applications Submitted (Standard Research Output)

Patent Applications Submitted

Year	Target
Plan:	0
2007 :	0

Patents listed

3. Publications (Standard General Output Measure)

Number of Peer Reviewed Publications

	Extension	Research	Total
Plan			
2007	0	12	0

V(F). State Defined Outputs**Output Target****Output #1****Output Measure**

- 1. Number of educational program activities

Year	Target	Actual
2007	200	247

Output #2**Output Measure**

- 2. Number of educational contacts

Year	Target	Actual
2007	150000	159850

Output #3**Output Measure**

- 3. Number of published materials distributed

Year	Target	Actual
2007	32000	43000

Output #4**Output Measure**

- 4. Number of research publications

Year	Target	Actual
2007	7	4

V(G). State Defined Outcomes**V. State Defined Outcomes Table of Content**

O No.	OUTCOME NAME
1	1. Percent of clients who gained new knowledge/skills, awareness and/or changed attitudes
2	2. Percentage of adoption rate for recommendations by clients

Outcome #1**1. Outcome Measures**

1. Percent of clients who gained new knowledge/skills, awareness and/or changed attitudes

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1890 Extension
- 1890 Research

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Quantitative Target	Actual
2007	80	80

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement**Issue (Who cares and Why)**

In 2005, Louisiana livestock and crop producers suffered substantial losses as a result of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Their ability to compete and be profitable was seriously impacted, and some were in jeopardy of losing their businesses and farms. In order to maintain their competitiveness/profitability and manage high costs of farm inputs, unstable prices of farm products, and the changing demographics of consumers, there was a need for producers to diversify operations and/or adopt alternative enterprises.

What has been done

Research was conducted and information disseminated to producers in the various areas including: grazing and forage quality on the production, growth and carcass of cattle and goats; pasture rearing of poultry and rabbits; evaluation and usage of aquatic wastes as soil amendment and feed; and production of alternative horticultural crops for niche markets. Establishment of community gardens, participation in Farmers' Market activities and other methods of adding value to farm products to increase producers' share of the food dollar (and various related methods of ensuring competitiveness and profitability) were promoted. The Small Farmers Agricultural Leadership Training Institute, Sustainable Agriculture Field Days, Parish advisory council, farm/site visits, (to name a few) were some of the activities conducted.

Results

Participants received information and training in various areas of agricultural operations, record keeping, pesticide application, parasite symptom detection, alternative enterprises, financing, real estate planning, legal issues, profitability, etc. Overall assessment conducted during the sessions indicated that 80 percent of the participants gained new knowledge and skills while 78 percent indicated that they will utilize knowledge and skills gained.

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
205	Plant Management Systems
301	Reproductive Performance of Animals
302	Nutrient Utilization in Animals
313	Internal Parasites in Animals
102	Soil, Plant, Water, Nutrient Relationships
307	Animal Management Systems

Outcome #2**1. Outcome Measures**

2. Percentage of adoption rate for recommendations by clients

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1890 Extension
- 1890 Research

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Condition Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Quantitative Target	Actual
2007	45	52

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement**Issue (Who cares and Why)**

In 2005, Louisiana livestock and crop producers suffered substantial losses as a result of hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Their ability to compete and be profitable was seriously impacted, and some were in jeopardy of losing their businesses and farms. In order to maintain their competitiveness/profitability and manage high costs of farm inputs, unstable prices of farm products, and the changing demographics of consumers, there was a need for producers to diversify operations and/or adopt alternative enterprises.

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Participants in the Leadership Institute attended eight trainings sessions of intensive work covering subjects such as: Developing the Leaders Within; Understanding Community and Self; Agricultural Legal Issues and Risk; Diversity and Planning; Communicating for Business; Creating an Entrepreneurial Mindset; and Networking and Professional Development.

Results

Our surveys indicated that 52 percent of the participants in the various extension and research activities adopted recommended practices. With the help of research and extension staff, goat producers are organizing meetings to form a cooperative. At a FAMACHA Training 15 producers were certified on assessing goats for diseases. Some 75 farmers who participated in demonstrations to detect parasites using FAMACHA eye color chart saved \$300 each (a total of \$22,500) annually in costs. Goat herds belonging to nine participants averaged about 150 percent kidding rate or a market value of approximately \$4,000 each. These nine farmers currently act as peer mentors, model farmers and advisors to other limited resource clients. SUAREC's Agricultural Experiment Station is serving as a laboratory for training in production, management, nutrition, and health of goats, cattle, and other livestock. A producer (participant) in the 2007 Leadership Training Institute was elected President of the North Carolina Willing Workers Foundation, a nonprofit organization. Along with her husband and co-owner, she also shared the honor of being selected as the North Carolina 2008 Farmer of the Year. SUAREC assisted in the establishment of community gardens. One garden belonging to the Lighthouse Mission, a homeless shelter provided skills and assistance to 10 homeless men. These men are now utilizing knowledge and skills gained in enhancing their livelihood. Four other producers are harvesting and selling produce from their gardens in the local farmers' markets.

As a result of information presented during Goat Field Days organized by SUAREC, producers came together through the help of the project staff to form a goat cooperative. The Southeast Goat Cooperative of Louisiana (SOGOCOLA) received its incorporation in 2007. The Cooperative held its regular meetings during the period and decided to join the Louisiana Association of Cooperatives - an umbrella organization for agriculture cooperatives in the state.

The following accomplishments were recorded by participants of the Leadership Institute: Two of the participants selected to serve on the regional board of the Southern Region Risk Management Education and Southern Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education respectively. Three participants are serving on their local NRCS and Rural Development boards. Two participants provided leadership in starting a Farmers' Markets; another was featured in an educational training video produced by Southern Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education. Some participants have started while some are considering alternative enterprises. Four participants were selected as the 'Small Farmer of the Year' in their states. One of the participants entered into a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) agreement with a major university. Five of the participants were able to use their newly acquired skills to secure external funding for their cooperatives and communities. Three of the participants were able to secure contracts with major food chains for their produce.

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
302	Nutrient Utilization in Animals
205	Plant Management Systems
307	Animal Management Systems
102	Soil, Plant, Water, Nutrient Relationships
301	Reproductive Performance of Animals
313	Internal Parasites in Animals

V(H). Planned Program (External Factors)

External factors which affected outcomes

- Natural Disasters (drought, weather extremes, etc.)
- Economy
- Appropriations changes
- Public Policy changes
- Government Regulations
- Competing Public priorities
- Competing Programmatic Challenges
- Populations changes (immigration, new cultural groupings, etc.)

Brief Explanation

Both federal and state dollars received via formula funds have remained "flat" for several years. However, as general prices increased, so did the cost of conducting program activities. These two squeezing factors had a great impact on SUAREC's ability to provide adequate resources for program activities. Also, incessant directives regarding the use (directives to reduce) of state funds sometimes at critical program implementation stages affected the timeliness of executing activities.

Population changes and competing programmatic challenges also affected the outcomes of the program activities. Our clientele are predominantly poor, socially and economically disadvantaged, therefore more resources were needed to accomplish the targeted objectives. Louisiana was still recovering (rebuilding) after hurricanes Katrina and Rita, there was continuous shifting of population as those who evacuated returned to their homes.

V(I). Planned Program (Evaluation Studies and Data Collection)

1. Evaluation Studies Planned

- After Only (post program)
- Before-After (before and after program)
- During (during program)
- Comparisons between program participants (individuals, group, organizations) and non-participants

Evaluation Results

In addition to the regular surveys conducted during program activities, a general customer satisfaction survey involving all planned programs was conducted during FY 2007. The main goal of the survey was to assess the overall satisfaction of clients regarding the services they received from SUAREC. The other objectives of the survey were: (1) to assess how useful SUAREC services were to the clients in carrying out their business, community, and family functions and meeting other needs; (2) to determine the responsiveness of SUAREC personnel to the needs of clients; and (3) to solicit clients' inputs on ways that SUAREC can best serve them by enhancing their ability to meet business, community, and family needs.

To ensure that evaluation was culturally contextual, stakeholders' involvement and inputs were strongly encouraged and utilized. The survey did not include clients in special programs where it is mandatory that participants' identity be kept confidential. Survey forms were sent via postal mail to clients.

Results

74.3% of the respondents indicated that the quality of services they received was very good while 23% said it was good.

97% of the respondents indicated that the services they received were useful.

97% of the respondents indicated that information they received was clear and helpful.

97% of the respondents indicated that services provided by SSUAREC met their needs.

Despite the high level of satisfaction, more services and activities were requested by clients. Some respondents expressed concern about inadequate direct marketing channels or outlets that could help them add value to their farm products.

Key Items of Evaluation

As a result of previous evaluation, Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center responded to the marketing needs of goat producers by assisting a group of producers in exploring (FY 2006) and establishing (FY 2007) the Southeastern Goat Cooperative of Louisiana (SOGOCOLA). This new cooperative also became a member of the Louisiana Association of Cooperatives.

Program #2

V(A). Planned Program (Summary)

1. Name of the Planned Program

II. URBAN FORESTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

V(B). Program Knowledge Area(s)

1. Program Knowledge Areas and Percentage

KA Code	Knowledge Area	%1862 Extension	%1890 Extension	%1862 Research	%1890 Research
123	Management and Sustainability of Forest Resources		10%		10%
124	Urban Forestry		50%		50%
132	Weather and Climate		10%		10%
133	Pollution Prevention and Mitigation		10%		10%
403	Waste Disposal, Recycling, and Reuse		20%		20%
	Total		100%		100%

V(C). Planned Program (Inputs)

1. Actual amount of professional FTE/SYs expended this Program

Year: 2007	Extension		Research	
	1862	1890	1862	1890
Plan	0.0	3.0	0.0	4.0
Actual	0.0	2.8	0.0	5.5

2. Actual dollars expended in this Program (includes Carryover Funds from previous years)

Extension		Research	
Smith-Lever 3b & 3c	1890 Extension	Hatch	Evans-Allen
0	90723	0	296492
1862 Matching	1890 Matching	1862 Matching	1890 Matching
0	91245	0	231928
1862 All Other	1890 All Other	1862 All Other	1890 All Other
0	0	0	0

V(D). Planned Program (Activity)

1. Brief description of the Activity

Some the research and experiments conducted during the year were in the need areas of quantifying the impacts of biobased plant and residues on nutrient management and growth of selected urban landscape trees, and GIS-RS supported nonpoint source pollution management information system. Other research activities were searching and quantifying environmental benefits of urban forests, carbon sequestration, urban forest effects on air quality, and quantifying urban forest effects on Ultra-Violet (UV) exposure in relation to proper vegetation design. Research activities and results were communicated to clientele and potential users through extension personnel via publications, conferences, workshops, field days, home/office visits, demonstrations and other educational resources. Also, research-based information were prepared on gulf coast climate and weather studies and disseminated to citizens through extension personnel. Areas affected by past hurricanes and other natural disasters received specific attention to enable them rebuild their tree population. Services and skills on caring for trees also received attention. Collaboration, cooperation and partnership with local, state and federal agencies, peer institutions, groups, private organizations/associations were utilized in seeking and delivering services to citizens. A collaborative project with Arkansas and Mississippi on preserving wildlife habitat and native grasses was started during the year.

2. Brief description of the target audience

Target audience included all citizens such as homeowners, metro areas, garden clubs, arborists, small producers, limited resource producers, land owners, socially and economically disadvantaged, women, and minorities. Others were youth (13 – 18 years and even those in grades K-8), community leaders/stakeholders, interested agencies and organizations.

V(E). Planned Program (Outputs)

1. Standard output measures

Target for the number of persons (contacts) reached through direct and indirect contact methods

	Direct Contacts Adults	Indirect Contacts Adults	Direct Contacts Youth	Indirect Contacts Youth
Year	Target	Target	Target	Target
Plan	5000	90000	0	0
2007	3611	38110	0	0

2. Number of Patent Applications Submitted (Standard Research Output)

Patent Applications Submitted

Year	Target
Plan:	0
2007 :	0

Patents listed

3. Publications (Standard General Output Measure)

Number of Peer Reviewed Publications

	Extension	Research	Total
Plan			
2007	0	6	0

V(F). State Defined Outputs

Output Target

Output #1**Output Measure**

- 1. Number of educational program activities

Year	Target	Actual
2007	35	36

Output #2**Output Measure**

- 2. Number of educational contacts

Year	Target	Actual
2007	95000	41721

Output #3**Output Measure**

- 3. Number of published materials distributed

Year	Target	Actual
2007	3000	8110

Output #4**Output Measure**

- 4. Number of research publications

Year	Target	Actual
2007	7	6

V(G). State Defined Outcomes**V. State Defined Outcomes Table of Content**

O No.	OUTCOME NAME
1	1. Percent of clients who gained new knowledge/skills, awareness and/or changed attitudes.
2	2. Percentage of adoption rate for recommendations by clients.

Outcome #1**1. Outcome Measures**

1. Percent of clients who gained new knowledge/skills, awareness and/or changed attitudes.

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1890 Extension
- 1890 Research

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Quantitative Target	Actual
2007	70	70

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement**Issue (Who cares and Why)**

Urban forests and their effects on society and the environment were increasingly recognized and important, yet little was known about this resource. To have a comprehensive and integrated urban forest resource management system, urban planners need to utilize the full range of technological resources at their disposal to mitigate the effects of air quality, ultraviolet (UV) radiation loads, carbon dioxide, loss of green space and wildlife, urban pest, storm water runoff, rising utility costs, etc. In 2005, hurricanes Katrina and Rita seriously impacted Louisiana leaving them with large amounts of tree residues in addition to lost trees. Also, plant biosecurity issues came to the forefront for both research and extension.

What has been done

Some research and experiments conducted during the year were in the areas of quantifying the impacts of biobased plant and residues on nutrient management and growth, and on Geographic Information System-Remote Sensing (GIS-RS) supported nonpoint source pollution management. Other research activities were quantifying environmental benefits of urban forests, carbon sequestration, urban forest effects on air quality, and quantifying urban forest effects on Ultra-Violet (UV) exposure in relation to proper vegetation design. Research activities and results were communicated to clientele and potential users through program staff via publications, conferences, workshops, field days, home/office visits, demonstrations and other educational resources. Educational programs such as, hibiscus and tree field day, Arbor Day, and Earth day were organized. A biosecurity conference is scheduled for FY 2007/2008. Also, a collaborative project with Arkansas and Mississippi to preserve wildlife habitat and native grasses started during the year. And, ongoing collaboration with forestry universities in China continued.

Results

At the hibiscus and tree field day, Arbor Day, and Earth day citizens gained new knowledge and awareness of issues affecting our environment and some remedial practices that they could utilize. About 90 percent of the participants at the hibiscus and tree field day requested for trees and more information on how to plant and care for trees. All participants received hibiscus seedlings to plant in their yards. At the Arbor day, 87 percent of the participants gained new knowledge, skills and awareness on the proper ways of planting and caring for trees. Researchers have identified some tree species suitable for absorbing and reducing some effects of UV, carbon dioxide, and other greenhouse gases.

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
124	Urban Forestry
403	Waste Disposal, Recycling, and Reuse
123	Management and Sustainability of Forest Resources
133	Pollution Prevention and Mitigation

Outcome #2**1. Outcome Measures**

2. Percentage of adoption rate for recommendations by clients.

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1890 Extension
- 1890 Research

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Condition Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Quantitative Target	Actual
2007	40	45

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement

Issue (Who cares and Why)

Urban forests and their effects on society and the environment were increasingly recognized and important, yet little was known about this resource. To have a comprehensive and integrated urban forest resource management system, urban planners need to utilize the full range of technological resources at their disposal to mitigate the effects of air quality, ultraviolet (UV) radiation loads, carbon dioxide, loss of green space and wildlife, urban pest, storm water runoff, rising utility costs, etc. In 2005, hurricanes Katrina and Rita seriously impacted Louisiana leaving them with large amounts of tree residues in addition to lost trees. Also, plant biosecurity issues came to the forefront for both research and extension.

What has been done

Research and experiments conducted during the year were in the areas of quantifying the impacts of biobased plant and residues on nutrient management and growth, and on Geographic Information System-Remote Sensing (GIS-RS) supported nonpoint source pollution management. Other research activities were quantifying environmental benefits of urban forests, carbon sequestration, urban forest effects on air quality, and quantifying urban forest effects on Ultra-Violet (UV) exposure in relation to proper vegetation design. Research activities and results were communicated to clientele and potential users through program staff via publications, conferences, workshops, field days, home/office visits, demonstrations and other educational resources. Educational programs such as, hibiscus and tree field day, Arbor Day, and Earth day were organized. A biosecurity conference is scheduled for FY 2007/2008. Also, a collaborative project with Arkansas and Mississippi to preserve wildlife habitat and native grasses started during the year. And, ongoing collaboration with forestry universities in China continued.

Results

Collaboration with the private sector, such as 'Nature's Best, Inc.' and other arboricultural companies promoted the utilization of wood waste, especially, the urban wood waste in Louisiana. The last assessment indicated that more than 65% of the homeowners and 85% of the businesses in Louisiana are utilizing some sources of biobased plant residue as mulching materials in their landscaping projects. Research has refined and added new knowledge in the processing of Agricultural production operations carried out in the proximity of urban areas without protection of soil and water resources can result in nonpoint source pollution (NPS). Agriculture, forestry, grazing, septic systems, recreational boating, urban runoff, construction, physical changes to stream channel, and habitat degradation were investigated as potential sources of NPS. The severity of these problems depends on the types of operation, site characteristics, weather conditions and the practices employed.

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
123	Management and Sustainability of Forest Resources
403	Waste Disposal, Recycling, and Reuse
124	Urban Forestry
133	Pollution Prevention and Mitigation

V(H). Planned Program (External Factors)

External factors which affected outcomes

- Natural Disasters (drought, weather extremes, etc.)
- Economy
- Appropriations changes
- Public Policy changes
- Government Regulations
- Competing Public priorities
- Competing Programmatic Challenges
- Populations changes (immigration, new cultural groupings, etc.)

Brief Explanation

Both federal and state dollars received via formula funds have remained "flat" for several years. However, as general prices increased, so did the cost of conducting program activities. These two squeezing factors had a great impact on SUAREC's ability to provide adequate resources for program activities. Also, incessant directives regarding the use (directives to reduce) of state funds sometimes at critical program implementation stages affected the timeliness of executing activities. Also, as a result of the broader definition of biosecurity, this program area is addressing plant related security problem by organizing workshops to educate citizens on the issues.

Population changes and competing programmatic challenges also affected the outcomes of the program activities. Our clientele are predominantly poor, socially and economically disadvantaged, therefore more resources were needed to accomplish the targeted objectives. Louisiana was still recovering (rebuilding) after hurricanes Katrina and Rita, there was continuous shifting of population as those who evacuated returned to their homes.

V(I). Planned Program (Evaluation Studies and Data Collection)

1. Evaluation Studies Planned

- After Only (post program)
- Before-After (before and after program)
- During (during program)
- Case Study
- Comparisons between program participants (individuals, group, organizations) and non-participants
- Comparison between locales where the program operates and sites without program intervention

Evaluation Results

In addition to the regular surveys conducted during program activities, a general customer satisfaction survey involving all planned programs was conducted during FY 2007. The main goal of the survey was to assess the overall satisfaction of clients regarding the services they received from SUAREC. The other objectives of the survey were: (1) to assess how useful SUAREC services were to the clients in carrying out their business, community, and family functions and meeting other needs; (2) to determine the responsiveness of SUAREC personnel to the needs of clients; and (3) to solicit clients' inputs on ways that SUAREC can best serve them by enhancing their ability to meet business, community, and family needs.

To ensure that evaluation was culturally contextual, stakeholders' involvement and inputs were strongly encouraged and utilized. The survey did not include clients in special programs where it is mandatory that participants' identity be kept confidential. Survey forms were sent via postal mail to clients.

Results

74.3% of the respondents indicated that the quality of services they received was very good while 23% said it was good.

97% of the respondents indicated that the services they received were useful.

97% of the respondents indicated that information they received was clear and helpful.

97% of the respondents indicated that services provided by SSUAREC met their needs.

Despite the high level of satisfaction, more services and activities were requested by clients.

Key Items of Evaluation

Program #3

V(A). Planned Program (Summary)

1. Name of the Planned Program

III. NUTRITION AND HEALTH

V(B). Program Knowledge Area(s)

1. Program Knowledge Areas and Percentage

KA Code	Knowledge Area	%1862 Extension	%1890 Extension	%1862 Research	%1890 Research
502	New and Improved Food Products		10%		10%
701	Nutrient Composition of Food		10%		10%
702	Requirements and Function of Nutrients and Other Food Components		20%		20%
703	Nutrition Education and Behavior		20%		20%
704	Nutrition and Hunger in the Population		5%		5%
712	Protect Food from Contamination by Pathogenic Microorganisms, Parasites, and Naturally Occurring Toxins		10%		10%
724	Healthy Lifestyle		25%		25%
Total			100%		100%

V(C). Planned Program (Inputs)

1. Actual amount of professional FTE/SYs expended this Program

Year: 2007	Extension		Research	
	1862	1890	1862	1890
Plan	0.0	10.0	0.0	6.0
Actual	0.0	12.9	0.0	7.1

2. Actual dollars expended in this Program (includes Carryover Funds from previous years)

Extension		Research	
Smith-Lever 3b & 3c	1890 Extension	Hatch	Evans-Allen
0	384797	0	356055
1862 Matching	1890 Matching	1862 Matching	1890 Matching
0	370786	0	347886
1862 All Other	1890 All Other	1862 All Other	1890 All Other
0	0	0	0

V(D). Planned Program (Activity)

1. Brief description of the Activity

Some of the research activities during FY 2007 were as follows:

- Assessing Consumer Acceptance of Value-Added Goat and Rabbit Meat Products: The goal of this project was to determine consumer acceptance and marketability of goat and rabbit meat. Other objectives were to educate consumers on the nutritional and health benefits of eating goat and rabbit meat; to assess the palatability traits (juiciness, texture, flavor, acceptability) of goat and rabbit products (patties, hams, sausages); and to create a marketing and distribution strategy for goat and rabbit producers.
- Early Nutrition Intervention Strategies for Elementary School Teachers in Louisiana

Several concepts and strategies to be used in developing the nutrition teaching modules for elementary teachers' use with school children were identified which included : a successful walk to school initiative to encourage fitness in school age children, early nutritional intervention food preparation for children, organ wise nutritional science for children, and fitness and pedometer readings.

- Expanding Nutritional Knowledge and Food Label Use among College Students in Louisiana

The project's goal was to gather information on and track college students' awareness, knowledge, and behavior regarding diet and health issues. The researchers developed, pre-tested, and executed the survey instrument. A multistage random sampling technique was used in drawing the sample frame and involved several scientific steps.

- Textiles Materials and Technologies Addressing Energy, Health, and Other National Security Issues: This multi state project focused on three major areas: designing textiles and novel plant-based antimicrobials and anti-fungal protection against biological hazards, developing newer bio-based products uniquely made in the USA primarily for fire safety, and developing new bio-based plant-derived polyesters (stable PLA and PHA fibers) for textiles.
- Other research activities were on the effects of diet on obesity, diabetes, hypertension, and other prevalent diseases. Additionally, a project to educate African-Americans, minorities, and other socially and economically disadvantaged persons on the negative effects of cigarette smoking was funded through a private source during the period.

The following outreach and educational activities were conducted promotion of focus groups, advisory committees, mentor program, use of nutrition curriculum, school food nutrition curriculums, health tips during school activities. Other activities were: sisters together to stay physically fit, school in-service, kids café, FF-NEWS, Faith Based Health & Aging seminar, After-School Health Workshops (with parent teacher association involvement), Youth Health Fair, Youth Day Camps seminar, Educational workshops, Nutrition Classes, Adult Health Fairs, Fitness Workshops, home Visits, Food Demonstrations, etc. Information was also disseminated via publications such as fact sheets, newsletters, technical bulletins, research reports.

Collaboration, cooperation and partnership with local, state and federal agencies, peer institutions, groups, private organizations/associations were utilized in seeking and delivering services to citizens.

2. Brief description of the target audience

There is large number of low income and limited resource families in Louisiana that were found in target areas which SUAREC served. Most of these families live below the poverty level. They lack knowledge, information, and skills to utilize existing resources to improve their diet, nutrition, health, and quality of life. Children and adolescents who were placed at risk and those that were potentially at risk were also beneficiaries. Additionally, citizens with sedentary jobs who needed information on the benefits of regular physical activity and healthy lifestyles were alsotargeted.

V(E). Planned Program (Outputs)

1. Standard output measures

Target for the number of persons (contacts) reached through direct and indirect contact methods

	Direct Contacts Adults	Indirect Contacts Adults	Direct Contacts Youth	Indirect Contacts Youth
Year	Target	Target	Target	Target
Plan	52000	120000	0	0
2007	61588	272342	0	0

2. Number of Patent Applications Submitted (Standard Research Output)

Patent Applications Submitted

Year	Target
Plan:	0
2007 :	0

Patents listed

3. Publications (Standard General Output Measure)

Number of Peer Reviewed Publications

	Extension	Research	Total
Plan			
2007	0	0	0

V(F). State Defined Outputs

Output Target

Output #1

Output Measure

- 1. Number of educational program activities

Year	Target	Actual
2007	300	2053

Output #2

Output Measure

- 2. Number of educational contacts

Year	Target	Actual
2007	172000	333930

Output #3

Output Measure

- 3. Number of published materials distributed

Year	Target	Actual
2007	53000	92402

Output #4

Output Measure

- 4. Number of research publications

Year	Target	Actual
2007	4	0

V(G). State Defined Outcomes**V. State Defined Outcomes Table of Content**

O No.	OUTCOME NAME
1	1. Percent of clients who gained new knowledge/skills, awareness and/or changed attitudes.
2	2. Percentage of clients who adopt healthy recommendations
3	3. Percentage of clients who changed behavior

Outcome #1**1. Outcome Measures**

1. Percent of clients who gained new knowledge/skills, awareness and/or changed attitudes.

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1890 Extension
- 1890 Research

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Quantitative Target	Actual
2007	80	0

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement**Issue (Who cares and Why)**

The citizens of Louisiana were concerned about the nutritional value, quality, safety of their diets, and affordability of food. The consumer's knowledge level about the relationship of food, diet, nutrition, fitness, and disease is vital to maintaining a healthy society. According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Journal of American Medical Association (JAMA), the leading causes of death in the U.S. in 2000 were tobacco; poor diet; physical inactivity; and alcohol consumption. The 2005 Louisiana Health Report Card indicated that of 42,297 deaths in 2003, the leading (64%) causes were: diseases of the heart; cancer; stroke; accidents; and diabetes. Also, adult obesity in Louisiana rose from 16% in 1991 to 27% in 2004, with the largest jump seen in the 18 to 24 year old age group. However, despite the increased numbers of individuals receiving governmental assistance (food stamps), there were still food insecure households in Louisiana. Louisiana ranked fourth in food insecurity and seventh in hunger-filled households nationally. Most of these households were comprised of a large percentage of young children and the elderly.

What has been done

In FY 2007 SUAREC conducted the following activities: research on the effects of diet on obesity, diabetes, and hypertension. The aim were to develop early nutrition intervention strategies for elementary school teachers, expand nutritional knowledge and food label use among college students, and assess consumer acceptance of value-added alternative meat products. SUAREC promoted focus groups; advisory committees; mentor program; use of nutrition curriculum; school food nutrition curriculums; health tips during school activities. It also conducted the following activities: school in-Service, kids cafe(c), FF-NEWS, EFNEP, and youth health fair. Also, food demonstrations, publications such as fact sheets, newsletters, technical bulletins, and research reports were disseminated. Collaboration, cooperation and partnership with local, state and federal agencies, institutions, groups, and private organizations/associations were utilized in seeking and delivering services to citizens.

Results

The 'Serving Food Safely' Curriculum developed as part of the program was taught in three states, Louisiana, Mississippi and Arkansas. Program staff in ten parishes made contacts through the FF-NEWS program, 2,047 families enrolled who attended classes or participated in workshops and acquired new knowledge and skills. Respondents to a survey indicated that information provided was pertinent and that they will utilize it. The EFNEP program was in its first year of implementation, 800 individuals benefited by gaining knowledge and awareness of important food and health issues. During the pilot phase of the sisters-together program, some success stories that ranged from weight loss to individuals being taking off medications for hypertension and diabetes were recorded. Preliminary results on alternative meat products suggested that goat patties and sausages were highly accepted by consumer panelists when compared to beef patties and sausages. Goat hams were only moderately accepted. Panelists indicated that they would purchase goat products if offered in the market.

When surveyed, 100 percent of the participants at the program classes indicated that their health knowledge and awareness were improved. The also indicated that they will use knowledge gained to improve the health conditions of their family members and friends. With escalating health care costs, and an average cost of \$80 - \$100 per primary care visit, the program saved citizens especially the socially and economically disadvantaged thousands of dollars in health and related care costs.

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
704	Nutrition and Hunger in the Population
724	Healthy Lifestyle
712	Protect Food from Contamination by Pathogenic Microorganisms, Parasites, and Naturally Occurring Toxins
703	Nutrition Education and Behavior
502	New and Improved Food Products

Outcome #2**1. Outcome Measures**

2. Percentage of clients who adopt healthy recommendations

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1890 Extension
- 1890 Research

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Action Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Quantitative Target	Actual
2007	50	0

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement**Issue (Who cares and Why)**

The citizens of Louisiana were concerned about the nutritional value, quality, safety of their diets, and affordability of food. The consumer's knowledge level about the relationship of food, diet, nutrition, fitness, and disease is vital to maintaining a healthy society. According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Journal of American Medical Association (JAMA), the leading causes of death in the U.S. in 2000 were tobacco; poor diet; physical inactivity; and alcohol consumption. The 2005 Louisiana Health Report Card indicated that of 42,297 deaths in 2003, the leading (64%) causes were: diseases of the heart; cancer; stroke; accidents; and diabetes. Also, adult obesity in Louisiana rose from 16% in 1991 to 27% in 2004, with the largest jump seen in the 18 to 24 year old age group. However, despite the increased numbers of individuals receiving governmental assistance (food stamps), there were still food insecure households in Louisiana. Louisiana ranked fourth in food insecurity and seventh in hunger-filled households nationally. Most of these households were comprised of a large percentage of young children and the elderly.

What has been done

In FY 2007 SUAREC conducted the following activities: research on the effects of diet on obesity, diabetes, and hypertension. The aim were to develop early nutrition intervention strategies for elementary school teachers, expand nutritional knowledge and food label use among college students, and assess consumer acceptance of value-added alternative meat products. SUAREC promoted focus groups; advisory committees; mentor program; use of nutrition curriculum; school food nutrition curriculums; health tips during school activities. It also conducted the following activities: school in-Service, kids cafe(c), FF-NEWS, EFNEP, and youth health fair. Also, food demonstrations, publications such as fact sheets, newsletters, technical bulletins, and research reports were disseminated. Collaboration, cooperation and partnership with local, state and federal agencies, institutions, groups, and private organizations/associations were utilized in seeking and delivering services to citizens.

Results

A survey of participants in SU Ag Center nutrition and health activities indicated that 50 percent met and/or exceeded their goal of a healthy weight. Also, when surveyed, 100 percent of the participants at the program classes indicated that their health knowledge and awareness were improved. The also indicated that they will use knowledge gained to improve the health conditions of their family members and friends. Additionally, with escalating health care costs, and an average cost of \$80 - \$100 per primary care visit, the program saved citizens especially the socially and economically disadvantaged thousands of dollars in health and related care costs.

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
---------	----------------

704	Nutrition and Hunger in the Population
724	Healthy Lifestyle
502	New and Improved Food Products
703	Nutrition Education and Behavior
712	Protect Food from Contamination by Pathogenic Microorganisms, Parasites, and Naturally Occurring Toxins

Outcome #3**1. Outcome Measures**

3. Percentage of clients who changed behavior

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1890 Extension
- 1890 Research

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Condition Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Quantitative Target	Actual
2007	30	0

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement**Issue (Who cares and Why)**

The citizens of Louisiana were concerned about the nutritional value, quality, safety of their diets, and affordability of food. The consumer's knowledge level about the relationship of food, diet, nutrition, fitness, and disease is vital to maintaining a healthy society. According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Journal of American Medical Association (JAMA), the leading causes of death in the U.S. in 2000 were tobacco; poor diet; physical inactivity; and alcohol consumption. The 2005 Louisiana Health Report Card indicated that of 42,297 deaths in 2003, the leading (64%) causes were: diseases of the heart; cancer; stroke; accidents; and diabetes. Also, adult obesity in Louisiana rose from 16% in 1991 to 27% in 2004, with the largest jump seen in the 18 to 24 year old age group. However, despite the increased numbers of individuals receiving governmental assistance (food stamps), there were still food insecure households in Louisiana. Louisiana ranked fourth in food insecurity and seventh in hunger-filled households nationally. Most of these households were comprised of a large percentage of young children and the elderly.

What has been done

In FY 2007 SUAREC conducted the following activities: research on the effects of diet on obesity, diabetes, and hypertension. The aim were to develop early nutrition intervention strategies for elementary school teachers, expand nutritional knowledge and food label use among college students, and assess consumer acceptance of value-added alternative meat products. SUAREC promoted focus groups; advisory committees; mentor program; use of nutrition curriculum; school food nutrition curriculums; health tips during school activities. It also conducted the following activities: school in-Service, kids cafe(c), FF-NEWS, EFNEP, and youth health fair. Also, food demonstrations, publications such as fact sheets, newsletters, technical bulletins, and research reports were disseminated. Collaboration, cooperation and partnership with local, state and federal agencies, institutions, groups, and private organizations/associations were utilized in seeking and delivering services to citizens.

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4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
502	New and Improved Food Products
703	Nutrition Education and Behavior
724	Healthy Lifestyle

704	Nutrition and Hunger in the Population
712	Protect Food from Contamination by Pathogenic Microorganisms, Parasites, and Naturally Occurring Toxins

V(H). Planned Program (External Factors)

External factors which affected outcomes

- Natural Disasters (drought,weather extremes,etc.)
- Economy
- Appropriations changes
- Public Policy changes
- Government Regulations
- Competing Public priorities
- Competing Programmatic Challenges
- Populations changes (immigration,new cultural groupings,etc.)

Brief Explanation

The level of health related problems associated with the after effect of the hurricanes were never imagined. As individuals and families returned to their homes, they faced new problems. Those who could not return home faced some types of concerns too. The Nutrition and Health Program had to devise means of dealing with these situations.

Both federal and state dollars received via formula funds have remained "flat" for several years. However, as general prices increased, so did the cost of conducting program activities. These two squeezing factors had a great impact on SUAREC's ability to provide adequate resources for program activities. Also, incessant directives regarding the use (directives to reduce) of state funds sometimes at critical program implementation stages affected the timeliness of executing activities.

Population changes and competing programmatic challenges also affected the outcomes of the program activities. Our clientele are predominantly poor, socially and economically disadvantaged, therefore more resources were needed to accomplish the targeted objectives. Louisiana was still recovering (rebuilding) after hurricanes Katrina and Rita, there was continuous shifting of population as those who evacuated returned to their homes.

V(I). Planned Program (Evaluation Studies and Data Collection)

1. Evaluation Studies Planned

- After Only (post program)
- Before-After (before and after program)
- During (during program)
- Comparisons between program participants (individuals,group,organizations) and non-participants

Evaluation Results

In addition to the regular surveys conducted during program activities, a general customer satisfaction survey involving all planned programs was conducted during FY 2007. The main goal of the survey was to assess the overall satisfaction of clients regarding the services they received from SUAREC. The other objectives of the survey were: (1) to assess how useful SUAREC services were to the clients in carrying out their business, community, and family functions and meeting other needs; (2) to determine the responsiveness of SUAREC personnel to the needs of clients; and (3) to solicit clients' inputs on ways that SUAREC can best serve them by enhancing their ability to meet business, community, and family needs.

To ensure that evaluation was culturally contextual, stakeholders' involvement and inputs were strongly encouraged and utilized. The survey did not include clients in special programs where it is mandatory that participants' identity be kept confidential. Survey forms were sent via postal mail to clients.

Results

74.3% of the respondents indicated that the quality of services they received was very good while 23% said it was good.

97% of the respondents indicated that the services they received were useful.

97% of the respondents indicated that information they received was clear and helpful.

97% of the respondents indicated that services provided by SUAREC met their needs.

Despite the high level of satisfaction, more services and activities were requested by clients.

Key Items of Evaluation

Program #4

V(A). Planned Program (Summary)

1. Name of the Planned Program

IV. FAMILY AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

V(B). Program Knowledge Area(s)

1. Program Knowledge Areas and Percentage

KA Code	Knowledge Area	%1862 Extension	%1890 Extension	%1862 Research	%1890 Research
801	Individual and Family Resource Management		25%		25%
802	Human Development and Family Well-Being		40%		40%
804	Human Environmental Issues Concerning Apparel, Textiles, and Residential and Commercial Structures		20%		20%
805	Community Institutions, Health, and Social Services		15%		15%
	Total		100%		100%

V(C). Planned Program (Inputs)

1. Actual amount of professional FTE/SYs expended this Program

Year: 2007	Extension		Research	
	1862	1890	1862	1890
Plan	0.0	9.0	0.0	3.0
Actual	0.0	6.5	0.0	3.1

2. Actual dollars expended in this Program (includes Carryover Funds from previous years)

Extension		Research	
Smith-Lever 3b & 3c	1890 Extension	Hatch	Evans-Allen
0	163560	0	152134
1862 Matching	1890 Matching	1862 Matching	1890 Matching
0	174088	0	115962
1862 All Other	1890 All Other	1862 All Other	1890 All Other
0	0	0	0

V(D). Planned Program (Activity)

1. Brief description of the Activity

Two key projects dealing with Parents Preparing for Success (PPS) and Training for Child Care Providers for certification continued during the year. Extension and research personnel worked cooperatively to develop and disseminate educational materials devoted to helping the family set goals and manage limited resources.

Research-based and other information were disseminated to clients through extension personnel in the form of publications, conferences, workshops, home/community visits, demonstrations and other educational resources. Some of the topics covered were as follow: coping with stress, child growth & development, parents as partners, anger management, balancing work and family, budgeting and spending, shopping for back-to-school, caring for school uniforms, decision making, parenting wisely, interpersonal relationships, and

children communication. Others were back-to-school tips for parents, classes for full-cycle and parenting, parents preparing for success (PPS) program, healthy eating, healthy snack, nutrition for the elderly and aging, functional foods, how to get out of debt, decision making, active listening, family management, and family communication.

Several collaborative and partnership efforts with local, state and federal agencies, institutions, groups, private organizations/associations were in seeking and delivering need-based services to citizens. There were also cooperative and collaborative initiatives in other areas including: nutrition classes, training sessions for adults and children, parenting workshops, and demonstrations.

2. Brief description of the target audience

There were large numbers of low income and limited resource families in the State of Louisiana who were resident in the target areas that SUAREC served. Most of these families do not have economic opportunities, they live below the poverty level. They lacked knowledge, information, and/or skills to utilize existing resources to improve their parenting and child care skills, family nurturing, learning, resource management, and quality of life. Children and adolescents who were placed at risk and those that were potentially at risk also benefited. It was also essential to train program staff and volunteers to ensure effective and efficient delivery of information and services.

V(E). Planned Program (Outputs)

1. Standard output measures

Target for the number of persons (contacts) reached through direct and indirect contact methods

	Direct Contacts Adults	Indirect Contacts Adults	Direct Contacts Youth	Indirect Contacts Youth
Year	Target	Target	Target	Target
Plan	31000	120000	0	0
2007	6332	34058	0	0

2. Number of Patent Applications Submitted (Standard Research Output)

Patent Applications Submitted

Year	Target
Plan:	0
2007 :	0

Patents listed

3. Publications (Standard General Output Measure)

Number of Peer Reviewed Publications

	Extension	Research	Total
Plan			
2007	0	0	0

V(F). State Defined Outputs

Output Target

Output #1**Output Measure**

- 1. Number of educational program activities

Year	Target	Actual
2007	250	489

Output #2**Output Measure**

- 2. Number of educational contacts

Year	Target	Actual
2007	151000	40390

Output #3**Output Measure**

- 3. Number of published materials distributed

Year	Target	Actual
2007	30000	10758

Output #4**Output Measure**

- 4. Number of research publications

Year	Target	Actual
2007	3	0

V(G). State Defined Outcomes**V. State Defined Outcomes Table of Content**

O No.	OUTCOME NAME
1	1. Percent of clients who gained new knowledge/skills, awareness and/or changed attitudes
2	2. Percentage of families or individuals who adopt recommendations
3	3. Percentage of clients who changed behavior or experienced positive changing family conditions

Outcome #1**1. Outcome Measures**

1. Percent of clients who gained new knowledge/skills, awareness and/or changed attitudes

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1890 Extension
- 1890 Research

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Quantitative Target	Actual
2007	80	80

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement**Issue (Who cares and Why)**

Estimate showed that there were about 14,000 children in Louisiana who were not receiving services through any other government programs. In an attempt to reduce these alarming figures, SU Ag Center continued efforts to make available professional development classes for more than 520 child care providers across the state. The SUAREC Child Care Training Program provided a comprehensive and consistent child training program in eight parishes statewide. In addition, individuals lacked skills and knowledge in strengthening their family structure and developing a sense of community. Some families statewide also lack knowledge in communicating with other family members and individuals in their communities.

What has been done

Child care providers in eight Louisiana parishes received 12 hours of professional training. These training sessions were offered at convenient times, and held in accessible locations for providers in rural and urban areas of the state. Classes taught to the providers were based on the competency levels of the Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential. Also, in the area of family strengthening, program staff provided workshops and conducted an annual program that acknowledged families and the culture of families statewide. The programs were couched in the concepts of strengthening families (e.g., communication, contentment, caring and appreciation and community). In FY 2007, 2,623 mothers and 2,392 other parents benefited by attending 603 families and parenting sessions. They learned about budgeting, caring for the baby, child development and expectations, communicating with people, family relationships, nurturing you and your family, car seat safety, etc.

Results

The results of a survey of child care providers conducted indicated as follows:

85 percent of the providers stated that they learned more because the training was sensitive to all learning styles;

83 percent of the providers stated that the structure of the training sessions, and the hands-on activities made it easier to gain more knowledge and increase skills;

79 percent of the providers indicated that child care classes gave them more ideas for class interaction with children and other center teachers;

88 percent of the providers indicated that they benefited more from the sessions than was intended;

20 percent of the providers indicated that they would acquire Child Development Credentials.

For the family strengthening activities the following were reported:

84 percent of families gained knowledge and skills on communication;

70 percent of parents followed recommended practices of understanding appropriate behavior

77 percent of families improved and developed an awareness of budgeting

Participating families saved \$752,375 by attending group class sessions

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
801	Individual and Family Resource Management
802	Human Development and Family Well-Being
805	Community Institutions, Health, and Social Services
804	Human Environmental Issues Concerning Apparel, Textiles, and Residential and Commercial Structures

Outcome #2

1. Outcome Measures

- 2. Percentage of families or individuals who adopt recommendations

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1890 Extension

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Action Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Quantitative Target	Actual
2007	50	50

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement

Issue (Who cares and Why)

Estimate showed that there were about 14,000 children in Louisiana who were not receiving services through any other government programs. In an attempt to reduce these alarming figures, SU Ag Center continued efforts to make available professional development classes for more than 520 child care providers across the state. The SUAREC Child Care Training Program provided a comprehensive and consistent child training program in eight parishes statewide. In addition, individuals lacked skills and knowledge in strengthening their family structure and developing a sense of community. Some families statewide also lack knowledge in communicating with other family members and individuals in their communities.

What has been done

Child care providers in eight Louisiana parishes received 12 hours of professional training. These training sessions were offered at convenient times, and held in accessible locations for providers in rural and urban areas of the state. Classes taught to the providers were based on the competency levels of the Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential. Also, in the area of family strengthening, program staff provided workshops and conducted an annual program that acknowledged families and the culture of families statewide. The programs were couched in the concepts of strengthening families (e.g., communication, contentment, caring and appreciation and community). In FY 2007, 2,623 mothers and 2,392 other parents benefited by attending 603 families and parenting sessions. They learned about budgeting, caring for the baby, child development and expectations, communicating with people, family relationships, nurturing you and your family, car seat safety, etc.

Results

About 20 family-based child care providers updated their licenses by attending classes, thus saving \$800.00 during the year. Also family-based child care providers saved a total of \$1200.00 by attending classes provided by SUAREC as opposed to private consultants. Additionally, regular child care center saved over \$2600.00 by attending classes provided by SUAREC as opposed to private consultants.

For the family strengthening activities the following were reported:

- 70 percent of parents followed recommended practices of understanding appropriate behavior
- 77 percent of families improved and developed an awareness of budgeting
- Participating families saved \$752,375 by attending group class sessions

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
802	Human Development and Family Well-Being
801	Individual and Family Resource Management
805	Community Institutions, Health, and Social Services

Outcome #3

1. Outcome Measures

- 3. Percentage of clients who changed behavior or experienced positive changing family conditions

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1890 Extension

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Condition Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Quantitative Target	Actual
2007	30	32

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement**Issue (Who cares and Why)**

Estimate showed that there were about 14,000 children in Louisiana who were not receiving services through any other government programs. In an attempt to reduce these alarming figures, SU Ag Center continued efforts to make available professional development classes for more than 520 child care providers across the state. The SUAREC Child Care Training Program provided a comprehensive and consistent child training program in eight parishes statewide. In addition, individuals lacked skills and knowledge in strengthening their family structure and developing a sense of community. Some families statewide also lack knowledge in communicating with other family members and individuals in their communities.

What has been done

Child care providers in eight Louisiana parishes received 12 hours of professional training. These training sessions were offered at convenient times, and held in accessible locations for providers in rural and urban areas of the state. Classes taught to the providers were based on the competency levels of the Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential. Also, in the area of family strengthening, program staff provided workshops and conducted an annual program that acknowledged families and the culture of families statewide. The programs were couched in the concepts of strengthening families (e.g., communication, contentment, caring and appreciation and community). In FY 2007, 2,623 mothers and 2,392 other parents benefited by attending 603 families and parenting sessions. They learned about budgeting, caring for the baby, child development and expectations, communicating with people, family relationships, nurturing you and your family, car seat safety, etc.

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For the family strengthening activities the following were reported:

70 percent of parents followed recommended practices of understanding appropriate behavior

77 percent of families improved and developed an awareness of budgeting

Participating families saved \$752,375 by attending group class sessions

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
801	Individual and Family Resource Management
802	Human Development and Family Well-Being
805	Community Institutions, Health, and Social Services

V(H). Planned Program (External Factors)**External factors which affected outcomes**

- Natural Disasters (drought, weather extremes, etc.)
- Economy
- Appropriations changes
- Public Policy changes
- Government Regulations
- Competing Public priorities
- Competing Programmatic Challenges
- Populations changes (immigration, new cultural groupings, etc.)

Brief Explanation

As individuals and families returned to their homes after the hurricane evacuation, they faced new problems especially regarding family separation, less than familiar neighborhoods, reduced facilities, etc. Those who could not return home faced some types of concerns too. The Family and Human Development Program worked to assist families cope with their situations.

Both federal and state dollars received via formula funds have remained "flat" for several years. However, as general prices increased, so did the cost of conducting program activities. These two squeezing factors had a great impact on SUAREC's ability to provide adequate resources for program activities. Also, incessant directives regarding the use (directives to reduce) of state funds sometimes at critical program implementation stages affected the timeliness of executing activities.

Population changes and competing programmatic challenges also affected the outcomes of the program activities. Our clientele are predominantly poor, socially and economically disadvantaged, therefore more resources were needed to accomplish the targeted objectives. Louisiana was still recovering (rebuilding) after hurricanes Katrina and Rita, there was continuous shifting of population as those who evacuated returned to their homes.

V(I). Planned Program (Evaluation Studies and Data Collection)

1. Evaluation Studies Planned

- After Only (post program)
- Before-After (before and after program)
- During (during program)
- Case Study
- Comparisons between program participants (individuals, group, organizations) and non-participants

Evaluation Results

In addition to the regular surveys conducted during program activities, a general customer satisfaction survey involving all planned program was conducted during FY 2007. The main goal of the survey was to assess the overall satisfaction of clients regarding the services they received from SUAREC. The other objectives of the survey were: (1) to assess how useful SUAREC services were to the clients in carrying out their business, community, and family functions and meeting other needs; (2) to determine the responsiveness of SUAREC personnel to the needs of clients; and (3) to solicit clients' inputs on ways that SUAREC can best serve them by enhancing their ability to meet business, community, and family needs.

To ensure that evaluation was culturally contextual, stakeholders' involvement and inputs were strongly encouraged and utilized. The survey did not include clients in special programs where it is mandatory that participants' identity be kept confidential. Survey forms were sent via postal mail to clients.

Results

74.3% of the respondents indicated that the quality of services they received was very good while 23% said it was good.

97% of the respondents indicated that the services they received were useful.

97% of the respondents indicated that information they received was clear and helpful.

97% of the respondents indicated that services provided by SSUAREC met their needs.

Despite the high level of satisfaction, more services and activities were requested by clients.

Key Items of Evaluation

Program #5

V(A). Planned Program (Summary)

1. Name of the Planned Program

V. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

V(B). Program Knowledge Area(s)

1. Program Knowledge Areas and Percentage

KA Code	Knowledge Area	%1862 Extension	%1890 Extension	%1862 Research	%1890 Research
803	Sociological and Technological Change Affecting Individuals, Families and Communities		20%		20%
805	Community Institutions, Health, and Social Services		20%		20%
806	Youth Development		60%		60%
	Total		100%		100%

V(C). Planned Program (Inputs)

1. Actual amount of professional FTE/SYs expended this Program

Year: 2007	Extension		Research	
	1862	1890	1862	1890
Plan	0.0	8.0	0.0	2.0
Actual	0.0	11.0	0.0	0.0

2. Actual dollars expended in this Program (includes Carryover Funds from previous years)

Extension		Research	
Smith-Lever 3b & 3c	1890 Extension	Hatch	Evans-Allen
0	276670	0	0
1862 Matching	1890 Matching	1862 Matching	1890 Matching
0	359950	0	0
1862 All Other	1890 All Other	1862 All Other	1890 All Other
0	0	0	0

V(D). Planned Program (Activity)

1. Brief description of the Activity

The following activities were conducted: Livestock, Poultry and Rabbit Show; Youth Educational and After School Program (YES); Parish Achievement Days; Science Fairs; Field Trips; Family and Youth Exposition, Future Farmers of America Career Development Day, Black History Quiz Bowl, HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, Annual Trail Ride, Rodeo, and Horse Show. Meetings, workshops, seminars, Teen Submits, PSA'S, fact sheets, media literacy, mentoring programs, peer counseling were conducted. Some of the topics discussed were as follows: ABC about nutrition, decision making, character education, active Listening, anger management skills, hidden anger, 10 Healthy Habits to Start Early, 30 MyPyramid Steps to a Healthier You, Watching Your Portions of Food at Meal Time, coping with life crisis, Principles, Symbols and Things about Kwanza, self introductions, family introductions, proper ways to introduce, etiquettes in dating, dressing, etiquettes in restaurants, table manners – dos and don'ts, raising rabbits and chickens, hand-washing and sanitation, and food safety. Collaboration and partnership with local, state and federal agencies, peer institutions, and private organizations/associations were utilized in seeking and delivering services to youth.

The Youth Educational Support (YES) After School Program mentioned earlier works with families that have limited resources. The goals of the program were: to expand and cultivate the need for family and community involvement; to develop positive self-concept (self-esteem) at adolescent level; to recognize strengths and weaknesses within the family; to identify alternative methods for redirecting undesirable behavior and applying positive discipline techniques; and to recognize and use public and private service providers as needed.

In FY 2007, no research project was specifically conducted under the Youth Development Program. However, research projects conducted in other program areas such as Sustainable Agricultural Systems, Urban Forestry and Natural Resource Management, Nutrition and Health, and Family and Human Development were used to accomplish some of the objectives of Youth Development. Research personnel working in the aforementioned program areas assisted extension personnel in developing program activities to meet the needs of youth and clientele.

2. Brief description of the target audience

A large number of children under 18 years of age were placed at risk because their families survived on low income and limited resources. These families lacked knowledge, information, and/or skills to utilize existing resources to improve their quality of life. The program targeted such underserved, socially and economically disadvantaged children ages 5 -18 years who were vulnerable to these poverty situations. Parents and/or guardians of these children were also targeted. Additionally, children and adolescents who were placed at risk, those who were potentially at risk and children who needed various forms of mentoring were beneficiaries. Program staff and volunteers were trained to ensure effective and efficient delivery of information.

V(E). Planned Program (Outputs)

1. Standard output measures

Target for the number of persons (contacts) reached through direct and indirect contact methods

	Direct Contacts Adults	Indirect Contacts Adults	Direct Contacts Youth	Indirect Contacts Youth
Year	Target	Target	Target	Target
Plan	20000	70000	35000	120000
2007	0	0	30352	288111

2. Number of Patent Applications Submitted (Standard Research Output)

Patent Applications Submitted

Year	Target
Plan:	0
2007 :	0

Patents listed

3. Publications (Standard General Output Measure)

Number of Peer Reviewed Publications

	Extension	Research	Total
Plan			
2007	0	0	0

V(F). State Defined Outputs**Output Target****Output #1****Output Measure**

- 1. Number of educational program activities

Year	Target	Actual
2007	350	796

Output #2**Output Measure**

- 2. Number of educational contacts

Year	Target	Actual
2007	155000	318463

Output #3**Output Measure**

- 3. Number of published materials distributed

Year	Target	Actual
2007	32000	61771

Output #4**Output Measure**

- 4. Number of research publications

Year	Target	Actual
2007	2	0

V(G). State Defined Outcomes**V. State Defined Outcomes Table of Content**

O No.	OUTCOME NAME
1	2. Number of youth participants involved in community activities
2	3. Percent of youth who gained new knowledge/skills, awareness and/or changed opinions
3	4. Percentage of youth who changed behavior or experienced positive life changing conditions
4	1. Number of volunteer leaders (trained to lead youth participants)

Outcome #1**1. Outcome Measures**

2. Number of youth participants involved in community activities

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1890 Extension

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Quantitative Target	Actual
2007	2500	6956

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement**Issue (Who cares and Why)**

An increasing proportion of American children were at substantially higher risks for negative outcomes such as undernourishment, child abuse and neglect, poor health, substance abuse, teenage pregnancy, violence and academic underachievement. Louisiana was ranked number one in the number of youth living in poverty, single parent families, health problems, and parents without high school education. Under such conditions, urban and rural youth lacked enrichment programs which focus on life skills, environmental skills, and social skills, academic enhancement and leadership skills.

What has been done

SUAREC developed and implemented after school and other civic enrichment programs which focused on enhancing youth skills in such areas as: life, environment, social, academic enhancement, business, civic, and leadership. Opportunities were created for experiential learning among participating youth. Youth development programs were also designed to train extension agents and existing volunteers to work with and teach potential volunteers about working with youth; train staff how to recruit and support volunteers and parents; train staff to recognize and evaluate volunteers and parents' success.

Results

The total youth development program was aimed at developing innovative curricula that would fit the needs and interest of youth. A total of 6,956 youth participated in community services and activities during the fiscal year. Some of their experiential activities were as follows, assisting the elderly in nursing homes, tutoring other youth, peer-mentoring, community environmental day, earth day, helping younger children in youth camp, community gardening, Kids' Cafe, etc. Five youth representatives attended the National 4-H Conference in which youth and adults--at the invitation of the Secretary of Agriculture--assisted in the development of recommendations to help guide Youth Development Programs nationally and in their communities. This event brought together youth, volunteer leaders, and state and county Extension staff members from across the United States, the U.S. Territories, and the Canadian Provinces. Their appreciation can be summed up in the comments made by a participant: 'participating in this conference enhanced my leadership skills and encouraged me to bring my experiences back to my community for its betterment'. In the 2007 Youth and Family Exposition survey, youth respondents indicated as follows:

73.8% said knowledge and skills gained would be useful to them;

64.2% said preparation and participation at the Expo helped them build self-confidence;

68.8% said preparation and participation at the Expo helped them serve in their community services and activities.

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
806	Youth Development
803	Sociological and Technological Change Affecting Individuals, Families and Communities

Outcome #2**1. Outcome Measures**

3. Percent of youth who gained new knowledge/skills, awareness and/or changed opinions

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1890 Extension

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Action Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Quantitative Target	Actual
2007	70	70

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement**Issue (Who cares and Why)**

An increasing proportion of American children were at substantially higher risks for negative outcomes such as undernourishment, child abuse and neglect, poor health, substance abuse, teenage pregnancy, violence and academic underachievement. Louisiana was ranked number one in the number of youth living in poverty, single parent families, health problems, and parents without high school education. Under such conditions, urban and rural youth lacked enrichment programs which focus on life skills, environmental skills, and social skills, academic enhancement and leadership skills.

What has been done

SUAREC developed and implemented after school and other civic enrichment programs which focused on enhancing youth skills in such areas as: life, environment, social, academic enhancement, business, civic, and leadership. Opportunities were created for experiential learning among participating youth. Youth development programs were also designed to train extension agents and existing volunteers to work with and teach potential volunteers about working with youth; train staff how to recruit and support volunteers and parents; train staff to recognize and evaluate volunteers and parents' success.

Results

Youth development program was aimed at developing innovative curricula that would fit the needs and interest of youth. A total of 6,956 youth participated in community services and activities during the fiscal year. Over 30,000 direct contacts were made to involve youth in various activities. Youth participated in such statewide events as the Annual Livestock and Poultry Show, Horse and Rodeo Show, Rabbit Show, Goat Show, Youth and Family Exposition, etc. In the parishes, various activities were also conducted such the Youth Educational Support (YES) After School Program, Youth Summit, Health Fair, Nutrition Education, etc. Data from surveys conducted indicated that 70 percent of participants gained new knowledge and skills.

Surveys conducted by the Office of Planning and Evaluation, showed the following:

Results from youth participants' survey:

93.3% said preparation and participation in the Livestock and Poultry Show helped them learn how to manage their time;

96.7% said preparation and participation in the Livestock and Poultry Show helped them exhibit leadership skills;

86.7% said preparation and participation in the Livestock and Poultry Show helped them develop problem-solving skills.

Results from parent/leaders' survey:

93% said preparation and participation in the Livestock and Poultry Show helped youth participants learn how to manage their time;

93% said preparation and participation in the Livestock and Poultry Show helped youth participants exhibit leadership skills;

97.7% said preparation and participation in the Livestock and Poultry Show helped youth participants develop problem-solving skills.

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
806	Youth Development
803	Sociological and Technological Change Affecting Individuals, Families and Communities

Outcome #3

1. Outcome Measures

4. Percentage of youth who changed behavior or experienced positive life changing conditions

2. Associated Institution Types

•1890 Extension

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Condition Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Quantitative Target	Actual
2007	40	45

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement

Issue (Who cares and Why)

An increasing proportion of American children were at substantially higher risks for negative outcomes such as undernourishment, child abuse and neglect, poor health, substance abuse, teenage pregnancy, violence and academic underachievement. Louisiana was ranked number one in the number of youth living in poverty, single parent families, health problems, and parents without high school education. Under such conditions, urban and rural youth lacked enrichment programs which focus on life skills, environmental skills, and social skills, academic enhancement and leadership skills.

What has been done

SUAREC developed and implemented after school and other civic enrichment programs which focused on enhancing youth skills in such areas as: life, environment, social, academic enhancement, business, civic, and leadership. Opportunities were created for experiential learning among participating youth. Youth development programs were also designed to train extension agents and existing volunteers to work with and teach potential volunteers about working with youth; train staff how to recruit and support volunteers and parents; train staff to recognize and evaluate volunteers and parents' success.

Results

Surveys conducted by the Office of Planning and Evaluation, showed the following:

Results from youth participants' survey:

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Results from parent/leaders' survey:

93% said preparation and participation in the Livestock and Poultry Show helped youth participants learn how to manage their time;

93% said preparation and participation in the Livestock and Poultry Show helped youth participants exhibit leadership skills;

97.7% said preparation and participation in the Livestock and Poultry Show helped youth participants develop problem-solving skills.

Through the auction process, SUAREC assisted youth participants in the Livestock and Poultry Show sell over \$50,000 worth of products that received premium values above the fair market prices.

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
806	Youth Development

Outcome #4

1. Outcome Measures

1. Number of volunteer leaders (trained to lead youth participants)

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1890 Extension

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Quantitative Target	Actual
2007	500	1244

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement**Issue (Who cares and Why)**

An increasing proportion of American children were at substantially higher risks for negative outcomes such as undernourishment, child abuse and neglect, poor health, substance abuse, teenage pregnancy, violence and academic underachievement. Louisiana was ranked number one in the number of youth living in poverty, single parent families, health problems, and parents without high school education. Under such conditions, urban and rural youth lacked enrichment programs which focus on life skills, environmental skills, and social skills, academic enhancement and leadership skills

What has been done

SUAREC developed and implemented after school and other civic enrichment programs which focused on enhancing youth skills in such areas as: life, environment, social, academic enhancement, business, civic, and leadership. Opportunities were created for experiential learning among participating youth. Youth development programs were also designed to train extension agents and existing volunteers to work with and teach potential volunteers about working with youth; train staff how to recruit and support volunteers and parents; train staff to recognize and evaluate volunteers and parents' success.

Results

Youth development program was aimed at developing innovative curricula that would fit the needs and interest of youth. A total of 6,956 youth participated in community services and activities during the fiscal year. Over 30,000 direct contacts were made to involve youth in various activities. Youth participated in such statewide events as the Annual Livestock and Poultry Show, Horse and Rodeo Show, Rabbit Show, Goat Show, Youth and Family Exposition, etc. In the parishes, various activities were also conducted such the Youth Educational Support (YES) After School Program, Youth Summit, Health Fair, Nutrition Education, etc. Some 1,244 volunteer leaders were trained to lead youth participants in several activities conducted by youth program staff.

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
806	Youth Development
805	Community Institutions, Health, and Social Services

V(H). Planned Program (External Factors)**External factors which affected outcomes**

- Natural Disasters (drought, weather extremes, etc.)
- Economy
- Appropriations changes
- Public Policy changes
- Government Regulations
- Competing Public priorities
- Competing Programmatic Challenges
- Populations changes (immigration, new cultural groupings, etc.)

Brief Explanation

Changing neighborhoods, reduced facilities such as school, stores, churches, reduction in employment outlets, were some of the side issues facing SUAREC clients. These issues required additional resources which have been dwindling for the last couple of years.

Both federal and state dollars received via formula funds have remained "flat" for several years. However, as general prices increased, so did the cost of conducting program activities. These two squeezing factors had a great impact on SUAREC's ability to provide adequate resources for program activities. Also, incessant directives regarding the use (directives to reduce) of state funds sometimes at critical program implementation stages affected the timeliness of executing activities.

Population changes and competing programmatic challenges also affected the outcomes of the program activities. Our clientele are predominantly poor, socially and economically disadvantaged, therefore more resources were needed to accomplish the targeted objectives. Louisiana was still recovering (rebuilding) after hurricanes Katrina and Rita, there was continuous shifting of population as those who evacuated returned to their homes.

V(I). Planned Program (Evaluation Studies and Data Collection)

1. Evaluation Studies Planned

- After Only (post program)
- Before-After (before and after program)
- During (during program)
- Comparisons between program participants (individuals, group, organizations) and non-participants
- Comparison between locales where the program operates and sites without program intervention

Evaluation Results

In addition to the regular surveys conducted during program activities, a general customer satisfaction survey involving all planned programs was conducted during FY 2007. The main goal of the survey was to assess the overall satisfaction of clients regarding the services they received from SUAREC. The other objectives of the survey were: (1) to assess how useful SUAREC services were to the clients in carrying out their business, community, and family functions and meeting other needs; (2) to determine the responsiveness of SUAREC personnel to the needs of clients; and (3) to solicit clients' inputs on ways that SUAREC can best serve them by enhancing their ability to meet business, community, and family needs.

To ensure that evaluation was culturally contextual, stakeholders' involvement and inputs were strongly encouraged and utilized. The survey did not include clients in special programs where it is mandatory that participants' identity be kept confidential. Survey forms were sent via postal mail to clients.

Results

74.3% of the respondents indicated that the quality of services they received was very good while 23% said it was good.

97% of the respondents indicated that the services they received were useful.

97% of the respondents indicated that information they received was clear and helpful.

97% of the respondents indicated that services provided by SSUAREC met their needs.

Despite the high level of satisfaction, more services and activities were requested by clients.

Key Items of Evaluation

Program #6

V(A). Planned Program (Summary)

1. Name of the Planned Program

VI. ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

V(B). Program Knowledge Area(s)

1. Program Knowledge Areas and Percentage

KA Code	Knowledge Area	%1862 Extension	%1890 Extension	%1862 Research	%1890 Research
601	Economics of Agricultural Production and Farm Management		20%		20%
602	Business Management, Finance, and Taxation		20%		20%
607	Consumer Economics		30%		30%
608	Community Resource Planning and Development		30%		30%
	Total		100%		100%

V(C). Planned Program (Inputs)

1. Actual amount of professional FTE/SYs expended this Program

Year: 2007	Extension		Research	
	1862	1890	1862	1890
Plan	0.0	5.0	0.0	3.0
Actual	0.0	4.7	0.0	0.0

2. Actual dollars expended in this Program (includes Carryover Funds from previous years)

Extension		Research	
Smith-Lever 3b & 3c	1890 Extension	Hatch	Evans-Allen
0	231184	0	0
1862 Matching	1890 Matching	1862 Matching	1890 Matching
0	184545	0	0
1862 All Other	1890 All Other	1862 All Other	1890 All Other
0	0	0	0

V(D). Planned Program (Activity)

1. Brief description of the Activity

During the year, Southern University Agricultural Research and Extension Center's personnel worked with several entities to strengthen the links between businesses, community based organizations and outreach education. Leadership Training (for adult and youth) were conducted with business consultants, community leaders, policy makers participating and making presentations. Grant writing workshops to empower individuals, businesses and communities and enhance their skills on how to write for successful grants were conducted. The annual Procurement Opportunity conference: Connecting Business with Contracts; the Annual Community and Faith Leadership Conference; Economic Smart Fair; Small Business Exposition; and several workshops, classes, training sessions, panel discussions, seminars, etc. were held to introduce and expose small business owner (and potential owners) to management and technical issues/opportunities. The Center for Rural and Small Business Development (CRSBD), the Southwest Center for Rural Initiatives (SCRI), and other personnel supported economic and community development activities. Various media sources were used to disseminate and publicize information about activities. Research-based and other valuable information were communicated to the clientele through extension personnel in the form of publications, home/office visits, demonstrations and other educational resources.

Collaboration and partnership with local, state and federal agencies, peer institutions, and private organizations/associations were utilized in seeking and delivering services to citizens. Some of the collaborating entities were: Southern University College of Business, USDA/RD - Rural Cooperative Service, SBA, Baton Rouge Chambers of Commerce, the Louisiana Procurement Technical Assistance Center, the Louisiana Small Business Development Center Network, Chase Bank, The Mayor-President's Office, etc. In FY 2007, no research project was specifically conducted under the Economic and Community Development Program. However, research projects conducted in other program areas such as Sustainable Agricultural Systems, Urban Forestry and Natural Resource Management, Nutrition and Health, and Family and Human Development were used to accomplish some of the objectives of the Economic and Community Development Program. Research personnel working in the aforementioned program areas partnered with the College of Business and other entities in assisting extension personnel to develop program activities to meet and address the needs of clientele.

2. Brief description of the target audience

Rural and urban dwellers in Louisiana continued to experience high levels of poverty due to lack of economic opportunities. Improving this low quality of life was the focus of this planned program. About 17 percent of Louisiana residents (and in some of the rural parishes or counties as high as 27 percent) continued to live below the poverty level. The majority of these communities lacked opportunity for business start-ups, business expansions, housing, economic development and growth. Under-represented, underserved, socially and economically disadvantaged groups in traditionally agricultural and urban communities in the State were targeted for the purpose of encouraging business and economic development.

V(E). Planned Program (Outputs)

1. Standard output measures

Target for the number of persons (contacts) reached through direct and indirect contact methods

	Direct Contacts Adults	Indirect Contacts Adults	Direct Contacts Youth	Indirect Contacts Youth
Year	Target	Target	Target	Target
Plan	16000	100000	0	0
2007	6151	341248	0	0

2. Number of Patent Applications Submitted (Standard Research Output)

Patent Applications Submitted

Year	Target
Plan:	0
2007 :	0

Patents listed

3. Publications (Standard General Output Measure)

Number of Peer Reviewed Publications

	Extension	Research	Total
Plan			
2007	0	0	0

V(F). State Defined Outputs**Output Target****Output #1****Output Measure**

- 1. Number of educational program activities

Year	Target	Actual
2007	200	127

Output #2**Output Measure**

- 2. Number of educational contacts

Year	Target	Actual
2007	116000	347399

Output #3**Output Measure**

- 3. Number of published materials distributed

Year	Target	Actual
2007	30000	6094

Output #4**Output Measure**

- 4. Number of research publications

Year	Target	Actual
2007	3	0

V(G). State Defined Outcomes**V. State Defined Outcomes Table of Content**

O No.	OUTCOME NAME
1	1. Percent of clients who gained new knowledge/skills, awareness and/or changed attitudes
2	2. Percentage of clients who adopt recommendations
3	3. Percentage of clients who utilized skills to gain positive economic results

Outcome #1**1. Outcome Measures**

1. Percent of clients who gained new knowledge/skills, awareness and/or changed attitudes

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1890 Extension

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Knowledge Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Quantitative Target	Actual
2007	80	80

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement**Issue (Who cares and Why)**

Louisiana suffered economically and socially as a result of earlier dependency on depressed petroleum and agricultural industries, devastating impact of the 2005 Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and lack of incentives for business investment. The state was ranked among the top five states for poverty and for the opportunities of mainstream America. Louisiana's poverty rate (17 percent) was higher than the national average (12 percent). The poverty rate in rural Louisiana was as high as 27 percent in some parishes (counties). Despite the impressive growth of community based organizations in Louisiana during the past decade, they faced several human and organizational deficiencies and challenges.

What has been done

During FY 2007, SUAREC did the following: worked with non-profit organizations to strengthen links between businesses, community based organizations, etc; assisted businesses with planning, market strategies/assessment, and management; recruited aspiring entrepreneurs and assisted them with the development of business plans and business start-ups; assisted local farmers to develop alternative enterprise initiatives. Other activities were: encouraged the development of agribusinesses to include utilization of niche markets; empower community leaders and residents to develop strategic plans; disseminate information to customers through extension personnel in the form of publications, conferences, workshops, field days, and home/office visits; organize grant writing workshops for individuals, businesses and communities leaders; and, collaborate, cooperate and partner with local, state and federal agencies, institutions, groups, private organizations/associations.

Results

At the Community and Faith Leadership Conference, 89 percent respondents to the survey indicated that they gained knowledge and skills which would be useful to their organizations in areas such as grant writing, evaluation, visionary leadership, strategic planning, etc. In the rural and small business development activities, there were 650 participants and 90 percent gained new knowledge and skills. Some of the participants completed loan application packages for worth \$5,690,642. Also, 50 computers have been placed in rural sites and community centers to enable individuals and potential entrepreneurs have access do business the internet. In addition, individuals who participated in the tax filing assistance seminars gained knowledge and skills.

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
608	Community Resource Planning and Development
607	Consumer Economics
602	Business Management, Finance, and Taxation
601	Economics of Agricultural Production and Farm Management

Outcome #2**1. Outcome Measures**

2. Percentage of clients who adopt recommendations

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1890 Extension
- 1890 Research

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Action Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Quantitative Target	Actual
2007	50	55

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement**Issue (Who cares and Why)**

Louisiana suffered economically and socially as a result of earlier dependency on depressed petroleum and agricultural industries, devastating impact of the 2005 Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and lack of incentives for business investment. The state was ranked among the top five states for poverty and for the opportunities of mainstream America. Louisiana's poverty rate (17 percent) was higher than the national average (12 percent). The poverty rate in rural Louisiana was as high as 27 percent in some parishes (counties). Despite the impressive growth of community based organizations in Louisiana during the past decade, they faced several human and organizational deficiencies and challenges.

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Results

About 57 percent of the participants in the economic and community development activities did adopt recommendations. Of the 177 loan applications packaged, 35 have been approved for \$981,150; 66 have been rejected and 76 are still pending. In addition, 13 businesses were able to procure contracts from the government, 23 new businesses were started, 33 jobs were retained/created, and 11 received technology training.

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
601	Economics of Agricultural Production and Farm Management
607	Consumer Economics
608	Community Resource Planning and Development
602	Business Management, Finance, and Taxation

Outcome #3**1. Outcome Measures**

3. Percentage of clients who utilized skills to gain positive economic results

2. Associated Institution Types

- 1890 Extension
- 1890 Research

3a. Outcome Type:

Change in Condition Outcome Measure

3b. Quantitative Outcome

Year	Quantitative Target	Actual
2007	30	40

3c. Qualitative Outcome or Impact Statement

Issue (Who cares and Why)

Louisiana suffered economically and socially as a result of earlier dependency on depressed petroleum and agricultural industries, devastating impact of the 2005 Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and lack of incentives for business investment. The state was ranked among the top five states for poverty and for the opportunities of mainstream America. Louisiana's poverty rate (17 percent) was higher than the national average (12 percent). The poverty rate in rural Louisiana was as high as 27 percent in some parishes (counties). Despite the impressive growth of community based organizations in Louisiana during the past decade, they faced several human and organizational deficiencies and challenges.

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Results

About 45 percent of clients who participated in the various activities reported positive benefits such as loans received, contract procured, tax assistance, jobs retained, etc.

4. Associated Knowledge Areas

KA Code	Knowledge Area
602	Business Management, Finance, and Taxation
608	Community Resource Planning and Development
601	Economics of Agricultural Production and Farm Management
607	Consumer Economics

V(H). Planned Program (External Factors)

External factors which affected outcomes

- Natural Disasters (drought,weather extremes,etc.)
- Economy
- Appropriations changes
- Public Policy changes
- Government Regulations
- Competing Public priorities
- Competing Programmatic Challenges
- Populations changes (immigration,new cultural groupings,etc.)

Brief Explanation

Changing neighborhoods, reduced facilities such as school, stores, churches, reduction in employment outlets, were some of the side issues facing SUAREC clients. These issues required additional resources which have been dwindling for the last couple of years.

Both federal and state dollars received via formula funds have remained "flat" for several years. However, as general prices increased, so did the cost of conducting program activities. These two squeezing factors had a great impact on SUAREC's ability to provide adequate resources for program activities. Also, incessant directives regarding the use (directives to reduce) of state funds sometimes at critical program implementation stages affected the timeliness of executing activities.

Population changes and competing programmatic challenges also affected the outcomes of the program activities. Our clientele are predominantly poor, socially and economically disadvantaged, therefore more resources were needed to accomplish the targeted objectives. Louisiana was still recovering (rebuilding) after hurricanes Katrina and Rita, there was continuous shifting of population as those who evacuated returned to their homes.

V(I). Planned Program (Evaluation Studies and Data Collection)

1. Evaluation Studies Planned

- After Only (post program)
- Before-After (before and after program)
- During (during program)
- Case Study
- Comparisons between program participants (individuals, group, organizations) and non-participants
- Comparison between locales where the program operates and sites without program intervention

Evaluation Results

In addition to the regular surveys conducted during program activities, a general customer satisfaction survey involving all planned programs was conducted during FY 2007. The main goal of the survey was to assess the overall satisfaction of clients regarding the services they received from SUAREC. The other objectives of the survey were: (1) to assess how useful SUAREC services were to the clients in carrying out their business, community, and family functions and meeting other needs; (2) to determine the responsiveness of SUAREC personnel to the needs of clients; and (3) to solicit clients' inputs on ways that SUAREC can best serve them by enhancing their ability to meet business, community, and family needs.

To ensure that evaluation was culturally contextual, stakeholders' involvement and inputs were strongly encouraged and utilized. The survey did not include clients in special programs where it is mandatory that participants' identity be kept confidential. Survey forms were sent via postal mail to clients.

Results

74.3% of the respondents indicated that the quality of services they received was very good while 23% said it was good.

97% of the respondents indicated that the services they received were useful.

97% of the respondents indicated that information they received was clear and helpful.

97% of the respondents indicated that services provided by SSUAREC met their needs.

Despite the high level of satisfaction, more services and activities were requested by clients.

Key Items of Evaluation