



SAAESD Strategic Roadmap

2021-22 Action Plan

Mission: The SAAESD amplifies the collective strengths of our academic institutions to expand the vision and enhance their research capacity to collaboratively provide innovative approaches to regional, national, and global challenges in the agricultural, environmental, and life sciences.

Vision: Agricultural, food, natural resources, and human systems throughout the Southern region are being transformed for a healthier and more sustainable world through consensus and collaborative discovery, translation, application, and adoption.

Goals:

1. Increase scope, diversity, and relevance of our collective research portfolios
2. Strengthen collaborative research that has regional relevance
3. Support and develop excellent human capital
4. Showcase our member successes, both internally and externally

Collaborative Discovery

Desired Result: Accelerate research and innovation by facilitating collaborative discovery

1. Identify current and emerging research priorities across the region to build research initiatives
2. Establish the “Southern Land-grant Faculty Seminar Series”
3. Develop best practice sessions to build collaborative multidisciplinary teams
4. Develop a mentoring program for emerging faculty leaders

Strategic Alliances

Desired Result: Extend the reach and impact of our research programs through strong alliances

1. Use the Southern Mini LG Meeting joint session to discuss strategies with ASRED, CARET, ARD, S-APS
2. Take proactive steps to build a genuine strategic partnership with ARD
3. Partner with the Southern Rural Development Center (SRDC) to engage social scientists in SAES
4. Engage Southern Association of State Departments of Agriculture (SASDA) to provide expertise

Enhancing Reputation

Desired Result: Expand the reputations of member agricultural experiment stations

1. Promote a culture of professional societies award nominations
2. Share e-Learning modules on “Building Success in Extramural Funding” to build leadership
3. Initiate a long-term strategy to increase the number of AAAS fellows at member institutions

Effective Communications

Desired Result: Serve as an effective advocate for the Southern regional research system

1. Capture success stories and amplify award announcements at member institutions
2. Create opportunities for communicators to meet, collaborate, and coordinate messages
3. Develop a communications toolbox to share resources
4. Develop a social media campaign to grow southern Ag science awareness