



SAAESD Strategic Roadmap

2022-23 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

Strategic Alliances

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

1. Build a strategic partnership with 1890 Agricultural Research Directors (ARD)
2. Partner with the Southern Rural Development Center to build social science research capacity
3. Work with the Southern Academic Programs Section to enhance graduate student opportunities

Enhancing Reputation

Desired Result: Expand the reputations of member agricultural experiment stations

1. Promote a culture of professional societies award nominations
2. Execute the long-term strategy to increase national-level honorifics at member institutions
3. Amplify awards and successes that enhance the reputations of our institutions through the SRCC

Effective Communications

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

1. Develop strategic goals for the Southern Research Communicators Consortium (SRCC)
2. Strengthen discussions between communicators and directors
3. Develop and execute strategies to communicate regional research success