1. **Who Are We?**
The Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES) is the primary outreach organization for the land-grant mission of Alabama A&M University and Auburn University. The nationwide Cooperative Extension System was established in 1914 by the Smith-Lever Act. Core values that differentiate Extension in today’s education marketplace—and that help ensure our sustainability and success—are our unique combination of 1) the **research-based** underpinning of our programs, materials, and educational activities; 2) our ability to establish positive working **relationships** with clients, communities, partners, and stakeholders; and 3) **relevant** programming that addresses current societal challenges and opportunities.

2. **Where Are We?**
ACES has educators at Alabama A&M and Auburn universities and in 67 county offices, nine urban centers, six research and Extension centers, two plant diagnostic laboratories, a state-of-the-art youth environmental education center, and several other centers throughout the state.

3. **What Do We Do?**
ACES works with individuals, groups, and agencies, initiating and facilitating partnerships and helping people help themselves to a better life and livelihood. ACES work has received national and international recognition for many achievements, all of which are based on partnerships. Within these partnerships we are known for providing educational opportunities and information grounded in research-based science to targeted audiences.

4. **How Are We Funded?**
ACES is funded through federal, state, and county appropriations; federal grants; county donations of office space and utilities; and private partnerships and grants. Increasingly, our funding will come from grants based on strong and effective partnerships. That’s good news to us because we have been in the partnership business for a century.

5. **What Is Our Human Capacity?**
ACES has more than 800 full- and part-time employees including statewide, regional, and county educators and support staff. We multiply our capacity many times over through literally thousands of partnerships, large and small, commercial and nonprofit, traditional and new.

6. **What Is Our Technical Capacity?**
ACES has the only statewide delivery model in Alabama to provide education to citizens in every county, including underserved rural and urban residents. We have 40-plus videoconferencing sites across the state, available not only to our own educators but also to other groups. Through videoconferencing, ACES hosts 1,200 to 1,600 virtual meetings and events annually, thus saving time and travel expense for employees and partners. Online at www.aces.edu, our news stories, publications, blogs, event calendars, podcasts, video clips, and updates from all program areas and counties reach more than 4 million visitors annually.
How Do We Work to Achieve Our Goals?

ACES...

USES INPUTS
expertise, personnel, funding, stakeholder buy-in, research results, educational materials, technology

CREATES OUTPUTS
workshops, publications, Web sites, partnerships

TO ACHIEVE OUTCOMES AND IMPACTS
improved conditions, enhanced quality of life, revitalized communities, positive effects on the economy

LOGIC MODEL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INPUTS</th>
<th>OUTPUTS (activities &amp; participation)</th>
<th>OUTCOMES (measurable differences)</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Funding</td>
<td>Products developed</td>
<td>VISION</td>
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<td>Stakeholder buy-in</td>
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<td>Technology</td>
<td>Partnership</td>
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<td>Media contacted</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
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<td>Attitudes changed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Logistics</td>
<td></td>
<td>Recommendations adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Positive economic effect</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Why Should You Partner With Us?

The Alabama Cooperative Extension System is uniquely equipped to serve as a comprehensive outreach and engagement program at both Alabama A&M University and Auburn University and in cooperation with Tuskegee University. Research-based Extension efforts reach millions of Alabamians each year with educational programs in agriculture; forestry, wildlife, and natural resources; family and consumer sciences; economic and community development; 4-H and youth development; and urban affairs and new nontraditional programs. Our local agents in all 67 counties also serve as “front doors” to the campuses of Alabama A&M and Auburn.

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