

Southern Region Extension Climate Academy (SRECA)



TARGET AUDIENCE

Southern U.S. states are invited to select up to 16 extension professionals (county agents and specialists) who are leaders in the following areas: Crops, Livestock, Forestry, and Coasts.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GOALS

- To support Extension professionals in the application of climate science & stakeholder engagement methods for developing place-based adaptation options that support more resilient forest, crop, livestock, and coastal systems in the Southeastern USA
- To build an alumni network of innovative leaders in Extension who are skilled in stakeholder engagement strategies, can be resources for their area, and can share ideas with others regionally through exchanging innovative program ideas and outreach materials

WHEN and WHERE

September 3-5, 2014 at the Georgia Center in Athens, Georgia

Core Competencies to be gained through participation

- Knowledge in climate science, regional climate variability and change, and the projected impacts of climate change on specific agricultural, forestry, and coastal systems in the Southeast US.
- An understanding of specific management strategies in row crops, animal agriculture, forestry, and coastal resource management that can make systems more efficient, resilient, and less affected by climate variability and change.
- An understanding of the diverse perceptions of climate change and implications for the development of communication strategies with target audiences.
- An appreciation for issue framing, audience motivation, and decision making which will help participants encourage dialog with target audiences.
- Familiarity with climate-related web-based decision support systems and resources.
- Skills and practice in designing effective outreach materials and stakeholder engagement approaches that apply acquired climate and adaptation expertise (e.g., climate presentations modified for specific grower groups and commodities; documented application of featured tools for specific management decisions; case studies of the co-development of climate smart adaptation options).

DRAFT AGENDA

Day 1	September 3 (Wednesday)
11:00-12:00	Registration
12:00-1:00	Lunch together, included
1:00-2:00	Ice-breaker, Introductory activity
2:00-2:30	Keynote Speaker: Why are we here? Why is this important?
2:30-2:45	Vision, Objectives and Expectations
2:45-3:00	- Break -
3:00-4:00	Climate Variability and Change Fundamentals: Climate 101. Q&A to follow
4:00-5:00	Sector breakouts (Forest, Crops, Livestock, Coasts): sector-specific climate impacts; case studies and discussion
5:30	Dinner together at Flinchum's Phoenix, included
Day 2	September 4 (Thursday)
7:30-8:30	Breakfast, included
8:30-10:00	Decision Support Systems and Management Solutions: AgroClimate, PINEMAP tools, others?
10:00-10:20	- Break -
10:20-12:00	Sector breakouts (Forest, Crops, Livestock, Coasts): Explore management options with specific for more resilient and efficient systems
12:00-1:00	Lunch, included
1:00-3:00	Understanding Audiences & Processes: Six Americas, stakeholder engagement. Presentations and activities
3:00-3:20	- Break -
3:20-4:30	Sector breakouts: (Forest, Crops, Livestock, Coasts): Explore communication strategies about potential management options for more resilient and efficient systems
Day 3	September 5 (Friday)
7:30-8:30	Breakfast, included
8:30-9:30	Review sector needs and look for common denominators: ways that states or sectors could enhance each other
9:30-11:30	Develop program plans: work in teams to develop specific goals (how can programs be changed to help stakeholders become more climate-resilient?), sketch out needed materials, potential programs/resources, and work plans <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need for program resources• Need for training• Commitments for how they will be filled• How do we incorporate these climate ideas into Extension programming?• Who will do what?• What are their goals for adapting or developing new extension resources?
11:30-12:00	Report on commitments, Plan for next event, and Evaluation Farewell and travel safely!