

ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1967 1529

assisted in planning and developing a wide range of projects for improving human, economic, and natural resources.

Such work has many facets. It most generally starts with the identification and solution of a pressing problem or opportunity. However, once people are involved in study, analysis, and action they soon see there are many other opportunities which can be developed. One accomplishment fosters confidence and leads to the determination to take on more complex problems. Whole communities and regions have been revitalized through this approach.

Two specific examples of how this process has worked in Arkansas are attached as Appendix B.

Cooperative Extension is currently working with more than 3150 county development groups and 565 area development councils involving more than 100,000 people. In addition, it is working with more than 2300 chambers of commerce, 1100 industrial development corporations, and 3600 units of local government.

Latest reports on the number of new economic development projects which Extension workers helped to initiate during the last six months of 1966 show:

Agricultural marketing and processing-----	2, 135
Nonagricultural business and industry-----	1, 488
Recreation and tourist businesses-----	1, 644
Other economic development projects-----	358

Extension workers estimate that some 55,176 new jobs were created during the past year through economic development projects in which they provided assistance, not to speak of added income and expansion of local business activity.

This same report shows that Extension workers assisted in the planning and development of the following number of new community services and facilities during the past six months:

Water and/or sewer projects-----	1, 495
Schools and education programs-----	1, 443
Recreation projects-----	1, 517
Health facilities and services-----	755
Other public facilities and services-----	508

In the area of human development, Extension assisted community groups in planning and developing more than 941 job training programs involving 28,500 persons during the last six months of 1966. Extension has helped more than 700 communities organize OEO community action agencies and has assisted these agencies develop more than 1,700 programs. Extension is currently supervising 4,057 professional and subprofessional workers assigned to OEO and related low-income projects.

Appendix C lists typical work by Extension in support of agency programs in the State of Mississippi.

These results are encouraging but represent only a fraction of the program effort needed. It must be admitted, however, that these results have been achieved primarily by staff overload and program reorientation. Extension's educational efforts to support expanded development programs of other agencies have been supported by almost no increase in staff or operating budgets. It is not reasonable to expect this imbalance to continue if development efforts are to achieve their maximum potential.

THE "NEW AGENCY" PHILOSOPHY

I would be less than candid with this Committee if I failed to express to you a concern that has permeated the discussion of development programs and inter-agency coordination in many Extension Directors' meetings. I am speaking simply of the philosophy that all "new" programs designed to serve rural America or to serve the development process generally must be conducted by completely new agencies in order to protect the legislative intent and administrative philosophy behind the new program that might be involved.