

**PRESENTING ISSUE**

**We need:**

**A national Extension education evaluation portal to improve evaluation capacity within the Land Grant system**

**OUR RESPONSE**

University of Wisconsin-Extension investigated...

National trends and efforts and the perspectives of:

- National program leaders
- Project directors
- Extension Committee on Organization and Policy
- eXtension
- American Evaluation Association members
- NIFA administration
- Evaluation professionals

**CURRENT CONTEXT**

Shared leadership between NIFA, ECOP, states and the profession is unrealized

Data use varies

Capacity disparities exist across states and institutions

Evaluation and planning are not well connected

Culturally relevant resources lacking

Organizations offer few rewards or incentives for best practices

Impact data are weak across the board

**ROOT CAUSES**

Our institutional cultures support different, at times conflicting, data uses

Some of our data needs are shared, while others are unique to our respective institutions

Evaluation capacity within NIFA and across the Land Grant system is inadequate

Information technologies are viewed as the primary solution

**DESIRED FUTURE STATE**

- NIFA and LGUs effectively communicate, as a system, the significance of our integrated portfolio to elected officials, key stakeholders and the public at large
- NIFA uses evidence to inform Extension programmatic decisions
- We address our respective programmatic performance management expectations
- We leverage our varied funding authorities to build Extension evaluation capacity equitably across the Land Grant system



# ASSESSING SYSTEM GAPS IN EXTENSION EDUCATION EVALUATION RESOURCES

**6 SOLUTION**

- Data management and use is framed by shared mission
- PDE resources are accessible and relevant to all
- National reporting systems are aligned
- Capacity building is current, robust and available to all
- There is equity across states, institutions and regions

**7 SOLUTION IN PRACTICE**

The desired future state can be actualized through the engagement of four key players, each with its own circle of influence:

- NIFA...through its programs, awards and relationship to Congress
- ECOP...through its partnerships, policy and commitments
- Extension regions and states...through their resource investments and sharing
- The profession of evaluation...through the development of resources, communities and competencies

**8 RETURN ON INVESTMENT**

- ✓ Improved impact from using evaluation to guide program effort
- ✓ Leaders have the data they need to communicate impact and value
- ✓ Greater system capacity to do PDE well
- ✓ Greater equity amongst institutions: 1862s and MSIs