



Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Process & Plan

INNOVATION. REGIONAL COLLABORATION. JOB CREATION.



Through a combination of Technical Assistance and funding EDA can provide support to Planning Organizations for the development, implementation, revision, or replacement of a Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS):

CEDS are locally or regionally designed to create and retain new and better jobs, particularly for the unemployed and underemployed in the nation's most economically distressed Regions

EDA's Planning Investments for CEDS support partnerships with District Organizations, Indian Tribes, community development corporations, non-profit Regional planning organizations, and other Eligible Recipients



CEDS planning is a continuous process involving the active participation of the private sector, public officials, non-profit organizations, educational institutions, and private citizens, and includes:

Analyzing local economies

Defining economic development goals

Determining Project opportunities

Formulating and implementing an economic development program that includes systematic efforts to reduce unemployment and increase incomes

Key to this process is developing & maintaining a **Strategy Committee** to be responsible for the development, implementation, revision or replacement of the CEDS for the **Planning Organization**



CEDS are designed to bring together the public and private sectors in the creation of an economic roadmap to diversify and strengthen Regional economies

The CEDS should analyze the Regional economy and serve as a guide for establishing Regional goals and objectives, developing and implementing a Regional plan of action, and identifying investment priorities and funding sources

Public and private sector partnerships are critical to the implementation of the integral elements of a CEDS

As a performance-based plan, the CEDS will serve a critical role in a Region's efforts to defend against economic dislocations due to global trade, competition and other events resulting in the loss of jobs and private investment



Each CEDS must promote Regional resiliency and be unique and responsive to its Region – A quality CEDS, at a minimum, must include:

A summary of economic development conditions of the Region

An in-depth analysis of economic and community development strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (commonly known as a “*SWOT*” analysis)

Strategies and an implementation plan to build upon the Region's strengths and opportunities and resolve the weaknesses and threats facing the Region, which should not be inconsistent with applicable State and local economic development or workforce development strategies

Performance measures used to evaluate the Planning Organization's successful development and implementation of the CEDS

CEDS Resources

CEDS CENTRAL

National Association of Development Organizations

<https://www.nado.org/ceds-central>

STATS-AMERICA

Indiana Business Research Center at Indiana University's Kelley School of Business

<http://www.statsamerica.org/ceds>

EDA CEDS CONTENT GUIDELINES

<https://eda.gov/ceds>



Economic Development District Concept & Designation

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Upon the request of a District Organization, EDA may designate a Region as an Economic Development District if such Region:

Contains at least one geographic area that is subject to the economic distress criteria set forth in 13 CFR § 301.3(a)(1) and is identified in an approved CEDS

Is of sufficient size or population and contains sufficient resources to foster economic development on a scale involving more than a single geographic area subject to the economic distress criteria set forth in 13 CFR § 301.3(a)(1)

Has an EDA-approved CEDS that Meets the requirements under 13 CFR § 303.7 and contains a specific program for intra-District cooperation, self-help, and public investment

Is approved by each affected State and by the Assistant Secretary



Upon the request of a District Organization, EDA may designate a Region as an Economic Development District if such Region:

Obtains commitments from at least a majority of the counties or other areas within the proposed District, as determined by EDA, to support the economic development activities of the District

Obtains the concurrence with the designation request from the State (or States) in which the proposed District will be wholly or partially located



A “*District Organization*” is an entity that satisfies the formation and organizational requirements and must be organized as one of the following:

A public organization formed through an inter-governmental agreement providing for the joint exercise of local government powers

A public organization established under State-enabling legislation for the creation of multi-jurisdictional area-wide planning organizations

A non-profit organization incorporated under the applicable non-profit statutes of the State in which it is incorporated



The District Organization must demonstrate that its governing body is broadly representative of the principal economic interests of the Region, which may include the private sector, public officials, community leaders, representatives of workforce development boards, institutions of higher education, minority and labor groups, and private individuals. In addition, the governing body must demonstrate the capacity to implement the EDA-approved CEDS

The District Organization must be assisted by a professional staff drawn from qualified persons in economic development, planning, business development or related disciplines



The governing bodies of District Organizations must provide access for persons who are not members to make their views known concerning ongoing and proposed District activities in accordance with the following requirements:

Hold meetings open to the public at least twice a year with proper & advance notice

Adopt a system of parliamentary procedures to assure that board members and others have access to an effective opportunity to participate in the affairs of the District

Provide information sufficiently in advance of decisions to give the public adequate opportunity to review and react to proposals – including technical and financial

The District Organization and its board of directors must comply with all Federal and State financial assistance reporting requirements and the conflicts of interest provisions set forth in 13 CFR § 302.17



The District Organization shall engage in the full range of economic development activities listed in its EDA-approved CEDS. These activities may include:

Coordinating and implementing economic development activities in the District

Carrying out economic development research, planning, implementation and advisory functions identified in the CEDS

Coordinating the development and implementation of the CEDS with other local, State, Federal and private organizations