CEDS 101 or: How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the CEDS

EDA CHICAGO CONFERENCE
CHICAGO, IL
SEPTEMBER 30, 2014
Agenda

1. Using new EDA guidelines as opportunity to rethink and improve your CEDS

2. Leveraging new requirement of economic resilience as opportunity to (re-)engage stakeholders on long-term issues

3. Practice SMART goals
Agree or Disagree:
The value of planning is the process, not the product.
What are strengths and weaknesses of your CEDS?
CEDS content requirements

- Summary background
- SWOT analysis
- Strategic direction/action plan
- Evaluation framework

New:
- Economic resilience
What makes a good CEDS?

- Vision Statement
- Call to Action
- SMART Goals
- Strategies
- Actions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Why</th>
<th>What</th>
<th>How</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Summary background & SWOT analysis
Evaluation framework
Strategic direction & action plan
SMART Goals

- **Specific**
- **Measurable**
- **Achievable**
- **Relevant**
- **Time-bound**

Every goal in your CEDS should meet these criteria.

How will CEDS implementation improve your region—what “needles” will you move?
CEDS hedging hall of fame

- “Foster the development of...”
- “Encourage the growth of...”
- “Support the creation of...”
- “Coordinate the XX of...”
- “Facilitate the XX of...”
"NO!
Try not!
DO or DO NOT,
There is no try."
Yet, quality of place and the ability to attract artists, free agents, and retired or semi-retired households are not sufficient conditions for long-term, sustainable growth and regional prosperity. Developing and maintaining community assets that contribute to quality of place, for example, requires steady growth in the region’s tax base. Cultivating the region’s appreciation for creative industries, such as artists, theater, and writers, does little good if the next generation of residents cannot find employment that provides enough discretionary income to attend performances or donate to non-profit arts organizations. And retirees, while valuable members, leaders, and sources of discretionary income in any community, cannot offer much in the way of employment opportunities for the next generation of workers.

Accordingly, achieving sustainable development in quality of place communities like Southeastern Vermont means striking the right balance between preserving natural and cultural assets and growing the regional economy at a sufficient pace to provide the resources that are necessary to preserve those assets. In that respect, the region is facing several challenges that must be recognized and addressed:

- Maine and Vermont rank #1 and #2 as the states with the oldest residents, and Windham County is aging faster than Maine or Vermont (2011 median age 44.9 years).
- Age cohorts entering the working population (late teens and early twenties) have been small and the significant decrease in persons of prime workforce and childbearing age threatens the region’s future labor force availability.
- Job creation has been stagnant since the early 1990s, after twenty years of steady growth between 1970 and 1990.
Disconnects and Lack of Cohesion
Throughout the CEDS development process, two themes have consistently risen to the top—lack of cohesion within the region and the insular disconnectedness of the entire region. In many ways, Southeastern Vermont can be viewed as a collection of unconnected silos of good, which if properly connected have the potential to become centers of excellence. It has also been accurately noted that the region is neither well connected within and across the region nor connected to the surrounding areas of Vermont, southwestern New Hampshire, or western Massachusetts.

Southeastern Vermont Economic Development Strategies (SeVEDS) endeavors to solve these problems of lack of cohesion and disconnectedness. There, are, however still significant barriers. Northern areas of the region are more connected East-West to Manchester and Springfield than North-South to Bellows Falls or Brattleboro. “The Valley” (Wilmington, Dover) is equidistant between Bennington and Brattleboro. Additionally, even within the region many communities of interest and organizations remain disconnected. The underlying challenge is the marked lack of a history or culture of collaboration and the extremely strong culture of looking inward to the local town or village rather than a central county or regional convening entity.

What is SeVEDS?
SeVEDS started in 2007 as a small group of people from across the region looking to improve broadband and cell service. After many meetings and input from stakeholders it became clear that lack of broadband and unreliable cell service were symptoms of a larger and more concerning problem: lack of economic development. In order to respond, SeVEDS incorporated as a non-profit organization and established a legal affiliation with the Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation.

SeVEDS Mission Statement
SeVEDS exists to reverse the economic decline of the Southeastern Vermont region.

SeVEDS Vision Statement
Southeastern Vermont will have an economy that generates long-term growth and prosperity and that improves quality of life and sustains our quality of place.

Today, SeVEDS is led by a twenty-member board of directors representing public, private, and non-profit organizations from across the region.

Executive Committee
Chair Jenna Pugliese (Stratton Mountain)
Vice Chair Patrick Moreland (Town of Brattleboro)
Treasurer Drew Richards (Richards Group)
Secretary Adam Grinold (Mount Snow Valley Chamber of Commerce)

Standing Committees
Post YY committee chair Stephan Morse (Retired, Windham Foundation)
Windham Region Young Professional committee chair Jenna Pugliese (Stratton Mountain)
Communications committee chair Julia Soensens (Brattleboro Retreat)
Redevelopment Robin Sweetapple (BDCC Staff)
Workforce Development Patricia Moulton Powden (BDCC Staff)

Call to Action
Average earnings for workers, adjusted for inflation, were lower in 2011 than they were in 1970.
Per capita income nearly doubled between 1970 and 2011, but much of that growth was from rents, investments, and transfer payments, not wages.

In short, low wages, rising cost of living, and limited job opportunities are creating a disconnect between Southeastern Vermont’s perceived sense of economic security today and a future that looks anything but secured, especially for younger residents. Failure to address that disconnect will result in many Southeastern Vermonters continuing to search for economic opportunity elsewhere.
Communicating Goals

In addition, SeVEDS has established a CEDS advisory committee to augment the SeVEDS leadership with even broader community representation during the process of creating and implementing the economic development strategy.

Gail Nunziata (Latchis Arts)
William Anton (The Dover School)
Rachel Selsky (Camoin Associates)
Connie Snow (Windham Windsor Housing Trust)
Tapp Beemill (Community College of Vermont)
Chris Moore (Attorney at law)

What will SeVEDS accomplish?

In 2010, SeVEDS began to uncover and understand the underlying regional economic and demographic trends impacting the region’s performance. This work, in concert with input collected from business owners, workers, and residents, resulted in SeVEDS deciding to focus on four core themes for improving the region’s economy:

- Reversing population decline.
- Increasing the number of well paying jobs.
- Improving the quality of the workforce.
- Raising household income relative to surrounding areas.

In 2011, SeVEDS adopted five objectives to guide the organization’s activities:

- Create an operational and fiscal sustainability plan for SeVEDS by December 2011.
- Improve wage parity with the surrounding labor shed.
- Increase the size and quality of the workforce.

Board Members

Jenna Fogliese (Stratton Mountain)
Patrick Moreland (Town of Brattleboro)
Drew Richards (Richards Group)
Adam Grinold (Mount Snow Valley Chamber of Commerce)
Stephan Morse (Retired, Windham Foundation)
Lisa Sullivan (Bartleby’s Books)
Jeff Lewis (Brattleboro Development Credit Corporation)
Susan McMahon (Windham Regional Planning Commission)

Martin Langeveld (Strolling of the Heifers)
Jill James (Chrome Technology)
Ann Andresatos (New Chapter)
Cynthia Stoddard (Town of Putney)
Ariel Brooks (Mariboro College)
Francis “Dutch” Walsh (Town of Rockingham)
Konstantin VonKrusenstern (Brattleboro Retreat)
SMART Goals

**Goal 1: Reverse population decline**
- Increase population from 2011 baseline of 44,266 (estimated) to 46,266 by 2018.
- Increasing proportion of 25–44 year-olds from 21% to 25% of total population by 2018.
- Double the percentage of foreign-born residents in the region from 3.5% to 7% of total population by 2018.

**Goal 2: Increase the number of well-paying jobs**
- 1,054 new jobs at $46,340 and 702 new jobs at $42,130 by 2018.
  (new regional average wage goal)
- Increase wages of 4,650 jobs by $5,000 per year.
- Increase median income for associates/college to $32,328.
- Increase median annual income for bachelor’s degree from $34,155 to $40,597.

**Goal 3: Improving workforce quality**
- Increase associate degrees/college and technical certificates among 18–24 year-olds by 2018.

**Goal 4: Raising household income relative to surrounding areas**
- $174M in new wages and $470M in new GDP.
- Reach regional GDP of $3.07T.
- Increase the ratio of net earned income to total income from .566 to .65.

**Objective 1: Act regionally.**

**Strategy 1.1** Implement a regional, asset-based S.M.A.R.T. CEDS and ecosystem, which expands public, private, and non-profit collaboration with a common strategic vision that is annually updated.

**Action Plan 1.1.A** Expand representation and engagement of private sector in the SeVEDS initiatives and board.

**Action Plan 1.1.B** Institutionalize a culture of collaboration across boundaries by formalizing a Technical Working Group (TWG) as a regional Subject Matter Expert (SME) of economic and workforce development professionals and educators drawn from across the region in collaboration with BDCC and Windham Regional Planning Commission (WRC) staff. The TWG will bring together community, workforce development and planning practitioners in the region to share knowledge and opportunities to advance the pace of regional and local economic development.

**Strategy 1.2** Maintain a regional economic development planning organization, including funding, to update and guide implementation of the CEDS.

**Action Plan 1.2.A** Prepare and maintain 3-year budgets for operations and initiatives.

**Action Plan 1.2.B** Develop and implement a private fundraising campaign with a goal of raising $250,000 in 2015 from the private sector.

**Action Plan 1.2.C** Commit public sector partners to multi-year investment commitment.

**Action Plan 1.2.D** In conjunction with WRC and BDCC, support towns incorporating the CEDS strategies as appropriate in their economic development planning.

**Strategy 1.3** Create redevelopment capacity in the Southeastern Vermont region.

**Action Plan 1.3.A** Research legal options for the creation of a SeVEDS redevelopment authority unrestricted by town or village boundaries.

**Action Plan 1.3.B** Conduct an inventory and assemble a database of distressed and/or vacant properties with redevelopment/re-use potential.

**Action Plan 1.3.C** Conduct a market possibilities assessment for commercial and industrial real estate.

**Action Plan 1.3.D** In 2015, set goals for number of properties to be redeveloped and capital investment attraction.
Greater Portland COG (Portland, ME)

Sense of Urgency

Our Challenges
We have the highest median age in the nation
We are the least diverse state in the nation
We are the most oil-dependent state in the nation
Our university system is not graduating students in science, technology, and engineering fields sufficient to meet the needs of our knowledge-based economy
Our region is divided by an urban versus rural dichotomy that creates silos and inefficiencies
Our businesses find it increasingly difficult to recruit qualified applicants and to expand
Our Regional Goals

"To really move the economy forward as a region, we must set goals that are ambitious, measurable, and realistic."
Ed Suslovic, GPCOG President

Standard Indicators

- Attract **10,000** people to sustain region’s historic population growth rate
- Increase the pool of available workers by **1%**
- Increase rate of participation in the labor force by **1%**
- Create **8,000** new jobs
- Increase regional Gross Domestic Product by **7%**
- Increase average wage per job to **$52,000**
- Increase the region’s total wages by **27%**
- Increase per capita income by **17%**
- Increase attainment of Bachelor’s Degrees to **45%** of the adult population
- Increase access to high speed Internet to **100%** coverage

Region Indicators

- Attract **5,000+** people aged 25-44 from outside the region
- **Triple** the number of adults with an Associate’s Degree
- Decrease the region’s commercial vacancy rate to **7.5%**
- Increase annual number of new business starts by **1,000**
- Decrease the time it takes to **permit** a commercial project
- Reduce the region’s dependence on foreign oil
- Increase access of small businesses to the right resources at the right time
- Decrease the **rent-to-income** ratio to the national average
- Increase transit ridership by **1 million**

The region’s most serious housing problem is cost burden: 37% of homeowners and 52% of renters pay more than 30% of their income for housing.

By 2030, seniors age 55 and over will comprise **38%** of the region’s population, compared to **28%** in 2010.

While the average salary in the biotechnology sector is **$100,000**, less than **30** students per year graduate from the University of Southern Maine with a degree in Biology, Chemistry or Biochemistry.

"It is clear we still have work to do... we are lagging in pivotal areas including key industries, a higher tax burden and housing affordability."
Michael Bourque, Vice-Chair, Portland Regional Chamber

Transportation is responsible for almost half of the **$136,000,000,000** spent on energy in Cumberland County.

While the percentage of minorities has doubled since 2000, non-Hispanic Whites account for over **90%** of Cumberland County’s population.
Building a bottom-up/data-driven CEDS

- Regional analysis—identify key issues
  - RDO research of economic conditions
  - SWOT stakeholder engagement
- Develop call(s) to action—engage & focus
- Goal formation—suggest 3 to 5 goals
  - Decide on key issues your RDO will impact
  - Estimate improvement from baseline
  - Create SMART goal
- Move to strategies/actions
Establishing baseline trends and meaningful, achievable ROI
3. Infusing economic resiliency into the CEDS document

*Only real change in the regs that impact the content of the CEDS is the requirement to incorporate the concept of economic resiliency.*

- Regional economic prosperity is linked to an area’s ability to withstand, prevent, or quickly recover from major disruptions (i.e., ‘shocks’) to its underlying economic base

- Integrating resiliency into the CEDS can take multiple forms

- Resiliency section of Guidelines still under development; current thinking includes:
  - Identifying vulnerabilities and assets
  - Passive (strategies/projects) and active (post-disruption responder) efforts
  - Minimum and advanced actions for passive and active efforts
Getting started

- Decide what “economic resilience” means for your region and your EDD
- Work with your CEDS committee to identify readily accessible indicators
- Chart benchmark trends
Economic Trajectory

May 2014

Unemployment Rate (May)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Rate (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hendry</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collier</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee</td>
<td>5.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glades</td>
<td>7.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarasota</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics
Wealth Creation

Per Capita Income in SWFRPC Counties, % of US

- Charlotte
- Collier
- Glades
- Hendry
- Lee
- Sarasota

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis
## Income Drivers

### Total Income by Source, 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Work Earnings</th>
<th>Dividends, Int, Rent</th>
<th>Transfer Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWFRPC Region</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>65%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total Income by Source, 2001

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Work Earnings</th>
<th>Dividends, Int, Rent</th>
<th>Transfer Payments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWFRPC Region</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>59%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis. Totals may not sum to 100 due to rounding.
## Workforce Availability

### Share of Total Population, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Young Adult 25-44</th>
<th>Older Adult 45-64</th>
<th>Older 65+</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWFRPC Region</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>27%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Share of Total Population, 1990

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Young Adult 25-44</th>
<th>Older Adult 45-64</th>
<th>Older 65+</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWFRPC Region</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### % Population Primary Working Age, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>1990</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>53%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Florida</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>52%</td>
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<tr>
<td>SWFRPC</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>47%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Charlotte</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collier</td>
<td>46%</td>
<td>46%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glades</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hendry</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarasota</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis. Totals may not sum to 100 due to rounding.
## Diversification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Most Concentrated Cluster</th>
<th>Jobs</th>
<th>% Total</th>
<th>LQ</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charlotte</td>
<td>Life Sciences</td>
<td>6,090</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>1.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collier</td>
<td>Arts, Ent, Rec, Visitor Industries</td>
<td>12,733</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>2.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glades</td>
<td>Agribusiness, Food Processing &amp; Tech</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>9.56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hendry</td>
<td>Agribusiness, Food Processing &amp; Tech</td>
<td>4,262</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>16.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee</td>
<td>Arts, Ent, Rec, Visitor Industries</td>
<td>12,052</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>1.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarasota</td>
<td>Arts, Ent, Rec, Visitor Industries</td>
<td>7,942</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>1.46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics. Cluster definitions from Purdue University via StatsAmerica.
Diversification

Hendry County, FL

Diversity Measures

Measures of the mix of economic and workforce activity across Hendry County’s local development district (Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council). Development districts are regional development organizations that perform a variety of planning, economic development, or transportation functions across county boundaries. Common names for these organizations include Councils of Government, Economic Development Districts, Local Development Districts, and Regional Planning Commissions.

Development District Rank by Industry Diversity
1. Sarasota County, FL  94th Percentile
2. Lee County, FL  93rd Percentile
3. Charlotte County, FL  85th Percentile
4. Collier County, FL  84th Percentile
5. Glades County, FL  38th Percentile
6. Hendry County, FL  27th Percentile

Development District Rank by Function Diversity
1. Lee County, FL  72nd Percentile
2. Collier County, FL  48th Percentile
3. Sarasota County, FL  40th Percentile
4. Charlotte County, FL  37th Percentile
5. Glades County, FL  22nd Percentile
6. Hendry County, FL  7th Percentile

Development District Rank by Occupation Diversity
1. Collier County, FL  75th Percentile
2. Lee County, FL  54th Percentile
3. Sarasota County, FL  60th Percentile
4. Glades County, FL  42nd Percentile
5. Charlotte County, FL  38th Percentile
6. Hendry County, FL  11th Percentile

Key Facts

County Characteristics
County Character: Mixed Rural
Appalachian County? No

Counties Similar to Hendry County:
Okeechobee County, FL
Franklin County, WA
DeSoto County, FL
Adams County, WA
Yakima County, WA

Population
2012 Estimate: 37,447
Annual Growth (2009–2012):
Hendry County: -1.8%
Florida: 1.4%

Source: Economic Diversity in Appalachia, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Regional Economic Applications Laboratory and the Center for Regional Economic Competitiveness. http://economicdiversityinappalachia.creconline.org
CEDS Resilience Library

BACKGROUND:

In anticipation of the Economic Development Administration’s (EDA) upcoming release of revised Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) guidelines, the NADO Research Foundation has compiled a library of examples to help Economic Development Districts (EDDs) navigate incorporating resilience to economic disruptions and other disasters into their CEDS.

EDA is amending the CEDS guidelines to include an economic resilience requirement because it is increasingly apparent that economic prosperity is linked to a region’s ability to prevent, withstand, and quickly recover from major disruptions to its underlying economic base. In addition, the CEDS process provides a critical mechanism to help EDDs identify regional vulnerabilities and prevent or respond to economic disruptions.

Many regions, especially those that have been heavily impacted by natural disasters or the downturn of a specific industry, have already begun incorporating aspects of resilience into their CEDS. These aspects may include:

- Detailed analyses of regional vulnerabilities in SWOT assessments;
- Inclusion of regional disaster preparedness and recovery efforts;
- Strategies to diversify the economy or realign the workforce to support emerging industries;
- Resilience objectives built off of statewide initiatives or related regional planning efforts;
- Or, all of the above.

ABOUT THE LIBRARY:

The NADO Research Foundation has reviewed CEDS prepared by our members and catalogued examples detailing how EDDs are currently addressing resilience. The library allows users to browse CEDS that incorporate resilience into their planning efforts.
CEDS Resilience Library

If a user finds a CEDS that is of particular interest, it can be located by simply scrolling down the webpage. All CEDS are organized by state and titled by the organization’s name. For example, under the “Alabama” heading you will find “Northwest Alabama Council of Governments – 2012 CEDS”. Each CEDS that is included in the index will be available on the webpage allowing users to explore the examples in more detail.

Please contact NADO Research Foundation Program Associate Sara James at sjames@nado.org with any questions.

LIBRARY INDEX:
Start Here: CEDS Resilience Library Index

ALABAMA:
Northwest Alabama Council of Governments – 2012 CEDS
South Alabama Regional Planning Commission – 2012 CEDS
West Alabama Regional Commission – 2012 CEDS

ARIZONA:
Central Arizona Governments – 2013 CEDS
Northern Arizona Council of Governments - 2010 CEDS

ARKANSAS:
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CEDS Template Outline
I. Executive Summary

a. Vision Statement

b. What is [EDD]?

c. What is a CEDS?

d. Why are you doing this?—the “call to action”
   - Economic Conditions/SWOT Finding #1
   - Economic Conditions/SWOT Finding #2
   - Economic Conditions/SWOT Finding #3

e. What will you accomplish?
   - SMART Goal #1
   - SMART Goal #2
   - SMART Goal #3

f. How will you do it?
   - SMART Goal #1 – Strategy or Project
   - SMART Goal #2 – Strategy or Project
   - SMART Goal #3 – Strategy or Project
II. Summary Background (Economic Conditions)

a. Brief introduction of region—location, component counties/cities, population, etc.

b. Recent timeline of major economic events (providing context)

c. Key industries or clusters (with company features)

d. Key regional trends—demographic, economic, social (tied to SWOT)

e. Assets providing competitive advantage

III. SWOT Analysis

a. Strengths

b. Weaknesses

c. Opportunities

d. Threats
IV. The Plan: SMART Goals, Objectives, Strategies, Actions

a. SMART Goal #1

i. Strategy 1.1
   
   1. Action 1.1.1
   2. Action 1.1.2
   3. Action 1.1.3

ii. Strategy 1.2

   1. Action 1.2.1
   2. Action 1.2.2
   3. Action 1.2.3

iii. Strategy 1.3

   1. Action 1.3.1
   2. Action 1.3.2
   3. Action 1.3.3
V. Evaluation Framework

SMART goals are your performance measures. Hypothetical example: “Increase the primary working age population of Region X by 10% by 2019.” Make sure you have at least one SMART goal that tracks private investment and jobs created/retained to satisfy EDA’s GPRA reporting requirements.

VI. Strategic Projects

Include at least one project of “regional significance” that corresponds to each SMART goal. You know your boards, communities, and stakeholders best so what you do with the longer “project list” is up to you. If you decide to list all projects here, make sure you do it in a format that doesn’t look like a laundry list—i.e. organize them under SMART goals so they at least fit the format of the plan.
CEDS SMART Goal?

“Hold four small business workshops.”
CEDS SMART Goal?

“Maintain the region’s quality of life.”
What challenge is your region facing?

What data would you need to create a compelling call to action?

Create ___ SMART goal and ___ strategy to address challenge.