

Comprehensive Economic Development Plan (CEDS) 2025-2029

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What is the CEDS?

- According to the National Association of Development Organizations (NADO), the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is a locally-based, regionally-driven economic development planning process and document that creates the space for your region to identify its strengths and weaknesses and brings together a diverse set of partners to generate good jobs, diversify the economy, and spur economic growth. This process should engage a range of partners including Economic Development Districts (EDDs), community leaders and residents, tribes, the private sector, educational institutions, and other stakeholders in planning for your region's future.

Content Found

- **Summary Background: An in-depth analysis of the current demographic and socioeconomic conditions**
 1. Population
 2. Age
 3. Ethnicity
 4. Education
 5. Employment
 6. Environment

Future Planning

- Future trends that will affect the regional economy.
 - SWOT Analysis: An analysis of the regional economy's Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats
 - Strategic Direction: Identifies the GCEDD's priority goals and objectives for 2020-2024.
 - Action Plan: The CEDS Action Plan identifies targeted specific objectives that the GCEDD will undertake during the CEDS performance period
 - Evaluation Framework: Performance measures used to evaluate the GCEDD's progress towards goals identified in the Action Plan and the CEDS impact on the regional economy

Previous CEDS Action Plan

- Action Plan:

1. Support the development of the region's high-capacity internet infrastructure
2. Support efforts to obtain federal, state, and regional funding to upgrade and maintain aging infrastructure (storm protection, water, sewer, and drainage facilities), while supporting the expansion of infrastructure to underserved areas.
3. Collaborate on data tools that support the pursuit of funding and regional economic information.
4. Support the increased economic resiliency of our region.
5. Support workforce development that aligns with high growth areas.

Pandemic

- During the pandemic, there have been a lot of changes.
 1. Virtual meetings became the norm
 2. We saw a massive drop in the workforce
 3. Broadband infrastructure and green energy has become a massive focus for grant funding.
 4. Economic Resilience is critical to protect our economy.
- To rebuild after the economic downturn caused by the pandemic, H-GAC staff is forming a new approach for the future. We are starting this new approach with a new strategy for the CEDS.

CEDS draft strategy

- 3 Step Planning Phase
 1. Engage the GCEDD Board members with interviews to understand each members needs and input.
 2. Engage major stakeholders in both the private and public sphere on their economic development concerns. We want to focus on organizations that regularly engage with large employers.
 3. Leverage the board members networks to help engage the local stakeholders in each county with public hearings for community discourse.

Turn it to the Board

Questions?