

/Place State Name Here/

Stronger Economies Together

Strategies for Building New Economic Opportunities

[Place Region Name Here]

[PLACE REGIONAL PHOTO HERE]

Economic Development Plan

[DRAFT/FINAL – Add DATE Here]

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Stronger Economies Together Initiative

[SAMPLE TEXT – FEEL FREE TO EDIT] Launched in 2009 by USDA Rural Development in collaboration with the nation’s Regional Rural Development Centers (RRDC) and their land-grant university partners. The purpose of Stronger Economies Together (SET) is to strengthen the capacity of communities in rural America to work together in developing and implementing an economic development blueprint that strategically builds on the current and emerging economic strengths of their region. Important elements of the Stronger Economies Together program will build collaboration between communities in a region, provides economic analyses that is tailored to help capture the region’s current or emerging clusters and comparative economic advantages and is supported by technical assistance provided by land-grant university extension systems to the regions over a period of several months including the SET training.

[REGION] Executive Summary

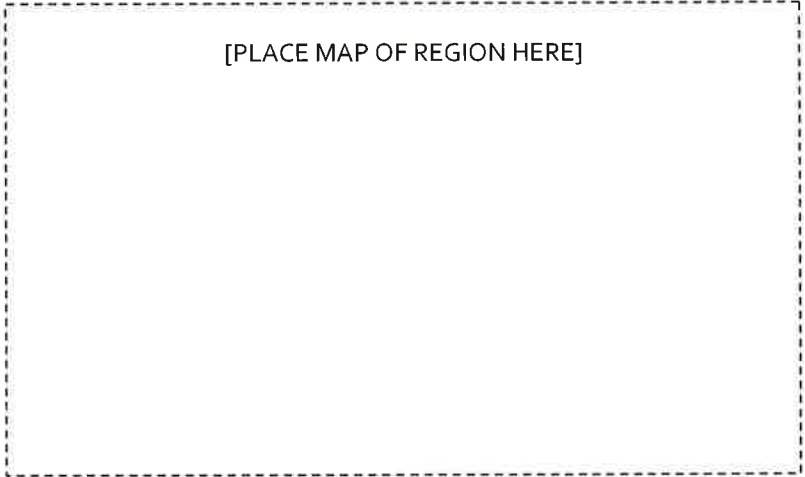
[SAMPLE TEXT – FEEL FREE TO EDIT] This Regional Economic Development Plan will serve as the roadmap for the future economic development efforts of [PLACE REGION NAME HERE]. Key regional stakeholders embrace a spirit of regionalism to support this initiative. Implementing the action items described within this document will strengthen the ability of the [PLACE REGION NAME HERE] to secure its economic future and position it as a competitive region. This plan reflects a nine module planning process with active participation from business, civic, and community leaders. Significant research and discussions have led to the development of this plan.

[Region Name] Description

[INSERT A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE REGION, INCLUDING GEOGRAPHICAL SPAN, HISTORY OF WORKING TOGETHER, WHY THIS GEOGRAPHY IS A LOGICAL ECONOMIC REGION]

[The Region's application may be a good starting point for some of this wording.]

EXAMPLES



[Region Name] Regional Vision

[MODULE 4: PLACE REGIONAL VISION STATEMENT HERE]

EXAMPLES

Broadly Supported:

Persuasive

Keep in mind throughout the writing of this document to keep the concepts straightforward and understandable by the general public.

Introduction

Acknowledgements

The [Region Name] Region would like to thank the staff from the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development, Regional Rural Development Centers, and [Land Grant University] Extension for support throughout the course of this project. We would also like to show our appreciation to [List local sponsors and/or organizations here], the distinguished individuals that took part in the training sessions, and numerous other individuals, for their invaluable insight and ideas that led to the creation of this plan.



Regional Collaboration

Regional Planning Team

[Describe the make-up of the Regional Planning Team. Be sure to describe the various sectors that they represent. Show evidence of broad participation]

Public Input

[Describe how the Regional Planning Team sought input from the public during the planning process.]

Broadly Supported:

Broad Participation

Public Input

Buy-In

Regional Leadership Support

[Describe the support offered by key decision-makers in the region (public endorsements, letters of support, direct participation in planning, offers of resources, etc.)]

Regional Economic Goals

Practical:

Focused

Based on this input from the region coupled with the resources explored throughout the Stronger Economies Together process, we recommend the following goals for the [Region Name] Region:

[Add or remove boxes to reflect the number of goals for your region]

Goal 1:

[Write shortened goal]

Goal 2:

[Write shortened goal]

Goal 3:

[Write shortened goal]

Regional Economic Development Plan

Goal 1:

[MODULE 8: INSERT GOAL 1 – IN SMART FORMAT]

Aligned with Regional Vision and Goals:
Consistent
Connected

Regional Economic Benefits

[MODULE 8: Describe how this goal will benefit the region as a whole in advancing the regional economy]

Focused on Regional Economic Development:
Economic Focus
Regional Focus

Strategies:

[MODULE 8: List key strategies designed to reach the goal]

Target Outcomes:

[MODULE 8: Handout 2, Regional Economic Development Planning Chart]

Practical:
Logical

Short Term:

Intermediate:

Long Term:

Practical:
Time Periods

[REPEAT THE GOAL SECTION ABOVE FOR EACH GOAL YOUR REGION HAS IDENTIFIED]

Evidence Basis for Plan

Regional Demographic Data

[MODULE 2: Insert demographic data that supports or shows evidence of need for the plan.]

Evidence-based:

Assets and Challenges

Regional Assets

[MODULE 7: Add information on the assets available in the region committed to help support the plan]

Potential Barriers and Related Strategies

[MODULE 7: Describe any significant barriers that the region will need to overcome and strategies that will be implemented to overcome these]

Regional Economic Data

[MODULE 5: Add workforce or cluster that supports or shows evidence for the need the plan.]

Evidence-based:

Comparative Advantage

Evaluation Plan

Key Measures and Strategies to Track Progress:


[MODULE 9: Handout 2, Measurement Plan

Practical:

Targets

Appendix

[Add Planning Group Members and affiliations]
[Add Coaching Team Members– USDA-RD and LGU Extension]
[MODULE 8: Handout 2, Regional Economic Development Planning Chart]
[MODULE 8: Handout 3, Plan of Action]
[MODULE 9: Handout 2, Measurement Plan(s)]
[News Releases or Letters of Support that show regional support and buy-in]
[Other relevant information or reference documents]



Practical:
Initial Tasks
Responsibility

Region's Contact Information
Leadership name, contact
Website
Phone number
Etc.



PLACE
LGU Extension
LOGO HERE