

Chapter I - Building the Pathways to Accelerate North Central Idaho

Guiding principles for the development of this CEDS follow the National Association of Development Associations (NADO) *Seven Principles of CEDS Standards of Excellence*:

- Build resilient economies and communities by focusing and targeting strategies on the existing and potential competitive advantages;
- Foster a collaborative framework to strategically align public and private sector investments;
- Use modern scenarios, data and analysis tools, and planning techniques that provide policy makers, stakeholders, and the public with evidence-based and factual information;
- Transform the CEDS into a strategy-driven planning process focused on regional visioning, priorities setting, and performance outcomes;
- Promote and support peer reviews and exchanges across EDD boundaries, enhancing organizational resources and positioning the CEDS as a building block for local and state strategies;
- Communicate in a compelling and modern communication style, including use of online media; and,
- Engage the public, private, nonprofit, and educational sectors, along with the general public, in the development and implementation of the CEDS.

CEDA shares the vision and similar goals of the other four Economic Development Districts in the State of Idaho. As a unit, the Districts celebrate each region individually and the State of Idaho as a whole, collaborating to accelerate economic development and diversification. This CEDS focuses on three pathways to economic vitality: Elevate Industry, Advance Individuals, and Strengthen Communities. The goals of the CEDS support progress in education and workforce; encourage entrepreneurship, business development and economic empowerment; and advance infrastructure and healthy communities.

Vision

Promote the continued prosperity, progress, and productivity of North Central Idaho by creating thriving, connected, sustainable and evolving people, communities, and economies.

*We seek to **Elevate Industry** by creating the environment for thriving economies that are diverse, sustainable, geographically dispersed, and globally competitive.*

*We seek to **Advance Individuals** by fostering a culture that enables people to lead productive, prosperous, and meaningful lives.*

*We seek to **Strengthen Communities** by enhancing our communities' unique characteristics, strengths, and assets to improve economic competitiveness.*