

Tools and Resources for Applicants in Developing Their Rural Jobs & Innovation Accelerator Challenge Proposals

Rural and Regional Development Resources and Materials

Tools and Assessment Information

- ***The Cluster Mapping Project.***

This EDA-funded project by the Institute for Strategy and Competitiveness at Harvard Business School uses detailed county level data and statistical techniques to profile regional clusters and their performance over time, as well as a cluster initiative registry to foster collaboration and strengthen regional economic development efforts. <http://www.clustermapping.us/index.html>

- ***Innovation in American Regions.***

This EDA-funded tool provides practitioners a method of exploring clusters by industry and occupation and assessing the innovation capacity of their region using data from four areas: human capital, economic dynamics, productivity and employment, and economic well-being. <http://www.statsamerica.org/innovation>

- ***Defining Your Region***

U.S. Census Bureau data tools
<http://lehd.did.census.gov/led/datatools/datatools.html>

- **Unlocking Rural Competitiveness: The Role of Regional Clusters.**

EDA-funded research to develop a model that can be used by America's rural communities. Indiana and Purdue Universities assess and maximize Indiana's regional economic advantages. <http://www.ibrc.indiana.edu/innovation/>

- **Distress Index.**

This EDA tool provides practitioners a fast, simple way to calculate whether a county, region, or neighborhood may meet grant thresholds for unemployment and income. <http://www.statsamerica.org/distress/distress.html>

- **Regional Innovation Assets Toolkit.**

This EDA toolkit is designed to help policy makers and citizens assess and improve the innovation capacity of their region by providing the most up-to-date information available on a variety of innovation assets. <http://rrigis.rrri.wvu.edu/>

- **Asset Mapping Roadmap: A Guide to Assessing Regional Development Resources.**

This ETA-funded publication developed by the Council on Competitiveness is focused on helping regions build strategies that align education, workforce development and economic development programs.

<http://www.careeronestop.org/RED/assetmapping/assetmappingtableofcontents.aspx>

- **Know Your Region.**

EDA and the NADO Research Foundation teamed up to deliver a library of information to help local officials, economic development practitioners, community leaders and citizens assess local and regional assets, needs and visions in a global context, leading to long-term regional prosperity and sustainability.

<http://www.knowyourregion.org/>.

Materials on Rural Development and Regional Clusters

- **Training Modules on Cluster Identification and Development, Regional Team Building, and Measuring.**

USDA Stronger Economies Together Initiative –

<http://srdc.msstate.edu/set/curriculum2.html>

- **Clusters of Innovation: Regional Foundations of U.S. Competitiveness.**

Council on Competitiveness.

<http://www.compete.org/publications/detail/220/clusters-of-innovation-initiative-regional-foundations-of-us-competitiveness/>

- **Measuring Regional Innovation: A Guidebook for Conducting Regional Innovation Assessments.**

Council on Competitiveness.

<http://www.compete.org/publications/detail/212/measuring-regional-innovation/>

- **Unlocking Rural Competitiveness: The Role of Regional Clusters.**

Purdue Center for Regional Development.

http://www.statsamerica.org/innovation/report_role_of_regional_clusters_2007.html

- **Governor's Guide to Cluster-Based Strategies for Growing State Economies.**

Council on Competitiveness and National Governor's Association.

<http://www.compete.org/publications/detail/211/governors-guide-to-cluster-based-strategies-for-growing-state-economies/>

- **A Practitioner's Guide for Effective Alignment of Regional Development and Higher Education.**

Council on Competitiveness.

<http://www.compete.org/publications/detail/412/cooperate/>

- **A Practitioner's Guide for Effective Engagement of Business Leaders in Regional Development.**

Council on Competitiveness.

<http://www.compete.org/publications/detail/593/engage/>

- **Collaborate: Leading Regional Innovation Clusters.**

Council on Competitiveness.

<http://www.compete.org/publications/detail/1384/leading-regional-innovation-clusters/>

- **The New "Cluster Moment": How Regional Innovation Clusters Can Foster the Next Economy.**

The Brookings Institution.

http://www.brookings.edu/papers/2010/0921_clusters_muro_katz.aspx

- **Clusters and Competitiveness: A New Federal Role for Stimulating Regional Economies.**

The Brookings Institution.

http://www.brookings.edu/reports/2008/04_competitiveness_mills.aspx

- **Making Sense of Clusters: Regional Competitiveness and Economic Development.**

The Brookings Institution.

http://www.brookings.edu/reports/2006/03cities_cortright.aspx

- **Job Creation on a Budget: How Regional Industry Clusters Can Add Jobs, Bolster Entrepreneurship, and Spark Innovation.**

- The Brookings Institution.
http://www.brookings.edu/papers/2011/0119_clusters_muro.aspx
- **Clusters, Convergence, and Economic Performance.**

Institute for Strategy and Competitiveness, Harvard Business School.
http://www.isc.hbs.edu/pdf/DPS_ClustersPerformance_08-20-10.pdf(PDF)
 - **The Economic Performance of Regions.**

Institute for Strategy and Competitiveness, Harvard Business School.
http://www.isc.hbs.edu/pdf/Porter2003-The_Economic_Performance_of_Regions.pdf(PDF)
 - **Generating Local Wealth, Opportunity, and Sustainability through Rural Clusters.**

Regional Technology Strategies.
<http://rtsinc.org/publications/documents/RuralClusters09.pdf>(PDF)
 - **Rural-Urban Interdependence: Why Metropolitan and Rural America Need Each Other.**

Paper prepared for The Blueprint for American Prosperity, Metropolitan Policy Program at the Brookings Institution.
http://www.rupri.org/Forms/Dabson_Brookings.pdf(PDF)
 - **Past Silos and Smokestacks: Transforming the Rural Economy in the Midwest.**

Chicago Council on Global Affairs.
http://www.thechicagocouncil.org/files/Studies_Publications/HeartlandPapers/Past_Silos_and_Smokestacks_Transforming_the_Rur