
X. 2008-2012 CEDS REGIONAL ACTION PLAN

A. Project Selection for the Regional Action Plan

The projects selected to implement the goals and objectives of the 2007 CEDS include all of those considered “vital” in the strategy review, and recommended to the Strategy Committee and San Luis Valley Development Resources Group Executive Board for final approval. A Draft Action Plan was submitted to the Strategy Committee on November 26, 2007, and finalized before submission of the completed CEDS document at the end of December.

Our selection was also reviewed in response to emphasis in the 2007 CEDS guidelines for a plan which implements the goals and objectives of the CEDS in a manner that:

- Promotes economic development and opportunity;
- Fosters effective transportation access;
- Enhances and protects the environment;
- Maximizes effective development and use of the workforce consistent with any applicable State or local workforce investment strategy;
- Promotes the use of technology in economic development, including access to high-speed telecommunications.
- Balances resources through sound management of physical development; and
- Obtains and utilizes adequate funds and other resources.

The implementation plan also reflects sensitivity to the Amended Investment Policy Guidelines of October 2, 2001 from Assistant Secretary for Economic Development, David A. Sampson, which emphasizes seven points of investment criteria to ensure that our proposed investments were designed to:

- Be market based;
- Be proactive in nature and scope;
- Look beyond the immediate economic horizon, anticipate economic changes, and diversify the economy;
- Maximize attraction of the private sector through EDA participation;
- Have a high probability of success including matching funds, commitment of elected officials, and a high level of human resources talent to produce outcomes;
- Result in higher paying jobs; and
- Maximize return on taxpayer investment.

B. Acronyms

The following acronyms and abbreviations were used in the plan to describe potential partners and funding sources:

- **ABC** = Alamosa Bus Company; **ACDC** = Alamosa County Development Corporation; **ASC** = Adams State College; **AURA** = Alamosa Uptown and River Association.
- **BLF** = Business Loan Fund; **BLM** = Bureau of Land Management.
- **CCEDC** = Costilla County Economic Development Council; **CDBG** = Community Development Block Grant; **CDA-MD** = Colorado Department of Agriculture, Marketing Division; **CDLE** = Colorado Department of Labor & Employment; **CDOH** = Colorado Division of Housing; **CDOT** = Colorado Department of Transportation; **CDOT-E** = CDOT Enhancement funds; **CDOT-TU** = CDOT Transit Unit; **CDOW** = Colorado Division of Wildlife; **CDPHE** = Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment; **CDWR** = Colorado Division of Water Resources; **CHFA** = Colorado Housing Finance Authority; **City** = City Government; **County** = County Government; **COC** = Chamber of Commerce; **CON-CEPTs** = Conejos-Community, Economy & Environment Progressing Together; **CRHDC** = Colorado Rural Housing Development Corporation; **CSP** = Concentrated Solar Power; **CSU** = Colorado State University; **C&TRR** = Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad; **CU** = University of Colorado; **CWDC** = Colorado Workforce Development Center.
- **DHSS** = U.S. Department of Health & Social Services; **DLG-DS** = Colorado Division of Local Government, Demography Section; **DNEDC** = Del Norte Economic Development Council; **DOE** = U.S. Department of Energy; **DOLA** = Colorado Department of Local Affairs.
- **EDA** = U.S. Economic Development Administration; **EDC** = Colorado Economic Development Commission; **EPA** = U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; **EMIAF** = Energy & Mineral Impact Assistance Fund; **Ezone** = SLV Enterprise Zone.
- **FEMA** = Federal Emergency Management Agency.
- **GIS** = SLV GIS/GPS Authority; **GOCO** = Great Outdoors Colorado grants; **GOE** = Governor's Office of Energy; **GRSA** = Great Sand Dunes National Park and Preserve.
- **HUD** = U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- **LCA** = Los Caminos Antiguos Scenic & Historic Byway; **LTB** = County Lodging Tax Boards.
- **MEP** = Micro Enterprise Loan Program; **MGW** = Megawatt; **MVEDC** = Monte Vista Economic Development Council; **MVURA** = Monte Vista Urban Renewal Authority.
- **NPS** = National Park Service; **NREL** = National Renewable Energy Labs.
- **OED** = Colorado Office of Economic Development & International Trade.
- **Private** = Businesses, Banks, Local investors, Venture capital, and Private foundations.
- **RCAC** = Rural Community Assistance Corporation; **RC&D** = Resource Conservation & Development; **RBEG** = Rural Business Enterprise Grant; **RBOG** = Rural Business Opportunity Grant; **RGNF** = Rio Grande National Forest; **RGWCD** = Rio Grande Water Conservation District; **RLF** = SLV Revolving Loan Fund.
- **SBDC** = Small Business Development Center; **ScSEED** = Saguache County Sustainable Environment and Economic Development; **SD** = School District; **SDCNHA** = Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area; **SDO** = State Demography Office; **SER** = Colorado Jobs for Progress; **Silver** = Silver Thread Scenic Byway; **SL&R** = San Luis & Rio Grande Railroad.

- **TAC** = Transit Advisory Committee; **TNC** = The Nature Conservancy; **Town** = Town Government; **TSJC** = Trinidad State Junior College, Valley Campus.
- **URGED** = Upper Rio Grande Economic Development Council; **USDA-RD** = U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development; **USFWS** = U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.
- **VWHS** = Valley Wide Health Services.
- **WSD** = Water & Sanitation District.

C. 2008-2012 REGIONAL ACTION PLAN

Renewable Energy	
Projects, Outcomes, Actions	Potential Partners/Funding Sources
<p><u>CSP Feasibility Study</u></p> <p>Obtain financing and provide for completion of \$125,000 study to establish a meteorological station, evaluate technical design, find optimal sitting, and define other requirements for a 100-MGW CSP plant.</p>	<p>Counties, DOLA, Western Governors, OEDIT, GOE. Same for funding.</p>
<p><u>Develop 100-Megawatt CSP Plant</u></p> <p>Assist as may be needed in developing the plant with capacity to generate electricity for local use and export. Cost of construction estimated at \$300+ million over 3 years. Estimated jobs = 300 construction, 40 permanent.</p>	<p>OEDIT, DOLA, GOE, CWDC, TSJC. Private sector funding.</p>
<p><u>Solar Research Partners</u></p> <p>Maintain and expand partnerships with NREL and other research partners to access technical expertise and assistance needed for solar and other renewable energy projects.</p>	<p>NREL, GOE, CSU, CU, others.</p>
<p><u>Prospective Solar Projects</u></p> <p>Facilitate reviews and public presentations for other solar energy prospects and investors, and track potential developments such as the Sky Fuels proposal for a 1,000-MGW operation.</p>	
<p><u>Hospital/College Solar Project</u></p> <p>Participate with the SLV Regional Medical Center, Adams State College, and other partners to identify and develop a solar application for their facilities. Estimated jobs = 10.</p>	<p>SLV Medical Center, ASC, others. Partner funding sources.</p>
<p><u>Additional Solar Projects</u></p> <p>Assist as may be needed for any other solar prospects advancing to the feasibility or development phase. Estimated jobs = 300.</p>	<p>OEDIT, DOLA, GOE, CWDC, TSJC. Private sector funding.</p>

<p><u>San Luis Valley Power Authority</u></p> <p>Establish a Power Authority with county governments to oversee development of renewable energy projects, participate in planning and implementation, pursue opportunities for regional distribution of electrical power, and ensure an equitable share of benefits for local governments and residents.</p>	<p>Counties, municipalities.</p>
<p><u>Electrical Power Transmission Lines</u></p> <p>Assist in the development of transmission lines for delivering electrical power generated in the Valley to the national grid, and ensure that development provides adequate benefits for the Valley and minimal impacts on communities and environment.</p>	<p>SLV Rural Electric, Xcel Energy, OEDIT, DOLA, EDA. Private sector funding.</p>
<p><u>Energy Supplier Network</u></p> <p>Assist in developing a business network of supplier and service industries in support of the Sun Edison solar-farm and other renewable energy projects as they come on line. Est. jobs = 20.</p>	<p>Local and county-based development groups.</p>
<p><u>Identify Wind-Farm Site</u></p> <p>Assist Invenergy and other prospects in their search for a feasible location to develop a 60-MGW wind-farm with capacity to generate electrical energy for local use and export.</p>	<p>Invenergy, other prospects, counties.</p>
<p><u>Wind-Farm Development</u></p> <p>Assist as may be needed in wind-farm development contingent on the identification of suitable wind-farm sites. Est. jobs =20.</p>	<p>OEDIT, DOLA, GOE. CWDC, counties. Funding by private sector, BLF gap financing.</p>
<p><u>Renewable Energy Equipment Manufacturing</u></p> <p>Assess feasibility and assist in potential development phases for region-based manufacturing, distribution, repair, or assembly of solar- and/or wind-powered equipment, components, and materials. Estimated jobs = 250.</p>	<p>OEDIT, DOLA, EDA, CWDC, counties. Funding by private sector, BLF gap financing.</p>
<p><u>Wood Biomass Fuel Production</u></p> <p>Based on assessment of forest waste biomass supply, assist in the development of wood chip manufacturing or other production to provide heating for Adams State College or other markets. Estimated jobs = 30.</p>	<p>Mountain Valley Lumber, OEDIT, CWDC. Funding by private sector, BLF gap financing.</p>

<p><u>Biodiesel Fuel Production</u></p> <p>Assess potential for expanding biodiesel blending, distribution, and/or production operations scaled appropriately to the Valley's canola production and access to canola crushing facilities, and assist in development as may be indicated.</p>	<p>CPAC, Alta Fuels, other biodiesel firms.</p>
<p><u>Byproducts of Biodiesel Production</u></p> <p>Determine feasibility for production based on the byproducts of biodiesel operations such as glycerin, fuel pellets, cattle and fish food, and other byproducts contingent on biodiesel expansion.</p>	<p>CPAC, CSU Research Facility, private sector research partners.</p>
<p><u>Cellulosic Ethanol Plant</u></p> <p>Identify appropriate partnerships and assist in providing feasibility studies on the potential for production of a cellulosic form of ethanol based on wheat straw, hull-less barley, or other crops which can be produced locally. Est jobs = 50 for a 50-million/gal plant.</p>	<p>OEDIT, USDA-RD, local growers, private sector investors.</p>
<p><u>Other Renewable Energy Projects and Partnerships</u></p> <p>Provide for feasibility studies and assist with development as may be needed for the SEED Park and other prospective renewable energy or related projects and partnerships which may be identified during the 5-year CEDS planning period.</p>	<p>OEDIT, DOLA, RC&D, other sources to be identified.</p>

<p>Workforce Development</p>	
<p><u>Research Renewable Energy Workforce Requirements</u></p> <p>Research workforce requirements for solar and other renewable energy operations advancing to the development phase in order to ensure that adequate training and workforce preparation is being made to meet industry demands for "gold collar" and specialized occupational skills.</p>	<p>CWCD, SER, TSJC, ASC, public schools.</p>
<p><u>Workforce Preparation and Training</u></p> <p>Maintain and expand partnerships for workforce preparation and training requirements, sponsor workshops and conferences, and provide other forms of assistance.</p>	<p>ASC Community Partnerships, CWCD, TSJC, SER.</p>

Ag Processing and Related Agricultural Value-Added Projects

<p><u>Packaging Material from Potatoes</u></p> <p>Assess feasibility of producing packaging material from potatoes as an alternative to packaging made from plastic, and assist in development phases. Estimated jobs = 25.</p>	<p>CPAC, USDA-RD. Funding by RBEG, RBOG.</p>
<p><u>High-End Starch Products</u></p> <p>Assist in the evaluation of potentials for producing higher-end starch products such as pharmaceutical-grade starch filler at the Moraine Partners plant north of Monte Vista. Est. jobs = 25.</p>	<p>Moraine Partners, USDA-RD. Funding by RBEG, RBOG.</p>
<p><u>Ag Processing/Renewable Energy Park</u></p> <p>Research the feasibility of creating an industrial park combining renewable energy sources and value-added ag processing on property north of Monte Vista, contingent on re-engineering the Veterans Lagoon wastewater treatment facility.</p>	<p>City of Monte Vista, DOLA, OEDIT, USDA-RD.</p>
<p><u>Idaho Pacific/Otter Tail Plant Expansion</u></p> <p>Determine status of expansion plans for the Idaho Pacific/Otter Tail potato dehy operation in Center and need for expanded natural gas supply, and provide assistance as may be needed. Estimated jobs = 30.</p>	<p>Idaho Pacific/Otter Tail.</p>
<p><u>Other Value-Added Processing</u></p> <p>Identify opportunities and provide assistance for a range of development prospects based on Valley-grown crops and livestock such as barley malting; canola oil; carrots; quinoa; vodka; meat packing; dairy; and others. Estimated jobs = 30.</p>	<p>CPAC, RC&D, USDA-RD.</p>
<p><u>Byproducts of Value-Added Processing</u></p> <p>Explore potentials for production based on the byproducts of existing value-added processing plants as these operations reach full production capacity.</p>	<p>CPAC, USDA-RD.</p>
<p><u>Ag Marketing and New Products</u></p> <p>Provide for feasibility studies and assist with development as may be needed for prospective projects focused on niche marketing, new product, or related projects and partnerships which may be identified during the 5-year CEDS planning period.</p>	<p>CPAC, USDA-RD.</p>

<p><u>Livestock and Dairy Processing</u></p> <p>Identify opportunities and provide assistance for a range of potentials based on various types of livestock such as beef processing, goat dairies, and other projects</p>	
<p><u>Aquaculture and Hydroponics</u></p> <p>Identify prospects and assist in development of aquaculture projects and hydroponic production of tomatoes, other vegetables, and herbs.</p>	

Tourism and Related	
<p><u>Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad Improvements</u></p> <p>Provide data and information to assist with funding requests and applications focused on operational support and improvements needed to maintain and increase ridership as a major tourist attraction. Estimated retained jobs = 60.</p>	<p>Funding by EDA Public Works, foundations, and private investors.</p>
<p><u>San Luis & Rio Grande Railroad Passenger Expansion</u></p> <p>As part of the planned Business Development Center project, provide space for the SL&RG passenger rail ticketing and terminal facilities needed to upgrade passenger accommodations and increase ridership. Estimated jobs = 10.</p>	<p>Funding by EDA Public Works for Business Development Center renovations, Alamosa COC, Alamosa Marketing District.</p>
<p><u>Other Railroad Development Prospects</u></p> <p>Monitor other rail prospects such as excursion trips from South Fork to Creede, commuter rail, and track rentals for rail car storage, Narrow Gauge Park, expanded freight service, and others.</p>	<p>SL&RG, Alamosa COC, private sector.</p>
<p><u>Village at Wolf Creek</u></p> <p>Monitor development plans for the Village at Wolf Creek to assess potential impacts on workforce, transportation systems, environment, water resources, and local government services and infrastructure.</p>	<p>URGED, Mineral County, RGNF, private sector.</p>

<p><u>BLF/MEP Loan Assistance</u></p> <p>Provide BLF/MEP financial assistance to advance small business projects with total or partial dependence on tourism. Estimated jobs = 10/year.</p>	<p>BLF, MEP, SBDC.</p>
<p><u>Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area</u></p> <p>Monitor progress and assist where necessary to advance designation and implementation of the Sangre de Cristo NHA, and research possibilities for expansion or new NHA based on themes in Mineral, Rio Grande, and Saguache counties.</p>	<p>NHA Steering Committee, State and local Congressional staff offices.</p>
<p><u>Heritage Tourism Pilot Project</u></p> <p>Oversee completion of contracted services for the Heritage Tourism Pilot Project to develop heritage traveler itineraries.</p>	<p>DOLA, Shapin & Assoc., SLV Heritage Committee. Funded by DOLA.</p>
<p><u>Nature-Based and Ecotourism Potentials</u></p> <p>Continue to identify and research business opportunities for nature-based and eco-tourism projects, such as a Valley branch of the Colorado Birding Trail.</p>	<p>CDOW Watchable Wildlife Program, USFWS, GRSA, San Luis State Park, RGNF, BLM, private landowners.</p>
<p><u>Other Tourism Potentials</u></p> <p>Identify and assist in development of other forms of tourism such as an agriculture-based tourism and sacred-based tourism.</p>	

Other Non-Agricultural Industry Projects	
<p><u>Targeted Industry Study</u></p> <p>Provide for funding and completion of a Targeted Industry Study to identify appropriate industry targets and new opportunities, and conduct meetings to inventory assets and preferences of individual counties and communities across the region.</p>	<p>DOLA, OEDIT, industry studies consultant, City of Alamosa, counties, Colorado Assn. for Manufacturing and Technology.</p>
<p><u>Pursue Industry Targets</u></p> <p>Assist in the development of selected industry targets consistent with the CEDS Regional Goals and Plan. Est. jobs = 50.</p>	<p>Counties, cities/towns, CWDC.</p>
<p><u>Trade and Service Sectors</u></p> <p>Use the BLF/MEP financing tool to advance business projects in the trade and service sectors with potential to fill market niches, provide a source of local supply, or reduce sales leakage. Estimated jobs (excluding tourism projects) = 20/year.</p>	<p>SBDC for business plans. Funding by bank loans, business owner investments, and BLF or MEP loans.</p>

<p><u>Lumber and Wood Products Manufacturing</u></p> <p>Identify opportunities and assist in development for new and existing lines of production based on lumber and wood products, such as furniture manufacturing, wood pellets for fuel and resumption of small-scale sawmill operations.</p>	<p>RGNF, USDA-RD, OEDIT, Mountain Valley Lumber. Funding by bank and business investment, and BLF or MEP loans.</p>
<p><u>Technology-Based Sectors</u></p> <p>Provide assistance to advance viable business prospects in technology-based industries including call-centers, customer support services, home-based operations, or similar ventures.</p>	<p>Colorado Assn. for Manufacturing and Technology.</p>
<p><u>High Altitude Training Center</u></p> <p>Determine feasibility and optimal siting for development of a high-altitude training center for athletes, and assist if feasible.</p>	
<p><u>Private Correctional Facility</u></p> <p>Contingent on feasibility and public support, assist as may be needed in development of an 800-1,200 bed private correctional facility in Conejos County. Estimated jobs = 300.</p>	<p>Private sector investors.</p>
<p><u>Other Non-Ag Projects and Potentials</u></p> <p>Monitor a wide range of prospective projects in the non-ag sectors to determine readiness for development, such as an RV Park, mine salvage operations, and projects with Brownsfield potential.</p>	<p>ACDC, counties, cities/towns.</p>

<p>Business and Industry Recruitment</p>	
<p><u>Participation with Local- and County-Based EDCs</u></p> <p>Participate with local- and county-based EDCs and community groups to assist in the advancement or recruitment of projects consistent with the CEDS Regional Goals and Plan.</p>	<p>ACDC, URGED, MVEDC, DNEDC, CCEDC, ScSEED, Con-CEPTS, and others. Examples of assistance include data and research, business plan review, BLF or MEP financing, and Ezone.</p>
<p><u>OEDIT Business Leads and Trade Shows</u></p> <p>Prepare information responses to business leads, attend trade shows, and participate in other programs sponsored by OEDIT on a selected basis.</p>	<p>OEDIT.</p>

<p><u>Building and Site Inventory and Marketing</u></p> <p>Monitor and assist as needed in marketing the availability of sites and buildings suitable for development, and provide additional assistance to further advance projects.</p>	<p>Private sector development property owners.</p>
--	--

<p>Financial and Business Assistance</p>	
---	--

<p><u>BLF/MEP Capitalization and Assistance</u></p> <p>Monitor the adequacy of capitalization levels and prepare recapitalization requests to maintain and expand the BLF, MEP, and possible other loan funds as an ongoing tool for advancement of other CEDS projects.</p>	<p>CDBG funds administered by OEDIT provide the major source for recapitalization.</p>
---	--

<p><u>Enterprise Zone Investments</u></p> <p>Provide State tax credits and benefits through Colorado's Enterprise Zone program as an ongoing tool for generating private investment in farm and business expansions, and taxpayer contributions to eligible community projects.</p>	<p>OEDIT. Marketing grants available on a matching funds basis.</p>
--	---

<p><u>Business Development Center</u></p> <p>Establish a Business Development Center in downtown Alamosa to create a one-stop convenience to business clients and prospects; enable SLVDRG to expand; and improve program performance through co-location with the Chamber of Commerce; Visitor Center; and other development agencies. Estimated job retentions = 10.</p>	<p>Alamosa County Marketing District. Funding for acquisition provided by direct investments of the SLVDRG and Marketing District, and low-interest loans.</p>
---	--

<p><u>Development Center Building Renovations</u></p> <p>Obtain financing to renovate and convert a former depot building to desired office configuration following relocation of the Alamosa County DSS to new county facilities.</p>	<p>EDA Public Works.</p>
---	--------------------------

<p><u>Create Business Incubator</u></p> <p>Determine feasibility and develop a business incubator using co-located services and renovated space at the Business Development Center. Estimated jobs created by graduating clients = 10/year.</p>	<p>EDA, DOLA, OEDIT.</p>
--	--------------------------

<p><u>Development Financing Connections</u></p> <p>Maintain existing and explore new contacts for funding development projects with State, Federal, non-profit, and private sector sources.</p>	<p>Examples include EDA, DOLA, OEDIT, USDA-RD, CHFA, banks, ag lenders, private businesses, and private foundations.</p>
<p><u>Local Business Assistance Partnerships</u></p> <p>Maintain partnerships to provide business planning assistance and Leading Edge classes.</p>	<p>SBDC.</p>
<p><u>Financial Referrals and Lending Partnerships</u></p> <p>Encourage and participate where feasible with financial institutions offering loan guarantees through the SBA and FmHA.</p>	

<p>Transportation Infrastructure and Transit Assistance</p>	
<p><u>Transportation Planning Assistance</u></p> <p>Participate and assist with planning for CDOT's 7-county SLV Transportation Planning Region (including Chaffee) to provide liaison with CDOT planners, input on the 2035 Plan, STAC representative support, and meeting arrangements for over 100 persons.</p>	<p>CDOT, SLV Regional Planning Commission. Partial funding support through July-June planning grants.</p>
<p><u>Transportation Project Monitoring</u></p> <p>Monitor the planning process to ensure adequate response to regional priorities including intersection improvements; passing lanes on US 160; Enhancement projects; north access to the Sand Dunes; 4-laning of US 160 as a major east/west corridor across the State; and other proposals and issues.</p>	<p>CDOT, SLV Regional Planning Commission.</p>
<p><u>SLV Regional Airport Runway Improvements</u></p> <p>Participate and assist with efforts to accommodate larger aircraft and jet service at the Regional Airport by expanding runways and other infrastructure.</p>	<p>CDOT, Federal Aviation agencies.</p>
<p><u>Rail Commuter Services</u></p> <p>Assist in determining the feasibility for rail commuter services by applying for funding to conduct a ridership study and providing oversight for the study.</p>	

<p><u>Transit Services Plan</u></p> <p>Oversee consultant services for completion of a Coordinated Transit Services Plan to design a workable system for job commuter and general public transit in the region, and capable of meeting the local match for \$500,000 in FTA funds.</p>	<p>CDOT-TU, consultant, TAC. Funding for study by FTA 5304 grant.</p>
<p><u>Regional Transit Authority</u></p> <p>As part of the Transit Services study, provide the design for and encourage the establishment of a Regional Transit Authority as the appropriate institutional structure for governance and management of the transit system and FTA funds.</p>	<p>Counties, CDOT-TU, TAC.</p>
<p><u>Multimodal Site Plan</u></p> <p>Obtain matching funds and provide for consultant completion of a Multimodal Facility Site Plan at the Business Development Center site.</p>	<p>Funding by FTA 5304 grant from CDOT-TU.</p>

<p>Other Physical Infrastructure Projects</p>	
<p><u>Gas Pipeline to Center</u></p> <p>Revisit the need and partnership support to develop a high-volume natural gas pipeline to the Town of Center to support processing plant expansion, and create redundant service capacity for the town and the ag warehousing, packing, and shipping complex. Est construction jobs = 200.</p>	<p>DOLA, Rio Grande and Saguache counties, Xcel Energy. Funding by EDA Public Works, DOLA, and local match.</p>
<p><u>Other Infrastructure Projects</u></p> <p>Assist local governments with development of other infrastructure projects to the extent that these projects represent a barrier to economic development priorities.</p>	<p>DOLA, OEDIT, USDA-RD, EDA Public Works.</p>

<p>Telecommunications</p>	
<p><u>Broadband Connections to Courthouses</u></p> <p>Assist with development of broadband connections to county courthouses and municipal buildings contingent on funding from State and local sources.</p>	<p>DOLA, State MNT, counties.</p>

Capacity Building and Communications	
<p><u>Regional Information Website</u></p> <p>Assist with local government partners to develop a single portal website for the region which provides information accessible on a 24/7 basis.</p>	<p>Local governments.</p>
<p><u>Technical Workshops and Training</u></p> <p>Participate with ASC and other partners in sponsoring technical workshops and training for local governments, local- and county-based EDCs and community groups, other agencies, and general public.</p>	<p>ASC, DOLA, OEDIT, USDA-RD.</p>
<p><u>One Land, One Plan Meetings</u></p> <p>Sponsor meetings to gather input and prepare recommendations for regional needs and improvements for Congressional consideration and action.</p>	<p>Regional offices of Congressional Delegation, ASC.</p>

Community Services and Facilities	
<p><u>Main street Revitalization Projects</u></p> <p>Assist Main street Revitalization and related project initiatives by participation on community evaluation teams, and funding contacts.</p>	<p>DOLA, OEDIT, EDCC, CDOT Enhancement funds.</p>
<p><u>Storefront Improvement Loans</u></p> <p>Maintain and establish loan fund pools to improve and enhance the appearance of business storefronts and increase shopping activity.</p>	<p>BLF, MEP.</p>
<p><u>Rio Grande Hospital Expansion</u></p> <p>Assist with funding efforts for the expansion of Rio Grande Hospital expansion in order to provide space for medical clinics and other essential services. Estimated jobs = 25.</p>	<p>DOLA, Ezone.</p>

<p><u>Other Community Facilities</u></p> <p>Assist in development of other community facilities to the extent that these projects represent a barrier to other economic development priorities or loss to the economic base. Examples include government co-location building in Monte Vista; restoration of Home Lake Veterans Center; and construction of "green" buildings.</p>	<p>DOLA, local governments, various Federal and State agencies, private sector investments.</p>
<p><u>Disaster Response Projects</u></p> <p>Support business initiatives to provide services in response to large-scale natural and other disasters where a mobile morgue is needed.</p>	<p>Homeland Security.</p>
<p><u>Community Services</u></p> <p>Support, encourage, and participate on a selected basis with initiatives for a wide range of community services and needs such as energy-efficient and affordable housing for the workforce; establishing Community Endowments; Boys and Girls Clubs; museums; and various health and safety projects.</p>	<p>DOLA, various State and Federal agencies.</p>

<p>Natural Resources and Environment</p>	
<p><u>Land Management Agency Partnerships</u></p> <p>Maintain and expand partnerships with land management agencies to support regional development priorities.</p>	<p>GRSA, RGNF, BLM, USFWS, CDOW, State Parks, and others.</p>
<p><u>Water Conservation and Protection</u></p> <p>Participate as may be feasible in supporting water conservation agencies and measures designed to protect watersheds and aquifers and to promote sustainable uses of regional water resources by agriculture, industry, government, and residents.</p>	<p>RGWCD, State Div. of Water Resources.</p>
<p><u>San Luis Basin Sustainability Project</u></p> <p>Participate as a member of the Data Team, and provide additional research as may be feasible, to advance EPA's Sustainability Project in a national model using 20-year data series and metric formulas to project regional sustainability.</p>	<p>EPA Cincinnati Research Unit, GRSA, ASC, TNC.</p>
<p><u>Environmental Reviews</u></p> <p>Conduct environmental reviews for CDBG- and EDA-funded loan and other projects as required by funding sources for clearance of funding requests.</p>	<p>OEDIT.</p>

<p><u>Subdivision and Land Development Reviews</u></p> <p>Re-establish the agency review and comment functions once carried out by the RDPC for subdivision proposals and other proposed projects and developments. Promote and accommodate projects which are compatible with the sites chosen; scaled appropriately for water availability; and do not present extensive impacts, public cost, and risks to residents and wildlife.</p>	<p>Local governments.</p>
<p><u>CEDS Compliance Reviews</u></p> <p>Review and comment on project proposals requesting EDA participation or funding in order to promote and accommodate projects consistent with CEDS goals and priorities.</p>	<p>EDA.</p>
<p><u>Related Projects and Partnerships</u></p> <p>Participate in projects and organizations focused on conserving and protecting natural resources and environment with examples including open space and greenbelts; energy use and conservation; and groups providing comment on oil and natural gas drilling; Summitville mine reclamation; and other projects.</p>	<p>SLV Wetlands Area Focus Committee, Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust, other conservation and land protection groups.</p>
<p><u>Implement Trails and Recreation Master Plan</u></p> <p>Encourage implementation of projects based on the Trails and Recreation Master Plan and participate if feasible based on funding and resources available.</p>	<p>CDOW, DOLA.</p>

<p>Data Collection, Management, and Research</p>	
<p><u>Ongoing Data Services</u></p> <p>Provide data services as an ongoing economic development tool, responding to over 400 requests a year; preparing statistical summaries; updating and expanding the data collection; and directing inquiries to appropriate referral sources.</p>	
<p><u>State Data Center Affiliate</u></p> <p>Maintain designation and participate as a State Data Center Affiliate with the State Demography Office.</p>	<p>SDO.</p>

<p><u>Expand Research Capability</u></p> <p>Contingent on additional funding support, provide for research studies and reports for various aspects of development such as economic impact studies for proposed or existing operations and community events; tax impact studies; surveys; and other research.</p>	<p>Local governments, DOLA, SDO, OEDIT.</p>
<p><u>Website Access</u></p> <p>Share appropriate levels of information and SLVDRG data products with the general public via website access.</p>	<p>Local governments.</p>
<p><u>Other Data and Related Assistance</u></p> <p>Provide other data and related assistance to advance economic development projects and priorities, such as presentations to local governments, business groups, schools, and community groups; participation on the Health Trends and Data Committee; and preparation for the 2010 Census under the LUCA program.</p>	<p>SDO.</p>