



Regional Economic Partnership Agreement

We, the undersigned, hereby declare ourselves partners of the Southeast Missouri Economic Development Alliance. Our partnership is committed to regional economic development, believing it to be critical to the long term economic and social well being of the region. In executing this document, we formally agree to pursue the strategic goals specified herein.

Our partnership is grounded in a set of common beliefs:

- We believe that **common interests** exist among the cities and counties of the region.
- We believe that **mutual benefit** can be derived from sharing resources, developing opportunities together, and invoking a spirit of cooperation.
- We believe that the preservation of individual **community identities** strengthens the region.
- We believe in fostering continued **regional economic development**.
- We believe that **transportation, infrastructure, and workforce development** needs should be addressed from regional and long-term perspectives.
- We believe in improved **communication** as a catalyst for regional cooperation and trust.
- We believe that **entrepreneurship** and **micro-enterprise** are fundamental strategies for long-term, job creation and capital investment.

Based on these shared beliefs, we commit to developing action plans in support of the following strategic goals:

- Educate and inform citizenry as to the benefits of maintaining a regional focus.
- Protect and reinforce individual community identities through regional cooperation.
- Identify and utilize regional assets to promote regional economic development.
- Develop and sustain regional leadership
- Preserve and enhance the quality of life in the region.

In order to attain consensus on specific action plans, we pledge to meet semi-annually and report progress annually to our respective constituencies for a minimum period of five years.

Organization

Date