

Investing in Manufacturing Community Partnership (IMCP)
Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
Regional Agriculture, Food and Beverage (AFB) Manufacturing Sector
February 24, 2015

Pursuant to the United States Department of Commerce, Economic Development Administration's (EDA) announcement of the Federal Interagency Competition, Fiscal Year 2015 Investing in Manufacturing Community Partnership, a focused sector consortium of government, non-profit, and private entities located across the 14-county south central and southwestern region of Wisconsin, agree to form the Madison Region Economic Partnership Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership agreement (henceforth referred to as "MadREP IMCP Consortium" or "Consortium") to collaboratively engage in the formation of a consortium on agriculture, food and beverage production, processing, distribution, and sales.

- I. The purpose of forming the consortium and in pursuing IMCP designation will be to implement a sector strategy and plan that effectively addresses key areas of the region's ecosystem, including:
 - a. Workforce, talent, skills and training needs
 - b. Research and Development (R&D) and related innovation funding and facilities
 - c. International trade and marketing, including product exports and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) positioning
 - d. Key sites, facilities, and infrastructure development for AFB ecosystem investment
 - e. Sector supply chain gaps, breakdowns, and opportunities
 - f. Capital and operational/administrative access needs and opportunities

- II. Signatories of this MOU agree to:
 - a. Fully participate in the consortium upon IMCP designation or as grants are pursued irrespective of designation
 - b. Bring their organizational expertise and related resources, as permitted, to the table to achieve measurable results
 - c. Work closely with other consortium partners to successfully execute on the deliverables in the MadREP IMCP application
 - d. Bring additional partners to the working group, as is necessary and appropriate, to accomplish Consortium goals as established in the IMCP application and by this consortium
 - e. Cooperate, collaborate, and effectively implement the program outlined in the approved IMCP proposal including reviewing, vetting, and prioritizing proposals addressing AFB gaps in the six categories outlined earlier
 - f. Create and participate in an outreach and communication strategy related to the marketing and implementation of projects outlined in the IMCP proposal

- III. MadREP will serve as the Lead Applicant on behalf of the Consortium and assume fiscal and administrative responsibility. MadREP is authorized to negotiate and execute the IMCP agreement with EDA on behalf of the MadREP IMCP Consortium. It's primary point of contact will be Michael P. Gay, CEcD, Senior Vice President of Economic Development at MadREP

- IV. The MOU will include letters of support delineating specific expertise and/or specific activities that each member of the Consortium brings to the partnership

- V. MadREP will execute an additional MOU with any partner receiving funding through the MadREP IMCP proposal

On behalf of my organization and as a fully committed partner, I agree to execute the terms of this MOU and follow the principles of collaboration embodied in it.

Signed _____

Title: _____

Organization Name: _____

Date _____