



KEY POINTS on the creation and implementation of the:

***Rural Indiana Strategy for Excellence in 2020 (RISE 2020)***

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January 19, 2008 by: Dr. Sam Cordes, Co-Director, Purdue University Center for  
Regional Development

1. Long history and success of the Indiana Rural Development Council (IRDC)
2. Creation (in 2005) of the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA)
3. Creation (in 2005) of the Purdue Center for Regional Development (PCRD)
4. Lt. Governor Skillman's vision for rural Indiana:  

"I envision a rural Indiana that is characterized by genuine economic opportunity, responsible stewardship of natural resources and strong, sustainable communities that provide a high quality of life for those who call rural Indiana home. We cannot become a state of haves and have-nots. Achieving this vision will benefit all Hoosiers." Lt. Governor Becky Skillman
5. Lt. Governor asks PCRD to facilitate the strategic planning process (2005)
6. A key element in the process: engage "nonrural" stakeholders in the process
7. RISE 2020 "stewardship" vested with IRDC (2006)
8. What is the RISE 2020 framework? A foundation and seven pillars (see attached)
9. RISE 2020 is:
  - Local people doing great things
  - Owned by the people who engage
  - Built upon trust
  - Focused on process and principles...the products will come
  - Not a detailed strategy
  - Not sector-driven
  - A marathon, not a sprint



10. Outcomes and activities attributable to RISE 2020

- a. Basis for OCRA's strategic plan and setting its priorities
- b. Indiana Rural Forums
- c. 2006 and 2007 Statewide Rural Summits
- d. County rural summits
- e. RISE 2020 Rural Congress
  - Rural priorities report
  - Top ten rural priorities
- f. Indiana-Scotland learning exchange
- g. Shared nationally and internationally—used in Farm Bill dialogue
- h. Indiana Home Town Competitiveness program—9 pilot communities named
- i. Appointment of a statewide RISE 2020 Ombudsmen
- j. Publishing of a RISE 2020 Guidebook (in process)
- k. Others not noted and more to come.....

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