

NIRPC COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS)

***ECONOMY & PLACE
WORKING GROUP***



Welcome!

Tasks Today

- Discuss Public Engagement
- Discuss SWOT analysis
- Discuss Quantum/Aspirational Cluster findings
- Narrow focus of CEDS with 3 industry cluster drill downs

CEDS Public Engagement

- 3 In Person Engagements
- 1 Virtual event
- Event registrations n=86
- Attendees n=42

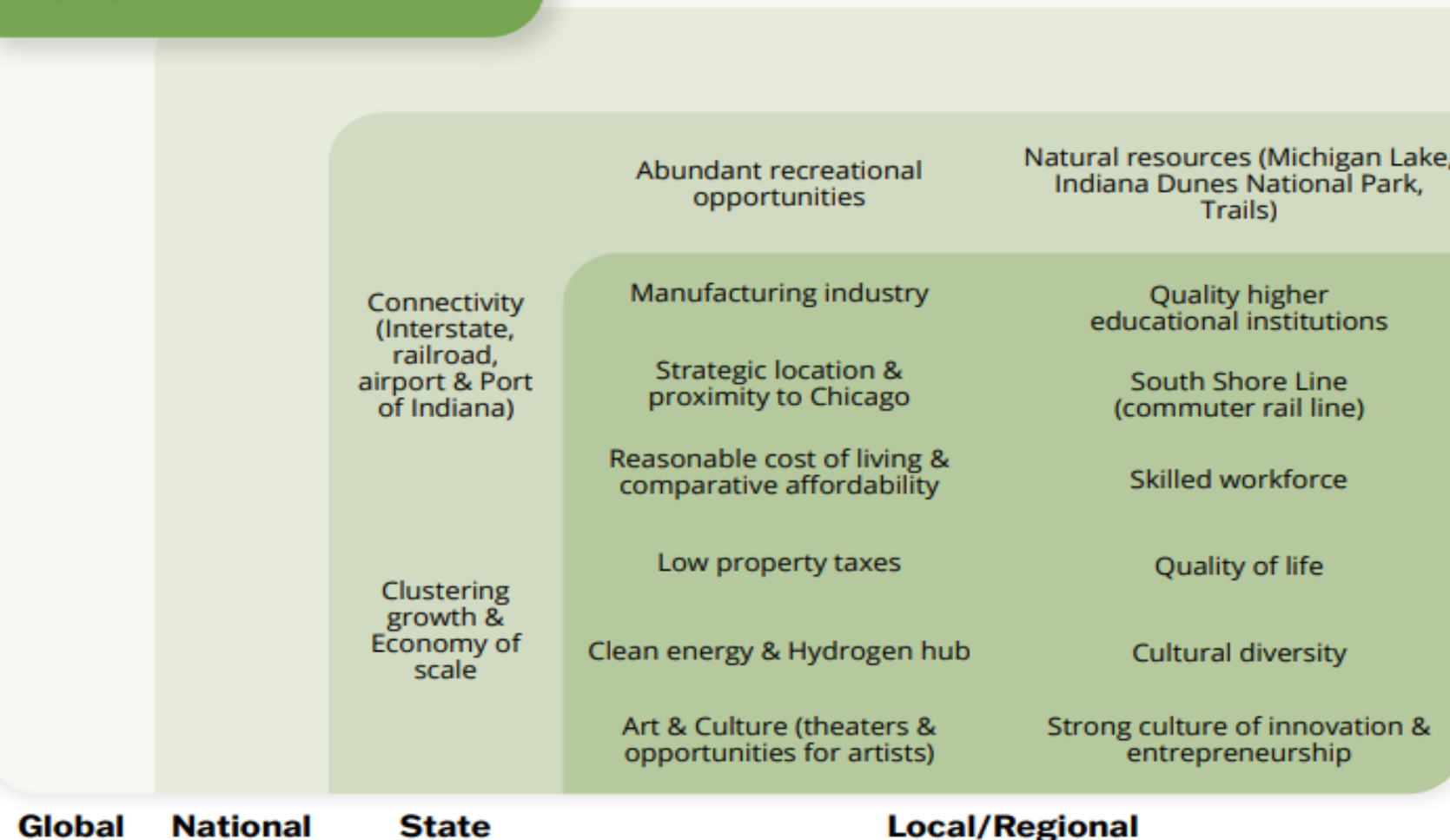
CEDS Engagement

Participating Organizations		
219 Development	IUN	Reeder Companies
Antero Group	IVY Tech	Superior Construction
Black Chamber of Commerce	JSHELD	Thomas & Associates
City of Gary	Lake/LaPorte County Economy Development	Town of Munster
City of Michigan City	Lakeshore Chamber	Union Township Trustee of Porter County
CoAction	Northwestern Indiana Building and Construction Trades Council (NWI BCTC)	Unity Foundation
Crossroads Chamber	NWI Forum	US Senator Todd Young NW Regional Office
Economic Development Corporation - Michigan City	Old National Bank	Valparaiso University
HDC	Post Tribune	Vibrant Indiana MC
Indiana American Water	Purdue Extension	Weiss Entities
ION STEWARDS ENERGY	Purdue Northwest	Westville Public Library

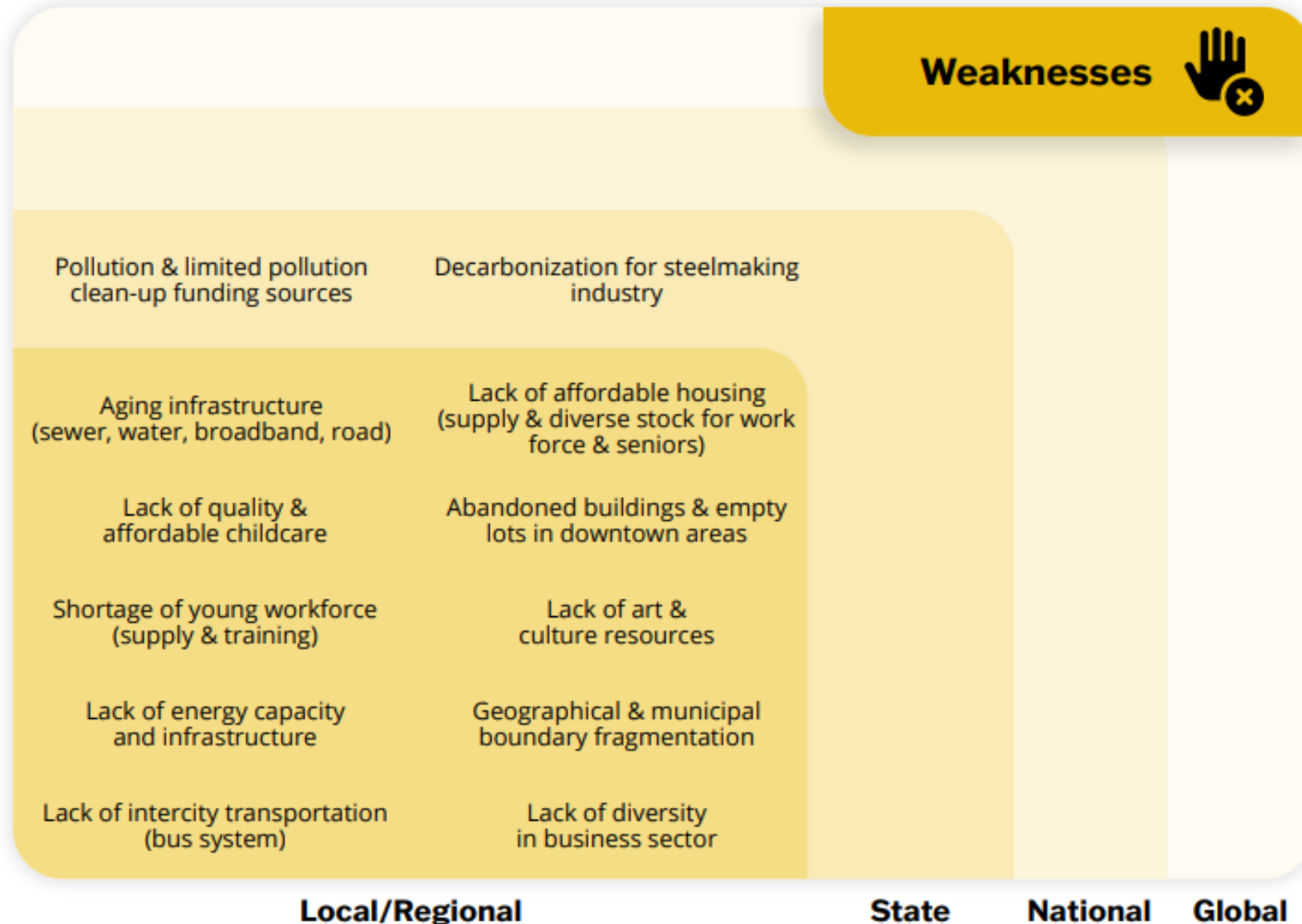
What do you think are strengths in the region?



Strengths




What do you think are weaknesses in the region?

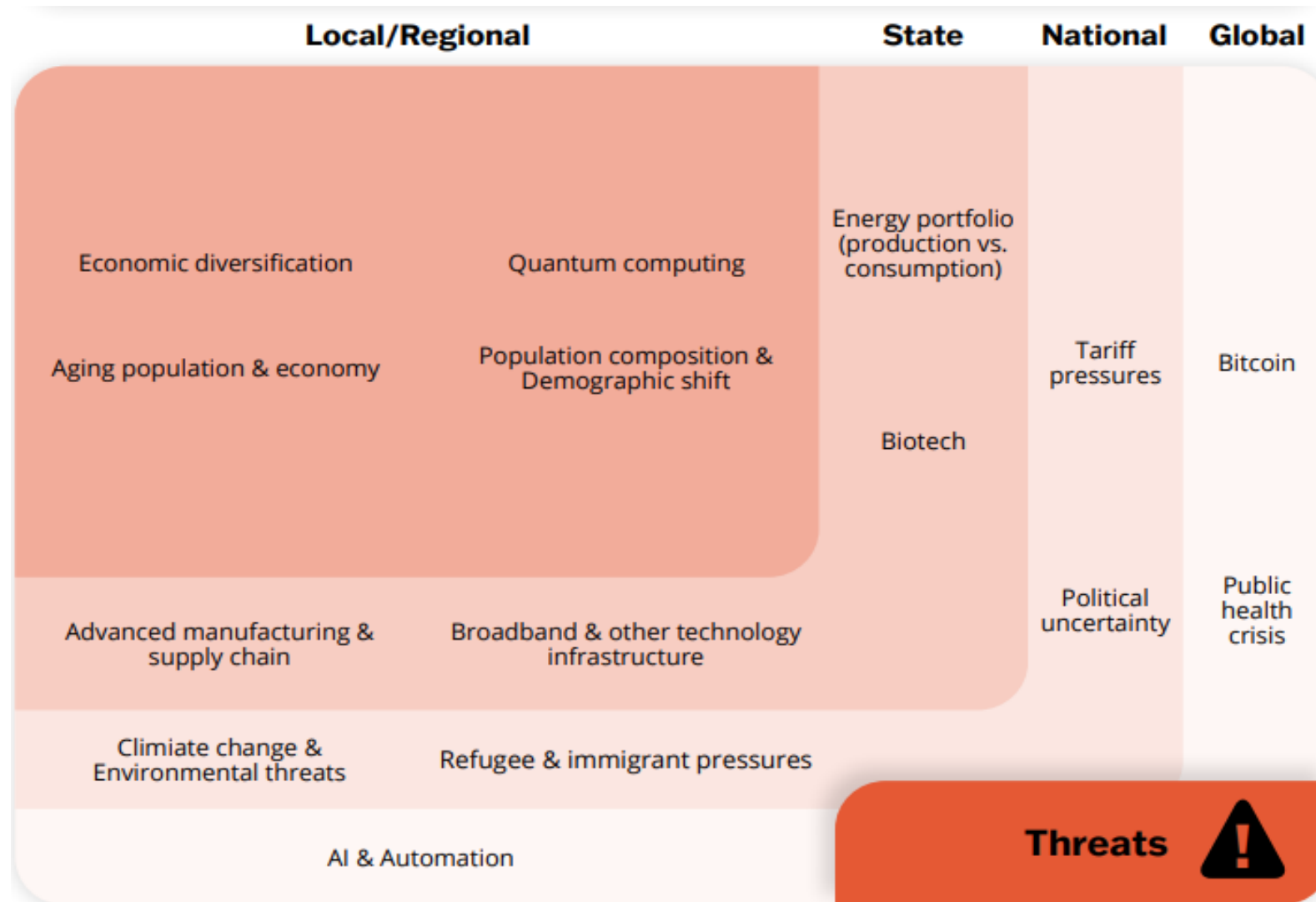


What do you think are opportunities in the region?

Global	National	State	Local/Regional	
AI		Technology advancement in manufacturing sector	Funding collaborations & Building trust & community with open mindset	Innovation & Entrepreneurship support
			Work-based learning & Career training workforce development	Leadership & strong planning
		Infrastructure improvements (water, sewer, stormdrain, broadband)	Building smart cities	Building more civic infrastructure
			Emerging industries & new clusters (i.e Quantum computing, Biotech)	Emphasize fiber on South Shoreline for expansion of quantum efforts
		Clean & renewable energy	Tax incentives & shop local	Rezoning for housing development
			Allowing more interaction & influence from the unincorporated areas	Community building & Public engagement
			More funding & support for childcare	Education
			Alternative Energy & Regulating potential environmental threats	

 Opportunities

What do you think are threats to the region?



SWOT Analysis



Community Engagement SWOT Analysis



Center for Regional Development



Emerging Cluster: Quantum industries

Chicago Quantum Exchange research foci in (200+ scientists and engineers):

Quantum Sensing

Quantum Communications

Quantum Computing

Atomic, Molecular, and Optical Physics

Condensed Matter Physics

Quantum Materials

Quantum Optics

Nanomechanics

Topographical Physics

Device Physics

High Energy and Particle Physics

Emerging Cluster: Quantum Technology

- Illinois has adopted a Quantum Strategy: \$500 million into initiatives supporting this ambition and 30,000 jobs
- Bloch Quantum Tech Hub – launched in August 2023
- Quantum Corridor – only Indiana member
Quantum Corridor®'s partnership model fosters unique, pivotal collaboration among leading tech providers, academic institutions, funders and government contractors. Quantum Corridor Inc. is an industry partner in The Bloch: End-to-end Quantum Solutions at Scale, a U.S. Department of Commerce-designed regional tech hub.
- National Science Regional Innovation Engines \$1,000,000 focus on IL and WI only
- READI grant \$7,000,000

Emerging Cluster: Quantum Technology

- Foster collaboration between the QIST and financial sectors to improve and commercialize tools for financial fraud detection;
- Develop a framework for industry adoption of quantum technologies refined through key use cases, starting with the energy industry;
- Build an innovation-focused office and lab space that provides QIST startups access to critical hardware and business development programming;
- Create a publicly-usable commercial-grade quantum network testbed to develop quantum key distribution (QKD) and long-distance quantum communication technologies;
- Seed the development of the first U.S. commercial data center-based quantum computing resource, which will provide access to 15+ quantum simulators, emulators, and remote access to quantum computers;
- Create a multi-state community college-based QIST program with industry-led curricula, training, and employment pathways; and
- Create a governance structure to provide leadership and project coordination.