



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**November 19, 2014**

**NEWS RELEASE**

**CONTACT:**

Toby Rittner  
President & CEO  
614-224-1300  
[trittner@cdfa.net](mailto:trittner@cdfa.net)

John Lockett  
Executive Director  
01604 874 613  
[johnlockett@ied.co.uk](mailto:johnlockett@ied.co.uk)

## **CDFA & IED Launch Transatlantic Exchange**

Columbus, OH – The Council of Development Finance Agencies (CDFA) and the Institute of Economic Development have launched a new partnership to create the CDFA/IED US-UK Economic Development Financing Exchange. This exclusive exchange between the U.S.-based CDFA and U.K.-based IED is dedicated to developing a transatlantic exchange between development finance practitioners in both the U.S. and U.K. to help foster best practices, collaboration, learning and a greater understanding of how economic development and infrastructure is financed in the two jurisdictions.

“We are honored to be in partnership with the Institute of Economic Development,” said Toby Rittner, President & CEO of CDFA. “Through this exchange, CDFA members will be able to share their expertise in U.S.-based development finance and learn new approaches and structures from our partners in the U.K. We are hopeful that this partnership will build into a long-term productive discussion and idea sharing collaboration between our member organizations.”

This partnership will bring leaders in the U.S. and U.K. together through education, resource development, research and networking. The partnership will offer live webcasts, online resources, live events and a dedicated partnership newsletter in the coming years.

Keith Burge, a Fellow of the Institute of Economic Development (IED) and Chair of the Board of Directors said, “We are delighted to be extending our international links through our partnership with CDFA. We have members in 16 countries, including the United States, as well as our core base in the UK and the opportunity to work with the CDFA is something which we look forward to. The exchange of best practice and networking opportunities from our partnership couldn’t come at a better time.”

Topic areas will focus primarily on financing tools used to support development in both the U.S. and U.K. including bonds, tax increment finance, tax credits, revolving loan funds, capital access, energy finance, seed and venture capital, public-private partnerships, grants, federal/national financing and other topics deemed appropriate. Through idea exchanges and personal interactions, the exchange will foster an atmosphere of collaboration, cooperation and inspired development finance efforts. CDFA and IED will work collaboratively to develop programming and support for the partnership.

The exchange will launch with its first newsletter and webcast in late summer 2015.

The **Council of Development Finance Agencies** is a national association dedicated to the advancement of development finance concerns and interests. CDFA is comprised of the nation’s leading and most knowledgeable members of the development finance community representing public, private and non-profit entities alike. For more information about CDFA, visit [www.cdfa.net](http://www.cdfa.net).

The **Institute of Economic Development (IED)** is the UK’s leading independent professional body representing economic development and regeneration practitioners. Established over 30 years ago, the IED’s key objective is to represent the interests of economic development practitioners and ensure their views are widely expressed and noted. The IED is committed to demonstrating the value of economic development work for local and regional communities; the pursuit of best practice in economic development and the attainment of the highest standards of professional conduct and competence. For more information about IED, visit [www.ied.co.uk](http://www.ied.co.uk)