Develop your business in the Arizona-Sonora megaregion

Put the power of the Arizona-Sonora megaregion to work for you through:

- Access to major regional and international growth markets.
- The Arizona State University difference — the opportunity to tap into research, programs, initiatives, faculty and student resources at the nation’s most innovative university.
- Prime locations, smart city infrastructure, Class A office space and build-to-suit options.
Access to major world markets
- 68 million people within a one-day drive
- 2,739 miles of Class 1 railroad
- 6 international border points of entry
- Megahub airport with more same-day connection options than London Heathrow or Tokyo Haneda
- Deep sea ports and sea routes with connections to border points of entry
- Energy infrastructure, including top-performing nuclear plant and gas pipelines
- Phoenix-Mesa Gateway Airport is home to SkyBridge, an expedited, joint U.S.-Mexico customs inspections facility

A low cost of doing business
- Corporate tax rate as low as 4.9%
- Low tax rates for gas, payroll, personal income and property
- Arizona is ranked the No. 6 Best State for Business in the U.S. by Chief Executive Magazine
- Sonora is ranked in Mexico’s top five cost-effective states

A highly skilled and available workforce
- 5.5 million workers
- 32.25 median age of workers
- 133 universities and colleges and 219 technical schools create a well-educated and highly skilled workforce
- Arizona State University is ranked No. 1 in the U.S. for innovation
- University of Sonora is ranked No. 1 in Mexico’s northwest region for technological research and development

A high quality of life
- Sunny weather year-round
- A wealth of recreational opportunities — from beaches to skiing to world-class golfing
- Stunning, diverse scenery — from deserts to lakes to mountains
- Thriving culture
- A wide variety of sports teams in the National Football League (NFL), National Basketball Association (NBA), Major League Baseball (MLB) and National Hockey League (NHL)

Locate to innovate:
The Arizona-Sonora megaregion is an economic powerhouse with a robust supply chain, modern transportation infrastructure, top-ranked higher education systems and a highly skilled workforce. When added together, these factors create one of the most vibrant and innovative business environments in the world with:

The importance of place
In the not-so-distant past, nations were considered to be the fundamental economic units of the world. That distinction no longer holds true in today’s knowledge-based global economy in which the exchange of goods and ideas is not bound by geographic borders.

Today, the engines driving the global economy are megaregions that form vast swaths of trade, transportation, innovation and talent — at times spanning national borders. Examples include the Boston-New-York-Washington corridor, the Shanghai-Nanjing-Hangzhou triangle and Arizona-Sonora megaregion.

Inside the Arizona-Sonora megaregion, Arizona State University acts as a catalyst for promoting and strengthening the growing economy in the Greater Phoenix area and beyond. In fiscal year 2020 alone, ASU had an economic impact of $4.6 billion on the state’s gross product. With an eye for catalyzing long-term economic growth and resilience, ASU pulls in big ideas from industry and translates them into high-impact products, inventions and services — creating a feedback loop between market needs, research, education and commercial application.

Key industries
- Semiconductor
- Automotive
- Aerospace
- Sustainability/clean energy
- Mining/raw materials
- Supply chain
If you are wondering what the Arizona-Sonora megaregion can do for your business, the ASU Economic Development team is here to answer your questions. We help companies and community partners leverage the nation’s most innovative university in order to create jobs, nurture new businesses, support existing companies and assist civic leaders in making informed decisions about economic growth in their communities.

A sample of strategic partnerships:

We are eager to collaborate with you.

Contact the ASU Office of Economic Development at oed@asu.edu