

## How does SSDN help build sustainable communities?

We connect local government sustainability professionals throughout the Southeast to accelerate, scale, and implement sustainable best practices so that communities are equipped to adapt to and mitigate climate change.

## Why are local governments in the Southeast supporting sustainability?

Climate change will bring about and worsen challenges in the South, such as:

- Flooding from extreme rainfall and sea level rise
- Increase in **extreme heat events**
- Extreme and **intensified storms**

## SSDN's members strive to:

- Create a cleaner, healthier environment for all residents, now and in the future;
- Advocate for services and practices that equitably serve their communities;
- Increase access to jobs in a clean economy;
- Generate long- and short-term financial savings from clean energy investments;
- Lead preparation and response to local emergencies and hazards; and
- Develop more efficient and effective internal government operations.

## Our vision for a Sustainable Southeast

We want the Southeast to be a more equitable and sustainable region, and we believe that we will be successful when:

- More communities benefit from increased knowledge of, and access to, best practices in sustainability;
- There is widespread adoption of sustainability policies;
- Practitioners implement and adapt sustainability best practices with greater consistency and ease; and
- The field of sustainability evolves and matures across the entire region.

## Putting equity into practice

SSDN members recognize that those who contribute the least to climate change are those that are most vulnerable to the threats caused by a changing climate. Therefore, SSDN members have a unique responsibility in their roles to address climate equity.

No matter where members are in their efforts, they are committed to challenging the ways in which racism, inequality, and privilege intersect with their work to address climate change.

## Membership

Members of SSDN become part of a collaborative community that develops solutions to the Southeast's unique sustainability challenges. They build knowledge and learn from colleagues in other areas of the Southeast about best practices to meet their community's needs.

## Eligibility

Membership is open to local and tribal governments located within our 10-state region (AL, AR, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA) working in any stage of sustainability and resilience program development. Communities do not require representation from a strictly "Sustainability" or "Resilience" Director to join.



## Benefits

- Access to a network of professionals who are dealing with similar challenges;
- Monthly peer learning work groups focused on priority topics;
- An invitation to join the in-person SSDN Annual Meeting (separate registration fee required);
- Access to unique insights on funding availability from philanthropic, state, and federal sources;
- Access to policy education and support at the state level;
- Access to SSDN newsletters, shared resources, webinars, and other exclusive information
- As a Partner Network of the Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN), SSDN gives members access to regional content on [www.USDN.org](http://www.USDN.org).

## Membership Dues

SSDN membership dues are based on a community's population.  
Annual membership scholarships are available on an as-needed basis.

Populations under 49,999: \$300

Populations between 50,000-149,999: \$530

Populations between 150,000 - 499,999: \$760

Populations 500,000 and over: \$1,000

Interested in joining the network?

Contact Network Manager Vanessa King at [vanessa@southeastssdn.org](mailto:vanessa@southeastssdn.org) to become a member.



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