

## What does Sustainability mean to us?

Sustainability is a holistic approach that includes building reliable systems in all communities across the Southeast United States to anticipate, mitigate, and adapt to the changing climate. We believe this will enhance the quality of life for all people and future generations.

## Why are local governments in the South 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**

Many recognize the challenges posed by climate change and want to develop plans to prepare their communities. In addition, they see the many added benefits of action.

## What are local governments doing?

- Promotion of services and practices that equitably serve residents today, and in future generations
- Creation of a cleaner, healthier environment for all residents
- Increasing access to jobs in a clean economy
- Long and short-term financial savings from efficiency and clean energy investments
- Added ability to prepare for and respond to emergencies and hazards
- Creation of more efficient and effective internal operations

## Our Vision:

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

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

## Membership

Members of SSDN become part of a collaborative community that develops solutions to the South'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. Membership is open to local and tribal governments located within our ten state region (AL, AR, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, SC, TN, VA) working in any stage of sustainability and resilience. A community does not need to have representation from a "Sustainability or Resilience Director" to participate.



## Benefits

- Monthly peer learning work groups focused on relevant topics
- An invitation to join the face to face SSDN Annual Meeting (separate registration fee required)
- Access to professional development and networking opportunities via SSDN partners
- Access to unique insights on funding availability from philanthropy, state, and federal sources;
- Access to support for local governments on policy issues at the state level

## 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: \$345**

**Populations between 50,000-149,999: \$610**

**Populations between 150,000 - 499,999: \$874**

**Populations 500,000 and over: \$1,150**

Contact [riyza@southeastssdn.org](mailto:riyza@southeastssdn.org) to become a member!