Established in 2008, USDN empowers cities, counties and towns to tackle their most urgent sustainability and climate challenges. We bring practitioners together to learn, collaborate on, and accelerate sustainability practices by equipping them with knowledge, resources, and partnerships. We coordinate with other nonprofit and strategic partners to build more sustainable communities across the U.S. and Canada.

Who We Are

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What Drives Us

Local governments hold the key to addressing climate change, and a diverse, inclusive, and equity-centered movement is essential for creating a sustainable future. In this moment of historic U.S. federal investment and growing commitment from cities and states to take action, transformative change is possible. Convening thousands of local leaders and leveraging their collective knowledge are essential strategies for directing this change.

Our Approach

USDN is a leader in supporting local sustainability practitioners and strengthens their efforts by providing:

- Capacity building: Helping practitioners develop core skills and processes to accelerate equitable and impactful action
- Direct support: Providing coaching, technical assistance, and other support to help local governments drive systematic change
- Field leadership: Strategically sharing knowledge and opportunities to influence policy and action at other levels of government

If you would like to connect to discuss and learn more about our vision and efforts in the years ahead, please reach out to support@usdn.org.

Over 2,500 participants in 250+ communities serving more than 100M residents.

USDN urban sustainability directors network

VISION

An equitable, resilient, and sustainable future for all.

MISSION

USDN creates equitable, resilient, and sustainable communities by advancing the field of local government sustainability and equipping practitioners to be catalysts of transformative change.

USDN has created "a systemic resource for municipal sustainability professionals to access knowledge, connections, and financial resources. I simply could not be as effective as I am in my position without USDN."

- USDN member from City of Oakland, CA