

Black Sustainability, Inc. and Second Nature Embark on New Partnership



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Intentional networks

[Black Sustainability, Inc.](#) and Second Nature have partnered to harness their networks. In partnership, the organizations will work with HBCUs (Historically Black Colleges and Universities) and other higher education institutions to intentionally create and support spaces for BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) communities to coalesce for advancing climate justice.

Increasing future importance

According to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the southeastern part of the United States is set to experience several extreme weather events over the next 30 years. In their 2020 report, "[Fossil Fueled Foolery](#)", the NAACP notes:

"Climate effects are not what always meets the eye. There are invisible effects on community cohesion and emotional support systems that pose deep, visceral threats to a community's internal resilience".

Climate change disproportionately impacts Black communities

Black Sustainability, Inc. and Second Nature recognize that Black communities, already disproportionately affected by environmental racism, are poised to face additional pressures from climate change.

The Environmental Defense Fund notes that [high rates](#) of Black populations are concentrated in flood-prone areas across the southeast where hurricanes and extreme weather events are increasing in severity and frequency. In addition, high concentrations ([68% of Black people live within 30 miles of a coal-fired power plant](#)), contributing to high asthma rates among the population—people of African descent are [3 times more likely](#) to die or be hospitalized from asthma than whites. Black Sustainability, Inc. and Second Nature are partnering with HBCUs and other higher education institutions to intentionally create and support spaces for BIPOC communities to coalesce for advancing climate justice.



Extreme weather events over the next 30 years will disproportionately impact Black communities.



68% of Black people live within 30 miles of a coal-fired power plant



People of African descent are three times more likely to die or be hospitalized from asthma than Whites.

ABOUT THE PARTNERS

With over 2,000 sustainability practitioners of African descent across the world, [Black Sustainability, Inc.](#)'s (BSI) Black Sustainability Network (BSN) is poised to bring a diverse set of qualified contractors and service providers with whom the higher education sector can partner to plan, discuss, and implement green initiatives. [Second Nature's](#) 400 institutional signatories of the [Climate Leadership Network](#) moves climate action and climate justice work forward within campus/community partnerships and programming.



The partnership between Black Sustainability, Inc. and Second Nature will advance diversity, equity, and inclusion of the green economy in the following ways:



- **CONNECT** BSI's members with Climate Leadership Network signatories, Second Nature partners, and institutional contacts,
- **DEEPEN ENGAGEMENT** between BIPOC communities and Second Nature to amplify climate justice,



- **HEIGHTEN AWARENESS** about best practices for advancing climate justice through resources like Second Nature's [Solutions Center](#),
- create a session on **PROFESSIONAL NETWORKING** at the annual [Higher Education Climate Leadership Summit](#) to foster long term relationships between higher education institutions and Black sustainability professionals,
- increase **INTENTIONAL INVESTMENTS** in BSI and promote **CONTRACTUAL EMPLOYMENT** between campuses and Black sustainability practitioners



INVEST IN BLACK SUSTAINABILITY PROFESSIONALS

Second Nature encourages you to donate to Black Sustainability, Inc. Your donation of \$100, will support their work mapping the Black & Green ecosystem, cover the costs of membership for young scholars, and contribute to the growth of the Black Sustainability Network. [Learn more](#) about BSI's ongoing projects and initiatives to educate, connect and invest in sustainability practitioners of African descent.

