



**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**

An Introduction to the **Sustainable Library Certification Program (SLCP)**

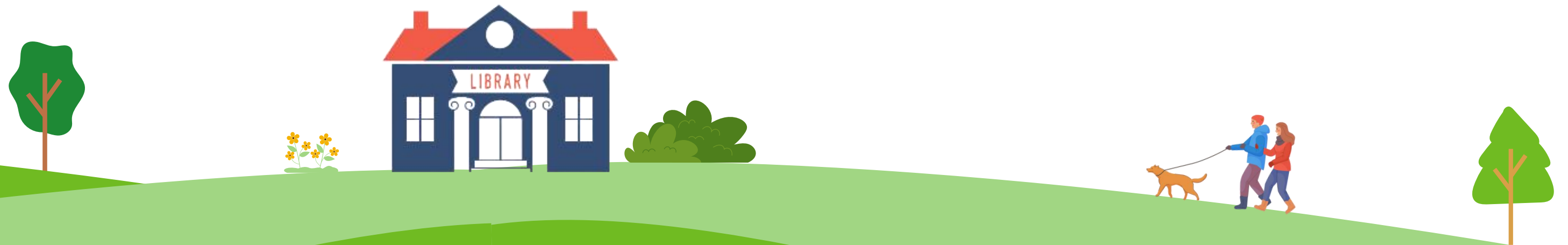
Presenters

Rebekkah Smith Aldrich

Co-Founder & Board President, Sustainable Libraries Initiative
Executive Director, Mid-Hudson Library System (NY)

Nardia Cumberbatch

Advisory Board Member, Sustainable Libraries Initiative
Librarian, Valencia College (FL)





Maine Library
Association

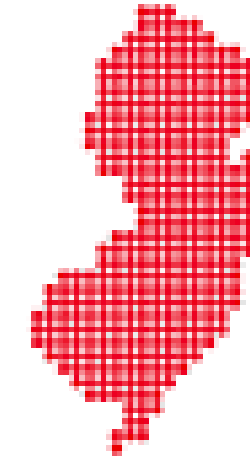


VIRGINIA LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION

ASSOCIATION
OF RESEARCH
LIBRARIES



IOWA
LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION



NEW JERSEY

NJLA

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION



Vermont
Community
Foundation

NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

The Voice of the Library Community



Massachusetts
Library Association

A new opportunity...

- Free **Sustainable Libraries Initiative membership** for all ARL Members
- Discount on the **Sustainable Library Certification Program**



Sustainable Libraries Initiative (SLI)

Launched in 2015 as a community of practice for library leaders interested in addressing issues related to **climate change, community resilience and securing a vital, vibrant, and visible place** in the community/on campuses/in schools for libraries.



**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**

Sustainable Libraries Defined

- ✓ **Strong & Authentic Institutions** that live their values out loud
- ✓ Catalyst for **Social Cohesion & Civic Participation**
- ✓ Working on **Climate Mitigation** (reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GhG))
- ✓ Active Participants in **Climate Adaptation** (strengthening community resilience)



**Sustainable
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Triple Bottom Line Definition:

- Environmentally Sound
- Socially Equitable
- Economically Feasible



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Where to start

**20% Discount
for members of:**

**ASSOCIATION
OF RESEARCH
LIBRARIES**

ILA IOWA
LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION



MA **Massachusetts**
Library Association



NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
The Voice of the Library Community

**NEW JERSEY
NJLA**
LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

VLA
VIRGINIA LIBRARY
ASSOCIATION



Sustainable Library Certification Program



**Sustainable
Libraries
Initiative**

<https://sustainablelibrariesinitiative.org/>

SCAN ME

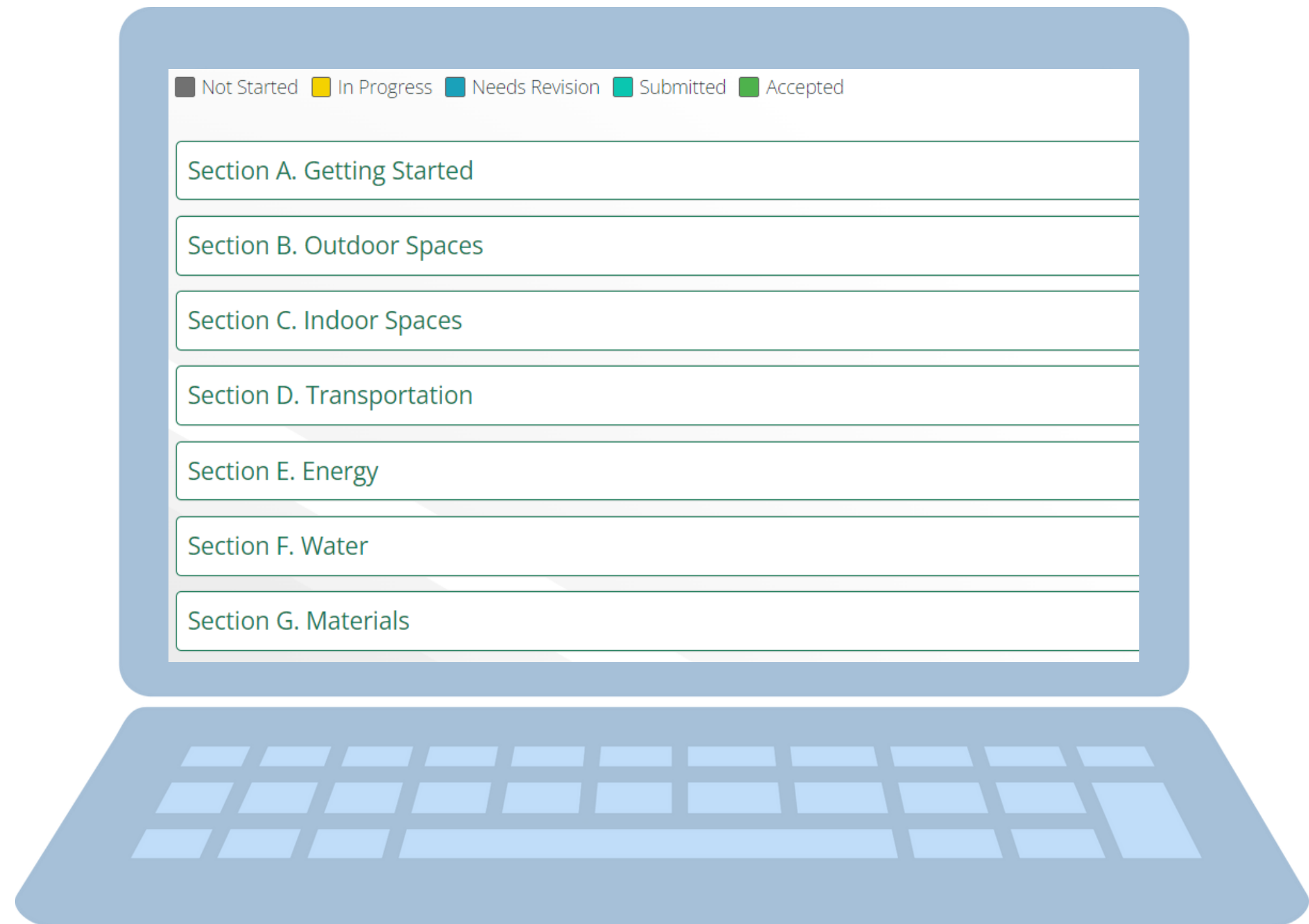


Sustainable Library Certification Program

- Step-by-Step Format
- Guidance from a Mentor
- Built-in Resources
- Community of Practice



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Sustainable Library Certification Program

Public & **Academic Libraries** and Library Systems

- Organizational Commitment
- Energy, Land, & Water Use
- Waste, Recycling, & Purchasing
- Partnerships
- Community Involvement
- Social Equity
- Community Resiliency
- Financial Sustainability
- Collections

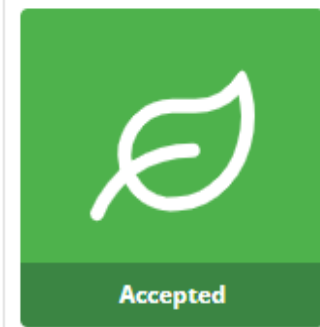
School Librarians

- Partnerships & Community Involvement
- Leading Beyond the Library
- Social Equity & Resiliency
- Standards & Curriculum
- Collections

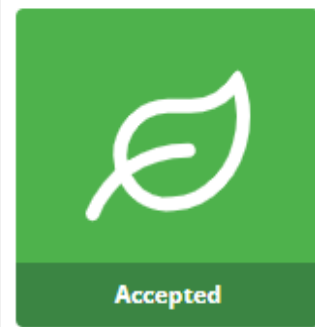


Action Items and Responses

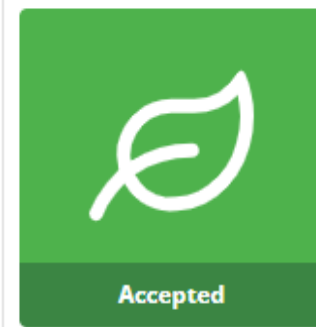
Required Actions



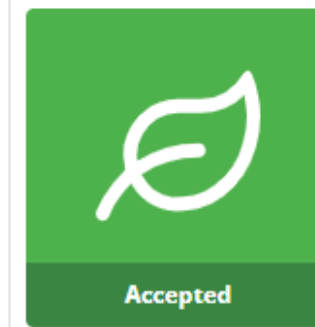
B.1: Site Management Plan (Library Systems)



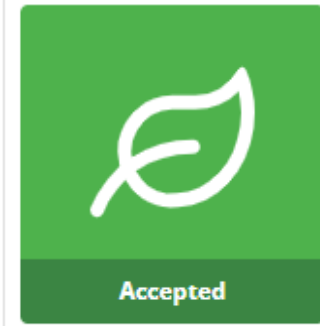
B.2: Assess for Light Pollution (Library Systems)



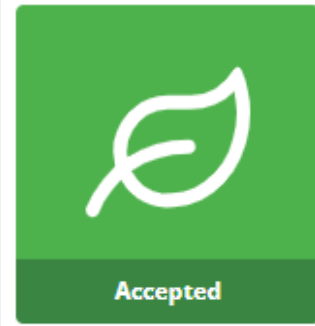
B.3: Litter Free Outdoor Spaces (Library Systems)



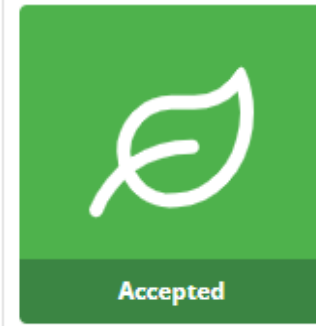
B.4: Invasive Plants (Library Systems)



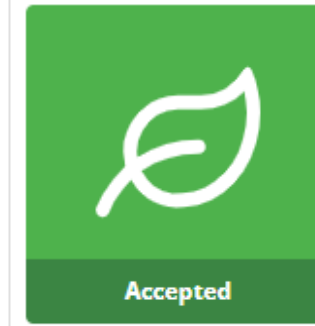
B.5: Native Plants (Library Systems)



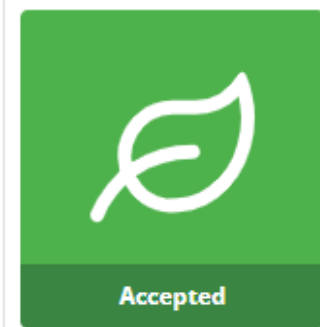
B.6: Planting Areas (Library Systems)



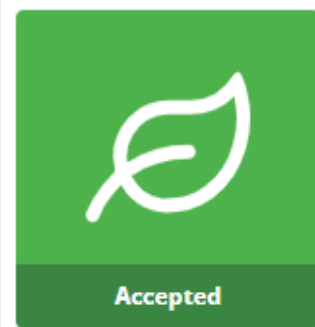
B.7: Chemical Pesticides (Library Systems)



B.8: Herbicides (Library Systems)



B.9: Storm Drains and Runoff Water (Library Systems)



B.10: Amend Facility Plan (Library Systems)



Sustainable Libraries Certification Program Employee Survey

Section 1: Introduction

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this staff survey. The purpose of this survey is to get an honest starting point of the priorities and focus of your organization as you begin the Sustainable Libraries Initiative Certification Program. Your honest answers will help tailor the program to the issues that are most important to your needs, there are no right or wrong answers.

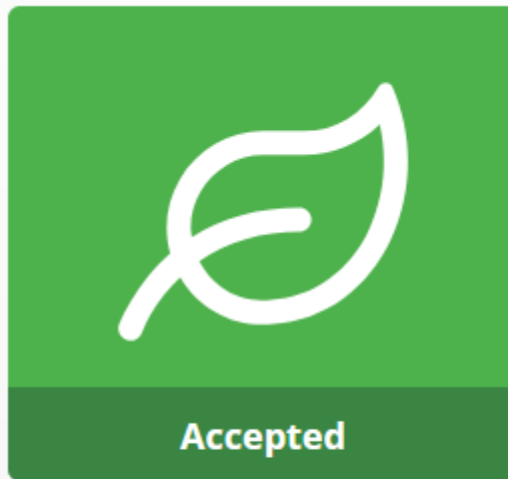
* 1. Library:

* 2. Name:

3. Email:

CO₂ Calculator

| Input Your Use | | Emission Type | CO2 Emissions |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------------|-------------------|
| Electricity | | | |
| <input type="text" value="0"/> | KWh | Electricity | 0.000 metric tons |
| Building Fuel | | | |
| <input type="text" value="0"/> | Gallons | Fuel Oil | 0.000 metric tons |
| <input type="text" value="0"/> | Therms | Natural Gas | 0.000 metric tons |
| <input type="text" value="0"/> | Gallons | LP Gas | 0.000 metric tons |
| Fleet Fuel | | | |
| <input type="text" value="0"/> | Gallons | Gasoline | 0.000 metric tons |
| <input type="text" value="0"/> | Gallons | Diesel | 0.000 metric tons |



Resources

- [SLI Library Waste Audit Information](#)
- [Conducting a Waste Audit](#)

Conduct a waste audit to learn about the volume of items in the waste streams produced by your library to identify which waste reduction strategies need attention. Take a look at our [Library Waste Audit](#) page for more information and a short video of Harborfields Public Library's recent waste audit.

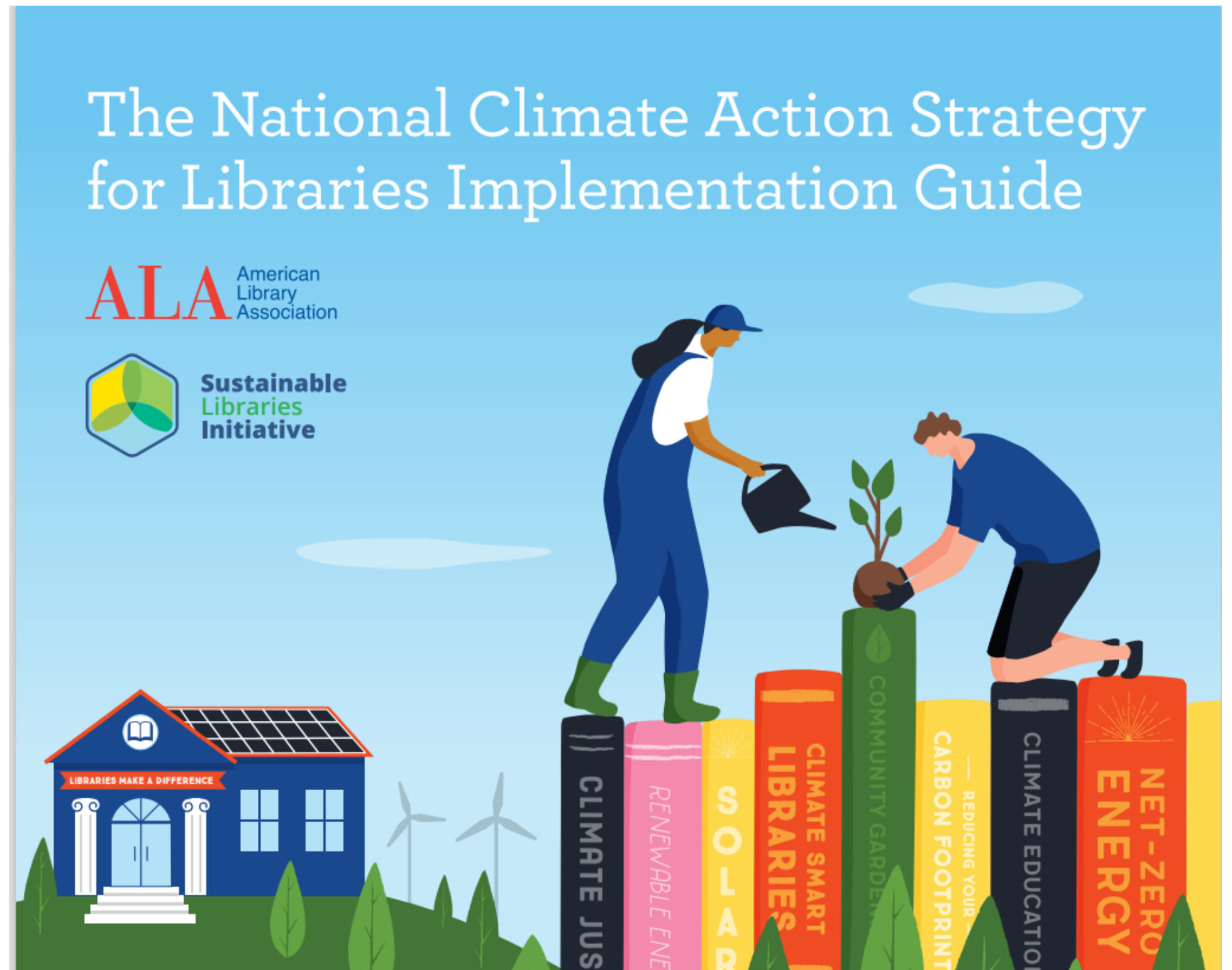
Section 1 = Organizational Culture Shift

- Buy-in
- Policies
- Job Descriptions
- Performance Appraisals
- Staff Training
- Orientation for Future Staff



The **National Climate Action Strategy for Libraries** provides a clear direction on where emphasis is necessary to move beyond good intentions to meaningful impacts, focusing on three areas:

- **Climate Mitigation** (reduction of greenhouse gas emissions)
- **Climate Adaptation** (helping people, institutions, and communities thrive in the face of climate change)
- **Climate Justice** (increasing the empathy, respect, and understanding we have of all community members)

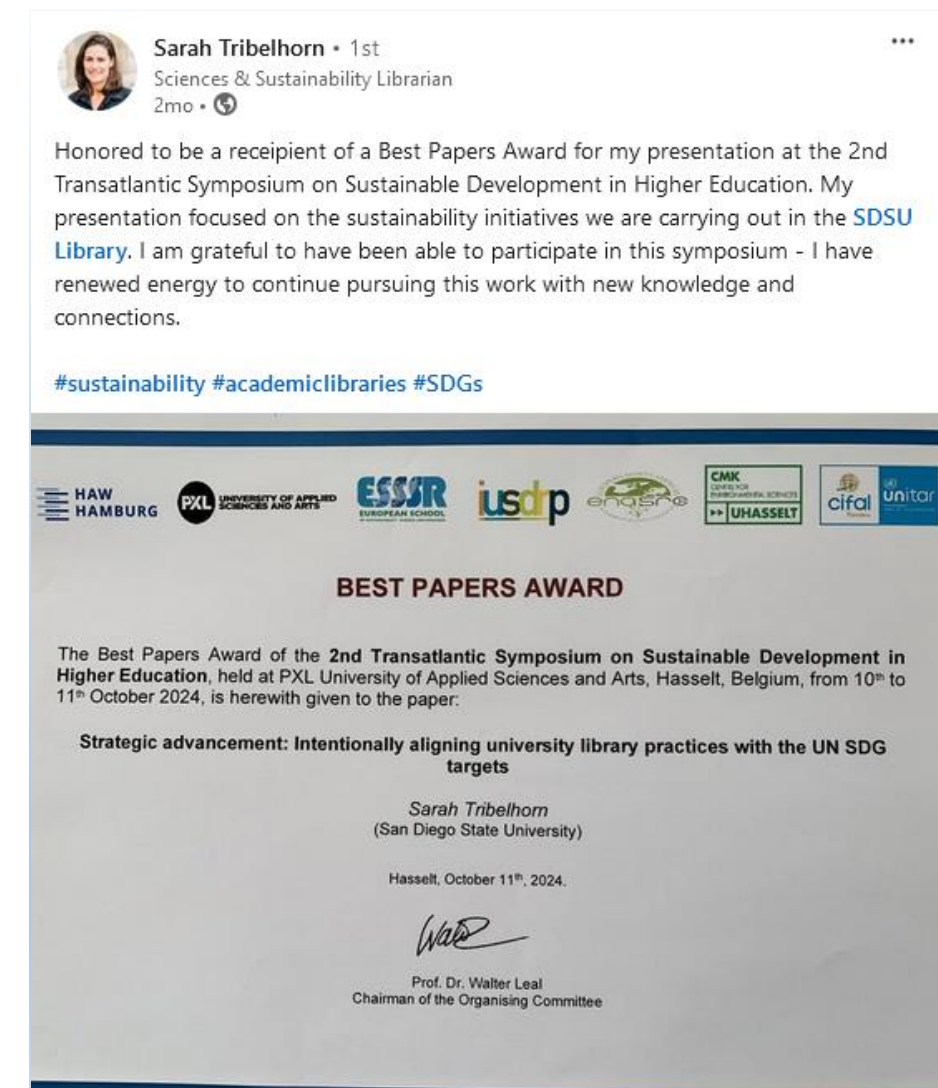


SustainableLibrariesInitiative.org

Telling Your Library's Story



- Library web site, newsletter, social media, annual report
- Reflection Questions & Data Points
- Networking in Your Community
- Final Presentation
- SLI Ambassador
 - Speak with your peers
 - Present at conferences
 - Write articles on the topic of sustainability to share your experience



Your Mentor

- Led their own library through the SLCP
- Provides Advice & Support
- Helps you “Right-Size” Expectations
- Is your Cheerleader!

YOU GOT
THIS!



**Sustainable
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Connect with Others

- Monthly Meet-up
- Listservs by Library Type
- Facebook Group
- Live Webinars Quarterly
- Conference Hangouts



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Benefits of Certification

- A Path Forward
- Reflective Process
- Step-by-Step Transformation
- Community of Practice
- Professional Development and Engagement
- Partnerships for Collective Impact
- Raise the Profile of the Library as a Recognized Leader on the topic of Climate Action and Community Resilience



To access your free membership

1. Go to the SLI web site: <https://www.sustainablelibrariesinitiative.org>
2. Click on “Participate” --> “SLI Membership”
3. Choose the membership type and fill out the membership form
4. When you get to “How did you hear about us?” select “Other” and enter you are a member of a participating library association in the Notes field to waive the membership fee



*To access the discounts on the Certification Program
email: sliadmin@suffolknet.org for information details*



Guest Speaker: Nardia Cumberbatch, Librarian, Valencia College

- Advisory Board Member, Sustainable Libraries Initiative
- Mentor, Sustainable Library Certification Program (SLCP)
- Named a [2024 Library Journal Mover & Shaker](#)
- 2nd Academic Library in the world to complete the SLCP



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