



ASBN and Department of Interior PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

In her opening remarks at the 2022 White House Tribal Nations Summit, Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland announced a series of actions to support Tribally led conservation, education, and economic development through a new Office of Strategic Partnerships – including signing an MOU with the American Sustainable Business Network (ASBN) to support Tribally-led community-based economic development and entrepreneurship. ASBN is proud to enter into this public-private partnership with the Department to leverage our business and investor community to support tribally-led, community-based economic development through a community-driven approach that emphasizes participatory development principles and practices.

The intent of this partnership is to cooperate on a) efforts to increase the capacity of Tribal communities to engage and collaborate with the business community and other entities to leverage federal and Tribal resources to support tribally-led community-based economic development; b) develop best practices and tools for fostering business development and entrepreneurship within Tribal communities; c.) provide resources to Tribes interested in developing Tribal-public-private partnerships; and d.) provide guidance to philanthropic and private sector organizations interested in engaging directly with Tribal Nations.

ASBN will aid Tribal Nations and Tribal organizations in economic development, entrepreneurship, and conservation. In order to achieve this, our specific responsibilities will include:

- Identifying and convening private sector business and investor leaders interested in working with Tribal Nation for the purpose of advancing the goals of this MOU.
- Developing a set of innovative strategies to ensure success for public-private co-investment working from the lead of Tribal Nations.
- Developing key economic, investor, and business case materials, use cases, and case studies for engaging with philanthropy, investors, decision-makers, and others.
- Developing a research agenda to collect information on best practices from the Tribal Nation perspective - including best practices for restorative investment strategies and policies, best practice engagement and participation, and best practice project financing opportunities.
- Promoting the needs of Tribal nations to the larger business and investor community through our communication and educational channels.

We extend an invitation to businesses, foundations, impact investors, Indigenous-led businesses, Indigenous-led foundations, Native-led financial institutions, and Tribal Leaders, who are keen on participating in our DOI Public-Private Partnership working group. If you would like to know more, please contact our President/Co-Founder, David Levine, at dlevine@asbnetwork.org, and our Indigenous Business Outreach Coordinator, Terrius Harris, at tharris@asbnetwork.org.