



Advancing Greener Careers and Campuses

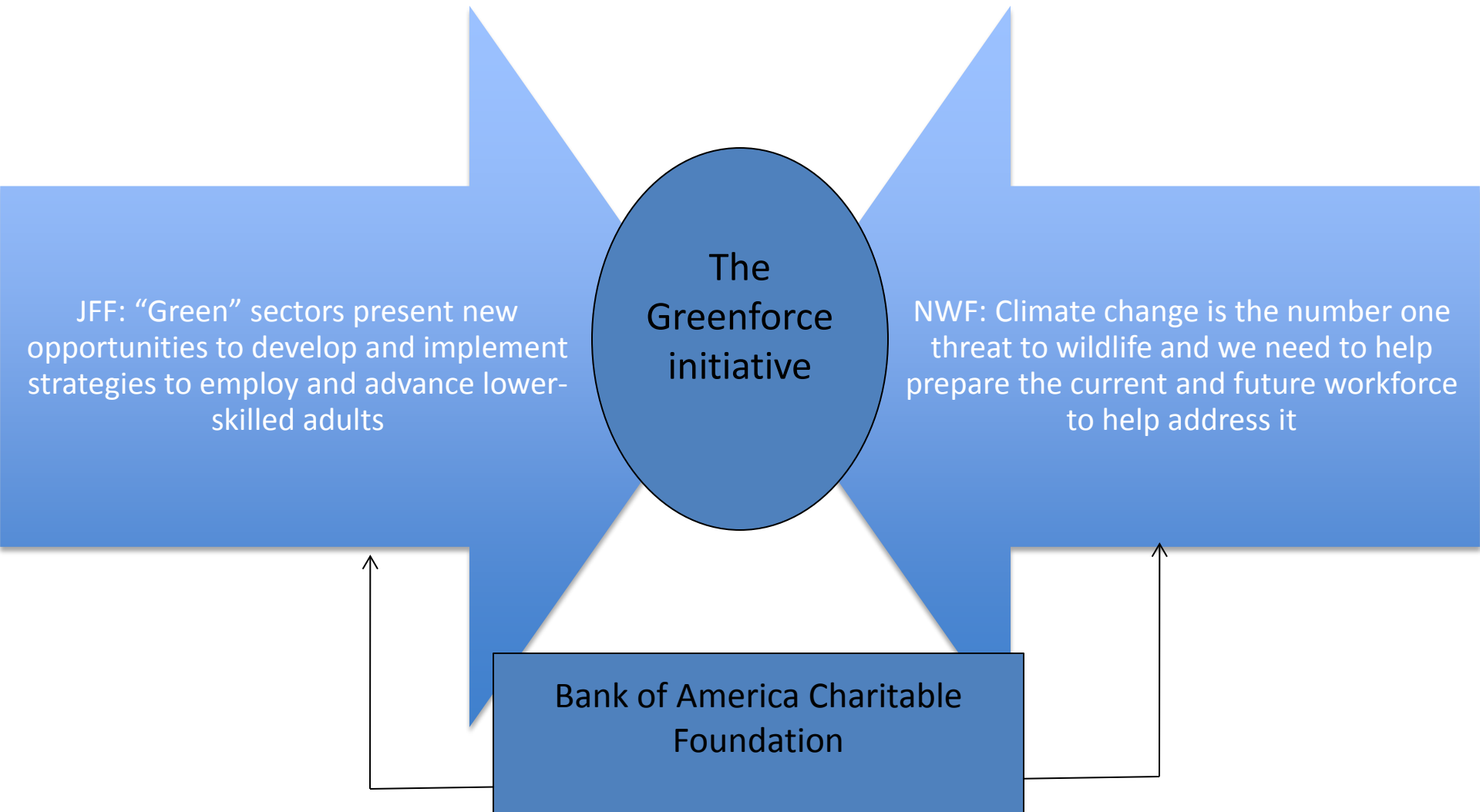


**May 21, 2013: Sustainability Skills Matter:
12:30 Central**

**A "Greenprint" to Promote Sustainability Skills in the
21st Century Workforce via Community Colleges**

**Sponsored with AACCC's SEED Center, COWS,
And Bank of America Charitable Foundation**

Why We Are Partners



JFF: "Green" sectors present new opportunities to develop and implement strategies to employ and advance lower-skilled adults

The
Greenforce
initiative

NWF: Climate change is the number one threat to wildlife and we need to help prepare the current and future workforce to help address it

Bank of America Charitable
Foundation

Community Colleges Lead Sustainability Skills Innovations: How Can the U.S. Build on & Disseminate these Successes?

1. Hands-On Sustainability Skills:

- Lansing Community College (MI) engages 300 students in construction and energy trades in local housing retrofit project;
- Nash Community College (NC) faculty and students construct a mobile solar thermal hot water heater for HVAC and environmental systems courses.



2. Faculty Professional Development: Clover Park Technical College (WA) helps building science instructors secure BPI-certified training in indoor air quality.

3. Curricula: South Texas College (TX) develops new module on the environmental impacts of business decisions for its Business Principles course (BUSI-1301) and North Carolina system adapts core career and technical curriculum.



"Sustainability Skills Matter," April 10-11, 2013

PURPOSE:

- Align sustainability skills education (and credentials) with employer demand in key industry sectors;
- Incentivize employer participation with community colleges in creating successful career pathways for lower skilled adults;
- Tap the potential of campus and community sustainability projects to enhance student career skills and grow demand for those competencies;
- Identify and address barriers to scaling the adoption of sustainability skills:



A Few of the Top Recommendations

- Engage leading employers to better inform community and other colleges about the sustainability skills they value and want.
- Integrate sustainability skills into every career pathway.
- Provide more paid internship programs, mentoring and apprenticeships and other “hands on” training opportunities for students so they can demonstrate skills, knowledge and abilities.
- Use campus-based projects as an opportunity to teach real-world application of sustainability skills for students.
- Work with economic development groups to identify sustainability skills needed by new potential employers in a region.
- Identify industries with an aging workforce and encourage them to protect the future competitiveness of their industry by partnering with colleges (noting the example of PG&E in CA providing internships and apprenticeships together with 27 community colleges.)
- Explore opportunities to help businesses make their operations more sustainable and linking education and training around sustainability skills to this.

What's Next?

- **Your recommendations**
- **Questions you would like the working groups to address**
- **Ideas for distributing the “Greenprint” call to action**

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