

# United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY Washington, DC 20240

MAY 1 7 2018

#### Dear Tribal Leader:

On behalf of the Department of the Interior, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is pleased to announce the availability of funding through the Tribal Resilience Program (Program). The Program will provide funding for projects to support Tribal resilience, and ocean and coastal management planning as Tribes incorporate the science (including Traditional Knowledge) and technical information to prepare for extreme events and harmful environmental trends that impact treaty and trust resources, economies, infrastructure, and human health and welfare.

The Program awards funding to support federally recognized Tribes in activities for Tribal Resilience Planning and Ocean and Coastal Management Planning (see attached for a full description of Funding Opportunity Categories). Awards will be made to projects that address vulnerability to extreme events and harmful environmental trends through: (1) development of regionally or topically focused training, (2)adaptation planning and data development, and (3) funds to access and attend available training and technical workshops to build related skills and capacity. Awards will also support projects that ensure Tribal participation in ocean and coastal (including the Great Lakes) cooperative planning and projects for resource health, resiliency, community safety, and economic security for present and future generations. The solicitation is available on grants.gov, under BIA 1800-0002 and can be found at the link below:

https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html?keywords=BIA%20Tribal%20Resilience

Proposals will be evaluated for their responsiveness to the Tribal Resilience review criteria in the above categories. Proposals for international travel will not be funded. Tribal resolutions are not necessary but a cover letter with signature summarizing interest and leadership support is required (e.g., from a Tribal department director, Tribal council official, Tribal chairperson). Tribal resolutions will be accepted as leadership support, though a cover letter summarizing interest is still required.

Awards will be made as Federal grants and will be disbursed in one lump sum with quarterly and annual reporting requirements. This disbursement mechanism differs from the mechanism used in prior years under Public Law 93-638, Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, as amended. The change in mechanism reflects that the funding is project-based grant funding, rather than an annual amount affecting a Tribe's annual base funding. The Federal grants disbursement vehicle will also provide an expedited way to obligate these Fiscal Year 2017 funds to Tribes prior to the September 30, 2018 deadline. Awards are subject to available funding.

Additional details, including evaluation criteria, are enclosed in the Notice of Funding. Proposal Deadline: June 2, 2018, by 9:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time. Send completed proposals to <a href="mailto:resilience.funding@bia.gov">resilience.funding@bia.gov</a> or by hard copy to:

Attention: Tribal Resilience Ms. Jo Ann Metcalfe Grant Officer, Central Office Acquisitions Bureau of Indian Affairs 12220 Sunrise Valley Dr. Reston, Virginia 20191

The BIA will review and rank all eligible proposals received by 5:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time on July 2, 2018. Any award under this announcement does not guarantee future funding of any kind, including future Tribal Resilience announcements. Overall project costs may exceed the amount of the BIA contribution. Funds provided under Federal grants may not be used to meet matching or cost participation requirements under other Federal and non-Federal programs.

If you have questions on the application process, please contact Ms. Jo Ann Metcalfe at jo.metcalfe@bia.gov, resilience.funding@bia.gov, or (703) 390-6410. For questions about the BIA's Tribal Resilience Program, please contact Ms. Rachael Novak at (202) 219-1652 or rachael.novak@bia.gov.

Sincerely,

John Tahsuda

Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs Exercising the Authority of the Assistant Secretary – Indian Affairs

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#### FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

#### **Tribal Resilience Planning (Categories 1-3)**

The Program will provide funding to support tribal resilience efforts as tribes prepare for extreme events and harmful environmental trends (e.g., extreme storms/disasters, drought, wildfire, toxic harmful algal blooms, shifts in plant and animal ranges, etc.). The impacts of these changing conditions can span the entire range of tribal government functions and traditional uses, affecting tribal treaty and trust resources, economies, infrastructure, and human health and welfare. Because tribes have limited resources to evaluate these risks and minimize impacts, applicants may request funding for:

#### Category 1. Trainings & Workshops (maximum: \$150,000)

Category 1 awards support tribes and tribal organizations to design and host tribal training(s) or workshop(s) that will assist tribal leaders, program coordinators, planners, and managers in developing the skills necessary to address extreme events and harmful environmental trends by developing tribal adaptation plans, or management options, through in-person and webinar trainings and workshops.

#### Category 2. Adaptation Planning (maximum: \$150,000)

Category 2 awards are designed to support tribal governments in the development of adaptation plans, vulnerability assessments, and development of data analysis efforts (including supplementary monitoring) to address extreme events and harmful environmental trends that impact tribal treaty and trust resources, economies, infrastructure, and human health and welfare. Funding must not be used for existing routine monitoring programs.

### Category 3. Travel Support - Resilience (maximum: \$15,000)

Category 3 awards are designed to provide access to training and technical workshops that help maintain or build adaptation knowledge and skills for resilience against impacts of extreme events and harmful environmental trends that impact tribal treaty and trust resources, economies, infrastructure, and human health and welfare. Tribal participation in training and technical workshops ensures tribal voices are included and other practitioners benefit from tribal participation in training, research, and cooperative implementation efforts. Awards support travel for tribal leaders and staff to attend training(s) or workshop(s) or to participate in cooperative resilience and adaptation efforts. Salary costs for training will not be funded. International travel will not be funded.

## Ocean and Coastal Management Planning (Categories 4-5)

Funding is available for tribal ocean and coastal management planning, capacity building, tribal travel support to participate in organizational meetings, working sessions or official meetings in support of collaborative planning efforts, or targeted pilot studies or projects. Ocean and coastal proposals may extend to tribal participation in Regional Planning Bodies and other cooperative ocean and coastal management planning, restoration planning,

ecosystem assessments, vulnerability assessments, emergency management, and infrastructure planning related to ocean and coastal challenges (e.g., coastal erosion and development, sea level rise, ocean acidification, and emergency management). Categories 5 and 6 funding is limited to coastal and Great Lakes coastal tribes.

Category 4. Ocean and Coastal Management Planning (maximum: \$150,000) Category 4 awards are designed to assist tribes with ocean and coastal management planning; marine spatial planning; coastal adaptation and/or resilience analysis; and cooperative marine resource plans. Funding should build tribal capacity and can be used to assist with a tribe's efforts to restore and provide resilience of coastal resources; perform inventories or vulnerability assessments; identify monitoring protocols and critical indicator species; or implement a unique pilot study or project that would advance tribal resilience and/or adaptation or ocean and coastal management knowledge. Awards will not duplicate elements of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative but can be used as matching funds.

#### Category 5. Travel Support - Ocean & Coastal (maximum: \$15,000)

Category 5 awards are designed to support direct travel costs for tribal leaders or staff participation in, coordination, or training for interagency ocean and coastal spatial planning. Awards will not duplicate elements of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative. This funding will provide travel support for tribal representatives to attend organizational meetings, working sessions, or official meetings in support of collaborative planning efforts, including meetings of Regional Planning Bodies. This category includes efforts relating to the incorporation of expansion, protect-in-place, and relocation options for tribes facing coastal erosion, flooding and permafrost degradation impacts. Salary costs for training will not be funded. International travel will not be funded.

# Category 6. Capacity Building Support for Scoping Efforts (to develop a Category 2 proposal in subsequent award cycles) (maximum: \$50,000)

Category 6 awards support tribes that have limited technical or staffing capacity to hire part time staff or consulting to develop general scoping needs assessment (or similar process) to identify Tribal vulnerabilities and adaptation planning needs related to extreme events and harmful environmental trends that impact tribal treaty and trust resources, economies, infrastructure, and human health and welfare. This would support development of a Category 2 proposal for subsequent award cycles.