



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Washington, DC 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

AUG 15 2011

Dear Tribal Leader:

Rapidly changing climatic conditions have created extreme weather events such as severe drought, flooding and more intense storms. These situations have greatly impacted Tribal communities and have created many challenges for agencies, Tribes, and other organizations in dealing with these situations. The Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, in fulfilling its Trust Responsibilities, is providing financial resources to help Tribes address these issues and provide for the safety and well-being of Tribal members and their homelands.

On February 22, 2010, Department of Interior Secretary Ken Salazar signed Secretarial Order 3289, which established a Department-wide approach for applying scientific tools to increase understanding of climate change and to coordinate an effective response to its impacts on tribes and on the land, water, ocean, fish and wildlife, and cultural heritage resources that the Department manages. Section 5 of Secretarial Order 3289 (SO) specifically addresses American Indians and Alaska Natives and acknowledges its trust responsibility and pledges to support substantive participation by tribes in deliberations on climate-related mechanisms, agreements, rules, and regulations.

In furtherance of the SO, the Bureau is providing in FY 2011, \$319,000 that will be available to Tribes and Inter-tribal organizations through a competitive grant program. This funding will help Tribes participate and be represented in the many climate change related activities occurring around the country. The funds will also help Tribes develop and implement climate change adaptation/mitigation projects and strategies to benefit Tribal resources and communities. Tribal staff can become more knowledgeable about climate change, which will enable them to provide direct input into the planning process and ensuring that Tribal concerns are addressed and incorporated into project plans for climate change adaptation and mitigation. Please refer to the attached Request for Proposals for more information.

If you have further questions on this grant program, please contact John E. Antonio at john.antonio@bia.gov or 202-513-0337.

Sincerely,


ACTING Director, Bureau of Indian Affairs

Attachments



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
Washington, DC 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

**Request for Proposals
Bureau of Indian Affairs
Office of Trust Services
2011 Tribal Climate Change Grant Program**

Rapidly changing climatic conditions have created extreme weather events such as severe drought, flooding and more intense storms. These situations have greatly impacted Tribal communities and have created many challenges for agencies, Tribes, and other organizations in dealing with these situations. The Department of Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, in fulfilling its Trust Responsibilities, is providing financial resources to help Tribes address these issues and provide for the safety and well-being of Tribal members and their homelands.

The total of \$319,000 will be made available to Tribes and Inter-tribal Organizations through a competitive grant program. This funding will help Tribes participate and be represented in the many climate change related activities occurring around the country. The funds will also help Tribes develop and implement climate change adaptation/mitigation projects and strategies to benefit Tribal resources and communities. Tribal staff can become more knowledgeable about climate change, which will enable them to provide direct input into the planning process and ensuring that Tribal concerns are addressed and incorporated into project plans for climate change adaptation and mitigation. Partnerships are encouraged. Grants in the following categories will be considered for funding:

CATEGORY 1 - PARTICIPATION IN LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION COOPERATIVES
(Grants, not to exceed \$10,000 each, will be awarded for direct participation in LCC's).

CATEGORY 2 - DEVELOPMENT OF VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENTS/ACTION PLANS
(Grants, not to exceed \$50,000 each, will be awarded for development of Vulnerability Assessments and Action Plans).

CATEGORY 3 - PARTICIPATION IN CLIMATE CHANGE WORKSHOPS AND OTHER RELATED MEETINGS.

(Grants, not to exceed \$2,000 each, will be awarded for participation in climate change workshops and other climate change related meetings).

The Request for Proposal (RFP) period will open on August 16, 2011 and close on September 2, 2011. All proposals must be post-marked no later than September 2, 2011 and be sent to the address listed in Attachment 1.

ATTACHMENT 1
Format for BIA Tribal Climate Change Grant Proposals

GENERAL GUIDANCE

1. A proposal should be concise and explain exactly what is being proposed. Reference material that helps justify the proposal should be attached via a website link. Proposals should **NOT** exceed 10 pages.
2. Use WORD to create your document. Use Times New Roman (Font Style) and 12 (Font Size).
3. Do Not staple proposal or attachments (this facilitates faxing, scanning).

COVER PAGE

Include the following information on the cover page:

- Tribe/Organization:
- Project title:
- Amount of funds requested:
- Project contact's name:
- Project contact's title:
- Project contact's phone number:
- Project contact's e-mail address:
- Date:

TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Proposal should be collated as follows:

Cover Letter	page	___
Program Summary	page	___
Program Narrative	page	___
Budget Table/Narrative	page	___
Additional Materials (if relevant)	page	___
Resolution of support	page	___

COVER LETTER

The Cover Letter transmits the project proposal and states its main features.

PROGRAM SUMMARY

The Program Summary describes the type and duration of activity that will take place and should not be longer than one page.

PROGRAM NARRATIVE

The Program Narrative identifies the climate change issue and how the funding will be used to address the issue. It must articulate the following information:

1. Assessment of needs
2. Objectives
3. Proposed time line (a table or chart is helpful)
4. Methodology (for Vulnerability Assessments and Action Plans only)
5. Geographic location; include maps – Vulnerability Assessments and Action Plans only)
6. Number of impacted acres and/or miles of river, stream or shoreline (for Vulnerability Assessments and Action Plans only)
7. Benefits of the project

BUDGET TABLE/NARRATIVE

The Budget Table/Narrative justifies all proposed costs and indicates that the grantee will provide adequate management systems for fiscal and contractual accountability. It should include discussion of direct cost items such as salaries, consultant services, subcontracts and travel, as well as project matching or cost sharing information. Any partners providing funds or in-kind services must be listed in the grant proposal with a letter of commitment from each.

ADDITIONAL MATERIALS

Additional materials include letters of support, resumes, contract agreements, color maps of project sites, photos, etc.

RESOLUTION/LETTER OF SUPPORT

The Signed Resolution of Support from the appropriate Tribal governing body or Organization's Director (s) or letter from a delegated Tribal authority or Organization's Program Director stating their support for the proposal must be included.

AGENCY CONTACT PERSON

For more information on the BIA Climate Change Grant Program, please contact:

John Antonio
Climate Change Coordinator
BIA Office of Trust Services
1849 C Street NW
MS-4635-MIB
Washington, DC 20240
202-513-0337

SUBMISSION OF PROJECT PROPOSALS

Mail all proposals to John Antonio at the address provided above. All proposals must be post-marked no later than September 2, 2011.

ATTACHMENT 2
Criteria That Will Be Used to Select Proposals for Funding

CATEGORY 1 – Participation in Landscape Conservation Cooperatives

Since climate change issues involve large landscapes that exceed the boundaries of Tribal lands, we encourage active and direct participation in Landscape Conservation Cooperatives. The following criteria will be used to determine if your proposal will be funded:

- a. How will your Tribe/Organization participate in the LCC;
- b. Is your Tribe/Organization already an active participant in an LCC; if so, which one;
- c. How will your participation contribute to the overall success of the LCC;
- d. How will your Tribe/Organization benefit ;
- e. If an Inter-tribal organization, how will Tribes benefit from your participation in LCC's;

CATEGORY 2 – Development of Vulnerability Assessments and Action Plans

Assessment of climate changes on various Tribal resources need to be conducted so appropriate measures can be taken to adapt to or mitigate these changes. As an example, receding stream banks and water flows can impact the sustainability of coyote willows which are culturally important to some Tribes. An assessment of coyote willow can determine how vulnerable they are to climate change and an action plan can be developed to facilitate adaptation or mitigation. The following criteria will be used to determine if your proposal will be funded:

- a. What is the extent of your Tribe's assessment needs and how much of the need (percentage) will the amount of the proposal cover;
- b. Will your Tribe/Organization be able to leverage matching funds; if so, how much;
- c. How will a determination be made on what resources to concentrate on;
- d. Will the VA/AP compliment what is being done with LCC's in your area and if so, how;
- e. How will your Tribe(s) benefit from this assessment and action plan;
- f. How will you implement the action plan once it's developed; will funding be available;

CATEGORY 3 – Participation in Climate Change Workshops and other Related Meetings

Participation in climate change workshops and meetings can help Tribal staff to become more knowledgeable about climate change, which will enable them to provide direct input into the planning process and ensuring that Tribal concerns are addressed and incorporated into project plans for climate change adaptation and mitigation. The following criteria will be used to determine if your proposal will be funded:

- a. Have you identified a workshop and meetings that your staff will attend;
Have any of your staff attended at least one previous workshop or meeting;
- b. Considering the funding amount, how many staff will be able to participate;
- c. How do you plan to share and use the knowledge gained at these functions;
- d. Is your Tribe/Organization currently an active participant in any climate change related activity; if so, in what way;