CC 202: Work in a facilitated cohort group on Tribal Hazard Mitigation Planning

Presented by the Institute for Tribal Environmental Professionals

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

From October 2020 - September 2021, ITEP will offer a more advanced, mainly web-based Climate Change 201 course. This course will support individual tribe's hazard mitigation planning through peer-to-peer learning and knowledge exchanges in a facilitated cohort focused on the process of developing or updating a Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan. These plans look "at natural hazards that may affect tribal governments and suggests actions to reduce losses from those hazards" (FEMA Tribal Mitigation Planning Resources). The course will be based around the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA's) hazard mitigation plan requirements and will connect participants to resources, tools, information, and additional specialized expertise on a variety of topics including but not limited to various natural hazards, climate change in the context of natural hazards, FEMA's four-phases of emergency management (mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery), cultural considerations, Tribal/Indigenous Knowledges, community outreach and engagement, hazard identification and risk assessment, asset inventorying, and developing and implementing an action plan.

The training will take place over 12 months from October 2020 through September 2021 and will be provided mainly in the form of 2-hour interactive web meetings every other week, one in-person meeting, and the completion of various assignments throughout the course. The training and assignments will culminate in the goal(s) set by each cohort member depending on their capacity and where they are at in terms of overall emergency preparedness. Examples of potential goals include but are not limited to development of an outline and process for completing a Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan, completion of or updating a hazard and risk assessment, and/or completing or updating a Tribal Hazard Mitigation Plan.

The web meetings will serve several purposes and consist of:
- Interactive lessons on different aspects of hazard mitigation and emergency preparedness
- Check-ins and updates from cohort members with opportunities to brainstorm approaches for addressing challenges encountered and also opportunities to celebrate successes
- Virtual work sessions with specific goals

The web meetings will provide a space and time for cohort members to receive and offer support and motivation to keep the planning process going.

Throughout the course, each participant will receive feedback and support both from ITEP staff and from one another. In addition, we will invite guest instructors from tribes, federal agencies, and academia to provide and share their knowledge about relevant topics. This course is more advanced than our introductory training and is intended for participants who have already done some hazard mitigation and climate change-related legwork and have some momentum started.

The questions on this application will help us determine 1-2 cohorts for the 2020-2021 timeframe and the specific topics that the cohort(s) will focus on. The application is also intended to help us better understand the capacity of various applicants so that we can provide appropriate support and so that we can put together cohorts whose team members' capacities in different areas may complement one another.

We also plan to continue offering our *Introduction to Climate Change Adaptation Planning* courses as well.

POINTS OF CONTACT
Nikki Cooley, ITEP Climate Change Program Co-Manager, nikki.cooley@nau.edu, 928-523-7046
Karen Cozzetto, ITEP Climate Change Program Co-Manager, karen.cozzetto@nau.edu, 928-523-6758

REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY
Demonstrated support of leadership: If selected, ITEP will confirm with course participant supervisor(s) or relevant department heads that they have leadership support for plan development.

Dedicated staff time:
- We estimate that roughly four hours per week will be required for class attendance and plan development (approximately 10% of staff time, based on a 40-hour work week). This could be one person dedicating at least four hours per week to the plan or it could be multiple people who together would be dedicating a total of four hours per week to plan development.
- The four hours is an average over the duration of the course. There will be times during which less time will be required and times when more time may be required.

Attendance:
- A maximum of four people from each tribe can attend the course. These people will be the core team.
- At least one person from the core team must attend each web meeting.
- The core team must commit to being on the project for the entire length of the course.
- One person must be responsible for completing the hazard mitigation planning goal(s) established by the Tribe.
- At least one and a maximum of two members from the core team must attend the in-person meeting or arrangements must be made with course instructors to cover the associated material.

Internet capabilities: Interactive web meetings will take place over the Go To Webinar platform. You must be able to access and use this free (for participants), online platform.

If you are selected for a cohort, we will check in with you and let you know the topic and the start and end dates for the cohort to ensure that you are still interested and that the minimum requirements can still be met. We expect the first cohort to start during the late spring.

TRAINING COSTS
- There is no course fee.
- For the in-person meeting, ITEP will cover the lodging costs and per diem for up to two participants from each tribe. We will not cover travel costs. If you are unable to pay for travel to the meeting, please let us know, and we will make other arrangements with you to go over the material that will be covered during the in-person meeting.

HOW TO APPLY
Click on this link to fill out our online registration form. *Please note that you cannot save your work and come back to the form at a different time. You must fill it out all at once.* We suggest that you look over the reference application form to see what information is needed before filling out the online application.