

## Delivering Sustainable Legacies

We understand the needs of the communities we work with because the global Indigenous Engagement program at AECOM is run by Indigenous people. With this approach, we offer an improved understanding of projects' needs, strengths, and weaknesses to help our private and public sector clients effectively mitigate effects and deliver solutions.

We have delivered over a hundred projects involving Native American communities across the United States, setting new standards for industry-wide best practices. With ESG principles embedded into everything we do, the goal of our Sustainable Legacies strategy is straightforward: to ensure that the work we do in partnership with our clients leaves a positive, lasting impact for communities and our planet.

### Our Values

Operations in the US are modeled after the four principles of the medicine wheel shown below:

- North | mental is THINKING
- East | spiritual is SEEING
- South | emotional is FEELING
- West | physical is DOING



## Integrated Engagement Services

### Community Engagement

- Community consultation and facilitation
- Mediation and conflict resolution

### Permitting

- Cultural resource management
- Land use and community planning/infrastructure
- Water resources management
- Adaptive management plans for sensitive ecosystems
- Environmental performance monitoring

### Consultation and Training

- Cultural resource awareness
- Treaty rights, Indian law, and governance consultation
- Environmental assessment
- Tribal employment rights ordinance compliance

### Risk Assessments

- Federal, state, provincial and territorial environmental assessments
- Cumulative impacts assessments
- Socio-economic impacts assessments
- Climate change risk assessments
- Remediation & site assessments

### Our Participatory Approach

- BUILD STRONG RELATIONSHIPS:** based on honesty, trust, and integrity with our clients and all interest groups involved in the project
- SEAMLESS COMMUNICATION:** uses plain language, impactful graphics, and relatable media
- CREDIBLE FACILITATION:** consults with interested people and groups to obtain critical feedback on project concerns, alternatives, or decisions; creates programs that work and fit goals of local community
- STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT:** involves local community-driven organizations early to identify opportunities for long-term community growth; involves client and stakeholders throughout project duration to ensure alignment of goals and concerns to develop alternative approaches

## AECOM's Office of Native Sovereign and Tribal Relations (ONSTR)

### How We Work

ONSTR has specific policies and procedures to help the AECOM ecosystem, and the subcontractors we employ to build skills, behaviors, and mindsets that maximize workplace contributions.

We employ the seven generations planning principle—one must consider how decisions today will impact the next seven generations.

Our staff understand of the dynamic nature of large-scale challenges related to environmental and historical injustices, prioritizing the need for integrating five key practices in our work:



Engage the appropriate people in the appropriate way



Provide a clear process for goals



Take a holistic view of situations



Focus on a small number of strategic actions, while learning from and adapting them over time



Remain aware of the ways our own thinking and patterns of behavior might limit successful outcomes

### Scope

- Global and Regional
- All Business Lines



### Internal

- Risk Review
- Technical Approach
- Quality Assurance
- Project Delivery

### External

- Community Engagement
- Business Development
- Practitioner Fieldwork

### AECOM's Suitability for Action Viable Engagement (SAVE) Model

Includes historic land cession data, treaty information, contemporary boundaries of reserve and trust lands, and additional vectors for tribally specific socio-economic, historical, and cultural concerns.

AECOM's technical experts understand the nuances of negotiating current and evolving legal context and Indigenous community issues - and have a long history of working with both project proponents and Indigenous people. Win-win solutions are our business, as is getting it right the first time.

Project proponents and contractors generally play a limited role in government-to-government consultation, yet agencies have acknowledged that Federal and Tribal officials, their staff, Tribal Elders, various specialists, contractors, consultants and applicants engage in ongoing interaction which contributes important information to support plan and project decision-making.



## Selected Experience

We are passionate about finding innovative solutions to the challenges faced by Indigenous communities. Our successful strategies are driven by our dependable, trustworthy, and responsible consultants and their understanding of the needs of the communities we serve. With over a hundred projects in our portfolio involving Indigenous communities across the United States, many of these solutions have set new standards for industry-wide best practices. We also work with each community to tailor these strategies into wise practices that recognize a community's context, culture, and protocols in developing projects and programs.

### TribalNet 2020 Geospatial Award of Excellence

AECOM received this award for coronavirus response work with the Navajo Nation. The team developed a GIS-based portal with the Navajo Housing Authority to identify and deploy critical resources to help community members facing hardships. Visualizations communicate the disease's extent to help leaders better understand where these valuable resources need to go.

### Highway Administration I-95 Highway Improvement Project Pennsylvania Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration I-95, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States

AECOM has created a professional archaeological journal, *River Chronicles*, to highlight 1M+ artifacts and hundreds of features uncovered during archaeological excavations along the I-95 corridor in Philadelphia. The recovered artifacts reveal 6,000 years of history associated with the Port Richmond, Kensington-Fishtown, and Northern Liberty neighborhoods. Through our annual journal, readers can experience the thrill of exploring evidence of Indigenous peoples, nineteenth-century glassworkers and potters, and everyday life in their communities.

### Land Information Management System

#### Navajo Nation

AECOM designed, created, implemented, and maintained a geospatially enabled IT infrastructure and integrated GIS web-based system to provide a centralized, secure, and integrated digital repository of accurate NHA land information accessible by NHA users to streamline business processes.

### Cleveland Cliffs Mining Operations Training

#### Upper Midwest, United States

AECOM produced leadership values training and tribal relations best practices development for Hibbing and Minorca mining operations. Includes drafting a training manual and providing onsite (or virtual) training workshops.

### Facility Condition Assessment Services

#### Navajo Nation

AECOM assessed housing units and office buildings to provide the NHA a recommendation and prioritization of repairs to improve the standard of living of NHA tenants. AECOM collected asset management data in the field via hand-held mobile devices and integrated the data into the NHA's LIMS. A web dashboard was developed to allow NHA staff to access the condition assessment data collected during the field evaluations, including reports, data, and photographs.

### Equinor Offshore Wind Development Eastern United States

Tribal Liaison to the Delaware Nation; Delaware Tribe; Mashantucket Western Pequot Tribal Nation; Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe; Narragansett Tribe; Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head-Aquinnah; Shinnecock Nation for Section 106 pre-survey and coordination for government-to-government related to BOEM-regulated Lease Areas for off-shore wind energy development.

### Irrigation Improvement System East Maui, Hawaii, United States

The Ke'anae and Wailuanui project areas lie within a richly historic cultural landscape composed of a collection of historic properties that have been documented as significant for their association with traditional Hawaiian agricultural activities. AECOM sought input from the community about the project in several ways, with an emphasis on the kalo farmers and local native Hawaiian groups. Their mana'o and comments emphasized the need to keep the 'auwai functioning to support the continuing use of these historically significant systems. Based on consultation, the traditional cultural users of the 'auwai are most interested in keeping the irrigation system functioning so the traditional activity of kalo cultivation can be perpetuated.

## Awards



The following are examples of awards and recognition that AECOM has received:

**2020:** Tribal Net Geospatial Award of Excellence

**2019:** URISA Exemplary Systems in Government Award, LIMS

**2018:** ACEC Engineering Excellence Award, Detailed Flood Study Crownpoint, NM

**2017:** Environmental Business International, Technology Merit Award, Detailed Flood Study Crownpoint, NM

**2016:** NAFSMA Excellence in Communications Award, Flooding Awareness Campaign

**2015:** Esri Special Achievements in GIS Award, LIMS

**2014:** ACEC Engineering Excellence Award, Flood Hazard Identification and Mitigation Project