

# AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ADAPTATION PROFESSIONALS

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## The 2015 ASAP Prize for Progress in Adapting to Climate Change

### PURPOSE OF THE PRIZE

The purpose of the ASAP Prize is *to improve professional practice in adapting to climate change* by highlighting the practices of leading U.S. communities and organizations that have reduced net losses and decreased vulnerability of natural/human systems to extreme weather events and climate change.

The promising practices from these models will provide guidance and encouragement for other communities. The prize will help celebrate progress in an emerging field and strengthen the professional foundations of current climate adaptation efforts.

### ELIGIBILITY

All public, private, nonprofit, and academic organizations, within the United States and its territories that have implemented projects to reduce the vulnerability of human and/or natural systems are welcome to apply. Nominations are welcome, though applications must be submitted by an organization directly involved in the implementation of the project.

### APPLICATIONS

Applications shall be submitted via the ASAP website no later than **December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014**. Applicants will tell their success story to other practitioners adapting to climate change using the following outline. The application process is in two phases. ***Project narratives for the first phase are limited to no more than 1,000 words.*** If the applicant is selected for the second phase of the evaluation, more detailed information will be requested.

#### 1. Briefly Describe the Project(s)

Include where the project was located, who was involved, and when it occurred.

#### 2. Document the Progress Achieved

Provide information on reductions in losses or vulnerability to extreme weather events and climate change (qualitative and/or quantitative); other outcomes important to community members (i.e. co-benefits); and any longer-term effects on this and other communities.

#### 3. Explain How the Progress Was Achieved

Include information on how the people and organizations involved were motivated and organized, what resources they obtained, and the strategies (including technological resources) employed that contributed to making progress.

#### Applicants are also asked to provide:

- Detailed contact information of the applicant (individual or organization)
- A title for their project (120 characters or less)
- Relevant ASAP Interest Area(s)



THE KRESGE FOUNDATION

MacArthur Foundation

## EVALUATION PROCESS

All applications will be evaluated in a two-step process.

First, applications will be screened by the **Selection Committee**, a volunteer group of ASAP members representing the geographic and sectoral diversity of the ASAP membership. The highest ranking applications to be moved on to the second round as Finalists.

Second, the Selection Committee will request additional information in the form of a longer project narrative and relevant additional supporting material, from the Finalists in order to get a more complete picture of the project. Applicants may be requested to participate in a telephone interview. The committee will review and rank the finalists to determine the winner of the 2015 Prize for Progress.

## CRITERIA

Applications will be evaluated on three primary criteria.

- **Effectiveness** - the extent to which the project or initiative has achieved tangible results in reducing net losses or decreasing vulnerability to climate change and extreme weather. To what extent is the project designed to be successful both now and in the future, e.g. is it designed to be adaptive or responsive to future environmental or climate conditions? Indirect effects like potential maladaptation ought to also be considered.
- **Significance** – the extent to which the project or initiative addresses a major climate change issue of concern to many communities. To what extent is the magnitude and duration of the impact of the project both within and beyond the community? To what extent does the scale of the project match the scale of the challenge or impact?
- **Innovation** – the extent to which the project or initiative explores a new approach, design, or development that adds or furthers a promising practice to the field of adaptation.

## PRESENTATION / RECOGNITION

All Finalists will be recognized through the ASAP website, newsletter, and other media prior to the announcement of the winner(s). The Finalists in attendance at the National Adaptation Forum will be asked to participate in the awards ceremony and be officially recognized for their achievement.

The **2015 ASAP Prize for Progress Winner** will receive:

- Recognition during an awards ceremony at the National Adaptation Forum 2015;
- Electronic publicity through the ASAP website, newsletters, and other media; and
- Fame and a permanent place in history as the first ever ASAP Award Winner.