

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ADAPTATION PROFESSIONALS

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ASAP Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Statement

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The urgent need to equitably adapt to climate change necessitates the removal of oppressive systems and requires a transformation into a society where we all share in the power and prosperity of resilient economic and social systems.

Grave injustices of the past, which have been allowed to perpetuate today, have created an unjust and inequitable society. Climate change exacerbates these inequities, as those who are the least responsible for climate change are often the most impacted.

Widespread discrimination, promoted by histories of colonialism, white supremacy, domination of nature, and economic exploitation have created systems that inhibit otherwise capable communities from thriving. These systems discount traditional systems of social care and ecological knowledge essential to achieving balance within the natural world.

These systemic injustices pervade the realities of the climate change adaptation field and the organizations within it, including ASAP. In order to use our power to achieve the necessary transformational change, we commit to deconstructing barriers in our membership structure and engagement model to become more inclusive and accessible—expanding the adaptation conversation at ASAP. We will support all frontline communities developing adaptation resources from their lived experience and traditional knowledge, and ensure that other adaptation resources are accessible and welcoming to all communities. Further, we will lift up stories of and empower leadership from communities and critical areas of adaptation practice which currently are poorly represented in adaptation leadership.

We will not allow the actions of the past to dictate our future and we commit to leveraging our network and resources to promote justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion in the climate adaptation field and beyond.

Building a Community of Climate Change Leaders

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