



## **Energy Sovereignty & Tribal Sovereignty**

### Workshop on Convergent Clean Energy Research In Support of Sovereignty and Prosperous Tribal Nations



MICROGRID Systems Laboratory



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## **Overview**

- Defining Energy Sovereignty and Tribal Sovereignty
  - Exercising full authority
  - Tribal priorities
  - Growing greater knowledge and internal capacity
  - Energy justice defined and implemented
  - Control, ownership, autonomy
- Community engagement and research design aspirations
- What is the role of academia, research facilities, and energy sector organizations?



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## **Tribal Sovereinty and Self Determination**

- Exercising full authority over their own energy resources and creating futures of their own making
- Recognition of a new era of energy resource development related to renewables, carbon management, national security, and climate resiliency
- Tribal nations as active partners, co-creators, and codevelopers of energy initiatives





## **Energy Policies Based on Tribal Priorities**

- Members of tribal nations suffer from energy poverty
- Tribal members are burdened with high energy costs particularly in rural and remote communities
- Energy infrastructure in rural and remote communities are cost prohibitive
- Setting policies and rates that ensure access and affordability





## **Growing Knowledge & Internal Capacity**

- Limited in-house capacity and expertise
- Develop the capability to respond effectively to energy business, engineering, job training, and public policy domain
- Growing talent, expertise, administrative capacity in energy, carbon, critical materials, resource management, and climate resiliency



## **Energy Justice Defined and Implemented**

- First understand energy injustice before defining energy justice
- Tribes suffered through displacement, environmental damage, increased health disparities, loss of land, and spiritual loss
- Energy injustice in the Southwest is associated with nuclear development, uranium mining, nuclear weapons testing, coal mining and large-scale power development
- Current disputes include new transmission lines, lithium and copper mining - all part of clean energy development





## **Control, Ownership, Autonomy**

- Sovereignty: In political theory, the ultimate overseer, or authority, in the decision-making process of the state.\*
- Sovereignty means control, ownership, autonomy, independence, and capability to ensure that energy resources serve as a foundation for individual and collective security, economic stability, prosperity, national standing, and developed in accordance with tribal values, cultures, and ways of being and ways of knowing.

\* Britannica.com

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## **Tribal Sovereignty**

- Economic Development Goals
  - Private Investment and Access to Capital
  - Job Creation
  - Tax Base Expansion
  - Wealth Creation
  - Higher/Better Quality of Life
  - Improved Standard of Living



## What is Tribal Sovereignty

Most Important Components Required -

- Favorable Rules, Regulation, & Laws
- Appropriate Use of Resources (including energy)
- Human Resources and Trained Workforce
- Favorable Tribal Land-use Planning
- Robust P-20 Education and Career Training
- Good Research and Access to Reliable Data



## **Energy Sovereignty**

- Critical Role of Government
  - Develop an Energy Roadmap
  - Provide Incentives to Businesses
  - Create a Positive Business Climate
  - Provide Strategic Leadership and Facilitation
  - Provide Quality Services and Amenities



## **Energy Sovereignty & Tribal Sovereignty**

- What is the role of academia, research facilities, and energy sector organizations?
- What are appropriate mechanisms for consultation and engagement?
- What is the nexus of disparate priorities?





# How does ASU collaborate

with tribal nations,

# communities, and students?



### **ASU Charter**

ASU is a comprehensive **public research university**, measured not by whom it excludes, but by **whom it includes** and **how they succeed**;

advancing research and discovery of public value;

and assuming **fundamental responsibility** for the economic, social, cultural and overall health of the **communities it serves.** 

Nine design aspirations guide ASU's ongoing evolution as a New American University. ASU integrates these institutional objectives in innovative ways to demonstrate excellence, access and impact.

#### Leverage Our Place

ASU embraces its cultural, socioeconomic and physical setting.

**Transform Society** ASU catalyzes social change by being connected to social needs.

Value Entrepreneurship ASU uses its knowledge and encourages innovation.

#### **Fuse Intellectual Disciplines**

ASU creates knowledge by transcending academic disciplines.

### Conduct Use-Inspired Research

ASU research has purpose and impact.

#### Enable Student Success ASU is committed to the success of

each unique student.

#### **Be Socially Embedded**

ASU connects with communities through mutually beneficial partnerships.

#### **Engage Globally** ASU engages with people and issues locally, nationally and internationally.

**Practice Principled Innovation** ASU places character and values at the center of decisions and actions.

## **Design Aspirations**

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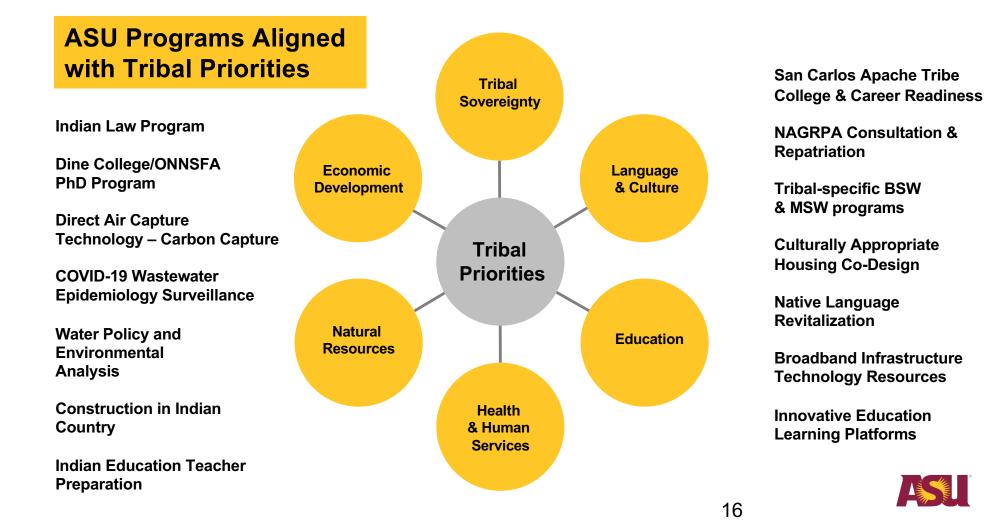
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### **Partnerships through Mutual Interest and Respect**

Create a Vision and Set Expectations

Seize the Opportunity to Leverage Mutual Interests and Initiatives

Establish and Confirm Agreed-Upon Set of Principles

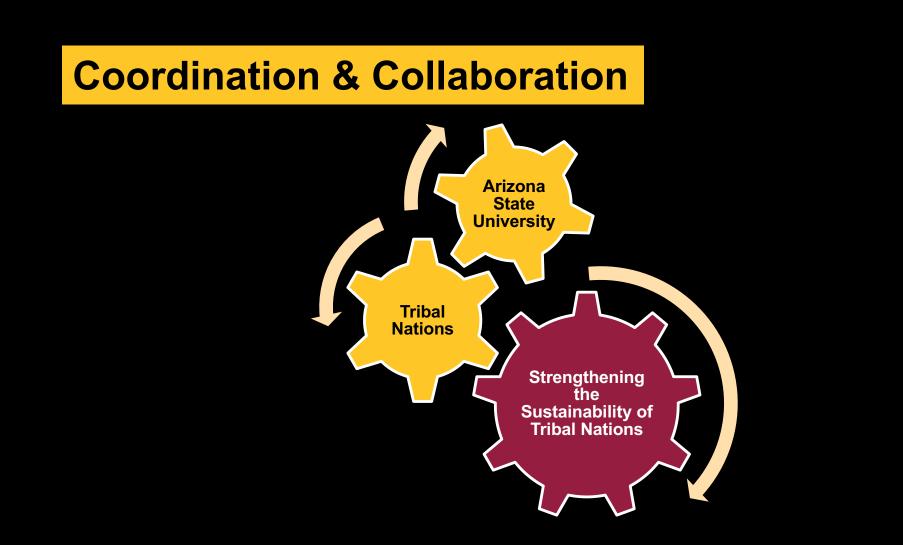
Political Protocol and Cultural Considerations

Engage in Meaningful Discussion Early and Often

Operate on a Government-to-Government Basis through Codified Tribal

Consultation Policies – Arizona Board of Regents Codified (ABOR 1-118)







## **Compelling Questions Revisited**

- What is the role of academia, research facilities, and energy sector organizations?
- What are appropriate mechanisms for consultation and community engagement?
- How does the goal of advancing clean energy projects reconcile with Indigenous viewpoints and tribal priorities?
- Is there a nexus between energy transition research and providing technical assistance and support to tribal nations?



# Discussion

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