

2021 Southwest Adaptation Forum - Pause and Reflect

During the Day 2 panels, speakers shared a variety of important insights - reflect on your thoughts to the prompts in the comments below. Unless you add your name, your comments will be anonymous. Please abide by the 2021 Southwest Adaptation Forum Community Guidelines.

CLIMATE SCIENCE ALLIANCE FEB 23, 2021 11:34PM

Video: Sovereignty 101

Prompt:

Share one thing that you learned from watching the "Sovereignty 101" video.

that tribes are 'domestic dependent nations' who do not 'own' tribal lands - the fed government does. How is this status different (or is it) from US trust territories? – ANONYMOUS

The "doctrine of discovery" was new to me. It led me to start doing some additional research and learn more. This was one of the most comprehensive presentations on tribal sovereignty (from a legal/historical perspective) that I have seen. I learned a lot! – ANONYMOUS

I am really interested in data sovereignty. As a tribal staff, this is not talked about. I am wondering what tribes are doing and what this looks like. How do we assist and empower them to develop tribal data sovereignty? Our tribe does have an IRB.

S1: Understanding Tribal Sovereignty

Prompt:

As each panelist shared more about sovereignty, personhood, and rights of nature, what comments resonated most with you or that you would like to learn more about?

Something I don't often consider enough is the rights of nature, in and of itself. I frequently view it as a "system", rather than a living entity that holds intrinsic value. – ANONYMOUS

I appreciated Stephanie Carroll Russo's statement about data sovereignty being about "how we live in relation to data." That is something that I will be mulling over in my work. – ANONYMOUS

S2: Active Listening

Prompt:

How has your "listening" been today? How was it yesterday during the first day of the forum? What are some ways you can improve your active listening for tomorrow?

"all about asking..." I'm just reflecting that as a rule follower, I want a nice clear set of protocols but it's not about a rulebook, it's about communicating and relationships. – ANONYMOUS

Appreciate the answer above ^ I can relate! My listening ebbs and flows, especially while working remotely. It can be easy to multitask, but keeps me from being fully engaged in one task. Moving forward, I will work to be more disciplined in staying engaged and attentive to one conversation/ task. – ANONYMOUS

This was a great opportunity to be reminded and reflect on how communication is ultimately about forming relationships. At work, I have a tendency to communicate for clear transactions (with informational listening), and need periodic nudges to consider the bigger picture. – ANONYMOUS

S3: Wisdom & Reciprocity

Prompt:

Does your work create a clear benefit to both parties - that is viewed by both to be of equal value? How can community oversight strengthen your partnership?

To be successful long-term, I think there needs to be continuous benefit for both communities. Too often, I think projects are "temporarily beneficial" to all involved and in the end someone gets the full benefit. This really needs to change, which goes into what the next prompt talks about in creating lasting relationships. – ANONYMOUS

S4: Equal Partnerships & Collaborations

Prompt:

What similarities did you note across the partnerships shared by the panelists that make them effective? Do you remain in contact with tribes you engaged when you began your career? Why or why not?

Where would we receive training on how to properly collaborating/communicating with tribal nations? – ANONYMOUS

All of this year's SWAF is built around this very idea. We hope that the session discussions, workbook, and video resources we provided can help those seeking to create meaningful relationships. We will be adding all of the resources provided during SWAF to the Climate Science Alliance website for future reference, and the webinar recording will be added to the website after the conclusion of the event. – CLIMATE SCIENCE ALLIANCE

We hope this is a step towards what we're all seeking to do - build meaningful and mutually beneficial relationships. We will keep building on this type of training with our partners. Thank you! – CLIMATE SCIENCE ALLIANCE

Everyone's honesty and openness about challenges has been one of the best things about the panels. It is okay to struggle - keep going! – ANONYMOUS