BSC GROUP

803 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON, MA 02127 - www.bscgroup.com

TEL 617-896-4300 - 800-288-8123

Nature-Based Solutions Implementation Resource Guide

Nature-based Solution (NbS): Apply Indigenous Knowledge

Project Number per matrix: **26**

PREREQUISITES

- Unique to circumstances

RECOMMENDED IMPLEMENTATION STEPS

- **Project Planning and Administration**
  - Develop a deep understanding and respect for the specific indigenous community, culture, and knowledge systems you are collaborating with. This involves recognizing the unique worldview, traditions, and values of the Indigenous community.
  - Collaboratively identify and engage community members, elders, and knowledge keepers who possess traditional knowledge related to the project or initiative.
  - Establish open and respectful communication channels with the indigenous community or knowledge holders. Seek their permission and involvement in the process of applying their knowledge.
  - Address legal and ethical considerations related to intellectual property, cultural sensitivity, and community rights. Obtain informed consent and respect any restrictions on sharing or using the knowledge.
  - Maintain an open and ongoing relationship with the indigenous community, continuously learning from their insights, feedback, and experiences. Be willing to adapt and adjust based on their guidance.
  - Ensure project budgets and contracts with private companies include sufficient retainage for maintenance and establishment period and coordination costs for oversight.
  - Conduct dialogues, interviews, or workshops with the community members to gather traditional knowledge, practices, and insights related to the project's goals.
  - Document and record the indigenous knowledge using culturally appropriate methods, such as oral histories, storytelling, videos, and written materials. Ensure this documentation is done with the community's informed consent and according to their wishes.
  - Compensate participants for the value of participation and consultation.

- **NbS Installation**
  - Ideally, integrate relevant indigenous practices, techniques, and wisdom into the project's planning, design, implementation, and management stages by bringing an indigenous traditional knowledge-holder onto the project team. Request persons with indigenous traditional knowledge to train/share knowledge with project participants.
  - Collaborate with the indigenous community to adapt and contextualize indigenous knowledge to the specific needs, conditions, and goals of the project while maintaining its cultural authenticity.
  - With the informed consent of the Indigenous community or their representative, integrate selected Indigenous practices into the design and implementation of the Nature-based Solutions project. This could involve incorporating traditional planting methods, species, resource management techniques, or cultural rituals.
  - Compensate participants for the value of participation and consultation.

- **Maintenance**
    - Regularly monitor the project's progress and outcomes, including the impact of integrating Indigenous practices.

NATURE-BASED SOLUTION SPECS

- Typical project size: N/A

BUDGET ESTIMATE

- Typical project budget (order of magnitude): N/A
- Use the BSC Group Nature-based Solutions budget tool to develop more detailed concept budgets

SCHEDULE ESTIMATE

- Collaboration should be an ongoing effort starting from the planning stages through the completion of the project and include shared benefits for future generations.