

MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Are you an indigenous youth between 20-30 years? Are you interested in understanding more about the rights of Indigenous Peoples? Are you interested in representing your community in rights issues that you and your community feel strongly about?

The Amerindian Peoples Association (APA) is partnering with the Nia Tero Foundation based in Seattle, USA, to be part of a mentorship programme that seeks to build the capacity of indigenous youths through training in policy advocacy and negotiations skills for effective indigenous peoples' engagement in the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the UN Framework on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and related bodies.

The programme will last for a year beginning in early 2021 and will work through tutors and mentors based in and out of Guyana. Due to the current COVID 19 pandemic, the training will begin with on-line work but there could be face to face interactions, including participation at national and international forums, once the COVID 19 situation improves. The trainees will be based with and responsible to the APA who will provide mentorship opportunities for the trainees to be engaged in. A stipend will be provided as well some overheads costs coverage. We especially encourage female youths to apply.

The following criteria will apply:

- Must be between 20-30 years by the end of December 2020;
- Must show an interest and/or understanding of indigenous rights issues in Guyana;
- Must have strong writing and comprehension abilities;
- Must have the capacity to communicate effectively;
- Must have the willingness to talk in public or high level forums;
- Must be willing to work with or in indigenous communities;
- Must be willing to travel internationally should the situation permit;
- Must be living in or willing to live in Georgetown for a year or more.
- Must be prepared to work with or for the Amerindian Peoples Association for a minimum of at least two years after completion of training.

We invite youths to send an expression of interest with a curriculum vitae and a recent character reference to:

The Executive Director
Amerindian Peoples Association
200 Charlotte Street
Bourda
Georgetown

We will accept e-mails at apaguy@networkgy.com We will respond to and only carry out interviews with persons shortlisted.

APA-Nia Tero Mentorship Programme

Short Summary of Work to be Done

The activity is an online training course on policy and advocacy negotiations skills for effective Indigenous People's engagement in the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and related bodies, and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The course is offered by the ELATIA Indigenous Peoples' Training Institute.

There will be three separate training courses for each of the processes (CBD, UNFCCC, SDGs), each running for a period of three months on a staggered basis, with up to two hours of on-line Zoom lectures per week as well as coursework. Each course will have about 25 – 30 participants.

Phase 1: 6 months – Online/Web-based component

A team of 3 facilitators per training course will work with detailed curriculums, modules and instructional materials (presentations, video lectures, reading and writing assignments, practical exercises) for the training courses. There will be three separate training courses for each of the processes (CBD, UNFCCC, SDGs), each running for a period of three months on a staggered basis, with up to two hours of on-line Zoom lectures per week as well as course work. The online component of the CBD will run for 3 months, the UNFCCC for months (one month overlapping with the CBD), and the SGDs for three months (one month overlapping with the UNFCCC. The course facilitators will deliver the training course, evaluate student submissions, guide the students in their coursework, offering one-on-one virtual coaching sessions as needed.

Phase 2: 6 months - Implementation of Advocacy Projects

Each course will have about 25 – 30 participants who a next generation young indigenous leaders. From among the participants, 10 promising young indigenous advocates will be selected per training course to implement a policy advocacy training project. The project may be of any of the following:

- Research and publication of a national or local report on the situation of Indigenous Peoples on the ground, policy forums with stakeholders and policy makers, development and implementation of an advocacy campaign with informational/advocacy materials, or other similar projects. The team of facilitators, along with representatives from Nia Tero and ILEPA/ELATIA will select the participants' projects and supervise the implementation of their advocacy projects.

Phase 3: Practical/hands on component when face-to-face convenings resume

Upon resumption of face-to-face global meetings, participants who have successfully completed the training course will be prioritized for participation support in key meeting. There will be hands on practical exercises on policy advocacy from the team of facilitators during these face-to-face meetings.