



Questions for Public Comment

Please provide comments on any or all of the following issues and identify the specific AIAN community addressed by these comments (e.g. Cherokee Nation, Alaska Native village, Native American businesses off reservation, tribally-owned businesses):

1. Describe any self-governance entrepreneurial or business development programs that have resulted in positive impacts to your community's economic development? What were the impacts and how did they come about?
2. What challenges exist to business development and job creation in AIAN communities? What ideas or solutions do you think would address them?
3. What are your goals and priorities for advancing AIAN entrepreneurship and business development?
4. What are some best practices that you've seen implemented that positively address the business development challenges experienced by your community from either a self-governing perspective, and/or from Federal, state, or local programs?
5. Have you (or businesses from your Tribe/Tribal organization) been a client of a MBDA Business Center - AIAN?
 - a. If so, please describe the services and activities that have been most beneficial to growing their business and/or creating jobs: 1. Access to private sector contracts, 2. Access to Federal/State or Municipal contracts, 3. Access to capital, 4. Exporting, 5. Joint partnerships/teaming arrangements, 6. Other
 - b. If not, why?
6. Do the goals and objectives of the MBDA Business Centers- AIAN align with your Tribe's business and economic development goals? If so, please elaborate. If not, please provide recommendations for improvements, enhancements or alternatives.

For comments to be considered, they must include the following identification of the commenter: name, title, Tribe/organization/business, AIAN location, city, and state; and they must be submitted in written form to the address above no later than **January 30, 2017**.

Please submit all comments in response to the questions to Bridget Gonzales, Chief, Office of Legislative, Education and Intergovernmental Affairs, Minority Business Development Agency, 1401 Constitution Avenue NW, Room 5067, Washington, DC 20230; or by email to tribalconsult@mbda.gov.

