HUD Reception Celebrates Innovative Housing in Indian Country

On May 2, 2013, the Sustainable Construction in Indian Country initiative held a reception at the National Museum of the American Indian that featured 22 Native American communities that are incorporating sustainable and resource-efficient elements in their affordable housing and community development projects. HUD’s Office of Policy Development and Research (PD&R) and the Office of Native American Programs (ONAP) co-hosted the reception with Enterprise Community Partners. The Sustainable Construction in Indian County initiative promotes understanding of the benefits of sustainable construction and encourages widespread adoption of sustainable construction technologies in Indian Country.

“Building sustainable housing allows tribes to better control operating and utility costs, and to produce homes that are healthier, more comfortable, durable, and energy efficient,” said Rodger Boyd, Deputy Assistant Secretary for ONAP. “This event illustrates the long-term value of thoughtful planning and integrated whole building design.”

Four videos emphasizing the intersection between innovative sustainable housing and native culture premiered at the reception. The communities highlighted were the Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe, the Puyallup Nation, the Penobscot Indian Nation, and the Crow Nation. Enterprise Community Partners’ Sustainable Native Communities Collaborative produced the videos with a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Office of Policy Development and Research.

To watch the videos, visit the HUDDle.

To learn more about the Sustainable Construction in Indian Country (SCinIC) initiative and to read brief case study descriptions of other similar projects supported by HUD funding, visit the dedicated SCinIC section on HUDUSER.org.