



SCEP

STATE & COMMUNITY ENERGY PROGRAMS

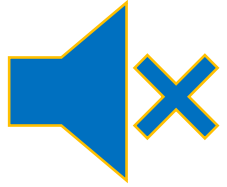
Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Blueprint Cohorts

Session #3: Community & Stakeholder Engagement

November 17, 2023



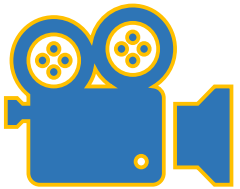
Virtual Housekeeping



Mute your audio



Use the chat to ask questions



FYI, we're recording!

Agenda

- Welcome!
- Community Engagement
 - Guest Speaker: Chris Castro
 - Engagement 101
 - Case Study: City & County of Honolulu
- Breakouts: Peer Discussion
- EECBG Program Announcements and Reminders
- Q&A

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Turn your cameras on, and raise your hand if



Common Hesitations Around Community Engagement

"We don't want to do something wrong, so it's better to do nothing"

"We're the experts and know this is the right path forward"

"We can't prioritize it – we don't have the time or capacity"

"It's too risky – what if there's opposition we can't overcome?"



Not Engaging the Community Is the Biggest Risk of All!

"A 2022 [study](#) of reasons why proposed clean-energy projects don't get built found that a lack of engagement with the local community occurred in nearly 30% of project failures"

TIME

Why Better Community Engagement is Key to
The Future of Clean Tech



The Solution? EARLY and INCLUSIVE Community Engagement & Involvement



Chris Castro

Chief of Staff for Office of State and Community Energy Programs at the U.S. Department of Energy

Former Director of Sustainability & Resilience at the City of Orlando, Florida and Senior Advisor to Mayor Buddy Dyer

Why community engagement matters for your EECBG project

- ✓ **Increases the likelihood of acceptance** for your project, program, or solution over time
- ✓ **Generates more effective and equitable solutions** that represent the true needs and desires of your community
- ✓ **Empowers and includes** people from different backgrounds in your community
- ✓ **Builds local networks of community members** that are committed more broadly to sustainability, climate mitigation, and community benefits
- ✓ **Increases trust** between local government and the community, which is essential for the future



Engagement is one of the *most common* blueprint key activities

Blueprint Topics

1. Comprehensive Energy Planning ★
2. Energy Efficiency
 - 2A - Energy Assessments and Building Upgrades
 - 2B - Energy Savings Performance Contracts
 - 2C - Building Electrification Campaign ★
 - 2D - Building Performance Standards & Stretch Codes ★
3. Renewables
 - 3A - Solar PPAs and Direct Ownership
 - 3B - Community Solar ★
 - 3C - Solarize Campaign ★
 - 3D - Renewable Resource Planning for (rural and tribal) communities ★
4. Transportation
 - 4A - Electric Vehicles for Fleets & Fleet Electrification ★
 - 4B - EV Charging Infrastructure for the Community ★
5. Financing Solutions - Revolving Loan Funds ★
6. Workforce Development ★



=

Stakeholder and/or community engagement is listed within a key activity

Selecting a blueprint that doesn't include community or stakeholder engagement?

That's ok! Community and stakeholder engagement is valuable and worthwhile for EVERY kind of EECBG project.

What is Community Engagement?

INCREASING IMPACT ON THE DECISION 

Community Engagement:

An ongoing and iterative process of working collaboratively with community members in all aspects of decision-making, to address the true needs, desires, and aspirations of those people.

	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.
PROMISE	We will keep the public informed.	We will keep the public informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work with the public to ensure that its concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will look to the public for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate its advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what the public decides.

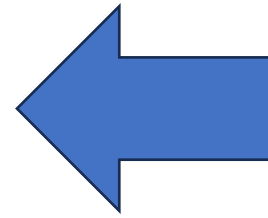
International Association for Public Participation (IAP2). The Spectrum of Public Participation. IAP2

Capacity Building Through Effective Meaningful Engagement

A TOOL FOR LOCAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS



EPA 440B23001



New EPA Resource: [Capacity Building Through Effective Meaningful Engagement](#)

- ✓ *The spectrum of community engagement*
- ✓ *Approaches to decision-making*
- ✓ *Roadmap for building trust in the community*
- ✓ *Example engagement strategies*

Climate Ready O'ahu

Community Engagement Best Practices

Office of Climate Change, Sustainability and Resiliency
November 18, 2023



Development Phases

- Dedicated Advisory Hui, including youth members
- Community engagement at every step of creation
- Inclusive public comment platform

1 Identify Vision and Values

Guiding adaptation values and principles were shaped by community voices, climate scientists, and City departments.

- 40-member Community Advisory Hui
- 10 Visions of O'ahu community events

3 Co-Design Strategy with Community

Implemented non-traditional, inclusive strategies in partnership with community organizations for deep engagement to understand community needs and identify potential adaptation actions.

- 1100+ residents surveyed
- 2 Climate Ready Games
- 6 community-led workshops and a Climate Ready Open House

5 Adoption and Implementation

Climate Ready O'ahu adopted and partnerships strengthened with community members, businesses, and nonprofits for successful implementation.

Climate Ready O'ahu Development Phases

2 Investigate Top Climate Hazards

A Climate Risk Assessment determined O'ahu's top five climate hazards and mapped areas most exposed to impacts.

4 Weave it All Together

Climate Ready O'ahu drafted using focus areas defined by community and City departments.



Deep Dive: Climate Ready Workshops

Step 1: Research grants and identify potential partners to apply with

Step 2: Co-design grant and engagement goals with partner

Step 3: Design implementation and outreach strategy

Step 4: Implement, monitor, and improve



Community Engagement Goals

01: Build knowledge and wisdom about climate adaptation and resilience

02: Foster community championship for stewarding climate adaptation strategies in collaboration with community groups and the City

03: Support front-line communities most impacted by climate change



Forming a Network of Partners



Lualualei, Wai'anae, Hawai'i



Providing Compensation

Fiscal Host: Mālama Learning Center (MLC)

- \$10,000 paid to MLC as host the organization
- \$1,000 provided to each workshop organization
- \$50 provided to each household in attendance
 - Everyone encouraged to bring a family member with them
- Food provided at all events



Community Engagement Event Agenda

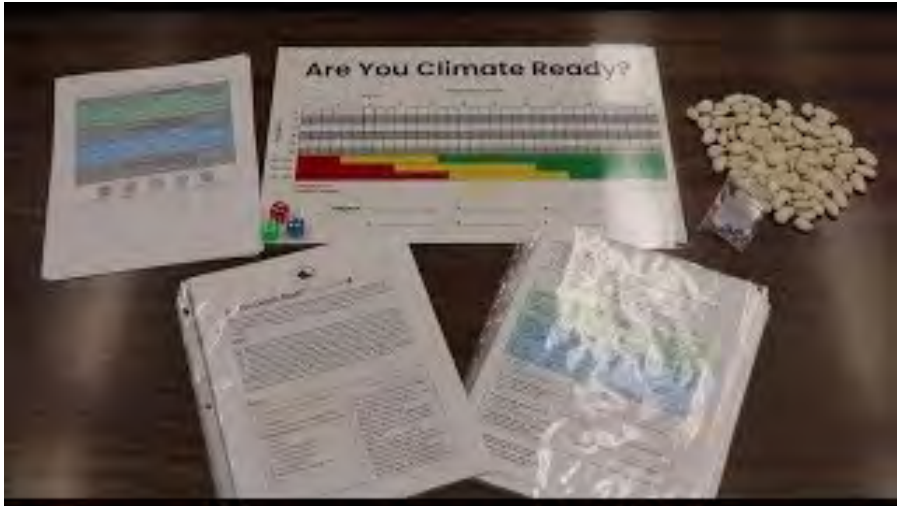
Example: MA'O Organic Farms

Workshop Agenda MA'O Organic Farms Saturday April 2nd, 2022	Time	Who	Notes
Set up workshop area	7:00am	All	MLC/CCSR park at 86-148 Puhawaii Road
Arrival/Check in; COVID Protocol; Fill out Pre-Survey; Refreshments; Protocol, Ho'olauna	8:00am	MA'O	
Climate Change Workshop	8:15am	MLC & CCSR	
Project Intros by MLC & CCSR; Climate Ready O'ahu ppt Presentation	15 min	MLC & CCSR	Have screen and whiteboards if need to write or present anything
Climate Adaptation exercise in 6 small groups	45 min	MLC & CCSR	Menu of actions to adapt to heat events
Facilitated Small Group Dialogue (same groups)	45 min	MLC & CCSR	Build in bio break; Place sticky notes on whiteboard
Community Champions - Actionable steps we can take in our community right now	15 min	MLC & CCSR	Introduce actions and concepts around community collective action
Climate Ready O'ahu Next Steps and Closing Circle	15 min	MLC & CCSR	
Break (restroom, Farm to Fork snack, hydration)	10:30am	MLC & CCSR	
Hana in the garden + mini farm tour	10:45am	MA'O	Hana + tour
Closing & Post-Survey per household	11:45am	All	Have iPad/phones available & make post survey hard copies if need them
Clean up	12:00pm	All	

‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i (Hawaiian language) terms:
Ho'olauna = introductions
Hana = work or activity



Are You Climate Ready? Games



“Are You Heat Ready?” Game

In this game, players experience increasing heat over three decades. Each decade, players take adaptation actions in an effort to stay out of the “danger zone” that represents increasing temperatures.



“Are You Sea-Level Wise?” Game

In this game, climate change in the form of rising sea-levels unfolds over six decades. Each decade, players take adaptation actions in an effort to move mauka (inland) as sea-level rise and coastal erosion impact the ability to live on the beach.

Download Materials at: <https://www.climatereadyoahu.org/activities>

Final Wrap-Up Meeting With Partners

Date: Wednesday May 25, 2022

Location: Mālama Learning Center's Pālehua Nursery,
Makakilo, O'ahu

Lunch provided to everyone

- CCSR and MLC gave an overview of all of the workshops
- Key results were shared from the pre- and post-workshop surveys
- Discussion on next steps.

The CCSR office recognized everyone's important work in this project through a certificate.



Outcomes: The Takeaways

01

Improved understanding of climate risks among community members

02

Support for climate adaptation awareness-raising, education, and actions

03

Improved geographic distribution of participants centered in frontline communities

997

Takeaways Shared

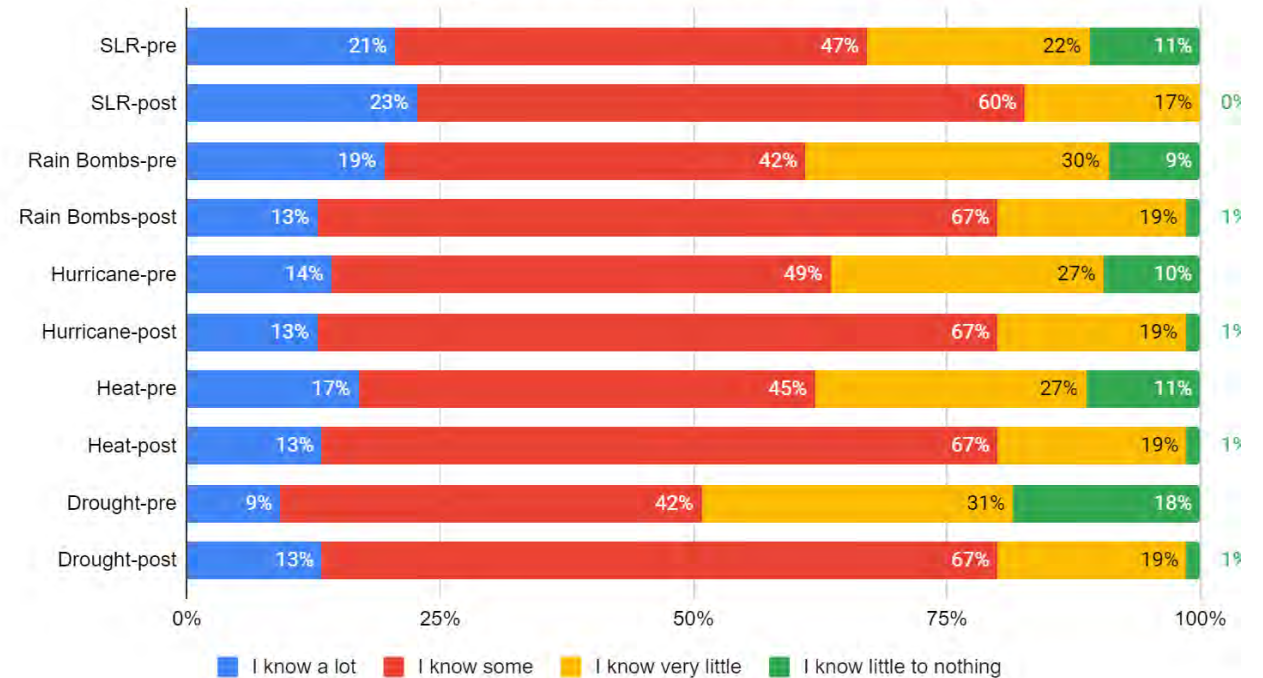


Outcomes: The Takeaways

Understanding Climate Risks

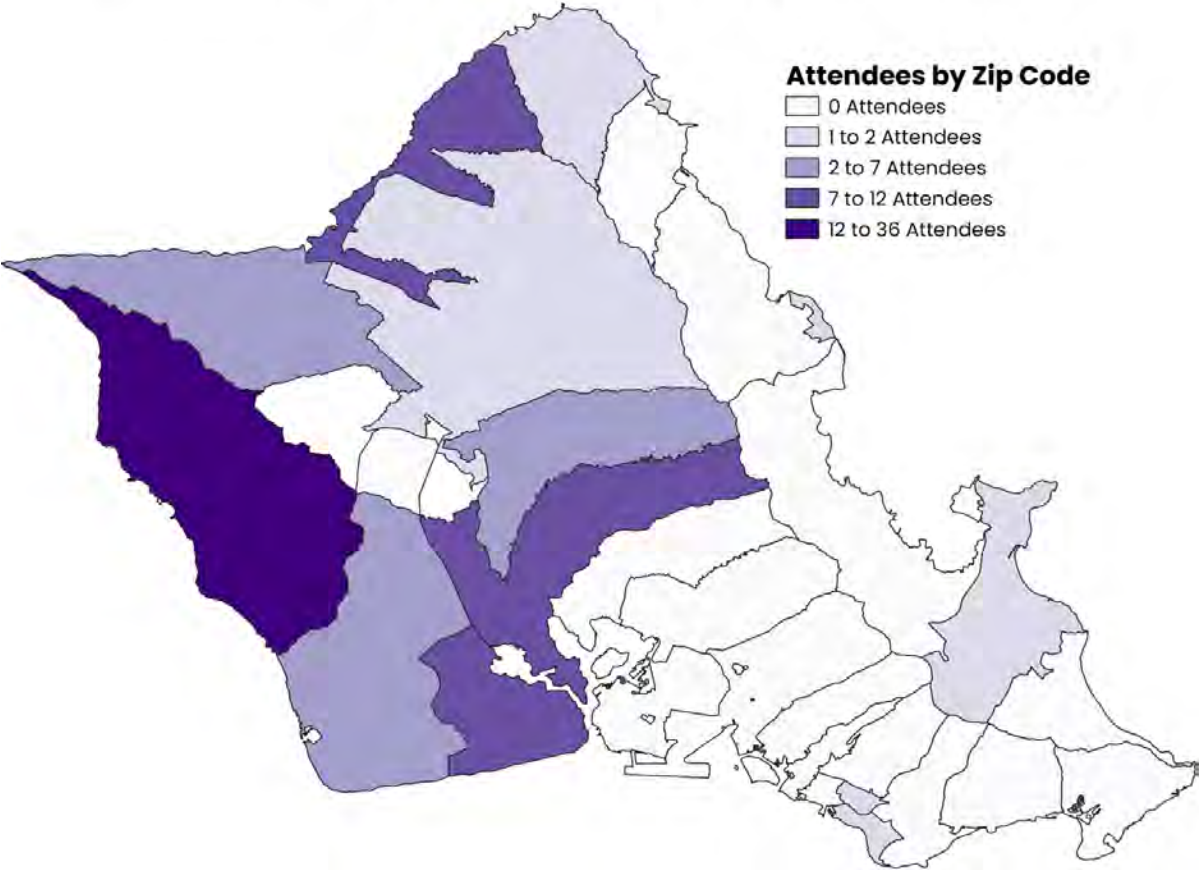
- Increase in knowledge about SLR hazards 68% to 83%
- Increase in concern about SLR hazards 77% to 92%
- Increase in knowledge about Heat hazards 62% to 80%
- Increase in concern about Heat hazards 62% to 94%

How much do you currently know about these climate change hazards?

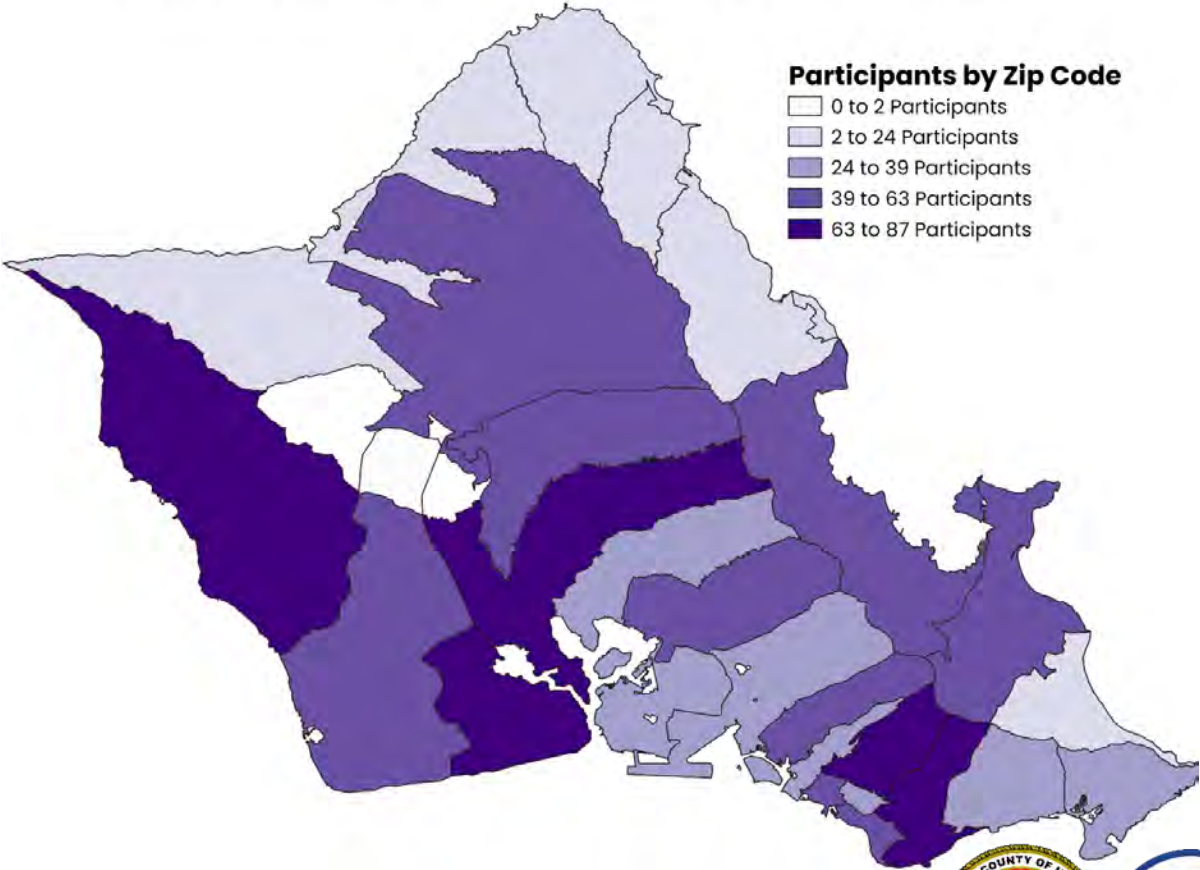


Outcomes: The Numbers

Increase in Engagement through MLC Workshop Series



Total Participants in Climate Ready O'ahu Engagement



Community Voices Overall

1600+ voices heard

- 40-member Community Advisory Hui
- 2 islandwide surveys
- 12 community engagement workshops
- 6 community hana sessions with Climate Ready Games
- 32 interdepartmental workshops and 1:1 meetings with City depts

More to come....

- *NOW*: Public draft and review period
- *NOW*: Virtual + in-person Open Houses
- Adoption of Council resolution
- Ongoing implementation



Outcomes: Lessons Learned

- Know who needs to be engaged early and identify where participation lacks historically
- Meeting communities on their terms can foster trust and inspiration for collaboration
- Giving back to community organizations through hana fosters a two-way give and take relationship
- Keeping engagement interesting (i.e. straying away from lectures) motivates community members to contribute
- Partnering with a CBO enhances reach to frontline communities and understanding of community needs



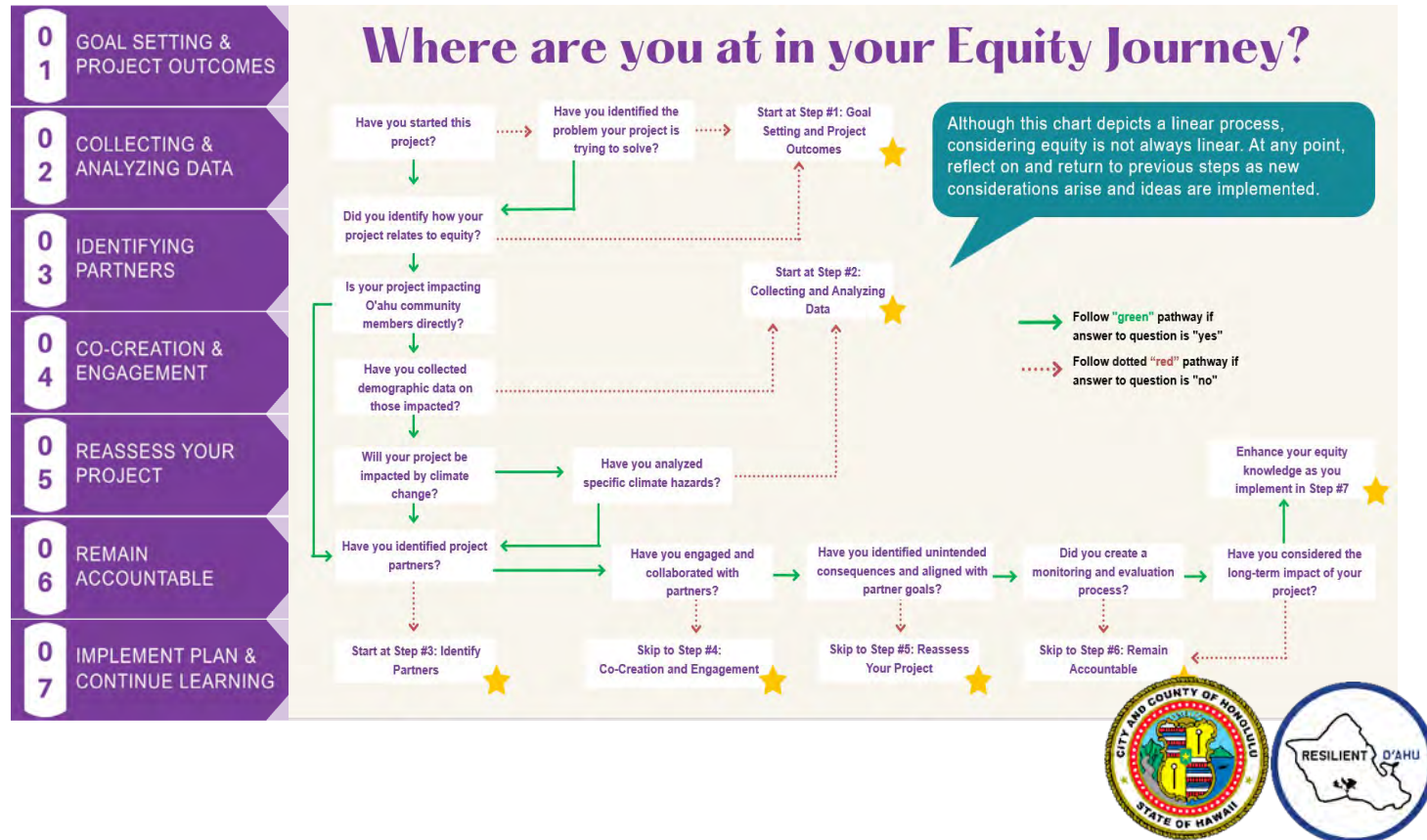
Outcomes: Materials

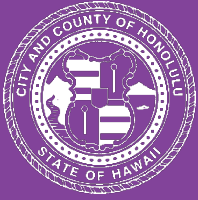
Workshops featured on *Outside Hawai'i* TV Program.

Visit: <https://vimeo.com/734210761>



Creation of Equity Screening Tool for the City





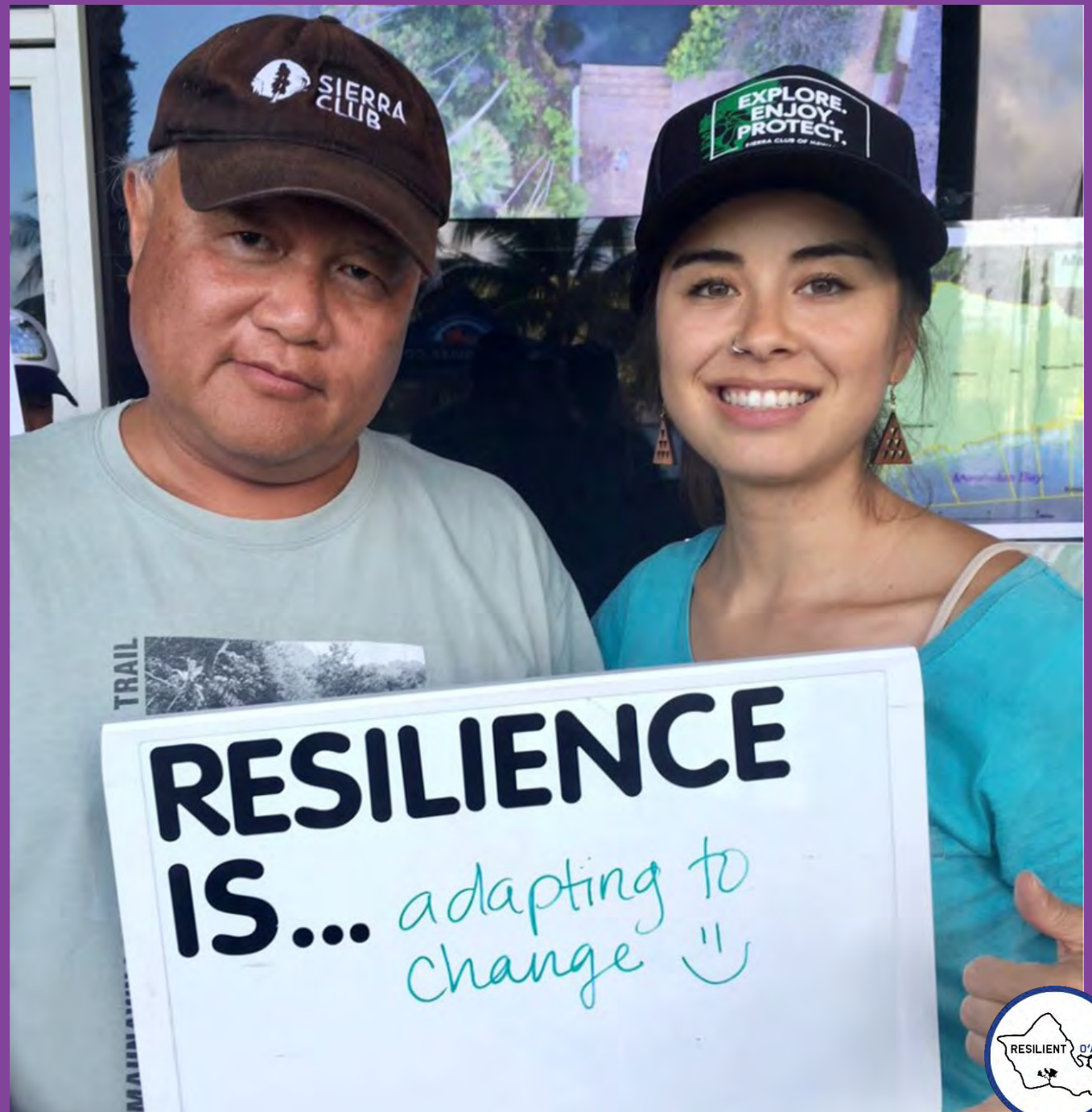
Mahalo!

Learn More:

www.climatereadyoahu.org

Connect:

Hailey.Campbell@honolulu.gov



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- EECBG Program Announcements and Reminders
- Close Out & Q&A

Breakout Room Discussion (15 minutes)

- 1** | **Introductions – Who are you and where are you from? (2 mins)**
- 2** | **What inspired you about the City & County of Honolulu's example of community engagement? (3 mins)**
Think about: One thing you'd like to incorporate into your engagement. What would you do differently in the context of your community?
- 3** | **Which community members & stakeholder groups will you engage around your EECBG project and why? (5 mins)**
- 4** | **What outcomes do you hope to achieve through your community engagement? (5 mins)**
(e.g., build trust or relationships, obtain buy-in, inform residents about a project happening in their neighborhood)

How was your breakout discussion?
Share with the group!



Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Program

Blueprint Cohorts Community Engagement Activity Sheet

This Activity Sheet is designed to assist EECBG Blueprint Cohort participants in planning, designing, and implementing one of the most common key activities included across the 13 blueprint topic areas: community engagement. Follow along with the activities in this workbook if you're looking to incorporate community engagement into your EECBG project, but aren't sure where to start.

STEP 1



Think about your goals

- 1.1 **Brainstorm:** Why is community engagement important to your EECBG project or program? What outcomes do you hope to achieve? Is there specific feedback you are hoping to solicit?



Work with your team internally or join forces with your buddy to fill in this **Optional Community Engagement Activity Sheet**

It's a great tool if you're looking to incorporate community engagement into your EECBG project, but aren't sure where to start!

Look for an email from us after the session

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The EECBG Voucher Application Portal is NOW LIVE!

Website URL:

[Doerebates.my.site.com/eecbgvouchers/s/](https://doerebates.my.site.com/eecbgvouchers/s/)

U.S. Department of Energy

Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program

EECBG Program Voucher Application Portal

Welcome to the EECBG Program Voucher Application Portal for eligible local government and Tribal entities. Here, you will be able to submit an application for an Equipment Rebate and/or a Technical

Note: this platform is different from the one used by eligible entities pursuing traditional grants (known as PAGE)

All the information you need to apply can be found on the [EECBG Formula Application Hub](https://www.energy.gov/scep/eecbg-program-formula-grant-application-hub):

<https://www.energy.gov/scep/eecbg-program-formula-grant-application-hub>

NEW EECBG APPLICATION DEADLINE: April 30th, 2024

Steps to Access the EECBG Voucher Application Portal

Already submitted a Pre-Award Info Sheet (PAIS)?

You **DO NOT** need to directly register in the portal!

1. Check your inbox for an email with the subject "U.S. DOE EECBG Program Voucher Application Registration Approval" from noreply@salesforce.com on behalf of EECBG Program Voucher
 - o This will include a username and link to login
 - o **DO NOT** register in the portal
2. Follow instructions provided in email to login & begin applying
3. If you have not received an invitation, please contact EECBGVouchers@icf.com for assistance

Note: Please check your junk mail for registration verifications!

Haven't submitted a Pre-Award Info Sheet (PAIS)?

You **DO** need to directly register in the portal!

1. If you have not yet submitted a Pre-Award Information Sheet, there is an important pre-step: identifying or creating a unique entity identifier (UEI) from [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov).
 - **Note:** Creating a new UEI will take up to 3 weeks, so please ensure you allow for adequate time before you begin registering, if applicable.
2. Once you have done that, go to the EECBG Program Vouchers Portal:
<https://doerebates.my.site.com/eecbgvouchers/s/>
3. Click on 'Registration'
4. Register to apply directly on the site. **REMINDER:** this is in lieu of the Pre-Award Information Sheet.

Federal Opportunities Open Now! | ESPC Campaign



The **Energy Savings Performance Contracting (ESPC) Campaign** engages states, local governments, K-12 school districts, universities and hospitals, and other market stakeholders to support, expand, and enhance ESPC; drive the adoption of best practices; and achieve significant energy, environmental, and cost savings benefits

Goal: Partners will collectively achieve **\$1 billion** in measured and verified savings

Benefits

- ✓ Access U.S. Department of Energy technical assistance, peer exchange, and networking opportunities
- ✓ Strengthen ESPC knowledge and technical capacity
- ✓ Maximize the impact of projects and programs
- ✓ Demonstrate results with measured and verified savings
- ✓ Receive recognition for exemplary projects and programs and achieving savings goals

Partnership Pathways

Participants are public sector agencies and building owners ready to establish, strengthen, and expand ESPC programs or implement ESPC projects to maximize impact and demonstrate measured and verified results

Supporters are market stakeholders eager to share their expertise with participants to promote and support the objectives of the ESPC Campaign

How to Join

Sign up or learn more:

www.energy.gov/scep/espc-campaign

ESPCcampaign@hq.doe.gov



**Join
Today!**

Federal Opportunities Open Now!

1

Communities LEAP

Due: December 14th, 2023

\$18+ million in technical assistance to low-income, energy-burdened communities that are also either disadvantaged or experiencing direct impacts from the shift away from fossil fuels, in support of their community-based clean energy and economic development goals.



<https://www.energy.gov/communitiesLEAP/communities-leap>

2

EPA's Clean School Bus Rebate Program

Due: January 31, 2024

Funds to access rebates to replace existing school buses with clean and zero-emission models. Eligible entities include public school districts, Tribes, and eligible third-party contractors



<https://www.epa.gov/cleanschoolbus/clean-school-bus-program-rebates>

DOE SCEP Support for Building Energy Codes

Section 50131 of the [Inflation Reduction Act](#), provides **\$1 Billion** for the adoption and implementation of the latest and zero energy building codes



[Learn More](#)

1:1 Technical Assistance is Available!
Contact us: IRAcodes@hq.doe.gov

[Sign Up For Updates](#)



Example Eligible Activities

- Adopt the **latest model building energy codes**
- Adopt **zero energy building codes**
- Adopt innovative codes with equivalent or greater energy savings (e.g.: **stretch codes, building performance standards**)
- Implementation activities to reach full compliance
- Administrative and place-based **capacity building** to support implementation and compliance
- Stakeholder engagement and **workforce development** to support **equitable outcomes**

Funding Details

Available now:

\$400M in Formula Funds for States and Territories released in September 2023. Letter of intent from states due 11/21/23. ([ALRD](#))

More Funding Coming Soon:

Who: States, Territories, and **local governments with the authority to adopt building codes**

What: Adoption of the latest codes, zero codes, or equivalent innovative approaches such as custom codes, stretch codes, or Building Performance Standards

Upcoming DOE Trainings, Webinars, and Events

Coining a Cleaner Future: How to Finance Your Emissions Reduction Plan

Nov. 28 | 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. ET

Turning Insights into Action: Bridging Building Data Analytics and Work Order Systems

Dec. 5 | 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. ET

Storing and Saving: Using Thermal Energy Storage in Commercial Buildings

Dec. 19 | 11 a.m. – 12 p.m. ET

Best Practices for Understanding and Improving Compliance: Field Studies, Circuit Riders, and More

Jan. 18 | 1 – 2 p.m. ET

Addressing Existing Buildings: Building Performance Standards and Implementation Support Tools

Feb. 15 | 1 – 2 p.m. ET

Energy Code Enforcement Challenges and Opportunities in Rural Communities

March 21 | 1 – 2 p.m. ET

Register for Energy Exchange 2024

March 26–28, 2024

2024 Better Buildings, Better Plants Summit

April 2–4 | Washington, D.C

Public Sector Funding & Technical Assistance Programs

State and Local Solution Center

State and Local Solution Center

- ✓ See a **list of funding opportunities**
 - ✓ Sign up for **email updates** about funding opportunities
- ✓ Get notified about events and trainings across DOE

<https://www.energy.gov/scep/slsc/public-sector-funding-technical-assistance-programs>

Blueprint Cohorts | Calendar of Events



Date	Host	Upcoming Event
Nov 17th @ 1pm	DOE	Blueprint Cohort Session #3: Community Engagement
Nov 28th @ 12pm	NREL	JEDI Tool Training
December '23	DOE	<i>BREAK</i>
January '24	DOE	TBD



The Jobs and Economic Development Impact (JEDI) models and **estimates the number of jobs and economic impacts** associated with energy projects.

Learn how to calculate the number of jobs your EECBG project could bring to your community!

REGISTER NOW!

<https://nrel.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJlsf-GhqzoqHLUy124SshFrQRLSXiVpltQ>

Past events

- Blueprint Cohorts Kickoff: About the Cohorts & Cohort Intros
- Blueprint Cohort Session #2: EECBG Project Planning 101
- Low-Income Energy Affordability Data Tool Training
- State and Local Planning for Energy Tool Training
- Solar + Battery: REopt Tool Training
- Solar PV: SAM & PV Watts Tool Training

Find meeting materials and recordings of past DOE & NREL events on the EECBG Program Blueprints Webpage:

<https://www.energy.gov/scep/energy-efficiency-and-conservation-block-grant-program-blueprints>

Blueprint Cohorts | Progress Check

Phase 1: Application Development

- Getting input on your needs and desires
- Application submission and troubleshooting
- Aligning EECBG projects with Blueprint topic areas
- Project planning support in areas that apply across-cohorts

Phase 2: Implementation

- More tailored project implementation support in smaller groups
- Resource development and sharing
- Monthly peer to peer learning opportunities
- Dedicated subject matter experts assigned to your cohort



Sep 8, 2023

Cohorts Introduction



We are here!



April 30, 2024

EECBG Application Deadline

Give Us Your Feedback | What do you want in future meetings?

EECBG Program Blueprint Cohorts
Feedback Survey: 11/17



<https://forms.office.com/g/qv61njKmaf>

Your EECBG Support System | If you have questions about

Your application:

1. The status of your PAIS or application
2. Voucher projects & eligibility
3. Application requirements



Grant Management Team
EECBG@hq.doe.gov

Technical Assistance:

1. Blueprints & Blueprint Cohorts
 - *"Does my project fit into a blueprint?"*
2. Community Energy Fellowship
3. Other technical assistance
 - *"How do I incorporate J40 principles into my project?"*



Technical Assistance Team
TechnicalAssistance@hq.doe.gov

The Voucher Portal:

Get voucher application portal technical support



Voucher Portal Administrator (ICF)
EECBGVouchers@icf.com

Your EECS:

Get support developing your Energy Efficiency Conservation Strategy (EECS)



National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL)
EECS_TA@nrel.gov

- 10-20 Hours

Attend Our Bi-weekly Office Hours! [Sign up here](#)

Every other Friday at 2:30pm ET

<https://forms.office.com/g/yc3H3xQeEE>

Q&A

Thank You !!