Building Community Resilience Hubs:
A Conversation with the Asian Pacific Environmental Network and RYSE Center
WEBINAR LOGISTICS

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THE RESILIENT POWER PROJECT

- Increase public/private investment in clean, resilient power systems (solar+storage)
- Protect low-income and vulnerable communities, with a focus on affordable housing and critical public facilities
- Engage city, state and federal policy makers to develop supportive policies and programs
- Visit www.resilient-power.org for more information and resources
Boulder: Nonprofit transportation center serving elderly and disabled residents

Puerto Rico: Supporting the installation of solar+storage at multiple community medical clinics

Boston: Multiple housing properties representing 1,000+ units of senior and affordable housing

New Mexico: Added resilience for remote wildfire operations command center

DC: First solar+storage resilience center at affordable housing in DC

Puerto Rico: Supporting the installation of solar+storage at multiple community medical clinics

Supporting 250+ projects across the country
WEBINAR SPEAKERS

Amee Raval
Research Director, APEN

Shina Robinson
Policy Coordinator, APEN

Dan Reilly
Director of Innovation, RYSE Center

Marriele Mango
Project Director, Clean Energy Group (moderator)
Building Community Resilience

A Conversation with the Asian Pacific Environmental Network and RYSE Center

03.10.2021
Today’s Agenda

● Welcome + Opening (Marriele - 5 mins)
● Resilience Before Disaster Report (Amee - 12 mins)
● APEN’s Local Implementation Work (Shina - 12 mins)
● Case Study: RYSE Resilience Hub (Dan - 12 mins)
● Q&A / Discussion (15 mins)
All people have a right to a clean and healthy environment in which their communities can live, work, learn, play and thrive.
LA Times: “How climate change is fueling record-breaking California wildfires, heat and smog.”

“As fires burn, the smoke and air pollution worsens respiratory conditions for communities that have been plagued with the burden of our polluting industries for generations.”

NBC News: “COVID-19 and the California fires have a connection. Here’s how to fight both.”

“We’ve lost complete control, that there really isn’t a normal anymore.”
The current moment demands a **Just Recovery**.

Growing economic inequality.

COVID-19 pandemic.

Historic climate disasters.

Racial injustice.
WHAT IS A RESILIENT COMMUNITY?
"Just Recovery resists disaster capitalism at every step – from the disaster collectivism that models people-powered, heart-centered, socially just relief to the long-term organizing and actions that reclaim the right of peoples to define their economies and govern their communities."


“It is the disruptive power of disaster that matters here, the ability of disasters to topple old orders and open new possibilities.”

- Rebecca Solnit, A Paradise Built in Hell: The Extraordinary Communities that Arise in Disaster
Social infrastructure: the services and facilities that secure the economic, health, cultural, and social well-being of the community.

- **Public institutions** e.g., schools, libraries, park and recreation sites
- **Community orgs** e.g., places of worship, youth and senior centers, child care
- **Small businesses**
- **Housing accessible to disadvantaged and vulnerable communities**
Community Resilience Hubs

Spaces where communities gather, organize, and access social services on a daily basis in addition to addressing critical needs during disaster response and recovery.

This includes: cooling and heating, electricity access, food, water, medical supplies, information and communications access, partner coordination.

Resilience Hubs:
- Leverage established and trusted community and public facilities.
- Foster community governance and collaboration.
- Integrate workforce development strategies to create high road jobs.
- Target benefits to disadvantaged and vulnerable communities.
AB 1087: EJ Community Resilience Hubs Program

- Creates a new grant program that deliver whole building resilience upgrades (e.g., energy efficiency, clean energy microgrids, HVAC repairs)
- Accelerates deployment of technologies for clean energy and community health in trusted places (e.g., affordable housing, critical community institutions) located in environmental justice communities

AB 1087 is a bill authored by California Assemblymember David Chiu (AD-17) and co-sponsored by APEN, CA Environmental Justice Alliance, and the Natural Resources Defense Council.
Solar on Multifamily Affordable Housing

- The largest investment in solar for renters in the country
- Majority of benefits must go to tenants
- Workforce and resident outreach requirements
- Community-based organizations as partners in implementation
SB 160: Cultural Competency & Community Engagement in Emergency Preparedness

- Address how all diverse populations in a jurisdiction are served by emergency communication, evacuation and sheltering, mitigation and prevention, planning and preparedness.
- Meaningfully engage local communities by holding public meetings in diverse and accessible locations, document input regarding community-identified needs, strategies, and recommendations, and consider establishing a community advisory board.
Community-led Resilience Interventions
RYSE Commons

Commons (Definition): Land of resources belonging to or affecting the whole of a community.
Safety

Physical (Individual, Community, Day-to-Day, Times of Crisis, etc)

Emotional (Is it for them/their families? Is it welcoming? Is it healing? Is it responsive? Does it reflect priorities?)

Political (Do they have an impact? Connected to something larger than themselves? Leadership Opportunities?)
RYSE Commons as a Community Resilience Hub

Started off as Solar or Solar + Storage
Youth Engagement + Leadership
Partnership Expanded
Vision Expanded
Additional Components
Move Towards Opening + Phased Approach
Thank You!

For additional questions or comments:

Shina Robinson
shina@apen4ej.org

Amee Raval
amee@apen4ej.org

Dan Reilly
dan@rysecenter.org

LET US BEGIN TO IMAGINE THE WORLDS WE WOULD LIKE TO INHABIT, THE LONG LIVES WE WILL SHARE, AND THE MANY FUTURES IN OUR HANDS.”

—SUSAN GRIFFIN
Thank you for attending our webinar

Marriele Mango
Project Director
Clean Energy Group
marriele@cleanegroup.org

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Upcoming Webinars

• ConnectedSolutions: How a New Program Improves the Economics and Social Benefits of Solar+Storage in Massachusetts and Beyond (3/12)

• Collaborating with Community-Based Organizations: An Energy Justice Primer for States (3/23)

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