



Realities of the Triple Pandemic: Racialized Violence, COVID-19 and Climate Change

August 24, 2020 | 2:00 – 3:30 PM PT

Featured Panelists:

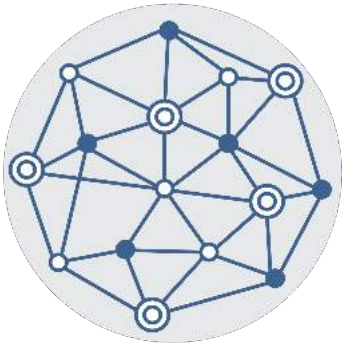




California Adaptation Forum 2020

WEBINAR SERIES SPONSORS





ARCCA

Alliance of Regional Collaboratives
for Climate Adaptation

Facilitator



**Local
Government
Commission**

Leaders for Livable Communities

State Liaison



Affiliate Members

CSU The California State University
OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR



**CALIFORNIA
HEALTH CARE
CLIMATE ALLIANCE**

**Climate
Resolve**

ReLEAF
CALIFORNIA

**GEORGETOWN
CLIMATE CENTER**

**INSTITUTE FOR
Sustainable
Communities**

**BUROHAPPOLD
ENGINEERING**



Harris & Associates

**Union of
Concerned
Scientists**



North Coast
Resource Partnership



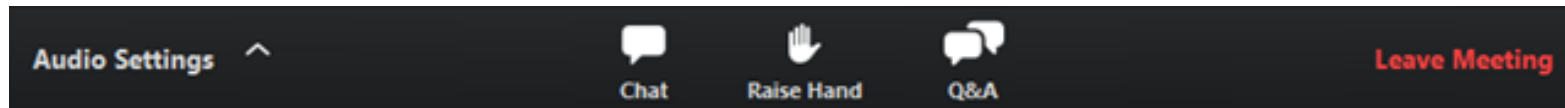
**CAPITAL REGION
CLIMATE READINESS
COLLABORATIVE**



Webinar Logistics

Q&A

- Submit questions for panelists through the Q&A module at any point during the webinar.
- Upvote questions that you are interested in hearing responses to.



Chat

- Engage in a dialogue with your peers – share resources, case studies, and your ideas.
- Reach out to LGC staff if you encounter technical issues or have general questions.

Today's Moderator



Corrine Van Hook-Turner

Director of Climate Innovation
Movement Strategy Center



Sankofa



Our Panelists



**Corrine
Van Hook-Turner**

*Director of Climate
Innovation
Movement Strategy
Center*



**Mikela
Topey**

*Filepe Floresca High-
Road Fellow
Emerald Cities
Collaborative*



**Jessica
Guadalupe Tovar**

*Energy Democracy
Organizer
Local Clean Energy
Alliance/East Bay Clean
Power Alliance*



**Colin
Miller**

*Coordinator
Oakland Climate Action
Coalition*



**Isha
Clarke**

*Activist
Youth vs. Apocalypse*

Written Response to Audience Questions

If you could require all government workers to read one book, what would that book be?

- Mikela: The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America by Richard Rothstein, The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander

Are there other case studies you can share that demonstrate equity in action?

- <http://emeraldcities.org/resources/building-electrification-report>

For our panelists, to Isha's point - do you think it is possible to disperse power and privilege through the systems that we currently have? Can we reform them, or do we need to break them down and build new ones?

- Colin: I do not feel that the systems we currently have are reformable. I do feel that we need to break them down and build new one, from the ground up, led by frontline communities, particularly Black / African-descendant and Indigenous / Native communities. We have the solutions in our communities. We have been forced to be resilient for 500+ years, just to survive these conditions of genocide, colonization, patriarchy and slavery. We must navigate the contradictions to advance a Just Transition to a regenerative, Feminist Economy for Life. Thank you again for this question.
- The Master's Tools Will Never Dismantle the Master's House by Audre Lorde:
http://s18.middlebury.edu/AMST0325A/Lorde_The_Masters_Tools.pdf

What would be the most significant policy change Governor Newsom could undertake over the next 12 months to make the biggest difference for our collective future?

- Colin: Executive Order to free, fully pardon and expunge the records of tens of thousands of caged / incarcerated people in California. Mass DECARCERATION on a path to Prison Abolition. The 13th Amendment of the Constitution that legalizes SLAVERY in the 21st century of incarcerated people is WRONG. Prioritize FUNDING for formerly incarcerated people for mental health services, social support services, cooperative business development efforts, and good, family sustaining green jobs (as a labor union or worker-cooperative). Support those folks in getting paid living wage jobs to fight fires, and be the workforce for a Just Transition to a regenerative, feminist economy for LIFE.
- Mikela: Transferring California's investment funds from corporations and international private entities, and using that money to fund socialized housing, socialized health care, and jobs for all.

My question is why don't we hear about the other things that are impacting our problems like Climate Gentrification and Climate Migration that is happening right now? There's so much we don't address that is part of the problems we are facing and till we do, we can't fix many of the problems we're talking about in 2020...

- Emerald Cities Collaborative has created a new program called Anchors in Resilient Communities to ensure new climate interventions do not lead to gentrification and displacement of community members. You can learn more here: <https://anchorsinresilientcommunities.org/our-community>

How can we bring in more education in the sciences to all of our communities. This issue - COVID, Climate, healthy environment - has a massively important need for people from all cultures and backgrounds to get more involved in the sciences where a real difference can also be made. But it is challenging - some to systemic issues with education and some to interest in these communities. I would strongly suggest that part of the solution is to generate excitement by those on this panel and others to promote science as part of the social dialogue. I am not hearing enough from our communities in promoting this as part of the solution. Thank you.

- Mikela: In my work in San Francisco around building residential electrification, we made our first objective to be to reach out to community members and provide education on what building electrification is and what technologies are used for building electrification. If cities move towards direct democracy and bring in community members at every process of developing policies and programs, then it would be essential for cities to provide training and education on issues that are currently affecting the community, while also empowering them to create the solutions they would like to see in their communities.

I often see that those that are engaged in equity are those that self-select to be engaged in equity. How do we best engage those we work with in local government who do not self-select engagement with these issues?

- Mikela: Don't. Make sure an equity framework is institutionalized in your organization's policies or programs. To develop this framework, partner with those who want to be engaged in ensuring that their work is embedded in equity and residents.

What are the top steps or ways to identify and amplify outreach to low-income/oppressed/marginalized communities in jurisdictions that have struggled to get participation from these groups in the past?

- Mikela: Hosting meetings in those communities, ensuring that any barriers, such as language, access to food, access to care giving, are addressed to ensure participation. Connect with community leaders providing resources or services to these community members and have them play key roles in the planning, developing, outreach, and implementation stages of hosting these meetings. Also use tools such as call, mailing, and door-knocking to reach out to communities who have limited access to broadband internet.

Colin, was there funding for the development of the Oakland plan? And how is your org funded?

- Colin: Oakland Climate Action Coalition co-led the City contract for the 2030 Equitable Climate Action Plan, as part of the Equity Facilitator team, together with Environmental Justice Solutions and Blue Star Integrated Studio, Inc. Our Equity Facilitator contract was for just \$80K. Meanwhile, the Plan Writer (a white firm) received \$160K. So there are issues of racial equity inherent in the contract itself. The City of Oakland's Race & Equity Department has highlighted racial disparities in contracts in their Equity Indicators Report of 2018. Oakland Climate Action Coalition is grant-funded, and builds out a grassroots funding effort. We could definitely use more funding, as we are almost entirely volunteers, and working many more hours than we get paid for. I was almost furloughed in August, and in fact lost health benefits and my hours were cut in half this month, due to lack of funding. Please reach out if you have ideas or thoughts to support us with sustainable funding! :)

At the Bay Area Regional Health Inequities Initiative (BARHII), we're working to transform government resilience practices to center the voice and needs of frontline communities. What steps do you think are most important for shifting government funding to communities in these process?

- Mikela: I would suggest creating an advisory council of frontline community members for each Bay Area county participating in this initiative to provide guidance and solutions on how to shift government funding to the communities in the most impactful way.

Is there any national coalition or movement any of you are part of that can bring these beyond local government and influence larger systems?

- Colin: Check out It Takes Roots
- Sunrise Movement and Democratic Socialists of America

Could you please share the models of solutions that folks on the ground are creating right now, right here. How can Climate Resilience & Adaptation Planners follow their lead and move investments into those solutions?

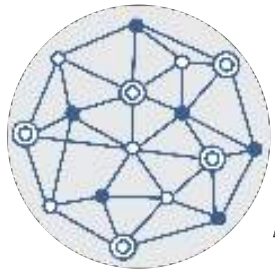
- Colin: I recommend folks check out the National Association of Community Driven Climate Resilience Planners (NACRP) for the Community Driven Climate Resilience Planning guide, Movement Generation's Just Transition Zine, Environmental Justice Solution and Oakland Climate Action Coalition's Racial Equity Impact Assessment & Implementation Guide.
- CEJA SB 1000 Toolkit: Planning for Healthy Communities: <https://caleja.org/2017/09/sb-1000-toolkit-release/>

Unanswered Questions

Please feel free to reach out to speakers directly.

- How can tribal governments "reassert" governance and land stewardship using TEK? Has anyone created a roadmap for this evolution that would support social and ecological restoration and also center diverse communities?
- The money might go to community, but does it always go to those who will truly hold them accountable? Or those they can get to go along, to get along for the sake of peace that is absence of tension, and not the presence of justice.
- Where can I find the regenerative feminist economy for life info?

Thank You



ARCCA

ARCCACalifornia.org



California
Adaptation
Forum 2020

CaliforniaAdaptationForum.org