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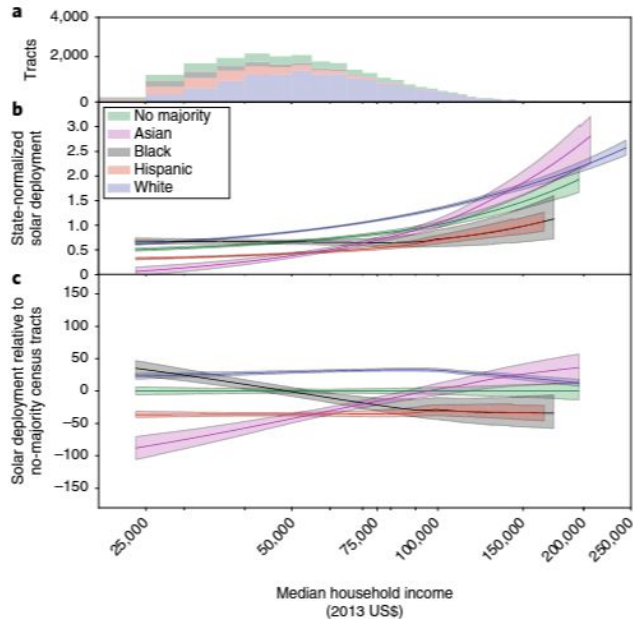# Equity Frameworks and Principles
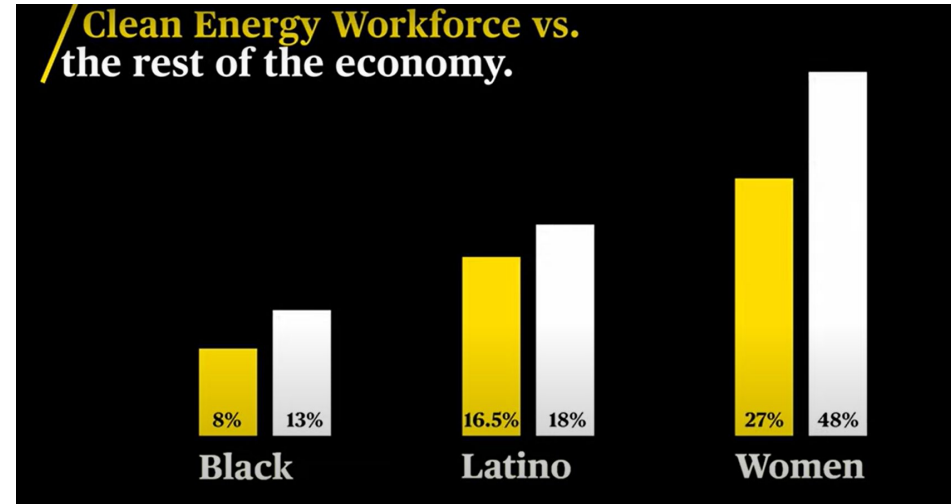
August 2023
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(she/her)

Agenda

- Why are equity frameworks and principles important in clean energy RD&D?
- What are relevant existing equity frameworks and principles
  - Making Equity Real Framework
  - EPIC Example: CalSEED Equity-In; Equity-Out Framework
- Recommendations: Meaningful Benefits to Disadvantaged Communities

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Why are equity frameworks and principles important in clean energy R&D?

Source: Sunter, D. A., Castellanos, S., & Kammen, D. M. (2019). Disparities in rooftop photovoltaics deployment in the United States by race and ethnicity. *Nature Sustainability*, *2*(1), 71-76.

Source: Hsieh. E, *Climate Tech's Inclusion Problem*, Oakland, CA, Canary Media.

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What are relevant existing equity frameworks and principles?

Build on existing CPUC/CEC frameworks:
- SB 350 Clean Energy Equity Indicators
- DACAG Framework
- Integrated Energy Resources Planning
- EPIC Equity Workforce Recommendations
- CPUC Environmental and Social Justice Equity Plan

For today:
- **Framework:** Making Equity Real Framework
- **Example from EPIC:** CalSEED Equity-In; Equity-Out framework

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How do we make equity real?

01 **GOALS, VALUES, MISSION**
How is equity described in the context of the overall goal of the policy, program or funding approach? Is equity a core component? Is it missing?

02 **PROCESS**
How does the policy, program or funding approach propose to deliver outcomes with equity as a focus? How are decisions made or influenced by communities with less political power or voice?

03 **IMPLEMENTATION**
How does implementation lead to equity outcomes? What are the explicit equity outcomes described in the policy, program or funding approach?

04 **ANALYSIS, MEASUREMENT**
How is equity progress measured? How do we know that equity goals were achieved?

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Credit: Sona Mohnot, Jordyn Bishop, Alvaro Sanchez

Making Equity Real Framework for EPIC Program

01 GOALS, VALUES, MISSION

States ratepayer benefits in the mission statement

Provide more clarity and consistency on definitions of energy equity

02 PROCESS

Initiatives to increase diversity

Eliminate barriers to accessing funding

03 IMPLEMENTATION

Funding Goal: 25% DACs; 10% low-income communities

Enable co-creation of projects and pilots with paid community groups

04 ANALYSIS, MEASUREMENT

Extensive data publicly available, but not as much detail on community benefits

Include impacted communities in evaluating projects

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CalSEED, Equity-In Equity-Out

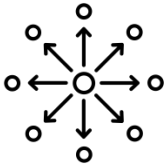| Equity In	Equity Out
- Inclusive outreach - An impartial selection process - Social impact and energy equity award selection criteria - Balanced award distribution throughout the state to ensure geographic diversity	- Develop innovations that can improve environmental, health, and economic conditions in disadvantaged communities at scale - Integrate diversity, equity, and inclusion best practices into their growing companies and teams - Encourage early-on relationship-building and partnership with community-based organizations and inclusive businesses

CalSEED

How can EPIC better provide benefits to disadvantaged communities?

Fairly compensate and include community feedback into assessing benefits of EPIC funded programs and consult with the Disadvantaged Communities Advisory Group.

Connect EPIC reporting and quantitative and qualitative equity metrics with J40 priorities and require community benefit plans or similar tools to assess applications.
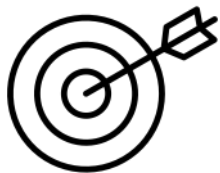
Fund more opportunities for collaborations between companies and software and hardware innovations that increase access to established technologies in disadvantaged communities in addition to new technologies.

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Overall recommendations

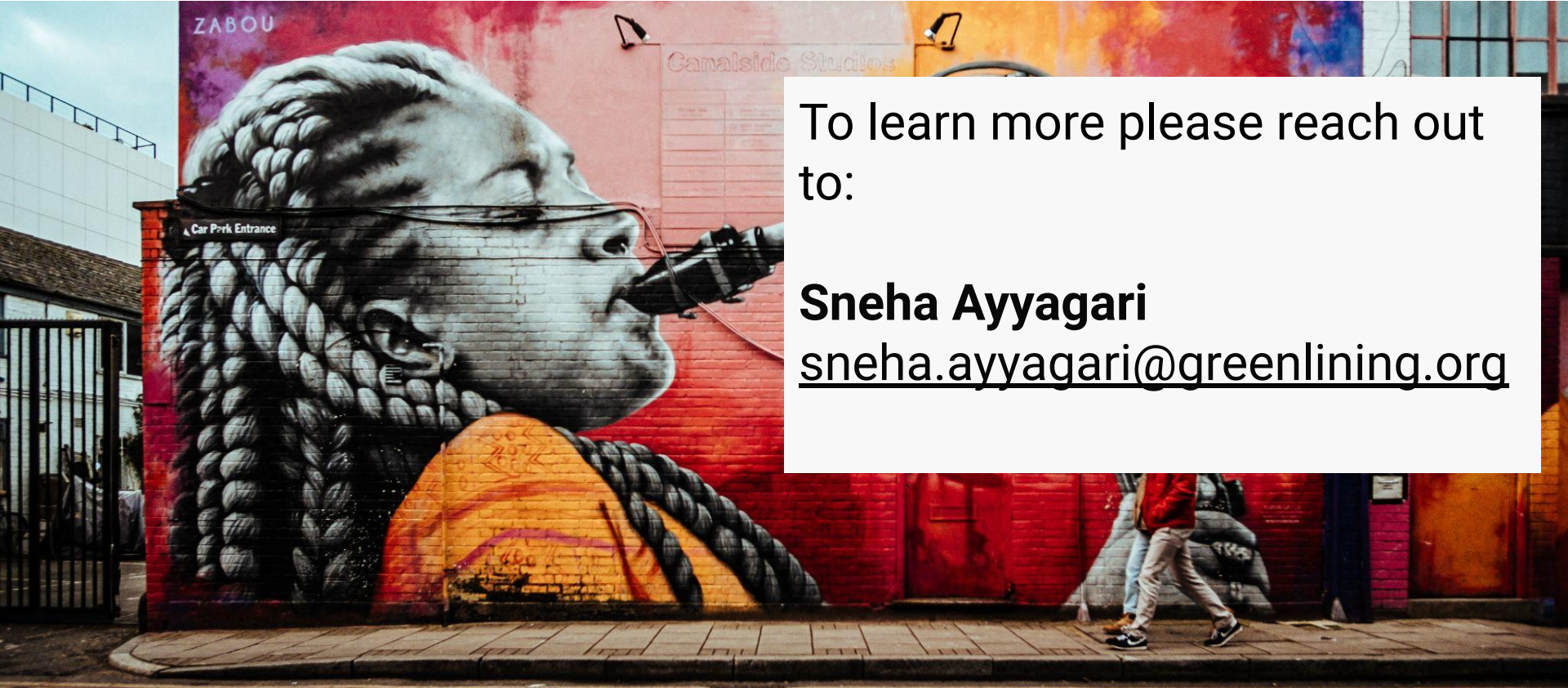Embed equity throughout the goals, process, implementation, and evaluation.

Build from existing frameworks, but make the outcomes more tangible. Have grantees create Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic, Timebound, Inclusive, and Equitable goals to tangibly track progress.

Invest more resources into creating pipelines for underrepresented groups to receive clean energy innovation funding

All icons from the Noun Project

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Thank You

To learn more please reach out to:

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Appendix

- Social Equity in California Climate Change Grants: Making the Promise Real
- Greenlining Making Racial Equity Real in Research
- Elemental's Square Partnerships
- Energy Equity Project Indicators Project
- Example from legislation about defining benefits for priority populations for transportation