To welcome in the new year, we provided a number of educational programs, continuing our successful Climate Mobilization Act Series, Women in Sustainability and Energy events, and Passive House trainings.
January 24, 2023
Climate Mobilization Act Series: The IRA Meets NY

BE-Ex, with support from the NRDC, hosted an engaging panel of policy experts who discussed the impact of the Inflation Reduction Act on New York’s decarbonization goals and how buildings can use the funding to comply with LL 97.

Moderator
- Dale Bryk, Director of State & Regional Policies, Harvard Environmental & Energy Law Program; Senior Fellow, Regional Plan Association (RPA)

Speakers
- Sadie McKeown, President, Community Preservation Corporation (CPC)
- Alexis Saba, Associate, Sive, Paget & Riesel
- Esther Toporovsky, Executive Vice President, Housing Partnership; President, HP Sustainability Solutions
- Amla Kalra, PC, Partner, Tax, Employee Benefits and Trusts and Estates Practice Group, Sheppard Mullin

In honor of Women’s History Month, BE-Ex’s Women in Sustainability & Energy (WISE) series hosted a celebratory panel and networking event with its founding women to discuss inclusivity and professional pathways within the industry.

WISE: Women’s History Month, Where Are We Now?

In honor of Women’s History Month, BE-Ex’s Women in Sustainability & Energy (WISE) series hosted a celebratory panel and networking event with its founding women to discuss inclusivity and professional pathways within the industry.

WISE: Ask Me Anything with NESEA Executive Director Florence MacGregor

Florence MacGregor, the Executive Director of the Northeast Sustainable Energy Association, joined BE-Ex for a discussion and Q+A session about her career path in advancing sustainability in the built environment and her influence on strategic and equitable programming within the industry.

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“In some cases, I have shown up to projects and people were surprised to see me, they said they were expecting “an engineer”. I am the engineer! I don’t let other people’s perceptions bother me. I am happy to help change their perspective on what an engineer “should” look like. It’s not about what you have accomplished, it’s about how you got to that accomplishment, what you learned along the way, the mistakes you made and who was by your side.”

Mariel Hoffman, Director of Energy Engineering, En-Power Group
The first Women’s Day observed in the US occurred in 1908, right here in New York City. Since then, progress for women’s rights has undoubtedly been made, and we have seen an overall increase in the number of women obtaining STEM degrees and pursuing related careers. In 1958, just 1% of registered architects were women, and that number has grown by thousands since.

While that number has risen, today, 17% of registered architects are women – a number still far from representative of our population. The number becomes more sobering when considering the representation of women of color, with Black women only constituting .3% of registered architects in the US. Similarly, 32% of environmental engineers and 22% of jobs in the energy field are held by women. There is an industry need for diverse and women-led action.

“We have very aggressive climate goals. We will only be able to achieve them by building a collaborative workforce, which should consist of women, BIPOC folks, and people most affected by climate change. As a female engineer, I am responsible for sharing my knowledge and the lessons I’ve learned with a growing generation of female and BIPOC engineers tackling climate change.”

Amalia Cuadra, Senior Director of Engineering, En-Power Group
“I was just starting to build my career when I worked at the Building Energy Exchange and wanted to explore the many pathways I could take within this industry. I often found myself learning from attendees at our events on what, how, and why they do the work they do. That’s the foundation of WISE that Ellen and I sought to build. We wanted to create a space to learn from individuals who have done incredible work, especially women who have paved the way to success with grit while empowering others to do the same.”

Jocelyn Gan, Founder of Women in Sustainability & Energy

Given these largely male-dominated industries, the Women in Sustainability & Energy (WISE) series is proud to highlight exceptional women in these fields, and provide an inclusive platform for everyone to learn, regardless of gender identity. In its 8-year history, 60+ women speakers joined the WISE community to share their perspectives and knowledge in the environmental field. WISE invites all to continue creating impact and recognizes that more work must be done to ensure our industries are diverse and inclusive.

17% of registered architects are women . . . with Black women only constituting .3%
BE-Ex delivered a suite of engaging events with a diverse set of program partners in Q1 2023, including ASHRAE NY, Natural Resources Defense Council, and the Building Performance Partnership, to an increasingly national audience.

**events at BE-Ex**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Period</th>
<th>BE-Ex developed</th>
<th>BE-Ex hosted</th>
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<tr>
<td>Q1 2023</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Q1 2023</td>
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**diversity goals**

1. No all male panels
   Q1: 0 all male panels

2. 50% female speakers across BE-Ex panel events
   Q1: 85% non-male speakers

average number of days on calendar, BE-Ex events: **46**

average attendance, BE-Ex events: **56**
BE-Ex resources, like our Local Law 97 Calculator and Heat Pump Planner, drove online engagement in Q1 2023 while engaging new users, with newsletter subscribers surpassing 14,000.

**Audience**

**Newsletter Subscribers**
- Q4 2022: 13,905
- Q1 2023: 14,038

**Resource Downloads**
- Q2 2022: 7,011
- Q1 2023: 4,912

**Social Media Followers**
- Q4 2022: 8,527
- Q1 2023: 9,400

**Unique Website Sessions in Q2 2022**
- Q2 2022: 25,759

**Program Audience Geographic Distribution**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>NYC</th>
<th>Tri-state area</th>
<th>Whole USA</th>
<th>International</th>
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<td>8,873</td>
<td>8,873</td>
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</table>
Building Performance Partnership

The Building Performance Partnership is a network of independent, local resource hubs that promote equitable and sustainable buildings. Along with BE-Ex, Building Energy Exchange Kansas City, Building Energy Exchange St. Louis, and Washington D.C.’s Building Innovation Hub are the first three hubs in a growing national network with local roots.

Last October, the Building Performance Partnership convened to discuss the local and national implications of the Inflation Reduction Act for building decarbonization, with perspectives across NYC, Chicago, Kansas City, St. Louis, and Washington D.C.

► https://be-exchange.org/our-network/
► https://be-exchange.org/building-a-better-future-demystifying-the-ira/
New Release: Three Heat Pump Planner Guides

Heat pumps are a cleaner, proven technology that can provide up to 100% of a home’s heating and cooling needs. In the summer, they move heat outdoors, cooling the building more efficiently than central air conditioners or window units. In the winter, electricity is used to move heat into the building. These systems can reduce energy costs, decrease carbon emissions, and increase every-day comfort.

NYSERDA, in partnership with BE-Ex and Steven Winter Associates, created the Heat Pump Planner to help home owners and renters learn about heat pump technology. In 2023, we updated the planner with three new patterns to guide users through the process of system selection, financing, and installation.

Check out the Heat Pump Planner:
https://be-exchange.org/beexreport/heat-pump-planner/
April 18, 2023

Turning Data into Action: Decarbonization Pathways for Office Buildings

This event marks the release of Turning Data into Action: Office Buildings, a retrofit guide that uses NYC building data to identify impactful and cost-effective decarbonization pathways for building owners seeking Local Law 97 compliance.

May 9, 2023
Climate Mobilization Act Series: Cutting Carbon in Co-Ops and Condos; Local Law 97 Pathways

As the first reporting period of Local Law 97 draws near, BE-Ex, with support from NRDC, is organizing a presentation and panel for building cooperatives and condominium associations to take proactive steps to reduce their carbon emissions. This event will showcase proven solutions to reduce building emissions in tenant-owned and operated buildings.


May 17, 2023
NYSERDA’s Grid-Interactive Building Showcase

BE-Ex and NYSERDA are hosting a unique opportunity to hear from leading practitioners involved in the implementation and operation of grid-interactive buildings to reduce emissions and operating costs for building owners and tenants.

https://be-exchange.org/nyserdas-grid-interactive-building-showcase/
Commercial office buildings are an integral target of New York City’s climate action plan, including Local Law 97. Turning Data into Action: Office Buildings uses NYC benchmarking data and energy audits to provide users with proven pathways to LL97 compliance for commercial buildings at any baseline performance.

https://be-exchange.org/beexreport/commercialdata/
upcoming

educational training
Climate Ready Buildings Training 2.0

Following Version 1.0, this updated training will educate affordable housing project teams on how to design and construct high-performance, climate resilient buildings. The latest Climate Ready Buildings training has been expanded to include policies, programs, and case studies relevant to New York State developers and project teams. The training will be available in on-demand and live in-person formats later this year.

report
Decarbonizing New York City Offices

BE-Ex, with support from the Institute for Market Transformation, is leading a NYSERDA-funded initiative to drive decarbonization in New York office spaces by facilitating meaningful collaboration between building owners, tenants, and others involved in leasing and office utilization decisions. A suite of resources, to be released later this summer, will aid commercial real estate stakeholders in reducing energy use and carbon throughout every step of the leasing cycle.

https://be-exchange.org/decarbonizing-new-york-city-offices/
programs

Climate Mobilization Act Series: The IRA Meets New York
January 24th

Passive House Construction Primer
January 26th

WISE Ask Me Anything with NESEA Executive Director Florence MacGregor
February 16th

Better Buildings for Everyone: How High-Performance Building Hubs Catalyze Action
March 23rd

Climate Resiliency in New York
March 23rd

WISE: Women’s History Month, Where Are We Now?
March 30th

project status

Q1 2023

- Commercial Data Into Action – Office Decarbonization Pathway Tearsheets
- Commercial Data Into Action – Report
- LL97 Accelerator Sell Sheets
- Heat Pump Planner Round 2

ongoing

- Decarbonizing New York City Offices: Resources and Training
- Climate Ready Buildings Training 2.0
- Heat Pump Planner Round 2
- BE-Ex Midwest Hubs Support
- Cold Climate Heat Pump Tech Primer
- Future Housing Initiative: An Equity & Carbon Database for Multifamily Housing
- Future Housing Initiative: Underwriting Standards for Low-Carbon Housing
- Empire Building Challenge Knowledge Platform

- COMPLETED
- ANTICIPATED