We hosted extensive Climate Week programming, invited colleagues for global roundtables, and released new educational trainings on constructing climate ready buildings.

Building Energy Exchange hosted the third Climate Mobilization Act Series event of the year, demystifying the technical conditions and policy surrounding building envelopes. Industry experts shared proven examples for building stakeholders to learn when envelope upgrades should happen, how to get them done, and their importance given Local Law 11 and Local Law 97.
July 10, 2023
WISE x BPP: Capitalizing on the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund

The Women in Sustainability & Energy partnered with the Building Performance Partnership to host an event discussing the immense potential impact of the Inflation Reduction Act’s $27 billion federal grant competition, and how to leverage these funds to make major reductions in built environment carbon emissions.


September 18, 2023
New York’s Housing Agencies on Climate Action

During Climate Week, Building Energy Exchange, in partnership with NYSERDA, invited sustainability experts from NYC’s public housing agencies to talk about initiatives to advance energy efficiency in low-income housing across the state.

https://be-exchange.org/new-yorks-housing-agencies-on-climate-action/

During Climate Week 2023, Building Energy Exchange (BE-Ex) continued our mission of bringing together talented people to solve big problems. There is magic that happens when we convene thought-leaders, solution providers, and industry experts from different sectors, backgrounds, and geographies — sharing strategies, conveying lessons-learned, and inspiring confidence and action.

This September, with the overlap of the United Nations General Assembly convening and the Climate Group’s Climate Week, we were asked to leverage our successful history of international collaboration and tap into the density of international climate actors in New York City to provide an international platform to discuss and share the best building decarbonization solutions. Capitalizing on this confluence of talent, BE-Ex hosted two private roundtables, one public event, and facilitated meetings and connections between industry leaders.

In a collaboration with Business Finland, BE-Ex brought together fourteen Finnish solution providers and thirteen New York real estate, design and governmental actors, for a robust exchange of decarbonization methods and materials.

A few days later, BE-Ex and Switzerland Global Enterprise, part of...
the Consulate General of Switzerland, brought together fourteen Swiss and New York architects, engineers, real estate operators, and government representatives for a problem-solving discussion on the challenges and strategies for energy efficient, low carbon buildings.

Finally, BE-Ex, the Swedish Energy Agency, and NYSERDA hosted a sold-out presentation and expert panel discussion on thermal energy networks, The Future of Heat: Thermal Energy Networks in Stockholm and New York. These networks present an innovative solution providing dramatic carbon reduction through sharing heat over an optimized network. The attendees heard directly from leaders at Stockholm Exergi, who own and operate Sweden's extensively developed thermal energy and waste heat recovery network, as well as from local real estate leaders participating in New York State's demonstration projects to implement shared thermal networks.

It is thrilling to see the excitement and inspiration that flows from these vital international exchanges. Our Climate Week gatherings help create professional connections and spur economic development that meaningfully accelerates building decarbonization.

"We were asked to . . . provide an international platform to discuss and share the best building decarbonization solutions"
We had an active summer, offering a range of highly attended events including trainings, networking events, panel discussions, and international roundtables. We were pleased to host a number of partner organizations, including the NYCHA Career Fair and the DCAS Energy Forum.

In Q3, BE-Ex saw a continued steady increase in engagement across our social media and newsletter platforms.

This Climate Week, Building Energy Exchange continued the International Pathways series, cultivating relationships and sharing expertise between cities around the world. The event hosted guest panelists from Stockholm and New York to discuss innovative heating solutions for building decarbonization. The event was the most highly attended event at the Exchange this year and provided an opportunity to share knowledge and promote collaboration between New York and Stockholm.

This event is part of BE-Ex’s broader effort to build a global network of organizations committed to sustainability in the built environment.

BE-Ex Launches Climate Ready Buildings Training

The Climate Ready Buildings Training 2.0 (CRBT) launched its first in-person training session in August. The course educated affordable housing practitioners on how to design and construct high-performance, low-carbon buildings that are resilient to climate threats. Participants learned strategies to upgrade buildings and with proven examples of climate ready design in practice. The hands-on workshop provided engaging activities to better understand the material. Upon completion, participants became one step closer to certification for the Enterprise Green Communities criteria.

October 31, 2023
Decarbonization Pathways for Affordable Housing

This event will highlight affordable housing retrofit measures. A panel of experts within the affordable housing sector will discuss capital planning strategies and proven upgrades that can help developers meet New York's climate regulations and provide a healthy and comfortable tenant spaces. This event will also mark the release of BE-Ex's report, Decarbonization Roadmaps for Affordable Housing.

https://be-exchange.org/decarbonization-pathways-for-affordable-housing/

October 12, 2023
Building a Better Future: Unlocking Community Rebates and Incentives

BE-Ex Kansas City and the Building Performance Partnership are hosting the next event in the Building a Better Future series, discussing federal tax incentives and other financial opportunities geared towards underserved communities. Experts will provide a Q&A and share resources for communities with an emphasis on Justice40.


December 12, 2023
WISE x BE-Ex Holiday Party

The Women in Sustainability & Energy and BE-Ex are hosting the annual holiday party for people across the green building industry to connect over drinks and small bites. The celebration provides an opportunity for informal networking and enjoying the festivities of the holiday season.

https://be-exchange.org/wise-be-ex-holiday-party/
project highlights

completed

Trainings

Climate Ready Buildings Training - HPD

This in-person and on-demand course trains affordable housing project teams on how to design and construct high-performance, low-carbon, climate-ready buildings. The training prioritizes designing for resiliency, strengthening future building stock against increasing climate threats. BE-Ex hosted one in-person sessions so far and launched the on-demand version on BE-Ex Ed.

Videos

High Rise / Low Carbon

BE-Ex, with support from Room 3, published two videos as part of the High Rise / Low Carbon Series. The first video outlines NYSERDA’s Empire Building Challenge, bringing together real estate, design engineers, and solution providers to demonstrate the feasibility of high rise, low carbon retrofits. The second showcases the Series’ first Partner Profile, the Hudson Square Properties’ 345 Hudson project, a successful retrofit utilizing thermal networking.

upcoming

Training

Updated Climate Mobilization Act Series

This initiative demystifies NYC’s Climate Mobilization Act and its impact on affordable housing. Through written resources and a new training that will be available live and on-demand, affordable housing building owners will learn how to comply with local laws, leverage financing resources, and learn strategies for decarbonization master plans.

Database

Future Housing Initiative: Equity & Carbon Database for Multifamily Housing

This initiative received additional support from Bank of America to assess health metrics for a low-carbon multifamily housing database. The investigation advances efforts to track social equity metrics that include information and perspectives from affordable housing residents in addition to energy use and carbon emission data.

BE-Ex continues to develop trainings geared towards climate resilience and affordable housing project teams, advancing sustainability and equity in the field.
programs

WISE x BPP: Capitalizing on the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund
July 10

Climate Mobilization Act Series: If, How, When - NYC Building Envelopes
July 27

Climate Ready Buildings Training - HPD
August 1

Building a Better Future: Constructing a Sustainable Building Workforce
August 3

WISE: BYOC - Bring Your Own Colleague
August 9

Passive House Construction Primer
August 23

New York’s Housing Agencies on Climate Action
September 18

September 20

WISE: Shaping NYC’s Climate Resilient Future
September 27

project status

Q3 2022

- High Rise / Low Carbon Video Series
- Building Performance Partnership: Chicago Hub Launch
- Climate Ready Buildings Training 2.0 - NYC HPD Launch
- Decarbonizing New York City Offices: Resources and Training
- Building Performance Partnership: Hubs Support
- Cold Climate Heat Pump Tech Primer
- Future Housing Initiative: An Equity & Carbon Database for Multifamily Housing - Health Metrics
- Future Housing Initiative: Underwriting Standards for Low-Carbon Housing
- Empire Building Challenge Knowledge Platform
- Climate Mobilization Act Series: Affordable Housing Education
- Climate Ready Buildings Training 2.0 - NYS HCR Course

- COMPLETED
- ANTICIPATED