

A FOUR-YEAR PLAN FOR CLIMATE ACTION



MAINE

WON'T WAIT

DECEMBER 2020

MAINE CLIMATE COUNCIL

Equity in Maine Won't Wait

- Without action, costs of climate change will be most acutely borne by vulnerable and lower-income communities
- Maine must design its climate actions to help most vulnerable populations
- Maine must ensure benefits and job growth among marginalized and economically distressed workers and communities
- Implementing the climate plan requires continuous engagement with diverse groups of Maine people and communities

Equity Subcommittee Charge

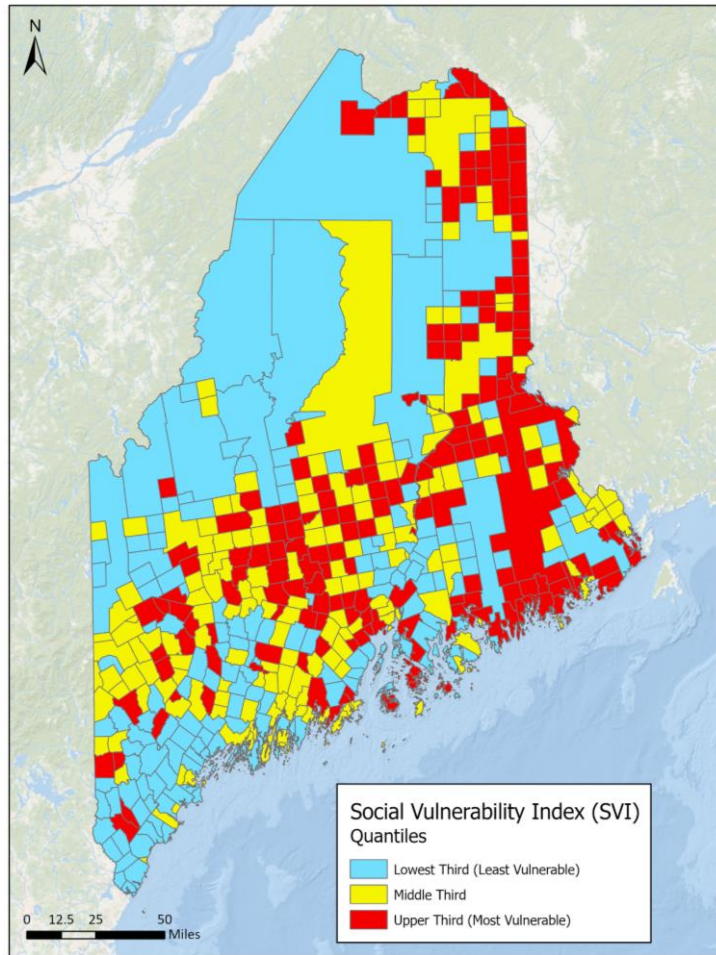
Ensure shared benefits across diverse populations

Support planning and implementation

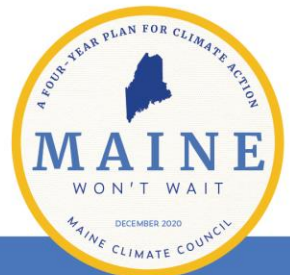
Set equity outcomes for proposed actions

Recommend metrics and monitor progress

Climate Vulnerability



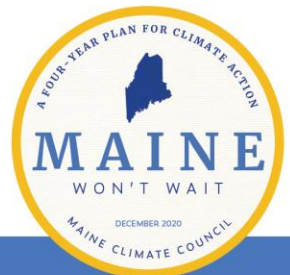
Historical and systemic discrimination, underrepresentation, and isolation have made some residents of Maine more vulnerable to the effects of climate change than others.



Frontline Communities

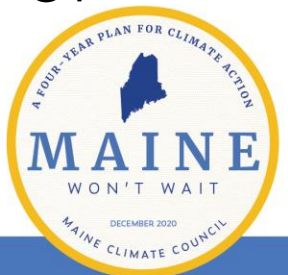


Low-income populations, people of color and indigenous communities, rural and geographically isolated communities, and other marginalized Mainers face the “first and worst” impacts from climate change and may be least able to adapt.

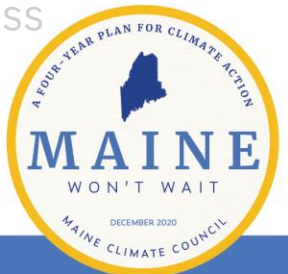
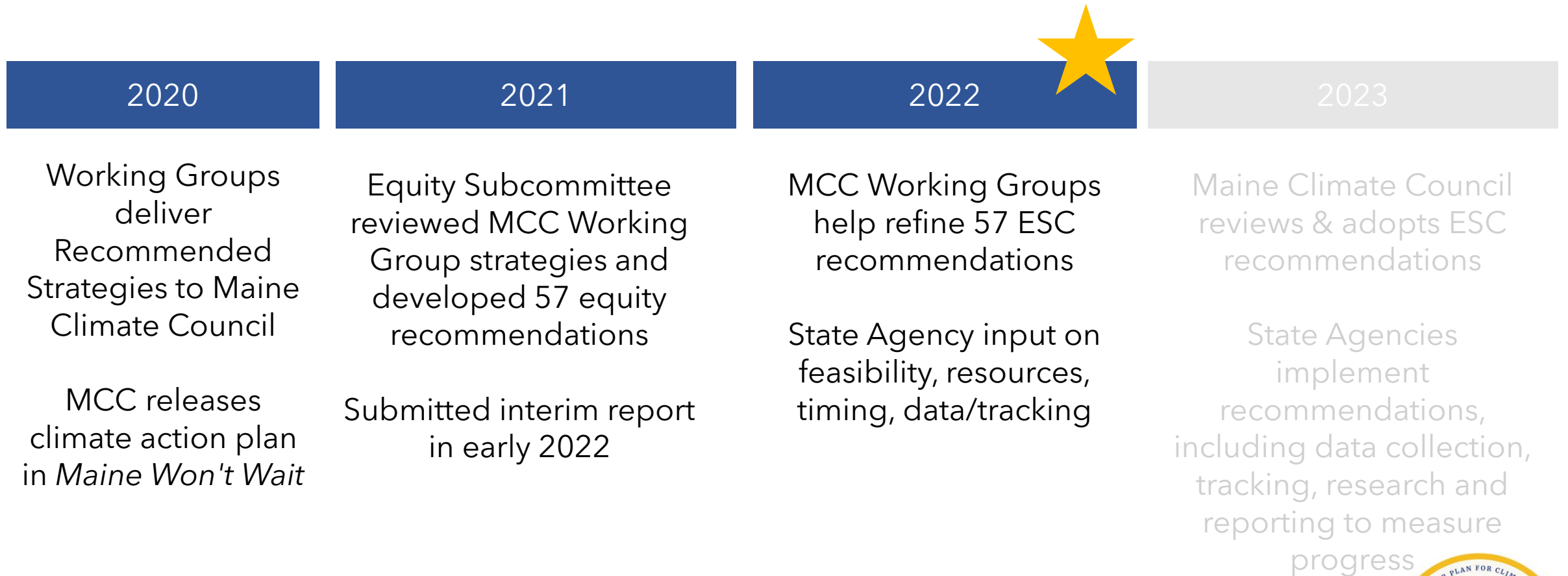


Climate Equity in Maine

- Equal distribution of resources is not enough
- An equitable system seeks to provide increased resources to marginalized and disadvantaged communities
- The risks and effects of climate change disproportionately fall upon people of color and low-income populations
- Policies should not exacerbate existing burdens
- Policies should increase wellbeing and address root causes of inequality

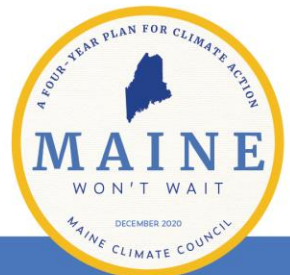


Equity Recommendations Process



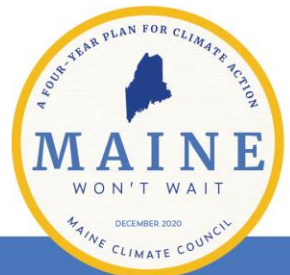
Equity Goal: Energy Sector

- Increase access to clean energy projects which reduce energy burden for vulnerable households and communities, including LMI households, renters, and other disadvantaged communities.



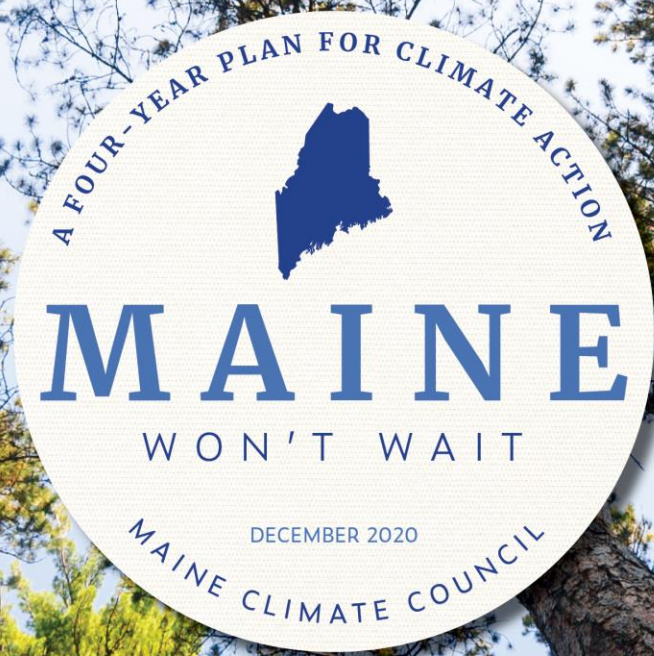
Equity Actions: Energy Sector

- Increase LMI household enrollment in community solar projects which reduce energy costs.
- Develop a clean energy outreach and navigator program for households, business and communities.
- Expand financing options for clean energy and energy efficiency in low-income households and affordable rental properties...



Equity Recommendations: What's next?





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