Advancing an Agenda for Social Equity and Coastal Resilience through a Multi-Sectoral, Multi-Disciplinary and Applied Research Lens

Wie Yusuf  
*Old Dominion University, jyusuf@odu.edu*

Marina Saitgalina  
*Old Dominion University, msaitgal@odu.edu*

Jennifer Whytlaw  
*Old Dominion University, jwhytlaw@odu.edu*

Nicole Hutton  
*Old Dominion University, nhuttons@odu.edu*

Tom Allen  
*Old Dominion University, tallen@odu.edu*

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Repository Citation  
Yusuf, Wie; Saitgalina, Marina; Whytlaw, Jennifer; Hutton, Nicole; Allen, Tom; and Behr, Joshua, "Advancing an Agenda for Social Equity and Coastal Resilience through a Multi-Sectoral, Multi-Disciplinary and Applied Research Lens" (2023). *Presentations, Lectures, Posters, Reports*. 34.  
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Advancing An Agenda for Social Equity and Coastal Resilience through a Multi-sectoral, Multi-disciplinary and Applied Research Lens

- Wie Yusuf, School of Public Service, Old Dominion University
- Marina Saitgalina, School of Public Service
- Jennifer Whytlaw, Dept. of Political Science and Geography
- Nicole Hutton, Dept. of Political Science and Geography, and Institute for Coastal Adaptation and Resilience
- Tom Allen, Dept. of Political Science and Geography, and Institute for Coastal Adaptation and Resilience
- Joshua Behr, Virginia Modeling, Analysis, and Simulation Center, and Institute for Coastal Adaptation and Resilience

Workshop website: https://sites.wp.odu.edu/workshop
“It is a moral duty, and it improves economic productivity, social cohesion, health and peace” (Pelling & Garschagen, 2019, p. 328).

Equitable Coastal Resilience

Equitable resilience results from practices and processes that consider and account for “issues of social vulnerability and differential access to power, knowledge, and resources” (Matin et al., 2018, p. 202).

Sources:

Processes and Outcomes
- Infrastructure
- Development and land use
- Hazard mitigation
- Emergency management
- Climate adaptation
Working Towards Equitable Coastal Resilience

**Recognitional justice**
- Community-based and inclusive of those who have been historically underserved and excluded from planning and decision making processes

**Procedural justice**
- Co-production approach with inclusive participatory processes and that encourages social learning

**Distributional justice**
- Systems approach that considers interdependencies and considers social, cultural, economic, political, and physical components
- Multifunctional and draws from different planning instruments and integrates across policy silos
- Whole-of-community framework that includes multiple sectors to address resilience within and across sectors

**Community-based**

**Co-produced**

**Multi-dimensional**

**Multi-functional**

**Multi-sectoral**

How can individuals and organizations from different sectors, reflecting various disciplines, and working in different domains or functions work together to address social equity in the context of coastal resilience while having an impact on the ground and in communities?

Making Waves in Equitable Coastal Resilience: A National Workshop on Social Equity and Coastal Resilience

November 1, 2, and 10, 2022

Virtual workshop that brought together 113 researchers, practitioners, community organizations to develop a framework for applied and engaged research in coastal resilience and social equity.

Outcomes:
- Research agenda
- Recommendations for research-practice collaborations and implementable, on-the-ground projects/programs
Plenary Presentations and Project Spotlights

Setting ourselves up for success
Centering equity in engagement, resilience building, and hazard mitigation
Susanne C. Moser, Ph.D.
University of Massachusetts-Amherst & Antioch University New England

NOTES FROM THE FIELD:
EQUITABLE RECOVERY IN THE AFTERMATH OF HURRICANE IDA
IRONTON, LOUISIANA

Lesson Learned to Assist with Building Trust
Cassandra R. Davis, Ph.D.
November 2, 2022

THE RAFT
(RESILIENCE ADAPTATION FEASIBILITY TOOL):
LESSONS LEARNED FOR EQUITABLE RESILIENCE

Slides and videos available on workshop website
# Breakout Sessions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Research Topic</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Infrastructure planning (green-grey, built environment) for equitable coastal resilience</td>
<td>44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inclusion in decision making: Under-served, under-resourced, or invisible communities (rural communities, tribal communities, low-wealth communities, marginalized communities)</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metrics and mapping of social equity and coastal community resilience</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coastal squeeze, climigration, and equity implications</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equity concerns underpinning policy analysis and decision making (e.g., benefit cost analysis, BRIC, flood insurance, etc.)</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emergency/disaster management challenges for equitable mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Out of a total of 130 registered participants for the workshop.
Four Major Themes

Definition

Measurement

Research/project Execution

Research/project Infrastructure
Definition and Measurement

• What does equity mean in the context of coastal resilience?
• Who decides the definition?
• What does success in advancing social equity in coastal resilience look like?
• What does a successful engaged research or on-the-ground project look like?
• How do we track equity across time and space, recognizing the need for comparison while acknowledging the local context?
• How do we know that we are making a difference in advancing equity while building coastal resilience?
## Research/Project Execution

### Increase funding for engaged or applied research and allow more flexibility for research to be co-produced with communities or community partners

- Build long-term focus and requisite resources into funding and programs/grants requirements (e.g., time to build relationships, compensate community participants, long-term monitoring)
- Explicitly call out the need for co-production and two-way engagement with communities in RFPs.
- Fund action-based research or funding to implement research findings.

### Ensure equity in prioritizing, evaluating, streamlining, and awarding on-the-ground projects and programs that benefit underserved communities

- Conduct equity assessments before funding programs or funding opportunities are created.
- Assess the equity focus of current funding programs, and the extent to which funding distributions consider equity.
- Create flexible funding application processes with reduced application and administrative burdens (e.g., simpler grant applications, reducing cost share requirements).

### Provide institutional support and incentives to encourage and foster community-based, engaged, and applied research

- Educate university leaders/administrators on the importance of engaged and applied research and the need to provide institutional support and resources.
- Create incentive structures and guidelines to recognize, reward, value, and prioritize community engagement activities.
- Establish staff positions to support community engagement activities (e.g., extension or engagement specialists, community liaisons, community coordinators).
Research/Project Infrastructure

Create and disseminate tools and metrics for project assessment that emphasize equity and mechanisms for collaboration-building processes

• Develop partnerships with professional organizations to disseminate research findings, project results, etc.
• Establish mechanisms for connecting universities, communities, government and nonprofit agencies, funding programs, and industry.
• Identify examples of successful programs, determine how they can be replicated or scaled-up, and disseminate information from these programs.
• Create a repository for data collection and information sharing (e.g., data on mitigation funding and mitigation projects).

Create paths and resources for community empowerment and advocacy

• Emphasize research/project activities that enable communities to develop tools, resources, knowledge, and capacity to advocate for themselves beyond the project.
• Provide resources or support for communities to apply for and manage grants.
• Create a framework for what communities should expect from researchers and the types of partnerships that can be pursued.
Research Questions

1. How can we assess that equity-related efforts are making a difference? What metrics are appropriate?

2. How can we develop metrics for universality and comparative value while also ensuring their local salience?

3. How do we address the implications of labeling a community (e.g., marginalized, vulnerable, underserved, etc.)?

4. How can we detect when dynamics and/or outcomes are shifting and determine the effects?

5. What meta-level analysis is needed? How do we approach this analysis?
What’s Next?

Goal:
Encourage applied and engaged research in coastal resilience and social equity

Create frameworks to facilitate community and researcher collaborations and partnerships.

Provide guidelines and best practices for researchers and community partners.

Identify gaps in research and practice that can be filled by data-driven solutions.
Acknowledgements and Disclaimer

This material is based upon work supported by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security under Grant Award Number 2015-ST-061-ND0001-01. The views and conclusions contained herein are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as necessarily representing the official policies, either expressed or implied, of the U.S Department of Homeland Security.

Questions? More information?
Contact:
Dr. Wie Yusuf, School of Public Service
Old Dominion University
E-mail: jyusuf@odu.edu

Workshop website:
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