

# Puerto Rico Solar Renewable Energy Landscape





#### **Purpose**

This landscape analysis is a step towards understanding the landscape of solar renewable energy in Puerto Rico, in hopes that its findings can spur conversations about the ecosystem, its current direction, investments, recommendations for capacity development, gaps and the best role for philanthropy to play moving forward.



# Non Profit Organizations

**Key Findings** 

### Landscape – NGO's

- 71 non-profit organizations, coalitions or community-based organizations were identified.
  - 45% of the organizations identified started work in Puerto Rico or were organized in 2017 or after.
    - 38% of these are non-local entities.
  - Almost 70% of the organizations identified can be associated with climate justice work.
  - Almost half of the organizations are based in Metro area.
- As expected, there is ample local capacity for education in this area. There is also great advocacy potential.
- Although this is not evident from the list, the research conducted revealed that collaboration among organizations is occurring at various levels.
- Good expertise has been developed in distributed PV projects and storage.
- There is limited offering from organizations for renewable energy workforce development.



## For Profit Organizations

**Key Findings** 

### Landscape – For-Profit Organizations

- 131 for-profit entities that directly offer goods or services in the solar energy industry in Puerto Rico were identified.
  - 33 of these have their main offices in San Juan.
  - 116 (86%) active companies offer installing services for PV systems.
    - 62% of these were created on or after 2017.
  - 18 companies specialized in the selling or distribution of materials and equipment.
    - 5 of these are headquartered outside of Puerto Rico.
- There are 26 institutions that offer financing for PV projects
  - Interview with installers tend to indicate that most of the rooftop solar PV installation financing support is coming from financial cooperatives.



# Funding Support

**Key Findings** 

# Strategies supported through philanthropy have included:

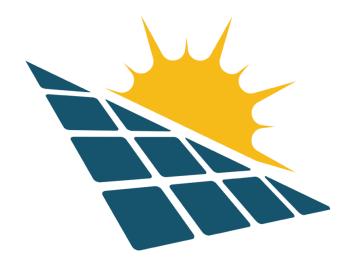
- Funding for installations in vulnerable communities because of poverty, accessibility, remoteness, and in community health facilities
- Assessment of community needs, desires, and capacity
- Community education on solar energy and management of installations
- Community decision-making
- Training community members to installation and maintain installations
- Policy analysis
- Research and data gathering and communications
- Policy advocacy federal and local
- Collaborations among nonprofits

15 Interviews10 US based6 Foundations8 Intermediaries1 Corporate Program



### Puerto Rico Solar + Renewable Energy Landscape

With the support of the Kresge Foundation we set out to create a landscape of key players in the solar and renewable energy ecosystem in Puerto Rico.



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### Entity Type

Coalition	an alliance of organizations or groups for a particular purpose. A coalition is not a legal person.
Cooperative	a democratically controlled enterprise with legal personality formed voluntarily to meet a common economic, social and/or cultural need.
Financial institution	an enterprise dedicated exclusively to facilitating monetary transactions not organized as a cooperative.
For-profit organization	an entity with legal personality that operates with the goal of making money.
Foundation	any nonprofit corporation or charitable trust that makes grants to organizations institutions, or individuals.
Public Foundation	Charitable organizations that operate as public foundations. That is, they raise funds from a variety of sources and grantmaking is a significant part of their annual budget.
Nonprofit organization	Legal entity organized under the laws of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico for a collective, public, or social benefit. The organization either does not have a 501 (c)(3) exemption or was not available for confirmation.
Nonprofit organization (501C3)	Legal entity organized for a collective, public, or social benefit that is tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
Nonprofit organization (501C4)	Legal entity organized for a collective, public, or social benefit that is tax-exempt as a social welfare organization under section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code.
Nonprofit organization (501C6)	Business leagues, chambers of commerce, real estate boards, or boards of trade exempt under Section 501(c)(6) of the Internal Revenue Code.
Special employee-owned corporation	a legal entity duly registered as a special employee-owned corporation, meaning that the company's stock is allocated among employees through shares.
Trust	an entity created to carry out a fiduciary arrangement as a trustee, meaning that it holds assets on behalf of a beneficiary or beneficiaries.
Unincorporated entity	a group of people that works in a coordinated manner to achieve a particular purpose that has not been granted formal corporate status.

### Service Area

Advocacy	engaged in expressing support and obtaining support from others through organized efforts to achieve the approval, rejection, or implementation of public sector initiatives.
Consulting/Design	engaged in giving any type of expert advice or planning the arrangement and workings of a PV system.
Distribution	executes purchase orders while acting as a sales representatives for the manufacturer or importer.
Education	provides capacity building activities or information to people, communities or organizations.
Importer	brings goods into Puerto Rico from abroad.
Installer	fixes solar panels, storage systems, and any other equipment in position so that a PV system is ready for use.
Loans/Line of Credit	provides any type of financing to a borrower that must pay it back with interest.
Manufacturer	produces goods in large numbers.
Public policy development	produces, drafts and/or coordinates the dissemination of principles that affect social, economic, and cultural activities.
Repair	offers repairing PV systems as a service.
R&D	engaged in research and development
Sales (materials/equipment)	sells goods, whether it be retail or wholesale, as an independent revenue source.
Support (services)	provides assistance to persons, communities, groups or organizations.
Support (funding)	provides funding to communities, groups or organizations for development of activities or initiatives.
Wholesale solar developer/owner	owns or manages a solar farm with the goal of fulfilling a power purchase agreement.

### Focus Areas

Climate justice	with the intention of addressing the just division, fair sharing, and equitable distribution of the burdens of climate change and the mitigation and responsibilities to deal with climate change.
Community/Grassroots	with the intention of promoting collective action from the local level to affect change at the local, regional, national, or international level
Energy efficiency	with the intention of achieving the use of less energy to perform the same task or produce the same result.
Financing	with the intention of providing capital for the development of PV projects.
Health/pollution	with the intention of promoting higher quality of living or reduce pollution.
PV systems (Distributed)	with the intention of developing roof top solar projects that can convert the sun's rays to electricity at the request of a residential, commercial, or industrial client.
PV Systems (Large-scale farms)	with the intention of developing an area of land with a large number of solar panels.
Renewable workforce development	with the intention of supporting the growth of a highly trained clean energy workforce.
Storage	with the intention of expanding capacities for the accumulation of power for future use.

### Updates to the Landscape

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email subject: [Solar Landscape] añadir/cambio/eliminar/corregir

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