



INSTITUTE FOR
**Sustainable
Communities**

what's possible

2012



Annual **REPORT**

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Every day, we see **possibility in action**, around the US and around the globe. Leaders at the local level – from Belgrade to Beijing and beyond – are moving their communities forward with creative visions and pragmatic problem-solving. These are the **champions who are working to create sustainable communities**, and we are proud to work with them.

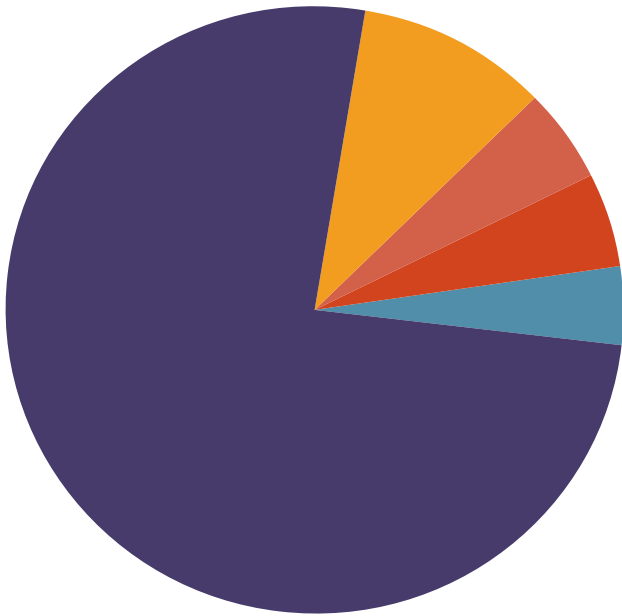
Our program work in the US, Asia, and the Balkans changes depending on the local context and the program goals. But here's what has stayed constant since our founding in 1991: our focus on the local champions who are making things happen and our **commitment to community**.

what's possible



ISC'S FISCAL YEAR 2012: FINANCIAL REPORT

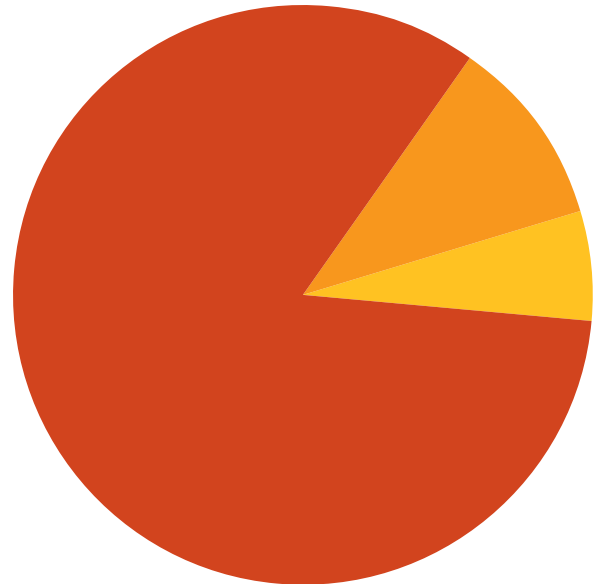
For the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012 ISC's revenue totaled \$9.8 million with expenses totaling \$10.8 million. Approximately \$8.9 million, or about 83% percent, of our expenses were direct program services and subgrants to partners and local organizations. For ISC's complete audited financial statements, please see our website. www.iscvt.org



REVENUE: \$9.8 million

Government	76%
Foundations & Corporations	10%
In-Kind Donations	5%
Individuals	5%
Other	4%

Approximately \$8.9 million of our expenditures - or about 83% - were direct program services.



EXPENDITURES: \$10.8 million

Programs	83%
Administration	11%
Fundraising & Development	6%

2012 HIGHLIGHTS

United States: Peer Learning Accelerates Action

The past year has been one of amazing growth for our US programming, which focuses on supporting sustainability practitioners in communities. We've organized our signature Leadership Academies on topics ranging from **Creating, Leading and Managing Change** to **Accelerating Bus Rapid Transit**. We hosted the Smaller Places Summit in Knoxville, and presented regional workshops focused on the Great Lakes (Ann Arbor) and the Intermountain West (Denver).

Our work on the **Partnership for Sustainable Communities Initiative** (an interagency collaboration between HUD, EPA and DOT) has given us the opportunity to work with grantee communities from around the country, putting sustainability plans and principles into action. In partnership with Smart Growth America, we've developed the **Sustainable Communities Leadership Network** to link these communities and support their local projects to increase the livability of our towns, cities, and regions.



We've worked with hundreds of inspired, energized teams of community leaders – from Alameda County, California to New York City and everywhere in between. And here's what we've learned: connecting champions works. We're bringing government-led teams together from around the country in intimate, intensive workshops, providing them with examples of best practices and opportunities to share lessons learned, and focusing on cross-sector collaboration and network development. As our program grows and expands, we are seeing positive results everywhere.

Serbia: Civil Society Advocacy Initiative

As we move toward the end of our USAID-funded Civil Society Advocacy Initiative (CSAI) program (which closes out in May, 2013), it's energizing to realize how many CSAI initiatives are really taking hold and showing progress in Serbia. We've seen a new partnership with government, creating an enabling environment for effective civil society through new laws, new policies and new ministries, while our partners have broken new ground in the areas of corporate social responsibility and philanthropy.

Our **Advocacy Fellows Program** has helped three different groups of NGO leaders to connect and collaborate on common issues, driving change in environmental advocacy, government transparency, and labor rights. Here's just one example of what's possible:

Rahim Serif is a secondary scrap collector who lives in Bujanovac. Rahim is the best collector of secondary raw materials in Serbia – last year he collected 55 tons of recyclable material around Serbian and Albanian villages, driving 80 kilometers a day with his horse and cart. This is recycling in its purest form. But for years, the scrap collectors – many of them Roma like Rahim – have operated in the gray market, working long hours in impossible conditions, earning barely enough to scrape by. But that is changing fast. With support from CSAI, 350 scrap collectors have formed the Union of Secondary Raw Materials. Advocates are working with Rahim and his peers to bring this work into the 21st century, and integrate it into municipal waste management.



"I credit the Climate Leadership Academy with moving Portland from climate mitigation to climate adaptation. Seeing all of the other cities tackling the issues showed us it was possible and that there were ways of doing it that could work for Portland. The multi-disciplinary nature of our team – scientist, planners and economic development – drove home the fact that Portland was in the midst of change and would see greater change that we needed to prepare for to be environmentally and economically sustainable."

- Kaitlin Lovell, Manager, Science, Fish and Wildlife Division, Bureau of Environmental Services, Portland, OR

China: Catalyzing Climate Action

Since 2007, ISC has been working in China to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, increase energy efficiency and improve environmental health and compliance.

The **US – China Partnership for Climate Action** is a public-private partnership that leverages resources and best practices from both countries to achieve significant, meaningful, and lasting greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions. Together with the World Resources Institute (WRI), ISC is focusing this public-private initiative on two of China's most industrialized provinces, Guangdong and Jiangsu, to address three key energy and climate priorities:

- Increasing energy efficiency and conservation
- Quantifying and reducing GHG emissions
- Improving governance and policy implementation

We're working at multiple levels to help catalyze sustainability efforts:

Industry

We're working with industry to help reduce energy and carbon footprints, improve health and safety, and build long-term sustainability in the supply chain. Through our Environment, Health and Safety (EHS) Academies in Guangdong and Jiangsu, we're training 2,000 factory managers a year to build energy and EHS management skills.

End-use energy efficiency

We're focused on helping energy efficiency investment to scale up, expanding success from pilot projects to best practices. We've developed tools and models for EE data collection and financing, as well as the first provincial Emission Trading Scheme (ETS) in China, launched in Guangdong Province in September 2012.

Cities & communities

Chinese cities are facing tremendous growth – our work focuses on creating successful models for low-carbon development. We're piloting a variety of projects – GHG inventories, historic neighborhood redevelopment, comprehensive development guides, to name a few – showing community leaders the way to take action. And we're partnering with NGOs and government to help them work collaboratively to address environmental problems.



OUR SUPPORTERS

ISC's work would not be possible without the generosity of our supporters.

This list includes people and institutions who contributed between October 1, 2011 and September 30, 2012.

Thank you for your support and continued faith in our work.

CLIMATE INNOVATION FUND

The Climate Innovation Fund provides seed capital to start new climate initiatives. At the end of Fiscal Year 2012, investments in the Climate Innovation Fund totaling \$650,000 leveraged over \$27 million in project funding.

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