



INSTITUTE FOR  
Sustainable  
Communities

# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

Sustainable communities are possible — we know because every day, we see local leaders step up to do amazing things. They're changing the conversation to share **what's possible**.

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## Message from the President

The overwhelming scientific evidence is that we are running out of time to address the climate crisis. In response, ISC and many others are increasing our efforts to both significantly reduce GHG emissions and help communities adapt to the changing climate.

Many communities are already seeing the consequences of climate change, but most will not be severely affected for 10-30 years. So, how do you inspire people to take action now for something that is a significant threat in the future? One way is to find climate solutions that also address more immediate threats.

For example, in many communities, air and water pollution poses an immediate threat to public health, particularly in rapidly-growing Asian countries and low-wealth communities in the U.S. These tangible threats are often linked to carbon emissions and their solutions can be achieved through the same strategies.

That's why in China, ISC is working to reduce all types of air pollution – including greenhouse gases.

In India, as we seek to decarbonize the industrial sector, we're also seeking to reduce air and water pollution.

And in the United States, we are working with low-income communities of color to connect climate solutions to public health improvements and economic opportunities.

This is the very definition of sustainability in action. With the clock ticking, we must creatively motivate people to address the climate crisis as well as multiple human needs in one effective approach. I hope you will visit our website or follow our social media to learn more.

George Hamilton

President

## ISC Launches New Upper Texas Resilience Initiative

A year after Hurricane Harvey devastated the Upper Texas Gulf Coast, ISC launched the Upper Texas Gulf Coast Regional Resilience Initiative. The JPB Foundation-funded project is a partnership between ISC, Houston Advanced Research Center (HARC), and regional and local leaders that will help tackle the Upper Texas Gulf Coast's economic, environmental, and social vulnerabilities – some of which were laid bare in the aftermath of Harvey.

The initiative combines HARC's knowledge of the region and expertise in translating science to actionable programs and policy with ISC's experience working with local leaders to find community-based resilience solutions for neighborhoods, cities, and regions.

## 2018 Highlights

### INNOVATIONS IN BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES II

Pittsburgh | Pennsylvania

### SME CLEANTECH LAUNCH

Mumbai | India

### JINHUA TRAINING FOR LOW EMISSIONS CITIES ALLIANCE

Jinhua | China

Oct.  
2017





# Solar Market Pathways Disseminates Lessons Learned after Three Years

Three and a half years ago, ISC was tapped to help accelerate solar deployment in communities across the U.S. as the national coordinator for the Solar Market Pathways (SMP) program. The final component of the program was a dissemination initiative to spur adoption of best practices discovered.

The program website ([www.solarmarketpathways.org](http://www.solarmarketpathways.org)) now carefully documents the entire three-year journey – including the best tools and resources for others to replicate successes in their own communities. The site includes [14 project profiles](#) with curated resources, project milestones, and key takeaways, as well as six toolkits we developed focusing on key areas of innovation:

- [Catalyzing community solar](#)
- [Growing nascent markets](#)
- [Building resilience with solar+storage](#)
- [Increasing higher education investment potential](#)
- [Expanding engagement and participation](#)
- [Working with utilities](#)



## Clean Energy Accelerator Launches in India



ISC's EHS<sup>+</sup> Center programming is a signature approach that has been deployed in China, Bangladesh, and India and focuses on building capacity in supply factories for sustainable approaches to environment, health, safety, and energy. Recently, ISC's EHS<sup>+</sup> Center in India launched the Clean Energy Accelerator – a USAID-funded initiative intended to speed adoption of energy efficiency and clean technologies in factories throughout India via training, technical assistance, and direct demonstration projects specifically focused on clean energy solutions.

### PARTNERSHIP FOR RESILIENT COMMUNITIES EMERGENCY SHELTER LAUNCH

Baltimore | Maryland



### H&M INTERNATIONAL TRAINING

Mumbai | India



### WOMEN + WATER STAKEHOLDER MEETING

New Dehli | India

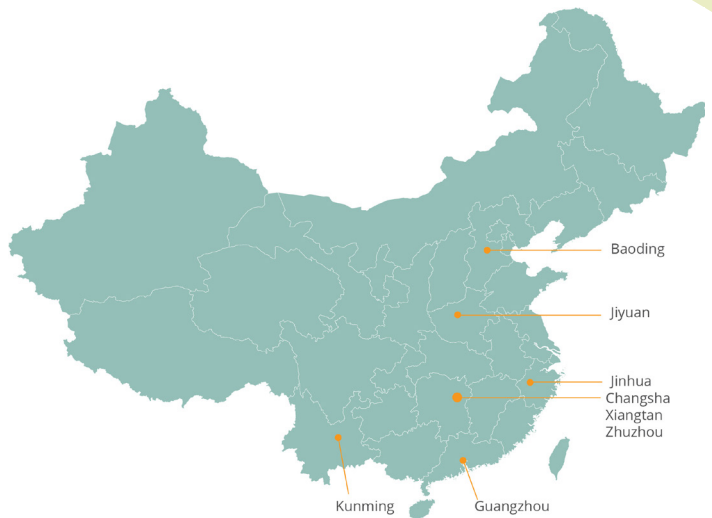


Sept.  
2018

# Low Emissions Cities Alliance Makes Decarbonization Progress in China

The Low Emissions Cities Alliance — a partnership between ISC, USAID, and Energy Foundation China — is helping Chinese cities take low carbon targets from aspiration to implementation — significantly accelerating emissions reductions. In FY18, ISC made significant progress on its goal to work with 12 cities by signing MOUs and beginning work with eight cities. As ISC began delivering peer learning opportunities and technical assistance, we saw immediate traction working with the city of Xiangtan (population 2.7 million) to develop a comprehensive early carbon peaking roadmap.

With ISC's help, Xiangtan in a few short months developed an early-peaking plan that goes beyond emissions modeling and policy templates — embracing and building the capacity of city leaders and industry to tackle on-the-ground challenges like departmental siloing and financing.



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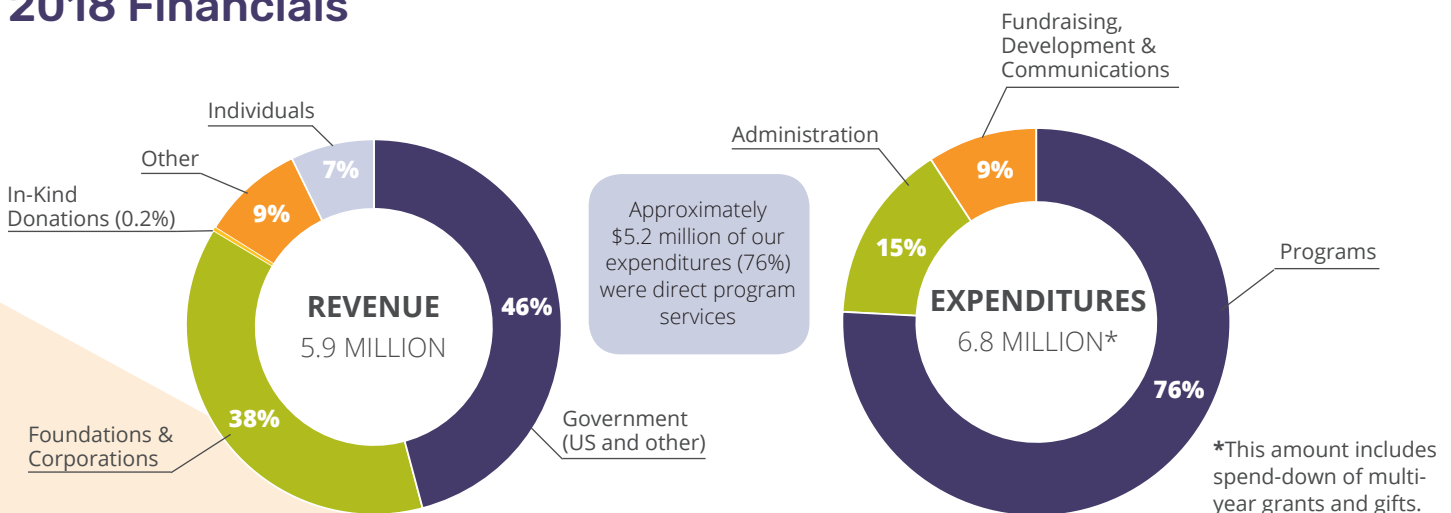
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## 2018 Financials



For audited financial statements, please visit our website [www.sustain.org/about/annual-reports-and-financials](http://www.sustain.org/about/annual-reports-and-financials)