



INSTITUTE FOR  
Sustainable  
Communities

# Statement

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Complete Statement posted on ISC website as a blog post:

## THE FUTURE OF RENEWABLE ENERGY MUST INCLUDE EQUITABLE ACCESS

*The United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released its latest report this week on the [Mitigation of Climate Change](#), part of the [Sixth Assessment Cycle](#). The report calls for rapid emissions reductions and joins a growing body of work from the IPCC calling for urgent climate action to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit).*

*Following is a statement from Deeohn Ferris, president of the Institute for Sustainable Communities.*

We stand with the scientific community. We share the goal of seeing fossil fuels phased out and earnest adoption of renewable energy. However, clean and green energy solutions must be implemented equitably and through a reimagining of economic models and sound policy to be truly sustainable and beneficial to all people.

From ISC's thirty years of implementation experience and trusted partnerships with community-based organizations in the United States and Asia, we know that no one wants a transition away from dirty energy more than the communities bearing the brunt of the impacts for generations. To make progress, we need clean energy solutions deployed in every community instead of pockets of innovation in wealthy nations for wealthy communities. The clean energy revolution must reach the underserved, accelerate job opportunities and enable wealth creation through micro-entrepreneurship and large-scale systems change.

We believe that focused and proactive decision-making and implementation in this decade will accelerate outcomes. The [Institute for Sustainable Communities](#) works in the United States and across South and Southeast Asia on sustainability solutions, specifically in disinvested and vulnerable communities. The Institute has led more than 130 transformative equity-centered and community-driven sustainability programs in 31 countries. Our public-private partnerships build

climate resilience, accelerate climate mitigation technologies, and generate wealth that enhances the well-being of our local community partners.

The path to meaningful, sustainable climate change solutions at the urgency and scale required must include the communities most affected by climate change.

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*Founded in 1991, The Institute for Sustainable Communities' mission is to help communities worldwide address environmental, economic, and social challenges to build a better future shaped and shared by all. We are in the business of unleashing the power of people to transform their communities. Our approach ensures solutions emerge from within the community rather than being imposed from the outside. By sharing international best practices and experience, providing technical expertise and training, and building the capacity of local organizations, we spark creative solutions and lasting change.*