



International Solar Alliance (ISA) inks a memorandum of cooperation with Airports Council International (ACI) to increase the deployment of solar across airports globally

- *ISA and ACI to strengthen cooperation to scale up solarisation of airports across ISA member countries*
- *This exchange of expertise between signatories will promote the use of solar energy as a cost-effective and reliable source of electricity across airports.*

3 August 2023 | Barcelona, Spain/New Delhi, India: The International Solar Alliance (ISA) and Airports Council International (ACI) have signed a memorandum of cooperation to increase the deployment of solar across airports globally. Through this cooperation, the ISA and ACI aim to make airports greener to help reduce airport emissions, improve air quality, and make them more sustainable.

ISA and ACI will work together to develop joint projects that promote solar at airports and make them more viable. ISA, with its international expertise, will support policy choices that accelerate solar development. ACI will bring in best practices for adoption by airports across the globe.

Director General of ISA, Dr Ajay Mathur, sharing his thoughts on the collaboration, noted, “To strengthen the partnership, the signatories will explore collaborating with various partners, including the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), on developing solar projects for airports. Our focus will be two-pronged: engage with ISA Member Countries to support establishing robust national and regional policies and frameworks. In addition, explore a joint publication of a guidance document of best practices for airport solarisation. We foresee this document as a comprehensive resource, sharing valuable insights and recommendations for the successful implementation of solar projects.”

Director General of ACI World, Mr. Luis Felipe de Oliveira, said: “The transition to net zero carbon emissions for aviation requires the rapid uptake of renewable energy through a mix of different pathways. The memorandum of cooperation with ISA will help ACI members improve and reduce their carbon footprint as well as dependency on fossil fuels. Airports are ideal locations for solar infrastructures due to their large, flat, and unobstructed surfaces, and this partnership will be key to supporting them in their energy transformation. Additional assistance will be provided to Small Island Developing States and other developing countries so that they are able to leverage the rights tools and solutions for setting up effective solar projects. This collaboration is one more step forward in achieving our long-term carbon goal by 2050.”

The collaboration between the signatories encompasses a range of activities. Firstly, there is an emphasis on exchanging and sharing available and relevant information, including success stories, learnings, and outcomes from existing projects. This knowledge-sharing will serve as a valuable resource for all parties involved. Additionally, the signatories are committed to exchanging information on the aggregate demand for solar projects in identified airports, which enables a more informed approach to project planning.

Joint exploration and identification of pilot projects for solar installations are also key components of the collaboration. By working together, the signatories can assess the feasibility of setting up solar projects in identified airports and conducting joint preparations and assessments. This cooperative

effort extends to supporting implementation by adopting appropriate business models based on best practices, relevant information, research, and experience.

Recognising the need for financial resources, the signatories aim to support the mobilisation of funding whenever possible. This financial support will be instrumental in successfully implementing solar projects in airports. Furthermore, the collaboration includes sharing knowledge and capacity building in the field of solar energy for airports across different regions.

The collaboration remains open to other mutually agreed-upon activities, ensuring flexibility and adaptability to emerging opportunities and challenges. Through this comprehensive approach, the signatories aim to drive the widespread adoption of solar energy in airports, fostering sustainability and environmental stewardship in the aviation industry.

About International Solar Alliance: The International Solar Alliance is an international organisation with 116 Member and Signatory countries. It works with governments to ease solar deployment and promote solar power as a sustainable transition to a carbon-neutral future. ISA's mission is to unlock US\$ 1 trillion of investments in solar by 2030 while reducing technology and its financing costs. It promotes the use of solar energy in the agriculture, health, transport, and power generation sectors. ISA Member Countries are driving change by enacting policies and regulations, sharing best practices, agreeing on common standards, and mobilising investments. Through this work, ISA has identified and designed and tested new business models for solar projects; supported governments to make their energy legislation and policies solar-friendly through Ease of Doing Solar analytics and advisory; pooled demand for solar technology from different countries; and drove down costs; improved access to finance by reducing the risks and making the sector more attractive to private investment; increased access to solar training, data and insights for solar engineers and energy policymakers. ISA is one of the first international intergovernmental organisations headquartered in India. It is partnering with multilateral development banks (MDBs), development financial institutions (DFIs), private and public sector organisations, civil society, and other international institutions to deploy cost-effective and transformational solutions through solar energy, especially in the Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and the Small Island Developing States (SIDS). More information at <https://isolaralliance.org/>

About ACI: Airports Council International (ACI), the trade association of the world's airports, is a federated organization comprising ACI World, ACI Africa, ACI Asia-Pacific, ACI EUROPE, ACI Latin America and the Caribbean and ACI North America. In representing the best interests of airports during key phases of policy development, ACI makes a significant contribution toward ensuring a global air transport system that is safe, secure, efficient, and environmentally sustainable. As of January 2023, ACI serves 712 members, operating 1925 airports in 171 countries.

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