

UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE – UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

30 NOVEMBER – 12 DECEMBER 2023

THE SOLAR HUB



SOLAR, THE ENERGY SOURCE OF CHOICE: PERSPECTIVES FROM COUNTRIES & INSTITUTIONS

Thematic Arena 3, TA3-190, Opportunity District, Expo City, Dubai

1 DECEMBER, 2023 | 15:00 PM – 16:15 PM

Background & Rationale

In the midst of the unprecedented growth in the renewable energy (RE) sector, driven by the urgent need to meet global energy demands and combat the climate crisis, making solar the energy source of choice takes centre stage. As solar energy gains prominence for a sustainable future, addressing integral challenges becomes paramount. The discussion will illuminate the untapped potential of participatory governance, drawing inspiration from successful cooperative models and emphasizing its pivotal role in ensuring that solar projects benefit local communities.

The panel aims to explore various dimensions of swiftly moving towards a renewable future, covering regulatory, financial, and technological aspects, including challenges such as land availability, infrastructure insufficiencies, and supply chain gaps. Considerations such as energy equity, protection of local ecosystems, and the secure lifecycle management of solar technologies will also be discussed.

Addressing challenges involves extending finance and technology, implementing technological innovations for grid modernization, and diversifying manufacturing geographically. Robust financial backing and incentives from prominent organizations will tackle issues stemming from a lack of finance.

The path forward entails accelerating RE generation and positioning RE technology as a global public good. Cost-effective solutions like solar mini-grids and distributed renewable energy (DRE) are pivotal for mitigating the access gap, providing last-mile energy access, and delivering electricity to remote regions. Storage facilities play a crucial role in resolving energy generation variability.

Solar investments in underserved segments necessitate guarantees and catalyzation through innovative financial instruments. These instruments will attract private capital into underserved markets, ensuring payment and insurance mechanisms as first-loss guarantees.

Transforming the energy system requires foresighted choices, extraordinary international cooperation, and collaboration across countries, industries, and organizations. Improving global access to components and raw materials, investing in research and development for RE technologies, continuous capacity building, shifting energy subsidies from fossil fuels to RE, and coordination on standards are crucial components that must align to avoid catastrophic failure. Join us for a thought-provoking exploration fostering a path towards making solar the energy source of choice worldwide

Agenda

Speakers

- **H.E. Nasrul Hamid**, State Minister for Power, Energy & Mineral Resources, Bangladesh
 - **H.E. Nima BAH**, Chief of Cabinet, Ministry of Energy, Hydraulics and Hydrocarbons, Republic of Guinea
 - **Dr V. Venu**, Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala
 - **Sumant Sinha**, CEO, ReNew
 - **R R Rashmi**, Former Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India
 - **Abhas Jha**, Practice Manager, South Asia, World Bank
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Moderator

Dr Ajay Mathur, Director-General, ISA

