

International Solar Alliance

**New Frontiers: A Programme on Renewable Energy being hosted by Government of India
16-18 February 2022**

**Webinar on Role of ISA in facilitating Energy Transition in Member Countries
17 Feb 2022, 16 00 - 17 40 PM (IST)**

The ISA was conceived as a joint effort by India and France to mobilize efforts against climate change through deployment of solar energy solutions. The ISA aims to mobilize knowledge, technical assistance, and investments towards helping member countries achieve their developmental goals in a sustainable way through deployment of solar energy. Countries with similar contexts can gain access through ISA to a range of solutions to realize their self-determined strategy for development. Through technical cooperation and knowledge transfer, countries of the global South can leapfrog over a few intermediate stages of development. The International Solar Alliance (ISA), headquartered in India, recognizes the value of national innovations and their potential to support the energy transition.

India is celebrating ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’ to commemorate 75 years of progressive India and the glorious history of its people, culture and achievements. The country has much to be proud of, particularly its rapid socio-economic development in recent times. As it continues on the path of accelerated economic growth and uplift of the living standards of its people, it will be imperative to ensure the availability of affordable and reliable energy and quality energy services in the country.

Sustainability and preservation of the environment have always been central pillars of India’s rich culture and traditions. These have found reflection in the policies of the government to promote Renewable Energy in recent years. The stellar growth of the Renewable energy sector in the past about 7 years coupled with the achievement of providing universal electricity access is a testimony to the fact that government is committed to fighting climate change and preserving the environment without compromising on rapid progress. India has always set ambitious goals in RE. For example, it has announced the target of achieving 500 GW of non-fossil based installed electricity capacity by 2030. The country’s achievements so far have been impressive. For example, it has added over 45 GW of solar energy capacity since 2015, with several more gigawatt (GW) worth of installations in the pipeline, including decentralized solar photovoltaic (PV) systems.

India’s RE journey in the past decade has been full of innovation and creativity in terms of business models, policy & regulatory interventions and citizen centric RE deployment. GoI’s initiatives like the KUSUM scheme for solar water pumps (2019) and the new policy on promoting decentralised renewable energy livelihood applications (2021), are pioneering and

unparalleled globally. These and such programmes provide opportunities for other countries to learn from India’s experience. In fact, customer-centric innovations in technology, business, and payments can be found scattered across the developing world for e.g. the pay-as-you-go (PAYGO) model in East Africa that allows for flexibility on loan instalment and tenures, allowing consumers to choose based on their demand and capacity to pay.

While working towards creating a multi-stakeholder ecosystem where sovereign nations, multilateral organizations, industry, policymakers and innovators come together to promote the common and shared goal of meeting energy demands in a secure and sustainable way, the ISA has developed nine programmes on various solar applications. Scaling Solar for Agricultural Use and Solar Parks are two important programmes amongst others. Under Solar Parks Programme, the ISA has endorsed NTPC Ltd as a Project Management Consultant (PMC) who could be engaged by ISA member countries to facilitate development of grid connected ground mounted/floating solar projects as per their needs. Thirteen member countries with a targeted total capacity of about 3.5 GW, have already joined this programme. Projects in these countries (Togo 285 MW, Mali 500 MW, Cuba 900 MW, Paraguay 500 MW, Malawi 100 MW, Suriname 100 MW, Niger 50 MW, Mozambique 30 MW, Sudan 200 MW, Guinea-Bissau 60 MW, Guinea 70 MW, Ethiopia 410 MW and Nicaragua) are at various stages of implementation such as Site-Specific studies, issuance of RfQs, Site identification etc. Similarly, under the SSAAU programme, ISA has aggregated overwhelming demand for solar water pumps from twenty-two of its Member Countries. In light of this, ISA and UNDP have developed a multi-country model for deployment of solar water pumps. India, Brazil and South Africa (IBSA) Facility at the UN Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) will provide financial support for the implementation of the pilot phase of the SSAAU in 10 ISA Member Countries. The pilot project aims to establish standardized systems for international procurement and diversified pathways for national deployment, to enable further scale-up within the country.

The role of India has been critical in taking these programmes forward. ISA and GOI have collaborated from time to time and discussed how best ideas can be exchanged between India and Member countries to facilitate Energy Transition. The webinar ‘Role of ISA in facilitating Energy Transition’ is a step forward to discuss the ongoing efforts and plan further on integration of renewable and solar energy into ISA member countries’ energy plans.

Provisional Agenda*

‘Role of ISA in facilitating Energy Transition, 17 Feb 2022

INAUGURAL SESSION		
16:00 – 16:15 HRS. (10 Minutes)	Welcome Remarks and Setting the Context	Dr. Ajay Mathur, Director General, International Solar Alliance

16:15 – 16:30 HRS. (10 Minutes)	Keynote Address	Mr. Indu Shekhar Chaturvedi, Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India
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SESSION – 1

‘Facilitating Large Scale Solar Parks in ISA Member Countries’

16:30-17:00 HRS. (30 Minutes)	Moderator: Mr. Remesh Kumar, Programme Specialist, ISA
	Mr. Narinder Mohan Gupta , Head-International Business (NTPC)
	Dr. Frehiwot Woldehanna, PhD, Associate Professor, Addis Ababa University, NFP ETHIOPIA
	Dr. Souleymane BERTHE, Ex CRES, Director General, Ministry of Energy & Water, NFP MALI
	Er. Felipe Mitjans, Director of Energy, Vice-Ministry of Mines & Energy, PARAGUAY
	Q&A

SESSION – 2

‘Facilitating Solar Pumps in ISA Member Countries’

17:00 – 17:30 HRS. (30 Minutes)	Moderator: Mr. Rajeev Gyani, Programme Specialist, ISA
	Mr. Dilip Singh, Project Manager, UNDP
	IBSA
	Mr. Nishant Bhardwaj, India Country Representative, GGGI
	Q&A

17:30 – 17:40 HRS. (10 Minutes)	Concluding Remarks	Mr. Amit Kaushik, Chief of Unit (Programme & Projects), ISA
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