

## Webinar On: Floating Solar; A New Pillar of Solar PV

Africa Region

SOLAR FOR ENERGY TRANSITION SERIES

30<sup>th</sup> July 2021

16:00 Hrs- 18:00 Hrs (IST) / 10:30 Hrs-12:30 Hrs (GMT)



Image: SERIS, National University of Singapore

### Background

The International Solar Alliance (ISA) has been supporting member countries to scale up solar in various forms and applications. The ISA is undertaking joint efforts to mobilize investment, expand solar markets, reduce the cost of finance and technology applications and services. These efforts are being made to achieve three different but interlinked objectives: promoting a clean energy transition, enabling energy access and energy security, and delivering a new economic driver for all countries.

ISA currently has 98 Member countries, which have either signed or ratified the ISA's Framework Agreement. Availability of land has been one of the major challenges faced by many ISA member countries for the deployment of ground mounted solar PV projects. Floating Solar Technology in the recent past has appeared as an emerging solution for such geographies, especially island countries where there is a scarcity of land. Many of the ISA member countries have large water bodies and they hold potential for setting up FSPV projects/parks.

Floating Solar Photovoltaics, or FSPV are fast growing as the new pillar of solar PV in many parts of the world. Apart from no requirement of land, it also creates the possibility to save water by decreasing evaporation in reservoirs. Further, many inland freshwater bodies, especially the reservoirs of hydropower plants, have nearby grid connections. Hence deploying FSPV plants in such cases may save investment cost by utilizing the already existing infrastructure. The power output is better in view of natural cooling. Shading also tends to be reduced in water. Dust related issues in panels could be significantly reduced. Energy output of Hydro-electric power plants decreases particularly during dry seasons when water flow is less, and solar radiations are high. Thus, deploying FSPV plants in combination with already existing hydroelectric power

plants would not only improve power production in lean seasons but also can optimize the diurnal cycle by leveraging more solar power during the day and hydropower at night.

In the above context and also recognizing the need for knowledge exchange and advocacy for best suited solar technologies for solarization of energy systems and economies, the ISA has planned a dedicated webinar on ‘**Floating Solar; A New Pillar of Solar PV (Africa Region)**’. This webinar is the first in the series of webinars planned under the overarching theme: **Solar for Energy Transition**. During this webinar, we plan to make a live demonstration of a 100 MW Floating Solar PV Project in Telangana, India. This webinar will also hold discussion regarding various facets related to technology options, business models, financing and benefits of FSPV projects. Our aim is to provide an overview of recent works by FSPV implementers and experts, so as to assess the global potentials and present examples of successful projects already in place. The webinar would also cover practical aspects regarding technology landscape and on-ground challenges for FSPV projects.

### **Provisional Agenda**

<b>S. No</b>	<b>Time (IST)</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1	16:00 - 16:10 Hrs.	<b>Welcome and Context Setting.</b> Mr. Amit Kaushik, Chief of Unit (Programme & Project Implementation Cluster), ISA
2	16:10 - 16:20 Hrs.	<b>Special Remarks</b> H.E. Dr. Ajay Mathur, Director General, ISA
3	16:20 - 16:40 Hrs.	<b>Design of Floating Solar projects: Opportunities and Challenges.</b> <b>Presentation by Mr. Deepak Ushadevi.</b> MD & CEO – CIEL et TERRE, India
4	16:40 - 17:00 Hrs.	<b>Address by Sh. U. K. Bhattacharya, Director (Projects), NTPC Ltd followed by Live drone assisted virtual visit to a 100 MW Floating Solar PV Project executed by NTPC.</b>
5	17:00 - 17:20 Hrs.	<b>Assessment of potential of Floating Solar Projects in African Region, A presentation by Ms. Zuzana Dobrotkova.</b> Senior Energy Specialist, World Bank
6	17:20 - 17:30 Hrs	<b>Implementation of Floating Solar Projects in Japan,</b> <b>Address by H.E. Mr. Shingo Miyamoto,</b> Minister, Head of Economic Section, Embassy of Japan in India.
7	17:30 - 17:50 Hrs.	<b>Country Interventions</b>
8	17:50 - 18:00 Hrs.	<b>Concluding Remarks</b> Mr. Arun Mishra, Senior Advisor, ISA
9	18:00 Hrs	<b>Vote of Thanks</b> Mr. Remesh Kumar K, Additional Director (Programmes & Projects)