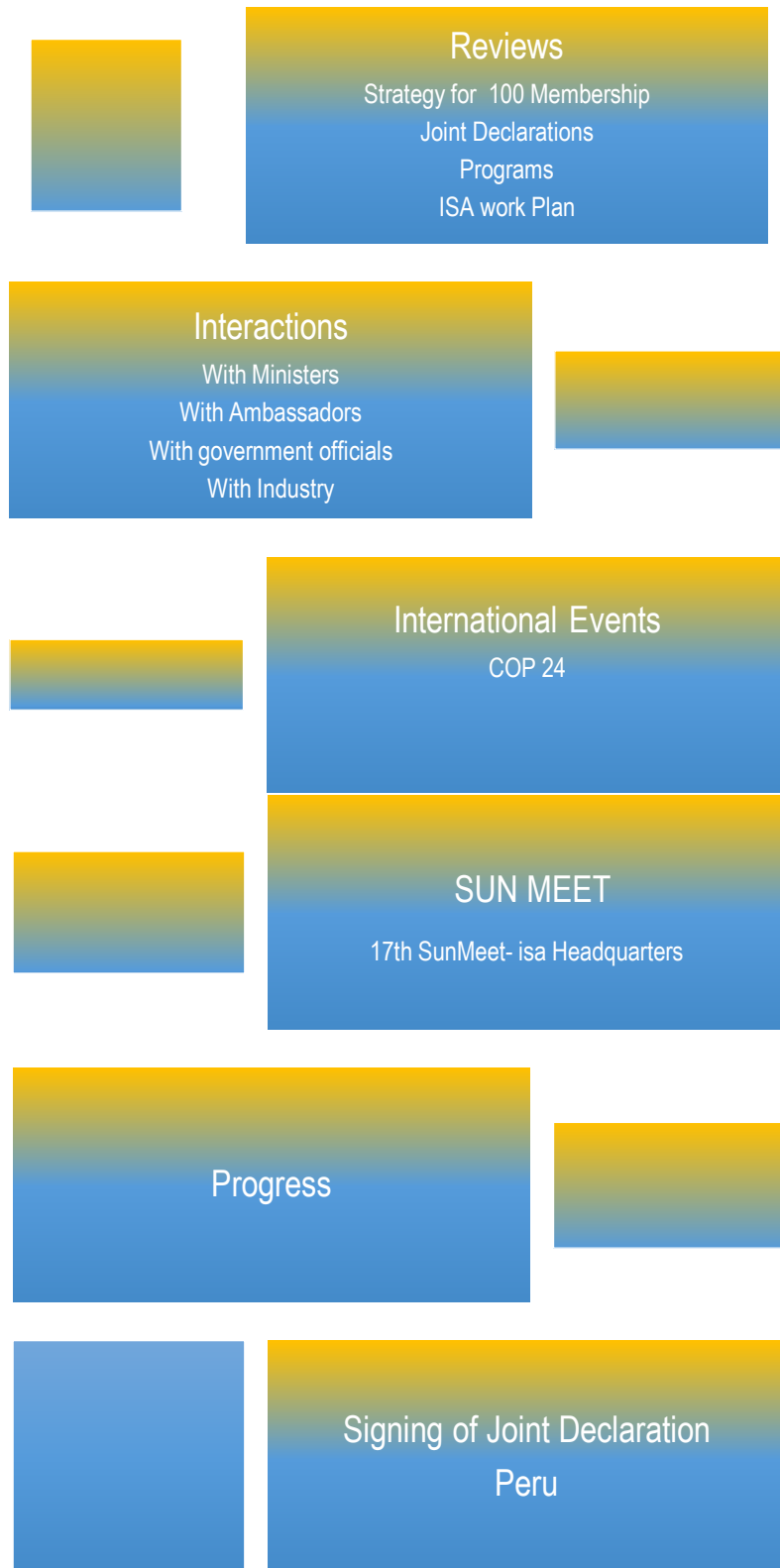


**International Solar Alliance
(ISA)
MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT
FOR
December
(2018)**

**Secretariat
International Solar Alliance**



17th SUN Meet

The 17th SunMeet of the ISA was organized in NISE Campus in ISA Secretariat. Local Contact Points and Heads of Mission of ISA member countries participated with zeal and enthusiasm in this SUN Meet. This meeting was clubbed with a visit to NISE campus, where two new and innovative installations, one on the Solar PV Plug and Play technology, and the other- a Solar drier- facilitated by GIZ are put up. Experts from The National Institute of Solar Energy gave technical insight about these applications to the participants.



17th SUNMEET, NISE Campus, Gurugram, India

ISA Welcomed the Heads of Missions accredited to India, and, also bid farewell to Heads of Missions returning to their respective countries during the meet.

New envoys of eight nations:

1. H.E. Mr Gudmundur Arni Stefansson, Ambassador of Iceland
2. H.E. Mr Marten van den Berg, Ambassador of the Kingdom of Netherlands

3. H.E. Mrs Fatoumata Balde, Ambassador of the Republic of Guinea
4. H.E. Mr Julius Pranevicius, Ambassador of the Republic of Lithuania
5. H. E. Mr Jean Claude Kugener, Ambassador of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg
6. H.E. Mr. Mr Kalupage Austin Fernando, Ambassador of Srilanka
7. H.E. Mr. Andre Aranha Correa do Lago, Ambassador of Brazil
8. H. E. Ms. Andrei I. Rzheussky , Ambassador of Belarus

Envoys who have finished the Terms:

Ambassador of Peru to India
Ambassador of Sudan to India
Ambassador of Colombia to India
Ambassador of Belarus to India
Ambassador of Bolivia to India

The participating dignitaries were informed about impending ISA PERU-Latin American Countries- WORLD RENEWABLE ENERGY MEET AND EXPO (SUN WORLD - 2019) scheduled in November 2019. H.E. Mr. Jorge Juan Castañeda Méndez, the then Ambassador from Peru to Republic of India unveiled the details of this event. Ms Mani Khurana, Senior specialist from Energy and Extractives division of World Bank, one of the financial partners of ISA made a presentation on “Rooftop Solar Project Financing experience of World Bank” In keeping with the Bank’s commitment to support India’s solar energy program, the Government of India and the World Bank have signed an agreement for Grid Connected Rooftop Solar Program. The project will finance the installation of at least 400 MW of solar Photovoltaic (PV) installations that will provide clean renewable energy, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by displacing thermal generation. Their journey is of achievements and steller results in bringing the rooftop tariff to as low as less than 2 cents in India.

Other presentations:

The Indian Institutes of Technology, Delhi- an autonomous public institution of higher education, located in India is collaborating with the ISA to implement the ISA Fellowship Program. During the Seventeenth SunMeet IIT Delhi gave a comprehensive overview of this initiative to the representatives of the ISA Member countries.

The Ashden India Collective (AIC), which is a network of India-based winners of the prestigious Ashden Awards. AIC's strength lies in its pan-India, cross-technology presence which gives it a well-informed and well-rounded view on decentralized renewable energy (DRE). The agency made a presentation on solar off grid applications during the SunMeet.



Ambassador Peru updating the participants about SunWorld 2019



DG ISA along with visiting dignitaries; trip to NISE facilities



Country Intervention: France

ISA's Participation in COP 24

ISA Contingent

HE Mr Upendra Tripathy, Director General, ISA;

Ms Cécile Martin-Phipps, Director Communications, Operations and Strategy;

Mr Jagjeet Sareen, Director Finance;

Mr Shishir Seth, Senior Consultant, ADB

The ISA Secretariat was
granted Observer status
at UNFCCC COP 24

The ISA at Exhibit #36 in COP 24, Katowice, Poland



HE Mr Upendra Tripathy, DG ISA; Ms Cecile Martin Phipps, Director Communication & Strategy, ISA in ISA exhibit, COP 24, Katowice, Poland

ISA side events and meetings during COP24

ISA signed MoU with GOGLA

The discussions riveted around leveraging on GOGLA's main activities: Guides and standards, market information, research and knowledge sharing, advocacy, etc. in the field of off-grid solar applications. Possibility of Investor's conference with "Community of Champions on Off Grid strength" was also discussed.



DG ISA, and Mr. Koen Peters, CEO GOGLA

ISA & ADB

Meeting with Director General - Sustainable development and climate change department, ADB

ADB has 16 common countries with ISA. It is coming with a 2M USD fund for ISA to be announced in 2019. In the TA component of the fund, it is planned that the focus will be on i STAR-C project in the Pacific island countries. Discussions were also held to plan a side event on this topic during the Assembly of ADB in Fiji 2-5 May 2019 and during the ADB Clean Energy Forum in Manila on 17- 21 June. ADB also showed interest in developing projects in ISA Member countries under the High Level Technology Fund the bank has institutionalized with Japan recently.



Director General, SDCCD, ADB & DG ISA

ISA & AfDB

Meeting with Dr. Daniel-Alexander Schroth, Advisor to the Vice President for Power, Energy, Climate and Green Growth at the African Development Bank

Following possibilities of cooperation were explored:

- Technical assistance program under Sustainable energy fund for Africa: (this will include: project writing support, supporting the governments to write the right policies, etc.)
- Appointment of a secondee to ISA.
- training and / or support for project preparation.
- Energy Dialogue in the Energy Access Conference in West Africa.
- Collaborating with ISA in the Sahel – Sahara countries.
- ISA's role in developing an India – Africa facility.
- Identifying projects
- Contributing in ISA Infopedia by linking the African energy portal launched during the African energy

ISA side event in the France Pavilion during COP 24

This session gathered stakeholders from ministers, developers, donors, international agencies and financiers to address the barriers and solutions to unlock farther and faster deployment of solar energy in ISA resource-rich countries. IRENA shared progress made on the Solar Energy Standardization Initiative (“SESI”) launched in 2016 with TerraWatt Initiative to develop a simple, standardized contractual “project documentation” that will facilitate a scale up of solar PV investments around the globe. The World Bank and the French Development Agency presented their work on the establishment a Solar Risk Mitigation Mechanism to serve ISA’s objectives. Perspectives from Member states like: Benin, Burkina Faso, Gabon, Mali, Niger, and Togo were shared, they also shared their joint regulatory initiative to define common principles to foster enabling environments for solar energy projects.

The session was moderated by Mr. Jean-Pierre Barral, Director Head of Energy & Digital Transition, French Development Agency.

PANALISTS:

• **HE Mr. Upendra Tripathy, Director General, ISA** introduced the work of ISA under its programme “Affordable finance at scale” and its cooperation with key partners to unlock mass deployment of solar energy.

• **Mr. Shegun Bakarín, Advisor to the President of the Republic of Togo** : presented the initiative launched in Lomé in August which aims to build a Common regulatory and contractual framework to derisk solar projects.

• **Ms. Elizabeth Press, Director, Planning and Programme Support, IRENA**: on how to we can develop a set of standardized documents to help aggregate solar projects and deploy solar energy.

• **Mr. Moctar Touré, Advisor to the President of the Republic of Mali** : De-risking solar projects is crucial for African countries to address the major issue of access to energy.



• **Ms. Mafalda Duarte, Head Climate Investment Funds, The World Bank:**

Success stories: Noor Programme in Morocco CSP solar farms : price came down 25% for Noor 1 then 10% and 10% for Noor 2 & 3. Rooftop solar in India with State bank of India Storage and hybridisation of solar or floating solar are the new topic of interest for the bank.

• **Mr. Eric Scotto, CEO Akuo Energy and President for International Affairs of French Renewable Energy Trade Association:** De-risking and standardized documents are key projects.

• **Mr. Arunabha Ghosh, CEO, CEEW:** Right now the Paris agreement is unjust, inequitable, and undifferentiated. How can we change this ?

Concluding Remarks by H.E. Brune Poirson, Minister of State, attached to Minister of Ecological and Inclusive Transition, France

Four Lessons learnt !

lesson 1: raise the ambition of the countries.

lesson 2: deal with risk perception.
Sometimes the perception of the scale of risks is far greater to what the risk truly is.

lesson 3: deal with integration: every electron not used is wasted so improvement of the grid and storage is essential.

lesson 4: necessity to internalized the cost of emissions in the fossil fuel projects to bring up the costs and reach parity with RE projects.

The ISA is one of the tools to achieve this.
France wants the ISA to become the showcase of what we can do for tomorrow.



H.E. Brune Poirson, Minister of State, France presenting concluding remarks at ISA Session in France Pavilion during COP 24

ISA & CPI; 10/12/2018

Meeting with Barbara Buchner, Senior Director of Climate Policy Initiative

Climate Policy Initiative (CPI) is a team of analysts and advisors that works to improve the most important energy and land use policies around the world, with a particular focus on finance. CPI works in places that provide the most potential for policy impact including Brazil, China, Europe, India, Indonesia, and the United States.

CPI has recently launched the Global Innovation Lab for Climate Finance, a new global public-private initiative that identifies cutting edge climate finance instruments with the potential to drive investment at scale.

Two labs are already existing in India and Brazil. CPI would like to develop a new one in Africa and is looking for support from ISA in this. This new lab could be set up in South Africa.

Meeting with Mrs Rana Adbib, REN21

REN21's vision is to develop knowledge to shape the future. REN 21 relies mostly on their 900 experts community who are the one actually working on the REN21 reports.

Side event ISA on India Pavilion – 11/12/2018

“Equinox Circle” Ask
an Expert Service and

Recalling that the ISA initiative is the vision of Hon’ble Prime Minister of India Shri Narendra Modi, **H.E. Anand Kumar, Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India** reaffirmed Indian Government’s continued support for the ISA. H.E. Prime Minister Modi set up the vision in October 2018 at the inauguration of the ISA First Assembly: “One world, one sun, one grid”. ISA is the major initiative for implementing the Paris Agreement. Shri Kumar also spoke about the Government plans to increase the share of renewable energy in India’s energy mix, especially towards achieving cumulative installed renewable power capacity of 175GW by 2022.



DG ISA addressing the audience In India Pavilion at Katowice, Poland

Panelists

Mr. Arunabha Ghosh, CEEW

Julian Suarez, Vice President, Sustainable Development, CAF, Development bank of Latin America;

Hyoeun Jenny Kim, Deputy Director-General and Head of Green Growth Planning and Implementation – GGGI



Andrew Prag, Head of environment and climate change, IEA

Daniel-Alexander Schroth, Adviser to the vice president, Power, energy, climate and green growth complex, AfDB

K.S. Popli, chairman & managing director, IREDA

B.K. Panda, Chief Manager, Coal India Limited

Signature of MoU with WRI and CAF – 11/12/2018

Signature of MoU with CAF – 11/12/2018

DG ISA and Mr. Andrew Steer WRI CEO of the World Resources Institute signed a partnership during the side event on the India Pavilion.

DG ISA signed a partnership agreement with Mr. Julian Suarez Migliozi, Vice President Sustainable development, CAF, Banco de Desarrollo de America



Side event UNFCCC – ISA**Panelists:**

H.E. Brune Poirson, Secretary of State, Ministry of Ecological and Inclusive Transition, Government of France: We need now more political support and willingness to ISA.

- **Mr. Ovais Sermad, Vice president UNFCCC:**
- **Mr. Bertrand Piccard, Solar Impulse Foundation, World Alliance for Efficient Solutions**

Ms. Naoko Ishii, CEO, Global Environment Facility (GEF)

- **Mr. Rémy Rioux, CEO AFD**
- **Mr. Javier Manzanares, Acting Executive Director, Green Climate Fund**
- **Mr. Yongping, Xuedu Lu, Lead Climate Change Specialist, ADB**
- **Ms Mafalda Duarte, Head Climate Investment Funds**
- **Ms. Soma Banerjee, Executive Director, Energy & Infrastructure, Confederation of Indian Industries (CII)**

Meeting with Mr. Thomas Liebault, Deputy Director of Energy & Climate Change, French Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs, Government of France

During the discussion, the following issues were discussed:

- Lomé initiative;
- Report of the ISA Assembly;
- iSTAR-C;
- Training workshop on Solar Energy to the utilities in Africa to be organised by AFD with the RACEE network;
- Target of 100 countries by next assembly;
- A Joint letter from France and India could also be sent to the countries to participate in Infopedia and iSTAR-C programme.
- Designation of the Vice-Presidents to the Assembly;

**Signature of the Joint Declaration
with the EU Commission, 11/12/2108**

The signing ceremony of the Joint Declaration between the EU and the International Solar Alliance cooperation on solar energy was held



DG ISA with Matthieu Ballu and Cécile Leemans, EU Commission –

**DG, ISA with Mr. Ovais Sarmad,
Assistant SG, Deputy Executive
Secretary, UNFCCC – 12/12/2018**

ISA is now an observer to UNFCCC.

Next step is to establish a MoU between ISA and UNFCCC with a clear concrete work programme with specific timeline.

Carbon financing structures through the UNFCCC regional centers.

UN SDG Climate Summit in September 2019 + high level political forum of the UN: focus on SDG 13 on climate action in June 2019: UNFCCC will make sure for the ISA to participate to it.



Meetings with CAF, WRI & WBG



Julian Suarez Miglozzi, Vice President Sustainable development, CAF, Banco de Desarrollo de America Latina – 12/12/2018 SunWorld-LAC in Peru in November 2019:



with Mr. Manish Bapna, Executive Vice President and Managing Director, WRI



with Mr. Riccardo Pulliti, World Bank

Side event UN Environment



Mr. Satya Tripathi, UN Assistant Secretary General & Head of New York Office of UN Environment, presenting the keynote address.

Side event Francophonie & IEA



Panelists:

The session was moderated by **Mr. Cyril Cassisa, Analyst, Environment and Climate change Unit, IEA.**

Mr. Jean-Pierre Ndoutoum, Director of the Sustainable Development Institute of Francophonie

Andrew Prag, Head of the Environment and Climate change Unit, IEA,.

H.R.H. Princess Abze Djigma from Burkina Faso

François Moisan, Executive Director, Research, Innovation and International, French Agency for Environment and Energy Management :

Thomas Spencer, Fellow, The Energy and Resources Institute, India, presented the India success story on energy access.

Statement of DG ISA during the High-level segment UNFCCC COP24



EXCERPTS

The International Solar Alliance has been envisioned as an action-oriented treaty based inter-governmental body through which its members will collectively address key common challenges towards scaling up of solar energy in line with their needs. It is wonderful to note that ISA will play a major role in achieving Sustainable Development Goals and Objectives of the Paris Agreement.

Since its launch in COP21 in Paris in 2015, the International Solar Alliance has moved forward at a fast speed to promote solar energy. The Framework agreement has been opened to signature in Marrakesh in 2016. Now, the ISA is a full-fledged UN international organization comprising 48 Member States and 71 signatories, with many more to come.

The Founding Summit – co-chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Emmanuel Macron and attended by 48 countries last March – defined a clear roadmap for action with four pillars: i) aggregating demand and projects, ii) harmonizing policy, regulation and contracting, iii) defining common financial tools, iv) building capacity, research and innovation.

Two months ago, the First Assembly of the International Solar Alliance was inaugurated by UN Secretary-General in Delhi. More than 70 countries were represented showing the importance of access to energy for our Member countries.

In fact, our Member countries set up a very ambitious target for the ISA: that is to mobilize more than US \$1000 billion in investment that will be needed by 2030 to meet the goal of massive deployment of affordable solar energy for all. Access to finance is indeed an issue as it is currently not forthcoming for solar projects in many member countries due to high risk profile of projects, as well as high transaction cost.

To reach this goal, we need the mobilization of all the partners. The ISA should be a vibrant source of initiatives and leadership stemming from its members and partners. Countries have joined the ISA to play as a team and pool their efforts and resources to take action to the next level.

We note that there are several international days currently observed by the UN but none are dedicated to universal energy access. Access to energy is a requisite for human survival and well-being and a fundamental right to have access to energy and good quality light. As the ISA Framework Agreement entered into force on 6th December 2017 and there is no international day observed by the UN on December 6th. To benefit the 1.2 billion people who live without access to electricity, it is proposed that the General Assembly of the UN may be requested to earmark 6th December as the UN day dedicated to Universal Energy Access.

ISA in news in the month of December

Signature by the EU and the International Solar Alliance of a Joint Declaration for cooperation on solar energy

https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/signature-eu-and-international-solar-alliance-joint-declaration-cooperation-solar-energy-2018-dec-11_en
