

Newsletter

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Blended Finance Risk Mitigation Facility: An ISA Initiative

One billion people still live without electricity, and over half of them live in sub-Saharan Africa, predominantly in rural areas. As such, Africa accounts for over 125 mn households (HH) that still lack access to modern energy services. The African continent will need to double its capacity to 497 GW between now and 2030 to meet the rising energy demand. The current energy mix in Africa is based mostly on coal, oil, and traditional biomass. Solar and wind power offer the most viable alternatives, with prices now almost in the same range as those of fossil fuel. Despite huge technical potential, the continent accounts for only a meagre 1% or 6.6 GW of global solar energy production.

Access to finance for solar related investments, is one of the biggest challenges in Africa. Attracting private financing will require improvements in governance to reduce political and regulatory risk. Since this is a long term process, initially these risks need to be transferred from entrepreneurs and investors to public institutions (Government, DFIs, etc.) and donors.

Along with the enhancement in capital investments, it is also imperative to ensure equitable distribution of capital investments. ISA has been working on bringing innovative instruments and strategies to countries that need such measures to ensure the growth of the solar sector. We are exploring various risk mitigation instruments. One of such instruments has been the set of Blended Finance Risk Mitigation Facility (BFRM) which would aim to merge various instruments with pre-defined terms and conditions to ensure risk balancing in investments. This will stimulate high potential solar technologies by attracting private capital to flow into underserved markets in Africa. Secretary General of the

United Nations, Mr Antonio Guterres, has supported the idea and remarked recently that “we need blended finance that provides the necessary structures to close existing funding gaps and unlock the trillions held by private actors. This means adjusted risk frameworks and more flexibility to scale up renewable finance”.

ISA is designing a blended finance facility for African countries with a planned fund size is of over USD 700 million and has a pan-Africa mandate. BFRM will provide a contemporary partnership model, that will be replicable, sustainable and scalable. Overall, the facility will enable demand creation and an environment for solar deployment in Africa by providing different risk mitigation instruments, concessional finance and technical assistance. Businesses will be able to leverage this opportunity by partnering with African companies to deploy solar energy technology and meet the demand for solar solutions in Africa. It would also foster regional solar energy partnerships focused on improving trade and economic balances via inter-governmental cooperation.

Solar energy is critical to our collective climate goals and every country can take advantage of the solar economic opportunity. ISA is unique in its focus on spreading solar to emerging economies including small island states and is working with several partners and stakeholders to channelize our strengths in resolving issues in the path towards solarisation and hope to drive more discussions and concretise our plans in the coming days.

Author: Jagjeet Sareen, Strategy & Resource Mobilisation Cluster, ISA



ISA's Private Sector Engagement (PSE) Strategy: An Overview

ISA's private sector engagement strategy seeks to accelerate the growth and development of the private sector in keeping with **SDG 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy)** and the **2050 Net Zero** targets. Through this strategy, ISA seeks to mobilise USD 1 trillion for solar energy by 2030 as well as link disparate efforts to form a coherent and ambitious plan that is truly global in its mandate. The endeavours to achieve this vision span six interventions, anchored across two key thematic pillars:

- ◆ Enabling the development of policy frameworks to grow private sector participation
- ◆ Catalysing investment in industry actors and increasing access to finance for projects at critical junctures

ISA has engaged the private sector through a wide range of programs across solar applications, affordable finance, mini-grids, rooftop solar, solar parks, and e-mobility. Additionally, it has launched various initiatives to promote solar development, such as the Solar Technology and Application Resource

Centre (STAR C), the Infopedia, Solar Fellowship, and training programmes for technicians, bankers, and master trainers. While these efforts demonstrate ISA's recognition of the importance of PSE, multiple stakeholders believe there is room for growth and improvement.

ISA's PSE strategy is cognisant of responding to private sector needs, occupying whitespaces in solar development efforts, and leveraging core organisational competencies.

Private sector needs can be broadly classified into two categories. The first set of barriers relates to policy, such as uncertain or poorly designed regulations, limited relevance to market conditions and needs, and insufficient information to make accurate policy decisions. The second set of challenges relates to financing, including restricted working capital to scale operations, high manufacturing costs, and onerous lender requirements due to a lack of financial reporting standards. While both sets of challenges play out in different ways across industry segments, they have the

cumulative effect of limiting energy access, preventing the efficient allocation of capital, and slowing progress on installed capacity.

Across solar technologies, the need is evident for more transparent and more favourable policies, greater financing and risk-mitigation support for solar firms and solar investors, respectively, and targeted efforts to address risks around market information and commercial viability. While initiatives to support solar growth are led by organisations such as SEforAll, IEA, and REN21, there are significant gaps that ISA can address owing to its wide-ranging government membership and dedicated focus on the solar industry.

Sector actors are actively targeting the limited availability of credible data across regions; the lack of solar-specific convening platforms for policymakers and funders; and solar-specific capacity-building efforts for policymakers, among others. Efforts by organisations with a broad agenda on supporting renewable energy lack the depth required to address rapidly evolving solar sector needs. At the same time, many stakeholders that focus on solar often lack sufficient influence to shape the decisions of important public and private actors that can catalyse meaningful progress. ISA is uniquely positioned to address these whitespaces through its exclusive focus on solar and the global membership base of national policymakers.

ISA enjoys access to policymakers through its 86 Member Countries spread across four continents. It has growing links with the private sector through the Coalition for Sustainable

Climate Action (CSCA) and the Task Force on Corporates. ISA also brings diverse experience designing and implementing on-ground programs across technologies and regions. ISA is mapping means to leverage these core competencies to support the private sector effectively.

The DRE Market Support and Bankability Support facilities will aggregate 6.5 GW of solar PV demand and deploy 850 MW of installed capacity by supporting large-scale solar project preparation and deployment of DRE solutions through results-based incentives. Over 90,000 last-mile households and smallholder farmers in 6-9 countries will enjoy solar energy access for consumption and productive use through these efforts.

The **Policy Working Groups, Policy Centre of Excellence, Solar Funders Network, and Solar Knowledge Hub** will empower 10,000 policymakers with relevant knowledge and skills, conduct approximately 40 global convenings across a wide array of industry stakeholders, and launch over 100 new knowledge products. Together, these efforts will drive the convergence of new policy frameworks, investment strategies, and market intelligence in and across regions. Critically, this diffusion of policy and knowledge will be driven and co-created through the active participation of public and private actors, helping sustain these gains in the medium- and long-term.



ISA is focusing on the following key fronts for successful implementation:

1. **Revisiting its organizational strategy:** Institutionalizing the PSE strategy may identify opportunities to revise ISA's organizational structure and decision-making, e.g., by developing regional ISA offices to lead intervention implementation.
2. **Building capacity within ISA and its NFPs:** To build out new and larger teams to drive regional implementation across an array of functions – convening, policy guidance, skill-building, project management and oversight, and analytics – as well as provide support NFPs with the necessary guidance to be effective partners
3. **Securing the necessary funding:** To raise the necessary resources, ISA will have to diversify its donor base to target those with longer-term impact timelines
4. **Identifying and onboarding industry stakeholders and implementation partners:** Effective stakeholder outreach and management is critical to engage with industry actors that will support ISA and benefit from its interventions, as well as technical experts to support intervention design and implementation where it is not feasible for ISA to build further capacity

In this regard, ISA hosted an exclusive session, "[Tech for Solar, Solar for Tech](#)" on exploring partnerships between ISA, the Energy and Tech Industries. Furthermore, ISA in collaboration with AFIDA is hosting a roundtable on developing Large Scale Solar Parks in Sub-Saharan Africa. Furthermore, ISA is planning to launch the ISA-Corporate Council at CEM in September and will have a number of corresponding private sector engagements. ISA looks forward to building on its success so far by greater incorporating financiers, developers and manufacturers into all its activities.

Author: Alexander Hogeveen Rutter, Private Sector Specialist, ISA

STAR Centres Driving Solar Resourcing in ISA Member Countries



In the modern world, energy is at the heart of development. With more affordable technologies, solar energy has consistently disproven the economic arguments against renewable energy sources and proved solar energy is cheaper than fossil fuels in the short and long term. With most developed countries now sourcing a good share of their power from solar energy, the inspiration can be easily felt in the less developed world. More and more under-developed and developing countries are seeing solar as one of the primary energy sources in the coming years. However, the accelerated deployment of solar energy will need conditions, financing and capacity on both the demand and supply side of solar energy in the least developed and developing countries.

Capacity building and institutional strengthening of developing Member Countries are priority areas in ISA's Theory of Change. Recognising this urgent need to support ISA Member Countries with high potential for solar technology deployment, the ISA Assembly agreed to establish an international network of Solar Technology Application Resource Centres (STAR C) meant for providing solar technology and application resourcing services. These Centres aim to enable necessary human capacity and skills among Member Countries to undertake energy transitions intrinsically while stimulating economic growth and creating employment opportunities.

Multi-functional Centre of Excellence

The import cost of energy is a significant burden for most ISA Member Countries. A substantial share of the public revenue is spent on buying fossil fuels to address energy needs, thus, impacting the overall development budget of these countries. While ISA Member Countries are devising new policies and regulations to reduce dependency on fossil fuels and consistently trying to foster an enabling environment for accelerated growth of solar energy, there is an urgent need to develop local technical knowledge, awareness among decision-makers, incentivise innovation, standardised products & services and capable enterprises. Strengthened capacity will help de-risk investments making countries investment-ready.

ISA is working towards setting up several STAR Centres, which may serve as a shared facility within a particular region. The STAR Centres will act as an interface between countries sharing solar energy development experiences, undertaking joint research, promoting development & demonstration, capacity building, and creating regional & global networks.

The STAR Centres are expected to undertake one or more functions related to training, testing, innovation and knowledge management. Based on the prominence of the function it plays, a STAR Centre can be categorised as a STAR Training Centre or a

STAR Testing Centre. There are four primary functions envisaged for these Centres: capacity building, testing, innovation, and knowledge management.

- ◆ The STAR Centre develops custom training resources of standard quality and delivers competency-based training schemes on technical and financial aspects of solar products, applications, and services. The Centre provides training to government officials, technicians, engineers, and industry associations.
- ◆ The STAR Centre tests and certifies solar components and technologies based on national and international standards. In some countries, the STAR Centre can develop national standards based on international experiences.
- ◆ The Centre collects and analyses existing knowledge and information about solar energy for dissemination to a larger audience. It will act as a knowledge management centre providing solar energy data, guidelines, analytical tools, relevant policies, and technical assistance to solar developers, decision-makers, and local institutions.
- ◆ Customising solar energy based on local needs, the Centre will create innovative products and services serving the local context and leading breakthroughs in scaling up off-grid and grid-connected solar installations. The Centre will also take the lead in identifying and incubating start-ups or enterprises for integrating solar energy with income-generating activities. This would create a significant number of green jobs and enable the development of innovative ideas to address country-specific energy-related challenges.

Collaborative Efforts Witnessing Change

ISA Member Countries have welcomed this initiative and shown keen interest in establishing such resource centres for enhanced energy access and security. ISA is reaching out to Member Countries to develop over 50 STAR Centres by 2030. ISA has recently signed an agreement with the **Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, the Government of France**, to create and implement a project providing 'Preparatory support to establish STAR-C' in the **Pacific, East Africa, and West Africa regions**. The project is expected to roll out in July 2022. It is targeted toward strengthening quality infrastructure and standards for PV and solar thermal products and services, improving local capacities to provide certified solar curricula and training, and strengthening solar networks and knowledge management.

In coming years, the role of these Centres will become more critical than ever. The good news is that more and more countries are getting associated with ISA, so the potential to form a regional and global network of STAR centres is growing. However, technical and financial support to STAR centres is key to their success. To support the transformation processes, enhanced international cooperation is required. ISA is actively engaging with potential donors and seeks financial support to enhance the impact of this flagship programme globally.

Authors: Saba Kalam and Anupol Bordoloi, Solar Technology Application Resource Centres, Institutional Development & Knowledge Management Cluster, ISA



<https://ghampower.com/>

Events

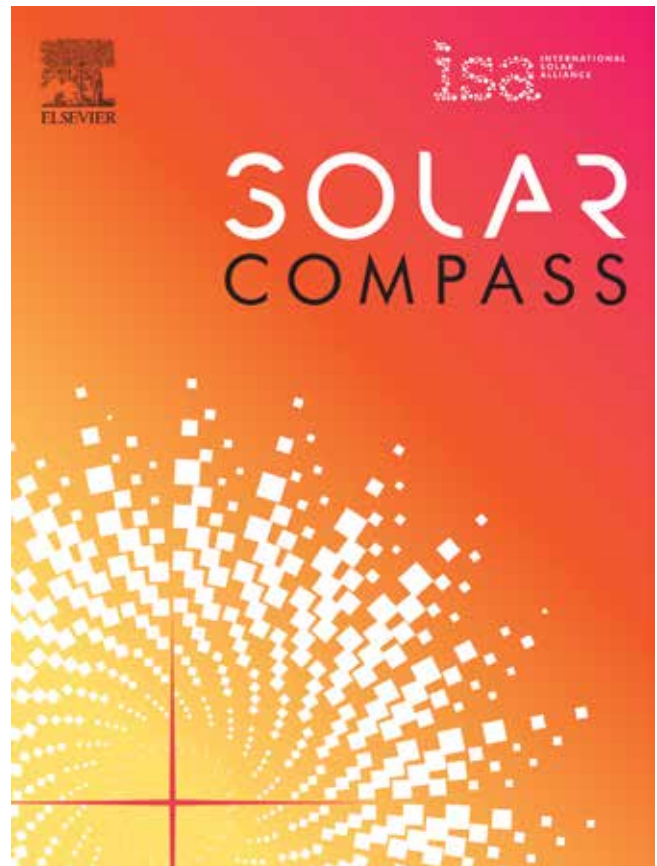
Launch of the first edition of the Solar Compass Journal

The International Solar Alliance announced the Solar Compass Journal with Elsevier, a global leader in research publishing and information analytics, at COP26 in Glasgow, where H.E. Mr Stephane Crouzat, Ambassador for Climate, Government of France and ISA Director General, H.E. Dr Ajay Mathur announced the first call for papers.

The Journal is an important initiative to increase understanding and research on the use of solar power. The Journal will cover new technology, policy, and economic developments to improve global access to clean energy and feature successful case studies in the hope of wide-scale replication. Available as an open-source platform for sharing knowledge and foreground thought leadership on all aspects of 'solar'. The Journal is designed to deliver value: innovation, information, data, and analytics to lay the foundation for better decision-making and action.

The first edition of the Journal is now available online and features the following articles:

- ♦ [**Welcome to the first issue of Solar Compass: Sharing Transformative Information Leading Toward the Net-Zero Goal**](#) by Dr D. Yogi Goswami, Distinguished University Professor of Chemical, Biological, And Materials Engineering, College of Engineering, University of South Florida
- ♦ [**International Solar Alliance's journey Towards 1000**](#) by Dr Ajay Mathur, Director General, International Solar Alliance
- ♦ [**Progress, Opportunities and Challenges of Achieving Net-Zero Emissions and 100% Renewables**](#) by Dr Dave Renne, Clean Power Research, Dave Renné Renewables
- ♦ [**Benchmarking and Comparing Effectiveness of Mini-grid Encroachment Regulations of 24 African Countries: A Guide for Governments and Energy Regulators to Develop Effective Grid Encroachment Regulations**](#) by Kai-Wilfrid Schröder, Founder and Managing Director at Celanx GmbH



Glimpses from the virtual launch



Glimpses from the virtual launch

- ♦ **[Inventions, Innovations and New Technologies](#)** by Dr Samantha Wijewardane, Senior Lecturer, Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology, Malabe, Sri Lanka
- ♦ **[Solar Thermochemical Fuels: Present Status and Future Prospects](#)** by Dr Alan Weimer, Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering, University of Colorado
- ♦ **[Recent Developments on Solar Manufacturing in India](#)** by Dr Juzer Vasi, National Centre for Photovoltaic Research and Education (NCPRE), Indian Institute of Technology Bombay

All articles were peer-reviewed before publication. An editorial board of globally recognised experts led by the distinguished Dr Yogi Goswami from the University of South Florida, USA, directed the preparation of the Journal: planning, soliciting articles, and conducting reviews before accepting the articles for publication.

[The Journal was virtually launched on 1 June 2022](#), with the proceedings featuring the editors in the presence of Dr Ajay Mathur, Director-General, ISA, Mr Arun Misra, Senior Advisor, ISA and Dr Yogi Goswami, Editor-in-Chief.

ISA envisaged this discussion to highlight the importance of such an open-access platform for the larger ecosystem. The main objective of this interaction was to encourage the critical stakeholders in the ecosystem to come forward and contribute to the momentum ISA is generating through its interventions. On occasion, DG, ISA Dr Ajay Mathur defined the Journal as a step forward on the agenda of solarisation. It will provide faster access to the latest information to all involved in the supply chain of solar energy. The first edition of the Journal covers a wide array of subjects. It will help relay activities regularly, moving the solar

arena forward daily. Dr Goswami, Editor-in-Chief, expounded in detail on what the Journal had to offer each stakeholder category of the solar community to help restrict temperature rise and reach the NZE target through solar energy deployment. These include guidance on governance principles for policymakers & regulators, information on emerging new technologies for the energy industry and entrepreneurs, investment avenues for investors, and details on what's working and not working in different regions of the world for financial organisations. The research community and the public will benefit from knowing about recent advancements in solar. Senior Advisor, ISA Mr Arun Misra referred to the Journal as a gamechanger. The easy-to-comprehend articulation of the Journal does not keep it exclusive to the scientific community but is also readily comprehensible by on-ground practitioners and laypeople.

The current editorial board included Mr Lawrence Kazmerski, Professor, University of Colorado Boulder, Renewable and Sustainable Energy Institute, Boulder, Colorado, United States of America.; Ms Gauri Singh, Deputy Director-General, International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA); Mr Aldo Steinfeld, Professor, ETH Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland; Ms Anita Marangoly George, Board Member, First Solar, Tempe, Arizona, United States of America; Mr Pradeep Chaturvedi, Vice President, World Environment Foundation, New Delhi, India; Mr Samantha Wijewardane, Senior Lecturer, Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology, Malabe, Sri Lanka; and Mr Noredidine Ghaffour, Professor, Environmental Science and Engineering, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Thuwal, Saudi Arabia.

Solar Hydrogen Development Outlook in Developing Countries

Global solar capacity reached 1 TW in 2021, which is a good achievement but is really only a start considering the available resource. The solar resource is “good enough” for solar PV almost everywhere in the world where most of the developing member countries of ISA are located.

Effectively harnessing and utilizing solar energy at terawatt (TW) scale requires bulk energy storage for time-shifting and **location-shifting**. Pumped hydropower storage accounts for well over 90% of global grid-connected energy storage today and is the only existing commercial solution for GW-scale energy storage and long-term time-shifting. Further expansion of pumped storage is limited by availability of environmentally and socially acceptable sites. Hydrogen is emerging as a scalable and more flexible alternative which can be stored indefinitely.

Policies need to evolve to monetize solar resources in the form of value-added services: electricity and heat production, water production, and chemical manufacturing which is broadly defined to include hydrogen via electrolysis and production of “e-fuels.” We need to try and “electrify everything” except for practical purposes we cannot electrify everything, especially heavy industries like steel and chemical manufacturing.

Hydrogen is already used in chemical manufacturing and can replace natural gas in many processes and applications. Hydrogen can be converted to other chemicals which can be transported in bulk, as is the case for fossil fuels. Solar-to-hydrogen mimics the natural processes that create fossil fuels, and potential uses of solar hydrogen mimic the existing global hydrocarbons business. “Green” hydrogen production via electrolysis of water is possible with off-the-shelf technology at a current cost of around \$5/kg or higher (which is currently cost-competitive in western Europe due to elevated natural gas prices). The critical technology is the electrolyzers which are inherently modular and as factory mass production ramps up, unit costs will decline, resulting in a lower cost of production of hydrogen and oxygen.

Achieving \$2/kg cost of hydrogen production from electrolysis requires an electricity input cost of less than \$0.02/kilowatt-hour (kWh) and this is where solar energy and smart policies play vital roles. Governments can facilitate market evolution through regulatory requirements such as advanced market commitments (AMCs) wherein specific industries would be required to buy green hydrogen at market prices; however, regulated industries can be expected to demand price support for an interim period until price parity is achieved (\$2/kg).



At the Fourth Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) in October 2021, a “Solar for Green Hydrogen” programme was launched to develop global synergies across the Solar Hydrogen value chain by bringing together governments, multi-lateral institutions, and private sector across the value chain. The ISA is collaborating with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), under ADB Technical Assistance to six South Asian Countries, in developing a ‘Readiness Framework’ and guidelines for Solar Hydrogen production and deployment as part of ISA’s Blueprint for scaling up Solar Hydrogen.

To this end, the ISA Secretariat and ADB convened an expert panel at the side-lines of the **17th edition of the Asia Clean Energy Forum (ACEF)**. The panel encompassed senior government representatives from ISA member countries, non-government organisations, and global frontrunner private sector organisation. The discussion focused on experience sharing of the experts, plans & roadmaps of various member countries of the ISA, ongoing projects and lessons learned therefrom, challenges and barriers for integration of Solar Hydrogen as an energy resource in developing countries, end-use sectors for solar hydrogen including for energy storage, investment potential in the Asia-Pacific region, particularly for conversion of grey hydrogen into green hydrogen in the near-to-midterm, and ISA’s role & strategy in scaling up Solar Hydrogen production and deployment. Notable points from the ACEF event: (i) energy security considerations have changed markedly since the beginning of 2022; (ii) solar hydrogen has the potential to replace oil in global energy balance; (iii) more than 20 governments have hydrogen policies, strategies, and/or road maps to facilitate supply chain development; (iv) the private sector is forging ahead with gigawatt-scale projects with a “hydrogen hub” business model in developed and developing countries; and (v) global green hydrogen production could reach 100 million tons per year by 2030.

The presence of solar resources almost everywhere makes solar inherently democratic, and commercializing solar hydrogen implies that the traditional fossil fuel business will be disintermediated and democratized. The ability to store solar energy indefinitely in the form of hydrogen and the ability to convert photons to molecules for location-shifting are already well-understood in principle. As electrolyzer

costs decline, the green hydrogen business, in general, will grow and the solar hydrogen business specifically will grow where solar is the most readily available renewable resource. As solar is the world's most abundant and available energy resource, we are limited only by our imaginations.

Author: Dan Millison is a Consultant with the Asian Development Bank.



Glimpses from the [‘Green Hydrogen for Net Zero’](#) side-event workshop co-hosted by ISA and ADB as part of the 17th edition of the Asia Clean Energy Forum 2022 themed ‘Innovative and Integrated Solutions for a Low-Carbon and Resilient Future’

Speakers included Dr Ajay Mathur, DG, ISA; Inaugural Address was delivered by H.E. Mr Emmanuel Lenain, Ambassador of France to India; Keynote Addresses were delivered Dr Vandana Kumar, Additional Secretary, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy, Government of India; Mr Thierry Lepercq, Chairman (Joint Venture), HyDeal Espanã; Dr Priyantha Wijayatunga, Chief of Energy Sector, Sustainable Development & Climate Change Department, Asian Development Bank.

Dr Phillippe Malbranche, ADG,ISA introduced ISA's Programme ‘Solar for Green Hydrogen’ followed by a Panel discussion featuring Dr Samuel Bartlett, Director - GH2 Standard, Green Hydrogen Organisation (GHO); Mr Mathieu Geze, Director-Asia, HDF Energy; Ms Belén Linares, Director of Innovation, Acciona; Ms Isabelle CAPALDI-LUREAU, Global Lead Originator H2, TotalEnergies; Mr Derek Shah, Senior Vice President and Head Green Manufacturing and Development, L&T Energy moderated by Mr Jiwan Acharya, Principal Energy Specialist, ADB.

The EU, France and ISA Working Together on Sharing Knowledge



Glimpses from the virtual launch

[Two flagship projects on capacity building were launched virtually on 27 June](#) by the European Union and the Government of France in the presence of H.E. Mr Ugo Astuto, Ambassador of the European Union to India; H.E. Mr Emmanuel Lenain, Ambassador of France to India; and Dr Ajay Mathur, Director General, International Solar Alliance. The European Union and Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, Government of France, are supporting ISA by building the capacity of ISA and its Member Countries through Solar Technology Application Resource Centres (STAR-C) and by deepening cooperation between ISA and ISA Member Countries and the European Union solar energy-related businesses, academic networks, and financial institutions.

The projects focus on strengthening quality infrastructure and standards for solar products and services while improving the local capacities of the ISA Member Countries with certified solar training, development of solar networks, and knowledge management. The United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) will be the implementation partner for the French project. The EU project is supporting ISA in strengthening the engagement of EU, EU Member States, and EU academic, business, and financial communities with ISA to enhance the transfer of knowledge, support research and innovation, and strengthen capacity-building initiatives. Both projects will work in synergy and facilitate sharing knowledge on solar energy technologies, models, policies and practices and financing.

On occasion, H.E. Dr Ajay Mathur, Director General, International Solar Alliance, noted, "Initiatives with the European Union and Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, Government of France will help create an enabling environment for accelerated uptake of solar energy in ISA Member Countries. These projects will lend an edge: Solar Technology Application Resource Centres (STAR-C) will help cultivate human capacity and skillsets leading to independent energy transition initiatives in these Member Countries while supporting avenues for economic growth and creating jobs, leading to a vibrant solar energy ecosystem."

H.E. Mr Ugo Astuto, Ambassador of the European Union to India, said, "International cooperation is indispensable to reach our global energy and climate targets. The ISA is a good example of what we can do together to foster the transition towards a green, digital, and resilient future. Closer cooperation, better sharing of knowledge, and increased capacity will be of the utmost importance to realise our common, ambitious objectives for a greener energy mix."

H.E. Mr Emmanuel Lenain, Ambassador of France to India, said, "I am very proud to launch the STAR-C project, a tangible capacity-building initiative that will help remove obstacles to solar power uptake in developing countries and island states of the Indo-Pacific. As ISA co-president, France provided the initiative with a ₹8.5-crore grant and looked forward to working with ISA and UNIDO towards its full implementation. We call on all ISA Member States and partners to join this initiative."

Expert panellists from ISA Member Countries (Ethiopia, Kiribati), DG Research and Innovation, European Commission, East African Centre of Excellence for Renewable Energy and Efficiency (EACREE), SolarPower Europe, National Institute for Solar Energy (INES), France, European Investment Bank (EIB) participated virtually during this launch event. They shared their experience and knowledge of solar technologies, building synergies and financing possibilities. The panellists from ISA Member Countries and EACREE strongly emphasised the urgent need to make necessary human capacity and skills for countries to undertake energy transitions on their own, boosting economic growth and job creation. The European Commission and National Institute for Solar Energy (INES) highlighted the need for developing linkages with existing networks/platforms benefitting ISA Member Countries. The European Investment Bank strongly recommended seeing the entire energy system planning to enable policies and building capacity. SolarPower Europe supported the panellists' views and offered its support to better understand and influence the current priority issues in the member countries.

ISA's Interventions:



Dr. Ajay Mathur, DG ISA met Mr. Jean-Bernard Lévy President and CEO, EDF to discuss ISA-EDF partnership and avenues to collaborate to promote Solar across Member Countries.

Dr. Ajay Mathur, DG, ISA met with Asian Development Bank (ADB) delegation to discuss areas of partnership. ADB Vice President, Mr. Ashok Lavasa discussed synergistic areas of collaboration including Blended Finance Risk Mitigation Facility, TA facility and the startup ecosystem.



DG ISA met H.E. Ms Mukangira Jacqueline, High Commissioner of Rwanda to India to discuss scaling up Solar Street Lighting & Solar Mini Grid in Rwanda.



DG ISA had a wonderful meeting with H.E. Chang Jae-bok, Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to India. DG invited Korea to join the ISA and discussed areas of collaboration in the field of Solar Energy.

DG ISA and H.E. Ms. Tizita Mulugeta Yiman, Ambassador of Ethiopia, Embassy of Ethiopia met to discuss and plan ISA's upcoming Regional Committee Meeting for Africa region in Ethiopia.



New Developments:



ISA received expressions of interest from Republic of Cuba, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and Republic of Kiribati for setting up Solar Technology Application Resource Centres (STAR C).



Mr Nar Bahadur Khatiwora

joined ISA as Programme Specialist - APAC

Mr Nar Bahadur Khatiwora is an ISA Programme Specialist, who graduated from the University of Oldenburg, Germany with a MSc. in Renewable Energy, MBA from SBS Swiss Business School, Switzerland and a B.E. in Electrical from the University of Rajasthan, India. Mr. Khatiwora is currently working with the International Solar Alliance (ISA) looking after the Programme and Project Implementation (PPI) clusters in the Asia Pacific and African Countries (APAC).

Over 18+ years, Mr Khatiwora worked on Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency and Climate Change projects and programmes in the International and Government organizations. Prior to joining the ISA, he worked in UNDP Bahrain supporting the government of Bahrain at the Sustainable Energy Authority (SEA) and Energy & Environment portfolio of UNDP Bhutan as a Programme Specialist/Renewable Energy Specialist and Programme Implementation Analyst respectively.

Mr Khatiwora, is a highly successful programme specialist with a proven record of developing/implementing multi-million projects and programmes in developing countries in the Asia and Pacific region, establishing strategic partnerships, mobilizing resources and driving transformational change across organisations and communities.



Dr Ugochukwu Ugbor

joined ISA as Knowledge Management & Capacity Building Specialist

Dr Ugochukwu Ugbor (Ugo for short) is an accomplished knowledge management professional, business leader, and entrepreneur with over 20 years of experience in energy and infrastructure. He is currently the Knowledge Management and Capacity Development Specialist at ISA.

Dr Ugbor has worked at the United Nations Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL) initiative as the Senior Knowledge Specialist, where he led research and development of the knowledge strategy. He also worked at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) where he developed a number of strategic programmatic initiatives and led the implementation of major projects in several countries. Dr Ugbor has also founded and run renewable energy and infrastructure companies with operations and business partners in Europe, Africa, and the Caribbean.

Dr Ugbor has been an Adjunct Professor at the International University Vienna in 2009 and was a Visiting Professor at the University of Applied Sciences Wiener Neustadt in 2008. Dr Ugbor holds a PhD (2008), specializing in knowledge management from the University of Technology Vienna. He also holds an MBA from the Open University Business School; MSc in Software Development from the Open University, UK; and a BA from the University of Maryland Baltimore County, USA.

At a virtual signing ceremony hosted on 28 June 2022, Dr Ajay Mathur, DG, ISA and Mr Pradeep Kakkattil, CEO, Health Innovation and Investment Exchange Association (HIEx), inked an MOU to promote the use of solar energy for sustainable development with a focus on SDG3: Good Health and Well-Being.



Social Media Moments



DG #ISA discussed ISA's Blended Finance Risk Mitigation Facility at Africa -India Partnership Day organised by @AfDB_Group & @IndiaEximBank. BRMF would be a unique combo of concessional capital with risk mitigation measures &TA that enables commercial viability of focus areas



2:45 PM · May 26, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

8 Retweets 20 Likes



#ISA is coming up with 4HP capacity #SolarWaterPump demonstration project in NYAGISOZI, #Burundi. Aim is to show how #solar can impact lives by ensuring food self-sufficiency & better living standards, & encourage more adoption.

@BMineagrie



NTPC Limited

8:17 AM · Jun 6, 2022 · Twitter Web App

5 Retweets 24 Likes



Our team welcomed @marit_strand & @BLangset from @norwayinindia at ISA HQ today. We discussed the value of #solarpumps in #agriculture and #foodsecurity & took a tour of @Nise_Gurgaon campus where various solar app are demonstrated. #KingdomofNorway recently signed the ISA FWA.



7:13 AM · May 31, 2022 · Twitter Web App

5 Retweets 30 Likes



Global community is coming together to align development cooperation with the goals of the #ParisAgreement. #ISA's 'Blended Finance Risk Mitigation Facility' gained a lot of traction during @OECD workshop recently hosted on a virtual platform.

jagjeet singh sreen

2:44 AM · Jun 8, 2022 · Twitter Web App

9 Retweets 21 Likes

Arindam Bagchi @MEAIndia
 Norway, one step closer to ISA membership!
 H.E. Mr. Hans Jacob Frydenlund, Ambassador 🇳🇴 to 🇮🇳 handed the signed copy of the International Solar Alliance Framework Agreement to Shri Prabhat Kumar, AS (ER & DPA).
 @solaralliance



11:56 AM · Jun 3, 2022 · Twitter for iPhone

62 Retweets 527 Likes

Dept of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Min of FAH&D @Dept_of_AHD
 Dr. Ajay Mathur, DG, @isolaralliance, gave an extensive presentation on solutions to generate green hydrogen during the meeting.

@ShahMeenesh @IndianOilcl @PetroleumMin @mnreindia @fertmin_india



Parshottam Rupala and 9 others

5:09 AM · Jun 8, 2022 · Twitter Web App

6 Retweets 24 Likes

International Solar Alliance @isolaralliance
 DG, ISA virtually addressed the opening ceremony of 2022 Renewable Energy Fair being held in #Cuba from June 22-24. #ISA & #Cuba are working together for establishing a capacity of 1150 MW across 175 #solarenergy projects under ISA's #SolarParks Programme.



7:39 AM · Jun 24, 2022 · Twitter Web App

4 Retweets 23 Likes

Global Sustainable Energy Solutions India @GSESIIndia
 @GSESIIndia in collaboration with @isolaralliance delivered the 8th batch of 5-day Online Training on Solar Systems for Bankers of ISA Member Countries. 40 participants from 4 different countries and 15 different banks participated in this training program.



10:27 AM · Jun 14, 2022 · Twitter Web App

1 Retweet 4 Likes

International Solar Alliance @isolaralliance
 ISA representative met with Hon. Vice Prime Minister of Cuba & Commander @ValdesMenendez & Hon. Minister of @EnergiaMinasCub @arronte_livan on implementation of 1150 MW Solar Projects in #Cuba under aegis of #ISA programme 06 along with @ntplimited



3:52 AM · Jun 24, 2022 · Twitter Web App

2 Retweets 8 Likes

International Solar Alliance @isolaralliance

#ISA will participate at #CISummit2022 on 28 June. It's the leading event for #climateinvestments, green business models and public-private partnerships, taking place alongside #LCAW2022. Make sure you save your spot for the digital event: bit.ly/CIS2022digital #CISummit2022

Climate Investment Coalition @ClimateIC · Jun 18

We are pleased to have @isolaralliance as a Coalition Partner of #CISummit2022!

@isolaralliance is an action-oriented platform for increased deployment of solar energy technologies.

Learn more isolaralliance.org

Join us on 28 June bit.ly/CIS2022digital

#LCAW2022



COALITION PARTNER

Climate Investment Summit
London, UK | 28 June 2022

7:31 AM · Jun 20, 2022 · Twitter Web App

2 Retweets 10 Likes

International Solar Alliance @isolaralliance

3 days to go!
Register and join the conversation with the industry leaders on how the tech and energy industries can build a sustainable future together! ☀️
us02web.zoom.us/webinar/regist...

📅 30 June
🕒 2 pm IST



Join us for a session on exploring partnerships between the International Solar Alliance and the technology sector

TECH FOR SOLAR, SOLAR FOR TECH

30 June 2022 | 6:30 AM UTC (3:00 PM IST) | 3:30 AM PST | 6:30 PM AEST

SPEAKERS

jagjeet singh sareen and 9 others

10:13 AM · Jun 27, 2022 · Twitter Web App

2 Retweets 4 Likes

International Solar Alliance @isolaralliance

Tune in to @IGFupdates's Climate Finance & Technology Summit to hear @JagjeetSareen's views on strategizing and identifying the best funding models to encourage Green Innovation.

📅 28 June
Register bit.ly/3LStBHw
@ThomasLloyd_ , @RockefellerFdn , @KeithTuffley

India Global Forum @IGFupdates · Jun 20

.@JagjeetSareen Assistant Director-General @isolaralliance will be joining us at the Climate Finance & Technology Summit on 📅 28 June to discuss #ClimateAction

Be a part of the #UKIndiaWeek & let's Reimagine@75!
Register NOW bit.ly/3LStBHw



#UKIndiaWeek

Climate Finance & Technology Summit

28 June 2022 | Bloomberg London

Jagjeet Sareen
Assistant Director General,
International Solar Alliance

REGISTER NOW
281 views

0:03 / 0:18

9:45 AM · Jun 21, 2022 · Twitter Web App

5 Retweets 8 Likes

International Solar Alliance @isolaralliance

📅 30 June
🕒 18:30 GMT

At the #LCAW2022, the #ISA is hosting a discussion on 'Blended Finance Risk Mitigation Facility for scaling Solar in Africa' to ease investments & to enhance commercial attractiveness of #solarprojects. Click here to know more: bit.ly/39msrpO



LONDON
CLIMATE ACTION WEEK

#LCAW2022

In all of ISA's initiatives, the effort is to reduce risk whether for investors, policies, or for users. With the Blended Finance Risk Mitigation facility, our focus is to have instruments that are innovative in raising investments and mitigating risk to enable a pipeline of bankable solar projects in Africa.

DR. AJAY MATHUR
DIRECTOR GENERAL, ISA

10:00 AM · Jun 21, 2022 · Twitter Web App

4 Retweets 15 Likes

Photo Gallery



ISA hosted the Asia-Oceania Working Party (COASI) delegation at its Headquarters helping them gain insights into ISA's activities. The delegation comprised representatives from 19 European Union (EU) countries. COASI focuses on developing long-term EU strategies & policies in the Region.



Mr Mohit Jain, Programme Analyst (Solar Park/Projects), ISA presented at the International Renewable Energy Fair in Havana, Cuba



ISA hosted media delegation from Maldives as part of the familiarization programme organised by Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), GOI to help the journalists gain insights on ISA's activities



International Yoga Day 2022 celebrations at ISA Headquarters



ISA hosted Indian Foreign Service Officer Trainees (2021 batch) and Bhutanese diplomats at ISA headquarters. Officers showed keen interest in ISA's governance structure, programs and work in progress.



ADG, ISA Mr Jagjeet Sareen participated in India Global Forum's 'Climate Finance & Tech Summit' and highlighted the need for innovative financial instruments, and reducing barriers to investments, for accelerated solarisation



2nd Institutional Investors Meet was hosted on the sidelines of the Climate Investment Summit in London on 28 June. WRI, CPI, Concito, WCF, Bank of America, S&P Global participated to discuss the Roadmap to mobilise USD 1000 billion by 2030

UPCOMING EVENTS

Regional Committee, Europe | 12 July, 2022

6th Standing Committee | 21 July, 2022



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<https://twitter.com/isolaralliance>



<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCenJjENDpDfeCrORy-f6zsg>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/internationalsolaralliance/>



<https://www.instagram.com/internationalsolaralliance/?hl=en>