



भारत 2023 INDIA

**“Workshop on Solar Energy for Universal
Energy Access”**

Venue: Goa, India_

20th July 2023

Side Event for Energy Transition Working Group

Venue: Hotel Cidade de Goa, India

Supported by: - International Solar Alliance



Background Note

Workshop on Solar Energy for Universal Energy Access

MNRE in association with ISA has developed a Roadmap of Solar Energy for Universal Energy Access for consultation among the G20 Countries, invitee countries and also other ISA Member countries. It is generally seen that solar mini grids with battery storage may be one of the best options for addressing the rural energy access. ISA is also supporting the Member Countries to set up solar parks, solar water pumping system, solar cold storage etc.

With the above background, this side event will focus on various aspects of solar to accelerate universal energy access, solar applications for agriculture and food security etc.

Universal Energy Access through Solar Mini Grids: According to various reports, 91% of the world's population has access to electricity as of 2020. The remaining 9% of the global population has no access to the grid and the reliability and quality of electricity supply remains a rising concern for the rural population. Off-grid solutions like Mini Grids, have thus emerged to tackle these issues and their importance has significantly increased in the recent years. ISA is working with member countries to achieve 100% electricity access through large scale penetration of Solar Mini Grid initiatives. ISA has launched several other initiatives as well such as Solar Start-up Challenge and Solar Finance Facility to enable promoting of private investments for member countries.

Solarization of Agriculture Sector for Resilient Food Supply Chain: Globally 2.8 billion people are still looking for access to clean cooking fuels and technologies. The world falls short on its progress towards the Sustainable Development Goal 7. Household air pollution from cooking with traditional stoves and fuels is linked to nearly 4 million deaths each year since 2014. Clean cooking solution requires global attention and ISA is looking forward to addressing such problem through sustainable and viable solution by promoting solar based clean cooking system. Apart from that, Inadequate food storage facilities cause a great impact on food produced due to rodents, other pests and general deterioration before it reaches the consumer. Increased access to energy can help modernize the food chain, in particular allowing more cold storage for products and preventing waste. Better storage offers one of the quickest ways to increase food supply.

The objective of this side event is to present on the above topics by key stakeholders and hold a panel discussion among the key stakeholders like policy makers, industrial associations, research organizations, private sector etc.

**Energy Transition Working Group Side Event on
Workshop on Solar Energy for Universal Energy Access**

0930 – 1300 IST, 20th July 2023

Venue: Hotel Cidade de Goa, Goa, India

0930 – 1000 Registration

1000 – 1100 Plenary

1000 – 1005 *Lighting of the ceremonial lamp*

1005 – 1010 *Welcome Address*

Dr. Ajay Mathur, Director General, International Solar Alliance (ISA)

1010 – 1015 *Inaugural Address by*

Ms. Damilola Ogunbiyi, CEO and Special Representative of the UN Secretary- General for Sustainable Energy for All (SEforALL) and Co-Chair of UN Energy

1015 – 1020 *Special Address by*

Dr. Priyantha Wijayatunga, Senior Director, Asia Development Bank (ADB)

1020 – 1025 *Special Address by*

Mr. Puneet Kumar Goel, Chief Secretary, Government of Goa*

1025 – 1030 *Keynote Address by*

Mr. Pankaj Aggarwal, ETWG Chair & Secretary, Ministry of Power, Government of India

1030 – 1035 *Keynote Address*

Mr. Bhupinder Singh Bhalla, Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India

1035 – 1040 *Release of G20 Report on “Roadmap of Solar Energy for Universal Energy Access”*

1040 – 1100 *Solar X Startup Challenge- Winners Announcement*

1100 – 1200 Theme 1: Universal Energy Access through Solar Mini Grid

1100- 1105 *Presentation on the Mini-Grid sector status – business models, case studies, opportunities, learnings, and challenges- Mr. Remesh Kumar K, Chief of Unit, PPIC, ISA*

Panel Discussion: Universal Energy Access through Solar Mini Grid

1105-1150 *Moderator: Mr. Dilip Nigam*, Scientist G, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, India

- Mr. William Brent, Chief Marketing Officer, Husk Power
- Dr. Rohit Chandra, Managing Director & CEO, OMC Power
- Mr. Manoj Kumar Gupta, CEO, Tata Power Renewable Microgrid
- Dr. Frehiwot Woldehanna, Professor, Addis Ababa University & Hon’ National Focal Point, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
- Mr. Abubakar Ali Dapshima, Hon’ National Focal Point, The Federal Republic of Nigeria
- Dr. Rahul Walawalkar, President & Managing Director, IESA & Customized Energy Solutions (CES)

Audience interaction

1150– 1300 Theme 2: Solarisation of Agriculture Sector for Resilient Food Supply Chain

1150- 1155 *Video on ISA’s Demonstration Project- SWPS*

1155-1200 *Signing of Statement of Interest (SoI) between India Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) & ISA for scaling up adoption of solar cooking system on global platform*

1200-1205 *Presentation on Clean Cooking System- Ms. Kanika Chawla, Chief of Staff, SEforALL*

1205-1210 *Presentation on Solarisation of Agriculture Sector- Dr. Arvind Kumar, Deputy Director General, Research, International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT)*

Panel Discussion: Solarisation of Agriculture Sector for Resilient Food Supply Chain

1210 – 1255

Moderator: Dr. Paolo Frankl, Head Renewable Energy Division, International Energy Agency (IEA)

- Ms. Suman Chandra, Deputy Secretary, MNRE
- Dr. Umish Srivastava, Executive Director, IOCL
- Dr. Arvind Kumar, Deputy Director General, Research, ICRISAT
- Mr. Hari Natarajan, Programme Specialist, UNDP
- Mr. Ramesh Patidar, Director, SHAKTI PUMPS
- Dr. Rekha, Krishnan, Partner, WEFT Research and Strategic Advisor, CLEAN Energy Access Network
- Dr. Alok Sikka, Country Representative, International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

Audience interaction

1255 – 1300 Vote of thanks

- **Mr. Dinesh D Jagdale, Joint Secretary, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, India**

1300 – 1400 End of the session and lunch

* To Be Confirmed