

# UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE – UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

30 NOVEMBER – 12 DECEMBER 2023

## THE SOLAR HUB



# STAR CENTRES: CAN A ‘CAPACITY COALITION’ PROPEL SOLAR ENERGY ADVANCEMENTS GLOBALLY?

Thematic Arena 3, TA3-190, Opportunity District, Expo City, Dubai

8 DECEMBER, 2023 | 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM

<p><b>Background &amp; Rationale</b></p>	<p>The energy challenge in low- and middle-income countries is not limited to access, but also includes its quality, reliability, affordability. In last one decade, with the growth of solar energy, energy advisors from industrialized countries commonly assisted developing and underdeveloped countries on solar energy deployment. This was in many ways effective, but what commonly lacked was institutionalisation of the process of capacity building, testing, innovation, and knowledge in local institutions.</p> <p>ISA’s Solar Technology Application Resource Centres (STAR Centres) initiative intends to create centre of excellence across the member countries to institutionalise the process provide technical expertise and build the required ecosystem for accelerated deployment of solar energy. The STAR-C initiative has made remarkable progress in more than 8 countries by identifying and engaging institutions to host the STAR Centres; undertaking detailed country assessments and initiating the process to provide training resources and equipment.</p> <p>The event will initiate a dialogue to create a “capacity Coalition” for longstanding international collaboration among member countries, research institutions and centres of excellence aimed to exchange experiences of successful multi-actor partnerships and explore further options for scaling up these efforts.</p>
<p><b>Session Objectives</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Establishing a capacity coalition supported by developed countries for building capacity of ISA member countries</li> </ul>

<b>Agenda</b>	
10:30 - 10:35 AM	<p><b>Welcome Address</b></p> <p><b>Joshua Wycliffe</b>, Chief Operating Officer, International Solar Alliance (ISA)</p>
10:35 - 10:45 AM	<p><b>Keynote Address</b></p> <p><b>Stephane Cruzat</b>, Ambassador, Climate Negotiations- Government of France*</p>
10:45 - 10:55 AM	<p><b>Special Address</b></p> <p><b>Hon. Maciu Katamotu Nalumisa</b>, Minister for Housing and Local Government Government of Fiji</p>
10:55 - 11:00 AM	<p><b>Capacity Coalition Advancing STAR-C Programme- Presentation</b></p> <p><b>Saba Kalam</b>, Programme Specialist, International Solar Alliance (ISA)</p>
11:00 - 11:10 AM	<p><b>Presentation by ISA Member Countries on Capacity Needs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Seth Mahu</b>, Ministry of Energy- Ghana</li> <li>▪ <b>Dr Frehiwot Woldehanna</b>, National Focal Point, Ethiopia</li> <li>▪ <b>Abdifatah Abshir Ibrahim</b>, Head of Solar Technologies, Ministry of Energy and Water Resources, Government of Somalia.</li> </ul>
11:10 - 11:55 AM	<p><b>Panel Discussion</b></p> <p><b>Forging Partnership for International Network of Centres of Excellence</b></p> <p><b>Moderator</b></p> <p><b>Saba Kalam</b>, Programme Specialist, International Solar Alliance (ISA)</p> <p><b>Panellists</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Seth Mahu</b>, Ministry of Energy- Government of Ghana</li> <li>▪ <b>Dr Frehiwot Woldehanna</b>, National Focal Point, Government of Ethiopia</li> <li>▪ <b>Abdifatah Abshir Ibrahim</b>, Head of Solar Technologies, Ministry of Energy and Water Resources, Government of Somalia.</li> <li>▪ <b>Santiago Nocelli</b>, Energy Programme Coordinator, UNIDO</li> <li>▪ <b>Berthold Breid</b>, Director, RENAC Germany</li> </ul>
11:55 - 12:00 PM	<p><b>Interaction with the Audience &amp; Way Forward</b></p> <p>International Solar Alliance (ISA)</p>

\* To be confirmed

