

UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE – UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

30 NOVEMBER – 12 DECEMBER 2023

THE SOLAR HUB



REALITY CHECK: WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO SUCCESSFULLY SOLARISE POLICY REGULATORY PERSPECTIVES FROM THE WORLD

In Collaboration with



WORLD BANK GROUP

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

5 DECEMBER, 2023 | 12:30 PM – 14:00 PM

Background & Rationale

A key outcome of COP28 lies in identifying the outcome of the first global stocktake of the Paris Agreement, assessing the progress on achievement in collective action and undertaking a discourse on future action. As countries strive to bring NDC targets and pledges to fruition, it is imperative to recognise that interventions may only have a significant impact if they are determined or implemented through necessary policy and regulatory measures. It is essential to collectively take stock of the enablers that lie behind successful climate actions, their scaling and sustainability and the key drivers of decarbonisation globally.

Policies around solar continue to be one of the key success stories in large-scale sectoral and economy-wide decarbonisation. Solar's success as one of the fastest rising energy systems, in terms of global capacity additions is evident from the more than 10X increase from only 104 GW of solar PV in 2012 to 1,133 GW as of 2022. This upward trend has been consistent across geographies, enabled by conducive regulatory frameworks, institutional support, channelisation of scalable financing and bankable business models lucrative for all players involved. India's solar market (residential) has been projected to scale at a CAGR of more than 15% for the next five years; enabled by its policy focus on various consumer subsidies for solar residential systems¹. A blend of multiple subsidy schemes, financial incentive mechanisms and regulatory amendments had in no small measure facilitated various solar markets, including Brazil, India and Kenya.

Africa has immense potential for solar energy but only about 1% of the global solar generation capacity². Various African states have announced ambitious targets for decarbonization and clean energy transition, however, these lofty pledges and commitments are mere wishful thinking without being accompanied by targeted regulations and policies on clean energy promotion. The ISA identifies the exigency in catalyzing access to clean, solar technology as a key driver to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals related to energy access, security, and transition, through the modification of underlying frameworks. This is in recognition of the pressing need to create enabling regulatory frameworks to facilitate private sector participation and investments in the African energy market. The ISA is currently undertaking a research study to understand the policy, institutional, and regulatory barriers to adopting solar energy in Africa, and working with its members to adopt a pragmatic transitory approach consisting of carefully designed transitory measures aligned to each country's target.

¹ Indian Solar Market Outlook 2022 accessed via India Solar Energy Market Outlook 2022 - SolarQuarter

	<p>As reported in ISA's "Global Trends in Solar Power", as of 2023, about one-third of the total installed capacity in renewable energy has been in solar. This growth has come despite the supply chain disruptions impacting costs and has translated to about 60 percent of investment in renewable energy to be channelised towards solar alone, i.e., about USD 308 billion. The major drivers for the increased penetration of solar deployment included strong policy support for solar PV, which was recognized as having driven the acceleration in capacity growth.</p> <p>The World Bank's recently released report--Reality Check: Lessons from 25 Policies Advancing a Low-Carbon Future--documents low- carbon policy trends and case studies across geographies and sectors. The report analyzes policy interventions that have reduced carbon emissions while achieving economic development and accelerating the transition to a greener, more resilient, inclusive future. In its diversified approach across low, medium, and high-income countries, it assesses the success factors enabling policy implementation, including but not limited to effective instruments supported by robust regulatory and institutional support which in turn led to tangible successes not only in these countries but also across a range of sectors.</p>
Session Objectives	This session will engage with experts across the spectrum, ranging from policymakers, businesses, and international organizations to focus on successful policy and regulatory drivers towards cross-sectoral decarbonization with the aim to inspire other countries to follow suit.
Potential Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identification of key areas that regulations may need to address in driving energy transition. 2. Exemplars of financial incentives and government supportive policies adopted by countries. 3. Suggestions on scaling up solar technologies through a friendly regulatory ecosystem. 4. Solutions to potentially mitigate environmental, transmission and permitting barriers.
Agenda	
12:30 - 12:35 PM	<p>Welcome and Opening Remarks</p> <p>Desh Deepak Verma, Former Chairman, Uttar Pradesh Electricity Regulatory Commission, India.</p>
12:35 - 12:40 PM	<p>Special Address</p> <p>Stephane Hallegatte, Senior Climate Change Advisor, World Bank</p>
12:40 - 12:45 PM	<p>Special Address</p> <p>Jt. Secretary/Senior Official, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India</p>
12:45 - 13:55 PM	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>Moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Onyi Iyizoba, Legal Specialist, ISA Secretariat <p>Panellists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prof. Ignacio Perez-Arriaga, DG, African School of Regulation (ASR) ▪ Eng. Mungai Kihara, Renewable Energy Directorate, Ministry of Energy and Petroleum Kenya. ▪ Walburga Hemetsberger, CEO, Solar Power Europe ▪ Dolapo Kukoyi, Managing Partner, Detail Solicitors ▪ Bahru Oljira, Director, Electricity Sector Regulation, EPEA ▪ Vibhuti Garg, Director, South Asia, Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis. ▪ William Brent, Chief Marketing Officer, Huskpower
13:55 - 14:00 PM	<p>Concluding Remarks</p> <p>ISA Secretariat</p>

² Investing in Africa's Renewables accessed via Africa has the world's most potential for solar energy | World Economic Forum (weforum.org)