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## ISA SIDS Dialogue - Pacific

### *A Pacific Talanoa - Guided by the Ocean, Powered by the Sun*

*co-hosted by*

*The International Solar Alliance and World Bank Group*

31 May 2026

**Date:** June 02, 2026

**Venue:** Gamelan Ballroom, Sofitel Nusa Dua Beach Resort, Bali, Indonesia

**Background:**

Pacific Island Countries continue to rely significantly on imported fossil fuels, a dependence that exposes them to pronounced energy price volatility and places considerable strain on public finances. Recent assessments indicate that Pacific small island states (excluding Papua New Guinea) collectively spend in **excess of US\$1 billion annually on fossil fuel imports**, accounting for **nearly 80% of total energy expenditure** and underscoring energy as a critical economic vulnerability for the region. At the same time, electricity systems across many PICs are constrained by limited and aging infrastructure, **elevated system losses -averaging approximately 18%** - and increasing exposure to extreme weather events and climate-related disruptions. These structural challenges continue to affect the reliability, affordability, and security of energy supply, with direct implications for sustainable socio-economic development across the region.

Despite strong RE potential, private-sector participation remains constrained by regulatory uncertainty, limited institutional capacity, and small, fragmented markets. Many leading organizations like the ADB, IRENA, The Green Climate Fund etc. have all highlighted in various reports that regulatory and institutional barriers, unclear tariff structures, weak utility financials, land constraints, lack of recycling capacity etc. all hinder renewable energy progress in SIDS. Additionally, the high cost of capital, lack of local technical skills, and limited access to long-tenor financing further restrict private-sector entry into Pacific energy markets.

To address these challenges, the ISA SIDS Platform was launched by International Solar Alliance in partnership with the World Bank, designed as a transformative digital-and-financial ecosystem to accelerate the deployment of solar and solar-plus-storage solutions across Small Island Developing States (SIDS) through four strategic pillars; E-Marketplace, Enabling Readiness, Global SIDS Analytics and The ISA SIDS Dialogues. Ultimately, the ISA SIDS Platform aims to move SIDS from diagnostics to procurement to bankable implementation, lowering solar costs, crowding in private capital, strengthening resilience, and advancing a just and inclusive energy transition across island nations.

World Bank is organising its **East Asia and Pacific Energy Knowledge and Learning Forum on the Sustainable Energy Transition** from 3-5 June 2026 in Bali, Indonesia. International Solar Alliance jointly with World Bank plans to mobilize Pacific countries on the sideline of the Energy Forum on **June 2, 2026**, to advance global SIDS agenda through the SIDS Dialogue.

The **ISA SIDS Dialogue – Pacific** is envisioned by ISA in partnership with the World Bank Group as a region-focused engagement platform under **the SIDS Platform powered by ISA’s Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF)** to address the persistent gap between high-level commitments and on-the-ground implementation in Small Island Developing States.

Strategically positioned within the ISA SIDS Platform architecture, the Dialogue serves as the **operational interface** between governments and the Platform’s pillars: e-marketplace, enabling readiness, global

SIDS analytics and SIDS Dialogues for RE deployment aligned with global clean energy transition objectives. Through direct ministerial engagement, technical exchanges, and partner coordination, the Dialogue will align Pacific SIDS governments on political direction, procurement priorities, investment focus and energy transition pathways, while ensuring that country needs shape the sequencing and design of Platform interventions.

***Tentative Agenda ISA SIDS Dialogue – Pacific***

Event Date: 02 June 2026	
Time	Agenda Item
09:00 – 09:15 hours	Morning Tea/ Coffee & Registration
09:15 – 09:20 hours	Welcome Address by Mr. Ashish Khanna, Director General, International Solar Alliance
09:20 – 09:25 hours	Special Address by Ms. Sudeshna Ghosh Banerjee, Regional Director, Infrastructure, East Asia and Pacific (EAP) Region, The World Bank
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session 1: Towards Secure, Affordable, and Resilient Energy Future in the Pacific</b></p> <p><i>This session sets the framework for to discuss the challenges in the Pacific to expand affordable Solar energy and assist with experience and the lessons from Mauritius.</i></p>	
09:25 – 09:35 hours	Context Setting Video by International Solar Alliance
09:35 – 09:45 hours	Keynote Address by H.E. Patrick Gervais Assirvaden, Hon’ble Minister, Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities, Republic of Mauritius
09:45 – 10:00 hours	Presentation by Ms. Slavena Georgieva, Energy Specialist, The World Bank on the Energy Transition Roadmaps for the Pacific*
10:00 – 11:00 hours	<p><i>Ministerial Roundtable: Pathways to secure a resilient energy access</i></p> <p><b>Proposed Invitees:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H.E. Ro Filipe Tuisawau, Hon’ble Minister, Ministry for Public Works, Transport and Meteorological Services, Republic of Fiji</li> <li>• H.E. Patrick Gervais Assirvaden, Hon’ble Minister, Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities, Republic of Mauritius</li> <li>• Mr. Ronald Meketa, Managing Director, National Energy Authority, Independent State of Papua New Guinea</li> <li>• Mr. Ashish Khanna, Director General, International Solar Alliance <b>(co-moderator)</b></li> <li>• Ms. Sudeshna Ghosh Banerjee, Regional Director, Infrastructure, East Asia and Pacific (EAP) Region, The World Bank <b>(co-moderator)</b></li> </ul>

11:00 – 11:10 hours	<b>Ministerial Group Photograph</b>  Vote of Thanks
11:10 – 11:30 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tea &amp; Coffee Break</li> </ul>
<b>Session 2: Can the Pacific ever beat the cost of capital?</b> <i>(in partnership with The World Bank)</i>  <i>In this candid session, developers will lead a conversation on why high perceived risks, small markets, and unpredictable project environments keep investment out of Pacific SIDS, and what must fundamentally change for capital to finally flow into islands, giving governments, financiers and private sector insights into global project attractiveness and how the Pacific SIDS can learn from other regions.</i>	
11:30 – 11:40 hours	Context Setting on Private Sector Pipelining by Mr. Karan Mangotra, Chief of Strategy and New Initiatives, International Solar Alliance
11:40 – 11:50 hours	Presentation by Mr. Mariano Salto, Senior Energy Economist, The World Bank on Pacific Renewable Energy Risk-Mitigation and Acceleration Platform
11:50 – 12:50 hours	<p><i>Developers lay out why capital avoids Pacific SIDS today and what shift they would like to see for them to be interested</i></p> <p><b>Proposed Invitees:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Subrahmanyam Pulipaka, CEO, National Solar Energy Federation of India (virtual)</li> <li>Mr. Chintan Shah, Founder, Sustcred (virtual)</li> <li>Mr. Semisi Tawake, CFO, Energy Fiji Limited</li> <li>Mr. Ashish Khanna, Director General, International Solar Alliance <b>(co-moderator)</b></li> <li>Ms. Claudia Vasquez, Practice Manager, World Bank <b>(co-moderator)</b></li> </ul>
12:50 – 14:10 hours	<b>Lunch</b>
<b>Session 3: ISA SIDS Platform E-Marketplace: Can Islands Curate their Energy Destiny?</b> <i>(in partnership with The World Bank)</i>  <i>This session delves into the SIDS Platform e-marketplace, an emerging digital platform where island governments can list, compare and advance projects through transparent, readiness-based pipelines with access to international developers and financiers. Anchored by Mauritius' projectization demonstration and a ministerial session, the segment translates peer learning into action with the unveiling of the Phase-1 pipeline for SIDS.</i>	
14:10 – 14:20 hours	Context Setting by Mr. Karan Mangotra, Chief of Strategy and New Initiatives, International Solar Alliance
14:20 – 14:25 hours	SIDS Platform E-Marketplace Showcase and Launch of Phase 1 Pipeline
14:25 – 15:05 hours	<i>Mauritius Pipeline Highlight: Readiness demonstration &amp; project portfolio</i>

	<p>Mauritius to share lessons on projectization with Pacific SIDS through peer learning</p> <p><b>Proposed Invitees:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• H.E. Patrick Gervais Assirvaden, Minister of Energy and Public Utilities, Republic of Mauritius</li> <li>• H.E. Ro Filipe Tuisawau, Hon’ble Minister, Ministry for Public Works, Transport and Meteorological Services, Republic of Fiji</li> <li>• Mr. Ronald Meketa, Managing Director, National Energy Authority, Independent State of Papua New Guinea</li> <li>• Representative from World Bank SA team</li> <li>• Mr. Ashish Khanna, Director General, International Solar Alliance <b>(co-moderator)</b></li> <li>• Mr. Chandrasekar Govindarajalu, Practice Manager, ESMAP <b>(co-moderator)</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Tea and Coffee Break (15 mins)</b></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Session 4: Blueprints for Paradise: When Architecture &amp; Tourism Meet the Sun</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>This session explores how Pacific resorts and tourism spaces can move from simple solar module add-ons to design-integrated, aesthetically coherent energy solutions. Featuring community stories and voices from hospitality, architecture and solar innovators, it showcases how beauty, resilience and clean energy can coexist, culminating in the launch of the SIDS RE embedded Architecture Challenge.</i></p>	
<p>15:05 – 15:10 hours</p>	<p>Context Setting by Mr. Manjeet Singh, Senior Specialist Energy, International Solar Alliance</p>
<p>15:10- 15:25 hours</p>	<p>Special Address by Ms. Rembulan Kania Maniasa, Executive Director, Green School Foundation, Bali, Indonesia</p>
<p>15:25 hours</p>	<p>Video Message by Mr. Sanjay Seth, Senior Director, Sustainable Infrastructure Programme, The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), VP &amp; CEO of GRIHA Council</p>
<p>15:25 – 15:35 hours</p>	<p>Announcement of <i>Designing Resilience – SIDS RE Embedded Architectural Challenge</i> by Ms. Shaily Mahera, Programme Manager, GRIHA Council</p>
<p>15:35 – 16:25 hours</p>	<p><b>“Inspiration Shots”</b> Stories and realities of solar in tourism architecture:</p> <p><b>Proposed Invitees:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Ronald Meketa, Managing Director, National Energy Authority, Independent State of Papua New Guinea</li> <li>• Mr. Taiti Vatuvei, Principal Engineer Electrical, Ministry of Public Works, Meteorological Services and Transport, Republic of Fiji</li> <li>• Mr. Glen Vavaitamana, Fiji Hoteliers and Tourism Association (virtual)</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Roneel Chand, Representative, Tanoa Group of Hotels (virtual)</li> <li>• Mr Mariano Salto, East Asia and Pacific (EAP) Region, The World Bank</li> <li>• Mr. Ankit Bhalla, Programme Manager, GRIHA Council (<b>moderator</b>)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Fireside Chat Segment: The SIDS Solar Frontier</b></p> <p><i>This fireside chat will explore whether Pacific islands are on the brink of a historic shift away from diesel-driven dependence toward resilient, solar-powered systems. They will unpack what it truly takes politically, financially, and technologically for small islands to lead the world in ending the diesel era and building the first fully solar-centred energy economies.</i></p>	
16:25 – 17:00 hours	<p><b>Fireside chat participants:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Mohammed Farhan Dawoo, Assistant Secretary, Ministry of Energy and Public Utilities, Republic of Mauritius</li> <li>• Mr. Joji Wata, Senior Scientific Officer, Ministry of Public Works, Meteorological Services and Transport, Fiji</li> <li>• Mr. Ashish Khanna, Director General, International Solar Alliance (<b>co-moderator</b>)</li> <li>• Ms. Claudia Vasquez, Practice Manager, World Bank (<b>co-moderator</b>)</li> </ul>
17:00 – 17:10 hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary of Day and Closing Remarks by Mr. Ashish Khanna, Director General, International Solar Alliance, and Ms. Sudeshna Ghosh Banerjee, Regional Director, Infrastructure, East Asia and Pacific (EAP) Region, The World Bank</li> </ul>
17:10 – 18:30 hours	Bilateral Meetings and Communications Segment
18:30 – 19:00 hours	Podcast segment with Mr. Ashish Khanna, Director General, International Solar Alliance
19:00 hours onwards	Dinner

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