

“Lighting the Way: SIDS Ambition to Action”

SIDS Platform Session

at the ISA Pavilion – The Solar Hub, COP 30, Belém, Brazil

Proposed Date: 18th November 2025, 14:30 – 16:00 hours

Duration: 90 minutes

Small Island Developing States (SIDS) represent some of the world’s most climate-vulnerable nations, facing rising sea levels, frequent extreme weather events, and heavy dependence on imported fossil fuels for electricity generation. Despite contributing minimally to global greenhouse gas emissions, SIDS shoulder a disproportionate share of climate impacts. Their reliance on diesel-based generation systems exposes them to volatile fuel prices, supply disruptions, and high carbon intensity, which in turn limits economic resilience and energy security.

Recognizing these unique challenges, the International Solar Alliance (ISA), in collaboration with the World Bank Group, launched the SIDS Platform Initiative - a dedicated effort to accelerate solar deployment and energy access across island nations. Through this initiative, dialogues have been initiated **with 18 island countries across the Asia-Pacific, Africa, and Latin America & the Caribbean**, aimed at co-developing tailored solar solutions that address critical barriers such as financing gaps, private sector engagement, technology adoption, and institutional capacity strengthening.

As the world advances toward COP 30 and beyond, the ISA Pavilion offers an ideal stage to showcase how the SIDS Platform is transforming commitments into tangible results. The Pavilion session will focus on operationalizing the SIDS Platform, highlighting pathways for readiness assessment, project pipeline development, standard procurement mechanisms, and innovative financing structures. By convening ministers, development institutions, and private sector leaders under one roof, ISA aims to drive concrete next steps for scaling solar solutions, ensuring that the energy transition in SIDS is both inclusive and sustainable.

Tentative Schedule of the SIDS Platform Session at the ISA Pavilion, COP 30, Belém, Brazil

Time	SIDS Platform Opening Session
14:30 – 14:40	Context Setting Presentation on the SIDS Platform by Mr. Karan Mangotra, Partnership & Strategy Specialist, International Solar Alliance
14:40 – 14:50	Inaugural Address by Mr. Ashish Khanna, Director General, International Solar Alliance
Moderated Panel Discussion: “Lighting the Way: SIDS Ambition to Action”	
14:50 – 15:50	Panellists: • H.E. Dr. Kennedy Swaratsingh, Minister of Planning, Economic Affairs and Development, Trinidad and Tobago* • Mr. Ali Shareef, Special Envoy for Climate Change, The President’s Office, Republic of Maldives • Mr. Wills Agricole, Technical Advisor to the Minister, Climate Change and Energy, Republic of Seychelles

	• Mr. Edgar Hunter, Senior Technical Advisor, Ministry of Environment, Rural Modernisation, Kalinago Upliftment and Constituency Empowerment, Commonwealth of Dominica* • Ms. Pamela Abreu, Head of Mitigation Department, National Council on Climate Change and Clean Development Mechanism, Dominican Republic • Mr. Amit Prothi, Director General, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure • Mr. Suresh Yadav, Senior Director of the Trade, Ocean and Natural Resources Directorate, Commonwealth Secretariat • Mr. Ashish Khanna, Director General, International Solar Alliance (moderator)
15:50 – 16:00	Vote of Thanks