

“From Blueprint to Impact: The SIDS Platform in Action”

SIDS Platform Session

at the ISA Assembly, New Delhi, India

Date and Time: 29th October 2025, 14:00 – 15:15 hours

Venue: Multi-Purpose Hall, Level 3, Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, India

Duration: 75 minutes

Small Island Developing States (SIDS) face unique energy and climate challenges, including high dependency on imported fossil fuels, vulnerability to extreme weather events, and limited access to finance and technology. Although SIDS contribute minimally to global greenhouse gas emissions, they bear a disproportionate share of climate impacts, with heavy reliance on imported diesel for electricity exposing them to volatile fuel prices, supply chain vulnerabilities, and carbon-intensive energy pathways. Accelerating the adoption of renewable energy, particularly solar, is critical for enhancing energy security, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and fostering resilient and sustainable development in these nations.

Recognizing these imperatives, the SIDS Platform by the International Solar Alliance and The World Bank Group aims to provide a coordinated, action-oriented mechanism to facilitate project aggregation, mobilize finance, strengthen governance, and enable private sector participation across member countries. To this end, dialogue with **16 island nations across Asia-Pacific, Africa, and Latin America & the Caribbean** to design and implement tailored solar solutions have been initiated.

The SIDS Platform Session at the Assembly will focus on advancing the **institutional arrangements and implementation roadmap** for operationalizing the Platform. The Session will also outline the proposed **governance structure**, roles of participating member countries, and mechanisms for coordination among development partners and financiers. It will also review the **implementation plan**, including country readiness assessments, standard procurement frameworks, and the phased approach for project deployment.

Hosting the SIDS Platform at the ISA Assembly underscores the Platform’s global significance and aligns it with ISA’s mandate to promote solar adoption across its 124 member countries. The Assembly provides a high-level, multi-stakeholder forum where Heads of State, ministers, financiers, and private sector leaders converge, and this dialogue will aim to align member states and partners around a shared vision for translating the SIDS Platform from concept to action, ensuring that island nations can collectively accelerate solar adoption and strengthen energy security through structured, scalable, and transparent institutional mechanisms.

Tentative Schedule of the SIDS Platform Ministerial Session at ISA Assembly, New Delhi, India

Session Particulars: “From Blueprint to Impact: The SIDS Platform in Action”	
Opening	
14:00 – 14:05	Welcome Remarks and Context Setting Presentation by ISA
14:05 – 14:10	Inaugural Address by Mr. Ashish Khanna, Director General, ISA
14:10 – 14:15	Special Address by Mr. Chandrasekhar Govindarajalu, Practice Manager, ESMAP

14:15 – 14:20	Keynote Address by H.E. Kumara Jayakody, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Energy, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka
Ministerial Session 1: “Leading Islands, Powering the Future - Solar Transition for SIDS”	
14:20 – 14:40	Panellists: - H.E. Konris Maynard, Hon'ble Minister of Public Infrastructure, Energy and Utilities, Domestic Transport, Information, Communication and Technology and Posts, Saint Kitts and Nevis - H.E. Jagannath Sami, High Commissioner of Fiji to the Republic of India - H.E. Vince Henderson, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Business, Trade and Energy, Commonwealth of Dominica - Mr. Ashish Khanna, Director General, International Solar Alliance - Ms. Jayashree Nandi, Environmental Editor, Hindustan Times (moderator)
Ministerial Session 2: “Turning Commitments into Projects: From Planning to Procurement”	
14:40 – 14:45	Presentation on the World Bank Global SIDS Initiative by Mr. Amit Jain, Senior Energy Specialist, The World Bank
14:45 – 15:05	Panellists: - H.E. Derick Rawcliff Manu'ari, Hon'ble Minister for Mines, Energy and Rural Electrification, Solomon Islands - H.E Melford Nicholas, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Information Communications & Technologies (ICT's), Utilities and Energies, Antigua and Barbuda - H.E. Hussain Ageel Naseer, Hon'ble Deputy Minister, Ministry of Tourism and Environment, Republic of Maldives - H.E. Tony Imaduwa, Principal Secretary, Climate Change and Energy Department, Republic of Seychelles - Mr. Amit Prothi, Director General, Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure - Mr. Chandrasekhar Govindarajalu, Practice Manager, ESMAP - Mr. Amit Jain, Senior Energy Specialist, The World Bank (moderator)
15:05 – 15:15	Signing of the Global SIDS Initiative Declaration
Vote of Thanks	