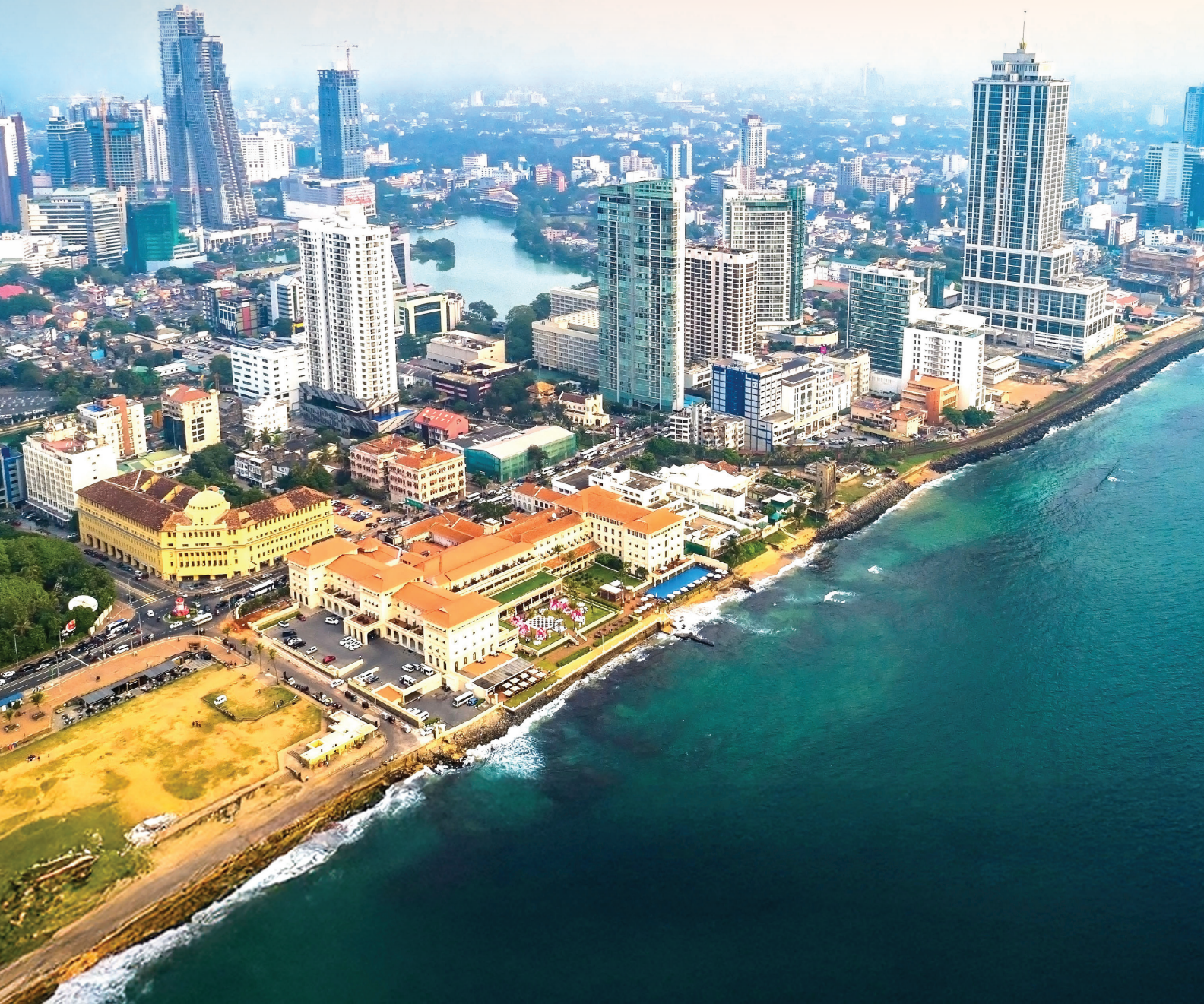
INTERNATIONAL SOLAR ALLIANCE

SEVENTH MEETING OF THE ISA REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION

Advancing Solar Cooperation Across a Region of Diversity and Opportunity

15 - 17 JULY 2025



SEVENTH MEETING OF THE ISA REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC REGION

Colombo, Sri Lanka

Agenda

Day 0: Tuesday, 15 July 2025

Bilateral meetings with Director General, ISA
13:00 hours onwards

Reception Dinner
18:00 hours onwards

Day 1: Wednesday, 16 July 2025

Opening Ceremony
08:30 - 09:30 hours

Plenary Session
09:30 - 13:00 hours

Coffee Break
10:00 - 10:30 hours

Sustainable Islands through Digital Solutions: Amplifying energy transition in small islands powered by digital transformation
10:45 - 12:15 hours

Press Meet
13:00 - 13:30 hours

Lunch
13:30 - 14:30 hours

Links without Limits: Regional Interconnections for Cross-Border Renewable Energy Trade and Energy Security
14:30 - 16:00 hours

Swimming with Sharks: Pitch Session for the APAC Edition of SolarX Startup Challenge
15:00 - 17:00 hours

Roundtable discussion on areas of cooperation under the Sri Lanka CPS (by invite only)
16:00 – 17:00 hours

Networking Dinner
18:00 - 21:00 hours

Day 2: Thursday, 17 July 2025

Operationalising the ISA SIDS Platform for helping Countries navigate solar technology landscape
08:30 - 10:00 hours

Coffee Break
10:00 - 10:30 hours

Partnering for Progress: Integrated Institutional Strengthening in Action
10:30 - 12:00 hours

Coffee Break
12:00 - 12:30 hours

Technology-Driven Pathways for Scaling Solar in the Evolving Energy Mix
12:30 - 14:00 hours

Lunch
14:00 – 15:00 hours

Site Visit
15:00 hour onwards

Strategic Objectives

The Asia and the Pacific (APAC) region encompasses some of the world's most dynamic and diverse economies - from Small Island Developing States (SIDS) to emerging powers and advanced industrial nations. Given its rapidly growing energy demand and high exposure to climate risks, the region presents a unique opportunity to **accelerate solar deployment, guided by inclusive regional cooperation, institutional partnerships, and high-level political will.**

The upcoming Regional Committee Meeting (RCM) of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) in Colombo, Sri Lanka, is an important platform to align regional solar priorities with ISA's evolving strategic vision, rooted in its four foundational pillars: **catalytic finance; integrated institutional strengthening; technology roadmap and policy innovation; and digitalisation and artificial intelligence.** The RCM will serve as a confluence of strategic dialogue, knowledge exchange, and action-oriented outcomes to strengthen the APAC region's leadership in the global solar transition.

The APAC region has numerous Small Island Developing States (SIDS) many of which grapple **with high electricity costs - often exceeding USD 0.30 to 0.50 per kWh** and spend up to **15 to 30 percent of their GDP on fossil fuel imports.** Despite abundant solar resources, deployment remains limited due to small markets, high transaction costs, and limited private sector engagement. **The ISA SIDS Platform intends to address these challenges** by aggregating solar demand, standardizing procurement, and enhancing transparency through digital solutions. **A dedicated 3-hour session at this RCM will deliberate on the operationalisation of ISA's SIDS Solar Platform as a regional e-marketplace for solar energy solutions, to agree on its institutional architecture, ownership models, and alignment with regional requirements in light of successful case studies from the region.**

Institutional capacity remains one of the most critical enablers for accelerating solar deployment globally. According to IRENA, the world must **increase renewable energy capacity threefold—**from approximately 3,400 GW today to over 11,000 GW by 2050—to stay on a 1.5°C pathway. Solar PV will account for nearly half of this growth. However, more than 70% of the technical and institutional capacity-building needs are concentrated in developing and emerging economies, where skill shortages, policy uncertainty, and weak institutional frameworks persist. The integrated ecosystem consisting of the **Solar Technology Application Resource Centres (STAR-C)** and the proposed **Global Capability Centre (GCC)** aim to close these gaps through structured partnerships focused on technical training, innovation, and institutional strengthening. **At the RCM, ISA plans to focus on lessons learned from operational STAR-Centres in Bhutan, Papua New Guinea, and Kiribati, while also exploring ISA's forward-looking institutional plans involving the GCC and digital learning platforms, and showcasing international case studies and academic collaborations.**

The APAC region is rapidly advancing in green hydrogen and energy storage. In 2023, the **APAC green hydrogen market was valued at USD 1.02 billion and is projected to grow at a CAGR of 45.4% through 2030,** driven by sectors like transportation and power generation. Simultaneously, the **stationary battery storage market reached USD 48.2 billion in 2024, with an expected CAGR of 30% through 2034,** highlighting the region's commitment to renewable energy integration. ISA's programmes on E-Mobility and Storage and Solar for Green Hydrogen have been exploring opportunities for the growth of these technologies, while also advocating for at-scale implementation in ISA Member Countries. **A thematic session on these subjects at the RCM will delve into present frameworks for energy storage**

prioritization in Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), showcase regional use-cases, and discuss technical and regulatory pathways to embed these solutions into energy planning.

The diverse geography of the APAC region also brings to the fore the **critical role of regional interconnections in accelerating solar energy deployment –** bringing surplus energy generation from the hinterlands of resource-rich countries to regions with limited land or solar energy resources. On the aspect of economies of scale and price convergence achieved through cross-border grid interconnections, IEA estimates that **cross-border trade of electricity in Europe has delivered EUR 34 billion of welfare benefits** in 2021 compared to if national markets were isolated. Regional interconnections could also help alleviate the need for energy storage solutions, particularly those needed for long durations. **The high-level panel discussion during the plenary session of the RCM will bring together experts on regional interconnections in the APAC region, focusing particularly on institutional and operational frameworks for cross-border links, and financing vehicles that could be put in place to mobilise investments for such landmark projects.**

As a region of vast solar potential, institutional diversity, and rising energy demand, the Asia and the Pacific region holds the key to accelerating the global energy transition. This RCM in Colombo is expected to solidify strategic partnerships, foster a shared regional vision, and translate ISA's pillars into action through initiatives on digital infrastructure, integrated institutional strengthening, emerging and growing technologies, grid interconnections, and empowered collaborations.

The deliberations and partnerships forged in Colombo will directly support the implementation of ISA's strategic vision and inform its programme planning, delivery mechanisms, and financing instruments for the region. This meeting is poised to be a transformative moment in building collective action across Asia and the Pacific for a solar-powered future.

CONTACT US
International Solar Alliance, Surya Bhawan,
National Institute of Solar Energy Campus Gwal Pahari,
Faridabad-Gurugram Road, Gurugram,
Haryana – 122003, India
Email: info@isa.int | Website: www.isa.int

For more information scan here