



SEVENTH MEETING OF THE ISA REGIONAL COMMITTEE FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN REGION

Harnessing Solar Power for Resilience, Growth, and Unity in the Region

04 - 06 AUGUST 2025

Santiago, Chile



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Agenda

Day 0: Monday, 04 August 2025

Bilateral meetings with Director General, ISA

13:00 hours onwards



Reception Dinner

18:00 hours onwards



Day 1: Tuesday, 05 August 2025

Opening Ceremony

08:30 - 09:00
hours



Plenary Session 09:00 - 13:30 hours



Inputs on ISA's Regional Strategy for Latin America and Caribbean Region

09:50 - 10:05 hours



Keynote address by COP30 Presidency

11:45 - 11:55 hours



Sustainable Islands through Digital Solutions: Ministerial Session on amplifying energy transition in small islands powered by digital transformation

10:05 - 11:45 hours



CEO Caucus: Enabling private sector to harness AI and Digitalisation in the region's energy sector

11:55 - 13:00 hours



Press Meet

13:30 - 14:00 hours



Lunch

14:00 - 15:00 hours



Fireside chat of DG ISA with H.E. Mrs. Kerryne Zennelle James and H.E. Diego Pardow Lorenzo* on SIDS Platform

15:00 - 15:15 hours



Networking Dinner

18:00 - 21:00 hours



Day 2: Wednesday, 06 August 2025

Embedding Solar in the Energy Transition: Leveraging Emerging Technologies and Critical Minerals for a Resilient Future

09:30 - 11:00 hours



Coffee Break

11:00 - 11:30 hours



Activating Youth Entrepreneurship: Skilling in the Digital Era, Start-ups & Success

11:30 - 13:00 hours



Lunch

13:00 - 14:00 hours



Site Visit

14:00 hour onwards



* Attendance to be confirmed

Strategic Objectives

The Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region is well-positioned to grow and establish itself in the forefront of the global solar energy arena with its abundant solar irradiation, an evolving policy ecosystem, and an increasingly dynamic private sector. The upcoming Regional Committee Meeting (RCM) of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) in the region provides a timely opportunity to elevate the power of **solar energy as a strategic lever for economic resilience, energy security, and regional cooperation.**

With an expanded membership base comprising 124* Member and Signatory countries and a doubling of active engagements since 2022, ISA's evolving strategy now pivots around four foundational pillars—**catalytic finance, integrated institutional strengthening, technology roadmap and policy innovation, and digitalisation and artificial intelligence.**

The RCM will build on these pillars through a series of side events, technical sessions, and high-level dialogues, with the aim of translating strategy into actionable outcomes.

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** to remain aligned with a 1.5°C pathway. Solar PV is expected to contribute nearly half of this growth. The integrated ecosystem consisting of the **Solar Technology Application Resource Centres (STAR-C)** and the proposed **Global Capability Centre (GCC)** initiatives of ISA aims to bridge the gaps in skill levels, policy uncertainty, and weak institutional frameworks through structured partnerships and fuel the projected growth in solar PV capacity. Another initiative of ISA – the **Solar X Start-up Challenge** intends to complement these efforts by engaging young entrepreneurs to foster innovation in solar energy technologies that address region-specific challenges. **At the upcoming RCM, ISA plans to bring together its offerings**

and initiatives aimed at imparting skills, empowering innovation at the grassroots level and exploring synergies that could activate youth entrepreneurship thereby strengthening the region's solar energy ecosystem.

The LAC region possesses a substantial endowment of critical minerals and rare earth elements, which are essential for clean energy technologies. The “Lithium Triangle” - comprising **Chile, Argentina, and Bolivia** - holds nearly **60% of the world's lithium reserves**, while **exploration and potential processing of rare earth elements is gaining prominence in Brazil and Peru.** These minerals form a key piece of the jigsaw puzzle that is global energy transition, particularly in the energy storage. The region is also a hotbed for innovations in green hydrogen space, which holds significance as a future energy carrier and export commodity. Countries in the region are prime candidates for development of green hydrogen value chain, leveraging their strong renewable energy base, and access to water navigation and port infrastructure. **A thematic session at the RCM will explore, through dialogue, sharing of best practices, and strengthening collaborations, ways in which Green Hydrogen, energy storage, and critical minerals can catalyse solar deployment and accelerate the energy transition.**

According to an estimate by UNDP, Small Island Developing States (SIDS) rely heavily on **imported fossil fuels which accounts for around 7.5-12 percent of their GDP**, contributing to their vulnerability to fuel price fluctuations and foreign exchange risks. This also places a significant strain on public finances through fossil fuel subsidies. Remote islands in many SIDS still face intermittent supply and limited energy resilience, especially during extreme weather events. 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. **Through multiple sessions at this RCM, ISA will lead discussions 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.**

Digital technologies are key to building smarter, more efficient, and sustainable energy systems, with the **potential to save USD 80 billion annually by 2040** as estimated by IEA. Countries like Brazil and Chile are making significant progress in grid digitization and smart metering which can help facilitate easier integration of distributed solar energy systems. On the other hand, many Small Island Developing States (SIDS) still face a persistent digital divide—lacking access to smart infrastructure, real-time data systems, and advanced energy planning tools. The **Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) of ISA** intends to de-risk solar investments, unlock blended finance and technical assistance. **A high-level panel discussion during the RCM plenary session will engage Member Countries from the region and Partner Organisations of ISA to explore the significance of the MDTF for the region.**

The thematic sessions being held as part of the RCM also intend to touch upon other critical issues such as the role of private sector

in achieving global clean energy transition, especially in scaling solar to meet net-zero targets. **Through this RCM, ISA would like to engage the regional private sector to explore business opportunities in emerging economies in other parts of the world through ISA initiatives and programmes.**

Another important issue is the potential presented by hydro power reservoirs for siting of floating solar energy projects, and their hybridization to enhance renewable energy generation and optimize resource use.

A critical discussions on hybridization of hydro power with solar will focus on sharing best practices, identifying policy and technical challenges, and exploring solutions and opportunities for regional collaboration.

The RCM does not simply offer an opportunity to co-design ISA's engagement in the region, but also acts as a call to collective action. By aligning national interests with ISA's global pillars and leveraging strategic partnerships, digital tools, and catalytic capital, the RCM seeks to deliver tangible outcomes. These include new financing pathways, regional capacity-building platforms, digitisation, and policy frameworks that can unlock the full potential of solar energy in the Latin America and Caribbean region. The outcomes of this pivotal meeting will serve as a blueprint for regional transformation, reaffirming ISA's role as an alliance of choice for delivering scalable, sustainable solar energy solutions.



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For more information
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