



JOIN THE CENTURY OF SOLAR

A Year of Virtual Celebration

SWC50 - The Century of Solar Virtual Conference

Newsletter – April 2020

The International Solar Energy Society (ISES) is organising **SWC50 – The Century of Solar, a celebration of 50 years of ISES Solar World Congresses**. The celebration includes a virtual conference early December 2020 with follow-up webinars during 2021, where we briefly look back over the 50 years since the first Solar World Congress (SWC) and then focus on how we can and must transition to 100% Renewable Energy. There will also be celebrations at a number of face to face conferences through 2021 finishing with the ISES Solar World Congress in 2021.

The celebration also includes a permanent online display area and the release of the celebratory booklet: *The Century of Solar – Stories from the Past and Visions for the Future of Renewable Energy*. The virtual display area and booklet will allow researchers, research institutes, and companies to tell their solar story while the booklet will also celebrate individuals who have paved the way toward achieving solar technology breakthroughs and developed the industry.

SWC50 will be launched during the Asia Pacific Solar Research Conference (APSRC20) which will be held in Melbourne from 30th November to 2nd December.

SWC50 – The Call for Renewable Energy Pioneers

This newsletter launches the call for individuals to either self-nominate or to nominate others as Renewable Energy Pioneers.

Without the efforts of individual researchers, system designers, system installers, business leaders, policy makers and those within the donor community, the renewable energy industry would not have grown from watts to Gigawatts in the last 50 years. Thus, ISES is issuing a call for developing a compilation of Renewable Energy Pioneers to be listed in the celebratory booklet. This will be ISES' way of acknowledging the many people who have made this industry what it is today. ISES is calling for submissions of the names of individuals covering the following two categories:

1. Research Pioneers: Individuals who started their research in 1995 or earlier.
2. Industry Pioneers: Individuals who actively started working in or with the industry in 1995 or earlier.

What is SWC50 – The Century of Solar?

In 1970 solar research pioneers met at the first International Solar Energy Society (ISES) Conference in Melbourne Australia. ISES is commemorating this Conference with a special 50th Anniversary Virtual Conference, called the Solar World Congress at 50 (SWC50).

During these past 50 years solar energy has grown from being emerging technologies to a vibrant industry. The Century of Solar highlights the transformation in the global energy sector that has taken place since the first Solar World Congress in 1970 and looks forward to the next 50 years when solar energy will be a major cornerstone of the global energy system. While the focus is on the evolution of solar energy, the importance of other renewable energy sources working together to reach the 100% renewable energy world goal will be a central theme.

SWC50 - The Century of Solar is about the people: researchers, industry players, policy makers, and leaders of NGOs and Non-profit organizations who have all contributed to make solar energy the fastest growing contributor to new electricity capacity.

SWC50 Programme: The SWC50 virtual conference will be held on 3rd and 4th December 2020, with two follow up webinars in 2021 and a final session at the 2021 Solar World Congress.

Why 1995 as a cut-off date?

We have arbitrarily chosen 1995 since this was 25 years after the first Congress and 25 years before SWC50. Much of the renewable energy industry growth has occurred since 1995. The number of people working in the industry has grown significantly on the last 25 years and those working in the industry or undertaking research prior to 1995 were the pioneers of this industry. ISES appreciates that there have been other significant individuals who have contributed greatly to the growth of this industry since 1995, their contribution will be acknowledged in the booklet.

How will the names be obtained?

Names and information can only be submitted online (<https://www.gses.com.au/swc50pioneers/>) in the relevant form. Individuals can submit on behalf of themselves or in behalf of someone else, particular those who might have passed away.

How will they be recognised?

All of the pioneers and researchers submitted will have their name, relevant information, photo and description in the booklet: *The Century of Solar- Stories and Visions for the Future of Renewable Energy*. Future monthly newsletters will feature short articles on the very early pioneers—those before 1980.

Partners and Supporters

Though SWC50 is being organised by ISES, the successful celebration on what has been achieved and what is required cannot be achieved by ISES alone. In January 2020, ISES began connecting with institute and corporate partners and supporters such as industry associations, media organisations and other relevant groups to join the SWC50.

SWC50 offers a great opportunity to your company, institution, association or organization to highlight your role in the success story that is the development of solar technologies

We offer three levels for partners to participate in the SWC50: Platinum, Gold and Silver. The new SWC50 partner prospectus will be available in coming weeks. Partners will tell their story in the SWC50 – The Century of Solar Display and in the Celebratory Booklet: *The Century of Solar - Stories from the Past and Visions for the Future of Renewable Energy*.

Current Partners of SWC50 include:

Platinum Partner: Global Sustainable Energy Solutions (Australia)

Current Supporters of SWC50 include:

- American Solar Energy Society (ASES)
- Australian PV Institute (APVI)
- Global Solar Council (GSC)
- Pacific Power Association (PPA)
- Smart Energy Council (SEC) (Australia)
- Solar Energy Association Papua New Guinea (SEAP)
- Solar Energy Industries Association SEIA (Australia)
- Solar Energy Industries Association SEIA (USA)
- Sustainable Energy Association of Singapore (SEAS)
- Sustainable Energy Industries Association of Pacific Islands (SEIAPI)
- Sustainable Energy Association of New Zealand (SEANZ)
- Uganda Solar Energy Association (USEA)
- World Wind Energy Association (WWEA)
- Renew (Australian Magazine and Not for Profit Organisation)
- Ecogeneration (Australian Magazine)
- Energies Journal (International Journal)
- World Sustainability Forum 2020 (WSF2020)

Please contact our team swc50@ises.org if you want to join SWC50 as a supporter or partner.

Join us in celebrating SWC50!

ISES and the global solar community are not only looking back on the past transformative years of solar development, but also are looking ahead to solar's bright future, and we are inviting you to become a part of it! More information on the event program and our invited speakers will be available soon on the event homepage.

