



JOIN THE CENTURY OF SOLAR

A Year of Virtual Celebration

SWC50 - The Century of Solar Virtual Conference

Newsletter – March 2020

ISES ANNOUNCES THE REVISED CELEBRATORY EVENT SWC50-The Century of Solar Progress from the past 50 years and to accelerate the transformation to 100% renewable energy within the next 50 years

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). Initially SWC50 was to be held in Melbourne Australia from 2-4 December 2020; however due to the uncertainty of the possible travel restrictions for potential international participants due to the Coronavirus, ISES has cancelled the face to face international conference. The face to face conference will be replaced by a series of virtual conferences which will include the same panel sessions that are being planned for this conference. This alternative format also has the added benefits of reducing this event's carbon footprint, increasing opportunities for participation, and providing additional visibility for our celebration partners and sponsors. The SWC50 highlights the transformation in the global energy sector that has taken place since the first ISES Solar World Congress in 1970 and looks forward to the next 50 years when renewable energy will be the major cornerstone of the global energy system. The Conference will be about the people: researchers, industry players, policy makers, and leaders from NGOs and non-profits who have all contributed to make solar energy the fastest growing contributor to our global energy supply.

The SWC50 will include:

- A series of eight 90 -minute virtual conferences in December 2020, with invited speakers and panelists who will:
 - o Look back over the past 50 years of solar energy development – technical and policy;
 - o Show the link between the scientists/research and industry; and
 - o Based on this progress and experience, look forward to what is required within the next 50 years to move towards a global 100% Renewable Energy (RE) target.

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.

- An online display focusing on the stories of solar from the past 50+ years and visions for the next 50 years through the eyes of:
 - o Institutions (research laboratories and universities);
 - o NGOs and Non-profit organizations;
 - o Industry; and
 - o Governments
- Monthly newsletters during 2020 and 2021
- Individuals being recognised in the online display through the Renewable Energy Pioneers display; and
- Development of a Commemorative Booklet called *The Century of Solar- Stories and Visions for the Future of Renewable Energy*.
- A solar time-line display which will be launched at the 2020 Asia Pacific Solar Research Conference (APSRC20) (Nov 30th-Dec 2nd 2020) in Melbourne and will be available to be displayed at future ISES and ISES partner events. (Note: At this stage, the Australia PV Institute (APVI) still plans to hold the regional conference the same week in Melbourne)
- A historical display at APSRC20.
- A 50-year celebratory dinner at APSRC20

Institutes, Governments and Industry will be invited to be partners where they can provide their story to the online display and booklet. Individuals will be invited to nominate themselves or others as “renewable energy pioneers”. To celebrate the fact that the first SWC was held in Melbourne, the SWC50 will have a session and celebratory dinner during APSRC20. A historic timeline will be displayed at SWC50 and Platinum, Gold and Silver partners will be listed on banners at the APSRC20.

Further Information can be obtained from the website: www.SWC50.org If you want to be added to the SWC50 mailing list, please send your contact details to public.relations@ises.org