

Experts Meeting and Workshop on Harmonised Technical Guidelines for PV Systems in the Pacific Islands

Dates: 12 to 14 November 2012

Venue: Dr Moulton Hall
FWC Compound
Kolofo'ou
Nuku'alofa

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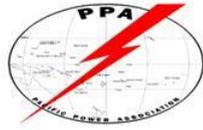
During the workshop on “Accelerated Renewable Energy Deployment on Islands with Emphasis on the Pacific Islands”, organised by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) in collaboration with the Government of Australia and the World Bank, in October 2011 in Sydney, the need in the Pacific Islands to harmonise standards was raised and incorporated in the resulting work plan for IRENA in the Pacific. The relevance of this issue in the Pacific Islands is particularly related to the standards for installation and grid interconnection of renewable energy equipment, particularly for PV systems. In this context, harmonisation in standards is of key importance as it facilitates market access and reduces transaction costs. Harmonising standards across different countries requires significant efforts and long time-frames due to the whole process required to revise or develop new standards at international level. One alternative approach to overcome the technical barriers due to non-harmonised standards at regional level is the development and use of technical guidelines that incorporate the main elements from international standards while harmonising technical requirements for the region.

In this context, IRENA in collaboration with Sustainable Energy Industry Association of the Pacific Islands (SEIAPI) and the Pacific Power Association (PPA), will jointly organise an expert meeting and workshop in order to introduce two Technology Guidelines for Solar Photovoltaic Systems in the Pacific region. It is the first in the set of the planned Renewables Technology Guidelines and one which would result in a high impact for the benefit of the energy industry of the Pacific Island States. A task force consisting of IRENA, SEIAPI and PPA officials has been established, with the aim to disseminate and support the implementation of these sound technical guidelines, based on international standards, for grid connected PV systems. This effort is implemented via experts meetings in Pacific Island Countries between the three mentioned organisation and the relevant actors in the country.

The three days meeting and workshop will bring together key players in the energy industry and governments to present and assure in-depth understanding of the guidelines, as well as to define a plan for the implementation of the guidelines in accordance with the country's needs. The meeting will also provide the opportunity for a dialogue on other technology aspects that might be of relevance to the country to accelerate the deployment of renewable energy technologies.

The specific objectives of the meeting are:

- Provide stakeholders with an in-depth understanding of the guidelines, how to use them and the on-going work to develop further guidelines
- Present to the relevant government institutions the benefits of endorsing the guidelines in the relevant national regulations



- Define an implementation plan for the guidelines in accordance with the national circumstances
- Obtain feedback from stakeholders on additional technical needs and challenges, including standardisation, that are to be addressed to ensure a sustainable and accelerated deployment of renewables in the country.



EXPERTS MEETING AGENDA (tentative)

Harmonised Technical Guidelines for PV Systems in Pacific Islands

Day 1

Time	Session	Presenter
09.00-09.30	Registration	
09.30-9.45	Introduction	
	Welcome	Mr. 'Asipeli Palaki, Secretary for Lands, Natural Resources and Environment (MLNRE)
	Introduction to meeting	Ms. 'Apisake Soakai - IRENA
	Importance and benefits of adopting harmonised technical guidelines in the region for PV systems	Mr. Peter Konings – SEIAPI
	Elements to be considered in an implementation plan for PV technical guidelines by Utilities	Mr. Andrew Daka – PPA
9.45 – 10.00	Coffee break	
10.00-12.00	Energy industry in the context of Tonga	
	Current power system status	Mr John van Brink, Tonga Power Limited
	Technical standards and guidelines use in the power sector at present	Mr John van Brink, Tonga Power Limited
	Future energy planning in Tonga	Ms. 'Emeline Veikoso, MLNRE
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch	
13.00 – 14.30	PV Technical Guidelines – Session I	Mr. Peter Konings
	Design of Grid connect PV Systems	
14.30 – 14.50	Coffee break	
14.50 – 16.30	PV Technical Guidelines – Session II	Mr. Peter Konings
	Design of Grid Connect system continued	



Day 2

Time	Session	Presenter
09.00-10.10	PV Technical Guidelines – Session III Installation of Grid connect PV systems	Mr. Peter Konings
10.10 – 10.30	Coffee break	
10.30-12.00	PV Technical Guidelines – Session IV Installation of grid connect systems / session with photos of systems	Mr. Peter Konings
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch	
13.00 – 14.30	PV Technical Guidelines – Session V Design of Off Grid Power Systems	Mr. Peter Konings
14.30 – 14.50	Coffee break	
14.50 - 16.30	PV Technical Guidelines – Session VI Installation of Grid connect PV Systems	Mr. Peter Konings

Day 3

Time	Session	Presenter
09.00-10.10	PV Technical Guidelines – Session VII Presentation with photos of systems	Mr. Peter Konings
10.10 – 10.30	Coffee break	
11.00-12.00	Discussion and agreement on the implementation plan for the technical guidelines	Breakout groups session
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch	
13.00 – 14.30	Forum to discuss further technical needs and challenges for the deployment of renewables in the country	Breakout groups session
14.30 – 14.50	Coffee break	
14.50 – 16.00	Plenary to agree on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) implementation plan for guidelines and ii) future actions to accelerate the deployment of renewables in the country 	Breakout groups session
16.00 – 16.20	Adoption of the meeting report	Ms. 'Apisake Soakai - IRENA
16.20 – 16.30	Closing of the meeting	Mr. 'Asipeli Palaki, Secretary, MLSNRE

