



# Global Solar Council

John P. Smirnow  
Secretary General  
February 29, 2016

GSC's vision is to ensure that solar energy is the leading contributor to the world's energy system.

GSC's mission is to encourage the rapid and wide-scale adoption of solar energy through cooperation, education and training.

<http://www.globalsolarcouncil.org/>

The importance of solar energy.

“It’s now almost universally recognised that solar will be a principal contributor to addressing climate change,” says John Smirnow, secretary-general of the newly formed Global Solar Council. “I don’t think there’s any doubt about that.”

*Scaling up solar after Paris, Ben Willis, [www.pv-tech.org](http://www.pv-tech.org)  
(February 18, 2016)*

Solar power is one of the cheapest forms of electricity globally and prices continue to decline.

Solar power is the most versatile form of electricity generation and can be deployed anywhere in the world for the people of developing and developed countries alike.

To avoid a greater than +2C increase in global temperatures, we will need to have a very high proportion of solar power in the global electricity consumption.

The importance of public-private partnerships.

## IRENA Coalition for Action

The Coalition for Action aims to communicate clear, truthful messages on renewable energy with the public and decision makers around the world through a wide range of channels, including web portals, media articles, publications, social networks and public dialogue.

<http://coalition.irena.org/>

## International Solar Alliance

The overarching objective is to create a collaborative platform for increased deployment of solar energy technologies to enhance energy security & sustainable development; improve access to energy and opportunities for better livelihoods in rural and remote areas and to increase the standard of living.

<http://isolaralliance.com/>

The importance of technology and innovation.

## Mission Innovation

Each of the 20 participating countries will seek to double its governmental and/or state-directed clean energy research and development investment over five years.

<http://mission-innovation.net/>

## Clean Energy Ministerial

The Clean Energy Ministerial is a global forum to promote policies and share best practices to accelerate the global transition to clean energy.

CEM initiatives help reduce emissions, improve energy security, provide energy access, and sustain economic growth.

<http://www.cleanenergyministerial.org/>