

# RENEWABLE ENERGY FOR ISLAND TOURISM

Roundtable Discussion hosted by IRENA and the German Federal Government  
*Hall 7.3, Auditorium Berlin, ITB Berlin Convention, Berlin, Germany*  
4 March 2015, 14:00 - 15:15

Tourism facilities on islands currently depend on costly oil-based electricity to provide air conditioning, hot water, lighting, refrigeration and other essential services. Renewable energy offers a sustainable, reliable and affordable alternative to meet the energy needs of the tourism sector in islands. Renewable energy can also provide a competitive edge by supporting green marketing efforts and showing environmental responsibility.

The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and the German Federal government are hosting a roundtable discussion focusing on the opportunities and challenges of deploying renewable energy in the context of island tourism. This session includes experts from renewable energy and tourism sectors and will take place at one of the world's leading events for the tourism sector, the ITB Berlin. The session is open to all ITB Berlin participants and will provide insight into the extensive benefits that renewable energy can provide for island tourism.

## OPENING:

**H.E. Rita Schwarzelühr-Sutter**, Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety (BMUB)

**H.E. Eldred E. Bethel**, Ambassador of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas to the Federal Republic of Germany

## KEYNOTE:

**Dolf Gielen**, Director, IRENA Innovation and Technology Centre, IRENA

## ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION:

*Moderator:*

**Thorsten Herdan**, Director General, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWi)

*Participants:*

**Dolf Gielen**, Director, IRENA Innovation and Technology Centre, IRENA

**Dirk Glaesser**, Director, Sustainable Development of Tourism, UN World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO)

**Andreas Müseler**, Chairman of the Sustainability Committee, German Travel Association (DRV)

**Martin Putschek**, Managing Director, Swimsol GmbH