

ARC Centres of Excellence Program

ARC Centre for Solar Energy Systems

Interim Director: **Professor A W Blakers**

Collaborating Institutions: The Australian National University

Conversion of sunlight to electricity or heat presents tremendous opportunities for a sustainable energy economy. Australia excels in research in the field, particularly in the progressive improvement of silicon-based photovoltaic devices, which directly convert sunlight to electricity, and in solar concentrators, which collect the solar energy falling on a large area into a smaller volume to optimize the efficiency and cost of conversion systems.

The new Centre will build on the existing research strengths of the Centre for Sustainable Energy Systems at The Australian National University, undertaking research in Silicon concentrator solar cells for 10-15 sun linear concentrators, and new characterisation methods for solar energy systems. The Centre will focus strongly on outcomes of national benefit, including new business opportunities and significant environmental benefits.