



Hydropower Sustainability Assessment Protocol

The Hydropower Sustainability Assessment Protocol

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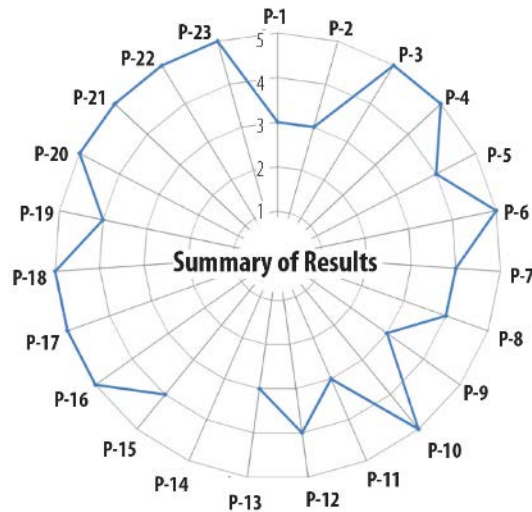
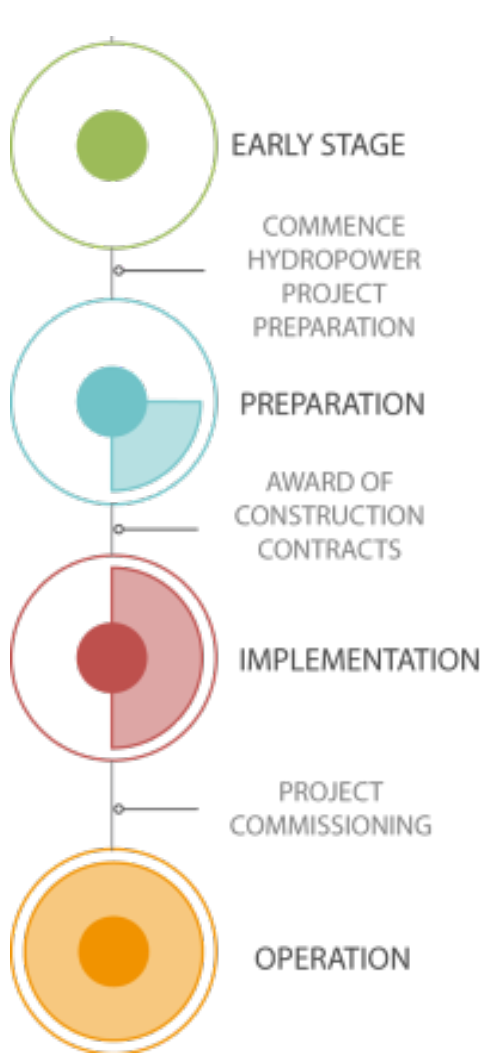


Key messages

- Sustainability and climate change considerations are no longer just ‘nice to have’
- There is growing evidence that getting sustainability issues right up front delivers better projects, faster
- The Protocol is a cost-and time effective way to identify issues and put in place solutions
- The Protocol de-risks projects



The Hydropower Sustainability Assessment Protocol



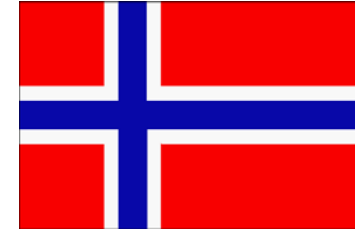
A **framework** to assess sustainability at all stages

A **consistent, globally-applicable** methodology, and a neutral **platform for dialogue**

Over 20 clearly-defined sustainability **topics**

Governed by a multi-stakeholder Council and Terms and Conditions

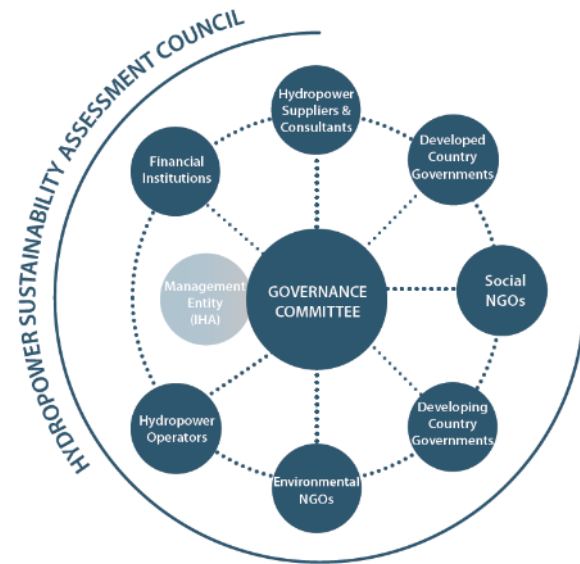
Hydropower Sustainability Assessment Forum



Quality Control

Multi-stakeholder Governance

Hydropower Sustainability Assessment Council established to ensure multi-stakeholder input and confidence in the Protocol content and application.



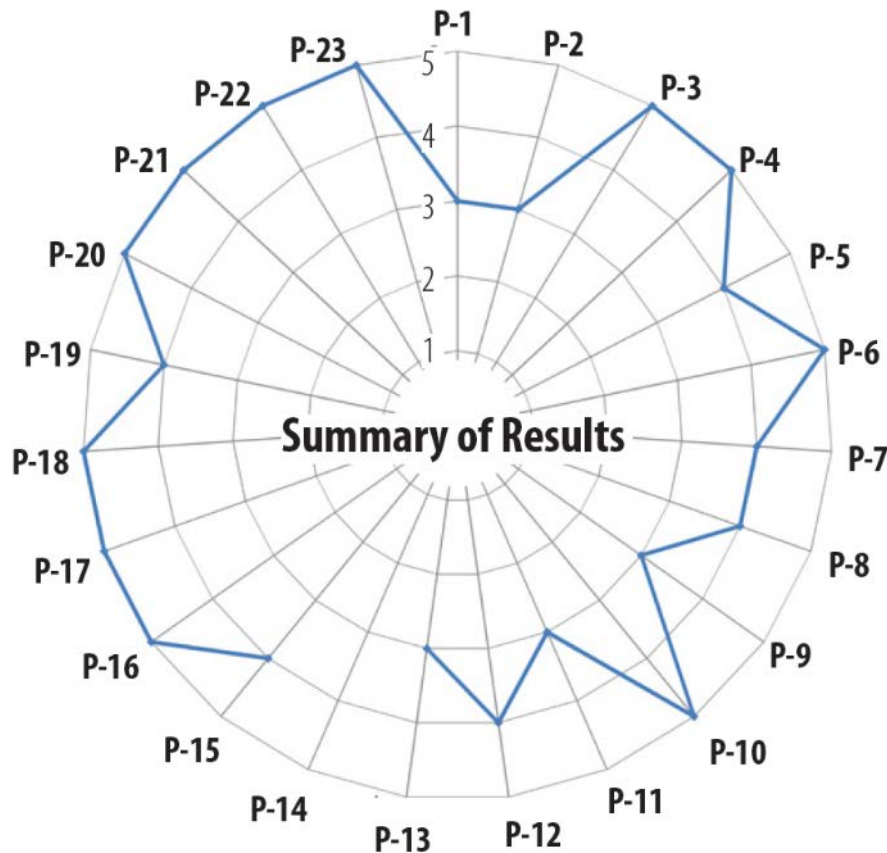
Accredited Assessors

Official assessments can only be undertaken by accredited assessors.

Assessors are specifically trained to deliver quality and uniformity.



Protocol Topics



P-1 Communications and Consultation

P-2 Governance

P-3 Demonstrated Need and Strategic Fit

P-4 Siting and Design

P-5 Environmental and Social Assessment and Management

P-6 Integrated Project Management

P-7 Hydrological Resource

P-8 Infrastructure Safety

P-9 Financial Viability

P-10 Project Benefits

P-11 Economic Viability

P-12 Procurement

P-13 Project-Affected Communities and Livelihoods

P-14 Resettlement (Not relevant)

P-15 Indigenous Peoples

P-16 Labour and Working Conditions

P-17 Cultural Heritage

P-18 Public Health

P-19 Biodiversity and Invasive Species

P-20 Erosion and Sedimentation

P-21 Water Quality

P-22 Reservoir Planning

P-23 Downstream Flow Regimes

Cross-cutting Issues

Climate change

Human rights

Gender

Grievance Mechanisms

Integrated Water Resource Management

Legacy Issues

Livelihoods

Multi-Purpose Projects

Transboundary Issues

Transparency



Protocol Criteria

Assessment



Management



Stakeholder Engagement



Stakeholder Support



Conformance / Compliance



Outcomes



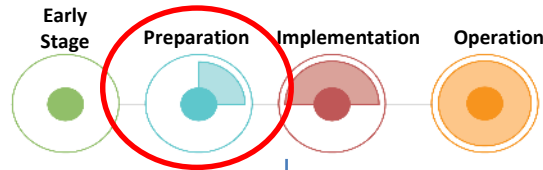
Basic Good and Proven Best Practice

Criteria	Basic Good Practice	Proven Best Practice
Assessment	Adequate and effective assessment of the issues	No significant opportunities for improvement. Takes a broad view of the issues
Management	Adequate and effective management plans and processes	No significant opportunities for improvement. Plans can anticipate and response to new issues and opportunities
Stakeholder Engagement	Adequate and effective stakeholder engagement	No significant opportunities for improvement. Inclusive and participatory. Feedback is provided. Stakeholders involved in decision-making.
Stakeholder Support	General support amongst directly-affected stakeholder groups	Support of nearly all directly-affected stakeholder groups In cases, formal agreements with consent of directly-affected stakeholder groups.
Conformance and Compliance	No significant non-compliances and non-conformances.	No non-compliances and non-conformances.
Outcomes	Impacts are avoided, minimised, and mitigated, with no significant gaps.	Impacts are also compensated, and the project enhances pre-project conditions

Protocol structure flow chart

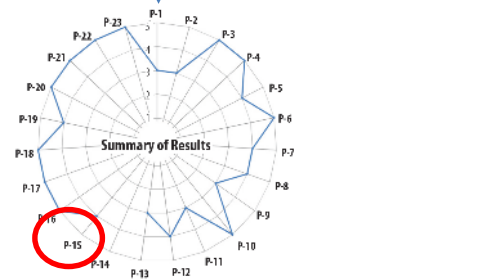
1. Stage

Choose stage of a hydropower project



2. Topic

Choose one of 23 topics



3. Criteria

Choose one of 6 criteria

Assessment
Management
Stakeholder engagement
Stakeholder support
Conformance / compliance
Outcomes

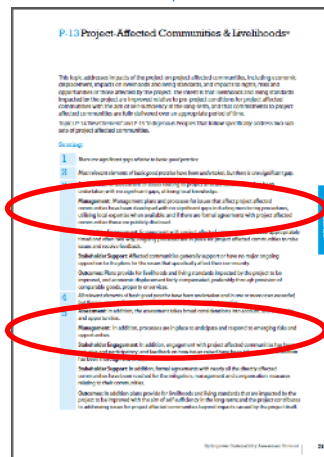


4a. Basic Scoring statement

Assess criteria at basic level

4b. Best practice Scoring statement

Assess criteria at best practice level



Preparation

P-13 Project-Affected Communities & Livelihoods

Assessment

"An assessment of issues relating to project affected communities has been undertaken with no significant gaps, utilising local knowledge."

"In addition, the assessment takes broad considerations into account, and both risks and opportunities."

Training and assessments



Broad Acceptance



Operators and Developers



Financial Institutions

International Institute for Environment and Development

*“This review concludes that the **most practical and effective tool currently available for measuring and communicating good practice**, and the degree of respect for WCD guidelines and general good practice of individual projects, is the Hydropower Sustainability Assessment Protocol.”*



International Institute
for Environment
and Development

World Bank

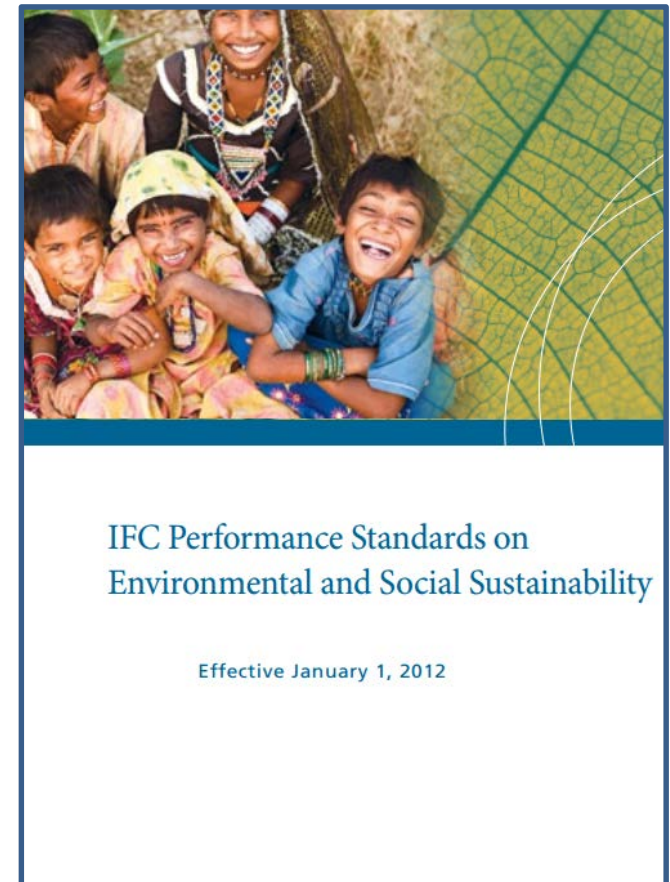
*“The application of the Protocol followed by a management plan to address identified gaps are likely **the most powerful existing tools to improve the sustainability performance of hydropower schemes.**”*



THE WORLD BANK

Why not just use IFC Performance Standards?

- Focus on Hydropower (lots of specific topics)
- All project stages covered (not just investment period)
- Scoring of the project (basic good practice and proven best practice)
- Promotion of the criteria (assessment, management, stakeholder engagement etc.)



- Guide development of new hydropower facilities
- Assess the risks of potential investments as part of due diligence
- Facilitate access to finance
- Reduce the risk of a costly project delay
- Seek external qualification for financing from banks, carbon credits, renewable energy credits, recognition in voluntary markets
- assess the sustainability of existing operations and develop programs for improvement
- guide corporate sustainability management and training
- provide a common basis for dialogue on sustainability issues
- make comparison with international best practice



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Thank you very much!

Visit the website for more details:

www.hydrosustainability.org

Email: SH@HYDROPOWER.ORG

