# **Hydropower Sustainability Standard**

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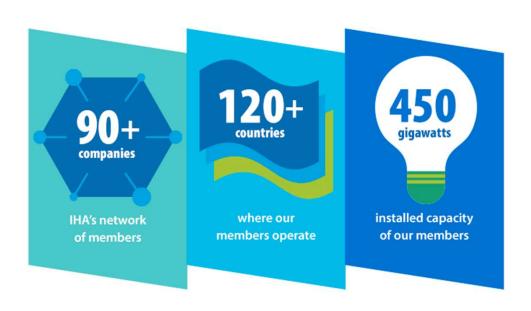




## **Introduction**

The International Hydropower Association (IHA) is a non-profit membership association.

Our members are committed to the responsible and sustainable development and operation of hydropower.





## **Mission**

IHA's mission is to **advance sustainable hydropower**. IHA's broader objectives are:

To be the **global voice** of sustainable hydropower.

To increase investment in sustainable hydropower by **engaging with global policymakers**, **financial decision makers**, **and the public** with strong, clear and engaging evidence-based advocacy.

To position sustainable hydropower as a clean, green, modern and affordable solution to climate change and energy security.

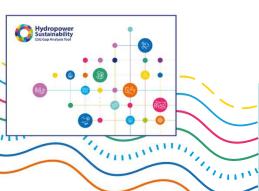
hydropower.org

## **Hydropower Sustainability Standard**









"IHA's efforts on sustainability have improved both the preparation and construction of new hydropower projects and the operation of existing hydropower projects."

Landsvirkjun

#### **Sustainability Standard**

Guidelines and tools for assessing environmental, social and governance performance at various stages.

Developed and governed by a multi-stakeholder council.

The Standard and tools are aligned with World Bank and IFC performance standards.

IHA encourages its members to seek certification under the Hydropower Sustainability Standard.

### **Training academy**

For companies that seek to develop or report on projects which meet good and best practice.



## **Principles of sustainability**



E & S Assessment



Resettlement



Governance and Procurement



Labour and Working Conditions



Biodiversity and Invasive species



**Communications** and Consultation



Water Quality and Sediments



Indigenous Peoples



Hydrological Resource



**Community Impacts and Infrastructure Safety** 



**Cultural Heritage** 



Climate Change Mitigation and Resilience

## Multi stakeholder origin

Who developed the Hydropower Sustainability Assessment Protocol (2010)?



























### Who governs the Standard (today)?



## **Transparent process**



Independence

Third-party, evidence-based process by accredited assessors





Transparency

Results open to all stakeholders





Quality

**Application submitted to HS Secretariat** 





Credibility

Multi-stakeholder oversight

## **Vision**



**Hydropower Sustainability** Standard

Intervention Outcomes

**Vision and impacts** 

**Increased adoption** of sustainability principles in hydropower through embedding in company systems, financial mechanisms and government policies



Increased trust in hydropower through proactive and evidence-based communications



Greater transparency and inclusivity in the hydropower sector through multistakeholder governance and good faith consultation



### A world where all hydropower projects enable:

#### Healthy ecosystems



- Projects contribute to restore ecosystems and invest in forest, river and other ecosystem conservation and restoration
- Projects apply the mitigation hierarchy to support biodiversity conservation and preservation
- Projects maintain local ecosystem services and values
- Projects manage impacts to ecosystems, such as erosion and sedimentation, responsibly

#### **Prosperous** communities



- Projects engage in good faith with affected communities
- Projects respect the dignity and human rights of affected
- Projects improve the livelihoods and living standards of affected
- Projects share their benefits with affected communities

#### Resilient infrastructure





- Projects take into account region water needs and availability

#### Good governance



- Projects are governed by sound corporate business structures
- Projects treat their workers fairly and respectfully
- Projects contribute to wider development strategies and national planning

## First HSS certification



### International Hydropower Association (IHA)

wiha 23,946 followers

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H.E. Daler Jum'a Shofaqir Minister of Energy and Water Resources of the Republic of Tajikistan addressed attendees yesterday at an event at the UN Water conference hosted by IHA. He highlighted the importance of water to achieving Tajikistan's development goals, with 90% of their electricity coming from water. He celebrated their use of the Hydropower Sustainability Standard: "The Hydropower Sustainability Standard is a comprehensive, robust, and transparent methodology for testing hydropower projects for sustainability and aims to create a world where #SustainableHydropower is the norm." #withhydropower #unwaterconference2023 #sustainabledevelopment João Costa Alain Kilajian





## Does Tajikistan hold the answers to Central Asia's net zero transition?

The IEA has helped produce a roadmap for the nation to take advantage of its hydropower capabilities and believes it could be a provider for the rest of Central Asia if it can do so 990





#### Learn more at:



Talk to us: sustainability@hydropower.org

Get trained: training.hydrosustainability.org