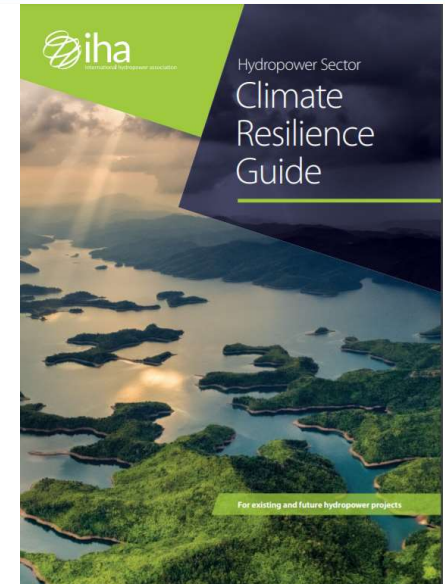


# IHA HYDROPOWER SECTOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE GUIDE

**Mega Session - Climate Change: Opportunity, Risk and  
How Hydro can Adapt - HYDROVISION July 2024**

Debbie Gray  
Senior Energy Policy Manager,  
International Hydropower Association (IHA)

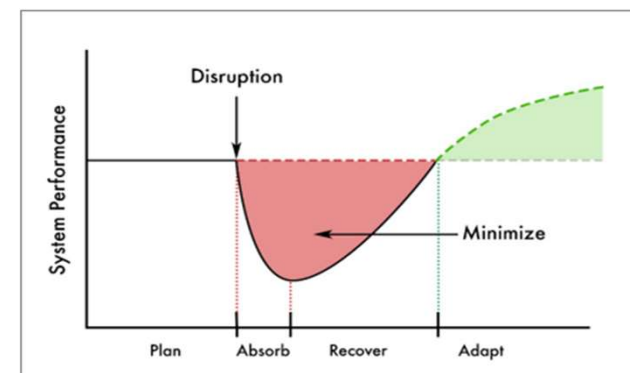
<https://www.hydropower.org/publications/hydropower-sector-climate-resilience-guide>



# Objectives

## Why do we need a guide?

- Hydropower projects worldwide are increasingly exposed to physical climate risks
- Need for capacity to absorb climate stresses, quickly recover from shocks and evolve into greater robustness => Climate Resilience
- Guide shall provide a practical approach for identifying, assessing and managing climate risks to enhance the resilience of new and existing hydropower projects.



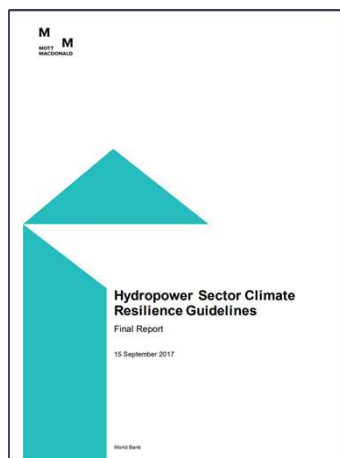
# History of the Guide

Result of a 3-year process



2017: Beta Version

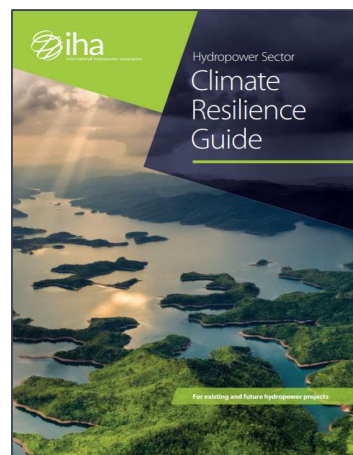
147 pages



Hydropower  
Stakeholder  
Group

2018: Refined Version

40 pages



Advisory Panel

2019: Release



# A guide for the hydropower sector

## Innovative methodology – Climate Risk Management Plan

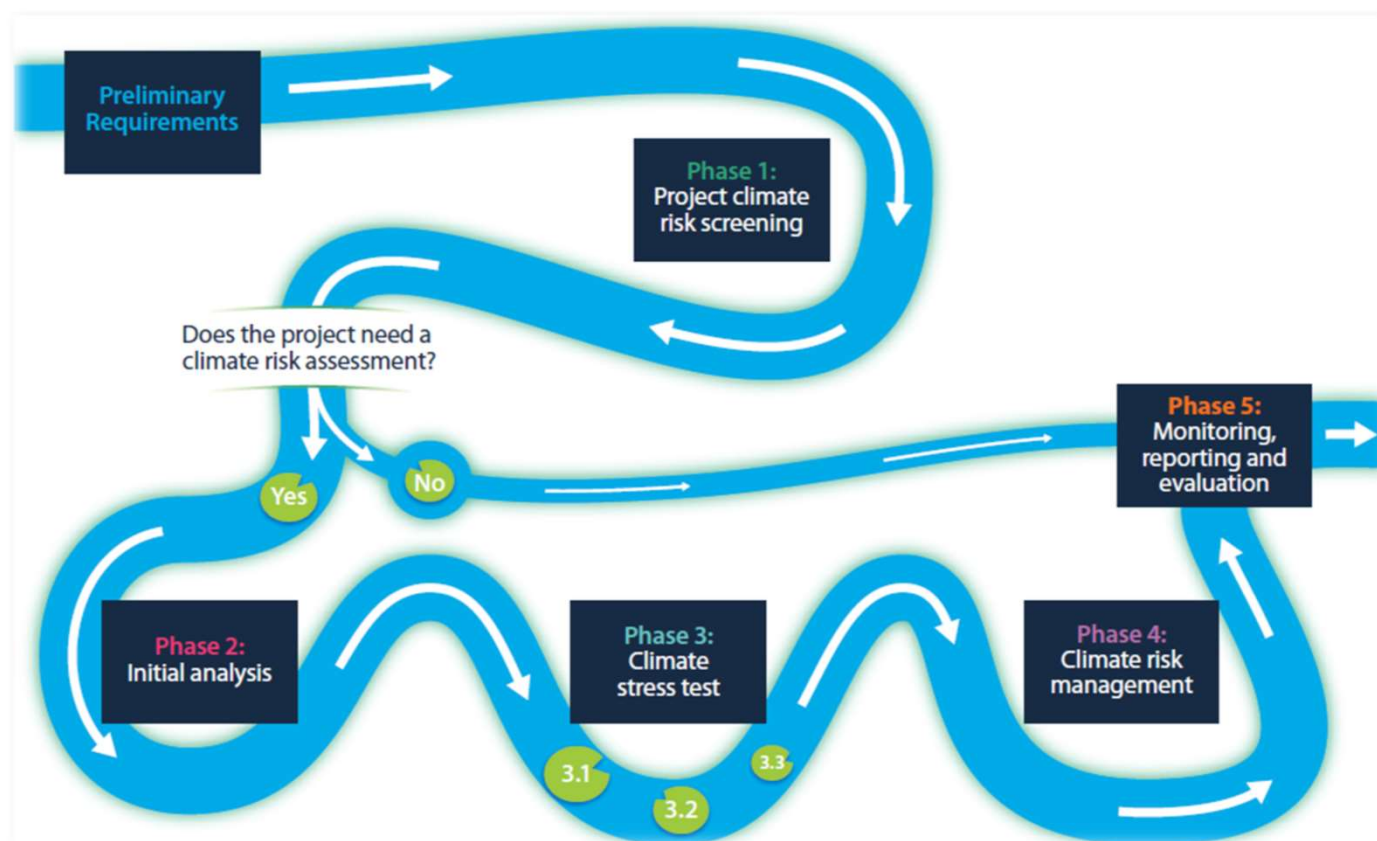
Addressing uncertainty

Decision Making under  
Uncertainty (DMU)

Bottom-up approach

Stress test to find system risks

Monitoring, Evaluation and  
Reporting plan



# Providing guidance

## Resilience measures

### Annex A. Climate stressors list

For electricity production

- Generation shifts
- Load factor changes
- Min environmental flows variations

For access road

- Increased debris
- Increase risk of slope instability

For reservoir

- Glacial Lake Outburst Floods
- Sediment load increase

### Annex C. Examples of adaptation measures

For electricity production

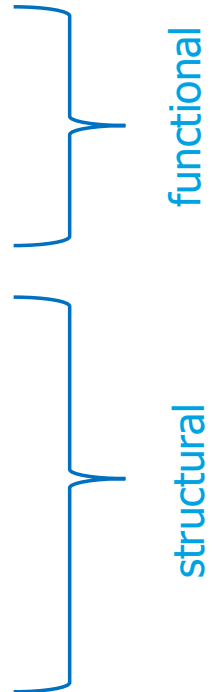
- Improvement of hydrological forecasting tools
- Reassessment of the type of scheme (base load/peaking and run-of-river/storage)
- Revised optimal minimum operating level

For access road

- Debris screens, drainage and culverts
- Additional slope protection

For reservoir

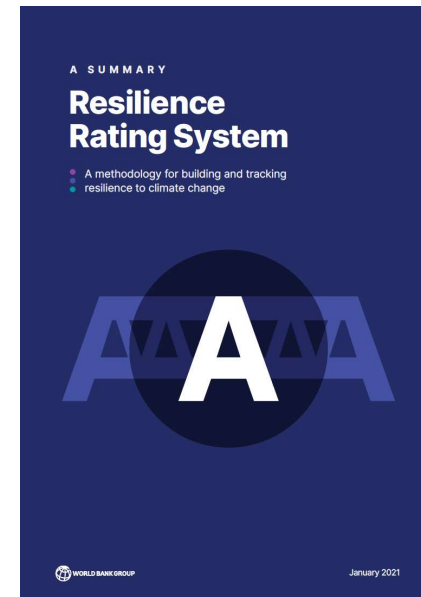
- Glacial monitoring
- Controlled glacial reservoir breach
- Change of dam type to allow overtopping
- Additional sediment management strategies



# Alignment with other frameworks



Used as a reference for international institutions, multilateral banks



# Feedback on the Climate Resilience Guide



Workshop - World Hydropower Congress, October 2023  
Survey 2023 results

- ✔ Consensus on the benefits of phased and tiered approach behind the Climate Resilience Guide
- ✔ The Guide is widely used in conjunction with other assessment tools, such as hydrological and sedimentation modelling software
- ✔ Potential expansion and development: assessment of complex climate change impacts, harmonisation with other reporting processes
- ✔ For assessed projects, the Guide has proven to be effective instrument for qualitative climate resilience assessment



# Case study

## Cahora Bassa Climate Resilience Assessment

HIDROELÉCTRICA DE  
CAHORA BASSA



### Study Objectives

- To carry out a climate resilience assessment (CRA) for Cahora Bassa Hydropower operation, under current conditions and potential changes in the baseline;
- To develop adaptation strategies through iterative risk assessment and management methodologies



**Project Owner:** Hidroeléctrica de Cahora Bassa

**Location:** Zambezi River in Mozambique

**Commissioning date:** 1976

**Installed Capacity:** 2075 MW

**Consultant:** AFRY

**Time Schedule:** Dec 2021 – Feb 2023

[hydropower.org](https://www.hydropower.org)

*Source: Edite César Nhantumbo, HCB, World Hydropower Congress, 2023*



# Cahora Bassa Climate Resilience Assessment

## Climate Risk Management Plan



Initial risk	Proposed adaptation measure													Residual risk
	Without mitigation measures	Data collection and data sharing	Operational inflow forecasting system	Extreme flood study	Revised flood rule curve	Auxiliary services and hydro-peaking	Weather insurance against drought	Additional spillway capacity	Hybrid plant with solar PV	Extension to pump storage plant	Cooling substations and transformers	Mitigation measures implemented		
Time scale	Opportunity/risk level	N1	N2	N3	N4	N5	N6	S1	S2	S3	S4	Opportunity/risk level		
near future	R1												R0	
far future	R3												R1	
near future	R1												R0	
far future	R4												R1	
near future	R0												R0	
far future	R4												R1	
current	R3												R1	
near future	R4												R0	
far future	R3												R0	
near future	R1												R0	
far future	O1												O1	
near future	R0												R0	
far future	R1												R1	
near future	R0												R0	
far future	R2												R0	
near future	R0												R0	
far future	R0												R0	
near future	R0												R0	
far future	R1												R1	

Reduce risks

Time scale	Opportunity/risk level	Measures													Opportunity/risk level
		N1	N2	N3	N4	N5	N6	S1	S2	S3	S4				
near future	R0													R0	
far future	R2													R1	
near future	R0													R0	
far future	R1													R0	
near future	R0													R0	
far future	R1													R0	
near future	O1													O3	
far future	O3													O4	

Increase opportunities

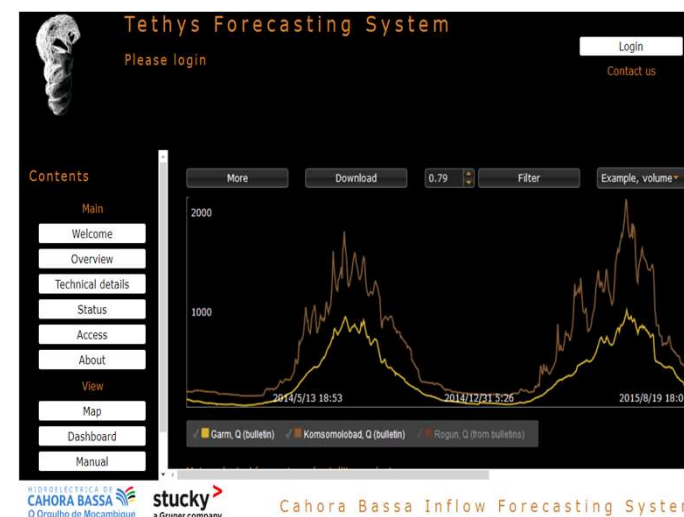
Around 13 structural and non-structural adaptation measures were identified;

Some are in progress and other are still under discussion to be incorporated into the company's Investment Plan.

# Cahora Bassa Climate Resilience Assessment



## Adaptation Measures – Under Implementation



### Structural Measure

Sustainable Energy Growth  
Solar PV Project (400MW)

### Structural Measure

Additional Spillway Capacity  
Additional Power Generation (1200MW)

### Non - Structural Measure

Inflow Forecasting System  
Improvement of forecasting

[hydropower.org](http://hydropower.org)

Source: Edite César Nhantumbo, HCB, World Hydropower Congress, 2023