INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP AGREEMENT

IWA 33-2

First edition
2019-12

Technical guidelines for the development of small hydropower plants —

Part 2: Site selection planning

Reference number
IWA 33-2:2019(E)

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Published in Switzerland

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Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

The procedures used to develop this document and those intended for its further maintenance are described in the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 1. In particular, the different approval criteria needed for the different types of ISO documents should be noted. This document was drafted in accordance with the editorial rules of the ISO/IEC Directives, Part 2 (see www.iso.org/directives).

Attention is drawn to the possibility that some of the elements of this document may be the subject of patent rights. ISO shall not be held responsible for identifying any or all such patent rights. Details of any patent rights identified during the development of the document will be in the Introduction and/or on the ISO list of patent declarations received (see www.iso.org/patents).

Any trade name used in this document is information given for the convenience of users and does not constitute an endorsement.

For an explanation of the voluntary nature of standards, the meaning of ISO specific terms and expressions related to conformity assessment, as well as information about ISO's adherence to the World Trade Organization (WTO) principles in the Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT), see www.iso.org/iso/foreword.html.

International Workshop Agreement IWA 33 was approved at a workshop hosted by the Standardization Administration of China (SAC) and Austrian Standards International (ASI), in association with the International Center on Small Hydro Power (ICSHP), held in Hangzhou, China, in June, 2019.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user’s national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.

A list of all parts in the IWA 33 series can be found on the ISO website.

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Introduction

Small hydropower (SHP) is increasingly recognized as an important renewable energy solution to the challenge of electrifying remote rural areas. However, while most countries in Europe, in North and South America and in China have high degrees of installed capacity, the potential of SHP in many developing countries remains untapped and is hindered by a number of factors including the lack of globally agreed good practices or standards for SHP development.

The technical guidelines for the development of small hydropower plants contained in this document address the current limitations of the regulations applied to technical guidelines for SHP plants by applying the expertise and best practices that exist across the globe. It is intended for countries to utilize this document to support their current policy, technology and ecosystems. Countries that have limited institutional and technical capacities will be able to enhance their knowledge base in developing SHP plants, thereby attracting more investment in SHP projects, encouraging favourable policies and subsequently assisting in economic development at a national level. This document will be valuable for all countries, but especially allow for the sharing of experience and best practices between countries that have limited technical know-how.

This document is the result of a collaborative effort between the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and the International Network on Small Hydro Power (INSHP). About 80 international experts and 40 international agencies were involved in this document's preparation and peer review. This document can be used as the principles and basis for the planning, design, construction and management of SHP plants up to 30 MW.

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Technical guidelines for the development of small hydropower plants —

Part 2:
Site selection planning

1 Scope

This document specifies the general principles of site selection planning for small hydropower (SHP) projects, and the methodologies, procedures and outcome requirements of SHP plant site selection.

2 Normative references

The following documents are referred to in the text in such a way that some or all of their content constitutes requirements of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

IWA 33-1, *Technical guidelines for the development of small hydropower plants — Part 1: Vocabulary*

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in IWA 33-1 apply.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

— ISO Online browsing platform: available at https://www.iso.org/obp

— IEC Electropedia: available at http://www.electropedia.org/

4 Planning principles

4.1 Site selection shall be carried out in accordance with the laws and regulations of the relevant state/provinces/country.

4.2 Site selection shall follow the principles of localized planning, subject to overall national integrated water resources planning and to comprehensive river basin planning with the systematic prospection of potential sites.

4.3 Site selection shall meet the requirements of the environmental needs of the river and surrounding areas and also have preliminary plans to mitigate the negative impacts likely to be caused by the SHP projects to the river and its surrounding environment.

4.4 Site selection shall be determined based on the water resources and topography with the purpose of sustainable development, utilization, and along with comprehensive consideration of all other factors.

4.5 Site selection shall consider comprehensively the correlation of hydropower resource development over the entire length of the river, with due attention to the interrelationship of upstream and downstream cascade development, so that the layout of upstream and downstream sites are properly coordinated. For multipurpose requirements for water supply, flood control, irrigation, ecology, tourism, navigation

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