



Contact

Sustainable Hydropower Website
C/- Hydro Tasmania
4 Elizabeth St
Hobart TAS 7000
AUSTRALIA

sustainable.hydropower@hydro.com.au

About the Sustainable Hydropower Foundation

The Sustainable Hydropower Foundation is a proposed entity that would receive funding contributions to support population of the Sustainable Hydropower Website with example schemes. It would be a not-for-profit organization operating under the auspices of a group of international agencies who share the mission of the Foundation to advance sustainable hydropower through information, education and the availability of appropriate expertise.

The Foundation Governing Board would be determined by the Foundation partners - the IHA with other peak international non-industry bodies working in the water, energy and sustainable resource management sectors.

The Foundation would allow site visits to all nominated schemes to assess their suitability for inclusion on the site. Decisions on inclusion would be made by an independent Website Reference Panel appointed by the Foundation Governing Board.

Vision and Mission

The vision of the proposed Sustainable Hydropower Foundation is that hydropower is developed and managed on a sustainable basis, to contribute to the Millennium Development Goals of meeting the world's water and energy needs.

The mission of the proposed Sustainable Hydropower Foundation is to promote sustainable hydropower development and management, and to facilitate information sharing and the provision of expert assessment for the advancement of sustainable hydropower.

Foundation Guiding Principles

- Hydropower has a significant contribution to make to alleviating poverty and providing both water and energy.
- Hydropower schemes from the small to the large can be sustainable.
- For a hydropower scheme to be sustainable it must address all three aspects of economic, social and environmental sustainability.
- Promotion of good practice is a positive measure to advance sustainable hydropower.

- Objective evaluation and assessment should be undertaken.
- The test of sustainability needs to apply basic sustainability principles to all schemes, but recognises local and regional contexts.
- Issues and management of aspects of sustainability need to be considered individually yet do not exist in isolation.
- Information of benefit to advancing sustainability in the hydropower sector should be shared and accessible.

Key Activities

The Sustainable Hydropower Foundation would contribute to improving the development and management of sustainable hydropower schemes by:

- the provision of information to the industry, regulators, researchers, consultants and the general public on the key elements of sustainability in the hydropower sector;
- the identification and assessment of schemes according to sustainability criteria; and
- recognition of schemes that provide examples to the hydropower sector of how different aspects of sustainability can be well managed.

The primary mechanism to achieve the Foundation's mission would be through the Sustainable Hydropower Website.

A major benefit of the activities of the Foundation would be helping to advance an auditing capability for the hydropower sector, and facilitation of the uptake of auditing by scheme owners and operators.

Governance and Key Roles

Foundation Governing Board

The Governing Board for the Sustainable Hydropower Foundation would comprise nominees of the Foundation partners. The Board's role would be to:

- set frameworks and policies;
- appoint the Foundation Director;
- appoint the Website Reference Panel and determine the Website Reference Panel chairperson;
- accredit auditors;
- receive and review the annual report from the independent Fund Manager; and
- receive and review the annual report from the Foundation Director.

The chairperson of the Governing Board would be elected by the Board members. The Board would meet once per year.

Foundation Director

The Foundation Director would be appointed by the Governing Board. The functions of the Director would be to promote the Foundation, elicit and manage funding,

oversee the functions of the management team and Reference Panel, ensure quality control, report to the Governing Board, liaise with the Foundation partners, dissemination of information to supporting organisations, and actively pursue developmental paths for the Foundation.

The Foundation Director would be responsible for ensuring, through the Website Manager and team, that the functions of the website are met. These would include receipt of scheme nominations, posting on the website, receiving and managing public comment, commissioning scheme audits, convening of the Website Reference Panel, and provision of advice and assistance to the Website Reference Panel as required.

The Foundation Director would also be responsible for production of an annual Public Report, which will include establishing and reporting on measures of success for the Foundation and the website.

The website would be managed by a Website Management Team reporting to the Foundation Director.

Website Reference Panel

Each Foundation partner would nominate candidates to the Website Reference Panel, and appointments will be made by consensus by the Foundation Governing Board. The chair of the Website Reference Panel would also be determined by the Foundation Governing Board.

The term of Website Reference Panel members would be two years, and arrangements would be put in place to ensure that there is a measure of continuity over time with its composition.

The expectations of Reference Panel members would be:

- independence from any interests in the scheme under assessment; and
- clearly demonstrated experience in the water and/or energy sectors

Reference Panel members would be required to review the auditing reports for each of the schemes brought before them for approval. Each member of the Reference Panel would receive an annual stipend towards their time spent on reviewing scheme audits and the costs of their meeting attendance twice a year. Meetings would be held in different parts of the world, set up as far as possible to coincide with relevant international events. Planning for and the general costs of Reference Panel meetings would be met by the Foundation.

Fund Manager

An independent Fund Manager would be contracted to provide the following services

1. Management of the administrative, taxation, contractual and other financial requirements for the funds granted or otherwise awarded to the Foundation;

2. Dealing directly with the funding agencies and other financial supporters of the Foundation, meeting their reporting requirements and other requests pertaining to the uses of monies provided; and
3. Reporting to the Foundation Board on matters pertaining to financial, administrative and other business matters, including contributing to the Foundation's annual public report.

Financial Arrangements

The Sustainable Hydropower Foundation will exist through the contributions of major site sponsors, supporting organizations and funding grants. The functions of the Foundation and its associated website will also in part be met by non-monetary contributions from a number of organizations. Any pledges of support can be directed through the [Contacts](#) details on this website.

Foundation Establishment Phase

Grants towards a total of US \$200,000 are sought to enable establishment of the Foundation and the website. Key establishment activities are:

- formalisation of the Foundation partnership;
- non-profit registration of the Foundation;
- establishment of the Foundation Governing Board;
- determination of Reference Panel members;
- appointments made to the management team roles of Executive Director, Website Manager, and assistants;
- website launching with up-to-date information outlining the business model, partners, and roles;
- fund-raising activities for the operational phase well-advanced;
- communication with short-listed schemes advanced and arrangements for audits in place;
- an audit team training package developed and at least two teams capable of undertaking audits established; and
- the Foundation broadly advertised and promoted.

Foundation Operational Phase

A five year operational budget is sought to a sufficient number of scheme audits to be undertaken to (1) populate the website to a level at which it provides a significant educational tool; and (2) establish inclusion on the site as an aspirational goal for hydropower scheme owners and operators.

The significant component of funding for the operational phase would be allocated to auditing support. After five years, the level of auditing support would be considerably lowered or non-existent, as the hydropower sector takes on the costs of audits itself.

The level of funding achieved annually will dictate the number of schemes that can be audited. Over the five year period, the goal is to approve the inclusion of 100 schemes on the website, so that on average each of the 25 sustainability aspects would have

four schemes identified as examples. This would require 20 schemes to be approved per year.

On the assumption that approximately 75% of audits supported by the Foundation will result in approval by the Reference Panel for inclusion on the website, 30 audits will need to be conducted per year, and 15 scheme audits presented to the Reference Panel at each meeting.

Schemes being nominated for assessment for inclusion on the website would apply to the Foundation for funding support to meet the costs of the audit. Audits during the first five years would be strategically targeted towards populating the website across all aspects and regions of the globe. At a minimum, the Foundation would contribute US \$5,000 per scheme audit, with the any costs beyond this amount being met by the scheme owner/operator. The Foundation would assess whether additional support could be provided so that assessments could be made in less-developed parts of the world, and the budget has been aimed at allowing this additional audit support.

The following table provides an estimated breakdown of the annual funding requirements for the period 2006 to 2011.

REQUIREMENTS	FUNDING (US\$,000)
FOUNDATION MANAGEMENT	
Administration	20
Promotion	10
Travel	10
Meetings	15
Fund-raising	10
Financial management	10
Other	15
WEBSITE MANAGEMENT	
Programming, site hosting, information management, etc.	80
MANAGEMENT TEAM SALARIES	
Executive Director	70
Website Manager	50
Assistants	60
REFERENCE PANEL	
Annual stipend - 5 members, \$5k/member	25
SCHEME AUDIT SUPPORT	
Minimum 30 schemes/year, \$5k/scheme, plus further audit support as required	200
TOTAL	575

Summary of estimated annual operational funding requirements

Funding Sources

Funding will be sought primarily from Foundation sponsors, governments, financing agencies, NGO's external grants, hydropower owners/operators and related businesses.

Site Sponsors and Supporting Organisations will be displayed on the site:

- Primary Sponsors - >\$50 000 – Logos on site, link to web address, statement about organisation.
- Major Sponsors - >\$10 000 – Logos on site, links to web addresses
- Supporting Organisations - < \$10 000 – Listing on site, link to web address, alphabetical order.

[What You Can Do](#)

Foundation Development Paths

There is considerable potential for further services of the Sustainable Hydropower Foundation to be developed over the longer term. These could include

- educational packages such as presentation slides, e-Textbook and case studies, and various outreach programs;
- support for new technologies and R&D;
- expert consultant information database;
- support for provision of expert consultants to new or existing developments.

Broadening of the scope of the Foundation will depend entirely on the enlistment of partners with vision, and creating a strong spirit of collaboration.