



Working Group: Mitigation measures and hydropower I



Task 1: Mitigation measures for existing hydropower (I)

- Compatible measures
 - When it is only a question of investment, any measure is open to discussion (decision on case-by-case basis)
 - Water flow management
 - Redistribution of flow in time
 - Ensure minimum residual flow
 - Fish passes
- Incompatible measures
 - Loss of peak energy generation
 - But there are possible measures, e.g. compensation reservoirs
- Lack of information on mitigation measures for the issue of sediment transport and contamination (e.g. heavy metals)



Task 1: Mitigation measures for existing hydropower (II)

- A new regulation to promote mitigation measures in DE was mentioned
 - It rewards energy production in small & medium HP when they undertake specific ecological measures
- There was some discussion on the interpretation of significant adverse effects on HP
 - Some arguments for a case-by-case basis assessment only
 - Some ideas to first set national goals and then look at individual cases



Task 1: Focus on river continuum

- Fish passes were discussed in more detail
- Fish passes are an important mitigation measure, commonly used across Europe in relation to HP use
- But, there is evidence that several existing fish passes are inefficient
 - There is still lack of data on the effects of HyMo alterations on fish populations
 - It was proposed that first focus should be on the requirements of the fish populations



Task 2: Mitigation measures for new modifications

- In general few new HP schemes are planned
 - In some countries, before planning new schemes, old ones will be modernised and adapted to new environmental standards
 - Only few large schemes are planned but several plans exist for small ones
 - In any case, fish passes are now a standard measure
- For new HP developments, the process of ensuring river continuity should be done on a catchment level (not single WBs or sites)



Task 3: Follow-up work for CIS

- Use and enlarge the existing network of the “Subgroup Hydropower” to:
 - Produce lists of mitigation measures for HP asap
 - Exchange information on processes of identifying mitigation measures (also cost-benefit analysis)
 - Consider also small HP aspects
 - Consider especially hydropeaking in terms of possible mitigation measures
 - Develop a network on European standards for fish passes (in cooperation with fish ecologists)