

Principles – Fundamental assumptions underpinning the Protocol<sup>1</sup>.

- Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.<sup>2</sup>
- Sustainable development is a fundamental component of social responsibility, sound business practice and natural resource management.
- Hydropower, developed and managed sustainably, has the potential to play an important role in enabling communities to meet sustainable development objectives.
- Eradicating poverty, changing unsustainable patterns of production and consumption, and protecting and managing the natural resource base underpinning economic and social development are overarching objectives of, and essential requirements for, sustainable development.

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<sup>1</sup> These are taken from the IHA Sustainability Guidelines (2004), pages 2 and 3.

<sup>2</sup> Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development, 1987)