

IHA PROTOCOL SECTION I – STRATEGIC ASSESSMENT

Assesses the strategic basis for a hydropower project. This section of the Protocol can be used prior to and to inform the decision that there is a strategic basis to move forward with project preparation.

PAGE	ASPECT
2	Demonstrated Need
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4	Regional and National Policies and Plans
5	Political Risk
6	Institutional Capacity

Aspect: DEMONSTRATED NEED

Description: This aspect addresses the demonstrated need for water and energy services as linked to development needs and objectives.

Policy Objective: The need for water and energy services has been evaluated and development objectives clearly articulated.

Auditor’s Comment on Relevance of this Aspect to Project being Assessed:

<i>Process Attributes</i>	<i>Guidance Notes</i>	5	4	3	2	1	0
Transparency of the evaluation process							
Content							
Review of water and energy services needs							
<i>Performance Attributes</i>	<i>Guidance Notes</i>	5	4	3	2	1	0
Stakeholder support							

Examples of Objective Evidence to Support Scoring:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evidence of likely future water and energy requirements - Evaluation of need for water and energy services - Evidence of need for water and energy services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Records of stakeholder involvement 	<p>Comments for Consideration for Demonstrated Need Aspect: The description, policy objective and attributes were taken from HSAF Mtg4 Paper 14. Some examples of objective evidence were taken from the existing Protocol aspect A1 (demonstrated need for the project).</p>
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Aspect: OPTIONS ASSESSMENT

Description: This aspect addresses the evaluation of options to meet demonstrated water and energy needs.

Policy Objective: An options assessment covering the full range of planning approaches has been undertaken to meet development objectives.

Auditor’s Comment on Relevance of this Aspect to Project being Assessed:

<i>Process Attributes</i>	<i>Guidance Notes</i>	5	4	3	2	1	0
Scope of options assessment process							
Transparency of options assessment process							
Content							
Integration and linkages							
Review							
<i>Performance Attributes</i>	<i>Guidance Notes</i>	5	4	3	2	1	0

Examples of Objective Evidence to Support Scoring:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluation of a range of alternative options - Evidence that the best planning approach has been chosen 		<p>Comments for Consideration for Options Assessment Aspect:</p> <p>The description, policy objective and attributes were taken from HSAF Mtg4 Paper 14. Some examples of objective evidence were taken from the existing Protocol aspect A1 (demonstrated need for the project).</p>
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Aspect: REGIONAL AND NATIONAL POLICIES AND PLANS

Description: This aspect addresses regional and national policies and plans as they relate to development of water and energy services, including energy, water, climate change, conservation and development.

Policy Objective: Regional and national policies and plans have been identified and evaluated.

Auditor’s Comment on Relevance of this Aspect to Project being Assessed:

<i>Process Attributes</i>	<i>Guidance Notes</i>	5	4	3	2	1	0
Understanding of regional and national policies and plans							
Evaluation of regional and national policies and plans							
Transparency of the evaluation process							
Scope of the evaluation process							
Linkages							
<i>Performance Attributes</i>	<i>Guidance Notes</i>	5	4	3	2	1	0

Examples of Objective Evidence to Support Scoring:

- Determination of gaps in government policies in relation to accepted sustainability standards, international obligations and ethics		<p>Comments for Consideration for Regional and National Policies and Plans Aspect: The description, policy objective and attributes were taken from HSAF Mtg4 Paper 14. The example of objective evidence was taken from the existing Protocol aspect A2 (government and proponent policies).</p>
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Aspect: POLITICAL RISK

Description: This aspect addresses the political risk of developing water and energy services.

Policy Objective: The political risk of developing water and energy services has been evaluated.

Auditor’s Comment on Relevance of this Aspect to Project being Assessed:

<i>Process Attributes</i>	<i>Guidance Notes</i>	5	4	3	2	1	0
Understanding of political risk with respect to development of water and energy services							
Evaluation of political risk							
Transparency of the evaluation process							
Scope of the evaluation process							
Political risk: management and mitigation plans							
<i>Performance Attributes</i>	<i>Guidance Notes</i>	5	4	3	2	1	0
Management and mitigation responses							

Examples of Objective Evidence to Support Scoring:

<p>- Authoritative assessment of political stability/sovereign risk</p>		<p>Comments for Consideration for Political Risk Aspect: The description, policy objective and attributes were taken from HSAF Mtg4 Paper 14. The example of objective evidence was taken from the existing Protocol aspects A3 (political risk and regulatory approval) and B1 (political risk and regulatory approval).</p>
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Aspect: INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY

Description: This aspect addresses the institutional capacity to develop and deliver water and energy services.

Policy Objective: The institutional capacity with respect to developing water and energy services has been evaluated.

Auditor’s Comment on Relevance of this Aspect to Project being Assessed:

<i>Process Attributes</i>	<i>Guidance Notes</i>	5	4	3	2	1	0
Understanding							
Evaluation							
Transparency							
Scope							
Management and mitigation plans							
<i>Performance Attributes</i>	<i>Guidance Notes</i>	5	4	3	2	1	0
Strength of the institutional capacity							

Examples of Objective Evidence to Support Scoring:

		<p>Comments for Consideration for Institutional Capacity Aspect: The description, policy objective and attributes were taken from HSAF Mtg4 Paper 14.</p>
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