

## Abstract

### **The Role of the Consultant to achieve sustainable Development**

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Nearly one-third of the world's population has no access to electricity, and without any concerted action, almost half of the world's population will face water shortages within the next two decades. Left unchecked, shortages of reliable energy and clean water will have significant negative impacts on a fundamental sustainability goal, which is to alleviate poverty. At the same time, the world's energy systems, which are based primarily on fossil fuel generation, are leading to global warming and climate change. So what is the answer to meeting these urgent needs of reliable energy and clean water, without further environmental degradation?

Hydropower can play an increasingly important role in providing reliable energy and clean water throughout the world. The international hydropower community has long known that hydropower is a sustainable technology and a valuable renewable energy resource. Recently however, efforts to undermine the value of this resource have affected its progress especially in developing countries. Countries that had endorsed hydropower as a renewable energy resource, such as China, India, Turkey, and Brazil, continue to develop their projects. As a result and in an effort to be proactive with meeting global energy needs, the international hydropower community has developed, adopted, and implemented sustainability guidelines in the development, construction, and operation of its projects. This presentation will focus on the role of the consultant within this process and their responsibility in achieving sustainable development.