

# ENERGETYKA WODNA

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## EAST EUROPEAN REGION IN THE WORLD SMALL HYDROPOWER REPORT 2019

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## HYPOSO – AN INTERNATIONAL PROJECT ON SHP

In September 2019 a research project funded under the H2020 programme has started with the aim to support the European hydropower industry while at the same time fostering a sustainable development in selected target countries in Africa and Latin America. There are two Polish partners involved in this initiative: IMP PAN and TRMEW.

**H**YPOSO is an acronym for „Hydropower solutions for developing and emerging countries” and the overall objective of the project is to support the market uptake of EU hydropower technologies in Africa and Latin America by bringing together relevant actors from the European hydropower sector with stakeholders in the target countries with the aim to develop and improve small hydropower standard in the target countries. This should lead to a win-win situation enabling more technology export for European companies and stimulation of the energy transition in developing and emerging regions. The selected target countries are Bolivia, Cameroon, Colombia, Ecuador and Uganda.

### HYPOSO OBJECTIVES

It is expected that the realisation of the HYPOSO objectives will lead to promotion of the European hydropower industry (equipment producers, investors and project developers) in target regions to boost their exports of products and services. It should also pave the way for better investment conditions (legal, political, financial, social) in export markets in target regions for European hydropower stakeholders and increase the share of renewable energy in target regions, especially small and medium-sized hydropower by helping relevant governments, authorities and local stakeholders to create better framework conditions for renewables (e.g. faster permits and shorter planning periods, energy cooperatives and communities, easier and faster funding, etc.).

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Participants in the Kick-off meeting, Munich, October 21-23, 2019



Source: Joseph Kenfack

## THE CONSORTIUM

Based on the above objectives, the project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme. Thanks to that, 13 project partners from 11 countries can collaborate in the HYPOSO project, including 5 partners from the target countries and 8 ones from Europe. The coordinator of the project is a German company WIP-Renewable Energies and there are two Polish partners in the project, i.e. The Szwalski Institute of Fluid-Flow Machinery of the Polish Academy of Sciences and TRMEW sp. z o.o. – a company related to the Polish Association for Small Hydropower Development.

## BACKGROUND

The European hydropower industry is well renowned, able to build tailor-made hydropower facilities all around the globe and has vast experience in the sector. The European know-how can foster the transition into a more sustainable energy system in parts of the world that still need support to develop the sector. While the European hydropower potential does not allow huge developments, the international market development potential is still big. The numbers describing European hydropower industry are impressive. In 2015, the European hydro-

power equipment manufacturing competence accounted for estimated two-thirds of the world market. In addition, many leading universities and research centres specialised in hydropower are located in Europe. Directly and indirectly, the EU-28 hydropower sector provides more than 100,000 jobs, directly including 50,000 jobs in generation and almost 7,000 in equipment manufacturing and the actual gross value creation resulting from European hydropower generation companies and equipment manufacturers adds up to 38 billion €.

## TOOLS AND ACTIVITIES

The above mentioned objectives will be reached through a combination of tools and activities including framework analyses with regard to small hydropower up to 30 MW for the target countries, mapping of more than 2,000 potential hydropower sites in the target countries, capacity building of local hydropower professionals in cooperation with local experts and political stakeholders and elaboration of 15 dedicated business case studies of SHP projects (three in each of the five target countries) with a focus on local financing, leading to at least 5 signed MoUs between stakeholders from target countries and the European hydropower sector. For bringing together potential busi-

ness partners with the European hydropower industry, a study tour will be organized, in which selected African and Latin American stakeholders, especially project developers, investors and multipliers will visit various European manufacturers, research institutes and reference hydropower plants to acquire information on the latest European hydropower technologies.

## FIRST STEPS

On 21 and 22 October 2019, the HYPOSO consortium met for the first time in person at the Kick Off Meeting in Munich. During the two days, the project partners got to know each other and presented the work packages and tasks that will be worked on by them in the project.

After the KOM the work accelerated and the first deliverables of the project have been submitted, for example the Comprehensive list of European small hydropower stakeholders, the Contact list of hydropower stakeholders and multipliers in five target countries or the project website ([www.hyposo.eu](http://www.hyposo.eu)). Due to the restrictions related with the COVID-19 (the corona virus), the sequential meeting - the First HYPOSO Progress Meeting, initially scheduled from 25 to 27 March 2020 in Vilnius, Lithuania had to be cancelled and instead the online meetings were organized which again motivated the partners for taking further steps.

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