# Hydropower



# **Short Overview**

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- Types of hydroplants
- Impoundment facility
- Advantages and Disadvantages
- History
- Resources in other countries
  - Portugal and Italy
  - Norway and Germany
  - Turkey

## **Definition**

- Hydropower is derived by capturing flowing water and converting it into electrical energy
- Power source (water) turns a propeller like machine: turbine
- Used for mechanical power & hydroelectricity
  - E.g large dams have the purpose to create hydroelectricity
- hydroelectricity has less adverse effects than other options
- Water engines/ water motors



# Types of hydroplants

- 1. Impoundment facilities
  - Most common
  - Dam used
  - Water through turbines



- 2. Pumped storage facilities
  - Similar to first but have second lower reservoire
  - Water pumped back and forth depending on electricity demand
- 3. Run-of-river facilities
  - Rely on natural water flow rate
  - Only part of water runs through turbines -> more intermitted than dammed hydro

# Impoundment facility

- Mechanical energy created
- Moving water spins rotors (turbine)
- Turbine connected to electromagnetic generator -> electricity
- Different categories:
  - Large (> 30 MW)
  - Small (100 kw)
  - Micro (<100kw)



# Advantages and Disadvantages

#### Advantages

- Consistency of production
- High durability
- Dams become tourist attractions
- Water used for irrigation
- No greenhouse gases
- No fossil fuels
- To control the amount of water

#### Disadvantages

- Flooding of nature -> destruction of environment
  - Travel routes of fish disrupted
- High construction costs
- Geological damage
- Dams can breach
- Conflicts between countries
- Alteration of water table

## <u>History</u>

- Watermills were used since 3rd century( developed in Greece)
  - Water from river diverts to a water wheel through a channel
  - Force of water drives the wheel, that rotates the other machines
  - Sluice gates control the passages of water
- **1831** : the first electric generator was invented by Michael Faraday.
- beginning of the **1800's**: (industrial revolution) provided mechanical. power for textile and machine industries.



## Resources in other countries



• Due to the weather conditions e.g. wind Portugal has a huge amount of wind energy



• Due to the volcanos Italy uses Geothermic

### Resources in other countries



Wind Biomass Solar Atomic Geothermic Coal Fossil Fuels Hydro

• Due to geographical reasons e.g: the high precipitation, the valleys (caused by glaciers). Norway uses a lot of hydro energy.



• Due to natural resources Germany uses a lot of Fossil fuels and coal, but has the chance to use renewable energies in the future consequently the flat land and the wind in the north

## Resources in other countries



