



ROLES OF HYDRO IN THE GLOBAL RECOVERY

International Conference and Exhibition

Palais de la Musique et des Congrès ~ Strasbourg, France

25 to 27 April 2022

(PLEASE NOTE NEW DATES)

We deeply regret to let you know that a decision has had to be taken to arrange a further postponement of HYDRO 2021: Just for months this time, rather than a year. The new dates will be 25 to 27 April 2022.

We were fully confident about the excellent precautions at the venue, and were optimistic as vaccination programmes have been increasing in most parts of the world. But complications prevail, and it became clear in the past days that even with the global situation improving, insufficient numbers of people could commit to coming at this time, which made further planning impossible.

- Speakers and delegates from a number of countries, such as Japan, China, the USA, Russia and several other Asian countries have had travel restrictions extended, and would not be able to attend; some speakers from those countries have had to withdraw from the programme.
- A number of large organisations (consulting practices, financial institutions and utilities) prefer not to authorise employees to travel until the new year.
- Some papers had to be withdrawn from our programme, because either projects, or research work, have been delayed by the pandemic, making planned presentations impossible.
- Many who undoubtedly were planning to attend, were not ready to let us know and commit to attendance in mid-September, when critical decisions need to be made for the event, including catering, hotel reservations, meeting space and equipment.
- Some participants hoping to come, who had received vaccinations not acceptable to France, would have had the risk of quarantining

Although a huge amount of enthusiasm was expressed for the conference (more than 100 speakers, session chairs and several hundred delegates had registered, from 44 countries) many professionals are clearly still undecided about resuming participation at international gatherings.

We have reached the conclusion that without the usual scale and international character of our annual conferences, the outcomes we aim for each year could not be achieved at this time. Many from outside Europe would not be able to benefit from discussions, and exhibitors would be unable to make business contacts at the usual level with delegates from key client countries.

Strasbourg will be beautiful in April. After the winter has passed, it seems universally agreed that COVID will be much further behind us. International travel will be less complicated. More flexibility will be possible for our social events and tours, the programme will be enriched by more international speakers; and, the global hydropower community will finally be able to reassemble in person.

We sincerely hope that session chairs, accepted speakers, exhibitors, as well as registered delegates will join us as planned on the new dates. Registration will remain open, the programme will remain fixed, and there may be some additional opportunities to join sessions. Information updates will be circulated regularly and posted on our website.

www.hydropower-dams.com/hydro-2022/