



MANAGING DAM SAFETY RISKS OVER TIME INCLUDING CLIMATE CHANGE

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iPresas Risk Analysis

iPresas provides consulting and training services for public and private entities promoting and supporting risk-informed dam safety management.

One of the world leaders in this topic, with risk analysis of more than 60 dams worldwide.

iPresas is a technologybased **spin-off company** of the Polytechnic University of Valencia (UPV)









What is risk?







Quantitative risk model







Risk analysis and climate change

- Risk Analysis is a suitable methodology to inform dam safety management in a justifiable, objective and clear way.
- However, dam risks changes along time due to:
 - Climate change
 - Increasing exposure of people and economic assets
 - Changes in the water resources management system
 - Degradation of the dam and gates equipment





'Expect More': Climate Change Raises Risk of Dam Failures

Engineers say most dams in the United States, designed decades ago, are unsuited to a warmer world and stronger storms.







Case study: Santa Teresa Dam



More info:

Fluixá-Sanmartín, J., Morales-Torres, A., Escuder-Bueno, I., and Paredes-Arquiola, J. (2019). Quantification of climate change impact on dam failure risk under hydrological scenarios: a case study from a Spanish dam. Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci.





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Case study: Quantification of CC impacts on risk

• Multi-model approach







Case study: Quantification of CC impacts on risk



10-12 October 2022 at Jaipur, Rajasthan (India)





Case study: Risk assessment



USBR Dam Safety Risk Guidelines

10-12 October 2022 at Jaipur, Rajasthan (India)





 $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{R}_{s}$

p_{overtopping} & R

p_{failure} & R

p_{failure} &

Case study: Risk reduction measures

- A. Implementation of an **Emergency Action Plan**: reduces the social consequences of the dam failure.
- B. Construction of a **continuous concrete parapet** of 1.5 m a lo along the dam and the auxiliary saddle dam.
- C. Lowering 1.5 m the spillway's crest level: increases the discharge capacity through each gate 403 m³/s \rightarrow 588 m³/s.
- D. Establishment of an **enhanced maintenance program** for spillway gates: increase their reliability.





Implementing risk reduction actions along time







Case study: Effect of risk reduction measures







Case study: Prioritization of measures

Measure	Priority (considering CC)	Priority (without considering CC)
A: Emergency Action Plan	2	
B: Concrete parapet wall	1	2
C: Increase spillway capacity	3	3
D: Gates maintenance plan	4	4





More information

Website:

www.climatechangedamsafety.com

www.ipresas.com

- Publications:
 - Fluixá-Sanmartín, J., Altarejos-García, L., Morales-Torres, A., and Escuder-Bueno, I. (2018). Review article: Climate change impacts on dam safety. Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci.
 - Fluixá-Sanmartín, J., Morales-Torres, A., Escuder-Bueno, I., and Paredes-Arquiola, J. (2019). Quantification of climate change impact on dam failure risk under hydrological scenarios: a case study from a Spanish dam. Nat. Hazards Earth Syst. Sci.
 - Fluixá-Sanmartín, J., Escuder-Bueno, I., Morales-Torres, A., and Castillo-Rodríguez, J. T. (2020). Comprehensive decision-making approach for managing time dependent dam risks. Reliability Engineering & System Safety.
 - Fluixá-Sanmartín, J., Escuder-Bueno, I., Morales-Torres, A., and Castillo-Rodríguez, J. T. (2021). Accounting for climate change uncertainty in longterm dam risk management. J. Water Resour. Plan. Manag.









Natural and Infrastructure Risk Manager



- Considering effect of climate change and risk variations along time.
- Risk results updated regularly based on dam monitoring, behavior and actions made.
- ✓ Automatically generated reports.
- **Prioritization** of investments along time to define the optimal moment to reduce risk.
- ✓ Integrated **portfolio management**.
- High protection and confidentiality of risk results.





Conclusions

- In the future, dam risks may change due to climate change and population variations.
- Complex and interrelated impacts: risk models are a useful tool to structure and quantify these effects.
- The uncertainty associated with climate change should not prevent decisions from being made.
- This allows introducing climate change effect on riskinformed **dam safety management**.
- Modern tools will allow us to integrate climate change in decision making.







THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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