4.8 Cultural heritage

Principle: Physical cultural resources are identified, their importance is understood, and measures are in place to address those identified to be of high importance.

Scope: Scope: Cultural heritage, with specific reference to physical cultural resources, at risk of damage or loss by the hydropower project and associated infrastructure impacts (e.g. new roads, transmission lines).

Requirements:

Criteria	Minimum requirements (good practice)	Advanced requirements (best practice)
Assessment	Preparation Stage:	Preparation Stage:
	A cultural heritage assessment has been undertaken with no significant gaps; the assessment includes identification and recording of physical cultural resources, evaluation of the relative levels of importance, and identification of any risks arising from the project. Implementation Stage:	The assessment takes broad considerations into account, and both risks and opportunities.
		Implementation Stage:
		Monitoring of cultural heritage issues during project implementation takes into account inter-relationships amongst issues, and both risks and opportunities that become evident during implementation.
	Operation Stage:	
	Identification of ongoing or emerging cultural heritage issues takes broad considerations into account, and both risks and opportunities.	
		Operation Stage:
		Ongoing or emerging cultural heritage issues with respect to physical cultural resources have been identified, and if management measures are required then monitoring is being undertaken to assess if management measures are effective.
	Management	Preparation Stage:
	Plans and processes to address physical cultural resources have been developed for project implementation and operation with no significant gaps; plans include arrangements for chance finds, and ensure that cultural heritage expertise will be on site and regularly liaised with by the project management team during construction. Implementation Stage:	Processes are in place to anticipate and respond to emerging risks and opportunities; and plans are supported by public, formal and legally enforceable commitments.
		Implementation Stage:
		Processes are in place to anticipate and respond to emerging risks and opportunities.
	Processes are in place to anticipate and respond to emerging risks and opportunities.	
		Operation Stage:
	Measures are in place to manage identified cultural heritage issues.	

Conformance/ Compliance

Implementation Stage and Operation Stage:

Processes and objectives in place to manage cultural heritage issues have been and are on track to be met with no major non-compliances or non-conformances, and cultural heritage related commitments have been or are on track to be met.

Implementation Stage and Operation Stage:

There are no non-compliances or non-conformances.

Outcomes

Preparation Stage:

Plans avoid, minimise, mitigate and compensate negative impacts on cultural heritage arising from project activities.

Implementation Stage:

Negative cultural heritage impacts arising from project implementation are avoided, minimised, mitigated and compensated

Operation Stage:

Negative cultural heritage impacts arising from activities of the operating hydropower facility are avoided, minimised, mitigated and compensated.

Preparation Stage:

Plans contribute to addressing cultural heritage issues beyond those impacts caused by the project.

Implementation Stage:

Contributions to addressing cultural heritage issues beyond those impacts caused by the project are achieved or are on track to be achieved.

Operation Stage:

Where opportunities have been identified, measures to address cultural heritage issues beyond those impacts caused by the facility have been or are on track to be achieved.