



## LUC DEROO

ISL, FRANCE



Luc Deroo is a chief technical officer of ISL Ingenierie, a French design and engineering company in the fields of dams, hydraulic and maritime infrastructures, energy, floods & drought management. His expertise covers dams and hydropower engineering, with experience mainly in Europe and Africa, for greenfield projects, safety assessment or structures upgrading. He is chairman of the ICOLD Committee on Prospective and New Challenges for Dams and Reservoirs.



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# FLOATING PV ON DAM RESERVOIRS

Luc Deroo

CTO & Hon. President

ISL, France



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# The future Energy mix needs Solar & Hydro

The case of France 2050: two typical scenarios

**M23** is a « without nuclear » scenario: **125 GW of solar** power (compared with 11 GW in 2021)

**N2** is a « with nuclear » scenario: **90 GW of solar** power

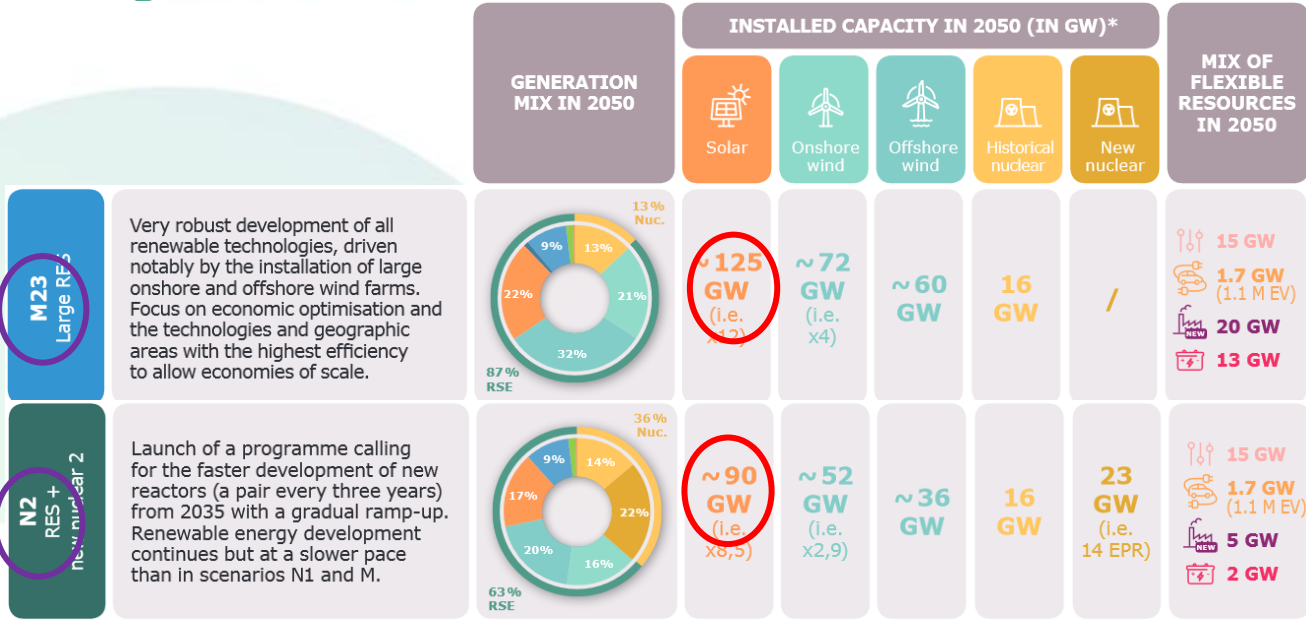
⇒ France needs a lot of new solar. Challenging!

Scenarios with a lot of REN require « flexibilities »; these represent up to 20% of the full cost (and almost 50% of the cost of REN generation).

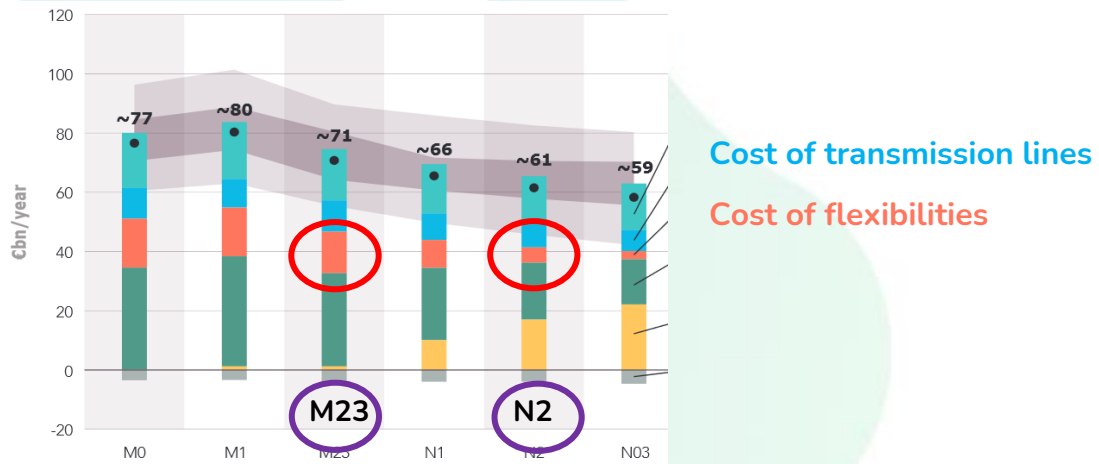
⇒ Mitigating the cost of flexibilities is key

**Floating PV (FPV)** brings land opportunities to meet the solar power objective

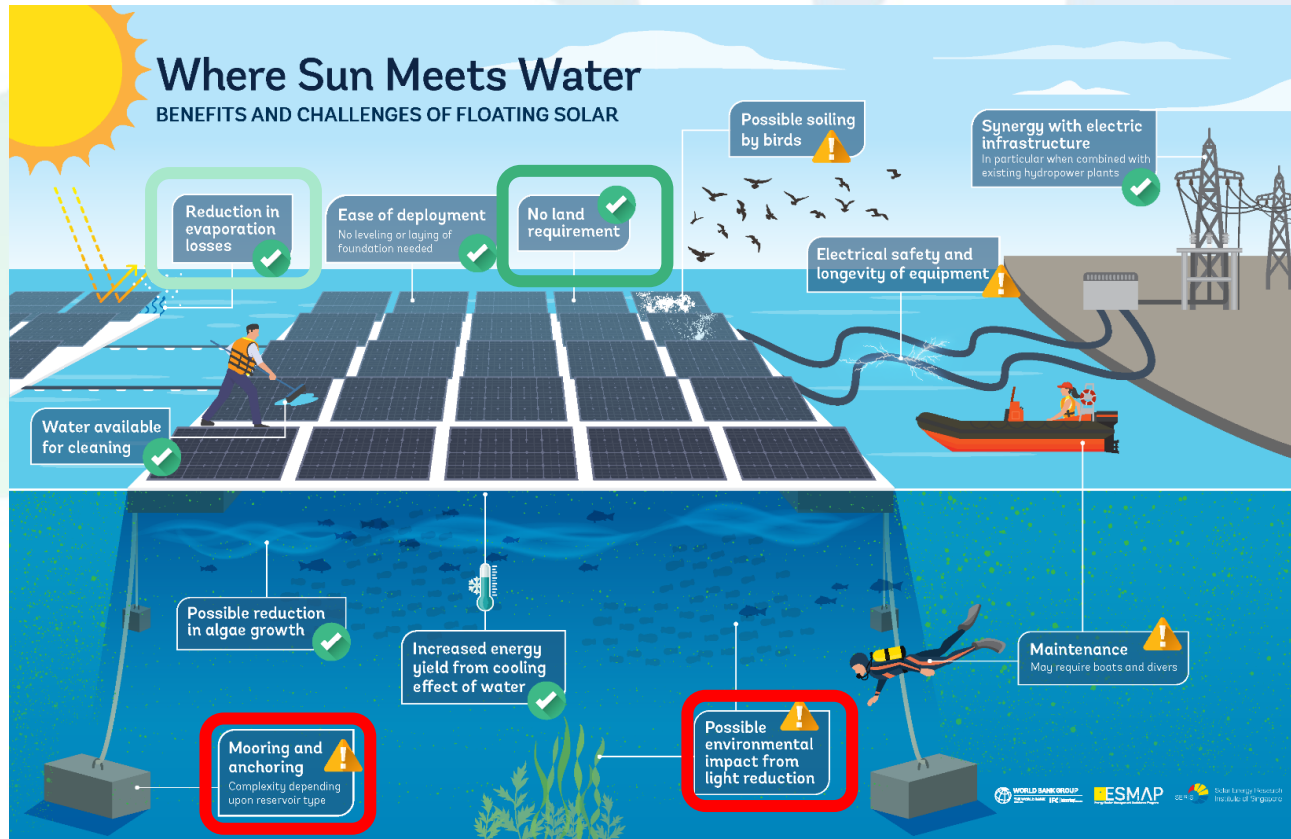
**Hybridization** brings opportunities to mitigate the cost of flexibilities



RTE, Energy Pathways to 2050, key results, oct. 2021  
[https://assets.rte-france.com/prod/public/2022-01/Energy%20pathways%202050\\_Key%20results.pdf](https://assets.rte-france.com/prod/public/2022-01/Energy%20pathways%202050_Key%20results.pdf)







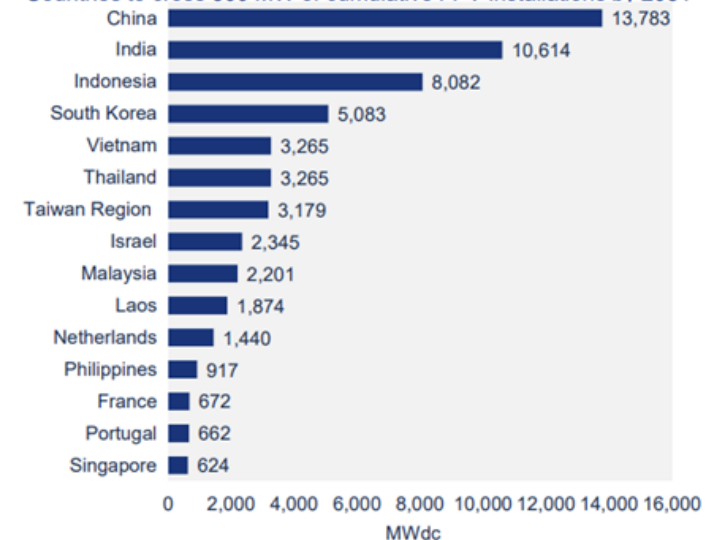
The first MW FPV project was built in Japan, 2013

Since then, many projects.

- Main driver: no land requirement
- Main challenges: mooring/anchoring and possible env. impacts

A strong trend is anticipated, especially in Asia

Countries to cross 500 MW of cumulative FPV installations by 2031



China and India will be well on their way to crossing 10 GW in the next 10 years. Netherlands and France lead the market in Europe and Israel leads the Middle-east region.

Source: Wood Mackenzie

ESMAP, Where Sun Meets Water ; Oct. 2019  
[https://www.esmap.org/where\\_sun\\_meets\\_water\\_handbook](https://www.esmap.org/where_sun_meets_water_handbook)

Most projects were built on shallow water bodies or stagnant water bodies (e.g. abandoned quarries or mine lakes)

FPV on stagnant continental water bodies (quarry mines...) is becoming a mature technology

But the potential is limited, and two other options are considered:

- Floating PV at sea (out of the scope of this presentation)
- Floating PV on Dam Reservoirs

This is more difficult:

- Higher waves, Water level variations
- Dam safety issues

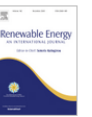


Source: asahi.com

It has more potential:



Renewable Energy  
Volume 162, December 2020, Pages 1415-1427



## Hybrid floating solar photovoltaics- hydropower systems: Benefits and global assessment of technical potential

Nathan Lee<sup>a</sup>, Ursula Grunwald<sup>a</sup>, Evan Rosenlieb<sup>a</sup>, Heather Mirlitz<sup>a,b</sup>, Alexandra Aznar<sup>a</sup>,  
Robert Spencer<sup>a</sup>, Sadie Cox<sup>a</sup>

### Conclusions

In this work, we present an approach to estimate the **technical potential of FPV deployed in hybrid systems with hydropower and identify significant global potentials from 3.0TW to 7.6TW** for the scenarios considered (**4,251TWh to 10,616TWh per year** of generation). Additionally, we review potential operational benefits that these hybrid systems may provide. In conclusion, we present pathways to apply the knowledge from this work and potentially improve the assessment.

## Some projects have been built recently

- Pilot or small projects in some countries
- **Larger projects** especially in Asia



Cirata Reservoir, courtesy Aries Firman  
145 MWp ; 200 ha on a dam reservoir of 6,000 ha surface area  
Cirata HPP : 1 GW ; concrete-faced rockfill dam

## FPV-DR: what's new?

**Technical standards** available for FPV (DNV-RP-0584) do not cover the specific issues of Dam Reservoirs.

=> At least two initiatives, aimed at fostering the development of sound FPV-**DR** projects:

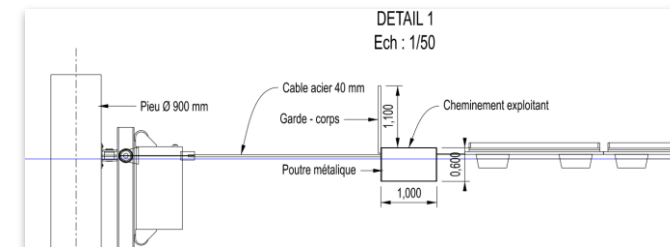
- **ICOLD**: preparation of a **bulletin** on FPV-DR
- **Fr-COLD**: a WG to prepare **recommendations** for owners, developers and designers, with focus on dam safety.

## Development of **technical solutions** for dam reservoirs, e.g.:

- FPV Island simpler shapes
- Elastic mooring lines
- Piles+ bollards anchoring systems



Seaflex, developed within EU funded Fresher Project

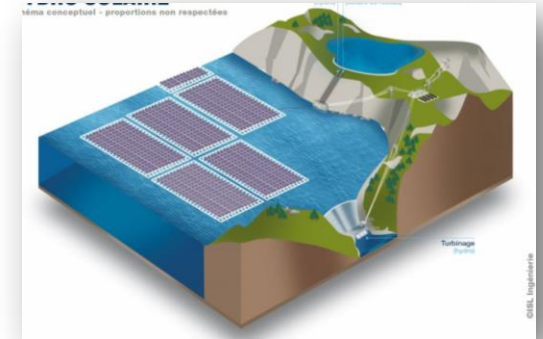


- FPV Monitoring
- New types of floats

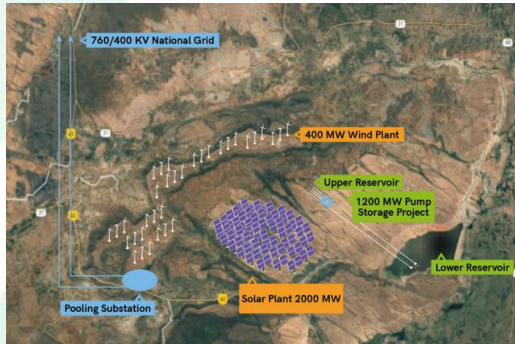


« **Solar-Hydro Hybridization** ». One concept, various implementations:

- (1) The integrated **Solar-Hydro powerplant** : S + H + EMS, co-located
- (2) The **Virtual powerplant** : several powerplants with a single operator
- (3) **Independent Solar and Hydro powerplants** & control by the grid operator



Integrated « Full S-H » powerplant, conceptual sketch



Pinnapuram integrated hybridized powerplant (under construction)

## In Europe,

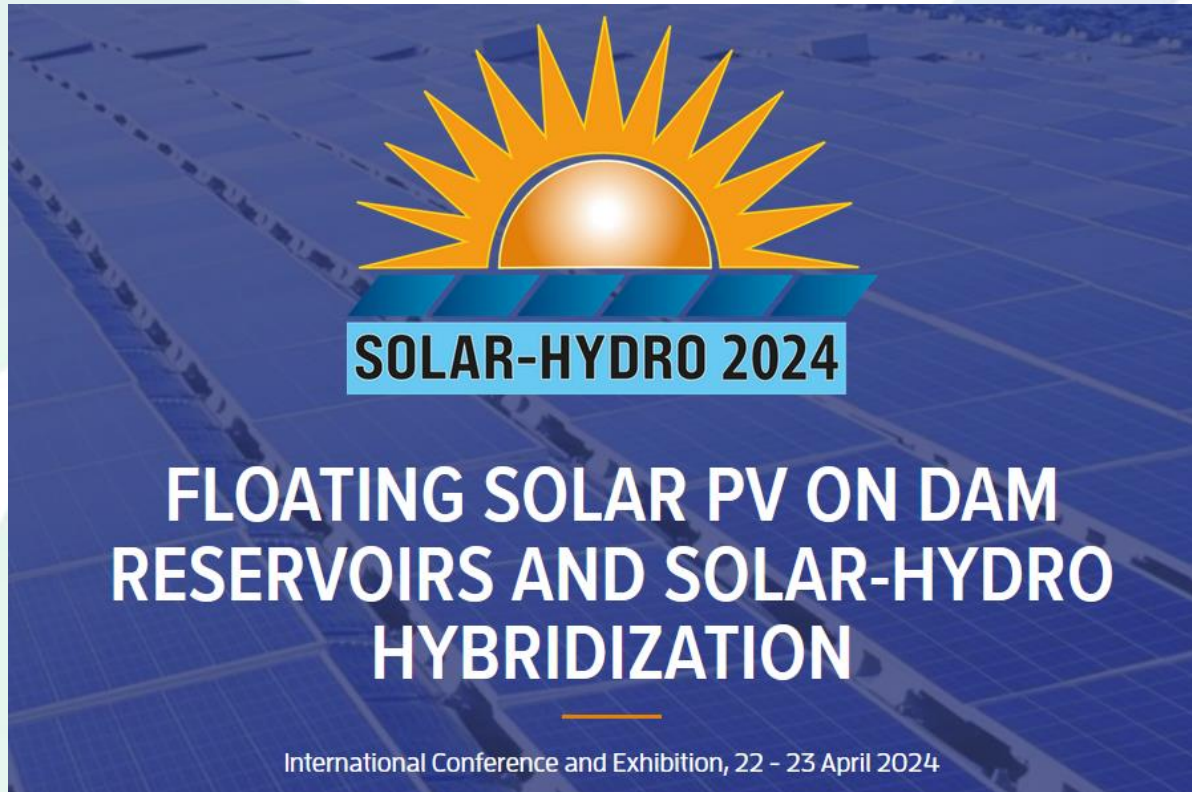
- (1) is adapted to isolated grids, and is also tested at Alqueva (PT)
- (2) is already practised by several operators
- (3) is the main option

**In Europe**, things have changed a lot since the development of most of the hydropower plants and dam reservoirs.

We now need **Flexibilities**: new PSPs (even non-conventional), upgrading of existing HPP for improved flexibility, modification of HP reservoirs operation, and properly adapted remuneration for capacity & grid services

(And also: **Support (or priority) to other purposes**: drought & flood mitigation, biodiversity => modification of HP reservoirs operation)

These topics will be further discussed next week at the:



Antibes (France), 22-23 April 2024

# THANK YOU!

[[Luc DEROO, deroo@isl.fr](mailto:deroo@isl.fr)]