



# Safe and reliable dams and tunnels – international experience

Nepal Power Investment Summit 2016

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# Outline

- NGI
- History – Hydropower Experience
- Dam Design and Monitoring
- Tunnels and Caverns
- Geosurveys and Geological Mapping
- Geohazards and Risk Assessments
- Summary

Trondheim - 2005

Oslo - 1953

# *On Safe Ground*

Houston - 2002

Kuala Lumpur – 2009  
(JV with G & P)

Perth - 2014

Private foundation

R & D and consultancy

Staff

225 employees from ~30 nations

20-30 guest researchers every year

# NGI - mission



- An international source of geoscience expertise
- Proactively develop applicable knowledge and technology
- Continuous professional development and educational outreach

# NGI - Markets



➤ Offshore Energy

➤ Natural Hazards

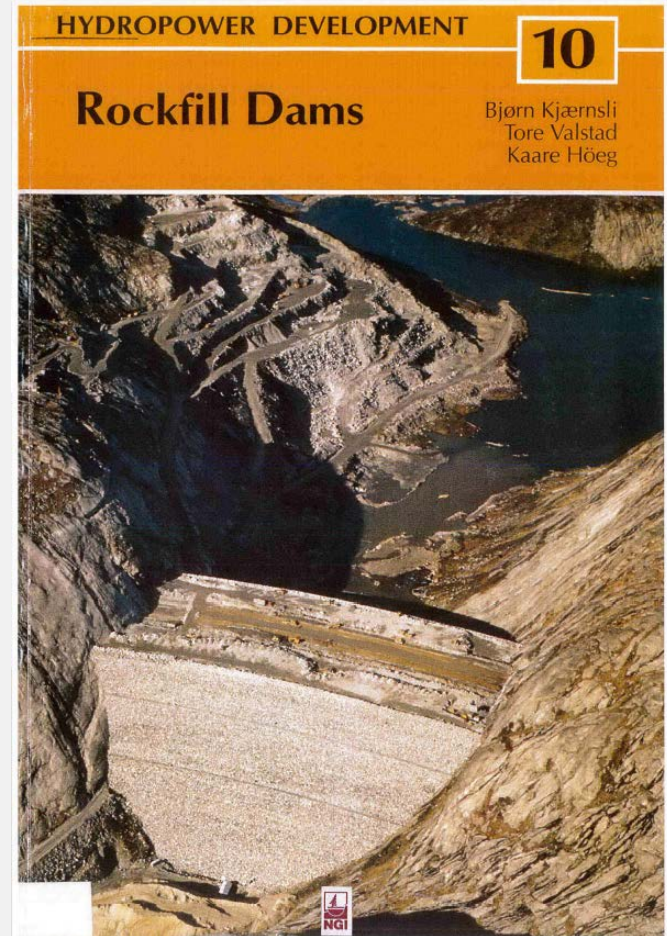
➤ Building, Construction and Transportation

➤ Environmental Engineering



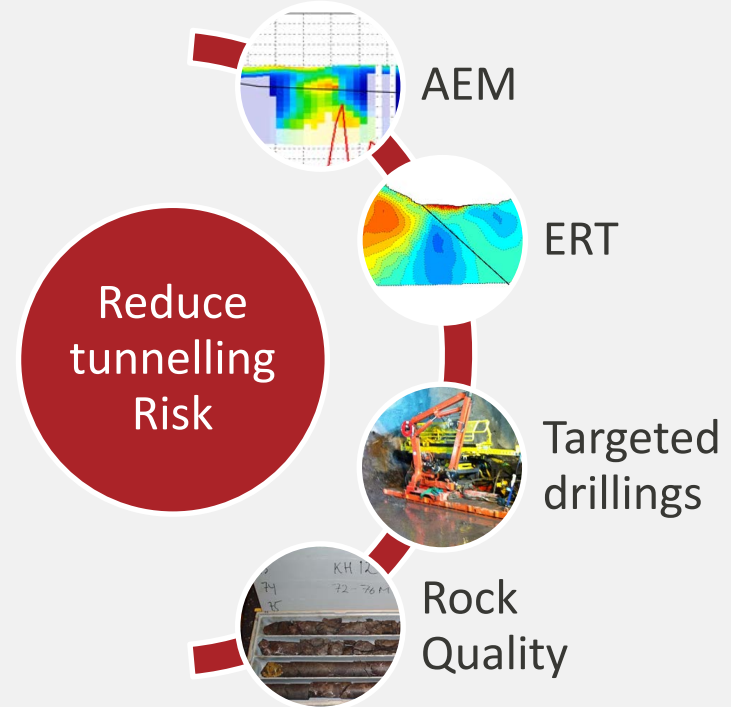
# Hydropower history at NGI

- Involved in design, construction and instrumentation of dams, tunnels and caverns for hydropower since the 1950s.
- Designed 65% of norwegian embankment dams (115 dams) and several dams world-wide.
- Authors of Publication No. 10 *Rockfill Dams* in the Hydropower Development book series
- Active in international development of the asphalt concrete core concept in dam construction.



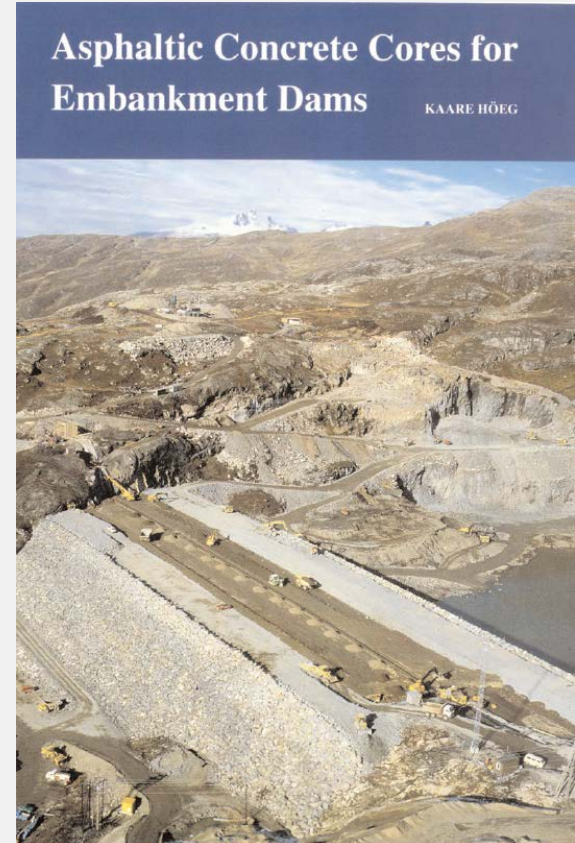
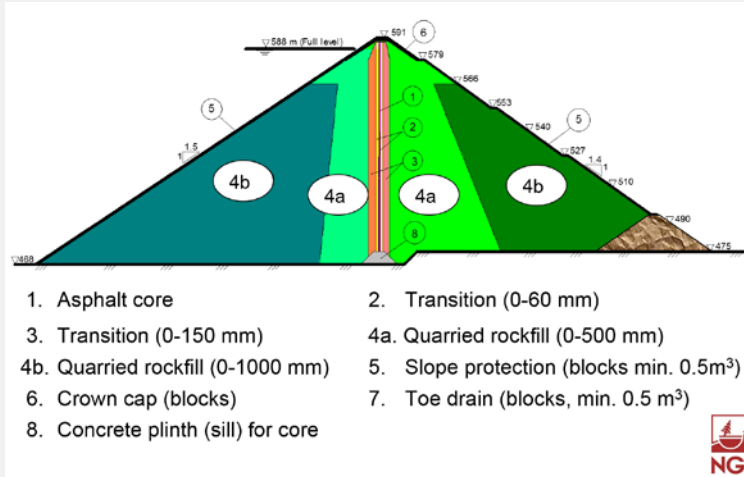
# Hydropower history at NGI (2)

- Used risk assessments and reliability based design methods since early 1990's.
- Developed the Q-system for determination of rock quality and support systems in the early 1970's.
- Continuous research and application of new methods for more cost-effective geosurveys and mapping of geological conditions (e.g rock quality).



# Asphalt Concrete Core Dams

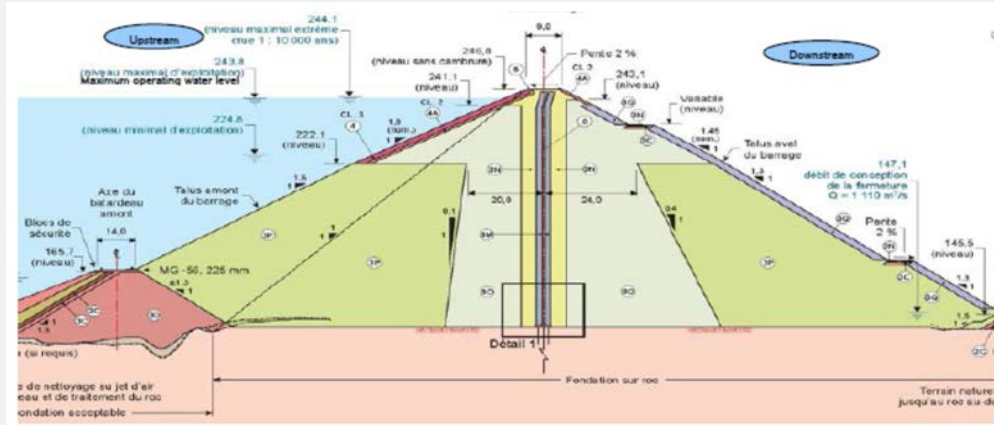
- Using asphalt concrete as core material
- Simple and robust construction method
- High rate of construction
- Earthquake resistant, self-healing of any cracks





# Embankment Dams – examples

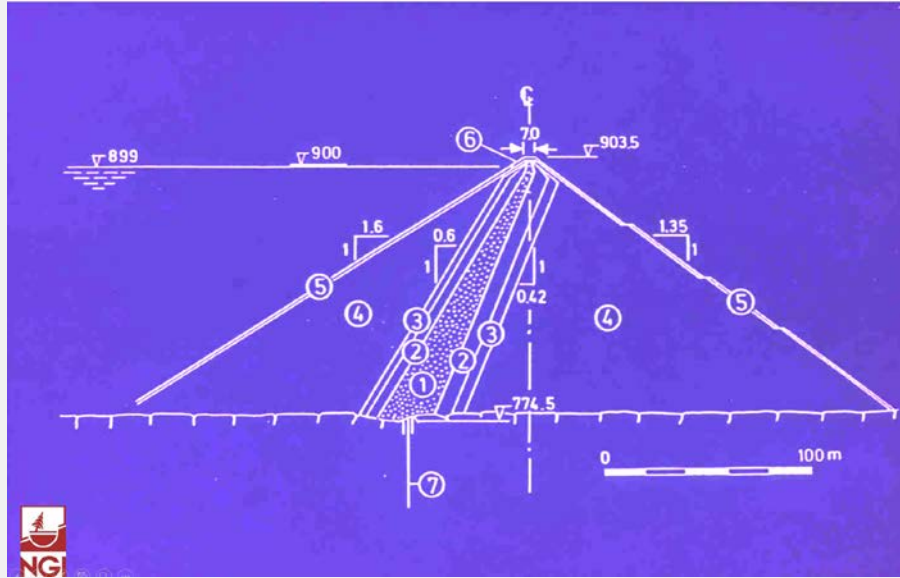
## La Romaine 2 (130 m), asphalt core



La Romaine 2: 640 MW  
Whole La Romaine River Project: 1550 MW

# Embankment Dams – examples

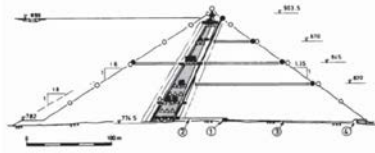
## Svartevoll Dam (129 m), Norway



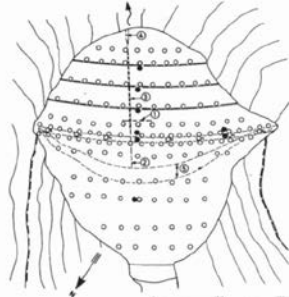
Constructed between 1973 and 1976  
Heightening in 2011

# Embankment Dams – examples

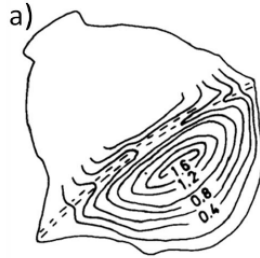
## Monitoring of Svartevann Dam (129 m), Norway



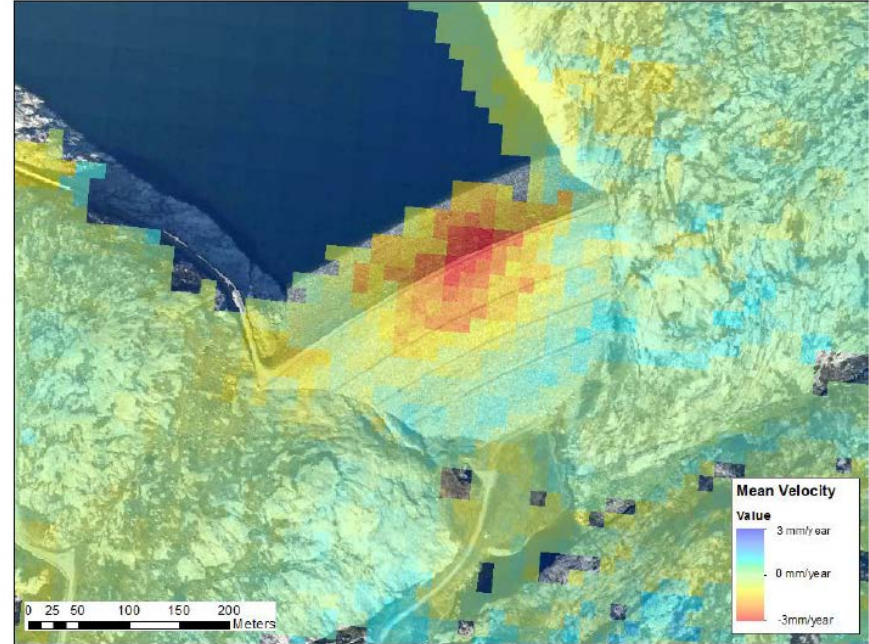
- Reference plate
- Surface monuments
- △ Pore pressure piezometer
- Earth pressure cells, single and rosette
- Casing for measurement of displacement
- ≡ Extensometers



- ① Seepage barrier
- ② Concrete wall
- ③ Pipelines
- ④ Instrument house
- ⑤ Core



DiBagio et al, 1982



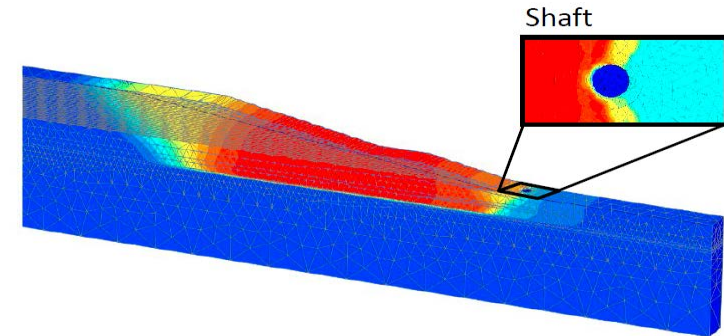
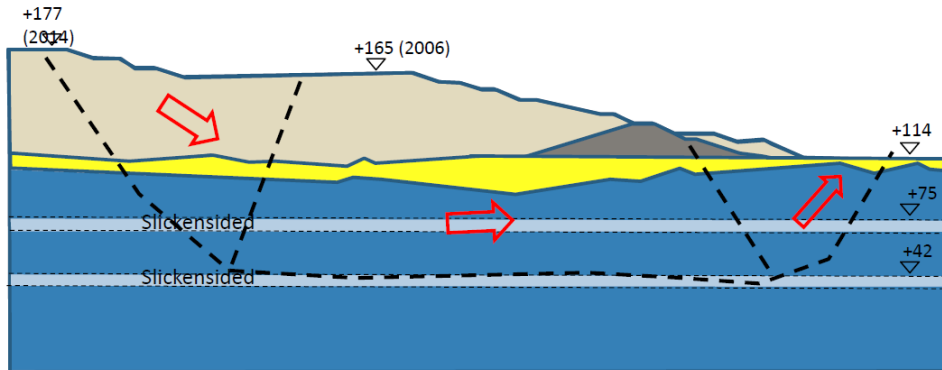
Vöge et al, 2013

SAR allows mapping of very local displacements at the dam  
The method has a great potential for cost-efficient long-term monitoring.



# Zelazny Most Dam, Poland

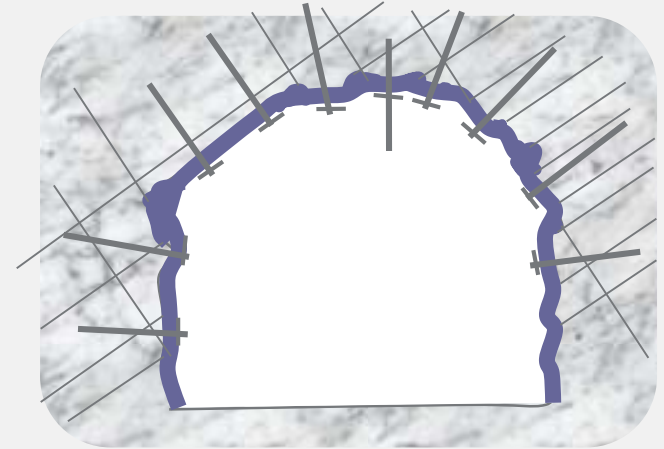
- The dam is displacing with increased velocity
- NGI using monitoring and numerical analyses to predict future behaviour of the dam
- Analyses of deformations, stability and seismic response
- Mitigations to increase the lifetime (i.e years of operation)



# Tunnels and caverns

## Tunneling in Norway:

- 1000 road tunnels (900 km)
- 710 railroad tunnels (320 km)
- 290 hydropower tunnels/shafts (3100 km)
- >50 small diameter TBM-tunnels
- 200 underground hydropower stations
- 36 subsea tunnels
- 10-20 oil and gas storage facilities
- Unknown no. of rock caverns



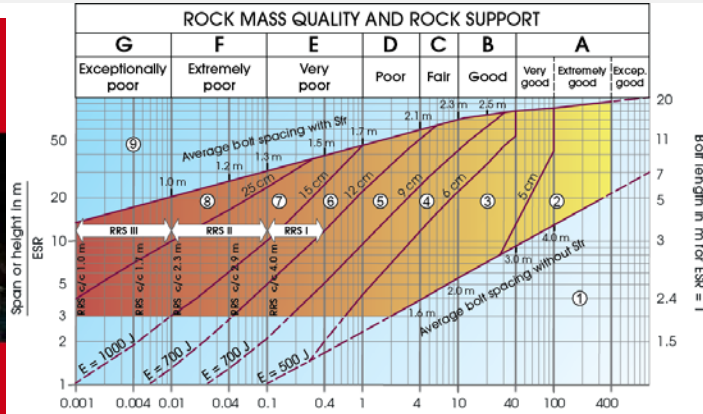


# Rock support and reinforcement

## Using the Q-system

Rock mass classification and support design

NGI



$$\text{Rock mass quality } Q = \frac{RQD}{J_n} \times \frac{J_a}{J_a} \times \frac{J_w}{SRF}$$

### Support categories

- 1) Unsupported or spot bolting
- 2) Spot bolting, **SB**
- 3) Systematic bolting, fibre reinforced sprayed concrete, 5-6 cm, **B+Str**
- 4) Fibre reinforced sprayed concrete and bolting, 6-9 cm, **Str (E500)+B**
- 5) Fibre reinforced sprayed concrete and bolting, 9-12 cm, **Str (E700)+B**
- 6) Fibre reinforced sprayed concrete and bolting, 12-15 cm + reinforced ribs of sprayed concrete and bolting, **Str (E700)+RRS I+B**
- 7) Fibre reinforced sprayed concrete >15 cm + reinforced ribs of sprayed concrete and bolting, **Str (E1000)+RRS II+B**
- 8) Cast concrete lining, **CCA** or **Str (E1000)+RRS III+B**
- 9) Special evaluation

Bolts spacing is mainly based on Ø20 mm

E = Energy absorption in fibre reinforced sprayed concrete

ESR = Excavation Support Ratio

Areas with dashed lines have no empirical data

### RRS - spacing related to Q-value

- I** **SI30/6 Ø16 - Ø20 (span 10m)**  
D40/6+2 Ø16-20 (span 20m)
- II** **SI35/6 Ø16-20 (span 5m)**  
**D45/6+2 Ø16-20 (span 10m)**  
D55/6+4 Ø20 (span 20m)
- III** **D40/6+4 Ø16-20 (span 5m)**  
**D55/6+4 Ø20 (span 10 m)**  
D70/6+6 Ø20 (span 20 m)

SI30/6 = Single layer of 6 rebars,  
30 cm thickness of sprayed concrete

D = Double layer of rebars

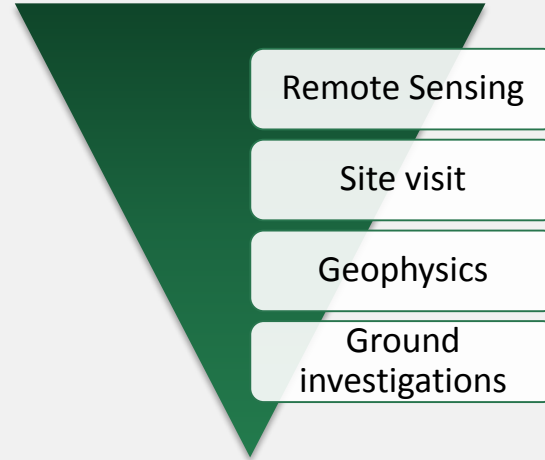
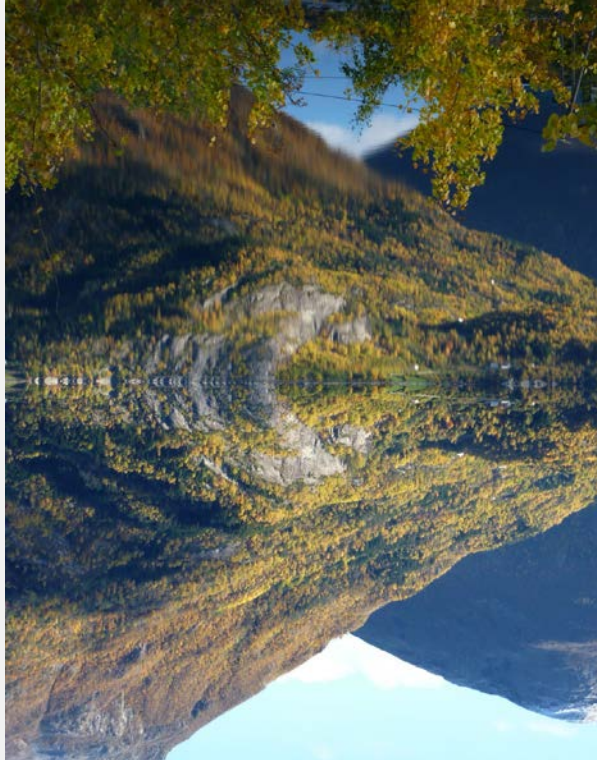
Ø16 = Rebar diameter is 16 mm

c/c = RRS spacing, centre - centre



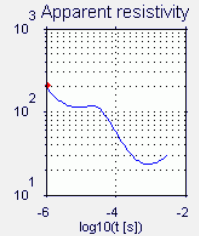
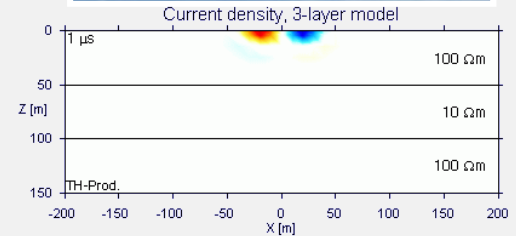
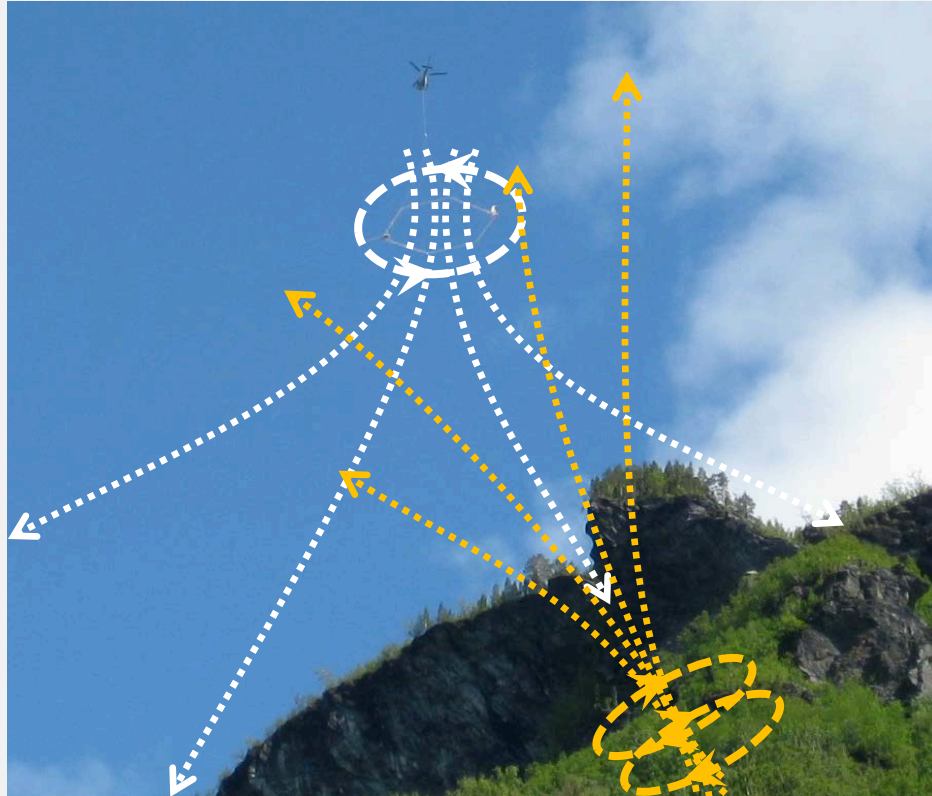
Barton, Lien and Lunde (1974)

# Geosurveys. Bottom-up approach



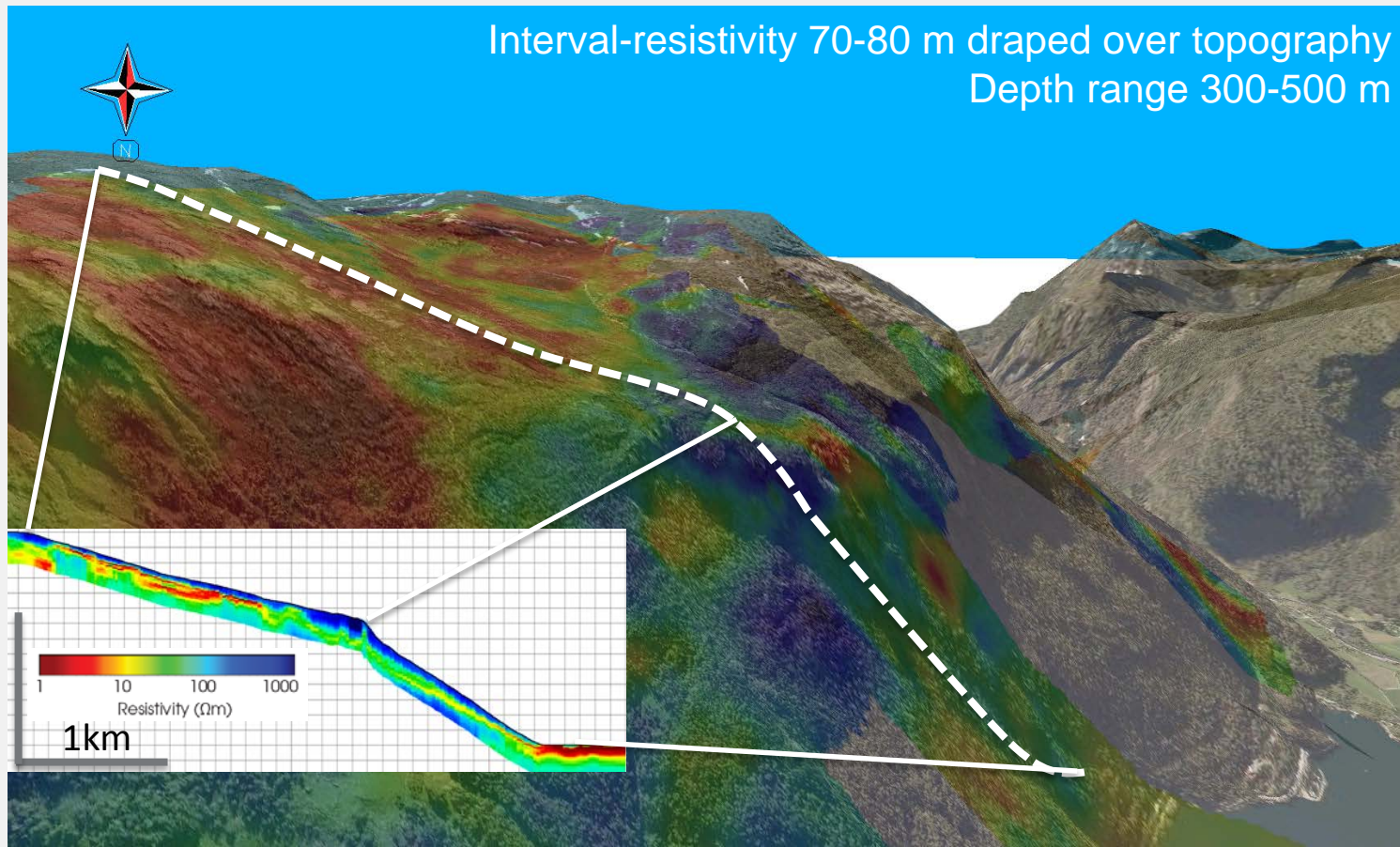
- Important to understand the geology in early stage of a project to get the best design solutions and avoid redesign and delays.
- Remote sensing and geophysics to focus and increase efficiency.
- (not as a additional method)

# Airborne geophysics (EM)





# Anomalies linked to low rock quality



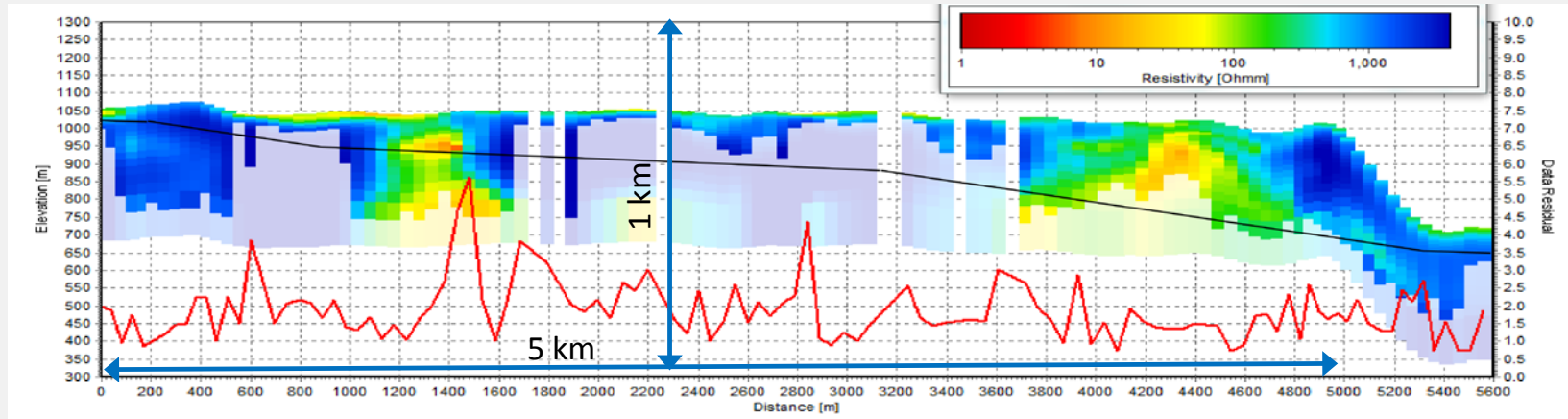
# Hydropower tunnel

Weakness zones  
identified in a  
gneiss area

Resistivity section along tunnel

Depth slice (40-60 m depth)

Weathered layer thickness



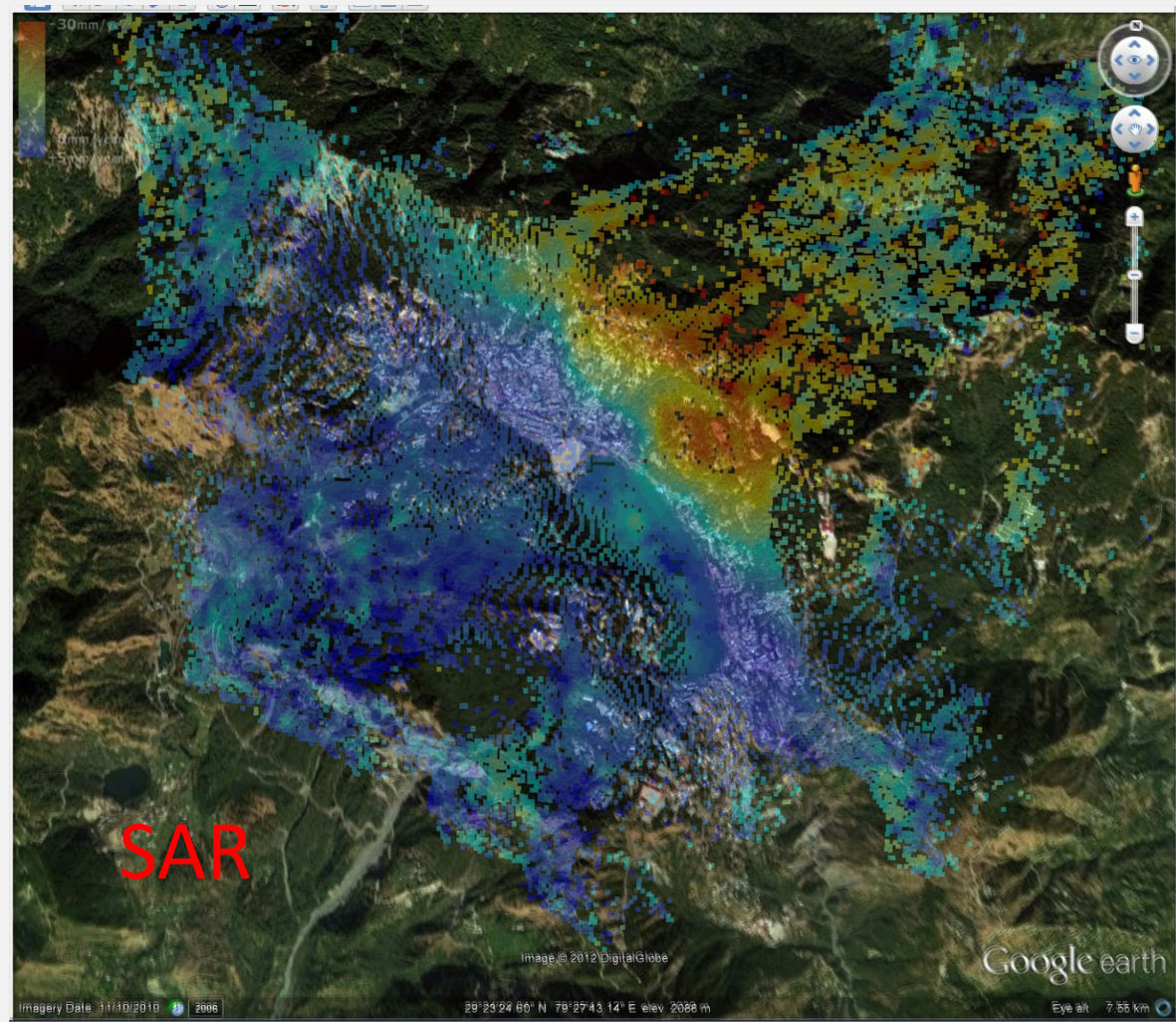


# Deep seated landslide Nainital, India:





# Deep seated landslide Nainital, India:



# Hazaed Risk Assessments in Nepal

## Earthquake and earthquake induced landslide hazard maps

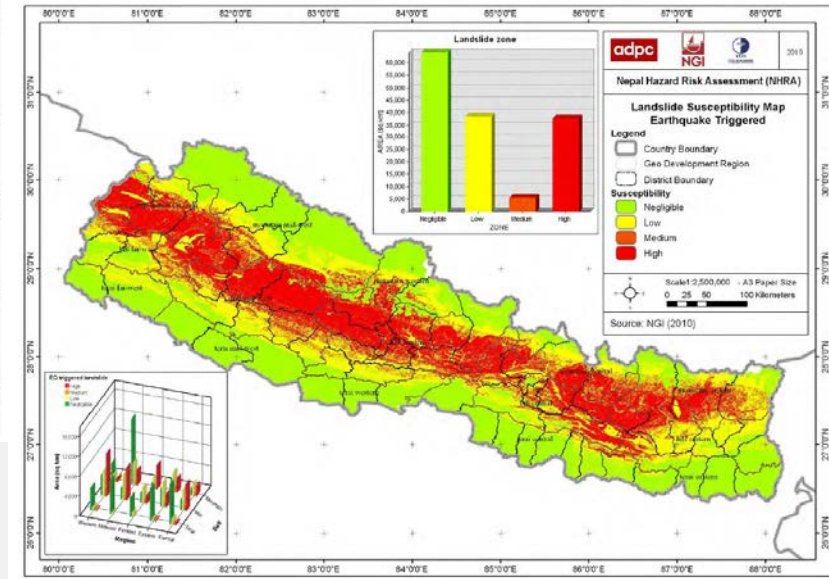
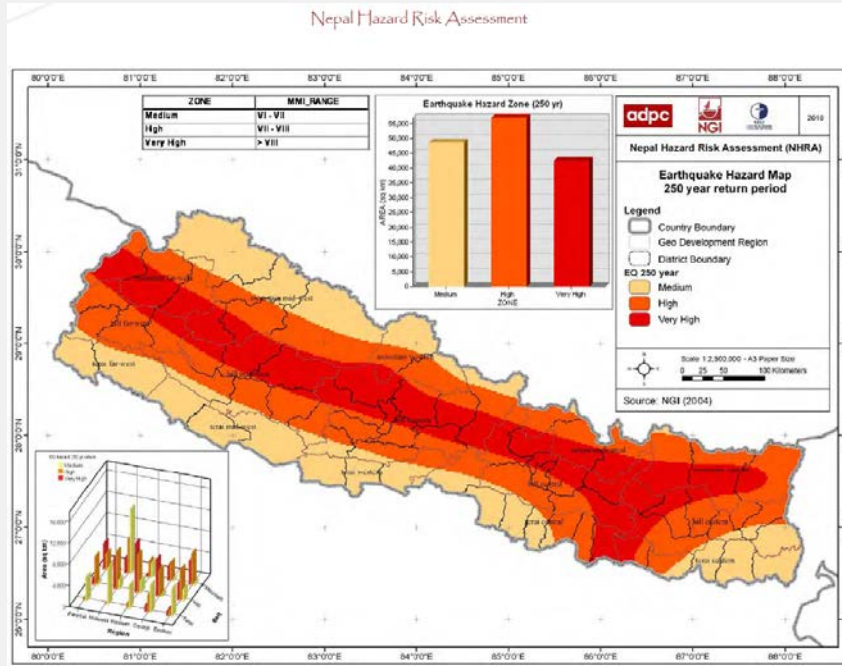


Government of Nepal

adpc



Nepal Hazard Risk Assessment



Study for ADPC, 2010.

Financed by Global Forum for Disaster Risk Reduction and the World Bank.

# Summary

- Efficient and effective geo-survey
  - Reducing risk of unexpected ground conditions
- Dam and tunnel engineering expertise
  - Enabling safe, cost effective solutions
- Slope stability expertise
  - Enabling safe infrastructure (services roads, transmission)



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