



# Downstream Spillway Erosion in EDP Dams

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**EDP Produção**  
**Dam Engineering Division**



EURCOLD

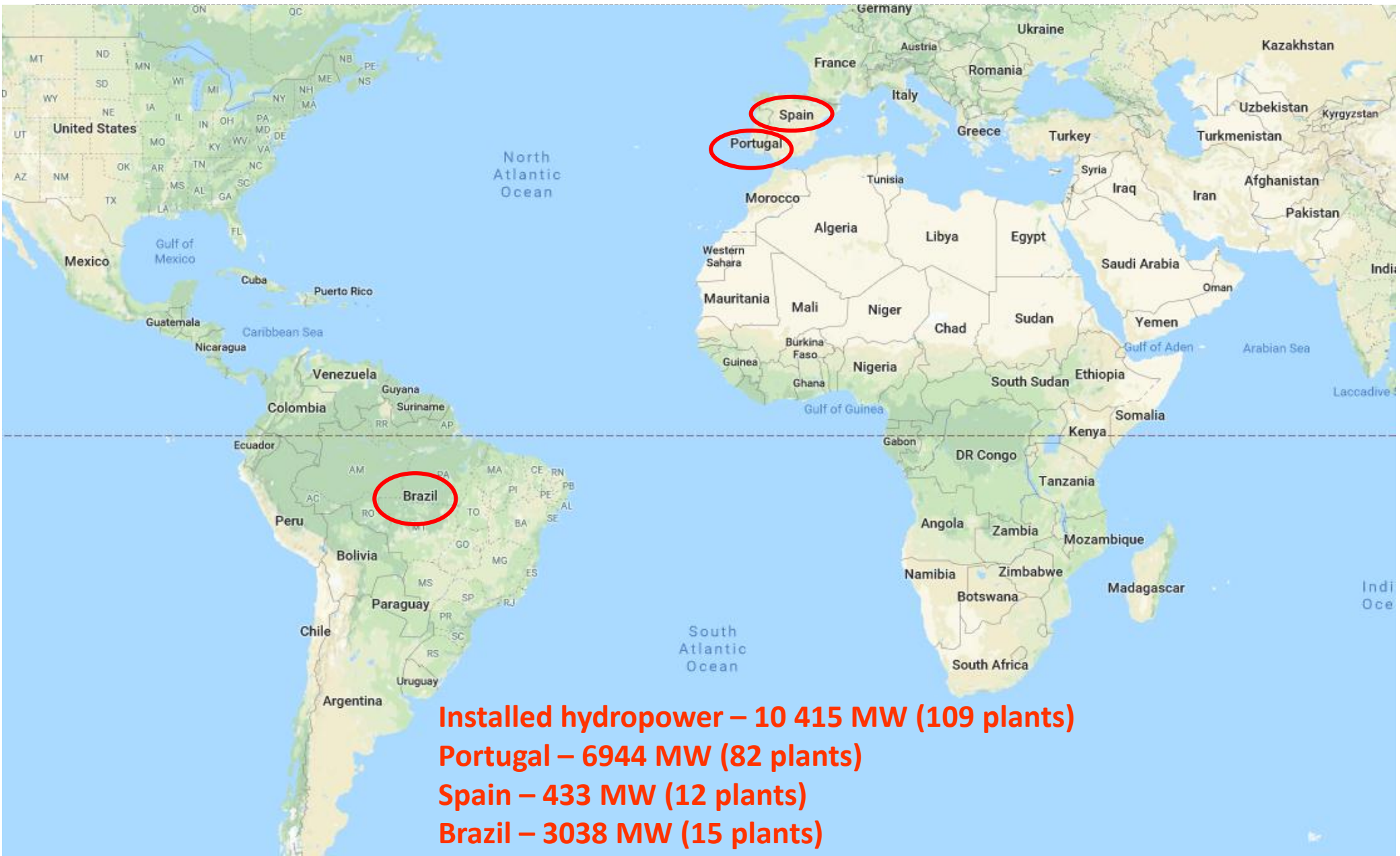
International Workshop  
Overflowing Erosion of Dams and Dikes  
11-14th December 2017  
Aussois, France

# Agenda

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- **EDP Hydropower Plants**
- **EDP Dams in Portugal**
- **Downstream Spillway Erosion – Problems and Corrective Measures**
  - ✓ **Cançada and Salamonde Dams**
  - ✓ **Santa Luzia Dam**
  - ✓ **Picote Dam**
  - ✓ **Paradela Dam**
- **Recent dams – Adopted Solution**
- **Final Remarks**

# EDP Hydropower Plants



**Installed hydropower – 10 415 MW (109 plants)**

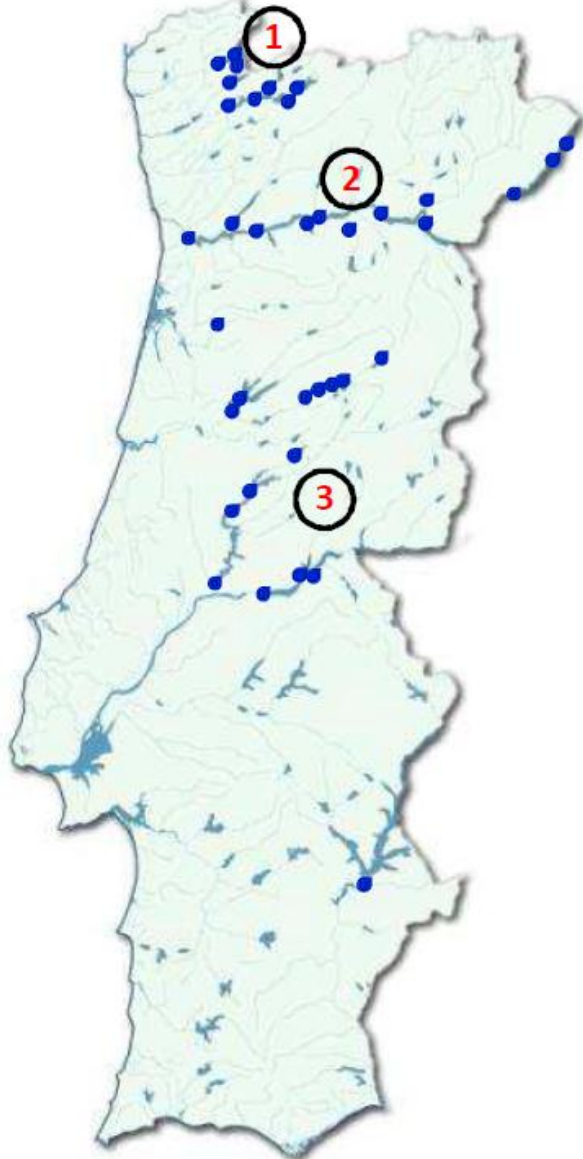
**Portugal – 6944 MW (82 plants)**

**Spain – 433 MW (12 plants)**

**Brazil – 3038 MW (15 plants)**

# EDP Hydropower Plants in Portugal

## Hydropower plants (>10MW)



*EDP Produção* is responsible for the operation of 82 hydropower plants, with a total installed capacity of 6944 MW.

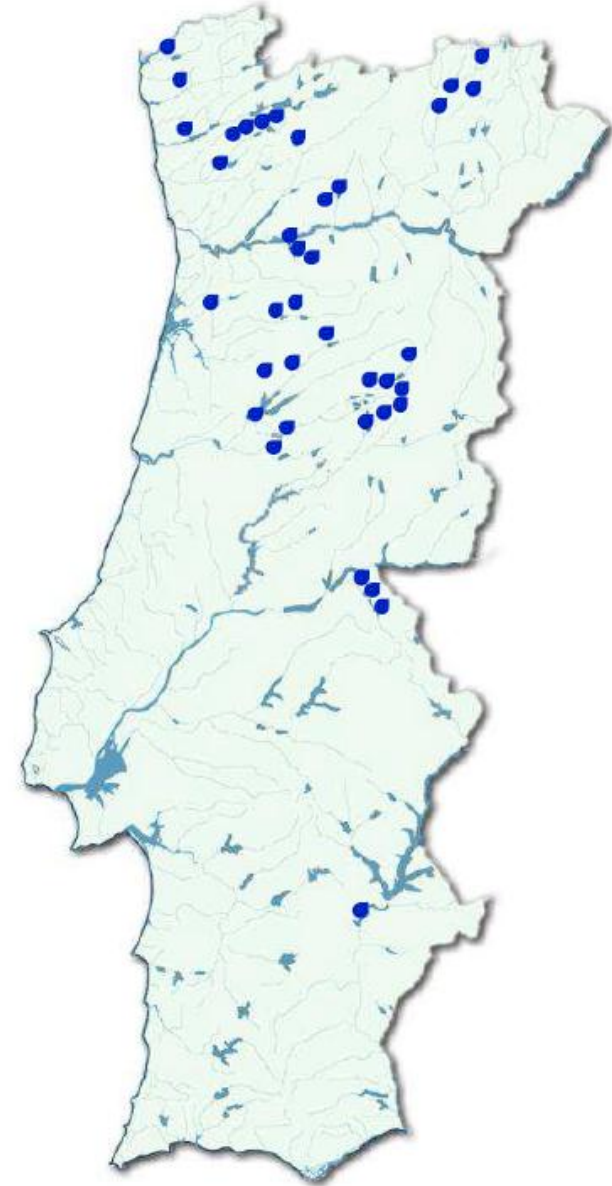
Around 2599 MW are installed in reversible units, allowing the operation in turbine and pump modes.

The power plants are organized in 3 Regional Generation Centers, associated with the respective river basins:

- Cávado-Lima ①
- Douro ②
- Tejo-Mondego ③



## Small hydro (≤10MW)



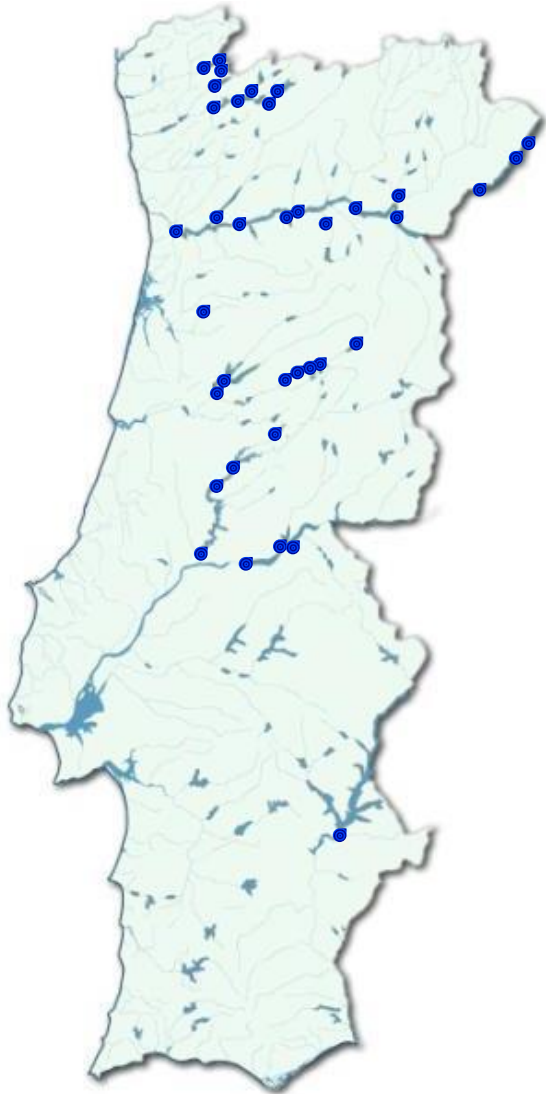
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# EDP Dams in Portugal

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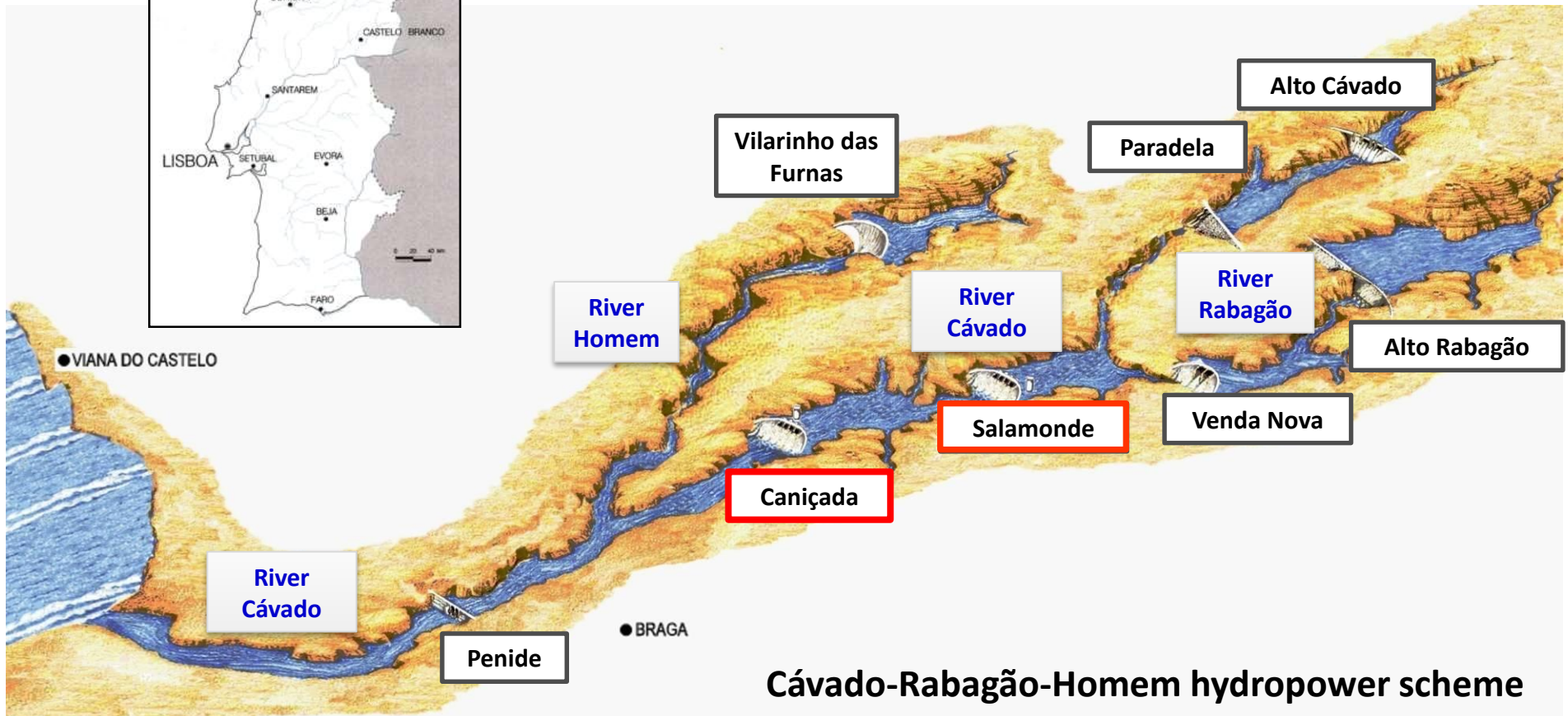
- Around 50 large dams
- 12 dams in international rivers
- Oldest dam completed in 1927
- Most recent completed in 2017
- Wide range of heights (max. 132 m)
- All structural types, with the exception of earthfill
- All dams in concrete, except 3 (rockfill)
- All dams founded in bedrock, except 1 (partly in alluvium)

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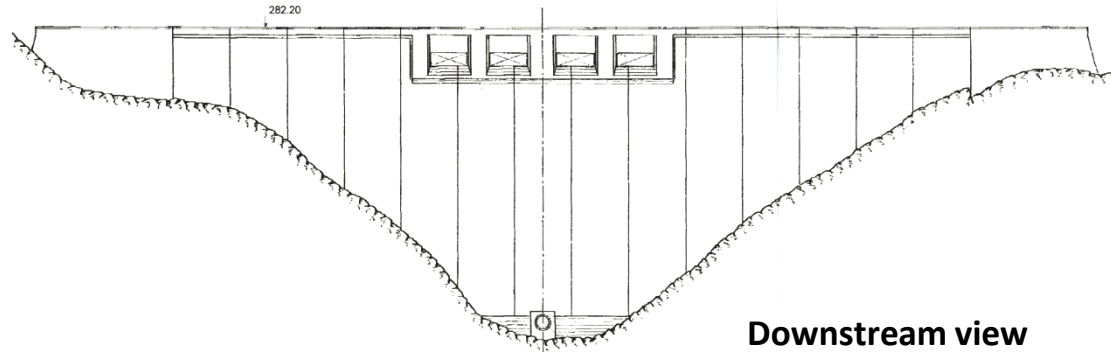
# Caniçada and Salamonde Dams



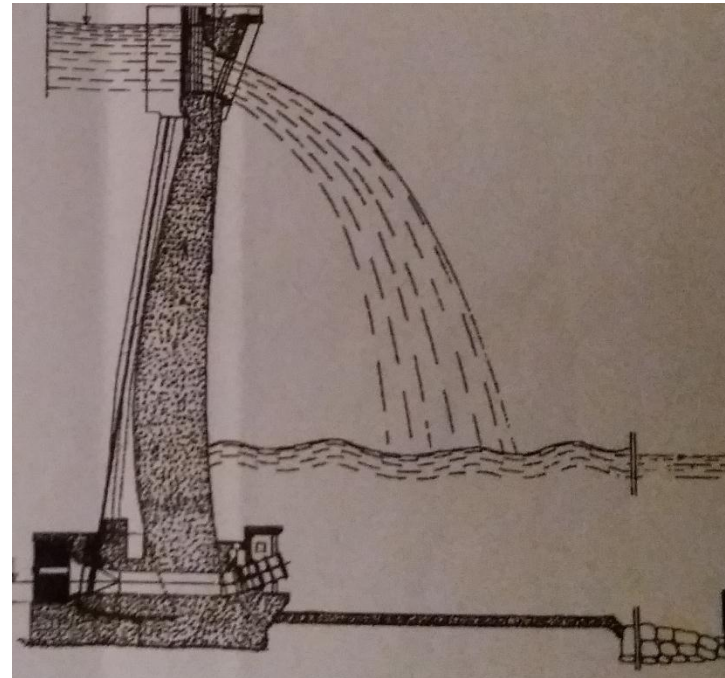
Cávado-Rabagão-Homem hydropower scheme



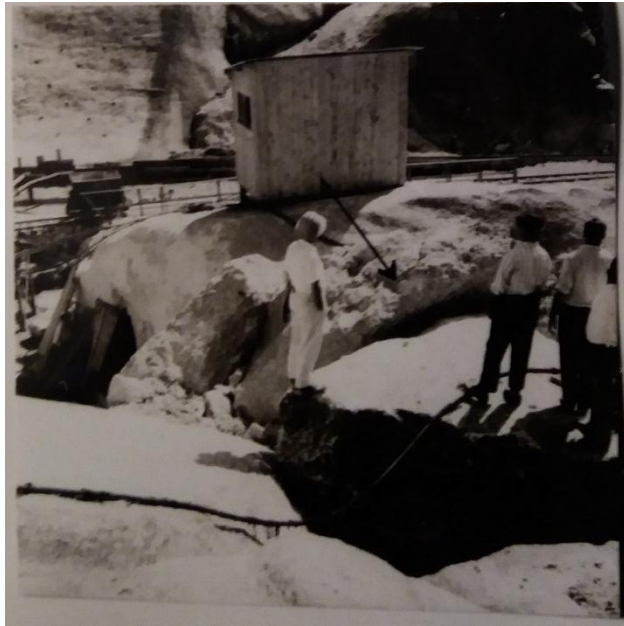
# Cançada Dam - Original Situation



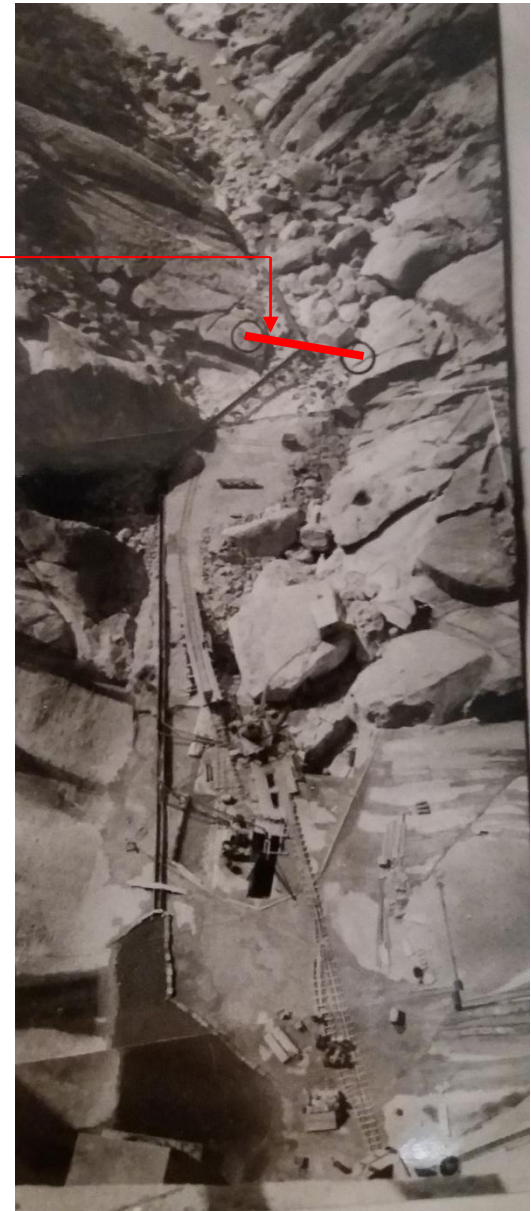
- Year of completion: 1955
- Dam type: Thin arch
- Height: 76 m
- Foundation: Granite
- Spillway type: Controlled; free falling jet
- Maximum discharge capacity: 1700 m<sup>3</sup>/s



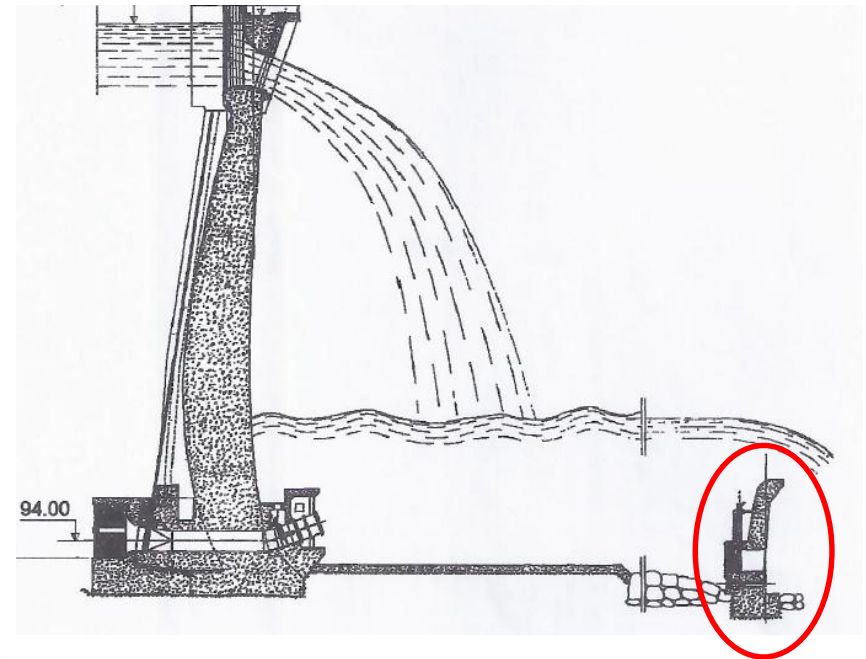
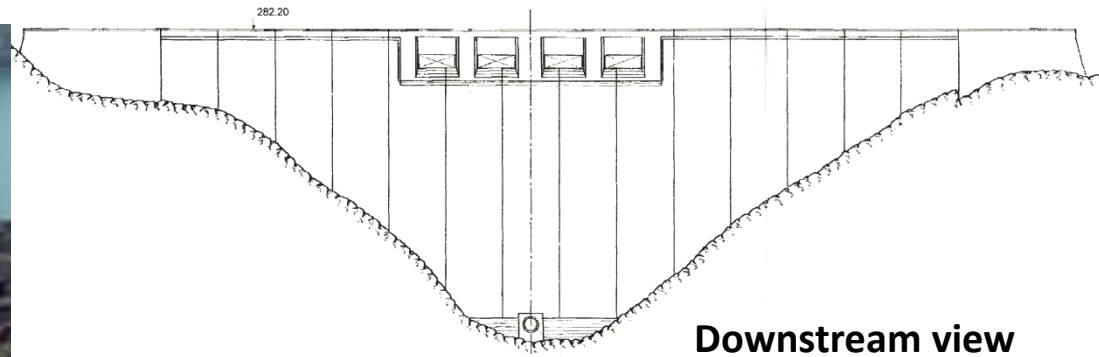
# Cançada dam – Repair Works in 1960-61



Weir: 115 m  
downstream the dam



# Caniçada Dam – After the Execution of the Downstream Weir



Free falling jet discharging into a plunge pool

Cross section

# Cançada Dam – Downstream River Bed

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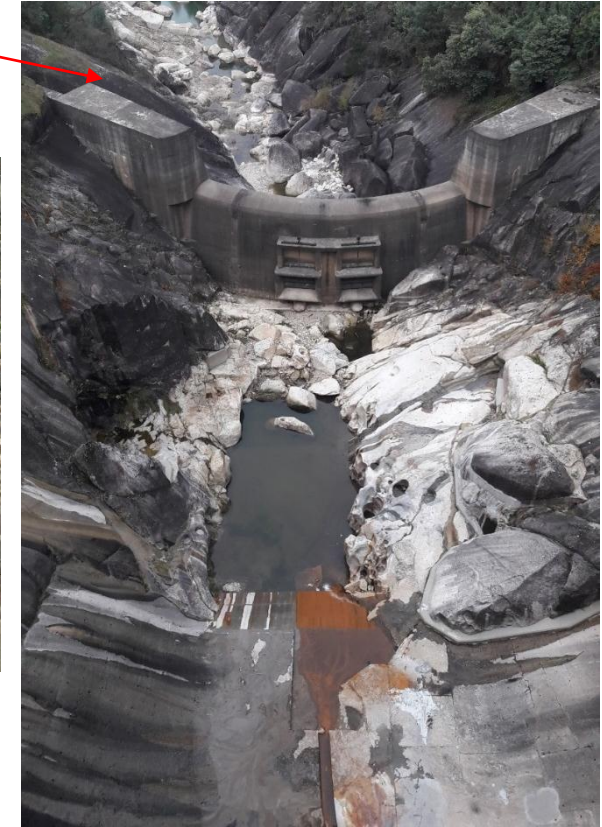
Weir



1970



2004



2017

# Caniçada and Salamonde Dams

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Complementary spillways



Caniçada dam

1700 m<sup>3</sup>/s + 2000 m<sup>3</sup>/s



Salamonde dam

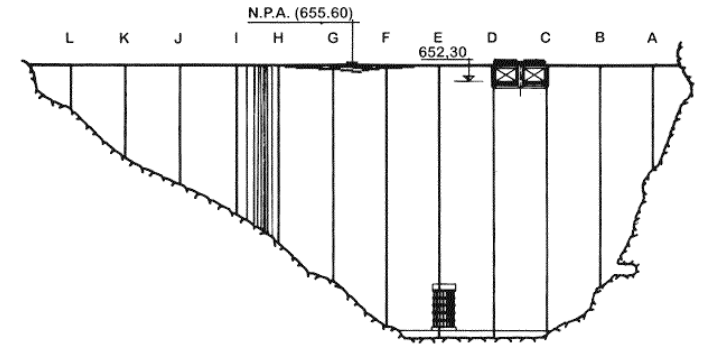
1700 m<sup>3</sup>/s + 1000 m<sup>3</sup>/s

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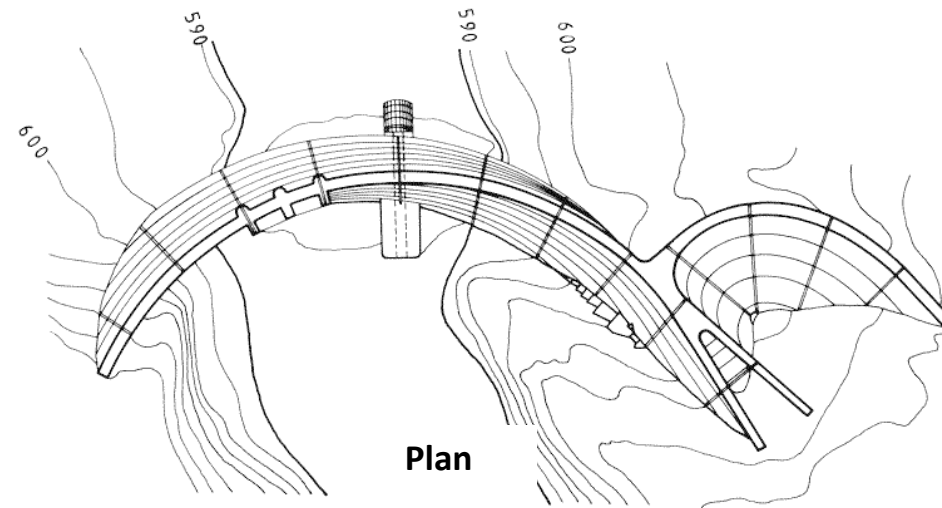
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# Santa Luzia Dam



Upstream view

- Year of completion: 1942
- Dam type: Thin arch
- Height: 76 m
- Foundation: Quartzite
- Spillway type: Controlled; free falling jet
- Maximum discharge capacity: 120 m<sup>3</sup>/s



Plan

# Santa Luzia Dam – Downstream Spillway Erosion

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- Until 1997: scour depth 3m
- Between 1998 and 2001: scour depth 7m





# Santa Luzia Dam – After Repair Works in 2003

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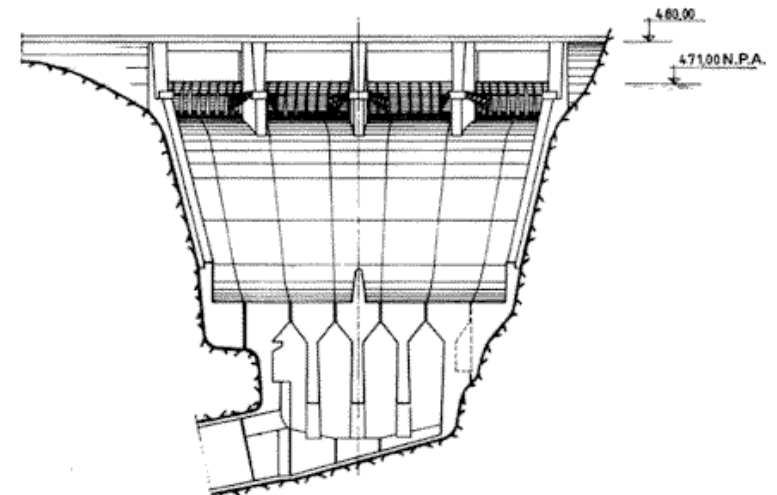
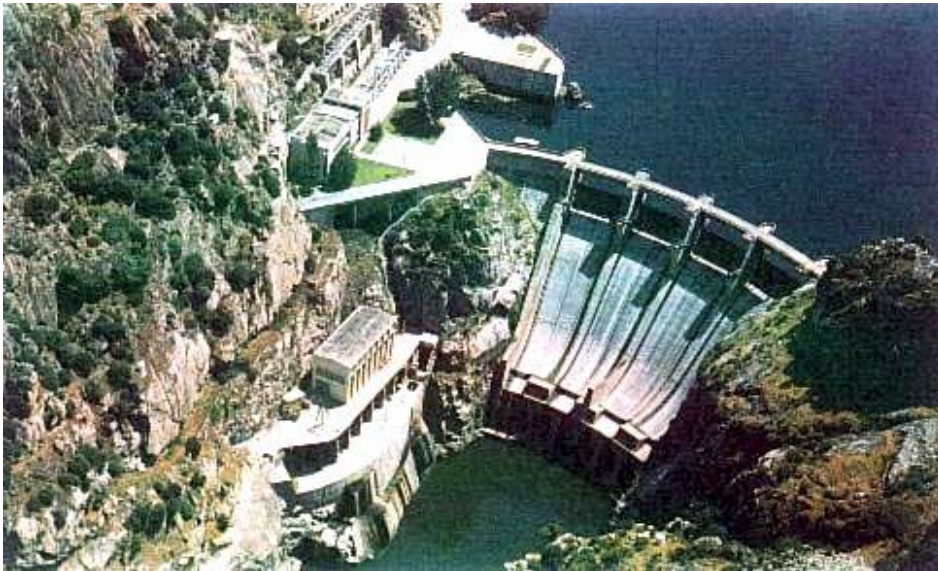
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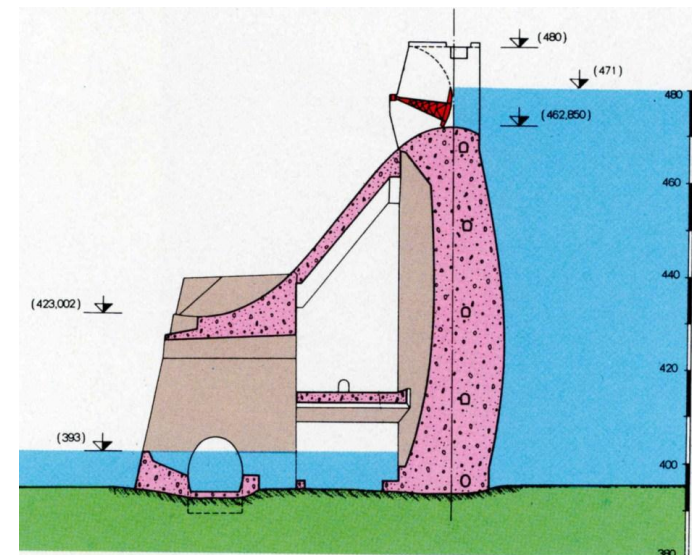


# Picote Dam



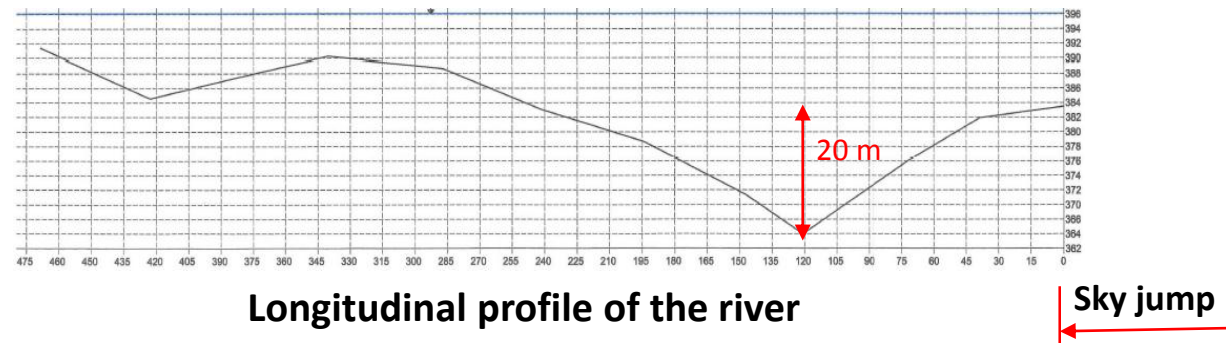
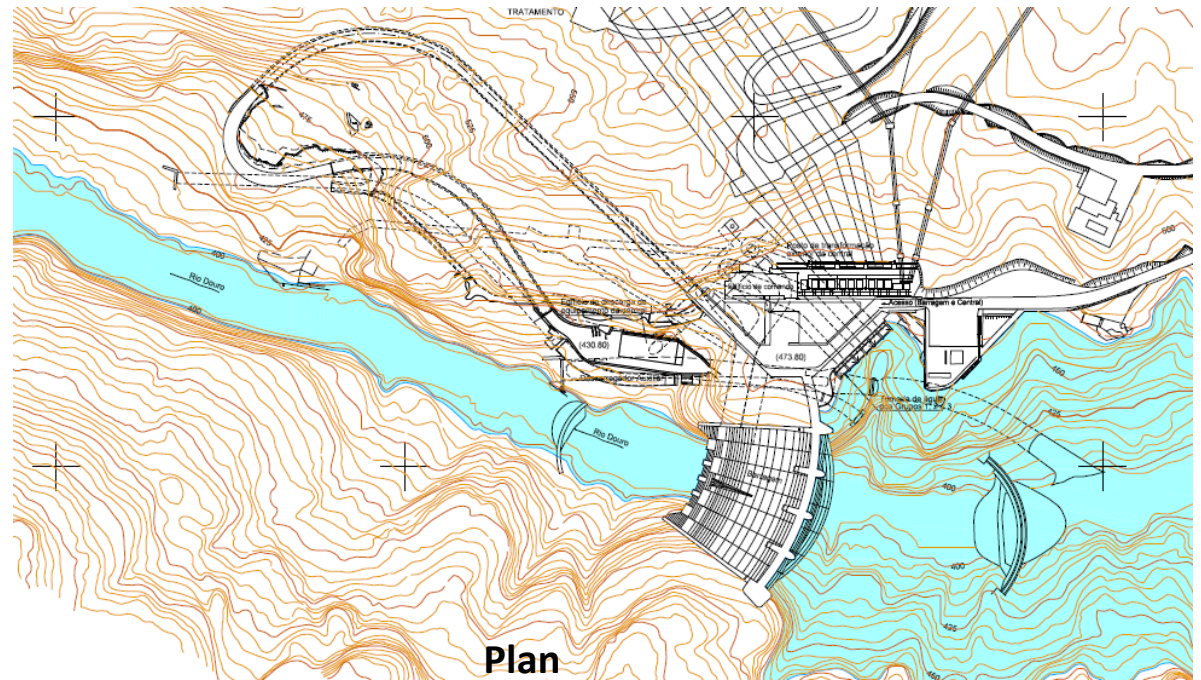
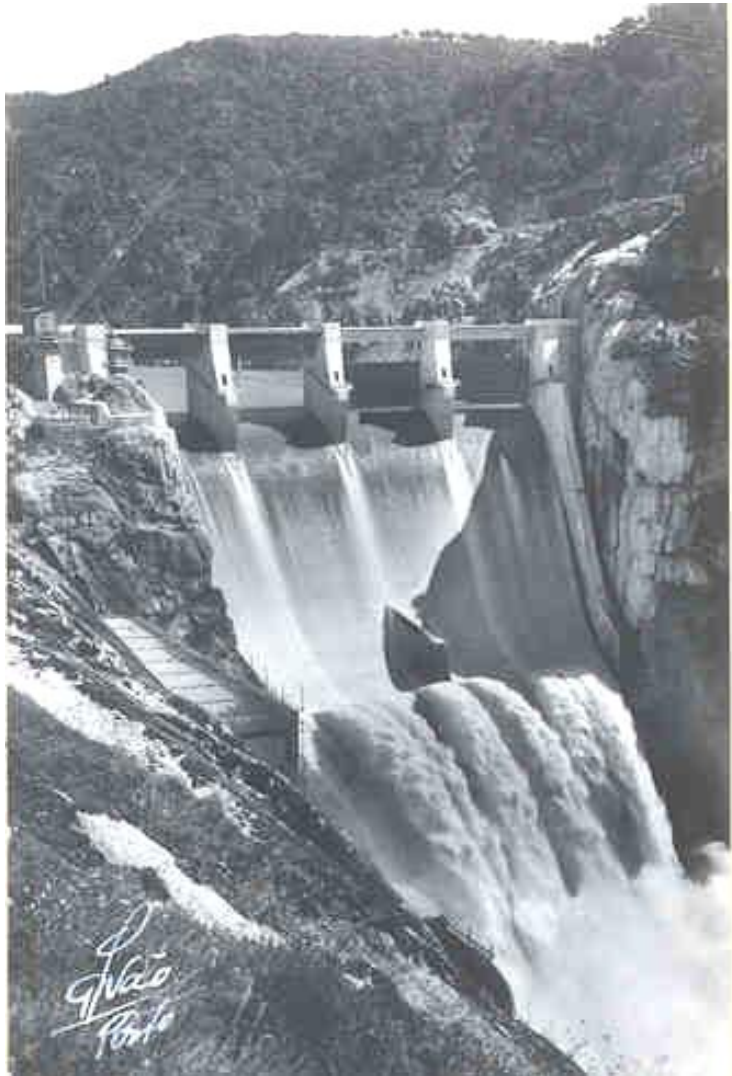
Downstream view

- Year of completion: 1958
- Dam type: Arch
- Height: 100 m
- Foundation: Granite
- Spillway type: Controlled; sky jump
- Maximum discharge capacity: 11 000 m<sup>3</sup>/s

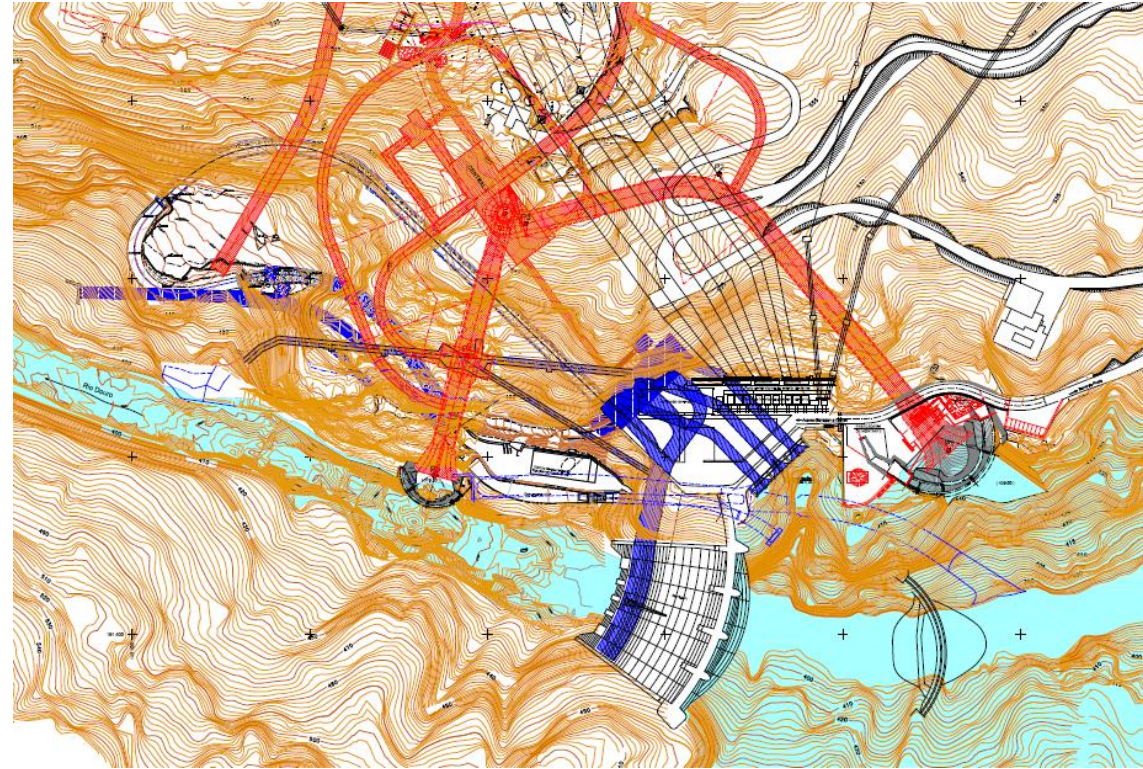


Cross section

# Picote Dam – Before Repowering (2007)

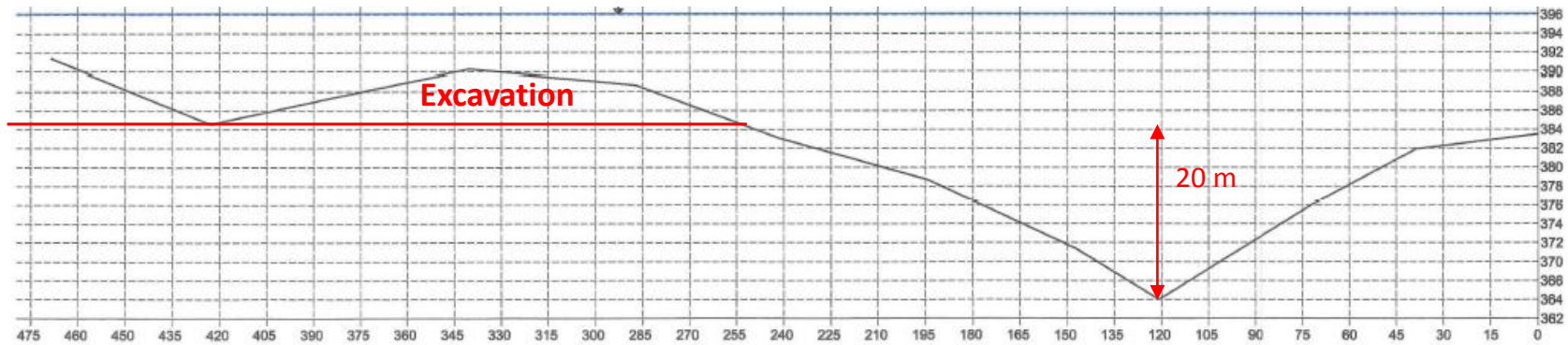


# Picote Dam – Repowering (2007-2011)



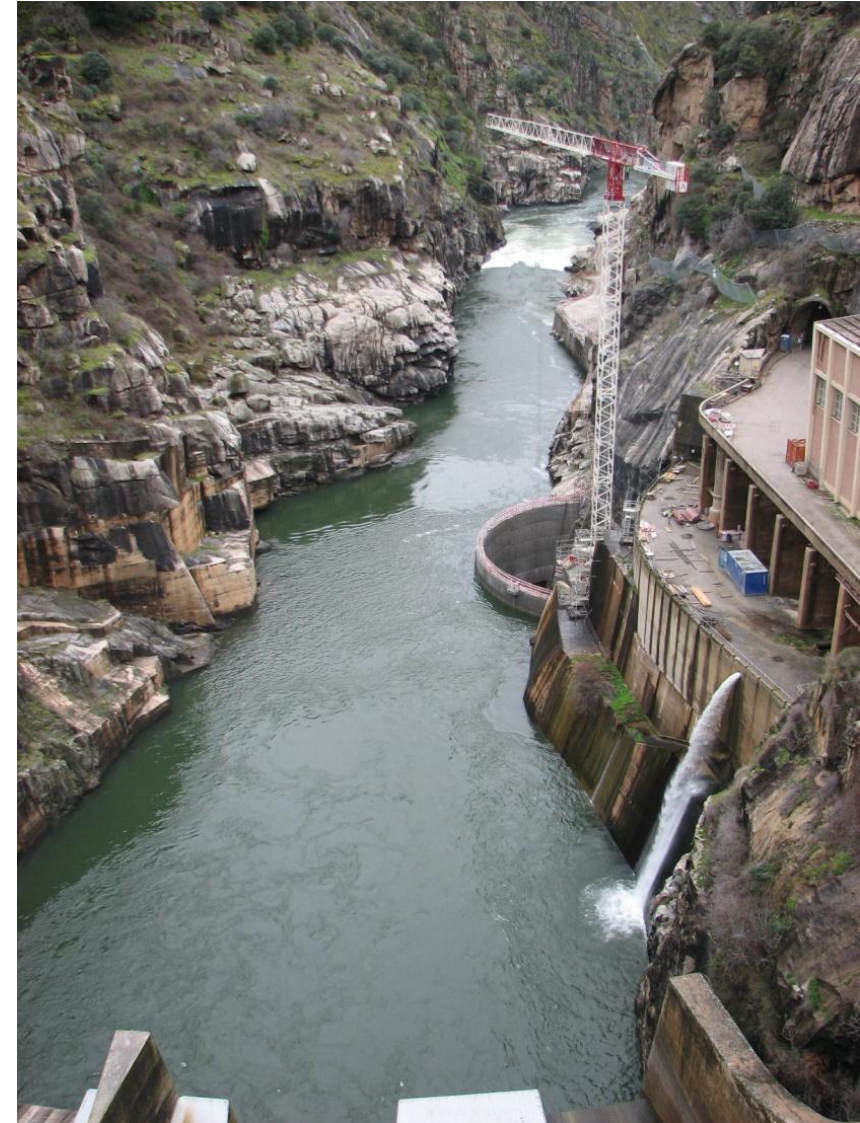
- Original scheme
- Repowering

Longitudinal profile



# Picote Dam – Repowering (2007-2011)

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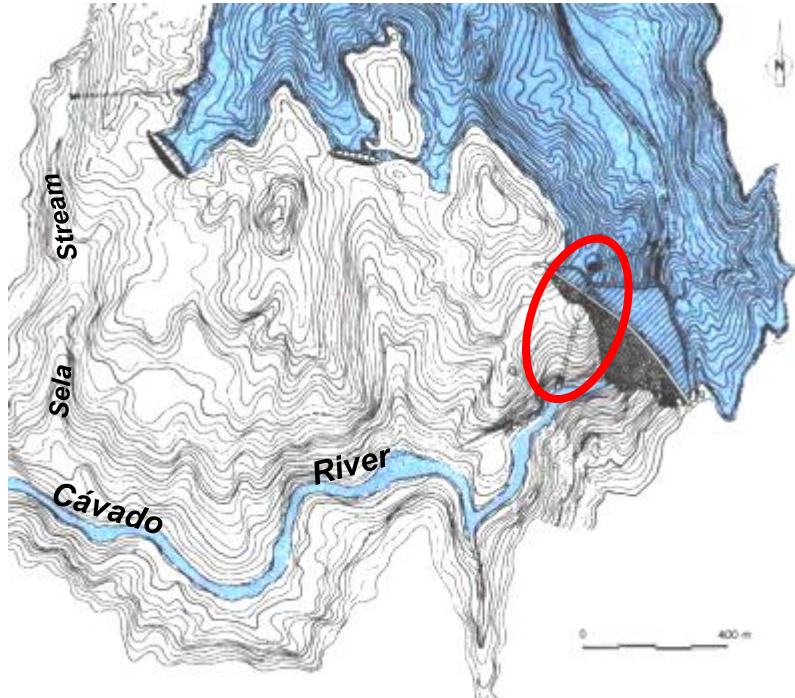
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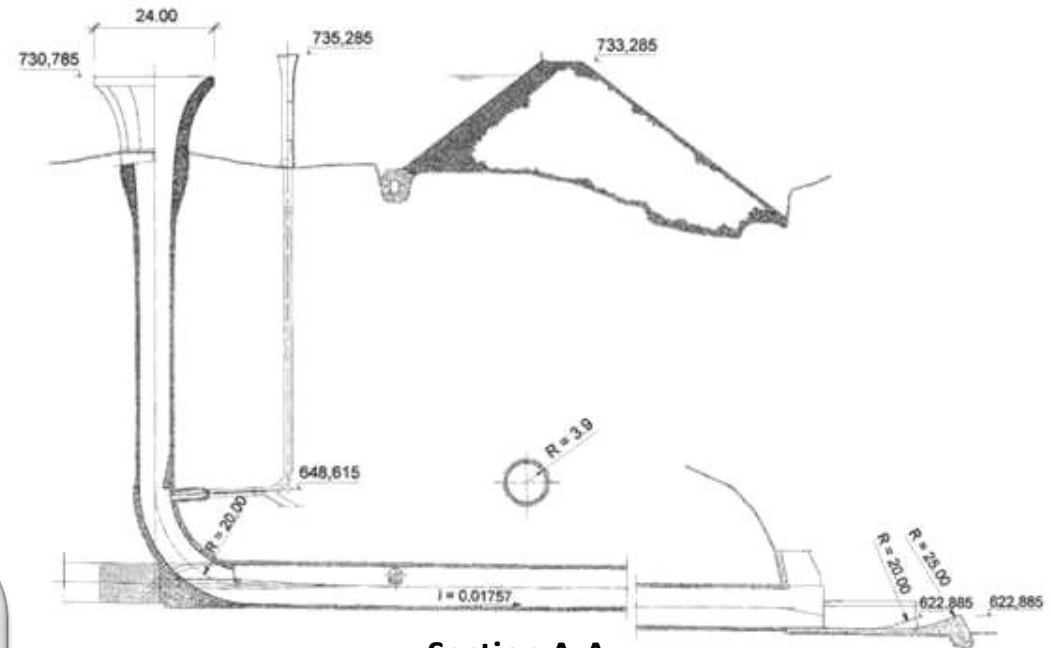


# Paradela Dam – Original Situation

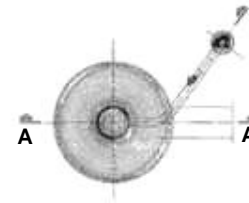


- Year of completion: 1958
- Dam type: Rockfill
- Height: 112 m
- Foundation: Granite
- Spillway type: Uncontrolled + Controlled
- Maximum discharge capacity:  $600 + 340 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$

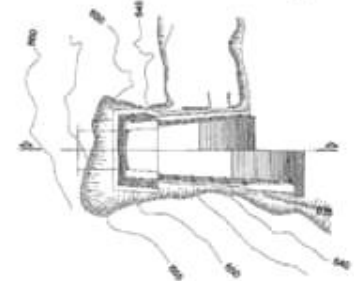
## Uncontrolled spillway



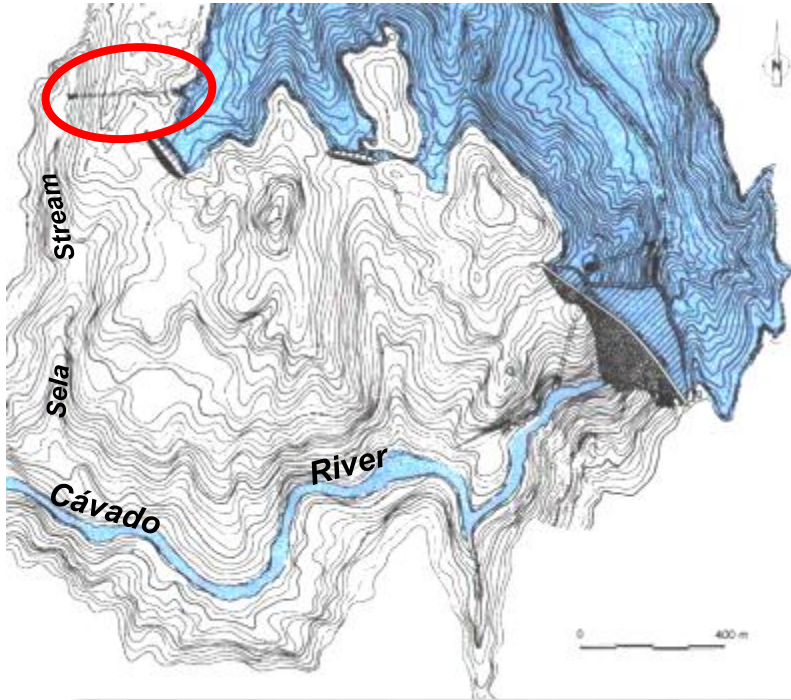
Section A-A



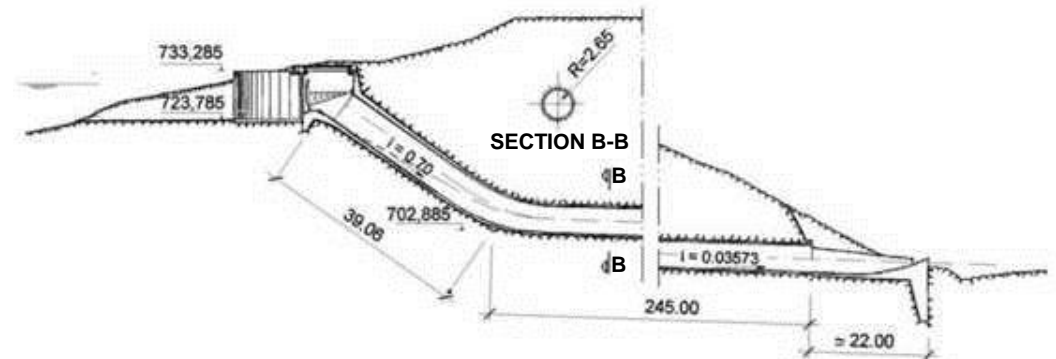
Plan



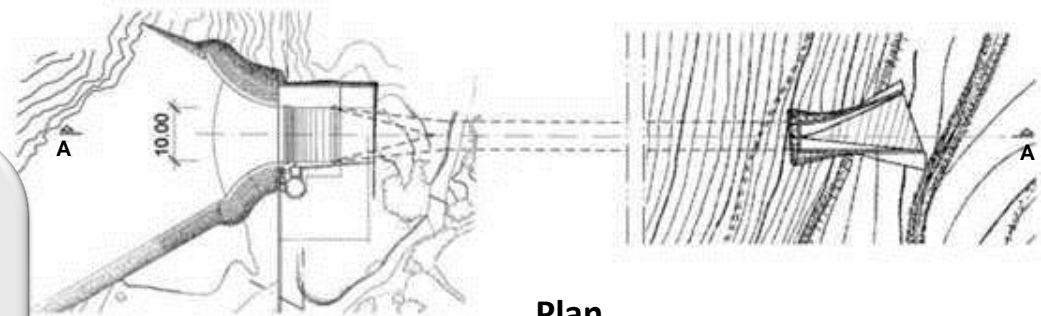
# Paradela Dam – Original Situation



## Controlled spillway – Morning Glory



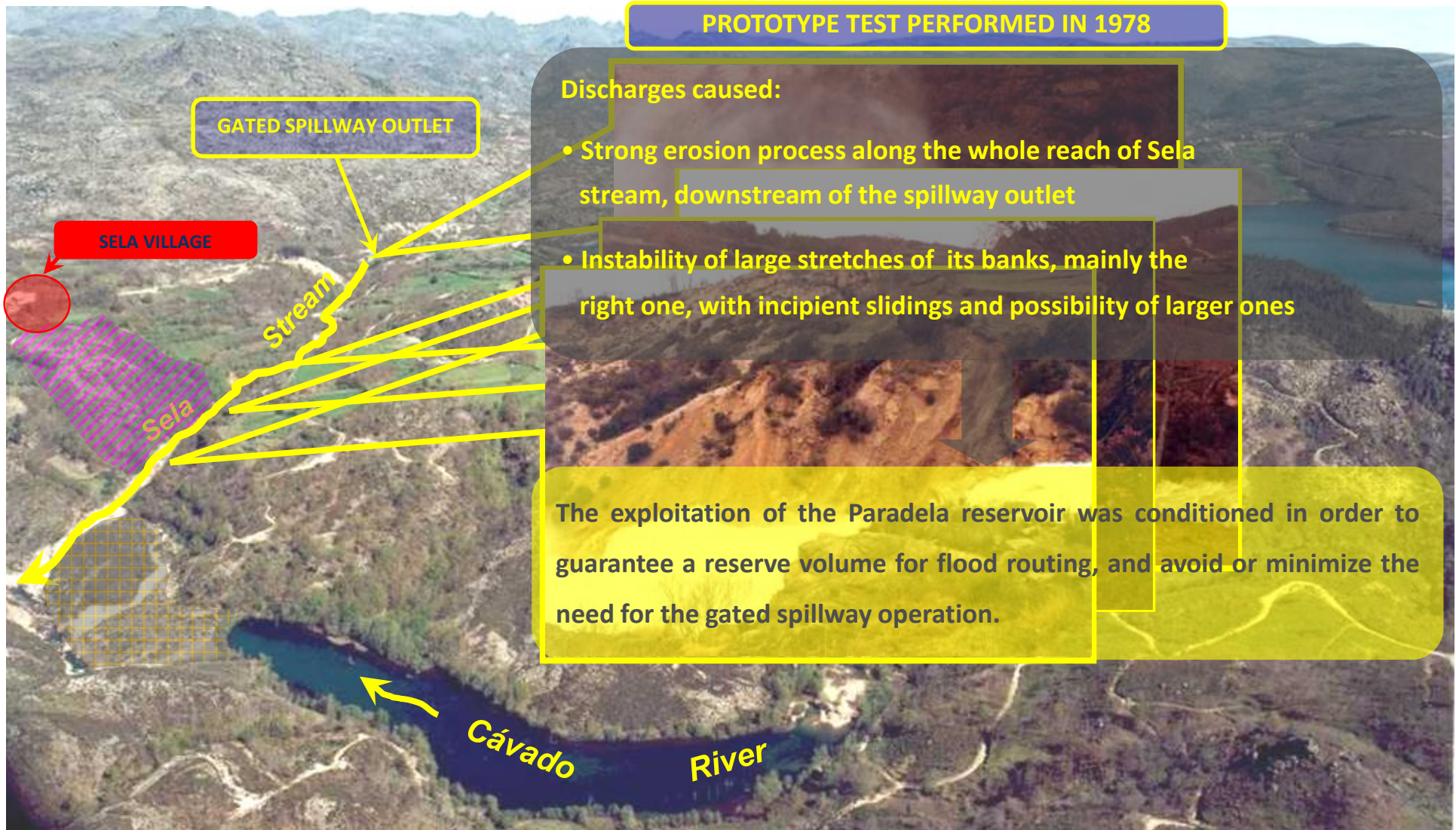
Section A-A



- Controlled spillway
- Located about 1 km far from the dam
- One bay equipped with a radial gate
- Tunnel: 285 m long
- Ski jump discharging into Sela small stream
- Maximum discharge capacity 340 m<sup>3</sup>/s

# Paradela Dam – Original Situation

## DISCHARGES THROUGH GATED SPILLWAY



# Paradela Dam – New Spillway

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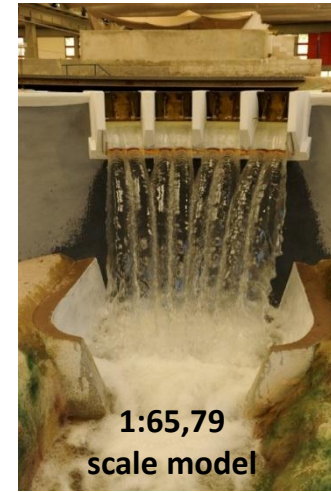
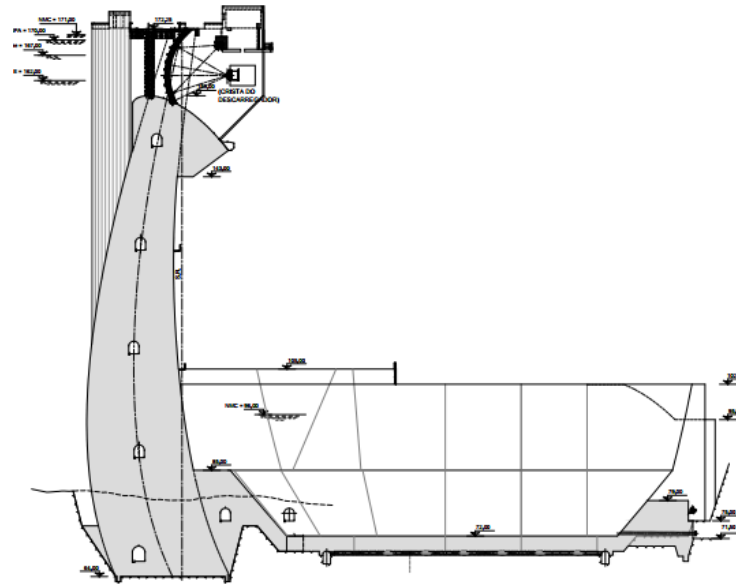
Completed in 2011 (650 m<sup>3</sup>/s)

# Agenda

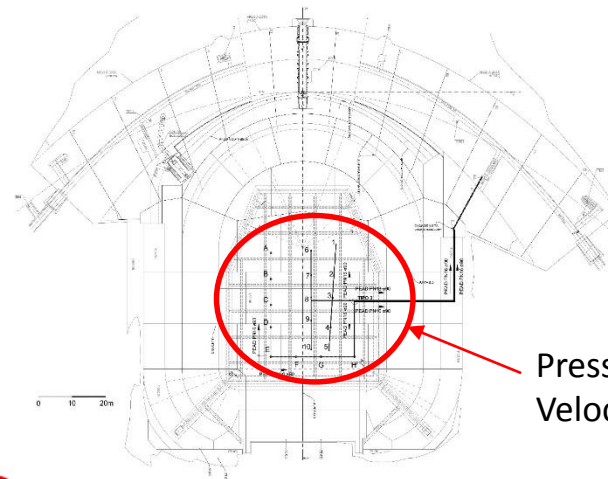
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# Recent Dams – Foz Tua and Baixo Sabor



- Year of completion: 2017
- Dam type: Arch
- Height: 108 m
- Foundation: Granite
- Spillway type: Controlled; free falling jet
- Maximum discharge capacity: 5500 m<sup>3</sup>/s



Pressure transducers  
Velocity transducers



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# Final remarks

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- **Systematic river bed observation and survey data analysis** have been **key to safety control procedures**, allowing for the effective management of situations in which actual behavior deviates from expectations.
- A **multidisciplinary approach**, involving the areas of hydraulics, geology, geotechnics and structures, has allowed the definition of **corrective measures**.
- **Hydraulic model tests**, performed by the **National Laboratory for Civil Engineering**, have been essential for the definition of suitable solutions.
- In **recente dams**, despite careful studies, design and construction, what kind of **erosion problems can be expected in the impact stilling basin**? Would it be possible to **optimize** this type of solution? Is there any **experience of pressure and velocity measurements in prototypes**?
- The **challenge** is to define and implement the most suitable solutions regarding **efficiency and economy**.





**Thank you for your attention**