



How renewable is renewable energy?

The case of the Las Cruces hydroelectric dam's project in Mexico

Photos credit: © Jaime Rojo 2010









Legend

- Reservoir
- Dam
- Flooding limit (170m³/s)

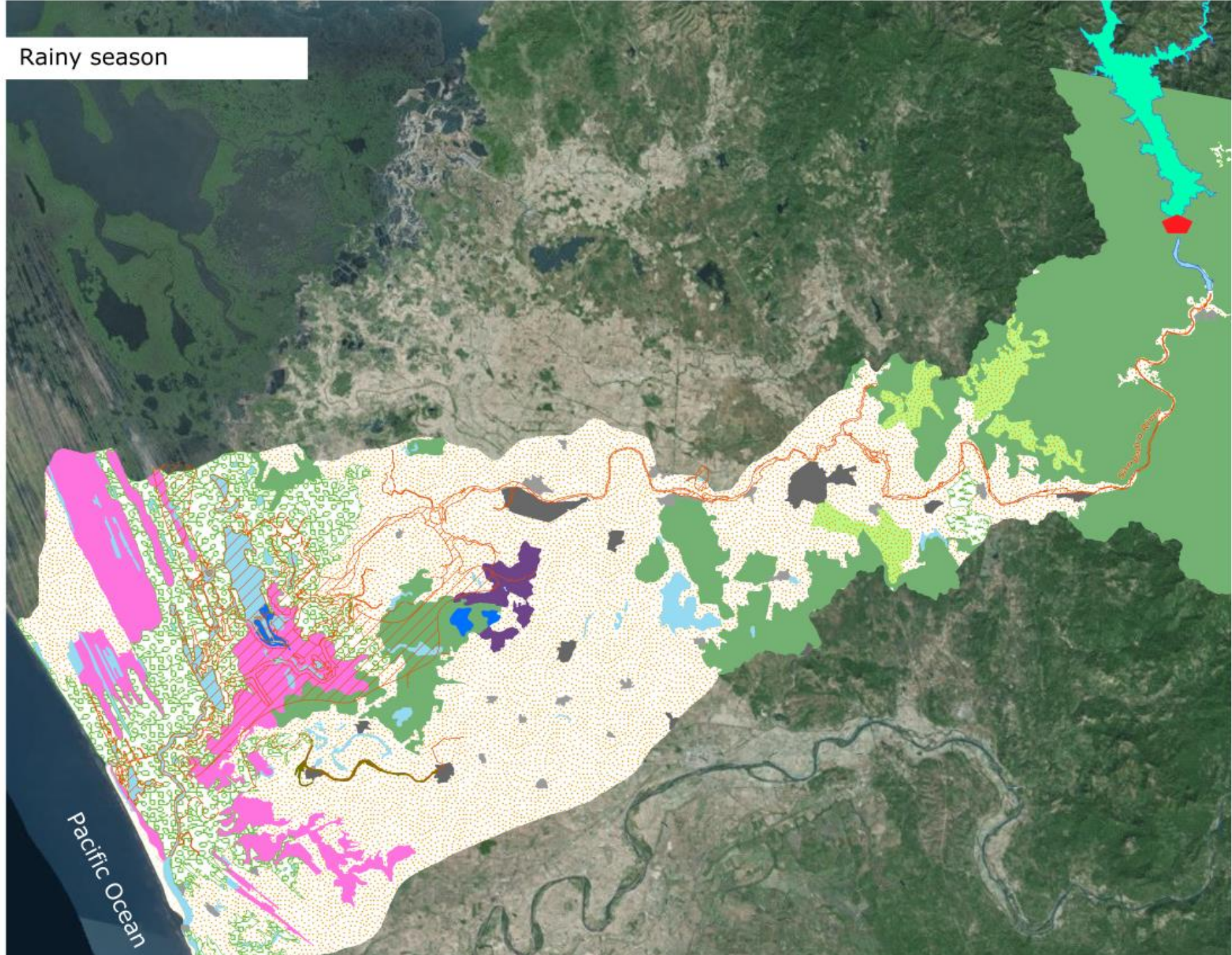
Land cover

- Irrigation agriculture
- Dryland agriculture
- Human Settlements
- Oak Forest
- Oak-Pine Forest
- Pine Forest
- Pine-Oak Forest
- Cloud Forest
- Body of water
- Mangrove
- Natural Palm Grove
- Farmed Grassland
- Induced Grassland
- Savannah-like Grassland
- Tropical Dry Forest
- Tropical Semi-Decidious F.
- Tropical Semi-Evergreen F.
- Tule Marsh
- Coastal Dune Vegetation
- Gallery Forest
- Halophyte and Hydro. Veg.
- Urban Zone

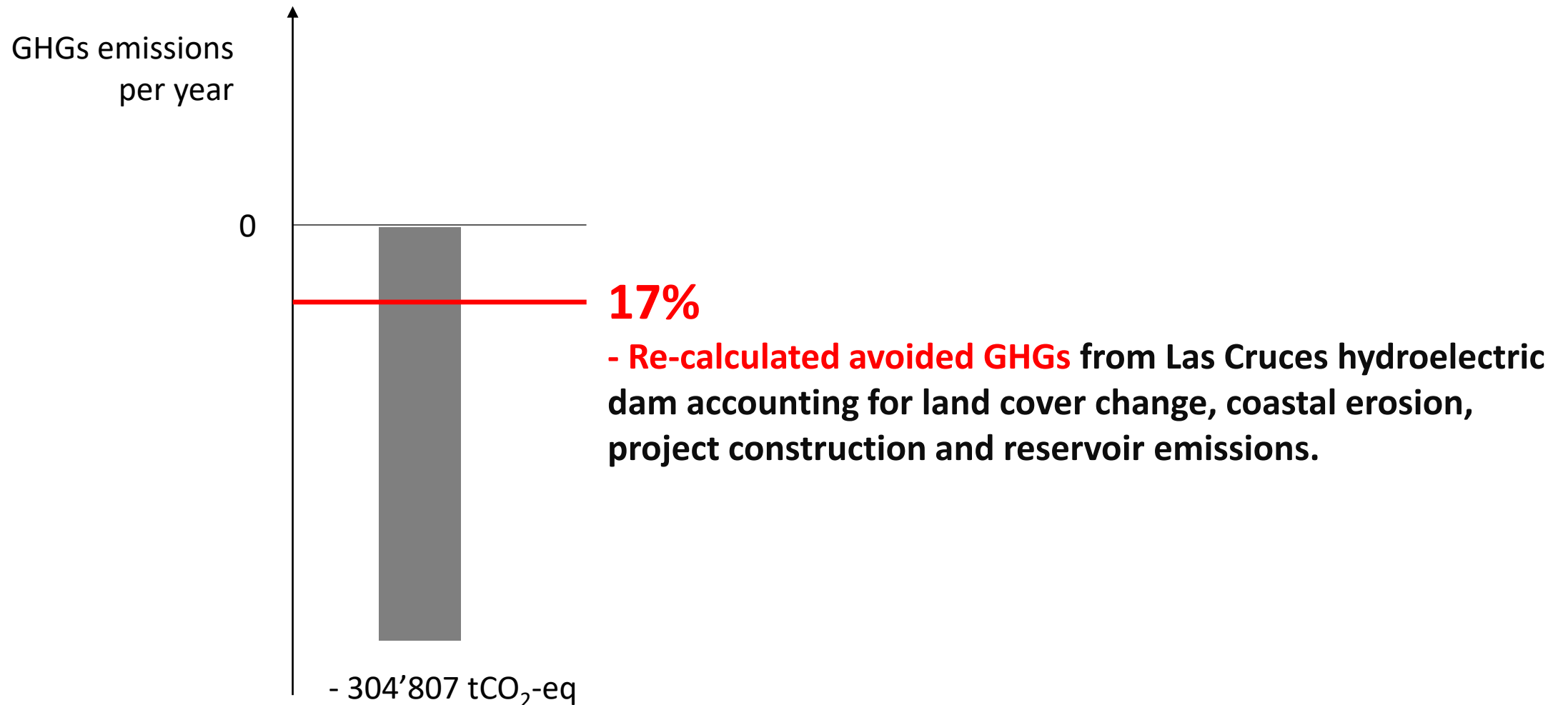


0 2.5 5 10 Kilometers

Rainy season



Climate change – Las Cruces' dam

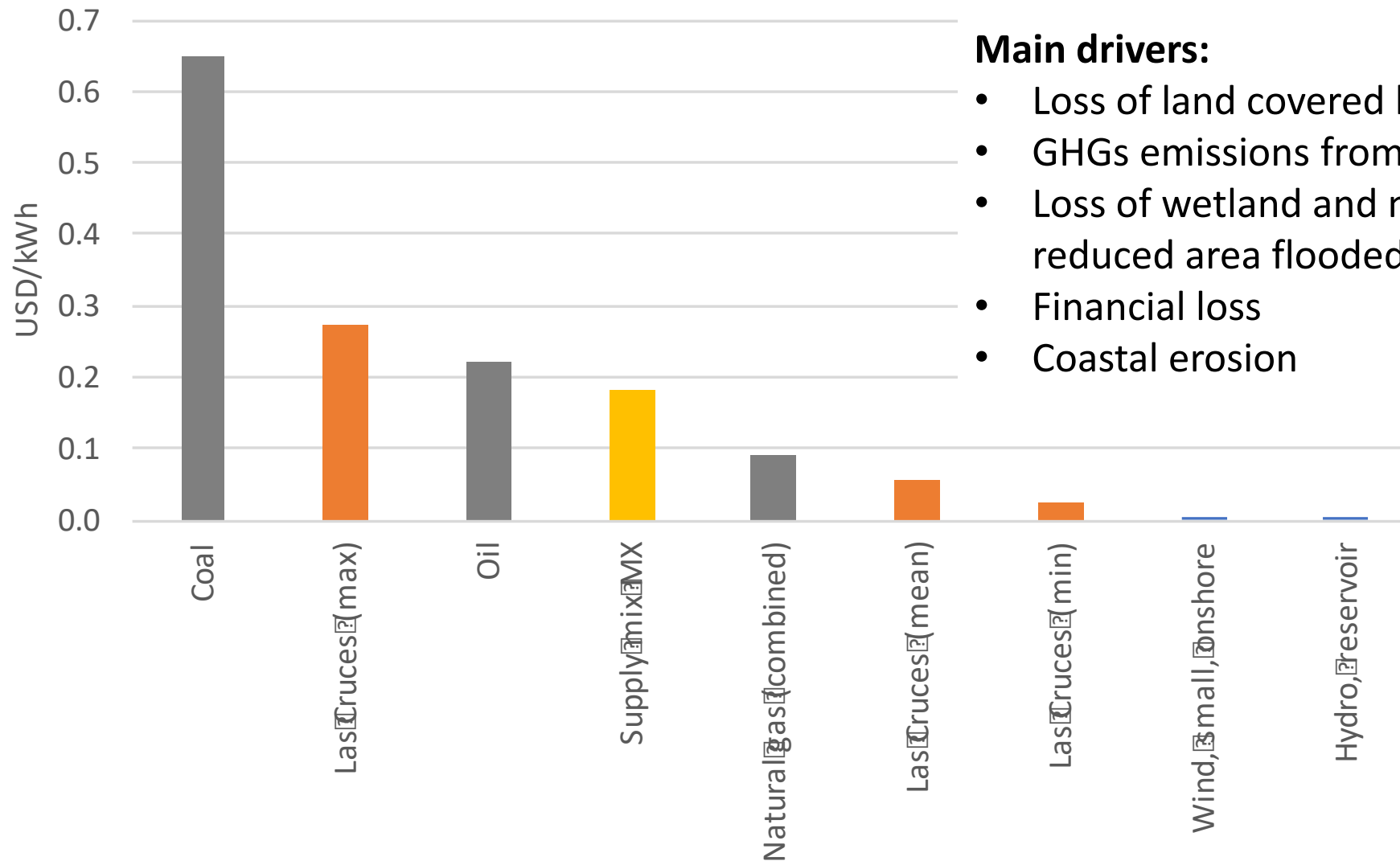


Las Cruces in context

Las Cruces hydroelectric dam' project:

Net financial impact: (USD 279m)

Net societal cost: (USD 931m)



Main drivers:

- Loss of land covered by the reservoir
- GHGs emissions from the reservoir
- Loss of wetland and mangroves areas due to reduced area flooded
- Financial loss
- Coastal erosion

Conclusion

- Impact valuation is used by FMCN to bring light to a controversial project and to inform/engage with the government, private sector and civil society.
- This engagement is a long term process in which impact valuation has a role to play, among other solutions
- Policy decisions should be informed by the relative impact of different energy sources, with a comprehensive scope in term of value chain and impact drivers
- Impact valuation should inform decision-making processes to support economic development at regional and national levels. The private sector is key to contribute to this process.



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<https://goo.gl/o5yoC4>