



NELSAP-CU  
**NILE BASIN INITIATIVE**  
INITIATIVE DU BASSIN DU NIL



# **SOUTH SUDAN-UGANDA** **POWER INTERCONNECTION** **PROJECT (SUPIP)**



Burundi



DR Congo



Egypt



Ethiopia



Kenya



Rwanda



South Sudan



The Sudan



Tanzania



Uganda

**Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program (NELSAP)**

Kigali City Tower, 5th Floor, Avenue du Commerce

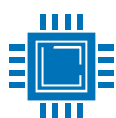
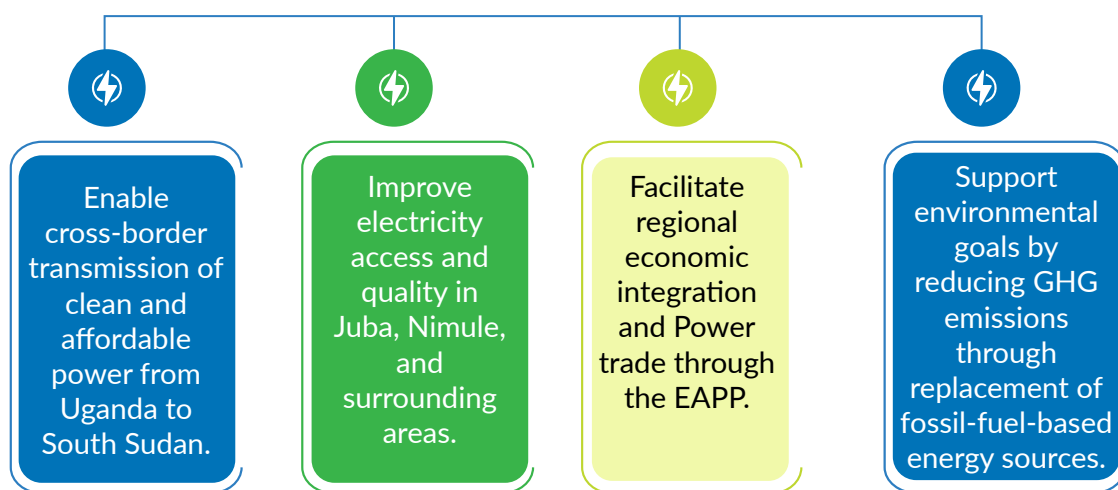
P.O.Box: 6759 Kigali - Rwanda | Tel: + 250 788307334 | Email: nelsapcu@nilebasin.org

## Project Overview

The South Sudan–Uganda Power Interconnection Project (SUPIP) is a transformative regional energy infrastructure initiative being implemented by the Governments of South Sudan and Uganda, with coordination by the Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program Coordination Unit (NELSAP-CU). The project is jointly financed by the African Development Fund (ADF), the European Union (EU), and participating governments, under the guidance of the African Development Bank (AfDB).

SUPIP seeks to connect South Sudan to the Eastern Africa Power Pool (EAPP) and enable it to import affordable, reliable electricity from Uganda. By doing so, it aims to address South Sudan's severe power deficit, reduce dependence on diesel generators, and promote regional energy trade, peace, and economic integration.

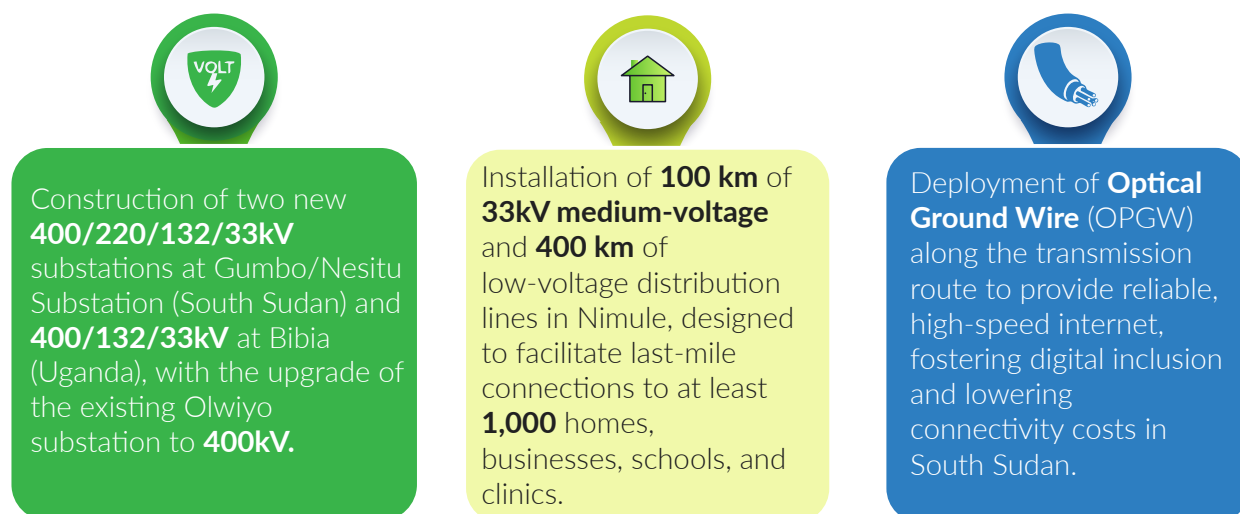
## Project Objectives



## Key Technical Components

SUPIP comprises the construction of a **300.5 Km 400kV** double-circuit transmission line **149 km** in South Sudan (Gumbo to Nimule) and **151.5 km** in Uganda (Nimule to Olwiyo). The line is designed to carry up to **2,000 MW** of power and will serve as a backbone for future regional electricity exchanges.

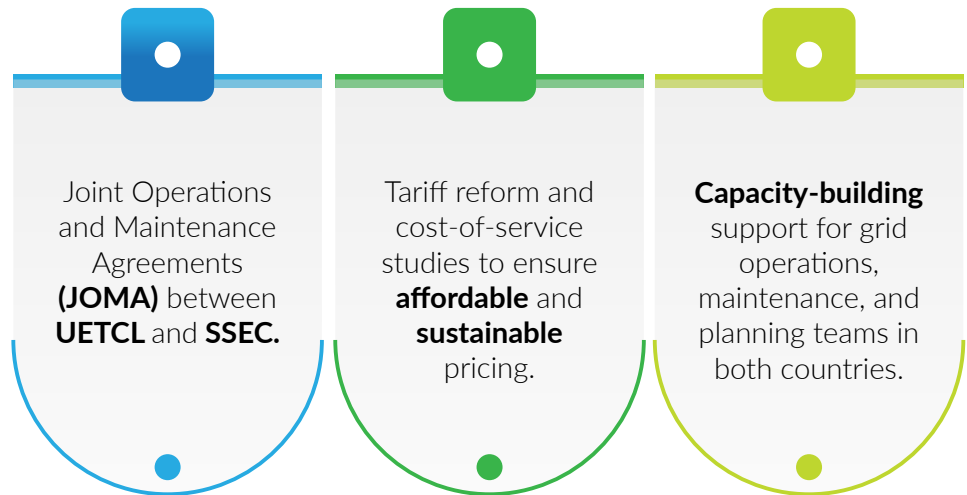
The project also includes:





## Institutional and Capacity Building

The project also invests in institutional strengthening, including:



## Project Cost and Financing

The estimated project cost stands at UA 195.19 million (~USD 260 million), financed as follows:

- AfDB:** ADF, ROE, RPG, and CAW windows
- European Union: **EUR 48.93 million**
- Government of Uganda: **UA 13.42 million (USD 17.85 million)**
- In-kind contributions:** Government of South Sudan and Nile Basin Initiative institutions



## Impact on Local Communities: Quantified Benefits

The SUPIP will positively impact over **590,000 people** across Juba, Nimule, and the surrounding areas. Key anticipated benefits include:

- ✓ **Energy affordability:** South Sudan, a reduction in electricity costs by over **75%**, from **USD 0.40/kWh** (diesel) to **USD 0.09/kWh** (imported power).
- ✓ **Social infrastructure:** Over **100 schools** and over **50 health centers** in Juba and along the transmission line routes will benefit from stable electricity, improving service delivery.
- ✓ **Economic opportunity:** Over **1,000 jobs** are expected during construction, with **200+ permanent jobs** post-completion. Youth and women-led SMEs will gain access to electricity and digital tools.
- ✓ **Environmental impact:** Estimated annual emissions reduction of **over 250,000 tons** of **CO<sub>2</sub>** through transition to hydropower.



## Environmental and Social Safeguards

Given the project's Category 1 risk classification, comprehensive Environmental and Social Impact Assessments (ESIAs), Resettlement Action Plans (RAPs) and Biodiversity Action plan (BAP) have been conducted and disclosed. These cover over **1000 hectares** of land and about **1100+** project-affected persons (PAPs). Grievance redress mechanisms, gender mainstreaming, and climate adaptation measures are integrated throughout the project.

# Recent Coordination & Implementation Milestones (as of May 2026)

## Key Milestones



### Pre-Proposal Conference Site Visit

As part of the consultant recruitment process, pre-proposal conference site visits were conducted at Karuma, Olwiyo, and the proposed Bibia substations in Uganda. Additional visits covered the transmission line route from Bibia through Nimule to Melijo, as well as the proposed Gumbo/Nesitu substation in South Sudan. These site visits were organized to provide prospective consultants with firsthand knowledge of the project areas, enabling them to prepare context-specific and well-informed proposals.



### SUPERVISION CONSULTANT

Evaluation of proposals complete; submitted to AfDB for approval. Consultancy Contract Award expected in Q1 2026/2027, the consultant's mandate includes Design updates, Preparation of EPC Contractor tender documents and Procurement of the EPC Contractor.



### RAP IMPLEMENTATION

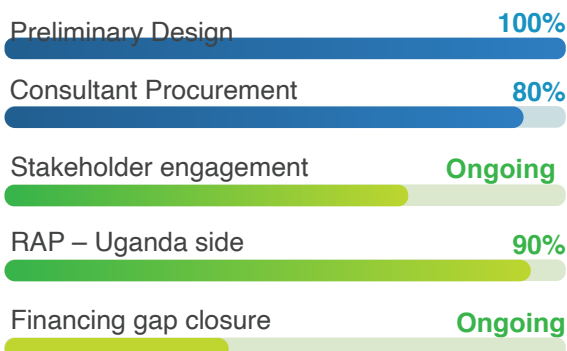
Resettlement Action Plan for 16 km Uganda-South Sudan corridor pending. Activity to proceed concurrently with construction to minimise schedule delays.



### COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Radio campaigns, site meetings, and grievance management sessions ongoing. Strong awareness and acceptance of project benefits throughout the sessions are continuous and ongoing.

## Implementation Readiness



### INSTITUTIONAL COORDINATION

NELSAP-CU, MEMD, UETCL, SSEC, AfDB  
Active inter-institutional coordination supporting resolution of administrative, financial, and operational requirements for project delivery.

## Financing Overview

### AFDB CONTRIBUTION

# Lead

Primary Financier

African Development Bank leading resource mobilisation and project oversight.

### FINANCING GAP

# \$31M

USD – South Sudan Share

AfDB mission conducted in Juba to engage government and financing partners toward bridging the deficit.

### NEXT STEP

# EPC

Contractor Procurement

Supervision Consultant will prepare EPC tender documents upon award in Q1 FY 2026/2027.

## Project Timeline



**COMPLETE**

Feasibility & Design Validation  
Jul 2025



**IN PROGRESS**

Supervision Consultant Award  
Q1 FY 2026/27



**IN PROGRESS**

RAP Implementation & Corridor Access  
Concurrent



**UPCOMING**

EPC Tender Recruitment  
Post - Consultancy Contract Award



**UPCOMING**

Construction & Full Commissioning  
TBD

## Call to Action for Stakeholders

### **The South Sudan–Uganda**

Power Interconnection Project is more than an infrastructure development it is a bridge for peace, regional integration, and economic resilience. To ensure its full realization, the project calls upon stakeholders to contribute in the following ways:

#### **Development Agencies:**

Support co-financing, safeguard implementation, and policy alignment.

#### **Private Sector:**

Invest in renewable energy services, last-mile electrification, and ICT ventures along the corridor.

#### **Civil Society & Local Governments:**

Facilitate inclusive community engagement, feedback mechanisms, and social accountability.

#### **Policy Makers & Regional Platforms:**

Harmonize cross-border energy policies and enable market-based energy trade.

#### **Media & Academia:**

Document outcomes, highlight success stories, and inform public discourse with evidence-based research.

**SUPIP** is not just powering homes it is powering hope, prosperity, and the next phase of Nile Basin cooperation.



Burundi



DR Congo



Egypt



Ethiopia



Kenya



Rwanda



South Sudan



The Sudan



Tanzania



Uganda

### **Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program (NELSAP)**

Kigali City Tower, 5th Floor, Avenue du Commerce

P.O.Box: 6759 Kigali - Rwanda | Tel: + 250 788307334 | Email: nelsapcu@nilebasin.org

