BACKGROUND
The original Project was named Tanzania (Mbeya) - Zambia (Kasama) Power Interconnection Study.

The scope of the Project has been revised following the review meeting held in May 2014. It has been agreed that the study should not be limited to the transmission line between Mbeya and Kasama (or between Mbeya and Mpika as mentioned in the Preliminary Design Report). Considering that the power exchange will occur between Mbeya (Tanzania) and Kabwe (Zambia), it has been agreed to extend the scope of the Project. The interconnection now under study is a transmission line between Mbeya (Tanzania) and Kabwe (Zambia).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
The whole study is consisting in Feasibility Study, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment, Resettlement Action Plan, Conceptual Design of the 400 kV Transmission line Mbeya in Tanzania – Kabwe in Zambia. It includes two studies: i) the Feasibility Study, Conceptual Design and Tender Documents and ii) the Environment and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) and Resettlement Action Plan (RAP). The Consultants of the two studies will have to work closely and exchange data to ensure the whole study reaches its objective.

SUB-PROGRAM
Power Development and Trade

EXECUTING AGENCIES
NBI/NELSAP in collaboration with the Governments of Tanzania and Zambia

PROJECT DURATION
Feasibility Study:
First phase 5.5 months
Second phase: 16 months
ESIA & RAP:
First phase 5.5 months
Second phase: 12 months

LOCATION
Interconnector from Tanzania (Mbeya) to Zambia (Kabwe)

BUDGET
Total budget: 5.834 MUSD (3 MUSD for original study + 2.834 MUSD requested for the extension)

PARTICIPATION MEMBER STATES
The Governments of Tanzania and Zambia

PROJECT PARTNERS
The NELSAP Coordination Unit (NELSAP-CU) is the implementing agency of the study in close coordination with the Project Steering Committee (PSC) composed of members from the two countries and a representative of SAPP Coordination Center. The PSC is the same for both the Feasibility study and ESIA and RAP study.

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS
Norway
The proposed Interconnection Mbeya – Kabwe will have approximately 998 km in which 110 will be in Tanzania and 888 in Zambia.

OVERALL OBJECTIVE
The main objective of the study is to investigate and assess the overall feasibility of the proposed 400 kV Transmission line Mbeya – Kabwe considering the existing and future power transmission lines that will link Zambia and to Kenya.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES
The specific objectives of the study are to:

- Carry out the technical feasibility and economic viability of the project in consideration with the future power sector development in the country.
- Assess and recommend appropriate rural electrification scheme along the transmission line corridor routes.
- Carry out conceptual design.

KEY EXPECTED OUTPUTS OF THE STUDY

The Feasibility Study Consultant should prepare a Feasibility Study Report which will present all work carried out including the required maps, drawings and figures to illustrate the technical solutions. The report shall contain clear conclusions as to the project's economic, financial, technical, environmental, and social viability.

The Consultant conducting Environmental and Social Impact Assessment (ESIA) will prepare an Environmental and Social Management Plan (ESMP) and a separate Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) in accordance with the Norway and the World Bank’s Environmental and Social Assessment Procedures (ESAP, 2001).

The RAP will include information and details regarding compensation and/or resettlement of potentially affected persons.