



# Nile Basin Initiative Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program (NELSAP)

## PROGRAM BRIEF



### Our Mission:

To contribute to the eradication of poverty, and promotion of economic growth, and reversal of environmental degradation in the Nile Equatorial Lakes region



March 2016



The Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program (NELSAP) is one of the two investment programs under the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI), with the headquarters Coordination Unit (NELSAP-CU) in Kigali, Rwanda; the other being the Eastern Nile Subsidiary Action Program (ENSAP) with the regional office in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia known as Eastern Nile Technical Regional Office (ENTRO). NELSAP was established in December 1999 by the Council of Ministers for Water Affairs of six upstream riparian states of: Burundi, DR Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda with the mission to “contribute to the eradication of poverty, promote economic growth, and reverse environmental degradation in the Nile Equatorial Lakes region to ensure overall contribution to the NBI’s Shared Vision of sustainable socioeconomic development and the equitable use of and benefit from Nile Basin water resources”. Egypt, Ethiopia, South Sudan and later The Sudan joined NELSAP to add to the current membership of ten countries. NELSAP was initially headquartered in Entebbe – Uganda, but in 2004 was moved to Kigali – Rwanda.

NELSAP’s given mandate is to facilitate identification, preparation, resource mobilization and implementation supervision of “Cooperative and Consultative Nile Projects”, and to build regional capacity for countries’ implementation of trans-boundary investment projects. NELSAP therefore, support to national initiatives and focuses on two pre-investment areas of: (i) power development and trade; and (ii) natural resources management and development.

Since its establishment, and guided by its two NEL Strategic Plans (2006-11 and 2012-16), NELSAP has prepared a number of cooperative/consultative projects, which are at various levels of preparation and implementation. The NEL Strategic Plan (2012–16) was endorsed by the Nile Equatorial Lakes Council of Ministers (NELCOM) in January 2012 aims at enhancing NELSAP’s regional impacts. The cumulative finance for pre-investment programs is estimated at **US\$90Million** (excluding country contributions), whereas mobilized resources for investments amounts to the tune of **US\$930Million**.

Over the past years, NELSAP–CU has gained regional experience while also has strengthened its capacity in regional strategic analysis, environmental and aspects, social economic development, stakeholders’ engagement and development communication, financial and procurement management as well as results based monitoring and evaluation in order to deliver effectively.

In supporting its programming, NELSAP is supported bilaterally and multilaterally by different development partners including, but not limited to, the World Bank

(through the Nile Basin Trust Fund (NBTF) and Nile Coordinated Results (NCORE) under CIWA arrangement), the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Governments of Norway (NORAD), Sweden International Development Agency (Sida), and the Government of The Netherlands, the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC), GIZ (Germany), French Development Agency (AFD), European Union(EU) and KfW (Germany).

With an office located in Kigali, NELSAP-CU and Rwanda government are benefiting the created reciprocity, whereby NELSAP receives the in-kind contribution from Rwanda in terms of office space, security, more than 19 Rwanda nationals are employees of NELSAP.

NELSAP-CU being headquartered in Kigali, beside receiving cash and in-kind (in terms of office accommodation) contribution from the Government of Rwanda, it has employed 19 Rwanda nationals who are currently working at NELSP–CU or at project level.

#### **Completed Projects with Direct Benefits to Rwanda Regional Agricultural Trade and Productivity Project (RATP 2009–2012)**

The rationale is that investments in reliable access to water, strengthened market linkages and active promotion of private sector are options that can have a dramatic impact on agriculture growth, food security and poverty reduction. The project was implemented in collaboration with regional economic communities like COMESA and EAC. Under the project, the following studies were completed: (i) development of the Nile Basin agricultural model, (ii) assessing the irrigation potential in 7 NEL Countries (Burundi, DRC, Rwanda, Kenya, Sudan, Uganda, Tanzania), (iii) promotion of best practices on water harvesting and irrigation practices, (iv) cross border agricultural trade studies focusing on Trans-boundary Grain/Pulses Trade, Livestock Trade in the Nile Basin Region”, (v) virtual water/water footprint analysis, documentation and awareness creation as well as (vi) definition of the NBI agricultural role, based on study of RBO lessons, and national and regional consultations.

#### **Integrated Management of Trans-boundary Water Resources of Lakes Cyohoha, Rweru and Akanyaru Marshland Project (2010 – 2012)**

The Integrated Management of Trans-boundary Water Resources of Lakes Cyohoha and Rweru and Akanyaru Marshland project (abbreviated in French as GIRET Project) was financed by the Bank through African Water Facility of the African Development Bank to the tune of **Euro770,000**. Project results are: i) Integrated Management and Development Plans

(IMDP) for the three water resources and Investments Profiles (IP); ii) a Diagnostic Analysis with an environmental screening of the water-resources; iii) three hydro-meteorological stations operational and mechanisms for data collection and sharing of the shared water resources established; iv) 40 local key actors trained in fishery management and policy, environment and IWRM principles and law implementation.

### Ongoing Projects

#### Interconnection of Electric Grids of the Nile Equatorial Lakes Countries Project

The project's total transmission line is 946km at 220kV and 400kV transmission lines capacity with associated 17 sub-stations. The under implementation project involves five countries of the NEL region; Burundi, DR Congo, Kenya Rwanda and Uganda aims at strengthening the interconnections between NEL region countries and other regional electric grids at the total cost of US\$400Million from different financiers (AfDB, Government of Japan (JICA), Government of Germany (KfW), and the Netherlands). Project implementation is ongoing in the five countries while in Rwanda the following are the interconnectors.

- i) 172km Uganda–Rwanda (Mbarara-Mirama-Shango) expected to complete in April 2016;
- ii) 293km DRC–Rwanda (Buhandahanda-Goma-Gisenyi-Kibuye-Shango) expected completion in December 2017; and
- iii) 143km Rwanda–Burundi (Kigoma-Butare-Ngozi-Gitega) expected completion in December 2017.



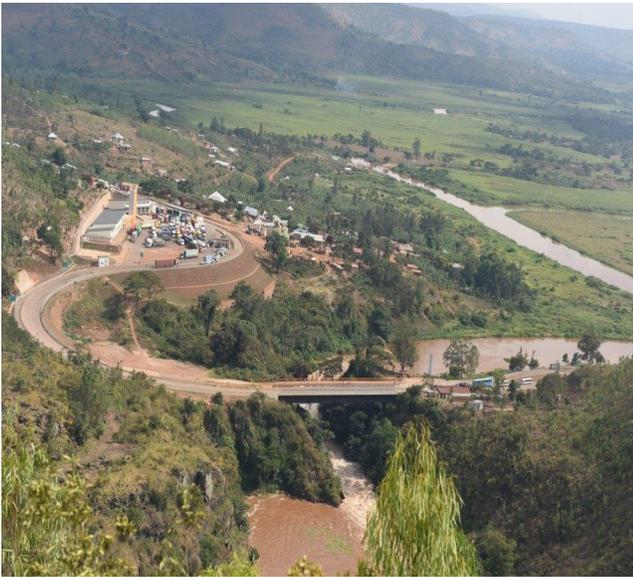
Figure 1: Shango Substation Under construction- Rwanda

#### Regional Rusumo Falls Hydroelectric Project (RRFHP)

The Regional Rusumo Falls Hydroelectric Project, which its implementation is underway has installed capacity of 80 MW (Run of River Scheme at 1320masl) shared equally among Burundi, Rwanda and Tanzania. The power generation infrastructure will be located at Rusumo Falls at the border of Tanzania and Rwanda. The transmission lines will extend from the power generation plant to Gitega in Burundi, Kigali in Rwanda, and Nyakanazi in Tanzania. The project will develop renewable hydroelectric power as part of a broader program to support sustainable management of the Kagera River Basin and promote growth and poverty reduction. The implementation arrangement has provided NELSAP with the coordination role while the three countries are providing the governance of the project. This will provide more electricity to growing Town Centers while ensuring that environmental assets are managed and benefits of power production shared. Project completion will increase economic activities, private sector development, and investments in social infrastructure and services through improved access to electricity.

The project has three components: i) A hydroelectric power generation plant at the Rusumo Falls of 75-80 MW capacity to be shared among the three countries, ii) Transmission lines connecting the hydroelectric generation plant of Rusumo Falls to the national grids of Burundi, Rwanda and Tanzania, and the related project area development and iii) A jointly owned utility/institutional mechanism for the co-management of the power generation plant and transmission lines to national utilities. The joint institution will be responsible for environmental and social safeguards.

The setting up of the SPV/Rusumo Power Company is complete under a PPA of **US\$3Million** advanced to the countries by the WB. About **US\$428Million** has been advanced to the countries as a loan from the WB and AfDB for implementation, which commenced in 2014. As procurement of the construction contractors in advanced stages, the project construction completion is expected by end of 2019.



**Figure 1: RRFHP Construction Site at Rusumo River Falls**



**Figure 3: How Rusumo Dam & Power station looking after construction Completes in 2019**

### **Prospective Project**

The African Development Bank (AfDB), has shown interest funding for the Akanyaru Multipurpose Water Resources Development Project (with 12,474ha for irrigation and will serve about 614,200 persons with clean and safe water (water supply).

### **Conclusion**

Implementing different water resources development and energy projects, NELSAP is creating public value to the citizens of the NEL region countries in terms of infrastructure development (water resources and power/energy) and technical advisory services. Benefits range from being served with water supply services, irrigations schemes, and access to reliable electricity. The provided services are important in improving people's lives in the region. Because of the benefits generated from developed infrastructures, effective and sustainable use will ensure optimal use of available Nile Basin water resources.