

GIS-ENABLED DECISION SUPPORT SYSTEMS FOR GRID MODERNIZATION AND ELECTRICITY ACCESS

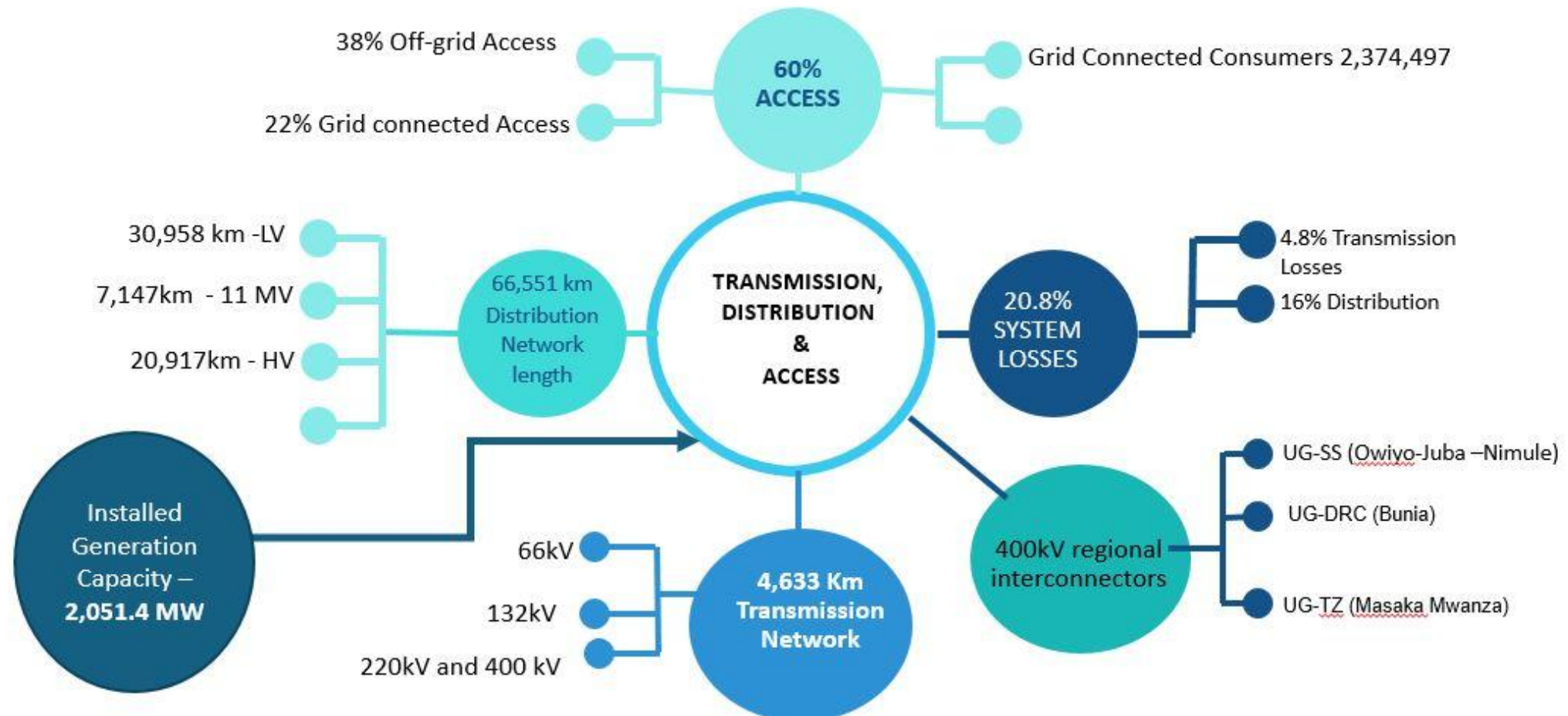


ABOUT THE ESGWG

- **GIS experts:** from MEMD, ERA, UEGCL, UETCL, UEDCL and PAU
- Agreed on common mapping standards and a common geo-database hosted by MEMD for the Energy Sector in Uganda.
- **Vision:** To develop a high-quality GIS for the Energy Sector of Uganda.
- **Mission:** To collect, process and share geo-data for the Energy Sector of Uganda to be used as a management decision support tool.



ELECTRICITY SECTOR INDUSTRY (ESI)



ELECTRICITY ACCESS



The number of people worldwide without electricity access is about 750 million with 80% (600m) located in Sub-Saharan Africa.(IEA,2023)

- **SDG 7:** Achieve Affordable and clean energy.
- **Vision 2040:** To achieve 80% electricity access by 2040

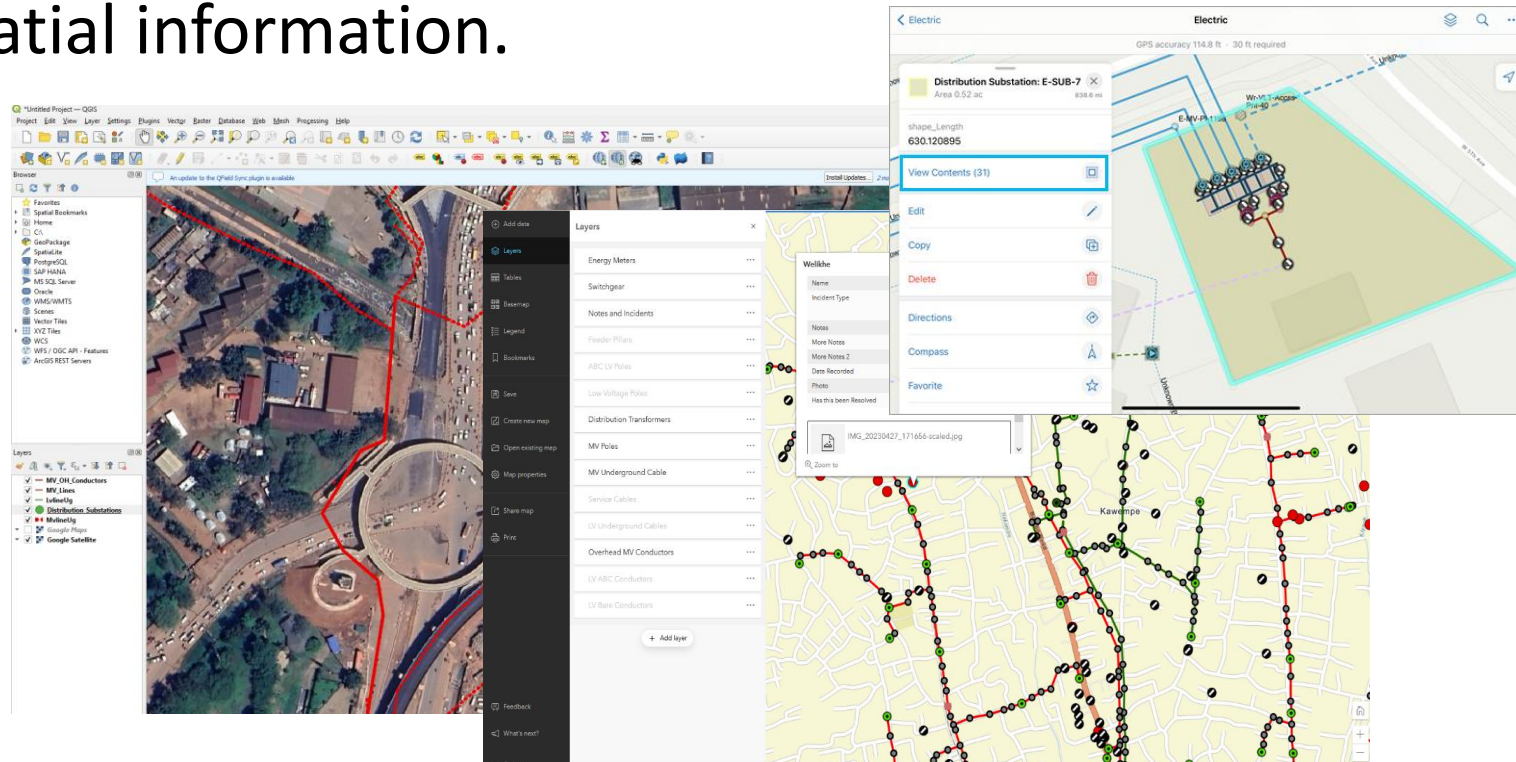
Need for data-driven approaches to inform energy planning

GIS

What is GIS?

Geography → Information → Systems

A tool/system for collecting, managing, analysing spatial information.



ArcGIS
Bently QGIS
GRASS GIS



The diagram illustrates a complex network of data integration and processing. At the center, several key data types and technologies are interconnected:

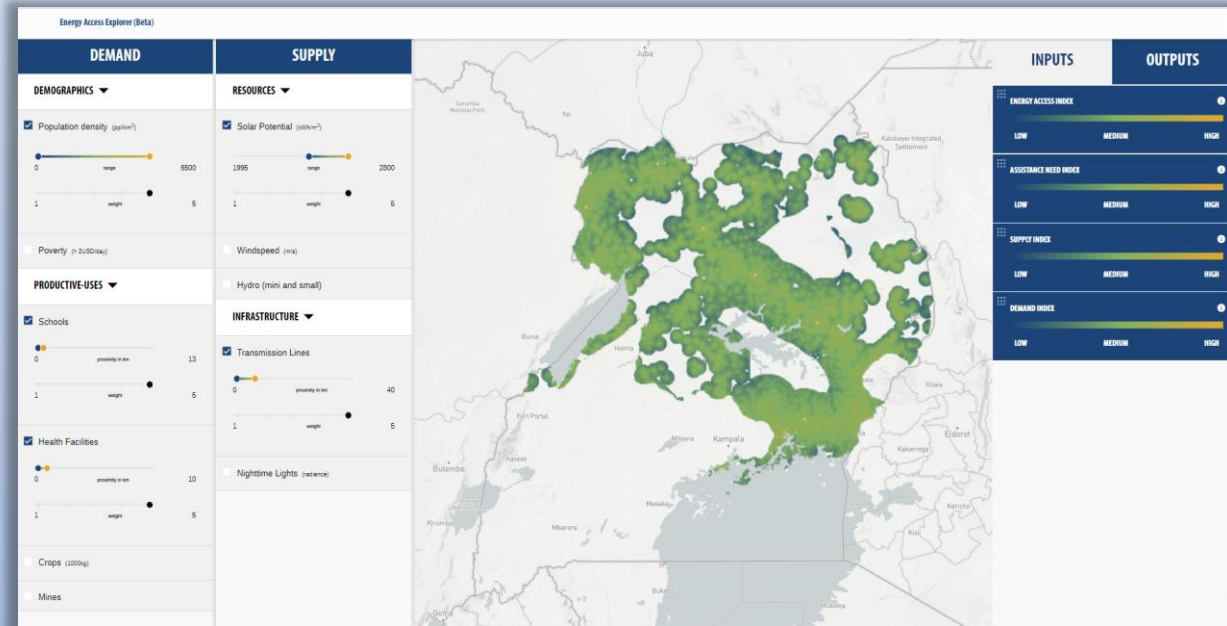
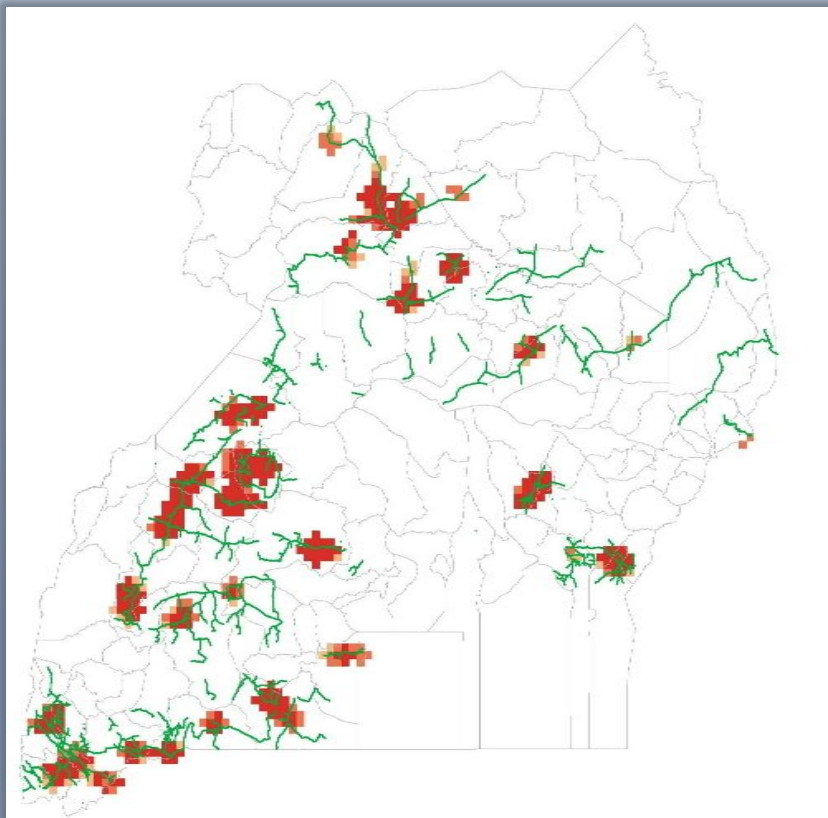
- Vector**: Represented by a map icon.
- Imagery**: Represented by a satellite image icon.
- Big Data**: Represented by a server rack icon.
- 3D**: Represented by a 3D building model icon.
- CAD / BIM**: Represented by a 3D architectural model icon.
- Textured Meshes**: Represented by a 3D mesh icon.
- Voxels**: Represented by a 3D voxel grid icon.
- Terrain**: Represented by a mountain landscape icon.
- Multidimensional Data**: Represented by a 3D cube icon.
- Graph relationships**: Represented by a network graph icon.
- Lidar / Point Cloud**: Represented by a point cloud icon.
- Real-Time (IoT)**: Represented by a line graph icon.
- Tabular**: Represented by a data table icon.

These central nodes are further connected to external services and platforms:

- Elasticsearch**: Connected to Graph relationships, Lidar / Point Cloud, and Real-Time (IoT).
- Google Cloud Bigtable**: Connected to Elasticsearch.
- Google Sheets**: Connected to Real-Time (IoT).
- Twitter**: Connected to Real-Time (IoT) and 3D.
- Tableau**: Connected to Imagery, CAD / BIM, and Textured Meshes.
- MongoDB**: Connected to Textured Meshes.
- Facebook**: Connected to Textured Meshes.

GIS and Electricity Access

Potential Customer Hotspots

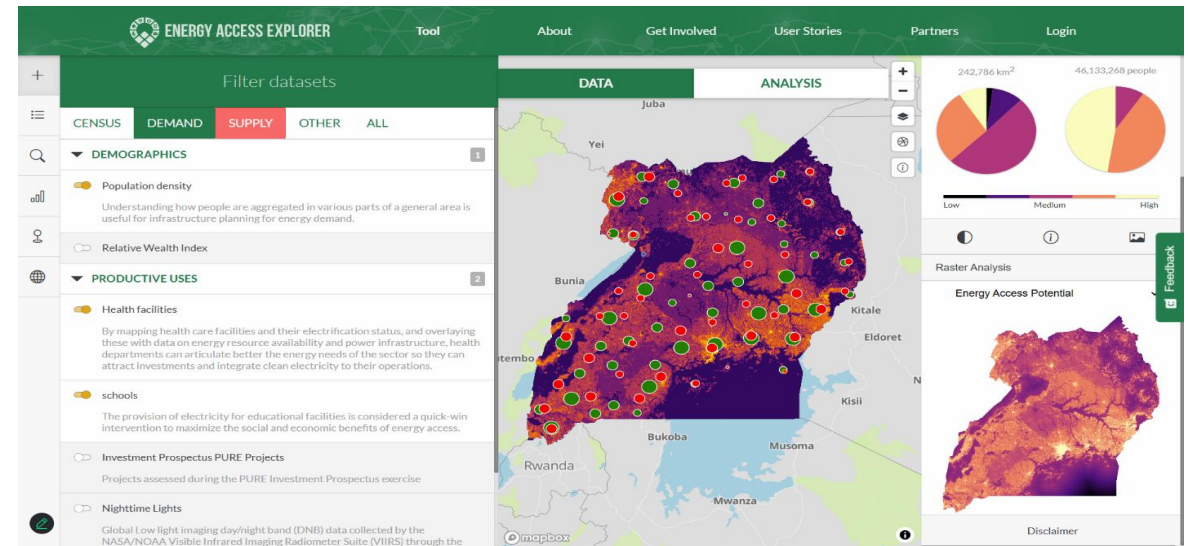
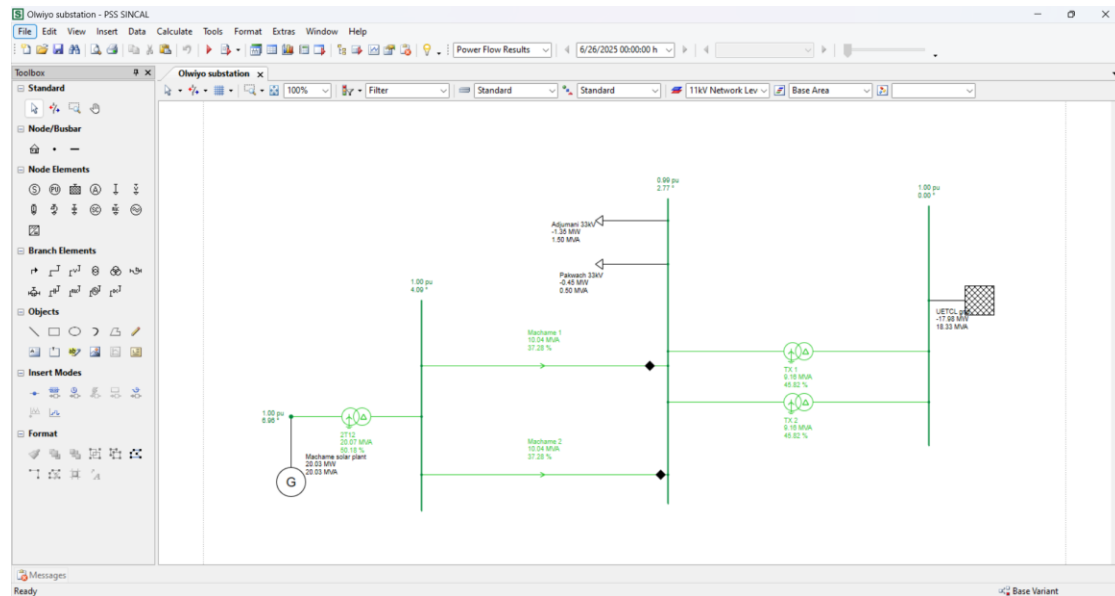


Application Areas:

- 1) Planning
- 2) Site suitability analysis
- 3) Investment Targeting
- 4) Monitoring and Evaluation of EA Interventions
- 5) Cost analysis

Interventions in Grid Modernization

Integrated Grid Planning



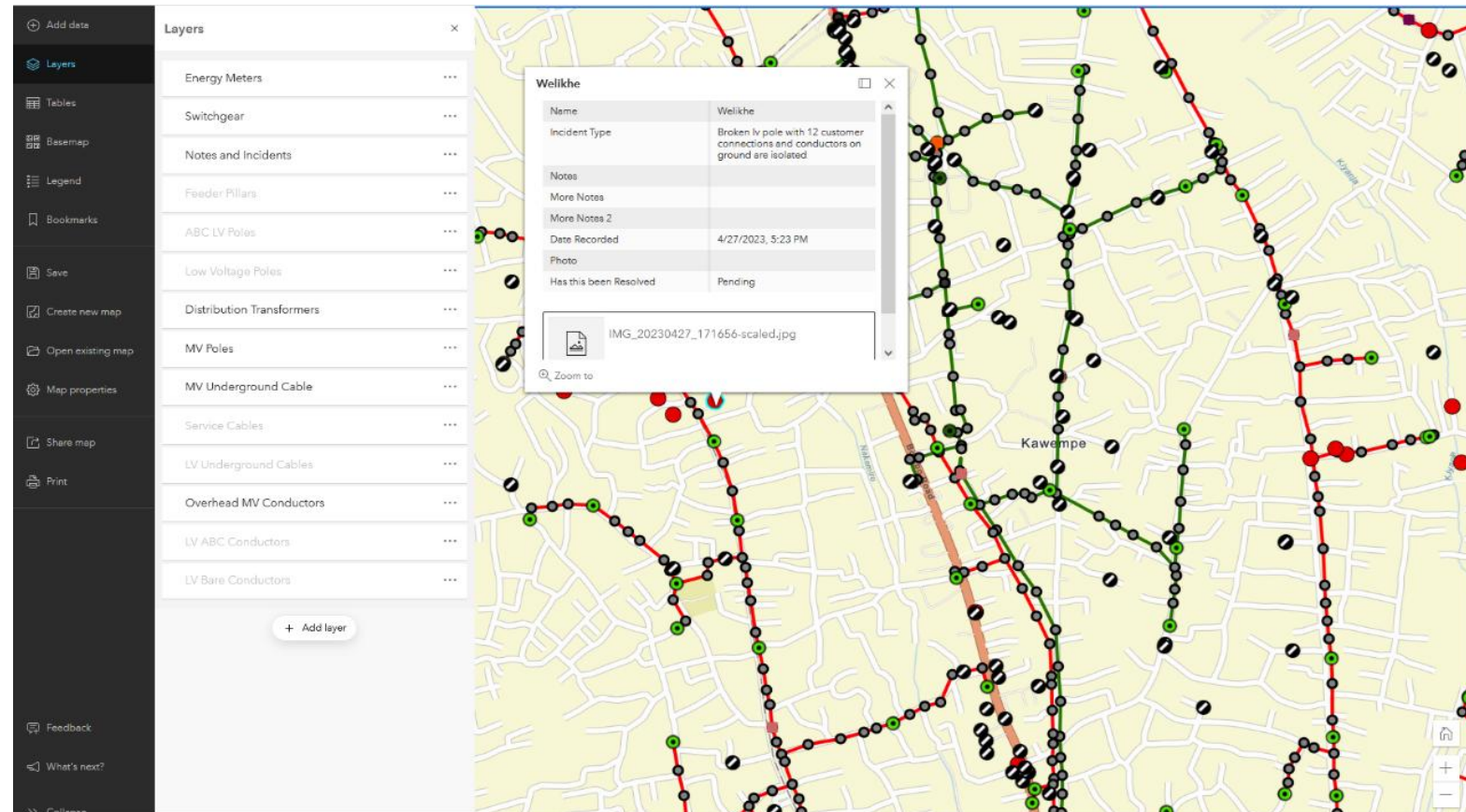
Interventions in Grid Modernization

Asset Management

- Centralized digital asset registry
- Condition/status monitoring & predictive maintenance
- Optimized maintenance workflows
- Risk-based investment planning
- Loss reduction by vandalism mitigation

Focus

Data gaps, System integrations, skills gaps



Src. UEDCL

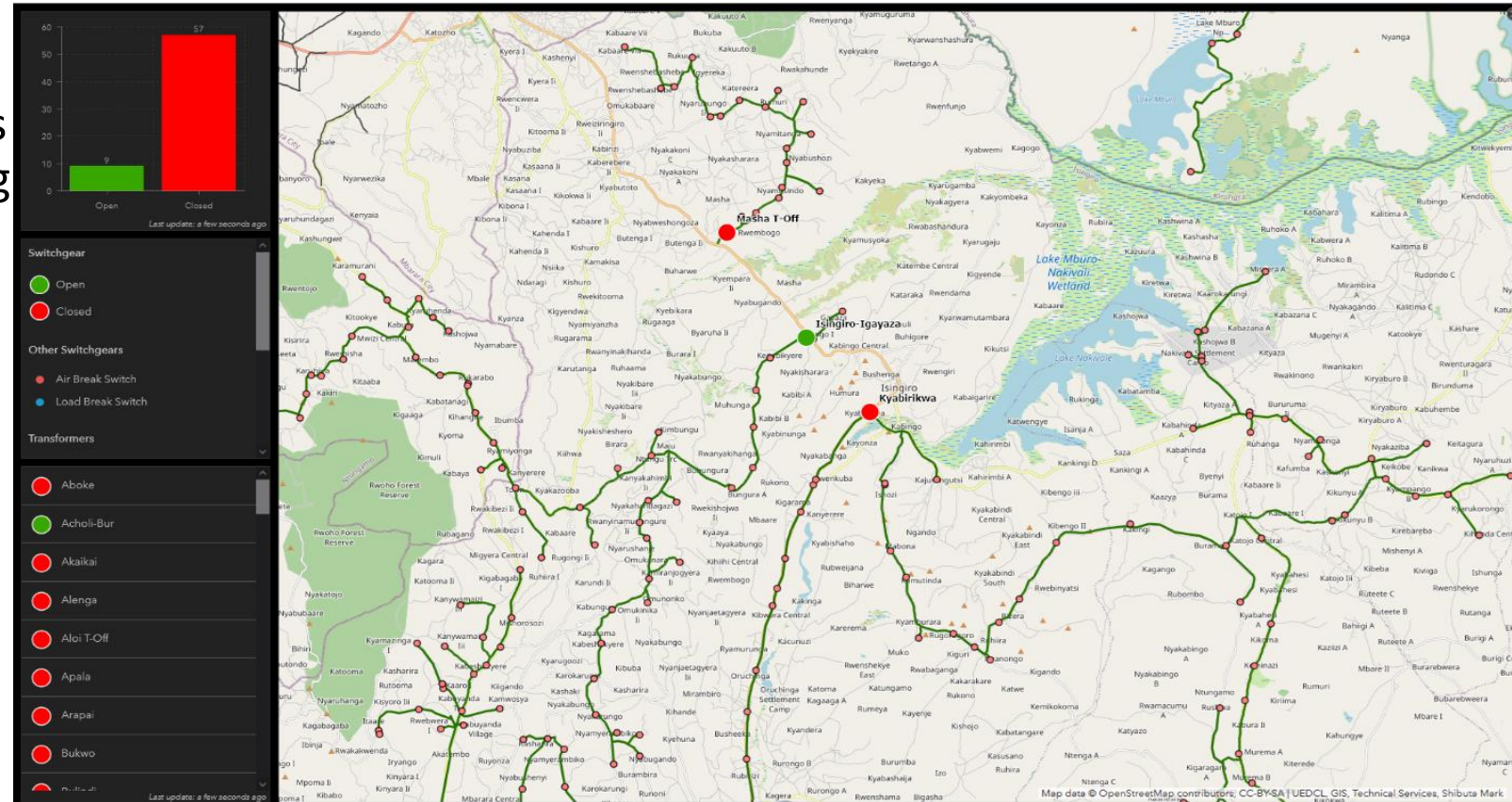
Interventions in Grid Modernization

Grid Automation

- “Digital Twin”
- Real-Time Situational Awareness
- Optimizing Automated Switching & Self-Healing
- Enhancing Voltage & Load Management
- Integrating Distributed Energy Resources (DERs)
- Automating field workforce operations

Focus

Data accuracy, system integrations, skills gap, cost

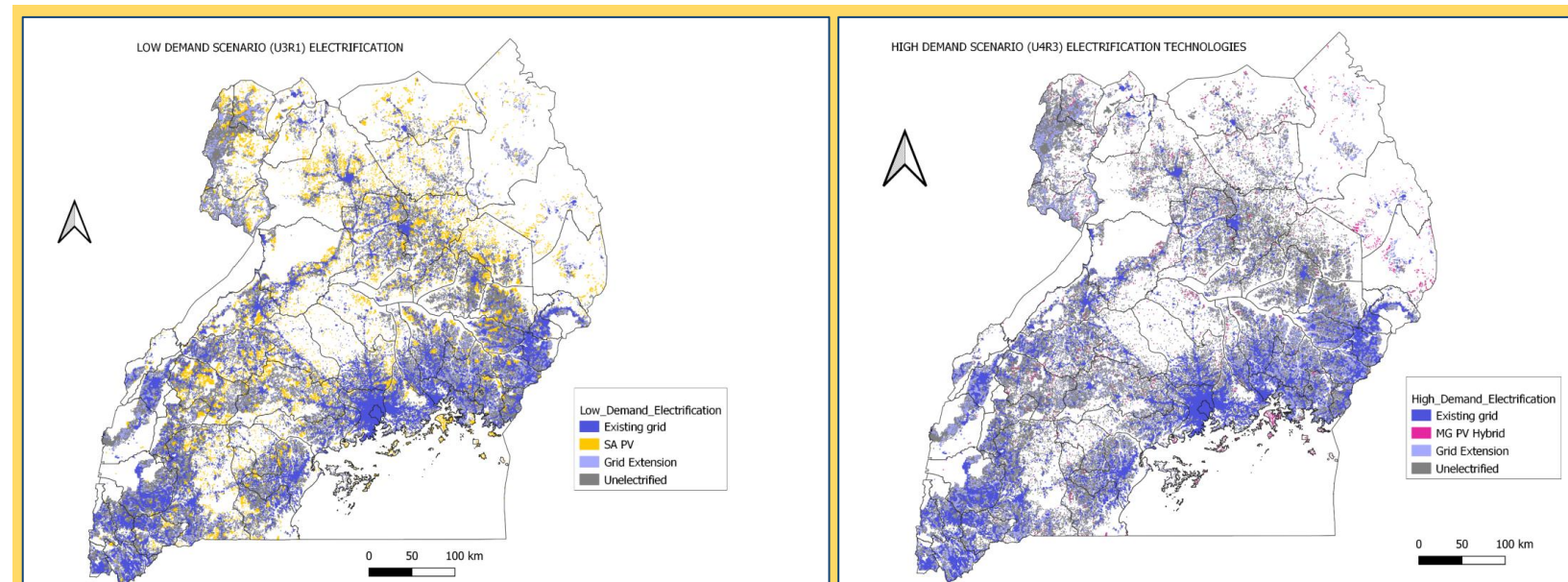


Interventions in Grid Modernization

Least Cost Electrification Modeling

Modelling variables

- Proximity
- Solar radiance
- Wind potential
- Terrain and environments
- Mobility
- Generation options



- SA PV alternative solution identified for low demand scenario and MG PV Hybrid solution identified for High Demand Scenario
- Grid extension solution most viable solution to increase access and meet the set Targets

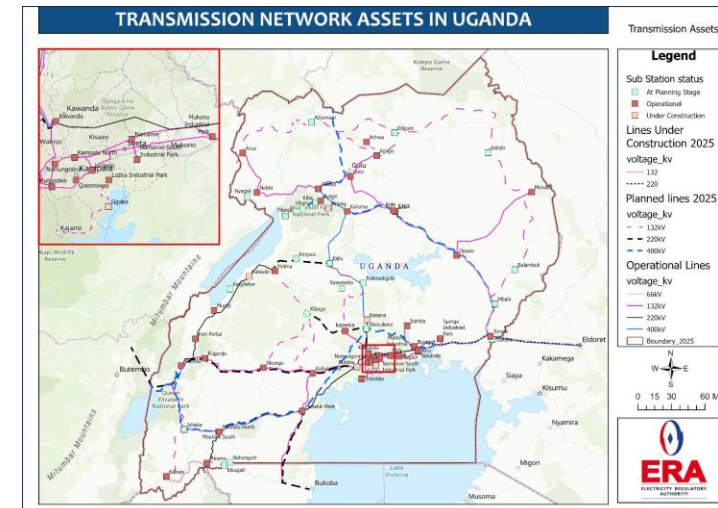
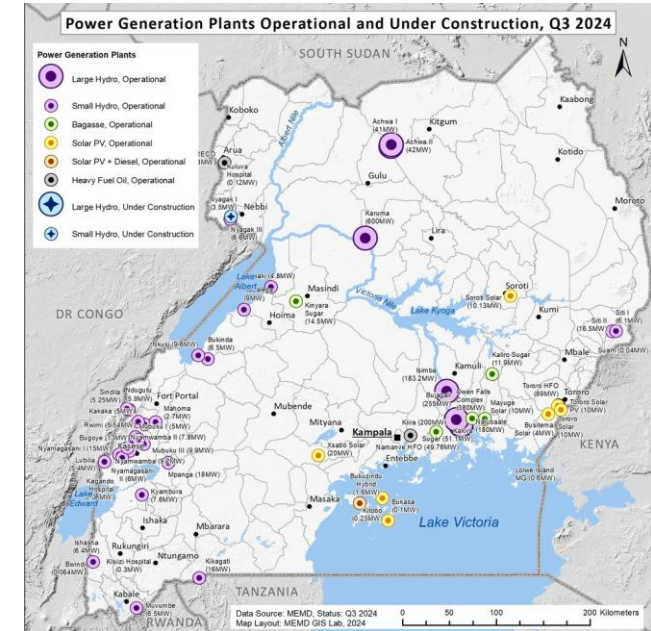
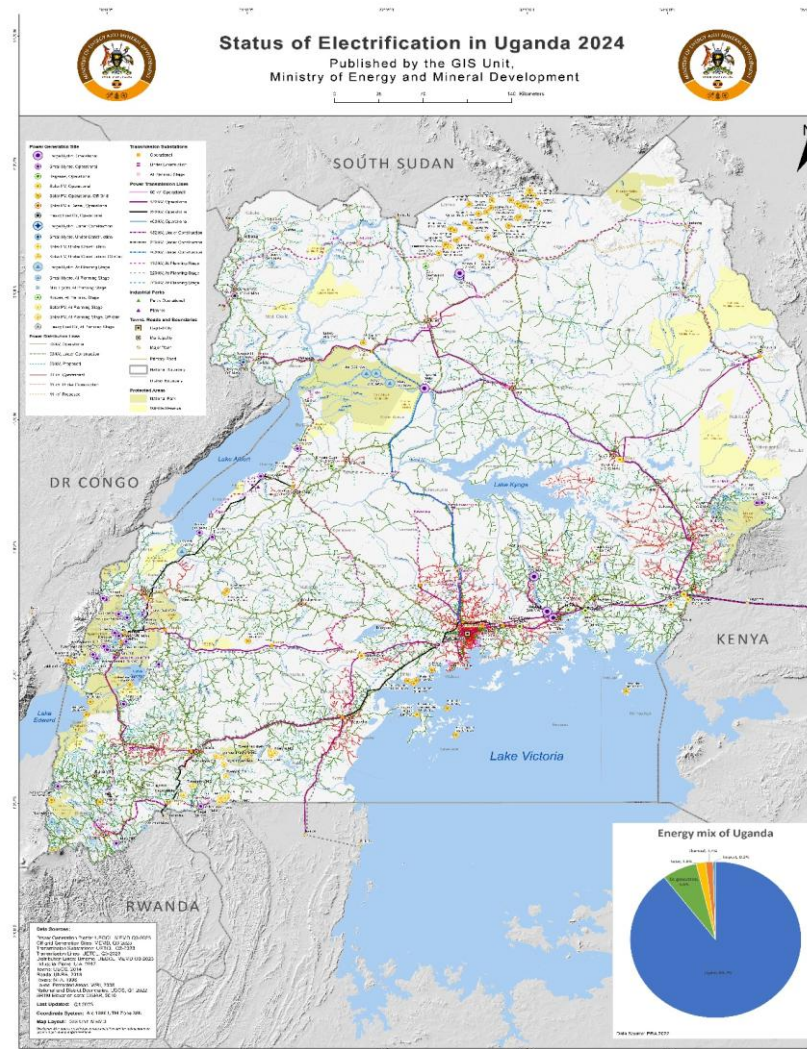
Interventions in Grid Modernization

Inter agency collaboration

- Supporting Policy & Regulation
- Streamlining Planning
- Monitoring projects, schemes and interventions
- Enhancing Transparency & Coordination

Considerations

- Adoption of SDI for standardization
- Data availability and quality
- Intergratability of data and systems
- Effective ICT infrastructure
- Institutional buy-in



Case Study/Demo

Energy Levelized cost of electrification for Uganda using GIS--2023

Context and Challenges

	Indicator	2020	2025	2030
1	Area	241,038 sq Km	-	-
2	Population	41,583,600 (Urban 27%, Rural 73%)	52,294,280	59,437,920
3	Access Rate	42.1% (urban 70%, Rural 33%)		
4	NDP III Targets Electricity Access	24%	60%	75%
	Per capita electricity consumption	100 kWh	145kWh	578 kWh

Challenges

1. >50% of the population has no access to electricity
1. High cost of power generation and grid extension versus the domestic economic value of electricity generated

Research Questions & Scenarios

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- ☐ What are the most feasible technologies for electrification?
- ☐ What are the associated investment costs for each technology?
- ☐ Population with access by the end of the NDP III(2030)

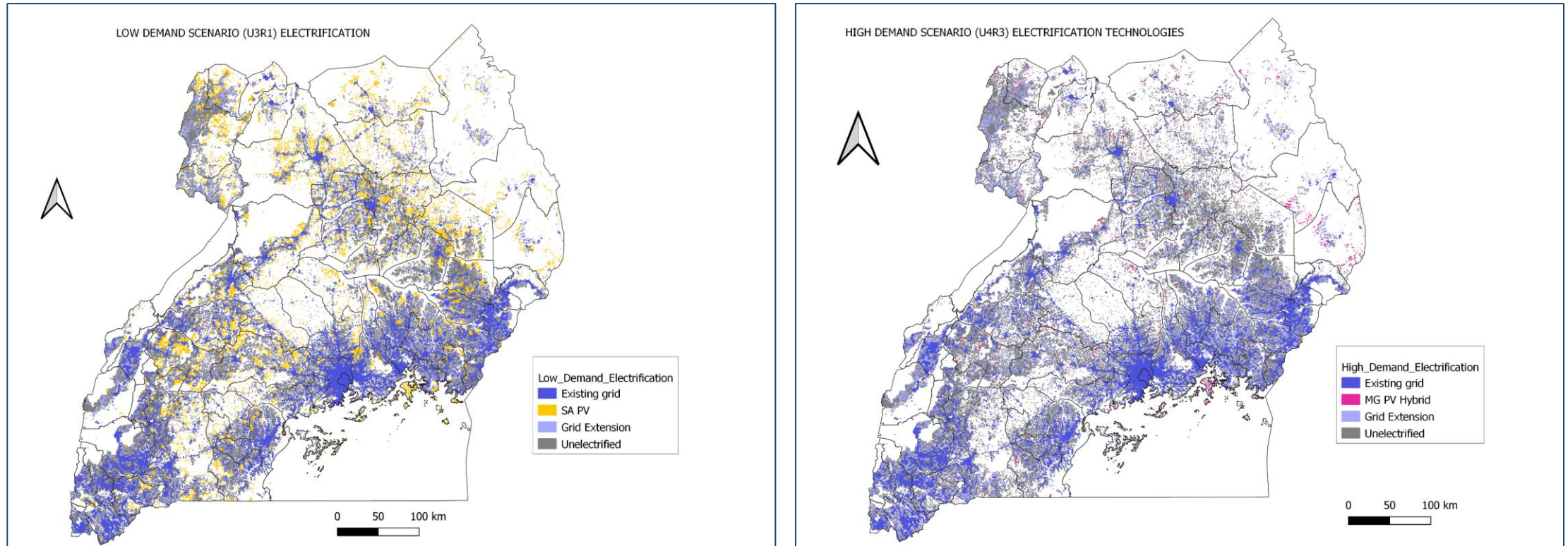
Tool used: OnSSET tool

General Assumptions and considerations

- Population threshold- 50 people
- Productive use in Education and Health Facilities
- Uncapped rollout plan, Forced grid within 2km buffer& least cost approach outside of the buffer zone

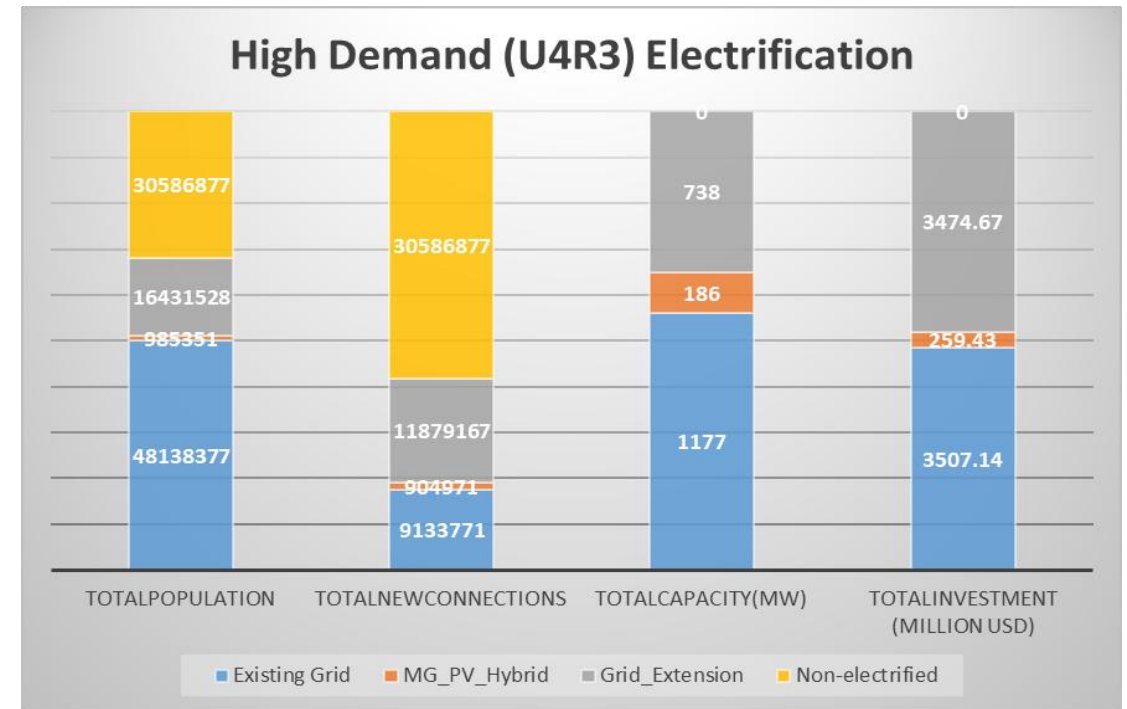
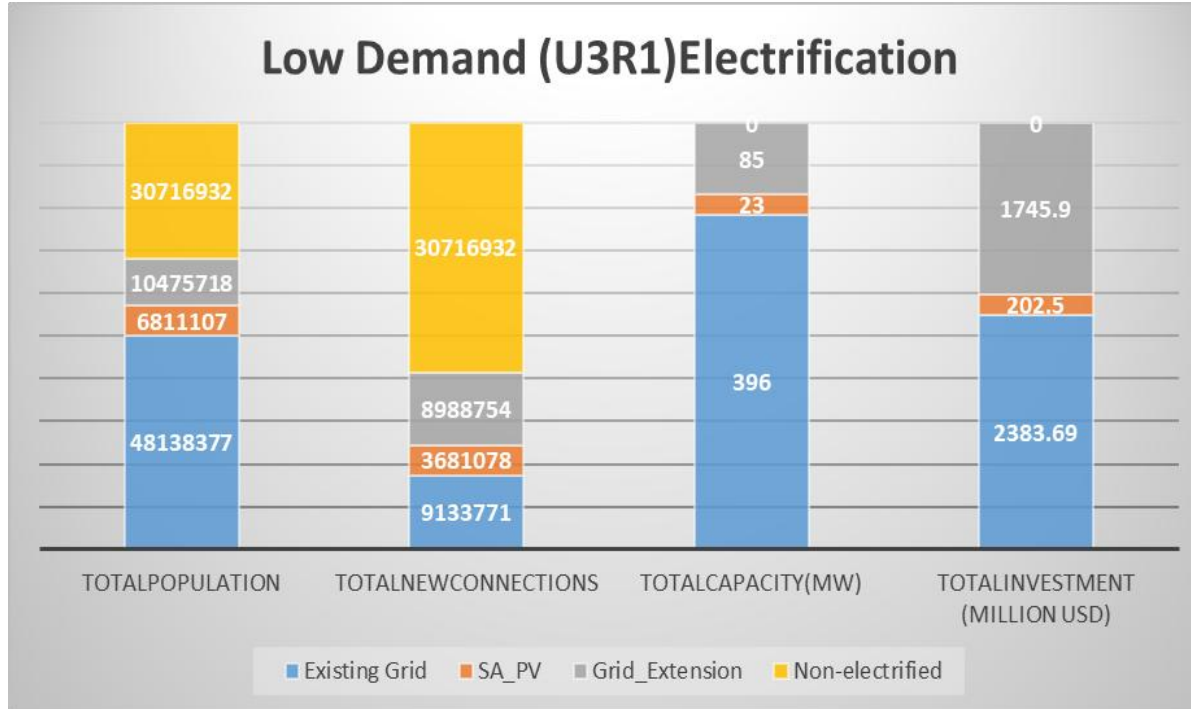
Scenario Label	Scenario Description	Key Assumptions
Low Demand	Top- Down Demand target-Low	Urban demand-Tier 3 (803 kWh/hh/yr) and Rural Demand- Tier 1(38.7 kWh/hh/yr) by 2030
High Demand	Top- Down Demand target-High	Urban demand-Tier 4 (2117 kWh/hh/yr) & Rural Demand- Tier 3(803 kWh/hh/yr) by 2030

Results



- SA PV alternative solution identified for low demand scenario and MG PV Hybrid solution identified for High Demand Scenario
- Grid extension solution most viable solution to increase access and meet the set Targets

Results



- Population connected by Grid extension- 10,474,718 @1,746m USD
- Population connected by SA PV 681,1107 @ 202.5m USD

Population connected by Grid extension- 16,431,528 @3,474.67m USD

Population connected by MG PV Hybrid 985,351 @ 259.43m USD

Conclusions and Policy Insights

Conclusion and Policy Insights

- Grid Intensification contributes the majority share of the 75% set Target by 2030
- Need to include or increase other technologies like solar PVs and Hybrid Minigrid to achieve the access targets
- Reliance on evidence based decision making(modelled scenarios) to inform policies on electricity access

Future Work

- Update of datasets and Inclusion of other productive uses of energy like Agriculture,etc..in the model
- Align the model with the Energy Transition Plan (ETP) currently under development in Uganda aimed at attaining zero carbon emissions
 - ❖ The ETP was finalized and launched at COP 28 in Dubai, Dec 2023. Plans to update the model are underway updated datasets

Thank You

Pay us a visit at the Exhibition Booth!!



11th Utilities GIS Conference 2025

Theme:

**"Mapping Uganda's Energy Future:
Smart Data, Smart Decisions",**

25th to 26th September 2025,
Kampala, Uganda



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📍 Energy Sector GIS Working Group

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