



18MW Mpanga HEP Mini Hydro Project on Course

A substantial number of private investors have officially expressed their interest in creating small hydro power stations throughout Uganda encouraged by the liberalization of the electricity sector for Independent Power Producers. There are several small hydro power sites that possess potential resources if fully exploited.

The Mpanga HEP Mini Hydro Project is among other Small Hydro Power projects currently undergoing construction in various parts of the country, both of mini and micro scale. The 18MW Mini Hydro Project licensed in May 2008 in Kamwenge has done substantial progress in construction with headrace channel construction almost complete. The Powerhouse construction is underway and Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development, Rural Electrification Agency & Uganda Electricity Transmission Company Ltd are handling the power evacuation component although one of the major outstanding activities is tunnelling a 90m section of the headrace.

The project commercial operation date is slated for May this year and like the 13 MW Bugoye Mini Hydro project commissioned in October last year, the addition of this *Africa EMS Mpanga* owned project to the national supply will strengthen the more Uganda's renewable energy capacity.