A recent technical assessment has confirmed that proposed electricity network modifications—currently under consideration by participating transmission system operators—are sufficient to optimize the benefits of a submarine interconnection between the Republic of Georgia and Romania.

Georgia and Romania are considering constructing an underwater, high-voltage direct current electric power transmission cable across the floor of the Black Sea to connect their power networks with each other and with Europe. This interconnection would increase the stability and reliability of both countries’ networks, as well as increase opportunities for transparent, wholesale electricity trade. A previous World Bank economic assessment indicated that the undersea cable project would generate sufficient economic and financial benefits to warrant further consideration. USAID and USEA completed a technical follow-up assessment and confirmed that, in fact, with minimal upgrades, the countries’ networks are robust enough to transfer up to 1,000 MW of electricity in each direction. Following completion of this technical assessment, the World Bank invited bids for a full project feasibility study.

KEY DELIVERABLE
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