

Length of African Telecom Fiber Optic Cables



Overview

At 45,000 km and circling the African continent, the subsea cable is the longest fiber optic cable in the world and will connect three continents: Africa, Asia, and Europe, and 33 countries across 46 landing points. It is due to go live in 2023/2024. While submarine communications cables are used to connect countries and continents to the Internet, terrestrial fibre optic cables are used to extend this connectivity to landlocked countries or to urban centers within a country. This map shows the reach of WIOCC's regional fibre optic network, which reached 75,000-km during 2024. WIOCC's regional network comprises the national transmission backbones of its shareholders in ten African countries, and networks leased from partner operators in other countries. WIOCC's network. As of 2024, there are more than 550 undersea fibre optic cables, representing nearly 1. A single cable can now carry over 300 Tbps. Undersea cable maps are readily available. Some operators. Loading legend. Compared to copper lines or satellite connections, fiber provides faster, more reliable data transmission with minimal.



Article Content

Jul 20, 2025

African Undersea and Terrestrial Fibre Optic Cables

Explore the development and spread of African undersea and terrestrial fibre optic cables, a transformative revolution in telecommunications infrastructure.

Mar 08, 2026

Handbook Optical fibres, cables and systems

The transmission characteristics of the factory length optical fibre cables will have a certain probability distribution which often needs to be taken into account if the most economic designs are to be obtained.

Mar 29, 2026

Africa Telecom Transmission Map

Africa's total inventory of terrestrial fibre optic transmission networks passed the milestone of 1 million route-kms during 2018. By June 2024 the amount of

Jul 16, 2025

Internet Infrastructure in Africa

The advances in fibre-optic technology also give Africa a chance to leapfrog over the old hardware to design and build a modern and efficient fibre-optic terrestrial

Oct 06, 2025

Africa Telecommunications Map 2022

A new African submarine cable consortium project planned to extend 45,000 kilometers linking 33 countries in Africa, the Middle East, and Europe. Consortium

Dec 06, 2025

Africa Telecommunications Map 2022

The cable could enter service as soon as 2023. Africa-1. The Africa-1 consortium is comprised several telecom carriers including Etisalat, Mobily, Pakistan

Feb 03, 2026

Introducing the Open Fibre Data Standard

As of 2024, there are more than 550 undersea fibre optic cables, representing nearly 1.4 million kilometres of cable. A single cable can now carry over 300 Tbps.

Jul 02, 2025

Fibre chapter7

Developments in subsea fibre Whilst 2021 saw the completion of several "infill" subsea cables - DARE1, connecting Kenya, Somalia, Somaliland and Djibouti; METISS, reinforcing connectivity between the

May 29, 2026

2Africa, worlds longest subsea cable system arrives in

2Africa Subsea Cable, the longest fibre optic undersea cable ever installed, stretching over 45,000 kilometres, led by Facebook, has arrived in

Jul 27, 2025

Fibre-optic Link Around the Globe

Fibre-optic Link Around the Globe (FLAG) is a 28,000-kilometre-long (17,398 mi; 15,119 nmi) fibre optic mostly- submarine communications cable that connects

Mar 22, 2026

FIBRE: INTRODUCTION chapter7

Chart 1: Route-Kms of Terrestrial Transmission Network, Africa 2009 - 2019 of the Africa Telecom Transmission Map 11 published by Hamilton Research for 2019/20, 10 the inventory of operational

Nov 05, 2025

Our network | Liquid Intelligent Technologies

Our network A single network like no other. Since putting our first fibre in the ground in 2009, our high-speed cross-border network has grown to over 110,000km of fibre. It is the continent's largest

May 25, 2026

The Impact of Fiber Optic Networks on Africa's Digital

Despite these gains, several challenges still impede the full potential of fiber optic networks in Africa. Regulatory hurdles, limited investment in some

Jul 24, 2025

The Future of African Fiber Markets 2023: How a Data

DUBLIN-- (BUSINESS WIRE)--The "The Future of African Fiber - 2023: How a Data Traffic Boom, Hyperscale Subsea Cables and Cloud Services

Jan 12, 2026

West Africa Cable System

About Us WACS (West Africa Cable System) submarine cable is an ultra high capacity fiber optic submarine cable system which links South of Africa and

Sep 03, 2025

Africa Bandwidth Maps

Gold Transmission Map Route-Kms (By Country) Route-Kms Analysis Investment & Contracts Bandwidth Summary Fibre Reach (Operational) Fibre Reach (Under Constr) Fibre Reach (Planned)

Nov 05, 2025

Fiber-optic leap bridges African digital divide

Key players in African internet infrastructure include multinational telecom giants such as MTN (South Africa), Orange S.A. (France), Vodafone

Jan 13, 2026

From Fiber to 5G: Mapping Africa's Journey Toward

Across Africa, the pursuit of high-speed internet has become a continental mission, one marked by bold investments, strategic partnerships, and

Oct 17, 2025

Africa Telecom Transmission Map

This map shows the reach of WIOCC's regional fibre optic network, which reached 75,000-km during 2024. WIOCC's regional network comprises the national transmission backbones of its shareholders

Oct 02, 2025

Africa Analysis Team CC

This Position Paper The position paper titled "Africa Broadband Outlook 2024" analyses the current situation on the African continent as far as the development of fixed broadband infrastructure, and

Dec 09, 2025

Africa's Digital Backbone: The Fibre-Optic Projects

Africa's rapid digital transformation is reshaping the continent's economic landscape, driven largely by ambitious fibre-optic projects, submarine

Dec 23, 2025

Network Maps: Africa

Both submarine cable systems and terrestrial fiber systems are included. Where only a global map is available for a company with African assets, such as for the larger telecoms, I refer to the

Aug 16, 2025

Fibre chapter7

entering service per day. In addition, there was Africa's total inventory of operational in June 2020 a further 119,496-km of fibre fibre optic network reached the optic network under construction, 95,057

May 15, 2026

World's longest subsea cable lands in Djibouti, East Africa

At 45,000 km and circling the African continent, the subsea cable is the longest fiber optic cable in the world and will connect three continents: Africa,

May 15, 2026

Africa: Africa's Operational Fibre Optic Network

In addition, there was in June 2019 a further 132,088-km of fibre optic network under construction, 89,610-km planned, and 50,159-km proposed. The eleventh edition

Dec 25, 2025

One Million Kilometers of Fiber Optic Cables for

How much fiber optic cable has been installed in Africa? IFC estimates a total of 1.1 million kilometers. About 50% of this fiber is deployed by

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