

West Africa Cable and Optical Fiber



Article Overview

West Africa's digital connectivity relies on submarine cables like WACS and 2Africa, supported by a growing but import-dependent optical fiber market.

Submarine Cable Systems

West Africa Cable System (WACS) is a 14,530 km submarine cable connecting 15 countries from South Africa to the UK, with four fiber pairs and an initial design capacity of 5.12 Tbps, expandable via 128 wavelengths per fiber pair at 10 Gbps each. WACS includes express, semi-express, and omnibus fiber pairs interconnecting countries such as Nigeria, Ghana, Togo, Côte d'Ivoire, and Angola, providing critical international bandwidth. The system was completed in 2012 with a total investment of approximately US\$650 million, and major telecom operators like MTN, Telecom Namibia, and Tata Communications are key stakeholders. 2Africa is a next-generation subsea cable project designed to enhance connectivity between Africa, Europe, and Asia. It integrates with existing systems like SEA-ME-WE 5 and AAE-1, offering higher capacity and faster transmission to meet growing demand for broadband and digital services across the continent. This project is part of a broader strategy to expand Africa's digital backbone and support economic growth through reliable high-speed internet.

Optical Fiber Market in Western Africa

The Western African optical fiber market is characterized by high import dependency and limited local production. Nigeria, Burkina Faso, and Togo account for half of the regional demand, while production hubs in Togo, Niger, and Benin supply 74% of ou...

Article Content

West Africa Cable System

About Us WACS (West Africa Cable System) submarine cable is an ultra high capacity fiber optic

West Africa Cable System

Cable laying ship Île de Bréhat connecting West African Cable System fibre at Yzerfontein in South Africa, 24 April 2011, returning 28

West Africa Cable System (WACS) Overview

The West Africa Cable System (WACS) is a 14530km submarine cable system connecting 15 countries, starting from

Cut submarine cables cause web outages across Africa; 6 countries

Thirteen countries across Africa experienced Internet outages on Thursday due to damage to submarine fiber optic

Massive internet outage hits West and Central Africa after undersea ...

What just happened? Undersea cable failures have left most of West and Central Africa without internet in a

OPGW Optical Fiber Composite Ground Wire in African Projects

QZ Cable's Optical Fiber Composite Ground Wire (OPGW) has played a transformative role in several projects across

Western Africa

This report provides a comprehensive view of the optical fiber, bundle and cable industry in Western Africa, tracking

Africa Bandwidth Maps

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

Announcing the Completion of the Core 2Africa System:

Connecting Africa and the World We're excited to share the completion of the core 2Africa

Africa Telecommunications Map 2022

The Africa-1 consortium is comprised several telecom carriers including Etisalat, Mobily, Pakistan

FAQ | 2Africa Cable

2Africa is an open cable system where investing parties manage the operation of their fibre. In countries where the 2Africa cable will

Western Africa's Optical Fibers and Bundles Market Report 2026

The Western Africa optical fibers and bundles market is at a pivotal inflection point, characterized by a profound

Inside Africa's Internet Fiber Optic Cable Success Story

Our continued partnership with the EIB will see our company continue to deploy its fiber

New Regional Map Depicts 77 Cable Systems Connected to Africa

The 2025 Africa Telecommunications Map is out—and it pairs perfectly with this year's Submarine Cable Map.

SUBMARINE CABLE

The Africa Coast to Europe – ACE – submarine cable connects Europe to the west coast of Africa through a high speed fiber optic

Western Africa

The Western African market for optical fibers, bundles, and cables stands at a critical inflection point, characterized by

Inside Africa's Internet Fiber Optic Cable Success Story

Inside Africa's Internet Fiber Optic Cable Success Story By Ambrose Gahene
November

Submarine Cable Map

TeleGeography's comprehensive and regularly updated interactive map of the world's major submarine cable systems

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

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

The Impact of Fiber Optic Networks on Africa's Digital Landscape

Africa is undergoing a digital revolution, and at the heart of this transformation lies fiber optic technology. Once

Africa's Optical Fiber, Bundles, and Cable Market Set to Reach USD

Africa's journey toward digital transformation is gaining momentum, and at the core of this progress lies the

Western Africa's Optical Fibers and Bundles Market Report 2026

Demand for optical fibers and bundles in Western Africa is fundamentally propelled by the urgent need to build robust

West Africa Cable System (WACS) – Submarine Cable System

Ultra-high capacity fibre optic cable system linking Europe, West Africa, and South Africa

West Africa Cable System

The West Africa Cable System (WACS) is a submarine communications cable linking South Africa with the United Kingdom along the

West African Cable System (WACS)

Explore cable routes, landing stations and system status. Learn more about West African Cable System (WACS). Detailed

Maroc Telecom invests €150M to connect West Africa using subsea cable

Maroc Telecom has invested a substantial sum of 150 million euros in the development of a state-of-the-art fiber optic

Maroc Telecom invests in subsea cable to connect African

The Moroccan telecommunications group Itissalat Al Maghrib (Maroc Telecom) has invested 150 million euros in the

African Undersea Cables

Please contact me if you'd like a copy of the map in SVG format. For a history of African undersea cables, have a look at animated gif

Contact Us

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