Fiber Optic Cable Equipment in Democratic Republic of Congo



Overview

The project consists in the construction of 10,000 km of fibre-optic cables as part of a regional backbone in 5 countries, including backbone as well as metro networks.

Key Takeaways

The DRC is rapidly expanding its fiber optic network through national and regional projects, involving public-private partnerships, international funding, and advanced backbone infrastructure.

National Fiber Optic Projects

The DR

C has launched several major fiber optic initiatives to enhance digital connectivity. A €66. 55 million project, funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the Congolese government, includes laying 600 kilometers of fiber optic cable and constructing a state-of-the-art National Data Centre in Brazzaville.

This infrastructure aims to improve local data management, reduce reliance on foreign servers, and boost internet penetration, which was 17. 4% in early 2022.

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A, the Congolese Fiber Optic Company, has also been instrumental in expanding fiber optics nationwide. In March 2023, a 620 km fiber optic route connecting Kinshasa and Muanda was inaugurated.

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F collaborates with the Agency for Coordination and Monitoring of Collaboration Agreements (APCSC) to deploy fiber along major roads, integrating fiber infrastructure into transport projects to ensure nationwide coverage.

Regional and Backbone Networks

The DR

C is part of a 10,000 km regional fiber-optic backbone spanning Central and Southern Africa, connecting countries like Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi, and Mozambique. This backbone supports metro networks and provides connectivity to schools, hospitals, and government institutions, significantly improving service quality and access in previously unconnected areas. Facebook, in partnership with the DRC government and supported by Sofrecom, is deploying a 5,745 km fiber optic backbone to connect major cities and enable high-speed, high-capacity connections.

This project emphasizes careful route planning, civil engineering, and network longevity, with cables buried at a minimum depth of 1. 2 meters to ensure durability.

Private Sector and International Support

The European Investment Bank (EIB) and Bandwidth and Cloud Services Group (BCS) are investing in fiber optic networks in the eastern DRC. Their projects aim to provide high-speed broadband to over 2. 5 million people, including homes, schools, and hospitals, supporting digital transformation and economic development.

These initiatives involve advanced fiber optic equipment, including terrestrial backbones, submarine cables, landing stations, and monitoring systems. The projects are designed to meet engineering standards for high-speed, high-capacity connectivity, ensuring long-term reliability and scalability.

Impact and Future Outlook

The expansion of fiber optic infrastructure in the DRC is expected to: Increase internet penetration and mobile broadband accessSupport local data hosting for telecom operators, banks, and public institutionsEnable digital services in education, healthcare, and governmentFoster economic growth and regional integration With ongoing investments and partnerships, the DRC is positioning itself as a digital hub in Central Africa, leveraging fiber optic technology to enhance connectivity and digital sovereignty.

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CONSTRUCTION OF FIBRE OPTIC CABLES IN THE DEMOCRATIC

This updated list ranks the 20 largest fiber-optic cable companies worldwide and summarizes what each vendor is best known for—core product lines, regional strengths, and typical project fit.

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What people in Democratic Republic of the Congo earn in 2026: median, percentiles, top-paying jobs, gender split and how pay compares across categories.

Congo Fiber Optic: $1.5bn Line Planned Along the River

The Congo fiber optic project signed on June 25 would run 1,700 kilometres of cable along the Congo River from Muanda to Kisangani — a 1.5-billion-dollar bet, with China''s Genew

EMS | Espoir Multi Services

Espoir Multi Service, in acronym EMS is a Congolese company based in Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo. It was created in 2021 and works mainly in

DRC Plans Tender for 11,500 km National Fiber-Optic Network

The Democratic Republic of Congo plans an international tender for the construction and operation of a national fiber-optic backbone spanning more than 11,500 kilometers, including 1,500

DR Congo €8B Digital Plan: What It Includes (Telecom, Infrastructure ...

To improve connectivity, the project plans to deploy between 37,000 and 50,000 miles (60,000–80,000 kilometers) of fiber-optic cable across all 145 territories.

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