

Article Overview

Somalia is actively expanding its multimode gigabit fiber optic network, integrating international submarine cables with national terrestrial networks to improve broadband access and digital connectivity.

Current Fiber Optic Landscape

Somalia's fiber optic infrastructure is currently fragmented and underdeveloped, with isolated segments deployed by various sub-regional operators. The country is connected to five international submarine cables--including EASSy, EIG, WACS, SEACOM, and SAT3/SAFE--providing high-capacity links to global networks, with a sixth cable planned to further enhance connectivity . Despite this, national interconnectivity remains limited, resulting in uneven broadband access and subpar network quality .

National Deployment Initiatives

The Somali government, through the National Communications Authority (NCA), is implementing a unified fiber optic deployment policy aimed at streamlining installation, reducing costs, and fostering a cohesive digital ecosystem . This policy encourages collaboration among national telecom operators to expand fiber coverage efficiently, particularly in underserved and rural areas, bridging the digital divide and supporting economic growth .

Private Sector Contributions

Key private operators are driving fiber deployment:

- o Dalkom Somalia integrates terrestrial fiber networks with international submarine cables, offering high redundancy and gigabit-level connectivity across Africa and globally. Its network spans over 55,000 km of terrestrial fiber, connecting more than 500 locations in 30 African countries and extending to 700 cities worldwide .
- o Somcable, in partnership with SO! Ltd, operates a metropolitan fiber network exceeding 30 km in Hargeisa and a growing 1200 km regional network, delivering high-speed broadband up to 100 Mbps for residential and business users .

Technical Capabilities

The networks deployed in Somalia support multimode fiber, which is suitable for gigabit-speed transmission over short to medium distances, ideal for urban and metropolitan areas. Combined with submarine cable capacity, this enables high-speed, resilient connectivity for both domestic and international traffic .

Strategic Goals

Somalia's fiber optic expansion aims to:

- o Expand nationwide coverage, including rural and underserved regions.
- o Enhance e-government services by providing a reliable digital backbone.
- o Improve network resilience through redundancy, cybersecurity, and disaster recovery measures.
- o Boost economic development by enabling e-commerce, digital services, and foreign investment .

Challenges

Deployment faces obstacles such as security concerns, fragmented infrastructure, and limited interconnection between operators, which can affect network reliability and broadband penetration . Current internet penetration is around 27.6%, highlighting the need for accelerated fiber deployment . In summary, Somalia is making significant strides toward a comprehensive multimode gigabit fiber optic network, combining international submarine cable access with national terrestrial expansion, supported by both government policy and private sector investment, to improve broadband access and digital economic opportunities.

NAIROBI, Kenya (HOL) -- Kenya's government has launched consultations with industry players for a major regional fibre optic

The discussions were held during a recent united Fiber Optic Policy meeting held in Mogadishu, chaired by the

Thursday November 21, 2024 Somalia is working to put in place a favourable regulatory framework to strengthen its digital

The PPIAF grant led by the ICT Sector team has supported the Federal Government of Somalia and especially the

Dalkom Somalia is the largest shareholder in EASSy, a >10Tbps submarine fibre cable interconnecting nine countries along Africa's

The growth and expansion of fiber optic network systems have enabled the development of ICT-enabled businesses

To date, fiber optic networks have been deployed in parts of Somaliland, Puntland, and in the Mogadishu

metropolitan area.

WORLD BANK GROUP Strategy and PPP Options for Supporting the ICT Sector and Broadband Connectivity in Somalia (P154836)

Somalia is poised for a significant leap in its digital economy with the development of a unified fibre optic deployment

A third fiber optic cable--2Africa--is currently under development, aiming to connect Europe, the Middle East, and

The Federal Government of Somalia is seeking expressions of interest from consulting firms for a Technical Feasibility Study on

Are you looking for a high-speed internet solution that can keep up with your fast-paced lifestyle? Look no further than

The policy aims to streamline fiber installation, reduce deployment costs, and foster a

Due to the piracy problem in Somali waters and other reasons, international fibre optic connectivity reached Somalia relatively late, in

African fiber optic company Liquid Telecom has delivered a broadband Internet cable to Somalia's doorstep, the first

Dalkom Somalia's network integrates the terrestrial fibre networks of its shareholders and partners, creating the largest terrestrial

Web: <https://millstraining.co.za>

