



Transforming East to West Connectivity

Bayobab and Africa50:
connecting Africa together

Pan-African Partnership: East to West Connectivity

When measured from east to west, Africa is the widest continent, spanning 7,400 kilometres and traversing 12 countries. Bayobab is investing in subsea infrastructure and exploring terrestrial alternatives to better connect the continent, notably through the East to West connectivity project.

This initiative stems from a partnership agreement inked between Bayobab and Africa50 in May 2023, followed by Smart Africa's involvement, aimed at fostering East2West—a terrestrial fibre optic cable network connecting the eastern and western shores of Africa. With Africa50 investing up to US\$320 million, the partnership targets the connection of ten countries.

Big and Bold: East to West Connectivity

East to West connectivity is a transformative initiative aimed at establishing a terrestrial fibre optic network to connect landlocked African countries. This ambitious project, realised through the partnership between Africa50 and Bayobab, highlights the critical role of pan-African collaboration in constructing telecommunication highways.

East to West connectivity underscores the importance of bridging the digital divide by extending networks from Bayobab's twenty Subsea Cable Systems encircling Africa. By connecting previously isolated regions, this initiative aims to enhance fibre connectivity, directly contributing to economic growth and development.

Game-changing Routes

Bayobab is developing three unique coast-to-coast terrestrial fibre routes to connect East to West Africa by expanding its fibre railroads.

1. Northern route 1 – Kenya > South Sudan > Central African Republic > Republic of Congo (Congo B)

2. Northern route 2 – Tanzania > Rwanda > Uganda > Democratic Republic of Congo

3. Southern route – Mozambique > Malawi > Zambia > Angola

These routes represent a departure from traditional designs, offering strategic advantages in terms of connectivity and resilience. By controlling every link in the chain and selecting diverse routes tailored to specific needs, Bayobab ensures optimal performance and reliability for its customers.

Three Routes, Three Benefits

1. Access – Providing high-capacity, access and reach to landlocked countries.

2. Low latency– Implementing a new low-latency route between East and West Africa.

3. Terrestrial Route Alternatives– Offering a potential alternative route to link Asia to Europe and the American continent through a terrestrial path through Africa.

Digital ecosystems stand to gain numerous advantages from the East-to-West connectivity

- 1. Open access** – The adoption of an open access model is expected to drive wider reach, foster collaboration, enhance efficiency, and spur innovation.
- 2. Reaching the underserved** – High-capacity connectivity will bridge the digital divide by connecting underserved regions and providing access to previously isolated communities.
- 3. Data Vibrancy** – The project will enable the development of a vibrant data centre ecosystem, offering opportunities for growth and innovation.
- 4. Risk mitigation** – By offering alternative routes, the project will mitigate the risk of total service outages during disruptions, ensuring continuous connectivity.
- 5. Next-gen enablement** – With a focus on future technologies and applications, the project will provide a strong foundation for the adoption of next-generation solutions, further driving growth and innovation.

Rooted in Partnerships

The Smart Africa Alliance, alongside Bayobab and Africa50, has solidified its commitment to backing East to West connectivity through regulatory and policy engagements.

The collaboration between Africa50, Bayobab and Smart Africa Alliance, is poised to deliver substantial improvements in data traffic for internet service providers, mobile network operators, and hyper scalers across the involved countries. Moreover, it will tackle bottlenecks in global internet traffic entering and exiting Africa, with the goal of heavily reducing latency.

As a co-developer, Africa50 plays a pivotal role in promoting the harmonisation of regional data and security regulations. This initiative aims to bolster the consumption of local content throughout the region, facilitate inter-regional exchanges, and propel regional economic development.

Northern Route 1

Kenya > South
Sudan > Central
African Republic >
Republic of Congo

Country: Kenya, KE

Section 1: Mombasa to Malaba (Ready)

Section 2: Malaba to Nadapal (Planned)

License Award: Available

RFS: 6 months from Q4 2024

Country: South Sudan, SS

Section: Yubo to Nadapal

License Award: Q4 2024

RFS: 8 months from license Award

Country: CAR, CG

Section 1: Ouessou to Bangui (Ready)

Section 2: Bangui to Yubo (Planned)

License Award: Available



RFS: 8 months from Q3 2024

Country: Congo B, CG

Section: Ouessou to Pointe-Noire

License Award: Q3 2024

RFS: 12 months from license award

Key	
	Existing Route
	Planned Route



Northern Route 2

Tanzania >
Rwanda > Uganda
> Democratic
Republic of Congo

Country: Tanzania, TZ

Section: Rusumo to Dar Es Salaam

License Award: Q1 2025

RFS: 8 months from license award

Country: Rwanda, RW

Section: Katuna to Rusumo

License Award: Available

RFS: 2 months for light up from DRC RFS

Country: Uganda, UG

Section: Arua to Katuna (Ready)

License Award: Available

RFS: 2 months for light up from DRC RFS

Country: DRC, CD

Section: Muanda to Bangui to Aru

License Award: Q4 2024

RFS: Muanda to Bangui (10 Months)

Bangui to Aru (12 Months) from license award

Key

— Existing Route

- - - Planned Route



Southern Route

Mozambique > Malawi
> Zambia > Angola

Country: Mozambique, MZ

Section: Mandimba to Nacala

License Award: Q4 2025

RFS: 8 months from license award

Country: Malawi, MW

Section: Chipata to Mandimba License
Award: Q3 2025

RFS: 6 months from license award

Country: Zambia, ZM

Section: Chavuma to Chipata (Ready)

License Award: Available

RFS: 2 months for light up from AO RFS

Country: Angola, AO

Section: Luanda to Chavuma

License Award: Q4 2025

RFS: 12 months from license award

Key

- Existing Route
- - - Planned Route



Bayobab Fibre

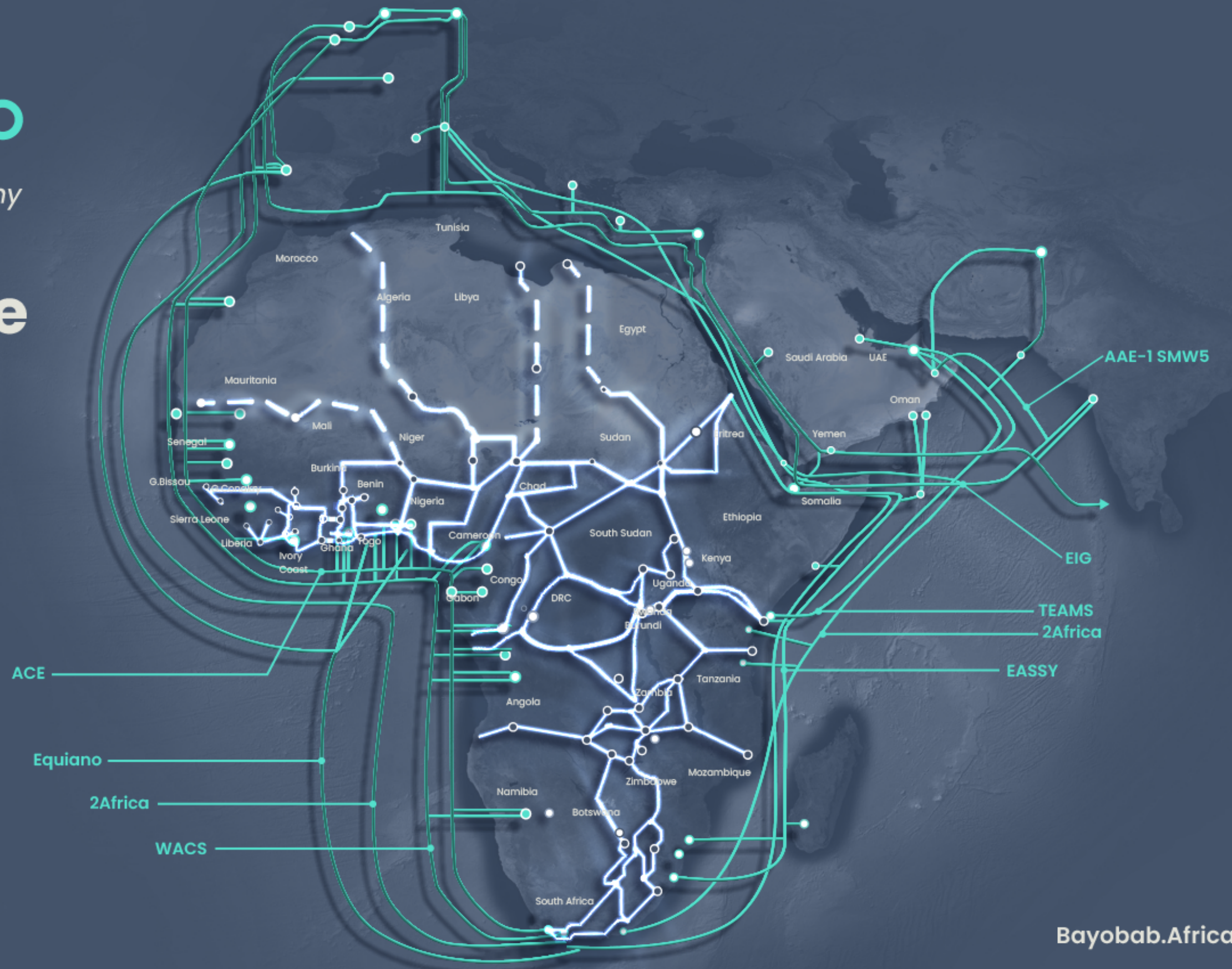
Expanding to 135,000km

Terrestrial Fibre Routes & Plans

- Currently 121,000 km
- Significant East to West Route
- Ongoing intercountry plans

Subsea Cables

- 20 Subsea Cables with direct investment in 6 major cables
- Over 70 PoPs across Africa, Europe and Asia
- 2Africa landings in CIV, Ghana, Nigeria and SA





Express your interest and submit your letter of intent today!

Take the first step towards unlocking the immense potential of East to West Connectivity by connecting with us to shape the future of connectivity in Africa.

Together, we can bridge the digital divide, drive economic growth, and create lasting impact across the continent.

Speak to a connectivity consultant today!

Send an email to info@bayobab.Africa

For more info about Bayobab, our solutions and services, visit Bayobab.Africa

