



## The EU-Africa ITF supports the Seychelles Submarine Cable project

The EU-Africa Infrastructure Trust Fund, an instrument of the wider EU-Africa Infrastructure Partnership, provides **funding support of 4 million Euros** for the installation and operation of the first submarine fibre optic cable for the connection of the Seychelles to the international telecommunications networks: **The Seychelles to East Africa Submarine Cable (SEAS)**.

SEAS will be the first submarine cable to land in Seychelles, through a direct cable linking the country to East Africa. It will have a length of 1,930 kilometres with 15 repeaters deployed from the main island Mahé in Seychelles to the African coast in Dar Es Salaam in Tanzania. While the Cable Landing Station in Seychelles will be constructed in the capital Victoria, the SEAS

Tanzanian end will be co-located with the recent EASSy international submarine cable branch in the existing ZANTEL Landing Station in Dar Es Salaam.

The SEAS cable will have an initial equipped capacity of 20 Gigabits per second; a final design capacity of 320 Gigabits per second could be feasible after relevant upgrades.

With an estimated total project cost of 35 million US Dollars, the project will be financed through 40% equity and 60% debt. The equity contributions are split between three shareholders, the Government, Cable & Wireless Seychelles and Airtel. **For the funding of the Government's shareholding, the EU-Africa Infrastructure Trust Fund provides, through**

**the European Investment Bank, a Grant of the equivalent of 5.5 million US Dollars.** A statutory dividend for this equity stake will be used to provide free internet access for schools and hospitals and other social services.

The long-term debt will be co-financed in equal shares by the African Development Bank and the European Investment Bank.


The Seychelles to East Africa Submarine Cable project will help bridge the digital divide and enhance the use of information and communication technologies, at much lower prices than currently provided by satellite based technologies, as key enablers for growth and socioeconomic development in Africa.




Seychelles Cable landing point on Mahé


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# Project: SUBMARINE CABLE PROJECT - Seychelles

