

Mobile fiber optic cable failure in Democratic Republic of Congo



Overview

A general technical failure on the WACS subsea cable disrupted internet access across the Democratic Republic of Congo. Regulators said maintenance work is underway while authorities weigh sanctions against telecom operators. The outage occurred after rebels from the M23 movement said they had taken control of Goma. The latest report by the DRC's regulating body ARPTC (Autorité de Régulation de la Poste et des Télécommunications du Congo) on the mobile market's first quarter of 2020 shows that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, mobile data and mobile money indicators grew while voice traffic registered a drastic. It could take a month for the Orange Marine team to start repairs on fibre optic lines damaged during underwater landslide off the DRC coast. Christoph Burgstedt/Getty Images Internet users in multiple West African countries. Learn about the market conditions, opportunities, regulations, and business conditions in congo, the democratic republic of the, prepared by at U. Embassies worldwide by Commerce Department, State Department and other U.



Article Content

Jan 14, 2026

WACS submarine cable outage disrupts DRC Internet access

A technical failure on the West Africa Cable System (WACS), which connects Europe to the African continent, has caused Internet disruptions in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

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Optical Fiber Backbones in DRC: A Strategic Project

Given the complexity of this deployment and the need to secure its timetable as well as its investments, Facebook called on Sofrecom to carry out the preliminary study for the construction of a 5,745km ...

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Democratic Republic of the Congo

Fiber-optic backbone networks, towers, satellite and microwave links, last-mile connectivity, and network redundancy are needed to improve coverage and reliability.

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According to fibre optic cable operators, the landslide cut the West Africa Cable System (WACS) and SAT-3, two submarine cables that together serve around 20 countries over thousands ...

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Democratic Republic of the Congo

Trusted local sources confirmed that the government ordered Internet to be cut off only to Goma over a two day period. Additionally, fighting in the city damaged the local fiber infrastructure.

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WACS Cable Outage Disrupts Internet Services Across Congo

A general technical failure on the WACS subsea cable disrupted internet access across the Democratic Republic of Congo. Regulators said maintenance work is underway while authorities ...

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Congo Seeks New Undersea Cable as Internet Failures Deepen

The Republic of Congo is preparing to connect to a new undersea internet cable as repeated faults on the West Africa Cable System (WACS) continue to disrupt connectivity across the ...

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Twin cable breaks impacting Southern Africa's internet

The breaks were reportedly caused by a rock fall in the Congo Canyon according to MyBroadband. Based on the distance measured using the systems' Coherent Optical Time Domain ...

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DR Congo: Two Chinese Companies Positioned to Build Fiber Optic ...

According to the Congolese Ministry of Telecom, the two Chinese companies are experienced in ICT and fiber optic communications, and have worked in markets like Angola and ...

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The challenge of connectivity in the Democratic Republic of Congo ...

In May 2018, LTE licenses were issued and Vodacom and Orange were the first two operators to launch the country's first commercial LTE networks. 5G is now a far-fetched goal in the ...

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