

PRESS RELEASE

MADAGASCAR: AFRICA NUMBER 1 COUNTRY IN TERMS OF BROADBAND SPEED THANKS TO EASSY SUBMARINE CABLE WITH TELMA MADAGASCAR A MAJOR INVESTOR IN THE PROJECT

Madagascar gained 67 places this year in the worldwide ranking of broadband speed.

According to a study released by Cable.com, Madagascar's broadband speed is two and a half times superior to world average. This study conducted by M-Lab during 12 months in 200 countries is based on over 163 million tests.

In a year, Madagascar has gained 67 positions in this worldwide ranking. It now ranks 22nd and stands before France, the UK and the US. Madagascar is thus the best positioned African country in the classification.

LONG TERM INVESTMENTS TO TRANSFORM MADAGASCAR'S CONNECTIVITY CAPACITIES

This exceptional result is to be reattributed to the connection of Madagascar to the East Africa, Submarin System (EASSy), a submarine Fibre Optic cable measuring more than 10 000 km long and connecting Sudan to South Africa. This leading-edge infrastructure was able to transit by Madagascar thanks to the participation of Axian in the EASSy consortium as early as 2010. The sub-marine cable EASSy is currently East Africa's most capacity efficient network.

Telma Madagascar, Madagascar's number one telecommunication operator part of Axian group, has invested more than USD 20 million in the establishment of backbone infrastructure on the Malagasy territory. This backbone has enabled the diffusion of a trusty and powerful broadband in more than 900 communes.

Currently, Telma Madagascar is engaged in the construction of the regional cable METISS, that will link, by the end of 2018, the Reunion Island, Mauritius and South Africa. The European Union is the project's lead financier of the project and has nominated Telma Madagascar at the presidency of the METISS consortium. This infrastructure is ought to substantially improve the regional connectivity. In total it required more that USD 75 million and involved 8 regional telecommunication operators.

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENTS FOR A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

At a national scale, Telma Madagascar has been engaged since 2005 in the installation of a Fibre Optical national backbone. This backbone spreads throughout the island: it length up to 5000 km and is organized in 4 secured loops. All operators active in Madagascar have signed a capacity purchase contract in 2016 with Telma Madagascar to access this network. They can henceforth provide their clients with 4G offers, similarly to Telma Mobile which was able to double the number of 4G connected sites in 2016, summing them up to 200.

In total, more than 3,5 million people benefit from these technological improvements: firms and more specifically the touristic and agricultural sectors.

In the capital city Antananarivo, a redundant fiber optic network of more than 100 km long was deployed. The grid now covers 100% of the administrative and economic zones of the city.

Telma Madagascar is a major actor in the consolidation of telecommunication infrastructures in Madagascar and the Indian Ocean. The operator is today engaged in the installation of the Fly-Lion 3 sub-marine cable which will link the Comoros, Mayotte and Madagascar.

Telma Madagascar is today recognized as a sectorial leader for its carrying capacity, for its junction solutions as well as for its offers on secure web hosting.

ABOUT AXIAN GROUP

Established in Madagascar since 150 years, Axian has broadened its presence to the Indian Ocean and Africa. Axian is active in multiple economic sectors that are driving forces for the development and the growth of Madagascar. Many of Axian's companies are leaders in their line of business: energy for Jovena and EDM, financial services for BNI Madagascar and MVola, real estate for First Immo and Telecommunications for Telma, TOM, TRM, TELCO SA and TIGO Sénégal. With more than 800 million dollars invested in 10 years and more than 3000 employees throughout the Indian Ocean and Africa, Axian favors structuring sector and activates major transformations. Axian is highly engaged in responding to the needs and the preoccupations of Madagascar's people and companies

www.axian-group.com   @AxianGroup

ABOUT TELMA

Telma is a mobile operator detained by Axian group. It is Madagascar's first convergent mobile operator, with more than 4,5 million mobile subscribers in 2017. Historically, Telma is the first 4G mobile operator in the country and MVola the 1st mobile-banking solution in Madagascar and the Indian Ocean.

www.telma.mg

ABOUT M-LAB

M-Lab is a consortium of research, industry and public-interest partners composed of the America's Open Technology Institute, Google Open Source Research, Princeton University's PlanetLab and other third parties. M-Lab provides an open, verifiable measurement platform for global network performance. Its currently hosts the largest open Internet performance dataset on the planet. Its aim is to use these data for educational purposes.