

### Development

**Geographic divide** / Digital divide / Essential services: agriculture and healthcare / Essential services: m-women / Essential services: financial services and energy / Entrepreneurship

## Combating geographic digital divides

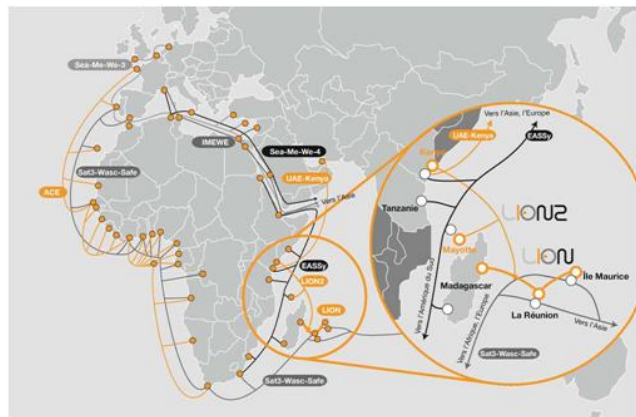
### Challenges / vision / beliefs

As a responsible operator, Orange is committed to fighting against factors which cause exclusion through its innovative solutions and investments. The aim That everyone can access services which have become essential in good conditions. To combat geographic and digital divides, Orange has long been investing in extending fixed and mobile network coverage:

- accelerating deployment of fibre and 4G in Europe, Africa and the Middle East, where our customers need it most;
- eliminating "Dead Zones".

### Roadmap

- To meet the needs of the growing number of smartphone users, Orange is continuing to roll out 4G and 4G+ in Europe, Africa and the Middle-East, and testing 5G.
- The Group is also deploying very high speed fibre optic networks with FTTF (Fibre to the home).
- Orange is also committed to the digital enfranchisement of the Africa and Middle-East (MEA) region, by deploying innovative solutions designed to meet local needs, such as solar-powered radio towers and community telephones in the most isolated rural areas.
  - As part of this approach the Group has linked up with the GSM Association and seven major operators to facilitate access to mobile and internet networks in Africa and the Middle-East to better serve rural communities.
  - By sharing infrastructure, the operators involved in the project will be able to reduce costs for all the inhabitants of these regions.
- With major investments in submarine cable networks, Orange highlights its commitment to increasing access to the internet in nearly twenty African countries where the Group operates, whilst continuing to improve network quality:
  - commissioning of ACE cable in Benin and the Canary Islands in July 2015;
  - deployment of the SEA-ME-WE 5 (South East Asia-Middle East-Western Europe 5) submarine cable, which was commissioned in the second half of 2016.



### Indicators / Key figures

**4G**  
in 18 countries

**450,000 km of**  
**submarine cables**

**Best mobile network in**  
**France**

**3.3 million**  
**customers**



## Thematic data sheets

### Corporate Social Responsibility

Enough to wrap around  
the Earth 10 times

for the 6<sup>th</sup> time running

for fibre

#### News / achievements

- Continued improvements to high speed broadband service:
  - Deployment of 4G/4G+ networks
    - in European countries to increase coverage and speeds. Coverage: > 99% in Belgium and Poland, > 97% in Moldova, > 7% in France, 90% in Spain, 80% in Romania and Slovakia;
    - In the MEA zone: 10 countries covered at end 2016 (Mauritius, Jordan, Morocco, Botswana, Cameroon, Guinea Bissau, Côte d'Ivoire, Tunisia, Senegal, Liberia) 3G coverage: at end 2016, 21 MEA countries, between 80% and 100% of the population was covered
  - Fibre: launch in Poland (1.4 million households connectible); continuing deployment in France (6.9 million households connectible), and in Spain (9.6 million);
  - Submarine cables: completion of SEA-ME-WE 5 submarine cable linking France to Singapore and supplying 17 countries.
- Initiatives launched to facilitate access to power in Africa:
  - Partnership with ENGIE: agreement signed at the end of 2015 to develop a rural electricity supply in Africa, and to improve electrical supply for Orange infrastructures in the same areas. These solutions could, for instance, include individual solar kits and small-scale, local electricity networks. The first pilot projects were launched at the end of 2016 in Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon and Senegal.

#### Going further

- [Focus on networks in Africa](#) (thematic file)
- [Networks: the foundation of our innovation](#) (thematic file)
- [5G already](#) (thematic file)