

# Bulgaria Fiber Optic Communication Project



## Overview

The Bulgaria Fiber Optic Cable Market is projected to witness mixed growth rate patterns during 2025 to 2029.

## Key Takeaways

Bulgaria is implementing a large-scale fiber optic project to connect over 140 municipalities and nearly 400,000 residents in underserved areas, significantly enhancing internet speeds and digital inclusion. Project Overview

Bulgaria has launched a major digital infrastructure initiative to build 7,000 kilometers of fiber optic networks across the country, targeting 140 municipalities with poor or nonexistent internet access . The project aims to provide high-speed internet at 1 Gbps and integrate these areas into a 5G mobile network, bridging the digital divide between urban and rural regions .

### Funding and Partnerships

The total investment for the project is approximately 433.6 million leva (around 253 million USD), with 390 million leva financed through Bulgaria's National Recovery and Resilience Plan and the remaining funds contributed by six private companies, including A1 Bulgaria, Vivacom Bulgaria, and CETIN Bulgaria . The initiative is co-funded by the European Union through the Recovery and Resilience Facility – NextGenerationEU, reflecting a strategic public-private partnership .

### Implementation Details

- New and upgraded infrastructure: 3,700 km of new fiber optic routes will be constructed, and over 1,800 km of existing cables will be replaced with higher-capacity lines .
- Mobile network integration: At least 700 mobile base stations will be connected via fiber, replacing older radio relay systems .
- Targeted coverage: The project will directly benefit nearly 400,000 residents and connect over 200 rural settlements .
- High-capacity connectivity: Some areas, particularly in the Southwest region, will receive 10 Gbps symmetric connections to key municipal centers .

### Expected Impact

The project is expected to increase internet speeds by more than 100 times in the targeted areas, enabling better access to education, healthcare, business opportunities, and public services . It also supports regional development and demographic policy by making rural areas more attractive for residents and businesses . By improving both fixed and mobile connectivity, Bulgaria aims to enhance its global digital competitiveness, particularly in fixed broadband access where it currently ranks lower than in mobile internet speed .

### Timeline

Construction is expected to be completed in just over a year, with ongoing geographical surveys and mapping to identify specific locations for deployment . The project represents a rapid and strategic step toward Bulgaria's digital transformation, ensuring that underserved communities gain equal access to modern digital infrastructure .

## Article Content

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### BG\_implementation\_report

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### CableTel Launches First Private Fiber Optic Backbone Network in Bulgaria

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An official event organized by the British Embassy in Bulgaria marked the official launch of one of the most significant

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USTDA Supports Increased Internet Connectivity in Bulgaria

Today, U.S. Trade and Development Agency Director Enoch T. Ebong signed a grant agreement with Bulgaria's State

ComstroyGroup

The migration of a large volume of optical and copper links between two points with minimal controlled interruptions. The company

Novatel to Connect Bulgaria to Asia via Kardesa Submarine Cable

Novatel has been selected to build and operate Bulgaria's segment of the Kardesa submarine cable, a strategic project

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Bulgaria signs six contracts worth 434M leva for digital connectivity ...

Bulgaria's government signed on June 10 six contracts worth a total of 433.6 million leva excluding value-added tax

GCN-BG Telecom Operator\_National Map

GCN owns and operates a national backbone comprised of more than 3100 km of fiber-optic lines as well as international

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"The grant from USTDA will enable the selection of a qualified contractor with extensive experience in research and construction of

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The assessment and analysis of communications connectivity and broadband coverage was made with web-based GIS application,

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