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Regional digital hub

Submarine cables and data centres at the crossroads of Asia and the Pacific

4 pillars

Connectivity, data,
marine services
and science

18,800 km

Of planned submarine cables

➔ THE PROJECT

New Caledonia aims to become the South Pacific's leading digital hub, bringing together new submarine cables, a sovereign data centre, a marine maintenance hub and a scientific research hub. The most advanced component, PACTE (Pacific Advanced Cable for Telecommunications & Environment), is already being put forward as a project to connect Singapore, New Caledonia, Wallis and Futuna, and French Polynesia through submarine cables.

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PROJECT LEADS

The Government of New Caledonia and its public telecommunications operator, OPT-NC.

The submarine cable component, PACTE, is intended to be led by a public-private consortium.



INVESTMENT AND FUNDING

The programme sets out a ten-year strategy for sovereign cable infrastructure in the Pacific, comprising four submarine cables to be deployed between 2027 and 2037, with a total length of 18,800 km.

Combining telecommunications and scientific monitoring, the programme represents a **total investment of €950 million**.

PACTE is the programme's first operational component, with feasibility **studies budgeted at €2.2 million over 36 months**.



TIMELINE

PACTE feasibility studies are targeted to begin on 1 May 2027 and run for 36 months.



PROJECT STATUS

The strategic vision has now been formalised, with PACTE providing the first concrete milestone.

The project will support feasibility studies covering cable routes, technical and scientific requirements, telecommunications capacity, landing sites, governance, the business plan and the 2027–2037 investment roadmap.



PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Several technology and research partners have been identified as potential participants in the proposed **public-private consortium**.

These include telecommunications **operators, data centre operators, marine maintenance providers, the French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development (IRD) and the University of New Caledonia (UNC)**.



WHY INVEST

- **A distinctive strategic position.**
A French territory associated with the European Union, at the crossroads of Asia and Oceania.
- **Aligned with European priorities.**
The Indo-Pacific strategy, New Caledonia's Digital Economy Strategic Plan 2027 (PSEN 2027) and Global Gateway provide a framework for access to dedicated funding.
- **A structured project.**
Four complementary pillars form a fully integrated digital ecosystem.
- **An already connected territory.**
Existing infrastructure includes the Gondwana-1 and Gondwana-2 cables. The SMART cable adds significant scientific value through tsunami sensors and partnerships with IRD and UNC.
- **Political support already expressed.** Backing from the Government of New Caledonia and regional partners.