Free is investing in Réunion Island's digital future with the "ReuNION" undersea cable project

- **For nearly ten years now, Free has been massively investing in Réunion to improve the connectivity and purchasing power of its people, with more than €125 million invested in the island to date.**

- **Today, Free has signed up to take part in the ReuNION project – a new undersea fiber-optic cable linking Réunion to South Africa and designed to secure the island's connectivity over the long term and support its growing use of digital technology.**

Free: nearly 10 years of investing in connectivity and purchasing power for the people of Réunion Island

Since it first arrived in Réunion in 2017, Free has helped to radically transform the island's telecommunications market by proposing straightforward, generous and affordable plans and by developing its own infrastructure. True to its DNA, over the years Free has added to its plans for all of its subscribers without any extra cost for them. For example, recently – in June 2026 – Free included roaming in Mauritius for all of the subscribers on its 5G plan.

In the space of nearly ten years, Free has invested over €125 million in Réunion to support the development of connectivity and meet the islanders' growing digital needs.

Today, Free is continuing this commitment by taking part, through Telco OI[1], in the ReuNION consortium led by La Réunion Connectée. Representing a total of €93 million, the ReuNION project is aimed at building a new, latest-generation undersea fiber-optic cable directly linking Réunion to South Africa.

Through ReuNION, Free is helping to secure today the connectivity needs of tomorrow

Data usage on Réunion is growing rapidly. The island's broadband and mobile traffic was estimated at 2.6 Tbps in 2025 and could amount to as much as 6.4 Tbps in 2030. At the same time, the SAFE cable, which was brought into service in 2002, is reaching the end of its operational lifecycle.

The creation of a new international link is therefore essential to support the growing needs of Réunion Island's people, businesses and public services over the long term.

[1] A joint venture between the iliad Group (Free's parent) and the Axian group.

Consisting of 16 fiber-optic pairs, the ReuNION cable, which is scheduled to come into service in 2028, will enable a diversification of international routes while considerably strengthening the island's resilience and connectivity.

The project will directly benefit Free, as it will have a dedicated fiber-optic pair, giving it the necessary capacity to support over the long term the growing use of digital technology by all of its subscribers.

With the ReuNION cable, Free is preparing today the infrastructure that Réunion Island will need in the future.

About Free

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Free – the inventor of the world's first triple-play box – is a French Ultra-Fast Broadband and Mobile operator, standing out for its innovative, straightforward and attractive offerings. At end-June 2026, it had 23.4 million subscribers (15.8 million Mobile subscribers and 7.6 million Broadband subscribers). Free is a subsidiary of the iliad Group, which was created in France in the early 1990s and also operates in Italy under the iliad brand and in Poland under the Play brand. In March 2021, the iliad Group launched its BtoB business in France under the Free Pro brand.