

African Mining Week: Role of infrastructure to unlock mining potential

As Africa expands its regional corridors with major rail and port projects, African Mining Week 2025 in Cape Town from Wednesday, 1 October 2025 to Friday, 3 October 2025 will showcase the critical role of infrastructure in unlocking mining potential and driving industry investment.



Source: [Pexels](#)

Africa and its global partners are accelerating investments in regional corridors, prioritising port, road and infrastructure to enhance mining operations. As logistics infrastructure takes centre stage, the upcoming African Mining Week (AMW) will spotlight key projects and regional corridor developments, offering prime investment opportunities for global logistics and mining stakeholders.

Trans-Guinean Railway: advancing iron ore exports:

In February 2025, the Winning Consortium Simandou awarded a \$248m contract to US engineering firm Wabtec for locomotives supporting the Trans-Guinean Railway project. This railway will transport minerals from Guinea's Simandou Iron Ore Project – the world's second-largest untapped iron ore deposit. The project is expected to facilitate the extraction of 1.8 billion tons of iron ore, significantly boosting Guinea's export revenue.

Lobito corridor: Strengthening cross-border trade:

Angola is set to begin construction of a 260km section of the Benguela Railway in 2025 as part of the Lob Corridor initiative. In September 2024, the International Finance Corporation signed concession agreement with Zambia and Angola to finance, construct, own and operate an 800km railway section of the corridor, linking the two nations. Once completed, the \$10bn Lobito Corridor will streamline mineral exports from Zambia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Angola to international markets.

Abidjan-Lagos Corridor: Boosting West African connectivity:

The \$15.6bn Lagos-Abidjan Highway, slated for construction in 2026, will connect Nigeria, Benin, Togo, Ghana and the Ivory Coast, facilitating regional trade and mining exports.

Funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB), the European Union and the ECOWAS Commission, the 1,028km project is expected to generate 70,000 jobs and enhance economic integration.

AfDB President Akinwumi Adesina emphasised its significance: "It's only through regional corridors that we can move goods and services easily across the continent, lower transport costs, promote integration and achieve impactful economic development."

Tazara Railway: Expanding access to East African markets:

In September 2024, Tanzania, Zambia and China signed an agreement to modernise and expand the Tanzania-Zambia Railway (Tazara).

The upgrade will optimise the transport of minerals such as copper from Zambia, as well as uranium and rare earths from Tanzania, improving access to international markets via the Port of Dar es Salaam. With Zambia targeting an annual copper production of 3 million tons by 2031, the revitalised railway will strengthen export capabilities and attract global buyers to the Zambian Copperbelt region.

AMW brings together African mining projects and international investors under one roof, facilitating strategic partnerships that optimise mineral logistics and drive industry growth.

As infrastructure investments accelerate across regional corridors, the event provides a vital platform to explore emerging opportunities in rail, port and road development. With major projects reshaping Africa's mining supply chains, AMW offers key insights into the future of mineral transportation and trade.

African Mining Week serves as a premier platform for exploring the full spectrum of mining opportunities across Africa. The event is held alongside the African Energy Week: Invest in African Energies 2025 conference.

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