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Cameroon gets new cinema chain

French media conglomerate Vivendi this week opened a 300-seat cinema in Cameroon's capital Yaounde, the first of 100 it plans to build across Africa.



Image by 123RF

Cameroon's cinemas have all shut down, as is the case in many African nations, but a second is planned within months in the economic capital Douala, with another to be opened in Yaounde, said the chairman of the Vivendi supervisory board, Vincent Bollore.

The idea "is to have 100 across Africa", said Bollore at the opening that was also attended by Prime Minister Philemon Yang.

The cinema is powered by solar energy, provided by 720 square metres of solar panels, using batteries developed by the powerful Bollore group, which has Africa-wide interests in transport, logistics and ports.

The cinema will be used not only to screen movies but also as a venue for music and comedy shows and can be converted into an open-air site massing thousands of people.

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