

Kenya builds energy big data center



AI Overview

Kenya's \$1 billion Microsoft-G42 AI data center has been suspended due to power constraints, while a 44 MW hyperscale data center by Airtel and Nxtra is underway to support AI and high-performance computing. Microsoft-G42 Data Center Suspension Kenya had planned a \$1 billion data center in partnership with Microsoft and UAE-based G42, intended to run largely on geothermal energy about 100 km northwest of Nairobi. The facility was designed to serve businesses and government institutions via Microsoft's Azure platform. However, President William Ruto announced that the project would consume roughly a third of Kenya's total installed electricity capacity of 3,000 MW, making it unfeasible without shutting off power to large parts of the country. Despite Kenya's strong geothermal energy share, which accounts for around 40% of the national energy mix, the grid could not support such a massive, energy-intensive facility. Additional complications included the government's inability to guarantee annual payments for a set capacity, which contributed to the suspension. Airtel-Nxtra 44 MW Hyperscale Data Center In contrast, Airtel Kenya and Nxtra Africa have broken ground on a 44 MW hyperscale data center in Tatu City, expected to be completed by Q1 2027. This facility is purpose-built for AI, GPU hosting, and high-performance computing, providing local enterprises, startups, and government agencies with world-class cloud infrastructure. The center will feature 99.99% uptime, multiple redundant fiber paths, high-density racks, and seven-layer security, aligning with Kenya's National Digital Masterplan 2022-2032, Kenya Cloud Policy 2024, and National AI Strategy. It is positioned as a strategic backbone for cloud adoption, cybersecurity, and AI-driven innovation in East Africa. Implications for Kenya The suspension of the Microsoft-G42 project highlights Kenya's energy infrastructure limitations, particularly for large-scale AI and cloud computing projects. Meanwhile, the Airtel-Nxtra project demonstrates a pragmatic...

Article Content

G42 and Kenya's EcoCloud Unveil Green-Powered

The launch of this mega data center is a clear call for innovation, sustainability, and economic growth. It invites the world to witness Kenya's

Microsoft's billion-dollar Kenya AI data center sparks

A proposed Microsoft 1-gigawatt data center in Kenya would demand so much electricity that the nation simply cannot supply that power.

Why Data Centers Are Kenya's Next Big Building

In 2024, Microsoft and G42 announced a \$1 billion investment to develop a geothermal-powered data center in Kenya — a project that signals

AI Data Center Forecast: From Scramble to Strategy

This shift is partly due to clear traction in enterprise AI use cases. Test-time compute is reshaping infrastructure strategy, economics, and architecture, with

Airtel Africa begins Kenya data center project

Airtel Africa has broken ground on a 44-megawatt Nxtra data center at Tatu City, Kenya, to serve enterprises, government agencies, and global cloud providers.

A 44 MW Hyperscale Data Center is Coming to Kenya

Airtel Kenya and Nxtra are building a 44MW hyperscale data center in Tatu City, built for AI, GPU hosting, and high-performance computing.

Kenya suspends \$1 billion Microsoft data centre as

Kenya's plans to host a \$1 billion data centre backed by Microsoft and UAE-based G42 have stalled, after President William Ruto said the country lacks

Microsoft and G42 announce \$1 billion comprehensive digital

As part of the agreement, G42, in collaboration with local partners, will design and build a state-of-the-art data center campus in Olkaria, Kenya, run entirely on renewable geothermal

Microsoft and G42 to build geothermal-powered data

A data center run entirely on geothermal energy will be built in Kenya as part of a \$1 billion investment by Microsoft and Dubai-based AI firm

Big Tech joins Calgary Stampede oil bash, as Canada courts data centers ...

Big Tech has joined the party at the Calgary Stampede, a sign of growing interest in Canada from U.S.-based hyperscalers as the province of Alberta courts data center development.

Kenya's Digital Future Brightens as Construction of East

He noted that Nxtra by Airtel Data Centre is being built to the highest global standards, ensuring reliability, scalability, and energy efficiency. On his

Kenya's Digital Future Brightens as Construction of East Africa's ...

Kenya's digital future is bright as construction of East Africa's largest Data Centre by Nxtra Airtel Africa starts in Tatu City. Once completed in the first quarter of 2027, the facility with a

Why Kenya's \$1B Olkaria Data Center Isn't Ready Yet

In May 2024, Kenya's government unveiled a deal with Microsoft and G42, the Abu Dhabi-based AI firm, to build a \$1 billion data center campus in

Kenya's data centres are embracing sustainability, and ...

By Christopher Saul, Territory Sales Lead for East Africa at Red Hat Earlier this year, Kenya Electricity Generating Company PLC (KenGen) and the Konza Technopolis Development

Kenya's \$1 Billion Microsoft AI Data Center Project Stalls

Kenya's planned Microsoft and G42 AI data center stalled after officials realized the national electricity grid could not support it.

Microsoft, G42 Back \$1B Data Center Push in Kenya

Kenya's data center market, valued at \$184 million in 2023, is projected to grow at a CAGR of 12% through 2029, underpinned by rising digital adoption and robust energy capacity.

Kenya To Get 1,000 MW Data Center Powered By

The data center will be powered entirely by geothermal energy and will feature state-of-the-art water conservation technology to minimize water

What new 4.5MW data centre means for Kenya's digital

Last week, hyperscale data centre implementer iXAfrica unveiled the first phase of what it terms a "state-of-the-art" facility within Kenya's capital, and

Tulikuja na kimbelembele! Ruto on why Kenya is yet set

On March 6, 2024, Ruto witnessed the signing of a pact between Kenya's EcoCloud and UAE's G42 to build a 1GW (1,000MW) geothermal

Kenya woos global tech giants with green energy data

That is the question," wonders EcoCLOUD Data Centre CEO Amos Siwoi. The potential for Kenya to attract technology companies with environment

The Construction of Africa's Largest Data Center Set to

Microsoft and G42, a leading UAE-based artificial intelligence firm, are collaborating on a landmark \$1 billion investment to establish a state-of-the

Airtel Kenya Breaks Ground on Nairobi's \$150M Data

Airtel Kenya breaks ground on a \$150M data centre in Nairobi, set to anchor cloud, AI, and digital growth across East Africa.

Airtel Africa Breaks Ground on East Africa's Largest

Airtel Africa has commenced construction of what will become East Africa's largest data center, a 44-megawatt facility at Tatu City designed to

Airtel Breaks Ground on East Africa's Largest Data Centre

Located at Tatu City, the facility will deliver a planned capacity of 44 megawatts (MW) once fully built. This will make it the single biggest project of its

Kenya: Transforming Energy-Electrical Power Systems

By examining and championing models like Kenya's, Platocom wants to share with you how clean energy can fuel the growing data center industry.

Airtel Starts Work on 44MW East Africa Data Centre Hub

Nxtra by Airtel begins construction on a 44MW sustainable data centre at Tatu City Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Kenya. The facility is designed to position Tatu City as East Africa's

Why Data Centers Are Kenya's Next Big Building

A quiet revolution is humming beneath Kenya's soil — not in oil or minerals, but in data. From Mombasa's shimmering coastline where fibre cables

Airtel Kenya begins building East Africa's largest 44MW data centre at ...

Airtel Kenya has officially broken ground on what will become East Africa's largest data centre, marking a pivotal moment in the region's digital transformation journey.

Nxtra by Airtel Builds 44MW Data Centre in Kenya

Nxtra by Airtel has commenced construction of a 44MW sustainable data centre at Tatu City Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Kenya. The facility, designed to position Tatu City as East

KenGen Powers Data Centre With New Standard Grid

The Kenya Electricity Generating Company PLC (KenGen) has unveiled its first-ever Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) to power its

AshwinD24's gists · GitHub

GitHub Gist: star and fork AshwinD24's gists by creating an account on GitHub.

Microsoft's Ambitious \$1bn Kenya Data Center Project Hits Major ...

Microsoft's plans for a landmark \$1 billion data center in Kenya have been significantly delayed following disagreements with the Kenyan government over financial guarantees and the

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