



KNOWLEDGE FOR THE NATION

The Eastern Cape in South Africa covers 65,000 square miles. Outside of the major cities, the province is diverse in terms of landscape, and home to many rural communities. These remote communities rely on local resources to stay informed and educated, with community libraries playing a key role. Traditionally these libraries have been underserved in terms of connectivity, meaning library-to-library communications and public internet access has been unreliable.

“ Our mission is to provide universal access to information for all South Africans – no matter their location. ”

The National Library of South Africa

CHALLENGE: Libraries in remote areas of the Eastern Cape needed to benefit from enhanced connectivity; for the management of the libraries as well keeping communities connected to the outside world. These libraries traditionally relied on dial-up services which were costly and unstable.

SOLUTION: Vox and YahClick joined forces with The National Library to provide satellite broadband internet services to 207 public libraries in the Eastern Cape, covering a population of over 6 million.

RESULT: Today, communities across the Eastern Cape have easier access to information and knowledge, enhancing the lives of millions of people.

HOW YAHCLICK HELPED THE NATIONAL LIBRARY SHARE KNOWLEDGE WITH MILLIONS

The National Library of South Africa is a custodian and provider of the nation's key knowledge resource. Mandated to ensure that knowledge is not lost to posterity and that information is available to all, the Department of Arts and Culture which oversees the Library, decided to undertake an ambitious project to improve access to its services in 2010.

Given South Africa is the 25th largest country in the world and home to nine provinces, of which the Eastern Cape is the second largest, connecting the libraries and rural communities was a significant challenge due to the lack of nation-wide infrastructure.

In an effort to support The National Library project and to help drive knowledge across South Africa, Vox and YahClick joined forces to provide satellite broadband internet services to all public libraries in the Eastern Cape.

YahClick was chosen due to its ease of installation, with no terrestrial restrictions, and has since provided the ideal solution to connect libraries with each other and with the outside world in a more affordable and reliable way.

Today, the partnership has given communities easier access to information and knowledge, enhancing the learning experience even in the most remote locations. In addition, it has given individuals a renewed interest in reading with libraries seeing an increase in footfall.

- **207 remote libraries** connected to satellite broadband internet.
- **Affordable** cost-effective solution.

“YahClick provides us with high-speed reliable broadband internet – something that was never previously achievable. As a result, we are seeing an increase in the number of people coming to the library not only to discover books, but also the internet, which is a bridge for our community to access the world.”

The National Library of South Africa

“YahClick has played a pivotal role in connecting the unconnected. Today, six million individuals living in the Eastern Cape have access to a wealth of information by making The National Library more accessible to all.”

David Murphy, Chief Commercial Officer, Yahsat

“Our aim was to support The National Library in their quest to enhance our nation's thirst for knowledge. By leveraging the power of satellite broadband internet all areas across the Eastern Cape now have access to connectivity.”

Vox

Official YahClick Service Partner



Client



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