

A connected future for Zimbabwe youth



Zimbabwe

Rural areas in Zimbabwe are prone to Internet connectivity challenges that have had a negative impact on the education experience of students for both primary and secondary schools. With a greater need for stable and reliable Internet in classrooms, the Government of Zimbabwe required a satellite enabled broadband solution to address this challenge, which was fast, reliable and most importantly, affordable, to ensure that this gap of connectivity is closed within the next five years.



In line with the National Development Strategy (NDS1) and with this objective in mind, ZARNet has been contracted to install efficient and stable connectivity to 4,500 schools over a three-year period. The goal of the initiative is to provide schools, centers for people with disabilities, rural communities, and local police authorities across Zimbabwe with reliable, secure and affordable internet connectivity.



"We are grateful for the significant improvements to our internet connectivity which now enables us to integrate new modern systems for our students and facilitate their education for the new world. We also hope to be able to leverage the benefits of increased download speeds to unlock further opportunities for our students and teachers."

School Deputy Head



"Connectivity is a challenge faced by most rural areas and with the growing demand for it in our digital world, it is one to be really concerned about. Our solutions are tailor-made for these challenges, especially targeted at the education sector. By implementing them we aim to set Zimbabwe's next generation on a path towards a digital age, powered by our connected solutions that will bring the world to them."

Sulaiman Al Ali, CEO, YahClick



Challenge

The main challenge in the implementation of the project was cost containment and installing in rural communities spread across the 10 provinces of Zimbabwe. This was managed by a Project Management office comprising of the joint resources of YahClick and ZARNet, who also tackled the multitude of logistic, inventory and operational challenges.



Solution

With a sense of urgency, YahClick provided affordable, scalable, and sustainable high-speed internet broadband connectivity enabling digital accessibility and reliable connectivity. Commissioned in 2022, the implementation process is currently in its rollout phase. In addition to the product YahClick secured inventory upfront enabling ZARNet to fulfill its rollout schedule and obligation to the project. Over the course of implementation, YahClick and ZARNet also tackled logistical and regulatory challenges finally resulting in reliable and stable Internet connectivity at affordable prices.



Result

The partnership between YahClick and ZARNet, to provide internet connectivity to 4,500 schools across Zimbabwe was a triumph of both technical and logistical prowess. With internet-enabled classrooms across the country, teachers and students now have access to an endless world of previously unattainable resources thanks to reliable digital connectivity for e-learning, emails, voice over internet and research materials, thereby reducing the digital divide.



YahClick's solutions aim to provide uninterrupted connectivity to remote sites across regions with a focus on speeds and reliability. Through these solutions, YahClick and ZARNet tackle connectivity challenges across Zimbabwe and ensure strong and robust connectivity to 4,500 schools. The team has successfully connected over 800 sites as of October 2022 and continue to work towards a target of 1,500 sites per year over the course of the next three years.