



**Airtel Africa Foundation hands over new school in Chipata.
...reiterates commitment to quality education and digital inclusion**

Chipata, Zambia – 6 May 2026 - Airtel Africa Foundation has today commissioned and handed over newly constructed schools in Zambia at a ceremony at one of the schools in Chipata, Eastern Province. The project, implemented through Airtel Zambia, reaffirms the Foundation's commitment to expanding quality education and digital inclusion, directly contributing to its goal of positively impacting 10 million lives across Africa by 2030.

The initiative is part of the Foundation's flagship Adopt-A-School Programme, implemented in partnership with the Zambia Open Community Schools (ZOCS). Through this initiative, Airtel Africa Foundation has invested K12M towards the construction and refurbishment of five schools across Chipata, Solwezi, Mongu, Mufulira and Mansa, targeting underserved rural and peri-urban communities.

Speaking during the handover ceremony, **Airtel Zambia Managing Director, Mr. Hussam Baday**, said the investment reflects Airtel Africa Foundation's belief that education is a critical driver of socio-economic transformation.

"Our decision to invest in rural school infrastructure is deliberate. We believe that every child, regardless of where they live, deserves access to safe, dignified, and well-equipped learning environments. By investing in infrastructure, digital tools, and community partnerships, we are building opportunities for Zambia's future generations," he said.

Mr. Baday noted that Airtel's support goes beyond construction. In addition to the school infrastructure, the Foundation provided desks, computers, and digital screens to enhance the teaching and learning experience, ensuring learners are exposed to modern tools that support interactive and digital education.

Ministry of Education Permanent Secretary – Education Services Dr. Kelvin Mambwe, commended Airtel Zambia for complementing government efforts to improve access to quality education, particularly in rural communities.

"Government places high value on partnerships with responsible private sector organisations such as Airtel Zambia. While Government continues to invest in teacher recruitment and policy reforms, interventions in infrastructure and digital connectivity are essential to accelerating impact," he said.

He further highlighted the Government's target to connect 2,500 schools to the internet by December 2026, noting that collaboration with the private sector will be key to achieving this goal.

Airtel Zambia and the Ministry of Education expressed gratitude to the traditional leadership and the local communities in the country for their cooperation and stewardship throughout the project, emphasising that community ownership will be critical to the longevity of the initiative.

The newly handed-over schools are part of a broader national school infrastructure initiative by Airtel Africa Foundation, under which construction and refurbishment projects have been rolled out across multiple provinces, contributing to improved learning outcomes and stronger, more resilient communities.

-Ends-

Enquiries:



Head – Corporate Communications, Government Relations and CSR
Suwilanji.siame@zm.airtel.com

Airtel Africa Foundation

Esi Asare Prah, Head of Programs
info@airtelafoundation.org

About Airtel Africa Foundation

Airtel Africa Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Airtel Africa plc, a leading provider of telecommunications and mobile money services, with a presence in 14 countries in Africa. Our mission is to empower Africa through Financial Inclusion, Education, Environmental Protection and Digital Inclusion.

For more information, please visit [Airtel Africa Foundation](#) or connect with us on [LinkedIn](#)

About Airtel Zambia

Airtel Networks Zambia Plc is a subsidiary of Airtel Africa, a leading telecommunications and mobile money services provider with a presence in 14 countries across Africa. Airtel Africa serves more than 150 million customers through an extensive portfolio of mobile voice, data, digital and financial services.