

## **Airtel Africa and Vodacom sign network infrastructure agreement to drive digital inclusion**

**Johannesburg, August 11, 2025:** Airtel Africa and Vodacom Group have announced a strategic infrastructure sharing agreement in key markets including Mozambique, Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), subject to regulatory approvals in the various countries.

The agreement marks a transformative milestone in promoting digital inclusion and expanding access to reliable connectivity across Africa.

The initial partnership focuses on sharing fibre networks and tower infrastructure to accelerate the rollout of digital services in these markets, increasing connectivity for customers while reducing operators' infrastructure costs and improving speed-to-market.

By leveraging existing infrastructure, the collaboration aims to deliver improved connectivity, faster internet speeds and more reliable services. This will not only enhance customer experience but also assist with providing access to digital services for a broader population, particularly those in underserved areas, helping to bridge the digital divide in Africa.

**Vodacom Group's chief executive officer Shameel Joosub said:** "Providing connectivity to empower people is at the core of our strategy. Our partnership with Airtel Africa is a proactive step forward in creating a sustainable, inclusive and connected digital future for the continent.

Through infrastructure sharing, we can provide cost-effective services to more people, more rapidly, ensuring that no one is left behind in the digital age. As we fulfil our ambition to connect 260 million customers by 2030, the need for scalable and cost-efficient network solutions becomes increasingly significant.

This partnership provides us with the opportunity to narrow the digital divide, empowering more individuals and communities through digitalisation across the continent. It is aligned with our purpose to connect for a better future," concludes Joosub.

**Airtel Africa's chief executive officer Sunil Taldar said:** "This partnership is aligned with our unwavering commitment to delighting our customers by always making our network available to them even in the remotest locations. Working with Vodacom, we will open greater access to digital and financial opportunities which will transform the lives of our customers while complying with all regulatory requirements.

Even as competitors, it has become a business imperative for us to collaborate in the provision of critical infrastructure required to build resilient network with strong capacity to support the emerging digital technologies as well as the growing need for data-enabled products and services.

Accelerating the deployment of fibre connectivity is a key enabler in the acceleration of 4G and 5G technologies in Africa to deliver the high-speed, low-latency and reliable connections needed for modern digital applications.

This partnership allows for further opportunities for both operators to enhance network performance, extend coverage and increase mobile, fixed and financial services leveraging a broader footprint on the continent."

**-ENDS-**

## Enquiries

### **Airtel Africa**

Emeka Oparah  
Vice-president Communications & CSR  
[Emeka.oparah@africa.airtel.com](mailto:Emeka.oparah@africa.airtel.com)

### **Hudson Sandler**

Cosmas Butunyi, Eugene Ng'ang'a  
[airtelafrika@hudsonsandler.com](mailto:airtelafrika@hudsonsandler.com)

### **Vodacom Group**

Byron Kennedy  
Executive Head of Media Relations  
[Mediarelations@vodacom.co.za](mailto:Mediarelations@vodacom.co.za)

Khensani Mthombeni  
Principal Specialist for Corporate Media Relations  
[Khensani.Mthombeni@vodacom.co.za](mailto:Khensani.Mthombeni@vodacom.co.za)

## About Airtel Africa

Airtel Africa is a leading provider of telecommunications and mobile money services, with operations in 14 countries across sub-Saharan Africa. Airtel Africa's integrated offer provides national and international mobile voice and data services as well as mobile money services to approximately 170 million customers. The company's strategy is focused on delivering a great customer experience across the entire footprint and increasing digital and financial inclusion to transform lives across Africa, in line with our corporate purpose.

For more information, please visit [www.airtel.africa](http://www.airtel.africa) or connect with us on [LinkedIn](#)

## About Vodacom Group

Vodacom Group is a leading and purpose-led African connectivity, digital and financial services company. The Group serves over 211.3 million customers and 87.7 million financial services customers, including Safaricom. From our roots in South Africa, we have grown our business to include operations in the DRC, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Lesotho, Mozambique and Tanzania. Our mobile networks cover a total population of over 500 million people. Vodacom Group is majority-owned by Vodafone (65.1% holding), one of the world's largest communications companies by revenue.

For more information, please visit [www.vodacom.com](http://www.vodacom.com) or connect with us on [LinkedIn](#)