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Microsoft: Partnerships for high-speed Internet in underserved communities

The [Microsoft Airband Initiative](#) invests in digital infrastructure by advancing high-speed Internet access and meaningful connectivity as a fundamental right around the world. The initiative does this by partnering with Internet and energy access providers, non-profits, governments, and others focused on closing the digital divide.

Microsoft collaborates across private, public, and non-profit sectors to build the digital infrastructure required for Internet access and adoption, as well as support the programmes and public policies needed for newly connected communities to leverage the full value of connectivity to digitally transform.

This includes the commitment to reach 250 million people in unserved and underserved communities with high-speed Internet coverage, including 100 million in Africa, by the end of 2025.

While the initial focus is on connectivity and off-grid energy infrastructure, Microsoft ultimately sees Internet access as a means to an end and a democratizing force in an increasingly digital world.

This work is ever more important in the new artificial intelligence (AI) economy, since people and communities that remain offline cannot access the power of disruptive technologies and will find themselves even further behind.



Microsoft's Airband Initiative invests in digital infrastructure and growth by driving high-speed Internet networks, meaningful connectivity, and digital transformation in marginalized and unconnected communities around the world.

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