

Fast Networks Malawi — Starlink-Backed Rural School & Community Connectivity

Digital Inclusion · Good practice · Malawi

Quality score: 72/100

Evidence strength: Observational / pre–post

Summary

A Karonga-based ISP paired Starlink satellite backhaul with a local mesh network and \$0.20 prepaid vouchers to connect over 60 rural schools and dozens of communities in northern Malawi, though several schools later lost service once initial subsidies ran out.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Innovation level	3/5
Sustainability (ongoing)	0/1
Evaluation evidence	1/1
Demonstrated reach	1/1
Documented learning	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-17

[Fast Networks Malawi](#) — accessed 2026-09-17

[ITWeb Africa](#) — accessed 2026-09-17

[Telecompaper](#) — accessed 2026-09-17

[Internet Society Foundation](#) — accessed 2026-09-17

[Unconnected.org retrospective](#) — accessed 2026-09-17

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