

Saint Helena's Broadband Story — International Cable Success, Failed Domestic Fibre, and a 2026 Restart

Digital Inclusion · Good practice · Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha

Quality score: 48/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

Google's Equiano cable ended Saint Helena's satellite-only isolation in 2023, but a separate £3M domestic fibre contract collapsed after £678,733 was spent with no design delivered — leaving most residents on sub-10 Mbps copper until a new 2026 fixed-wireless deal.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Innovation level	2/5
Sustainability (ongoing)	0/1
Evaluation evidence	1/1
Demonstrated reach	0/1
Documented learning	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-09-27

[St Helena Government / Google \(Equiano cable\) / Sure South Atlantic](#) — accessed 2026-09-27

[Data Center Dynamics: Equiano Cable Branch Activated](#) — accessed 2026-09-27

[Kentik: Saint Helena Activates Subsea Connection](#) — accessed 2026-09-27

[OpenFalklands: St Helena Terrestrial Fibre Network Disaster](#) — accessed 2026-09-27

[St Helena Online: SHG and Sure Ink 300 Mbps Deal](#) — accessed 2026-09-27

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