



CONNECTING COUNTRIES THROUGH INVESTMENT IN INFRASTRUCTURE

A vital component of enabling African businesses to trade regionally and internationally is improving the road, rail, port, logistics and telecoms infrastructure between African countries. Investing in these improvements will reduce the cost of doing business and improve the efficiency of accessing material and getting goods to market for African businesses of all sizes.

Standard Bank has been a significant contributor and facilitator to major transport and communications projects across Africa, one of them being the Port of Maputo project which commenced in 2003.



INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT DRIVES GROWTH IN AFRICA Port of Maputo

In Mozambique, Standard Bank acted as **original arranger and primary bank to enable the concessioning of the Port of Maputo in 2003**. Maputo Port Development Company was subsequently set-up to manage and develop the Port. Since then, we've facilitated funding for capital expansions at the Port. **Recently, we financed the Maputo Port access channel dredging operation, a project of US\$85 million, of which US\$35 million was made available by Standard Bank.** Dredging of the 76 km navigational channel was completed in early 2017.

During the dredging process, the sediments were analysed to determine the concentrations of any metals and organic chemicals to ensure that no contaminants were released which could potentially compromise the aquatic ecology.



Investment in telecommunications

Investment in telecommunications infrastructure across Africa is crucial to:

- improve connectivity
- bring down data costs
- facilitate economic activity.

Standard Bank is a major funder of fibre and tower networks, raising private equity for game changing telecommunications and technology players.

Partnership with Liquid Telecom

In 2017, we partnered with Liquid Telecom, owned by Zimbabwe's Econet Group, on its R6.6 billion acquisition of South Africa's Neotel, providing debt issuance and loan syndication.

The deal creates a contiguous cross-border fibre network, stretching 40 000 km from Uganda to South Africa.

Bringing connectivity to more Africans

Standard Bank's ability to provide multi-product, cross-border advisory and funding solutions was instrumental in making possible Liquid Telecom's unrivalled reach across Eastern, Central and southern Africa.

As the lead advisor to Liquid Telecom on a new US\$600 million, five-year bond, we are supporting the expansion of Neotel's data centres, wireless networks and fixed-line broadband infrastructure, bringing connectivity to more Africans.

THE IMPACT

NEW NAVIGATIONAL CHANNEL

Receives larger vessels and capacity to load 120 000 tons of cargo

More regionally and internationally competitive