

*SES Broadband*

# Helping to build sustainable eHealth services in Africa



Our innovative satellite broadband service is playing a key role in an international pilot project extending the reach of internet-based healthcare services into remote rural regions in Senegal and Kenya.

#### **RELIABILITY**

With no terrestrial connection required, and even powered by the Sun, our satellite broadband equipment provides a fast dependable internet connection, anywhere.

#### **AFFORDABILITY**

Simple and inexpensive equipment means *SES Broadband* is an affordable answer to problems of internet connectivity at remote locations.

#### **RESPONSIBILITY**

Geographic and economic conditions have hampered progress in Africa. At SES Broadband Service, we enhance social development by connecting people.

Supporting

## eHealth services in Africa



At SES Broadband Services we recognize that efficient health services are a major challenge in Africa. The vast size of the continent and the low population density, along with severe weather conditions and the difficult financial situation in most African states, has meant that the majority of the African people are badly disadvantaged in medical care.

We are committed to changing this, and through our involvement with the SAHEL (Satellite African eHealth vaLidation) project, we believe SES Broadband Services can make a difference.

With our innovative SES *Broadband* satellite internet service we have already started to make our contribution to the enhancement of social development in Africa. In remote villages, without access to communication services, the Rural Internet Kiosk equipped with SES *Broadband* solution – a solar-powered, self-contained internet terminal – provides stable and inexpensive satellite broadband, bringing internet access to farmers for information about weather conditions or crop prices; to students for connection to the world wide web; and to community nurses for collaboration with health centres for training, diagnosis and advice on local health issues.

SES Broadband Services has joined an industrial consortium – led by EADS CASA ESPACIO and including leading health NGOs Le Kinkeliba and the AMREF Flying Doctors – to provide internet access via SES *Broadband* service for the SAHEL project and develop eHealth services in this deprived continent. Endorsed by the European Space Agency (ESA), and in cooperation with the European Commission and the Telemedicine Task Force (TTF), the SAHEL project runs a demonstration system installed in Kenya and Senegal, and plays a key role in the development of a future pan-African telemedicine network.

The SAHEL initiative uses our satellite broadband service for three essential applications:



1. **Medical eLearning:** provides continuous training for healthcare professionals in rural areas
2. **Clinical eServices:** links rural dispensaries and treatment centres to medical centres of excellence, which can provide assistance for patients' diagnosis and treatment
3. **Computerised health management system:** manages patients' files and collects medical data to monitor epidemics (such as AIDS in Kenya and malaria in Senegal).

Pilot sites have been selected to test the project deployment – two hospitals in the Tambacounda region of Eastern Senegal, and the Kajiado District Hospital in Kenya, which operates with four doctors and 62 nurses to provide for a population of 630,000 people.

With simple and easily installed equipment (satellite dish and modem powered by solar panels), our SES *Broadband* solution helps meet two essential needs of Africa's people – providing decentralised medical care and improving communications.

As part of the project, SES Broadband Services also provides and maintains the broadband access for an eHealth Management Information System (eHMIS) for health data collection and disease monitoring and control.

"The mission of AMREF is to ensure that all African people have the right to good health by helping to create vibrant networks of informed communities that work with qualified health care providers in strong health systems," said Peter Ngatia, AMREF Director of Capacity Building. "This collaboration with SES Broadband Services will support AMREF in our global effort to spread free access to medical knowledge and improve the exchange of information among our professional teams."

"The project will also allow us to scale-up health care training to ensure that African countries have the right competencies required for the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals."



Allowing

# decentralised medical care



“We believe that our business is helping people to connect with one another. *SES Broadband* provides the best quality high-speed internet access to rural areas, available immediately and at affordable prices,” said Antonio Bove, SES Broadband Services Product Manager.

“We understand that today it is vital to access and share knowledge – and internet connectivity is the key. In a way, internet access brings democracy and development, and it enriches our everyday life. SES Broadband Services has a responsibility to make this possible at affordable price by improving the economic sustainability of eHealth services in disadvantaged areas. We are proud to support this challenge in Africa with our partners.”

## PARTNERS



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