



Pioneering Investment Bank | Middle East & Africa | Banking | Intelligent Infrastructure

Managed SD-WAN supports growth of a pioneering investment bank in Africa

Which technologies?

- Managed SD-WAN

Which services?

- Intelligent Infrastructure

The group is committed to excellence and world-class customer service and their investment in any technology solution must support these goals.

Summary

An investment banking and asset management group has a vision to be the largest investment banking group in Africa. The group needed a more efficient way to connect their branches across Africa.

The group wanted to use a new technology to reduce costs while maintaining the same quality of connectivity and network stability. Dimension Data quickly deployed the Managed SD-WAN solution to seven of the investment bank's branches.

The group is enjoying the benefits of efficient connectivity, centralised management of their network including configuration, usage and security as well as reporting functionality. The broadband connectivity and SD-WAN solution provided all the branches with cost savings.

Vision

Why they needed a more efficient way to connect their branches across Africa

Founded over 25 years ago, this investment banking and asset management group operates in both the public and private sectors. The group aims to build the largest and most client-centric investment banking group in Africa by establishing 20 fully autonomous investment banks in 20 countries in 20 years.

The geographic locations of the branches made their current connectivity solution an expensive option. Managed SD-WAN is a unified, virtual WAN and network function solution that simplifies the way you manage your network. It provides increased bandwidth or internet connectivity at a lower cost and provides better control, much simpler network management and reduced overall opex. They chose to continue to partner with Dimension Data to implement a solution that would achieve their technology goals and deliver cost savings.

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Transformation

How a simplified connectivity solution optimised their networks

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We met with the team to understand what it was that they were trying to achieve and what technology would enable this journey for them. Through consultative engagements and a product roadmap workshop, it was agreed that an SD-WAN solution would be the perfect fit.

Managed SD-WAN has a zero-touch provisioning approach that requires little to no human intervention, which allowed us to roll out the solution swiftly. We also rolled out new broadband connection mediums at each branch within the project: Botswana, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Swaziland, Nigeria and Uganda. The broadband connectivity and SD-WAN solution provided all the branches with cost savings.

Results

What a managed SD-WAN connectivity solution provided to the group

Using the latest technology, the group is able to maintain business continuity, even when using voice services, while reducing their costs. They can also consume cloud-based services directly from a secure local breakout, which reduces the risk of a security breach.

The analytics, application awareness and reporting capabilities of SD-WAN gives the business greater visibility of their networking environment. And, because it's a managed service, they don't have to invest resources into maintaining the solution. They are currently working on a roadmap to implement the same solution to other, smaller countries that would benefit from this service.