

DR. TOLA YUSUF PROFILE MBA, PHD

Passion, Purpose, Pedigree—these ideals have driven Tola to the pinnacle of a two-decade career marked by service to humanity and a profound impact on countless lives. With a solid foundation in Engineering, Business, and Project Management, Tola quickly distinguished himself in early roles in technology, cost engineering, and project management. Today, he is celebrated as a visionary rural digital innovator, startup tech expert, business strategist, serial entrepreneur, and international keynote speaker.

As a pioneer in rural transformation through technology, Tola has connected millions of Africans—particularly in Nigeria’s underserved rural communities—to vital technological and social infrastructure. His tireless efforts have earned him the prestigious title of "Most Valuable Personality in Nigeria’s Digital Economy" in 2024, standing out among the top 50 influencers in the sector.

Driven by his deep commitment to Africa’s development, Tola has leveraged his expertise to design groundbreaking solutions across industries, including information technology, healthcare, education, agriculture, and financial services. His holistic understanding of telecommunications across the continent allows him to easily navigate the sector's complexities, positioning him as a key figure at Infratel Africa, where he leads the company’s strategic growth. A recognized thought leader, Tola regularly delivers keynote addresses and sits on panels at major forums shaping Africa’s tech and digital landscape.

Tola’s academic journey includes executive programs at esteemed institutions like Harvard Business School and the Paris School of Business, further sharpening his strategic insight. His transformation from tech expert to industry leader is rooted in his unwavering sense of purpose, which has driven him to make telecommunications accessible to even the most remote African communities. By blending economics with telecommunications, Tola has enhanced the quality of life for millions who now benefit from reliable telecommunication services.



Among his many achievements, Tola spearheaded the acquisition of telecom assets valued at over \$400 million and secured a regional fibre infrastructure license for Nigeria's South-South region from the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC). This license allows him to build, own, and operate critical infrastructure in the region. He also oversees the management of network infrastructure services, including cell sites and fibre optics, with an annual value exceeding \$7.5 million. His projects extend to Smart City broadband initiatives, including Smart Off-Grid Solar Street Lighting and green energy innovations.

As a founding partner of Infratel Africa, a company delivering Network as a Service (NaaS) solutions, Tola has connected more than 250 communities and over 2 million people across Nigeria to voice and data services. His efforts have pioneered digital solutions in financial inclusion, telemedicine, e-learning, and Smart Wi-Fi, among other innovations, transforming lives across rural Africa.

Under Tola's leadership, Infratel Africa recently became one of the Mobile Virtual Network Operator (MVNO) licensees, an initiative launched by the NCC to expand digital value across the telecommunications ecosystem in Nigeria.

In addition to his role at Infratel, Tola is a Certified Management Consultant, a member of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, a Fellow of the Institute of Credit Administration, a Fellow of the Institute of Management Consultants, and holds a Professional Fellowship Doctorate from the Institute of Chartered Economists.