AIR NAVIGATION CAPACITY AND EFFICIENCY’S CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 2:

End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture

Supporting Target(s): 2.1

ICAO Activity

ICAO seeks to ensure the delivery of efficient and comprehensive air navigation services through globally planned initiatives as outlined in the Global Air Navigation Plan (GANP). The 13th Air Navigation Conference in 2018 developed recommendations across a wide range of technical subjects and agreed to strategies to guide the development and implementation of the GANP. The new version of the GANP takes a more holistic approach towards our aviation systems and provides a roadmap to increase air navigation capacity and efficiency to accommodate rapid growth yet, at the same time, mitigate the risks associated with the operation of more aircrafts within a fixed amount of airspace. The modernization and harmonization of the global air traffic management system improves reliability of flight operations that contributes to SDG 2 by significantly improving accessibility to remote areas and therefore facilitating urgent access to sufficient food to all people, particularly those in vulnerable situations, all year round.

Unmanned aircraft systems (drones) offer multiple applications, some of which go beyond basic surveillance, photography, or videos. For example, unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) and artificial intelligence are being used to improve food quality during crop production or to collect soil samples which will support precision agriculture. While the UAS can bring change in the way we do business to support SDG 2, due regulations are required to fully unleash their potential so that they operate in a safe, secure, efficient and environmentally responsible manner.

ICAO - as platform of States for international aviation and through its convening power (e.g. Global Remotely Piloted Aircraft System Symposium and Unmanned Aircraft Systems Industry Symposium) - is ideally positioned to support the development of scalable and interoperable provisions that will accommodate the rapid pace of technological advancement in unmanned aircraft systems.

ICAO supports States’ rapid and coordinated response to emergencies through the implementation of its crisis response policy and disaster risk reduction strategy in aviation. ICAO provides urgent assistance to States in the development of contingency plans and measures that ensure the safe and continuous availability of airspace to conduct international civil aviation operations. These activities contribute to SDG 2 by facilitating the delivery of food to all people in the case of an emergency, crisis or disaster, particularly those in vulnerable situations.