

# ICAO Assistance Project with the European Union Funding Phase II

## Capacity Building for CO<sub>2</sub> Mitigation from International Aviation

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### Introduction

With the goal of assisting States in their efforts to mitigate CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from international aviation, and to ensure that all States have the capacity required to develop States Action Plans and implement their mitigation measures, ICAO launched in 2013 the first phase of the Assistance Project Capacity Building for CO<sub>2</sub> Mitigation from International Aviation, in partnership with the European Union (EU). The project successfully supported 14 States in Africa and the Caribbean, and met all its expected results, exceeding some of the initial targets by its completion in 2019. A full description of the project and the final project report can be accessed on the ICAO's website.<sup>1</sup>

Building on this successful partnership, ICAO and the EU initiated the Second Phase of the ICAO Project-Capacity Building for CO<sub>2</sub> Mitigation from International Aviation-Development of ICAO States' Action Plans for 10 States. Funded by the European Union under the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI), and subject to the provisions of the Financial and Administrative Framework Agreement (FAFA) between the EU and the United Nations, the second phase has a total cost of EUR 1.5 million. Ten beneficiary States, which include five from the WACAF (Benin, Cabo Verde Cote d'Ivoire Mali, Senegal) and five from the ESAF

(Botswana, Madagascar, Rwanda, Seychelles and Zimbabwe) Region are supported under this project as part of the ICAO's No Country Left Behind initiative. The project, which started on 1 January 2020, had an initial duration of 36 months. However, due to Covid-19, ICAO and the EU agreed on a no-cost extension of 10 months, with an end date of October 31, 2023<sup>2</sup>.

### How does the Project contribute to the reduction of the environmental footprint of aviation?

The overall objective of the ICAO Assistance Project with the European Union Funding Phase II is to contribute to the mitigation of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from international civil aviation in the selected States by implementing capacity building activities that will support the development of low carbon air transport and environmental sustainability.

This overall objective is to support the following specific objectives:

- Improved national capacity of the beneficiary States to develop/update and implement an Action Plan on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction from international aviation in accordance with ICAO recommendations (SO1);

1 ICAO Assistance Project with the EU Funding Phase I. [https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/Pages/ICAO\\_EU.aspx](https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/Pages/ICAO_EU.aspx) Project Phase I Final Report. [https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/Documents/ICAO-EU\\_Project\\_FinalReport.pdf](https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/Documents/ICAO-EU_Project_FinalReport.pdf)

2 ICAO Assistance Project with the EU Funding Phase II. [https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/Pages/ICAO\\_EU\\_II.aspx](https://www.icao.int/environmental-protection/Pages/ICAO_EU_II.aspx)

- State Action Plans on emissions reduction are developed by the beneficiary States (SO2);
- Mitigation measures selected by the beneficiary States are assessed and their feasibility is evaluated (SO3).
- To achieve the objectives, the project centers around the following expected results:
  - (R1): National Action Plan Teams (NAPT) are established in the beneficiary States with the participation of relevant stakeholders from the aviation sector.
  - (R2): At least 2 members of staff in the aviation sector or related authority trained to develop and implement Action Plans in each selected State.
  - (R3): State Action Plans on emissions reductions developed by beneficiary States fully complying with ICAO Guidance on the Development of States' Action Plans on CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions Reduction Activities (Doc 9988).
  - (R4): An Aviation Environmental System (AES) installed in the selected Member States for collection of historical data for the preparation of the baseline scenario and expected results.
  - (R5): A total of three feasibility studies on the implementation of selected mitigation measures are conducted in certain selected beneficiary States.

The implementation of the Action is undertaken through several activities including the following:

- Creation of National Action Plan Teams
- Capacity building meetings
- On-site missions
- Regional Seminars
- Briefings to Directors General of the Beneficiary States
- Feasibility studies.
- Installation of the Aviation Environmental System (AES)
- UNITAR online training course for Focal Points

### The UNITAR Online Training Course: A successful tool for capacity building on Action Plan Development

Developed under the first phase of the ICAO Assistance Project with the EU funding phase II, the ICAO training course *International Aviation CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions Reduction : States' Action Plans*<sup>3</sup> hosted on the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) / UNCC: e-Learn platform allows all Focal Points of the beneficiary States to access the most up-to-date training on Action Plan development. The first module of the course is accessible free of charge to all users whereas States' Focal Points have access to the full course. This self-paced course offers the flexibility to Focal Points to get the training on their own schedules and complements the in-person activities undertaken in the scope of the project.

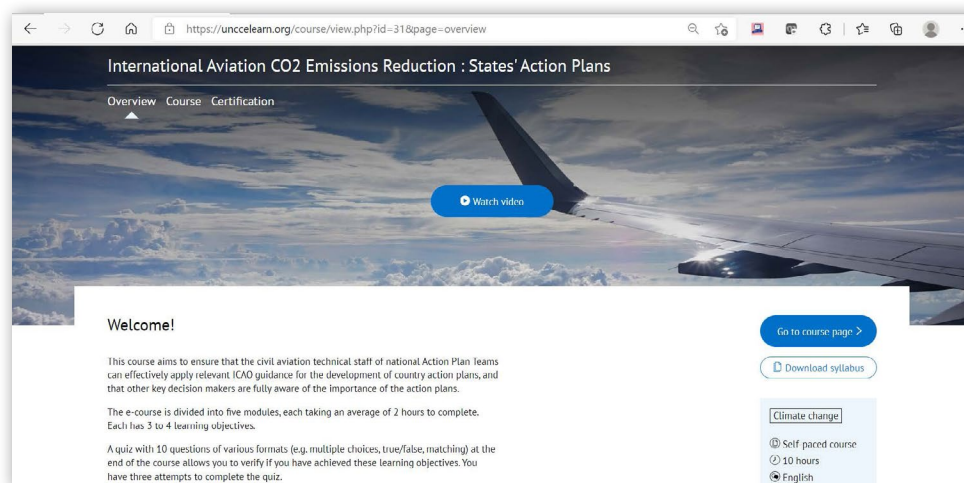


FIGURE 1: Training course: International Aviation CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions Reduction: States' Action Plans

3 Available at <https://unccelearn.org/course/view.php?id=26&page=overview>

## What are the associated quantitative/qualitative benefits?

Participation in this Project comes with several benefits and co-benefits for the beneficiary States. Through the Project, participating States strengthen their local capacity for State Action Plan development. States are further supported for the selection and quantification of their mitigation measures to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Feasibility studies are also conducted in a few States to assess the potential for Sustainable Aviation Fuels and other innovative measures for the sustainability of international aviation. The Aviation Environmental System is installed in all beneficiary States to monitor the implementation of the mitigation measures in the Action Plans.

## The Next Years

The second Phase of the ICAO Assistance Project with the EU Funding will conclude in October 2023. In light of the success of both phases of the Project, several States have expressed their interests in benefiting from similar capacity building assistance to mitigate CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from international aviation.



**FIGURE 2:** Certificate of Completion: International Aviation CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions Reduction: States' Action Plans