



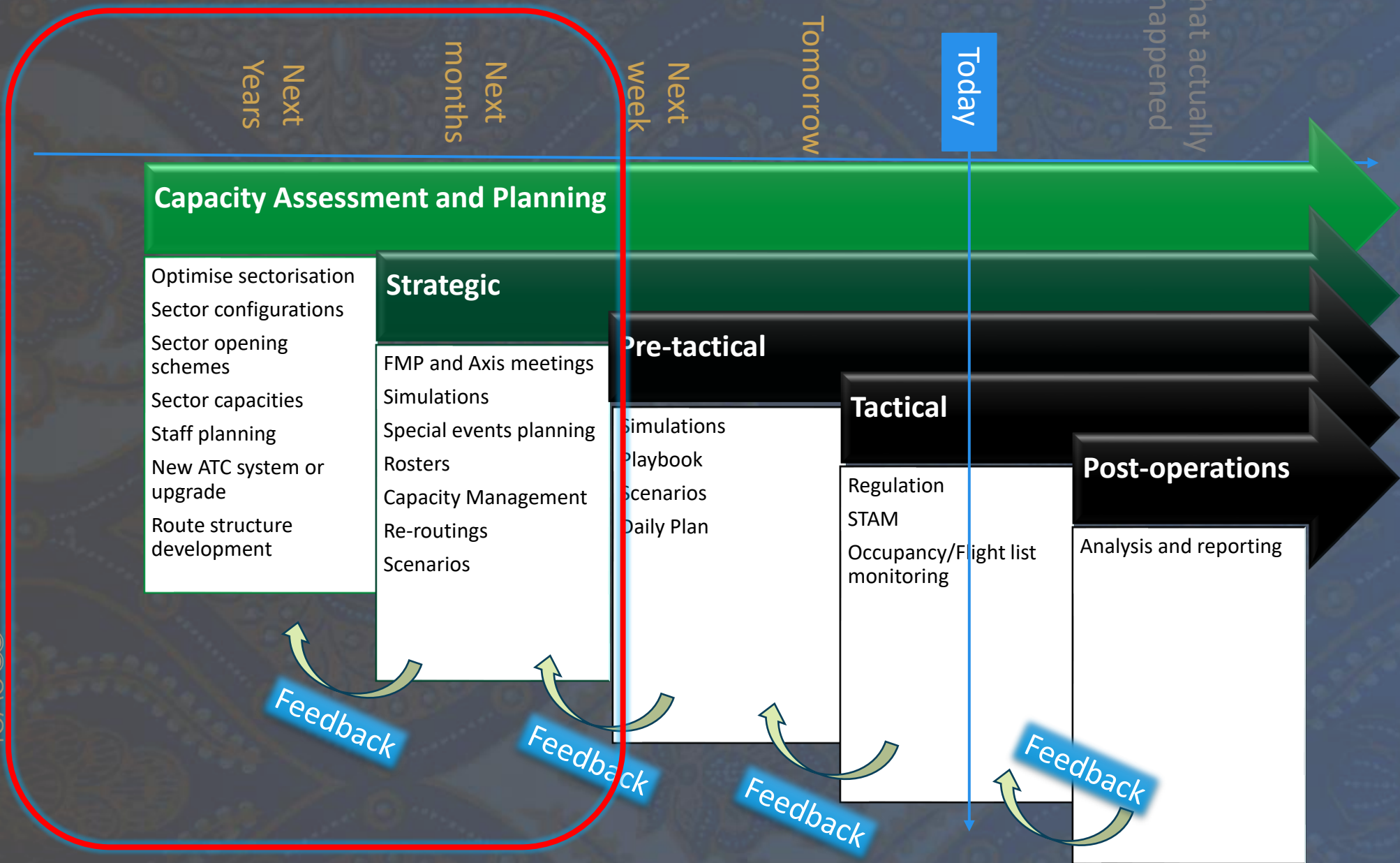
SUPPORTING
EUROPEAN
AVIATION

EUROCONTROL NM Network Capacity Planning Process

Ways to Increase Airspace Capacity

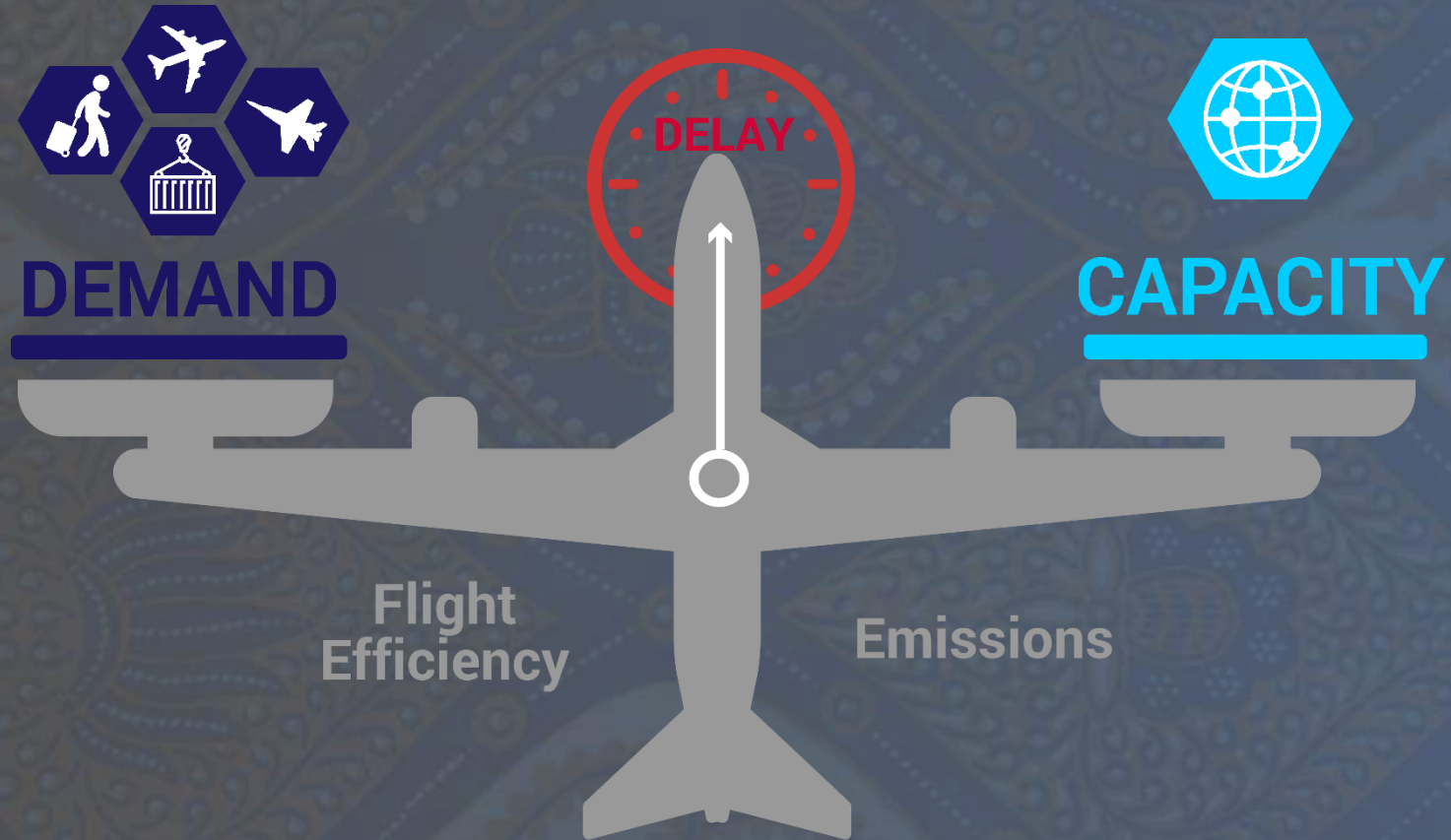
Raffaele Russo
EUROCONTROL DNM Operations Planning





KEY PRINCIPLE

3



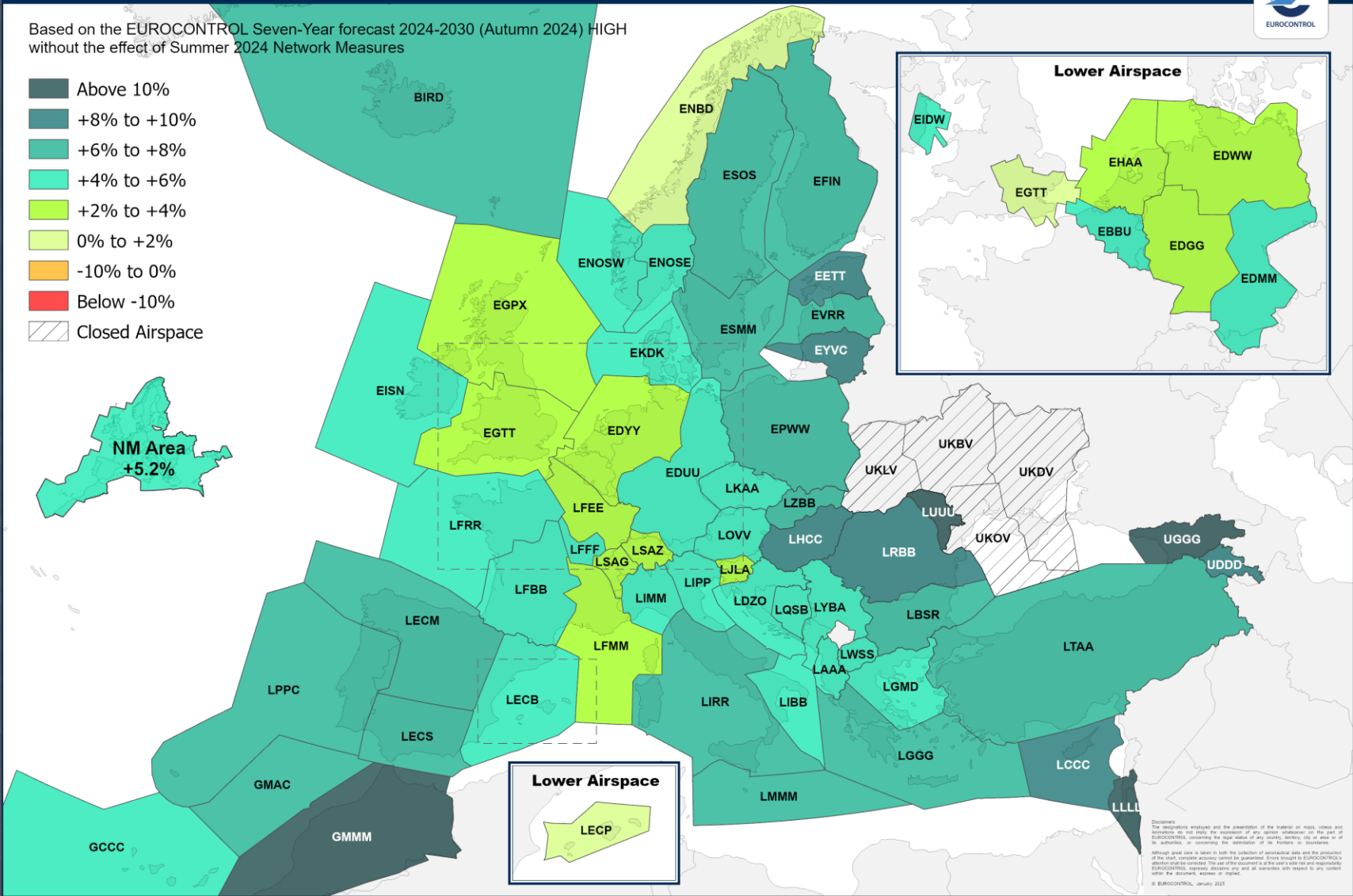
Traffic forecast 2025

Traffic growth per ACC 2025 vs. 2024



Based on the EUROCONTROL Seven-Year forecast 2024-2030 (Autumn 2024) HIGH without the effect of Summer 2024 Network Measures

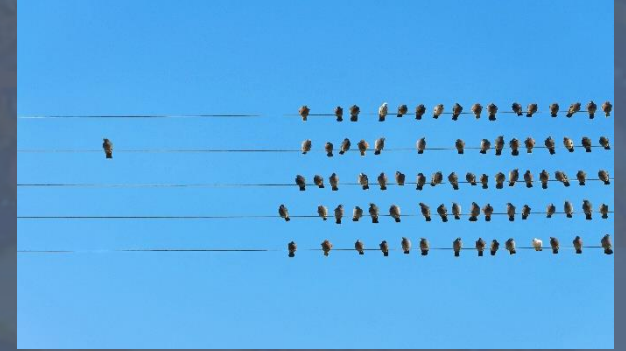
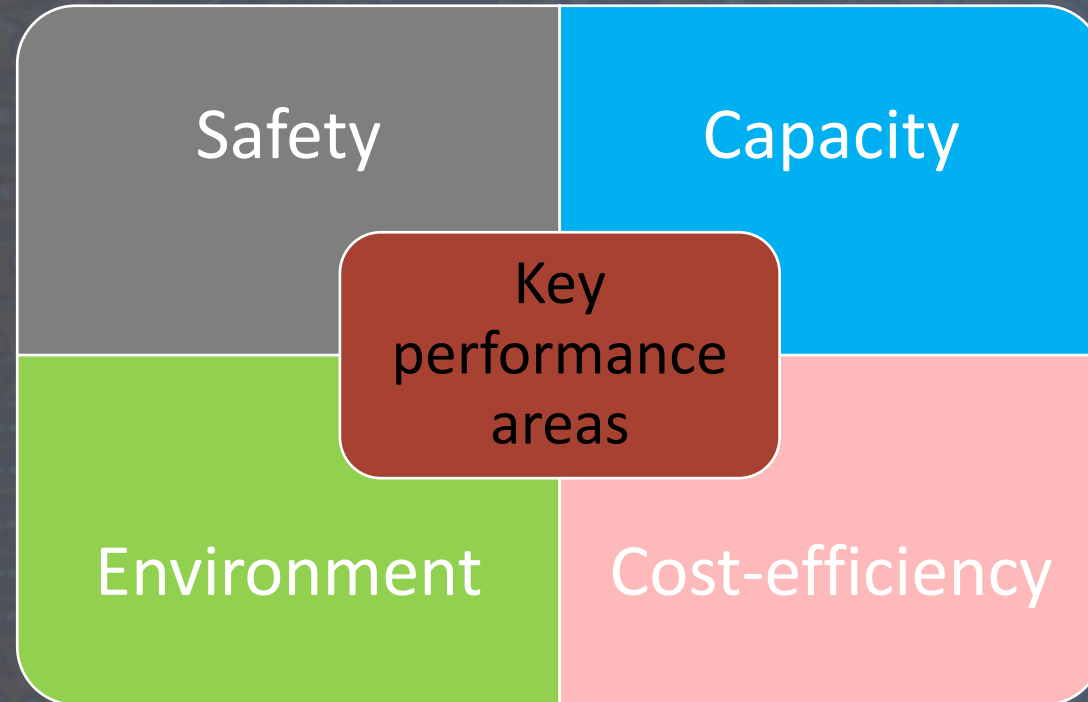
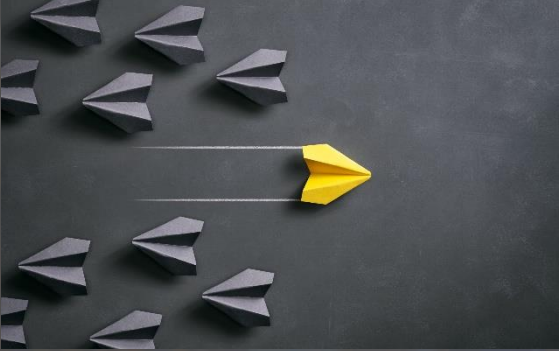
- Above 10%
- +8% to +10%
- +6% to +8%
- +4% to +6%
- +2% to +4%
- 0% to +2%
- 10% to 0%
- Below -10%
- Closed Airspace



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Single European Sky EU PERFORMANCE SCHEME

5



Single European Sky EU Capacity Target

Performance Targets for RP4 2025-2029

Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2024/1688 of 12 June 2024

Environment

The average horizontal en route flight efficiency of the actual trajectory (KEA)

- Measured as average additional distance flown compared to the great circle distance

2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
2.40%	2.80%	2.75%	2.71%	2.68%	2.66%

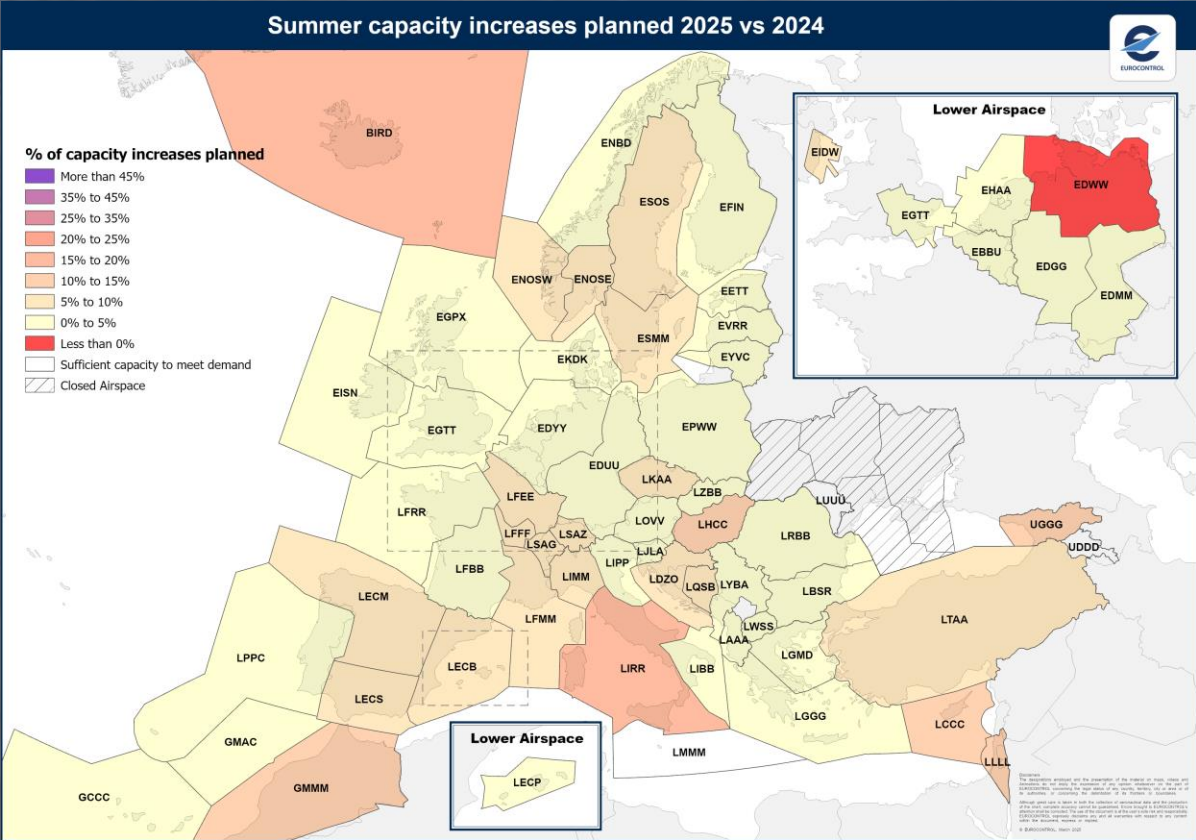
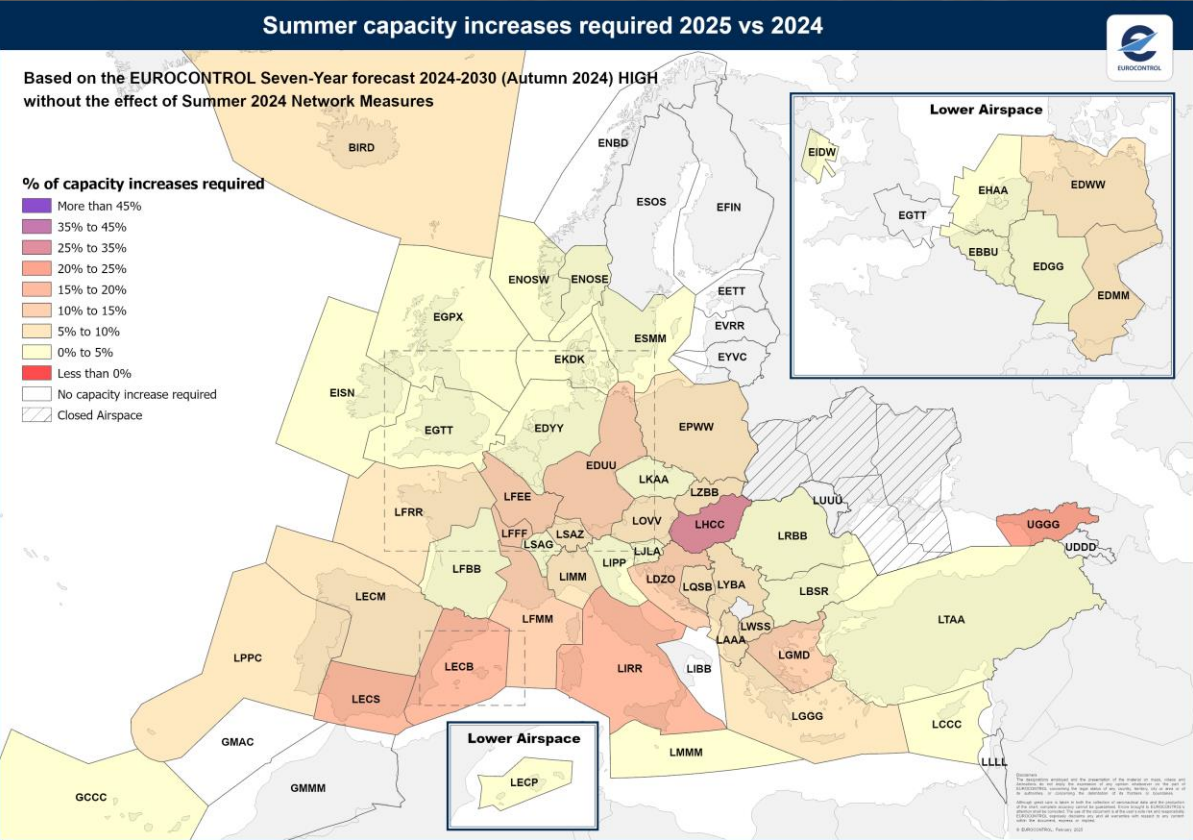
2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
0.5	0.9	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.5

Capacity

Minutes of en-route ATFM delay per flight:

- Annual delay
- ATFM delay only – ATC Capacity, Staffing, Events, Weather, Disruption, Industrial action
- En-route delay only – airport delay not considered

Capacity requirements & plans 2025



Delay forecast 2025

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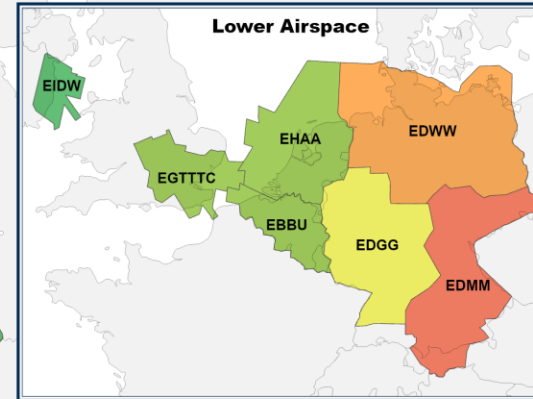
Annual delay forecast 2025 - High traffic growth



Without network traffic distribution measures

- Above 3 min/flight
- 2 to 3 min/flight
- 1 to 2 min/flight
- 0.75 to 1 min/flight
- 0.5 to 0.75 min/flight
- 0.2 to 0.5 min/flight
- 0.1 to 0.2 min/flight
- Below 0.1 min/flight

NM Area
2.44 min/flight



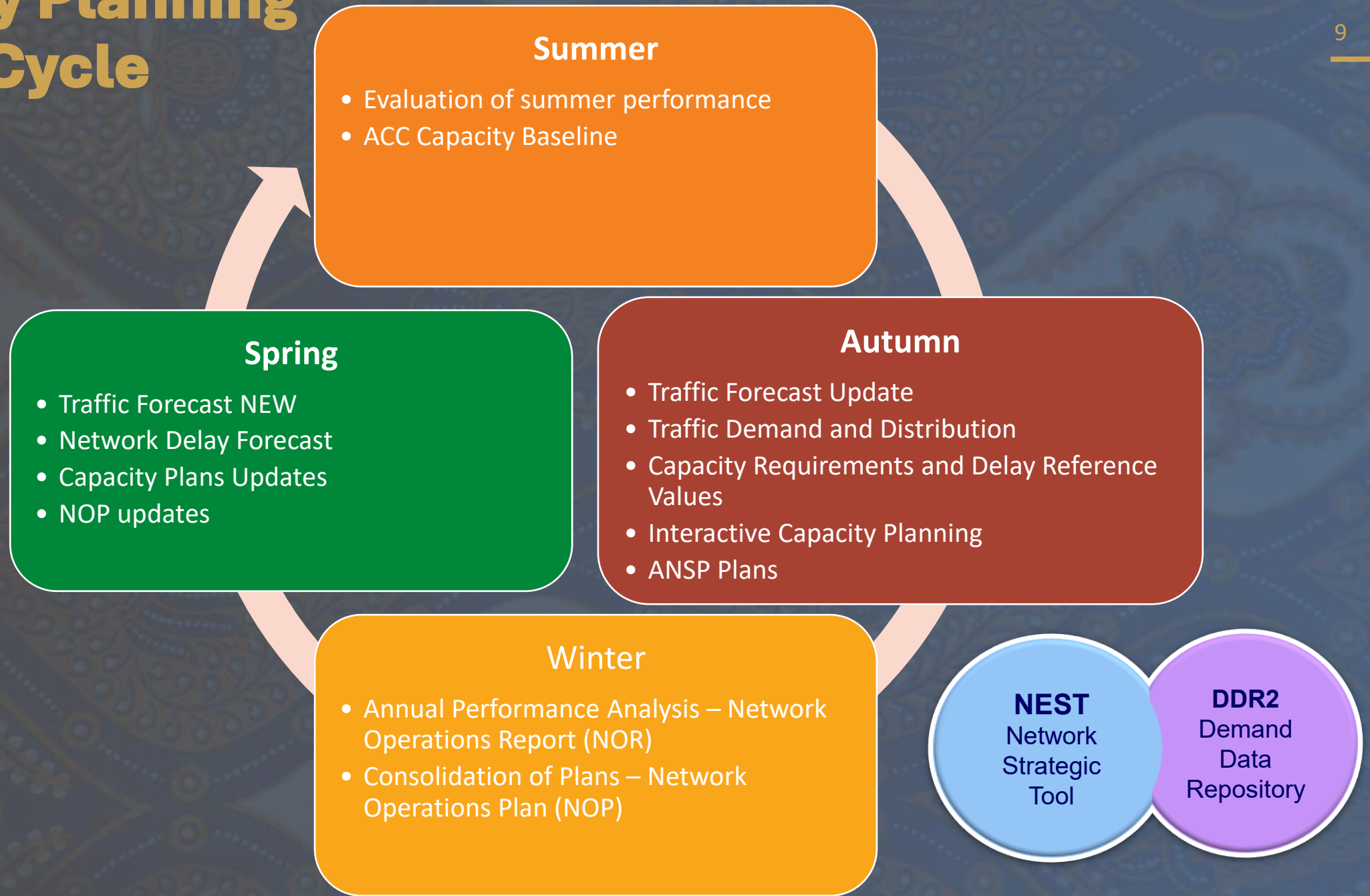
Weather delay

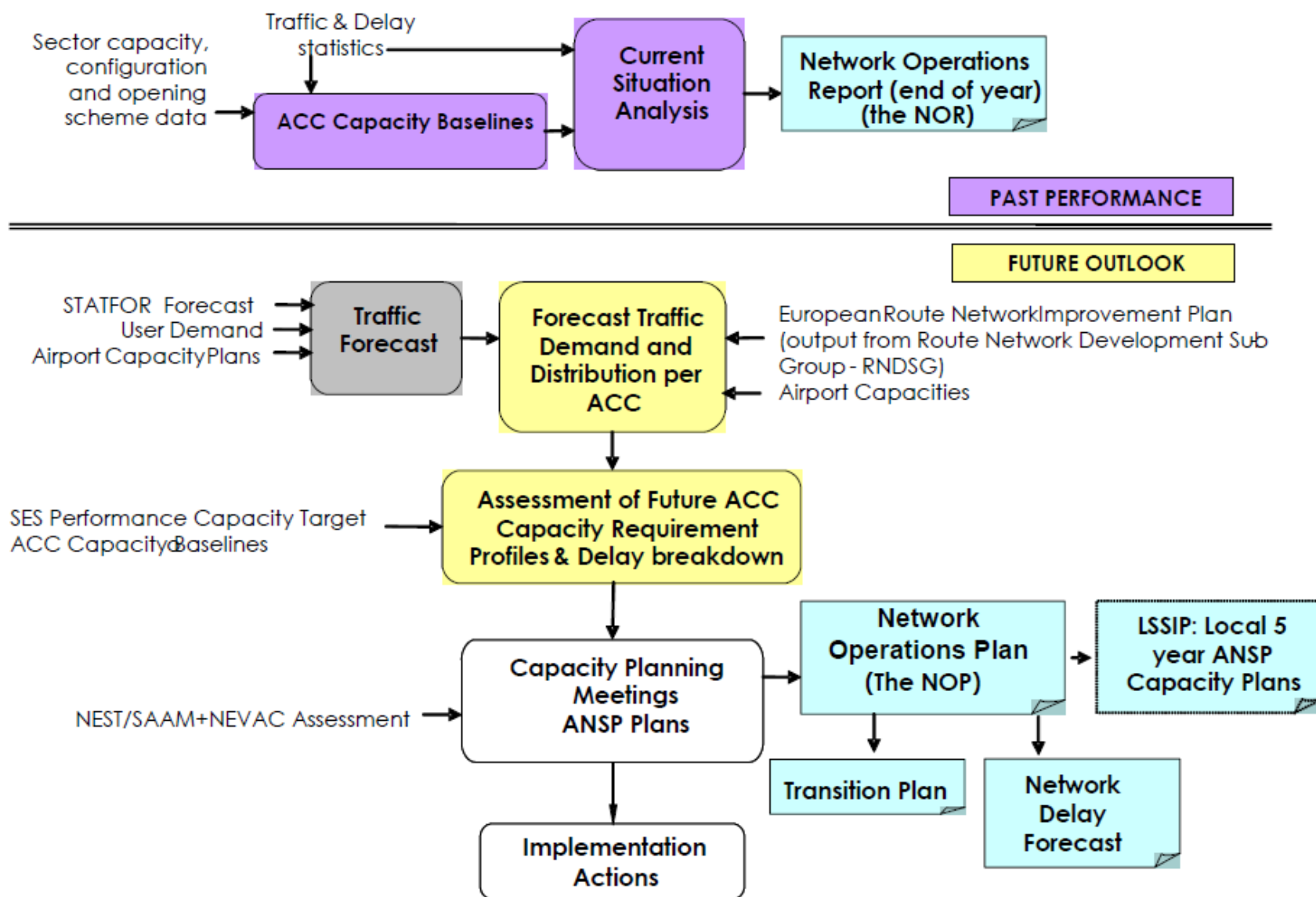
Included at a statistical level of **0.49 min/flight** based on the period 2018 to 2024 (excluding 2020 and 2021).

NOT included

- effects of the daily activities of the NMOC aimed at delay reductions
- effects of the network orientated ATFM and weather-related measures

Capacity Planning Annual Cycle





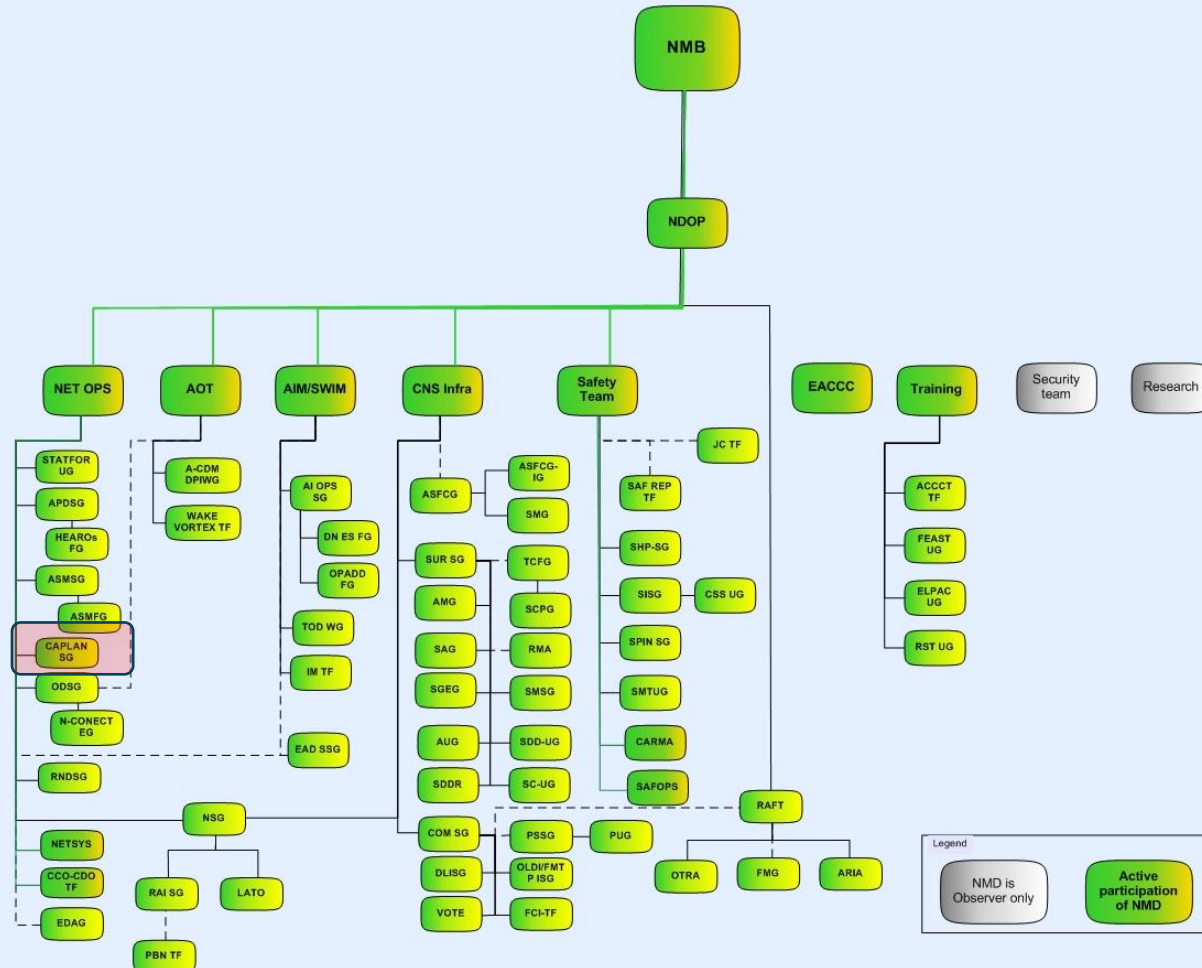
CAPLANGSG

Capacity Planning Sub-Group

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NMD Working Arrangements & Consultation

Update Date: 13-11-2019 15:03



Is a **co-ordination forum** on capacity planning methodologies, development of capacity plans, performance forecasts and supporting tools

brings together capacity managers from **all** the European ANSPs.

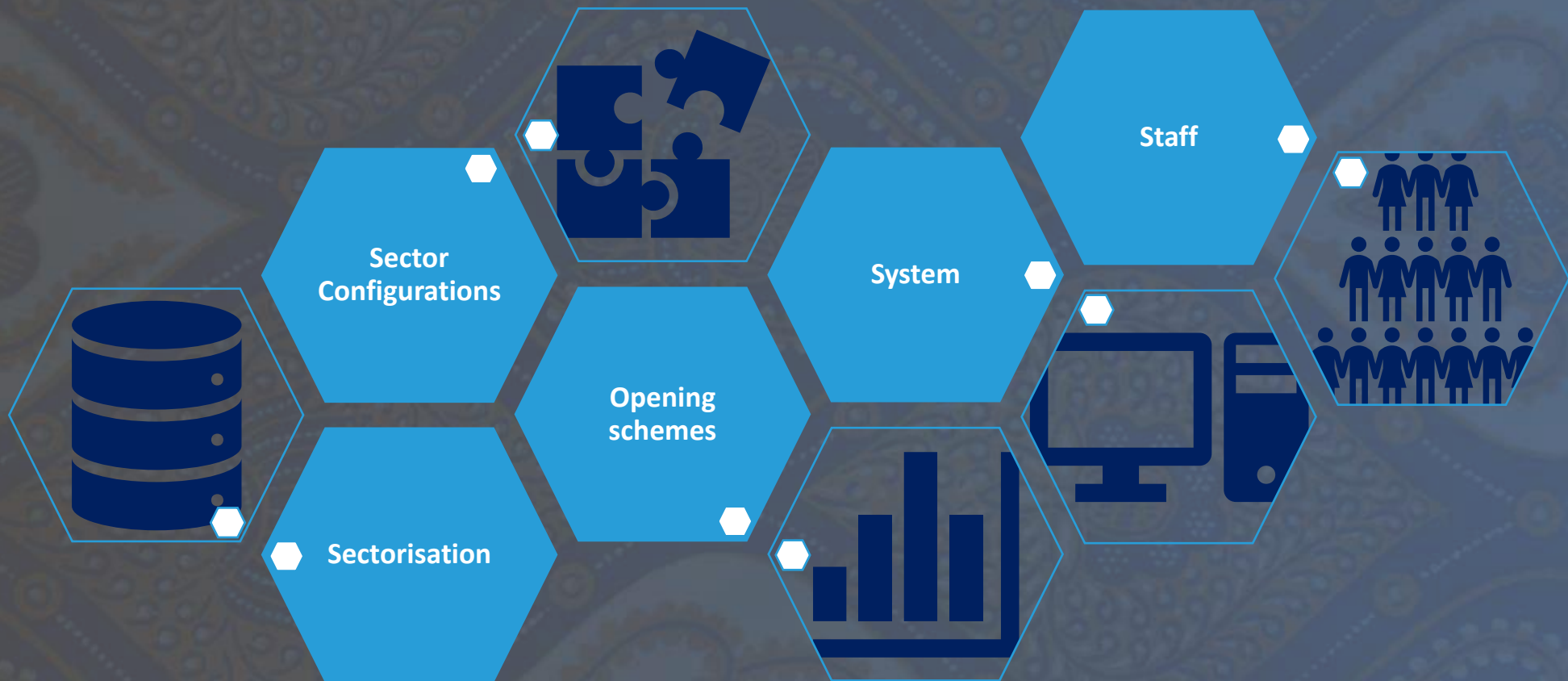
recommends **measures to improve transparency** of the overall process

develops an effective, **interactive approach with stakeholders** in order to reach a **consensus** on capacity planning aspects.

addresses the **development and implementation of concepts** currently under development within SESAR.

has an essential input for the **implementation of seamless processes from planning into operations.**

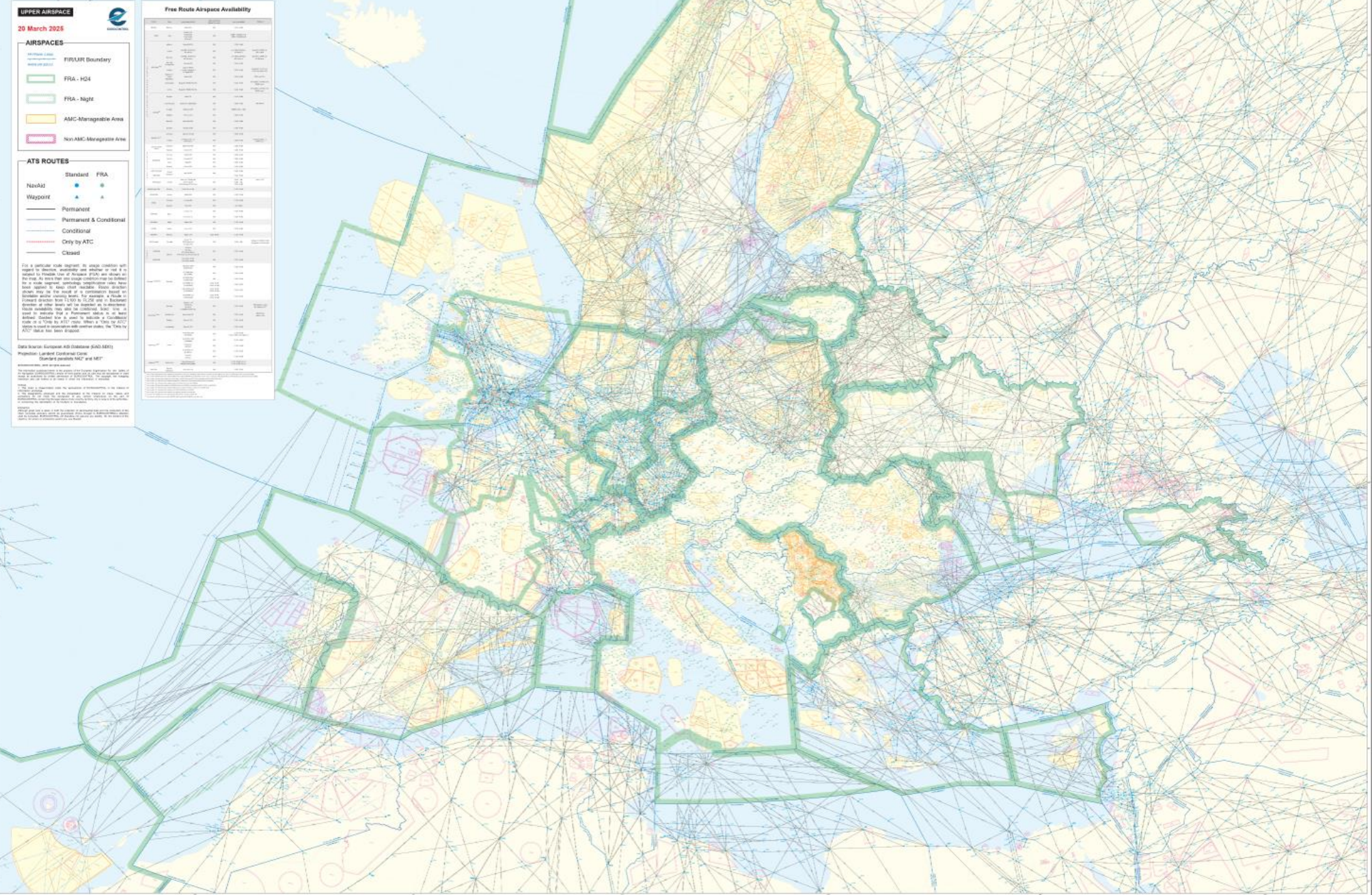
Actions to increase Airspace Capacity



ICAO



EUROCONTROL ROUTE NETWORK CHART (ERN Chart)

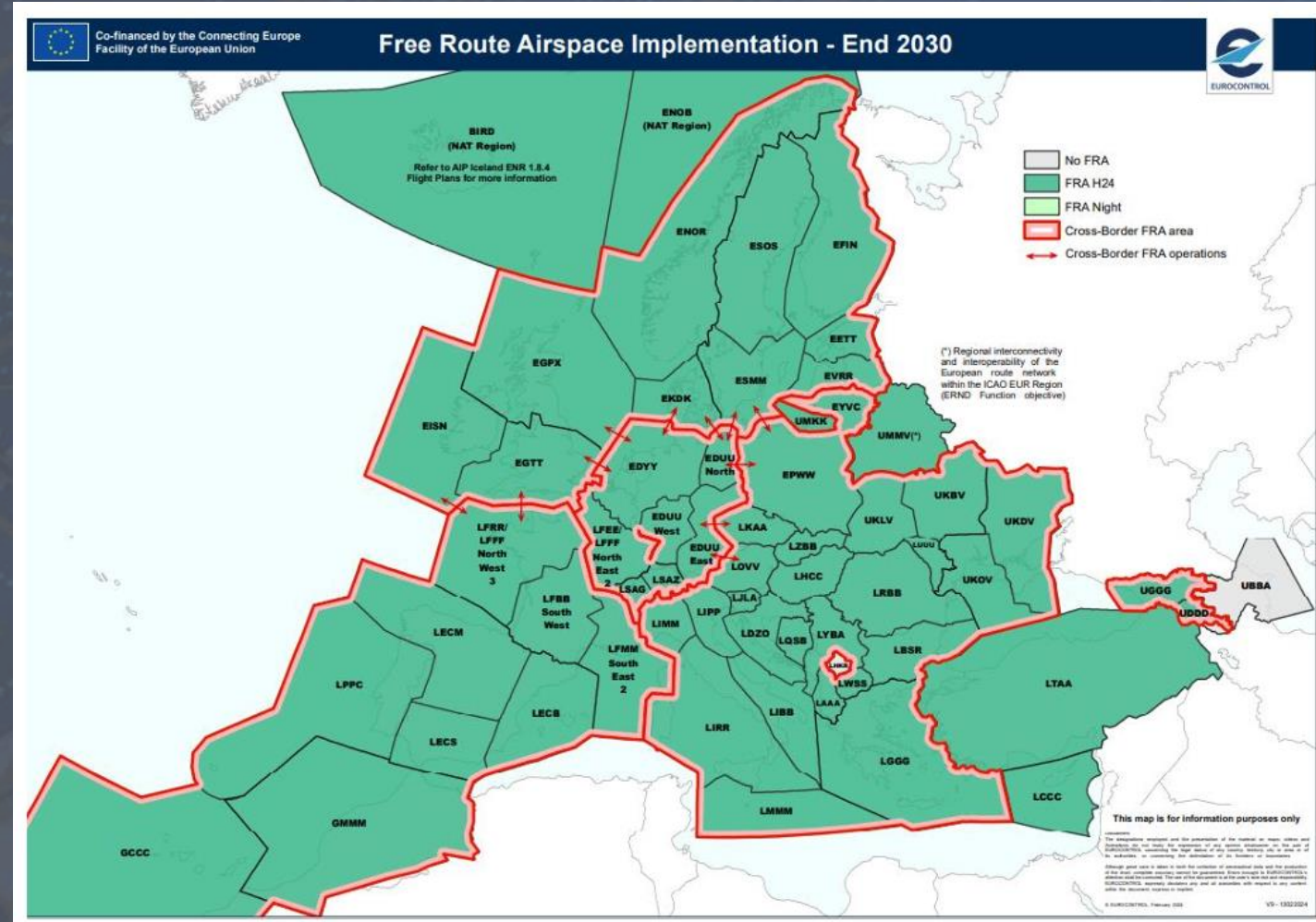


AIRSPACE MANAGEMENT CELL AREAS

areas which can be allocated in a flexible way after coordination between military and civil

Every day a number of areas are used for mil exercises, training activities, defence.
The IFPS system rejects/suspends FPLs planning to enter mil areas during the activation time.
NMOC FP staff supports Airspace Users FPL: re-routeing suggestions and manual correction.

Airspace Restructuring ERNIP Part 2 – ARN Version 2024-2030



Capacity Plan Example Nicosia ACC NOP 2019 - 2024

Actions to
improve
airspace
capacity

Summer Capacity Plan						
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Free Route Airspace				Free Route implementation according to PCP		
Airspace Management Advanced FUA	Stepped implementation of A-FUA					
Airport & TMA Network Integration						
Cooperative Traffic Management*	Improved ATFCM, including STAM					
Airspace	Stepped re-sectorisation of Nicosia ACC					
Procedures		Reduce Nicosia FIR separation standard from 10 to 5 NM				
Staffing	4 ATCOs less on the roster	2 ATCOs less on the roster due to retirement	7 additional ATCOs ¹	7 additional ATCOs		
	Continuation of staff performance scheme until the creation of the new ANSP					
Technical			Implementation of Approach Radar function at LCLK and LCPH airports			
	Datalink					
	ATM system upgrades				New ATM system	
Capacity	More flexibility in sector configuration openings					
	Improve Civil-Military cooperation in the South-East part of the FIR					
		Operation of a 6th en-route sector during peaks				
	Revision of sector capacities					
Significant Events	Transition to the new ACC (pending approvals)			Training for the new ATM system		
Max sectors	5	5/6	6	7	7	7
Planned Annual Capacity Increase	5%	5%	5%	8%	8%	8%
Reference profile Annual % Increase	14%	5%	5%	5%	5%	4%
Difference Capacity Plan v. Reference Profile	-8.9%	-8.4%	-8.0%	-5.5%	-3.1%	0.0%
Annual Reference Value (min)	0.25	0.36	0.34	0.26	0.16	0.16
Annual en-route delay forecast without eNM/ANSP Measures (min)	1.06	1.13	0.43 – 1.18			
Annual en-route delay forecast with eNM/ANSP Measures (min)	1.06	1.13				
Additional information	¹ Actual net balance is 1 additional controller due to retirements in 2019 and 2020					
The delay forecast excludes delays for disruptions such as industrial actions and technical failures						

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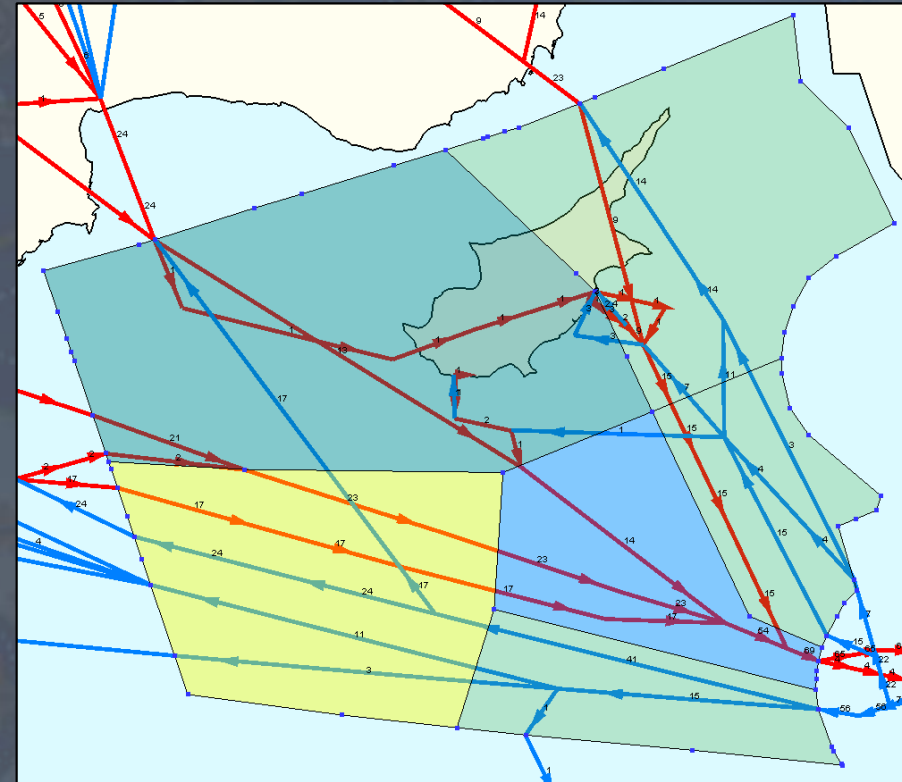
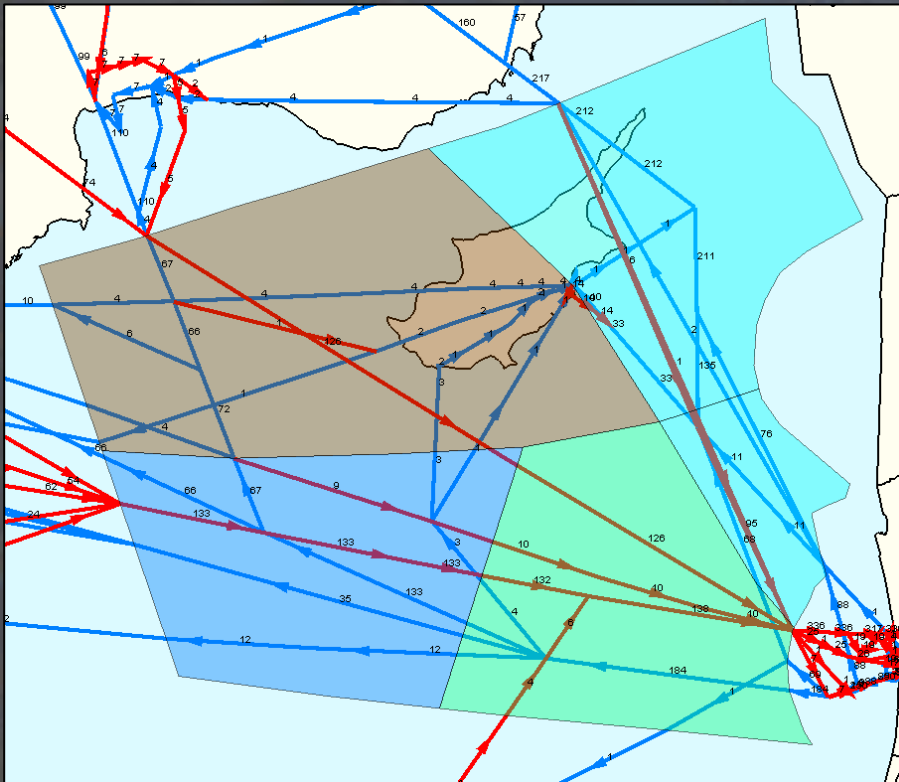
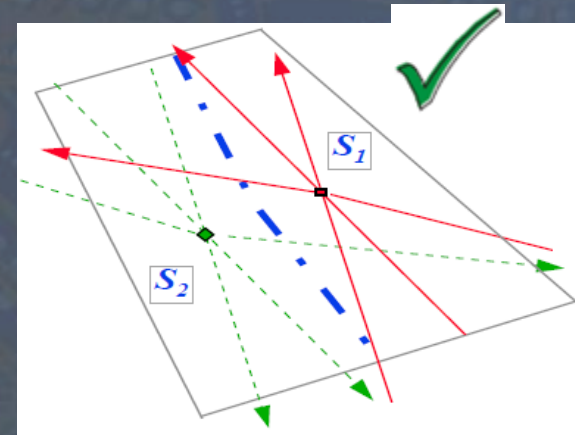
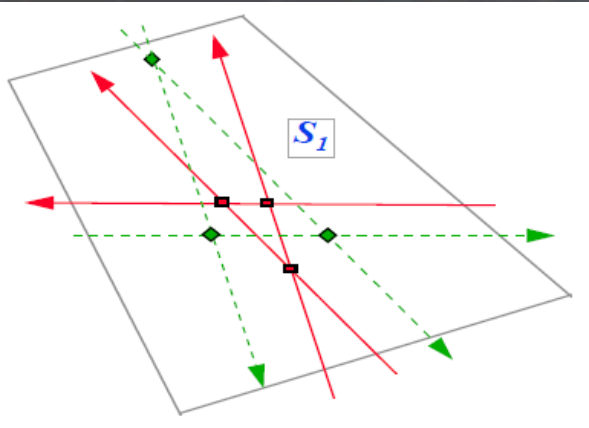
Capacity Plan Example Nicosia ACC NOP 2025/2026-2029

Actions to
improve
airspace
capacity

Summer Capacity Plan					
	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Free Route Airspace	FRA Phase 2	Cross-border FRA with Greece			
Airspace Management Advanced FUA	Stepped implementation of A-FUA				
Airport & TMA Network Integration	Larnaca APS Daily Service		Larnaca APS H24		
			Paphos APS Ad-hoc basis		
Cooperative Traffic Management	Improved ATFCM, including STAM				
Airspace	Continuous improvement of route network				
	Assessment and implementation of re-sectorisation of Nicosia ACC				
Procedures		Reduce Nicosia FIR separation standard from 10 to 5 NM			
Staffing	Continuous effort for recruitment*				
	+5 (97)	+1 (98)	-3 (95)	+8 (103)	0 (103)
Technical	Annual ATM system upgrades, based on upcoming requirements				
Capacity	Continue to provide flexibility in sector configuration openings				
	Continue Civil-Military cooperation in the South-East part of the FIR				
	Dynamic management of sector capacities				
Significant Events	Move to the new ACC				
Max sectors	6	7	7	7	7
Planned Annual Capacity Increase	10%**	5%	2%	2%	2%
Capacity Profile Annual % Increase	3%	5%	6%	4%	3%
Capacity Plan v. Profile	8%	7%	3%	1%	0%
Annual Reference Value (min)	0.17	0.13	0.12	0.09	0.09
Annual en-route Delay Forecast (min)	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09
Additional information	*Capability of 10 new ACC ATCOs every 2 years ** the planned capacity increase for 2025 is the combination of the planned projects for 2025 and the pre-existing capacity available at the ACC in 2024				
	The Capacity plan from 2026 may be positively impacted by the Corporatization of the ANSP – ongoing project				

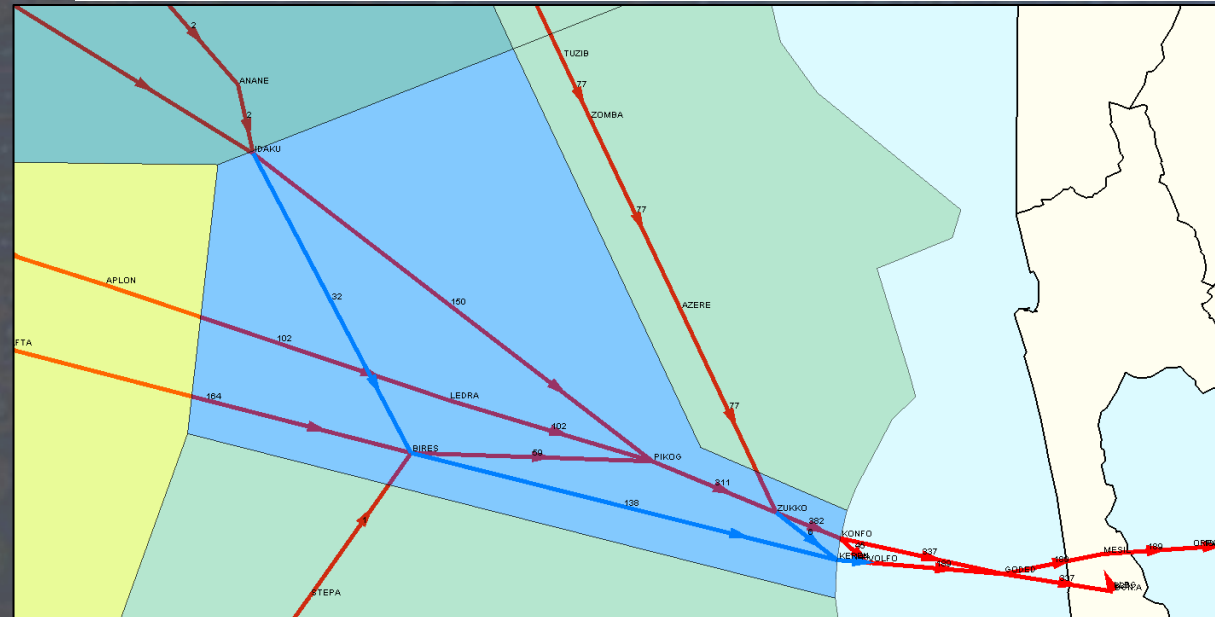
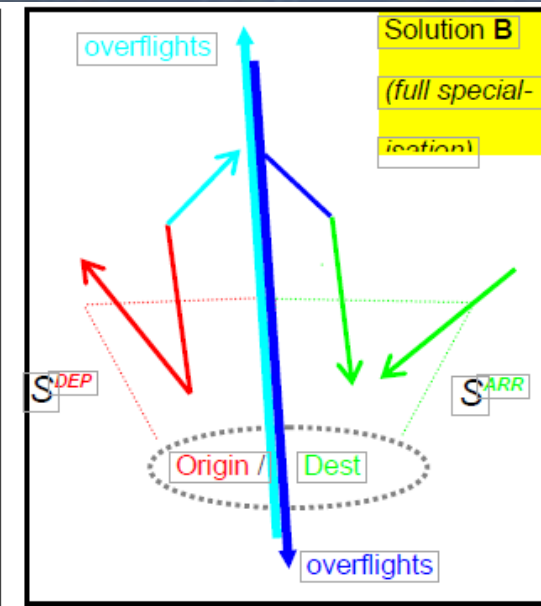
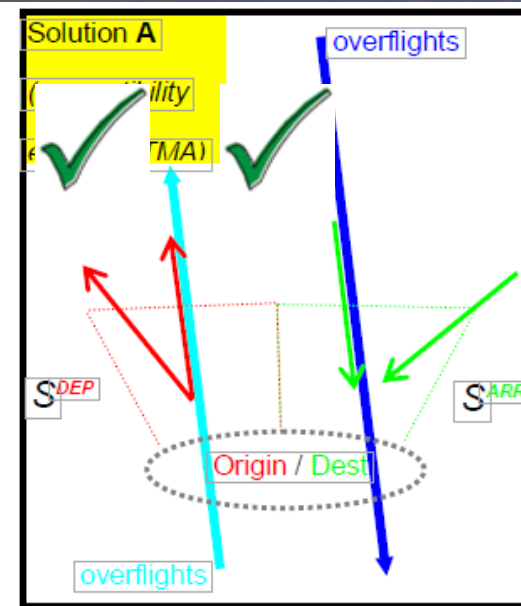
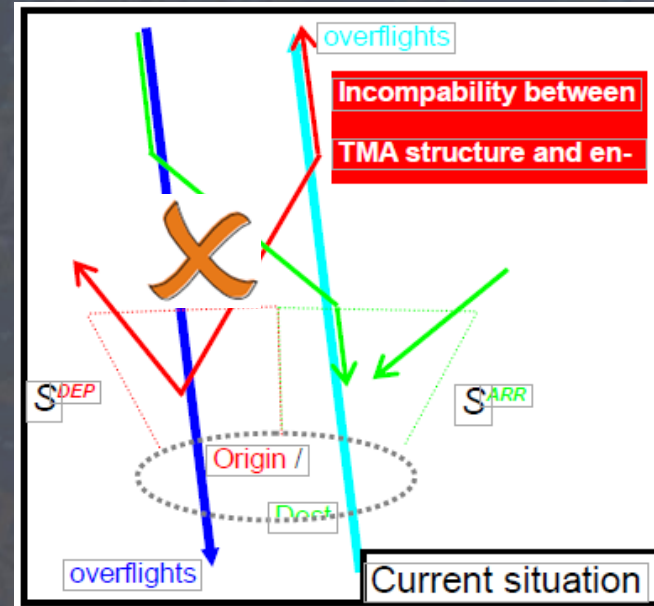
Example: En-route Airspace Re-Design

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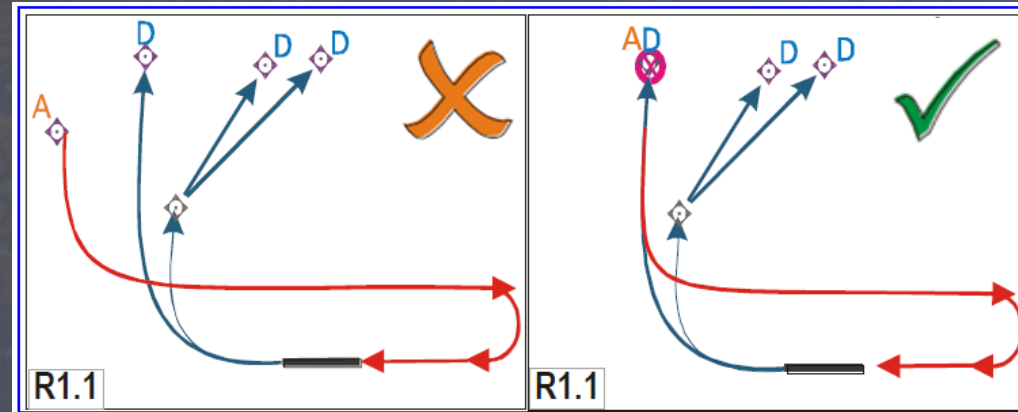
Example: En-route Airspace Re-Design

20

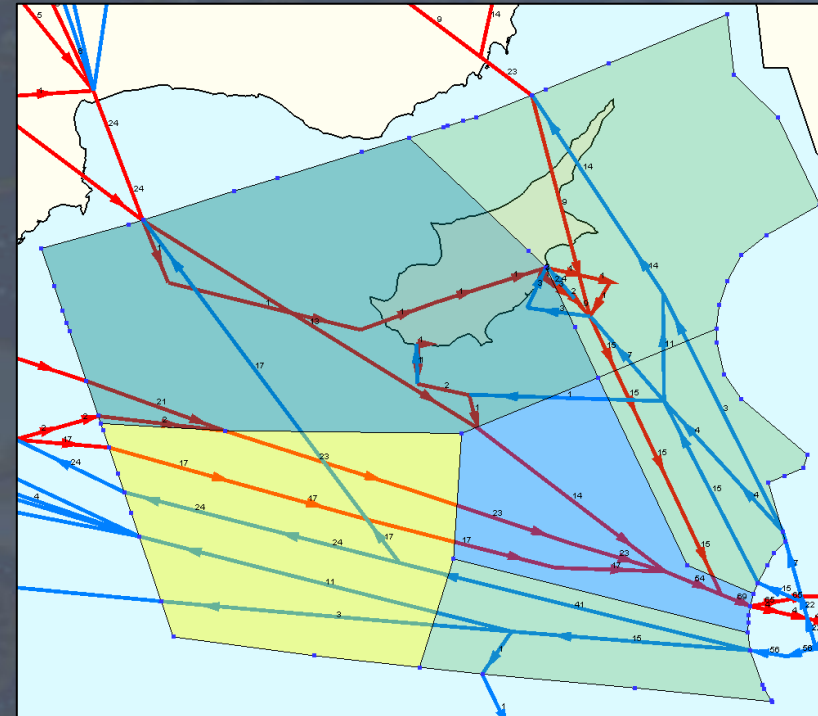
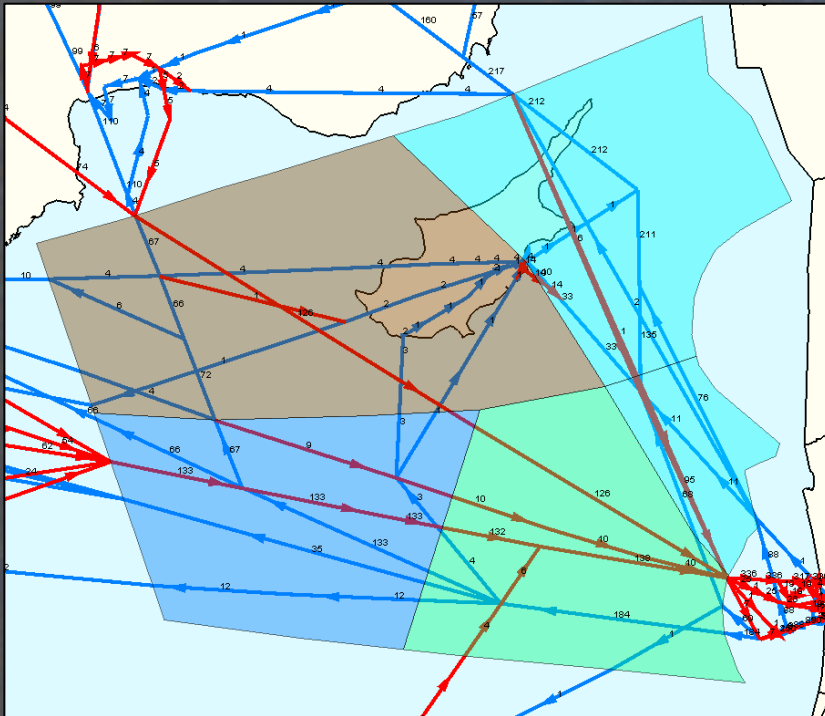


Example: En-route Airspace Re-Design

21

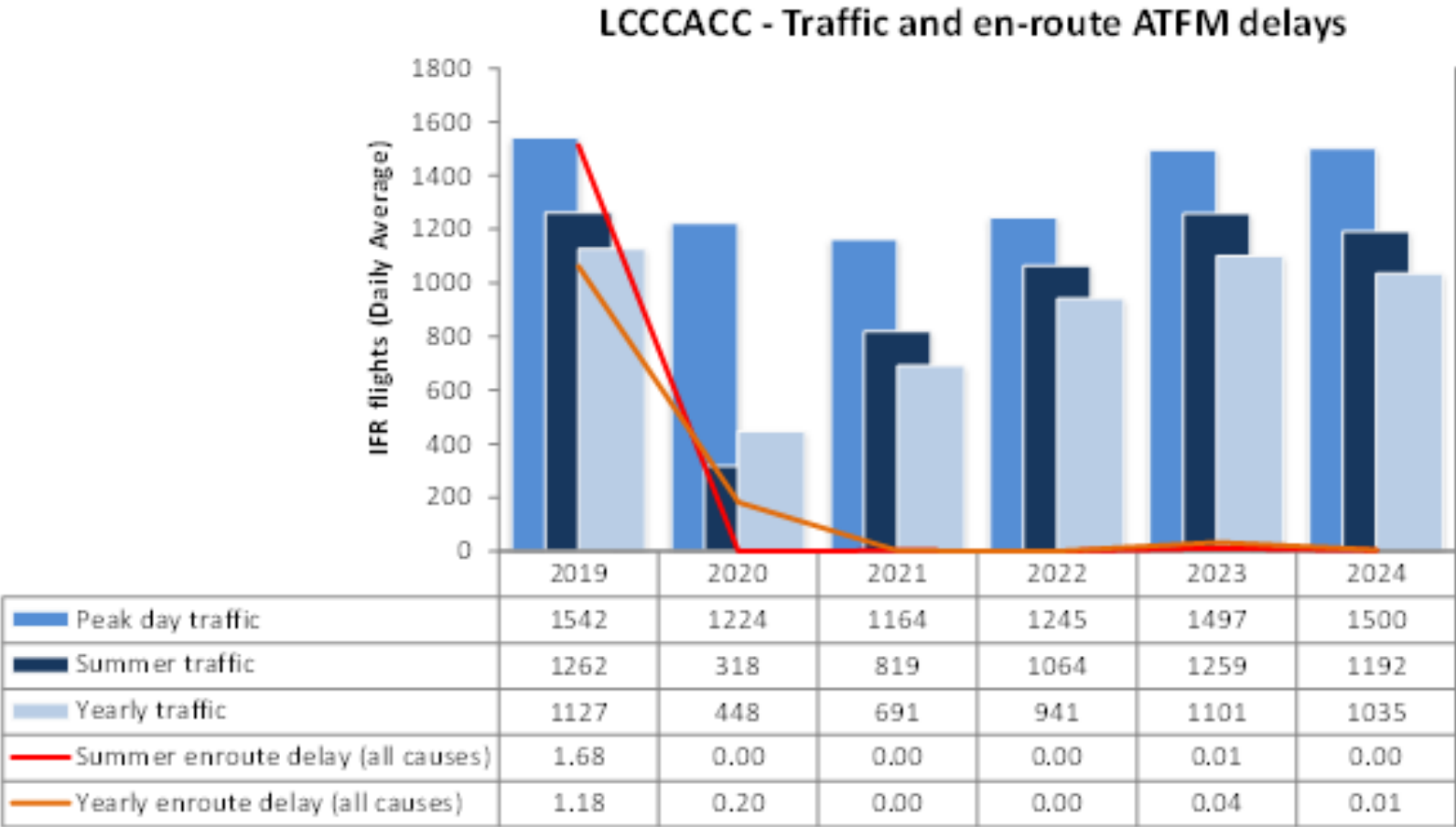


Terminal **arrival** and **departure** routes should be **laterally segregated** from each other



Capacity Delivery - Impact of planned actions to increase capacity

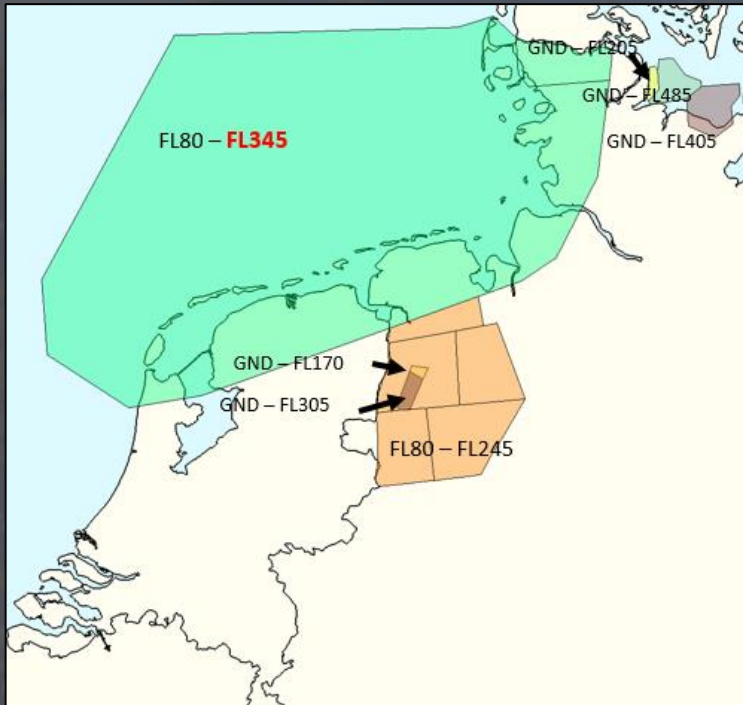
Example: Nicosia ACC
NOR 2024



Example: En-route Airspace Re-Design Civil-Military requirements

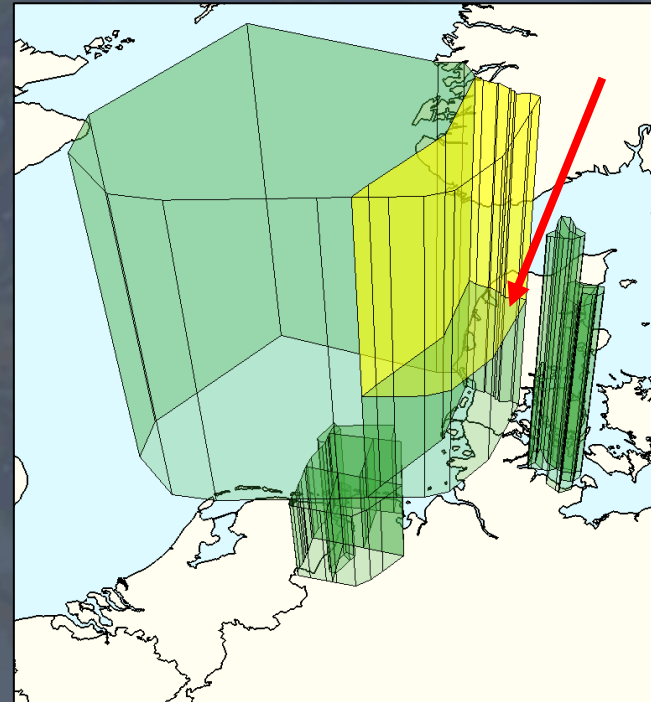
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CBA up to FL345



CBA adapted

Up to FL305

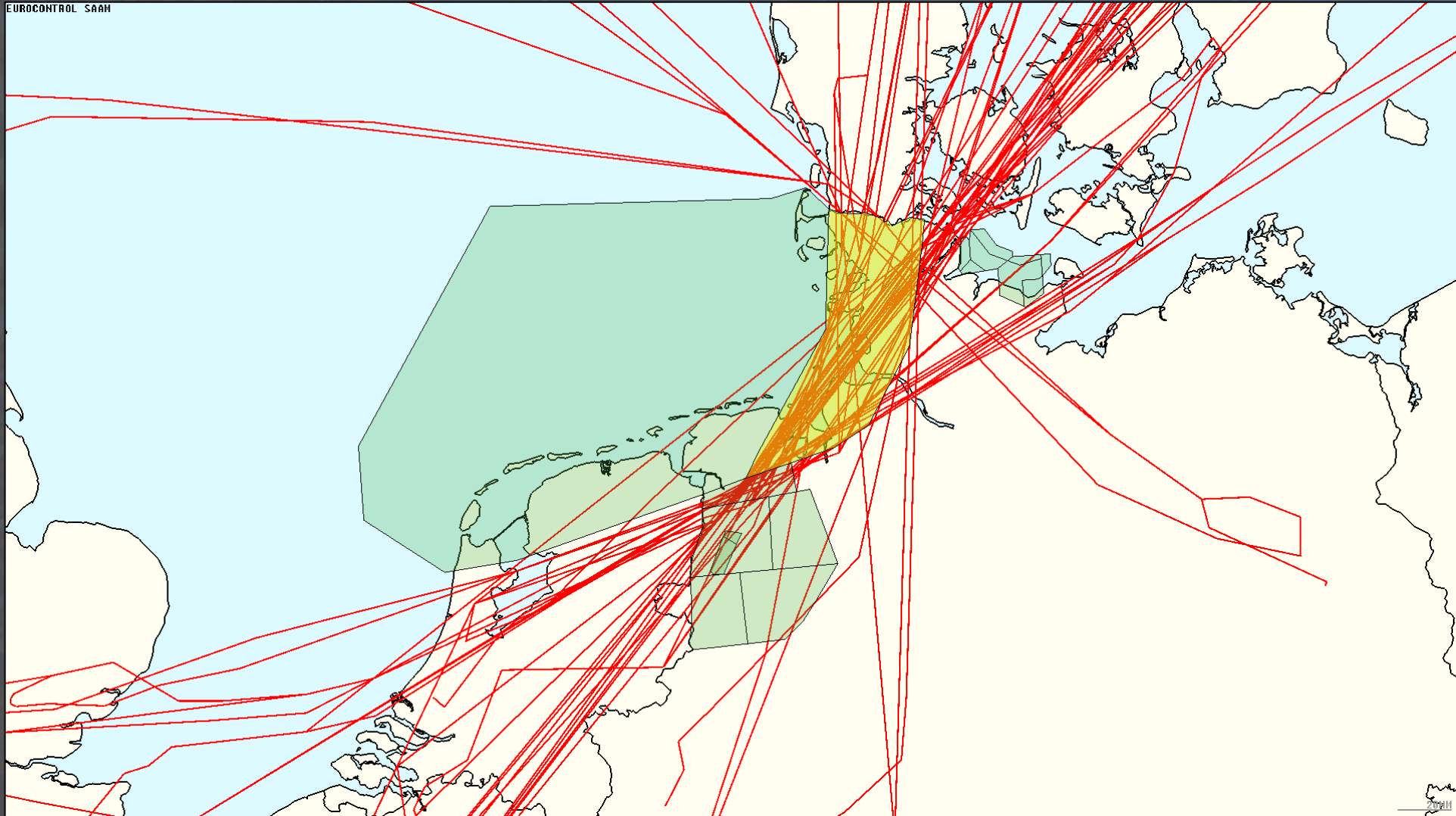


Example: En-route Airspace Re-Design

Civil-Military requirements

24

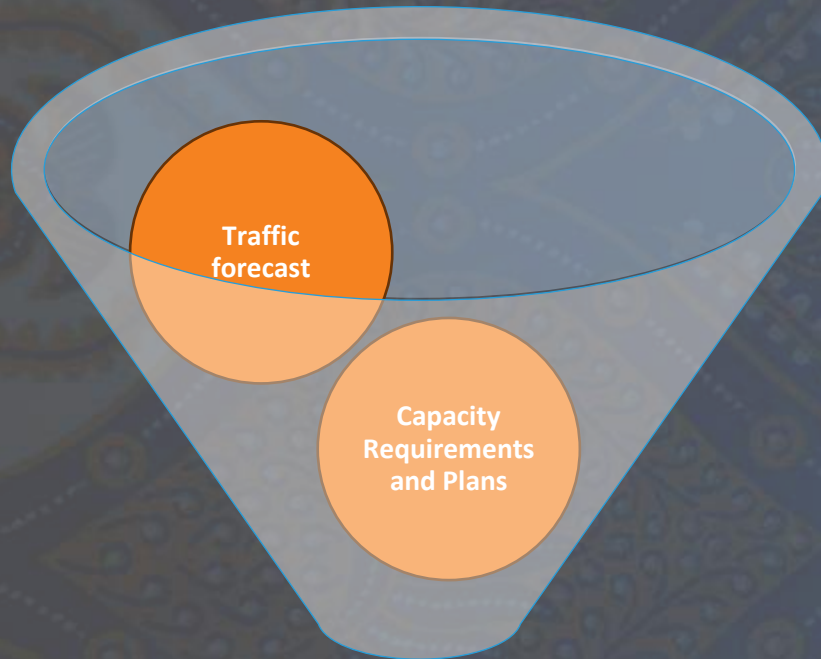
153 flights crossing the yellow airblock above FL305



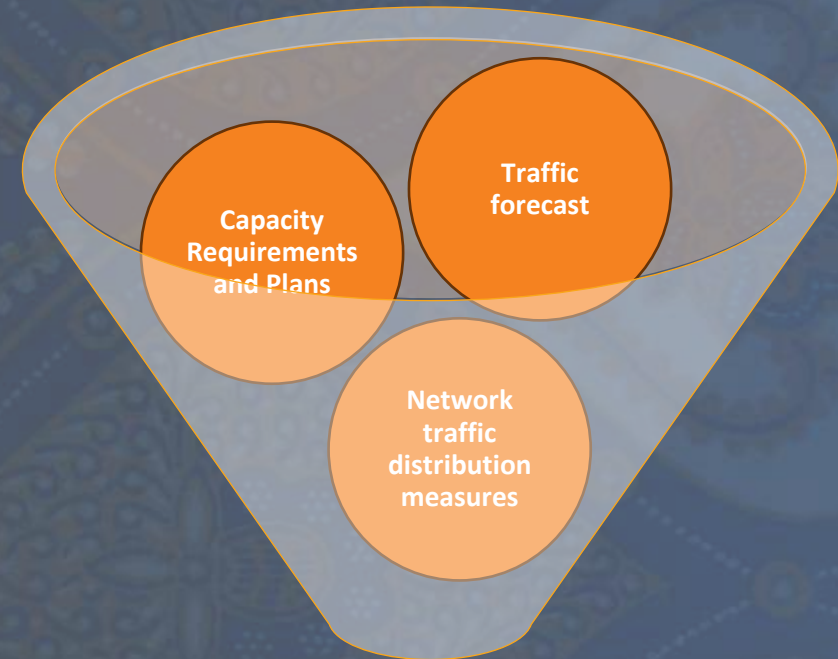
What if planned actions are NOT enough?

What can be planned before pre-tactical and tactical phases

25



Expected network performance
DELAY FORECAST



UPDATED Expected network performance
REVISED DELAY FORECAST

Delay forecast 2025

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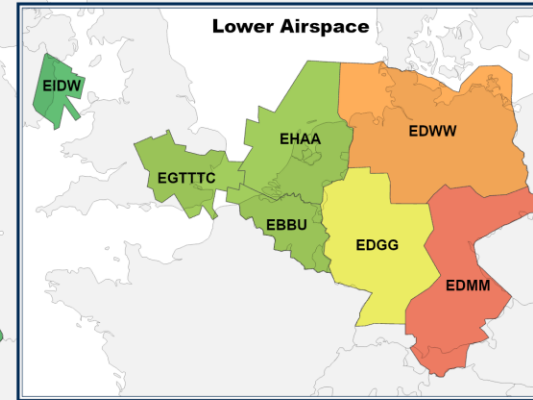
Annual delay forecast 2025 - High traffic growth



Without network traffic distribution measures

- Above 3 min/flight
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- 0.75 to 1 min/flight
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- Below 0.1 min/flight

NM Area
2.44 min/flight



Weather delay

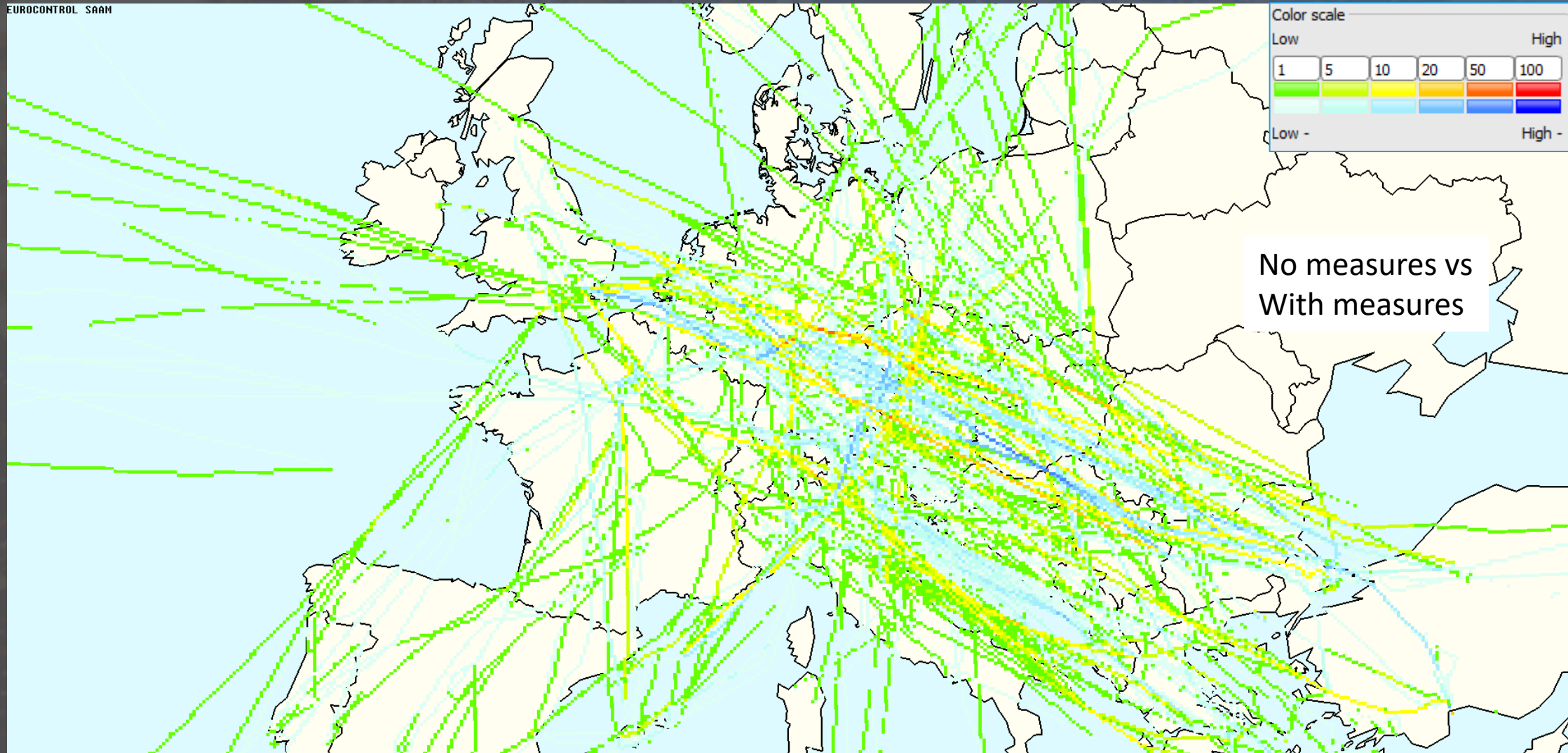
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NOT included

- effects of the daily activities of the NMOC aimed at delay reductions
- effects of the network orientated ATFM and weather-related measures

Summer 2025 Network traffic distribution measures

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Summer 2025 Network traffic distribution measures

Impact assessment

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EUROCONTROL SAAM

Do Nothing (no measures and action plan)

- Re-routing – 13.2 million NM flown extra
- Extra CO₂ – 260 000 tons of CO₂

Summer 2025 measures

- significantly limit volatility and disorganised traffic distribution in the network
- prevent a significant environmental impact

Average delay per flight reduced by 0.42 minutes

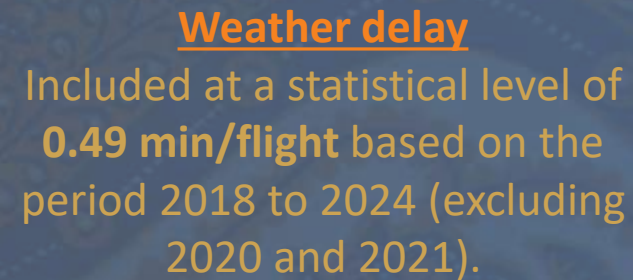
- Equivalent of 4.6 million minutes of delay or 260 million EUROS

Route distance reduced by 5.6 NM per flight compared to 2024

- Distances reduced by approx. 2.1 million NM
- 12600 tons of fuel, or 40000 tons of CO₂, or 147 tons of Nox, or 10 million EUROS savings

Measures/traffic monitored during the summer for further adaptations

29



- effects of the daily activities of the NMOC aimed at delay reductions
- effects of the network orientated ATFM and weather-related measures

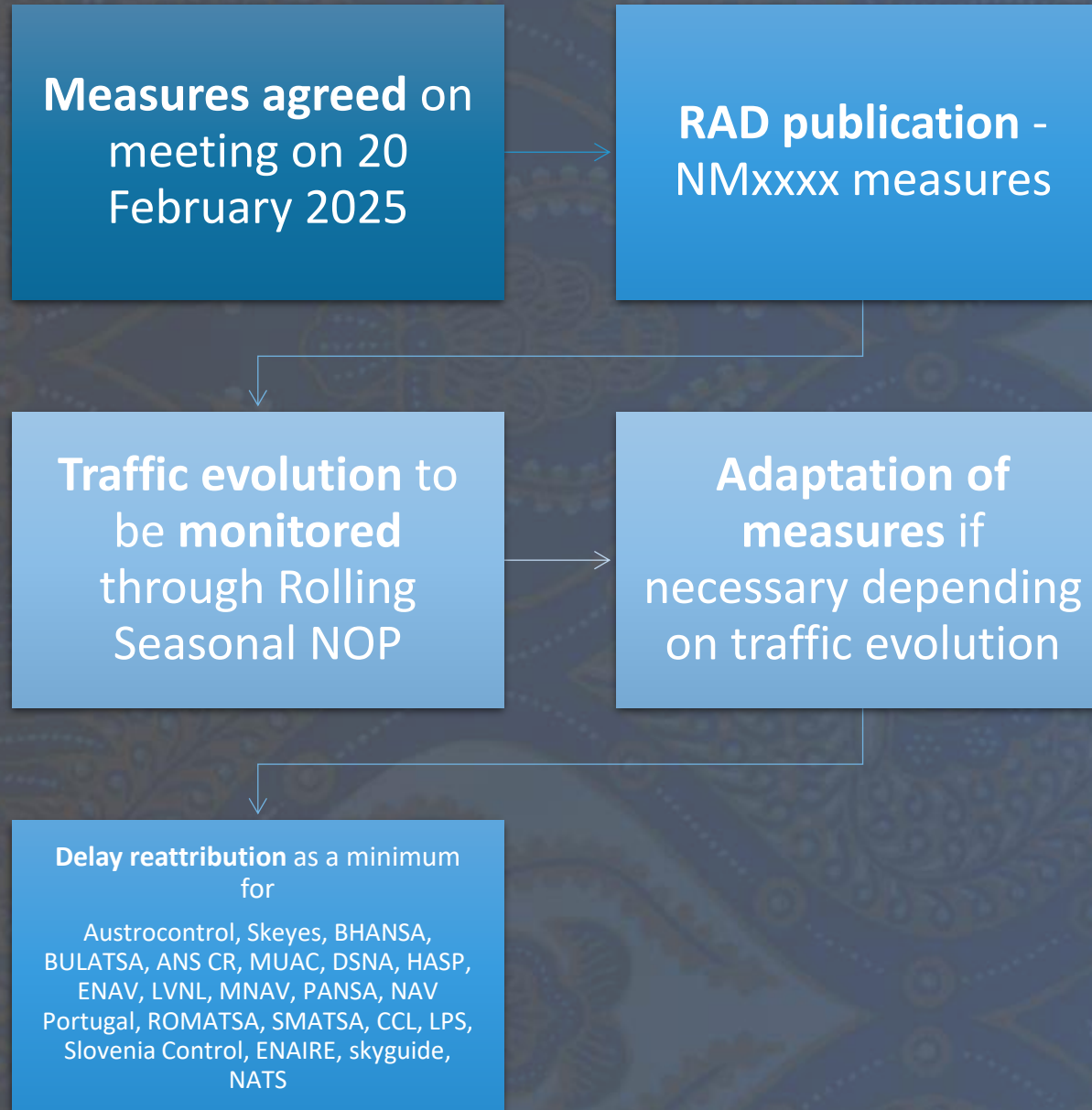
Note: Updates received following Summer 2025 Ad-Hoc NDOP on 18 February

Upgrades of the capacity plans received for BULATSA, ENAIRE, DSNA, DFS, CCL and SMATSA

Upgrades pending for Hungarocontrol

Summer 2025 Network traffic distribution measures

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Thank you