



| ICAO

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

## Air Transport Voluntary Fund

# Air Transport Satellite Account (ATSA)

## Overview

In 2014, worldwide air transport scheduled services carried 3.3 billion of passengers, the equivalent to move 2.5 times the entire population of China. More than 50 million tons of freight were carried, the equivalent of shipping the combined U.S. and Russian potato production. Also, almost 44 million kilometers were flown by airlines, equivalent to travelling from Earth to Venus.

The above mentioned figures clearly demonstrate that the air transport industry plays an essential role in enabling the economic growth and raising awareness on the importance of this strategic sub-sector, in any economy as a fundamental node in multi-modal transportation, that is reflected in further enhancing the development of specialized infrastructure.

Among the transportation sector, the aviation sub-sector generates various economic benefits such as direct employment and boosts indirect employment, education and community development. Aviation has evolved in a rapid pace and has become a crucial driver in world economy. Aviation has influenced major areas such as:

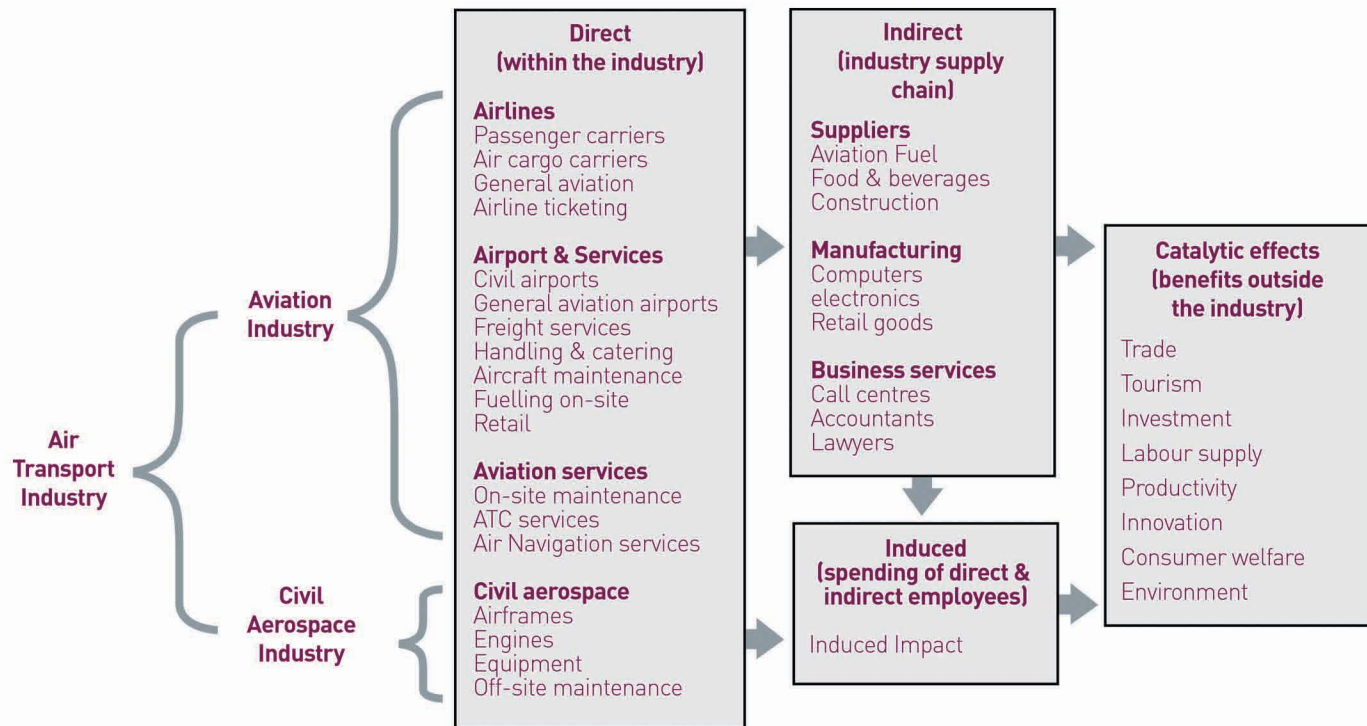
- triggering the development of high technology at the manufacture and telecommunications
- linkage in the value chain of tourism and trade; and
- a catalyst in the infrastructure development

Today, air cargo traffic statistics is often considered as an advanced indicator of the economic performance of a State; and air transport infrastructure is an indicator of the economic competitiveness. It is well known that the demand for air transport services is principally driven by economic growth, and therefore, the air transport industry has been an important factor for national and regional economies around the world. A strong correlation between the economic growth, due to the rising demand for air transport, has impacted industries such as tourism and trade, also widening the consumer expenditures.

## Project purpose and description

There have been several efforts by organizations, academia, and institutions to better understand economic contributions of air transport. It is, therefore, necessary to develop an accurate, common and transparent methodological framework to measure the economic impact of the air transport industry including, the importance to assess the added value that it is generated by each of the links within the value chain.

ICAO as a United Nations specialized agency for civil aviation is committed to generating an economic indicator known as the “Aviation Satellite Account”. Moreover, this satellite account will create awareness on the complexity of this industry.



ICAO seeks to standardize and create a harmonized common methodology partnering and working collaborative with the UN Statistics Commission. The satellite account on the air transport industry will be developed to calculate the added value of the aviation into the world, regional and national gross domestic product. this indicator will be comparable and transparent among each variable, time, and State.

This satellite account will be useful for several stakeholders, policy-makers and decision-makers, allowing them to evaluate and make accurate decisions on the allocation of the private and/or public resources. This methodology will ensure support of business planning and infrastructure development.

### Budget and Support Requested

Continuous support from States, organizations and other entities will be required in order to achieve our goals to further enhance and to be the leading international organization in the air transport sector.

