This report makes use of material by ACI, CANSO, IATA, ICAO and ICCAIA, as well as the publication of the Air Transport Action Group (ATAG) entitled Aviation: Benefits Beyond Borders (ABBBy). While every effort has been made to ensure the quality and accuracy of information in this report, it is made available without any warranty of any kind.

Published through the cooperation and agreement of the global aviation Industry High-level Group.
Check List: Maximizing the Benefits of Aviation

Aviation is the safest and fastest means of transportation, overcoming oceans and borders to connect people and support economic growth. By spurring tourism and trade, air travel contributes to increasing consumer benefits and choices, creating jobs, and generating numerous socio-economic benefits. Aviation supports USD 2.7 trillion in global economic activity and 65.5 million jobs.

The challenge for the future is how to ensure the sustainable growth of air traffic, which is projected to double in the next 20 years. To maximize the benefits of aviation, we will work closely with governments as a crucial partner in advancing sustainable air transport solutions, and so achieve the common objectives of ensuring that aviation leaves no one, and no country, behind.

The implementation of this check list will require leadership and concerted, coordinated actions from public authorities at all levels, together with aviation stakeholders, financial sectors, and international and regional organizations.

Economic Development Planning → Mainstream the priorities of the aviation sector in States’ economic development planning so that aviation can be used as an economic development driver.

Air Transport Regulatory Framework → Establish and apply good governance for air transport, i.e. the institutional, regulatory, and policy frameworks, in which air transport is designed, implemented and managed.

Aviation Infrastructure → Develop quality aviation infrastructure (including air navigation systems and airports) commensurate with the level of predicted traffic growth and based on the ICAO’s global plans.

Resource Mobilization → Promote diversified funding and financing sources in partnership with States, international and regional organizations, the industry, as well as multi-lateral development banks and other financial institutions.

Safety and Security → Comply with ICAO’s global standards and policies, as well as the industry standards to continue enhancing civil aviation safety and security.

Environmental Protection → Reinforce efforts toward minimizing the environmental effects from civil aviation activities, especially the achievement of the aspirational goals of carbon neutral growth from 2020.

Economic Development Planning → Mainstream the priorities of the aviation sector in States’ economic development planning so that aviation can be used as an economic development driver.

- Harmonize aviation, tourism and trade policies and regulations.
- Incorporate civil aviation master plans into national/ regional development plans.
- Integrate air transport and urban planning initiatives with an appropriately-balanced development of transport modes.
- Map out and prioritize key needs for assistance and capacity building, including infrastructure, in line with Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Air Transport Regulatory Framework → Establish and apply good governance for air transport, i.e. the institutional, regulatory, and policy frameworks, in which air transport is designed, implemented and managed.

- Liberalize air transport at national, bilateral and regional levels.
- Ensure that regulations should facilitate transformation and new technologies and should be, where ever practicable, performance-based and not prescriptive.
- Separate States’ oversight function from the operations of airports and air navigation services, and consider an independent business model for the provision of these services.
- Adhere to international air law instruments and observe ICAO’s policies, especially on charges and taxation.

Aviation Infrastructure → Develop quality aviation infrastructure (including air navigation systems and airports) commensurate with the level of predicted traffic growth and based on ICAO’s global plans.

- Determine strategic infrastructure targets by conducting gap analyses between forecasted demand and current capacity.
- Establish monitoring and evaluation frameworks using a data-driven approach.
- Make land-use planning a priority for local governments to ensure land around airports is properly zoned for future growth (and to minimize community disruption).
- Build capacity of soft infrastructure, i.e. aviation professionals.

Economic Development Planning → Mainstream the priorities of the aviation sector in States’ economic development planning so that aviation can be used as an economic development driver.

- Comply with ICAO’s global standards and policies on charges, and taxation.
- Foster an informed and engaged public as a crucial partner to advance sustainable air transport solutions.

Safety and Security → Comply with ICAO’s global standards and policies, as well as the industry standards to continue enhancing civil aviation safety and security.

- Foster an informed and engaged public as a crucial partner to advance sustainable air transport solutions.
- Strengthen community outreach efforts and public awareness campaigns on aviation benefits.
- Provide support to ICAO’s ‘No Country Left Behind’ (NCLB) initiative.