



# Air Transport Eliminating Poverty

## ICAO's Essential Services and Connectivity Improvement (ESCI) Scheme

**Tourism** provides benefits for anyone involved in the value chain of air transport - and vice versa. All associated economic sectors, such as airports, hotels, shopping and dining benefit from expanding tourism by air.

For whole regions, especially Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDCs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS), this can lead to job creation, economic growth and poverty alleviation.

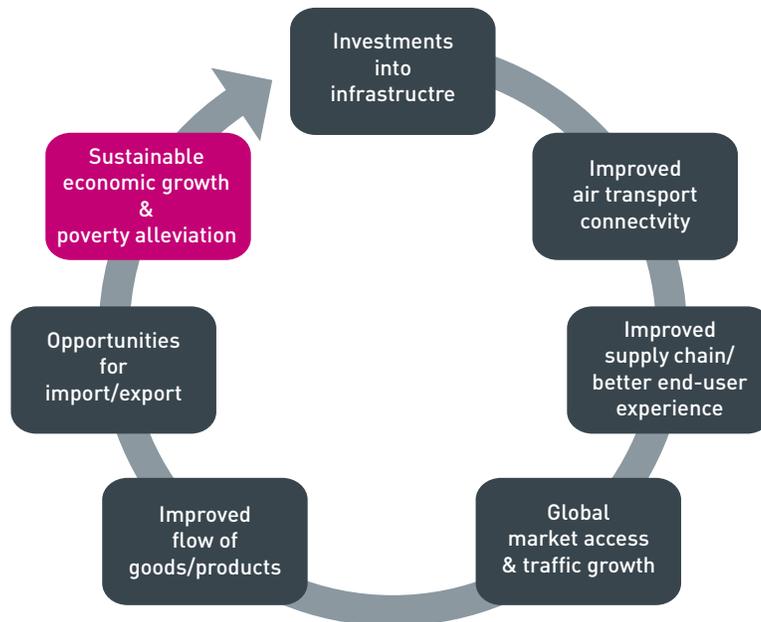
Improving air transport connectivity and competitiveness is a key enabler for the travel/tourism industry and its expansion relies heavily on air transport, as today more than half of all tourists arrive by air.



**Air Cargo** accounts for high value in global trade. Currently, 35 per cent of the value of all transported goods are transported by air. Air Cargo also serves as an essential lifeline for trade and market access, again especially for Least Developed Countries (LDCs), LLDCs and SIDS.

## Air Cargo (cont'd)

An increase in air connectivity and competitiveness leads to greater possibilities for businesses, more foreign direct investments (FDIs), potential access to production supply chains, etc., and can therefore foster improved levels of economic development and alleviate poverty.



## Project Purpose and Description

The ESCI Scheme will be a practical regulatory tool to assist States in creating more opportunities for employment and investments in the liberalized business environment and as guidance for decision makers to invest in air transport infrastructure especially in LDCs, LLDCs and SIDS not merely for the sake of air transport itself but as an effective means for economic development and poverty reduction.

The final goal is to establish an Air Transport Eliminating Poverty Initiative, which funds through donors and implements and promotes various projects of the ESCI Scheme for economic growth and poverty reduction.

## Budget and Support Requested

Support will be required to develop the ESCI Scheme by recruiting multi-disciplinary professionals tasked with designing/updating the existing ESTDR framework with the ICAO Secretariat. In addition, support may be provided under the form of technical expertise.

Additional funding for the development of capacity building in/for States and other stakeholders based on the developed scheme/framework.



ICAO

For more information on ICAO's Voluntary Air Transport Fund please visit:  
[www.icao.int/sustainability/Pages/TRAF.aspx](http://www.icao.int/sustainability/Pages/TRAF.aspx)

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