



ICAO EUR/NAT and ACI EUROPE

REGIONAL GREEN AIRPORTS SEMINAR

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Communities Engagement – Key to the Sustainable Growth of Airports



ICAO



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How many of you have considered communities as an instrument for airport development & sustainability?

iPADIS Overview

International Partners for Aviation Development, Innovation, and Sustainability

Mission

iPADIS is an NGO dedicated to advancing global aviation sustainability and innovation by fostering partnerships across governments, industries, and communities

Focus Areas

- Community engagement
- Sustainable aviation practices
- Climate resilience and environmental protection in aviation

The Role of Community Engagement in Aviation Sustainability

Support for CAPEX Investments

Importance

- Airports operate within a complex ecosystem of communities
- Engaging these communities is vital for achieving long-term environmental sustainability
 - Reduces conflict between airport operations and local residents
 - Enhances cooperation and shared benefits
- Airport hubs could leverage further synergies and RoI

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



The Role of Community Engagement in Aviation Sustainability

Support for CAPEX Investments

Challenges

- Externalities (noise, air quality concerns, and land use)
- Socio-economic inequalities and limited access to decision-making
- Disparities across the European region

Opportunities

- Positive economic impact
- Community support ↔ demonstrate concrete actions (ESG)
- Transparency and accountability



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Key Strategies for Community Engagement

How to do it?



Transparency in communication

- Continuous dialogue with communities about the environmental impact of airport operations
- Involve community members in decision-making through forums, surveys, and public consultations

Collaborative planning

- Joint development of sustainability projects between airports and local community (e.g., green spaces, sponsoring projects for the local community)

Educational campaigns

- Raising awareness about environmental initiatives (e.g., sustainable fuels, carbon offset programs) within the community

Creating local economic opportunities

- Green jobs and training/information sessions for local populations in areas like renewable energy integration and sustainable airport operations, transport infrastructure

Case Study: IPADIS' ACCEPT Program

Accessibility Evaluation and Promotion for Air Travel and Tourism

ACCEPT

- The Accessibility Evaluation and Promotion for Air Travel and Tourism (ACCEPT) Program by IPADIS is an example of how community-driven initiatives can improve **accessibility** in aviation (AAK 2023)
- Ageing population and a growing market of air travelers with disabilities => addressing accessibility is not only a matter of social importance but also an economic imperative

Impact

- Enhanced the travel experience for over 45 million passengers (1.3 bn. people globally), focusing on equitable access to aviation & tourism (airports, airlines, other stakeholders)

How?

- Working with government stakeholders to ensure legal and regulatory framework of the state (including rules, orders, regulations, policies, operating procedures) is sufficiently solid to support accessibility developments



Future Outlook

How to do it?

The role of innovation

- Hydrogen-powered equipment, electric aircraft, and renewable energy integration are key areas where community involvement will help accelerate adoption

Global collaboration

- Sustainable aviation is a shared responsibility, and engaging local communities is a cornerstone for achieving global environmental goals

Strengthening Partnerships

- IPADIS is committed to expanding its work with local communities globally to promote innovation and sustainability in aviation

Act now!

Engaging communities is not just beneficial—it is essential for the success of sustainable aviation projects

IPADIS' Commitment: We continue to champion a future where aviation grows hand-in-hand with ESG responsibility and community welfare

Join Us: Let's work together to create a more sustainable and inclusive aviation sector for all!

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Thank You

