



Press
release

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Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Abidjan's Félix Houphouët Boigny International Airport, operated by Egis, a best-in-class airport leading decarbonisation in Africa

Egis-operated Abidjan Félix Houphouët Boigny (FHB) International Airport becomes the first airport in Africa to achieve ACI* Airport Carbon Accreditation (ACA) Level 4+. This is the second highest level in the international certification programme for carbon management at airports.

Operated by AERIA with Egis support, Abidjan FHB airport has been leading sustainability standards in Africa since it joined the ACA programme in 2015, becoming the first carbon-neutral airport on the continent when it achieved level 3+ two years later. Now in 2024, Abidjan has become the first airport among the 26 African airports participating in the scheme to be accredited at level 4+ Transition. Only 51 airports worldwide have reached this milestone.

To achieve the "Transition" 4+ level, the airport has committed to an absolute reduction in its scope 1 and 2 emissions, formulating a long-term target aligned with the IPCC's 2°C pathway*. It means the airport reduces its own scope 1 and 2 emissions and those of its business partners in line with the objectives of the Paris Agreement and it compensates its residual scope 1 and 2 emissions using internationally recognised offsets. The achievement is independently assessed and verified by a third party.

Governance is provided by a specific carbon management plan and related stakeholder partnership plan to achieve the target. In more concrete terms, the airport management has implemented initiatives encompassing both direct and indirect emissions (scopes 1, 2 and 3). Measures have included: reducing fuel and energy consumption (especially for air conditioning and lighting in buildings), using clean energy, and shortening take-off and landing (LTO) turnaround times. The airport has also developed Soil.is, an innovative soil management and restoration project enabling natural carbon sequestration at the site. Technical studies for the Soil.is project are underway and are supporting four land restoration initiatives, including restoring the vegetation of 83 hectares of runway strips, training gardeners in agro-ecological practices, restoring 2.63 hectares of degraded mangroves and converting 810 tonnes of bio-waste into compost each year.

El-Hadji Aly Ouattara, head of compliance and risk management at Abidjan said: "One of our main priorities is to reduce the impact of climate change and drive the transition to net zero carbon by 2050. Level 4 + accreditation has enabled Abidjan Airport to achieve an absolute reduction of 850 tonnes of CO₂ on its scope 1 and 2 emissions compared with the baseline year. In total, 16,150 tonnes of CO₂ emissions have been prevented since AERIA joined the programme in 2014 and more than 29,000 tonnes have been offset through

internationally recognised mechanisms. We are proud of our ongoing efforts and the results achieved across all our employees and stakeholders.”

Renaud Béziade, Executive Director of Egis’ Consulting and Operations business adds: “The decarbonisation of our activities is a constant focus. We are proud to contribute to this in Africa, and even more so in the airport sector, where we are leading the way”.

Additional information:

Soil.is by Egis is an innovative soil management and restoration solution that has played an important role in the airport reaching the 4+ level. Priority is given to insetting emissions, with carbon sequestration activities taking place at the airport. Read more in our [case study](#).

AERIA is also a member of a CO₂ committee at the National Civil Aviation Authority (ANAC). This committee operates under the supervision of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), ensuring the effective implementation of the organization's strategies, including document 9988 (Guidance on the development of the States' action plan on CO₂ emission reduction activities), among others.

*Airports Council International
*Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

About Egis

IMAGINE. CREATE. ACHIEVE.
a sustainable future

Egis is an international player active in architecture, consulting, construction engineering and mobility services. We create and operate intelligent infrastructures and buildings that respond to the climate emergency and contribute to more balanced, sustainable and resilient territorial development.

Operating in 100 countries, Egis puts the expertise of its 19,500 employees at the service of its clients and develops cutting-edge innovations accessible to all projects. Through its wide range of activities, Egis is a key player in the collective organisation of society and the living environment of citizens all over the world.

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